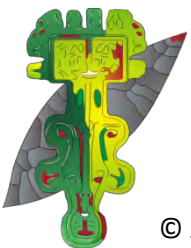


2012

Desk-Based Assessment

Ponterrin Villa, La Rue du Ponterrin, St Saviour, Jersey



© Absolute Archaeology 2012

Dr P Driscoll, BA (Hons), MA, PhD  
On Behalf of Mr D Wijsmuller &  
Mrs H Houze

Client/Agent Name: Mr D Wijsmiuller and Mrs H Houze/Sara Marsh Architect Ltd  
 Project Site: Ponterrin Villa, La Rue du Ponterrin, St Saviour, Jersey  
 UTM: 567530, 5451195  
 Document Type: Desk-Based Assessment  
 Issue Number: 1  
 Date of Preparation: 17/07/2012  
 Local Planning Authority: States of Jersey Planning and Building Services  
 Planning Reference:  
 Absolute Archaeology Site Code: AARC74  
 OS Licence: 100048201

Issue Number	Prepared By	Checked By	Signed
1	Dr Paul Driscoll BA (Hons), MA, PhD, Partner	Mrs Sam Driscoll BA (Hons), MA, MIFA, Partner	Paul Driscoll

### Disclaimer

Whereas Absolute Archaeology have taken all care to produce a comprehensive summary of the known and recorded archaeological and historical evidence, no responsibility can be accepted for any omissions of fact or opinion, however caused.

### Copyright

The copyright to the following text, drawings, graphics and photographs is, unless otherwise credited, the property of Absolute Archaeology. Absolute Archaeology hereby grants a licence to the client and their agent(s), to use this report for the purpose for which it was issued, after receipt of full payment.

### Reproduction of maps

Plans and maps based on Ordnance Survey Sheets are reproduced by permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright Reserved.

### Absolute Archaeology

51 St Mary's Gardens, Hilperton Marsh, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 7PH

Sam Driscoll (m) 07825550271 (e) [sam.driscoll@absolutearchaeology.co.uk](mailto:sam.driscoll@absolutearchaeology.co.uk)

Paul Martin (m) 07796333021 (e) [paul.martin@absoltuearchaeology.co.uk](mailto:paul.martin@absoltuearchaeology.co.uk)

## **NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

No evidence to support an ecclesiastical origin for the heritage assets within the Project Site could be identified through the documentary, cartographic, aerial photographic or archaeological archives. However, place name evidence implies that the Project Site may have been bounded, c.180m, to the south by an earthwork possibly forming an enclosure and aerial photo analysis suggests that this boundary may have been diverted at some point to its current position. Furthermore, it is possible that an earlier building previously existed on site that has been either replaced by the outbuilding to the west of Ponterrin Villa or significantly altered.

Due to the ground disturbance affecting the possible archaeological resource, mitigation should consider an archaeological evaluation.

## Contents

1.	Introduction .....	6
1.1.	Background.....	6
1.2.	The Project Site .....	6
2.	Aims of the Desk-Based Assessment.....	7
3.	Methodology .....	8
3.1.	Walk-Over Survey.....	8
3.2.	Data Collation .....	8
4.	Archaeological and Historical Baseline Survey .....	10
4.1.	Introduction .....	10
4.2.	Map Regression and Aerial Photographic Analysis .....	10
4.3.	Previous Archaeological activity .....	11
4.4.	Palaeoenvironmental .....	12
4.5.	Prehistory (250,000 BC – 56 BC) .....	12
4.6.	Gallo-Roman (56 BC – AD 400) .....	12
4.7.	Early Medieval (AD 400 – AD 973).....	12
4.8.	Medieval (AD 973 – AD 1600) .....	13
4.8.1.	Ecclesiastical Associations .....	13
4.8.2.	Chapel de St Maur .....	13
4.8.3.	Outbuilding.....	14
4.9.	Post-Medieval (AD 1600 – AD 1900) .....	15
5.	Discussion and Impact Assessment.....	16
5.1.	Historic Environment Assessment of the Project Site .....	16
5.2.	The Development Proposals .....	17
6.	Conclusion .....	18
7.	Bibliography .....	19
8.	Figures .....	20
9.	Photographs.....	29
10.	Appendices .....	36

## Figures

Figure 1:	Project Site Location .....	20
Figure 2:	Site Plan including proposed development © Sara Marsh Architect Ltd .....	21
Figure 3:	Cultural Heritage Resource within the Study Area.....	22
Figure 4:	1610 Speed Map .....	23
Figure 5:	1795 Richmond Map .....	24
Figure 6:	1849 Godfray Map.....	25
Figure 7:	1893 Ansted and Latham Map .....	26
Figure 8:	1934 OS map .....	27
Figure 9:	1943 Aerial Photograph (L/C/14/B/8/3/1) .....	28

## Photographs

Photo 1: View of the Project Site from the vehicular entrance at the SE .....	29
Photo 2: View of Ponterrin Villa (grey building in the background), ruined building (mid ground) and pig sty (foreground) from SW .....	29
Photo 3: View of Ponterrin Villa (right) in front of which is the area of the proposed cellar, western outbuilding (ahead) and ruined building (left) from S .....	29
Photo 4: Ruined Building showing fireplace and small entrance from east .....	29
Photo 5: Probable blocked doorway in southern part of ruined building .....	30
Photo 6: Ruined building from N.....	31
Photo 7: Area between Ruined Structure and Outbuilding, earmarked for levelling and extension of outbuilding (including the circular stone feature beneath the window) from E .....	31
Photo 8: Outbuilding to the rear (west) of Ruined Structure, now painted .....	32
Photo 9: Ponterrin villa with 1950s flat roofed bathroom extension and outbuilding to W .....	32
Photo 10: Gable end of outbuilding showing blocked window (2 <sup>nd</sup> floor) and alterations to the eaves.....	33
Photo 11: Semi-circular feature to south of outbuilding.....	33
Photo 12: External view of western outbuilding from Le Rue du Ponterrin (N) showing post and joist also visible internally .....	33
Photo 13: View of former roofline of previous building from La Rue du Ponterrin .....	34
Photo 14: View of internal northern wall of outbuilding showing extant post and joist also visible from La Rue du Ponterrin .....	34
Photo 15: Internal view of west gable end of outbuilding with low joists and blocked up window .....	35
Photo 16: Le Ponterrin Manor .....	35

## Appendices

Appendix 1: Project Gazetteer.....	36
Appendix 2: Abbreviations and Terminology.....	37
Appendix 3: General chronological table (for the purposes of this DBA) .....	38

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Background

In July 2012, Absolute Archaeology was commissioned by Sara Marsh Architect (the agent) on behalf of Mr D Wijsmuller and Mrs H Houze (the client), to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of Ponterrin Villa, La Rue du Ponterrin, St Saviour, Jersey (Figure 1). The objective of the DBA was to identify the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment/cultural heritage resource within the Project Site and its environs (the Study Area) and to assess the impact that the proposed development will have upon that resource.

It should be noted that this DBA was not undertaken to revise or dispute the designation of Ponterrin Villa and its surrounding area as an archaeological site. Instead it was undertaken in line with the *Brief for an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment La Ponterrin Villa, St Saviour, Jersey* issued by the States of Jersey Planning and Environment Department and Oxford Archaeology.

This DBA has been undertaken by Paul Driscoll (BA, MA, PhD). The Absolute Archaeology project reference is AArc74/12/DBA.

## 1.2. The Project Site

The Project Site is set within a rural location and within the parish of St Saviour (Figure 1). It is bordered by La Rue du Ponterrin to the north and Petit Ponterrin to the east and is centred on UTM 567530, 5451195. Geologically the Project Site is defined by Bonne Nuit Ignimbrite Head. To the east of the Project Site is one of the tributaries leading to Grand Vaux stream.

The Project Site comprises a main house (Ponterrin villa), attached barn, outbuildings, the ruined building and associated land including gardens (Figure 2).

The Project Site falls within an Area of Archaeological Potential (AAP) and the ruined building within the grounds is designated as a Building of Local Interest (BLI) and an Archaeological Site (AS) in its own right, as determined by the Minister for Planning and the Environment (Decision notice MD-PE-2008-0067). The extent of the AAP extends beyond the boundary of the Project Site, incorporating part of Le Ponterrin and land to the north.

## 2. Aims of the Desk-Based Assessment

The broad aim of this Desk-Based Assessment is to:

- Identify the presence of designated and non-designated cultural heritage assets within the Study Area;
- Identify the potential of the Project Site to include archaeological deposits and to determine, where possible, their condition and likely level of survival;
- Provide an assessment of the known or predicted heritage assets considering their archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interests;
- Identify, where possible, any health and safety concerns, such as soil contamination;
- Define the potential development impact to the archaeological resource.

Specifically this DBA has been requested to:

- Inspect and report on recent groundwork and associated impact (as defined in section 9.1 of the *Brief for an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment La Ponterrin Villa, St Saviour Jersey*).

### **3. Methodology**

This Desk-Based Assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the *Brief for an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment La Ponterrin Villa, St Saviour Jersey* (States of Jersey Planning and Environment Department (Planning and Building Services) and Oxford Archaeology (Heritage Management Services)) and with the IFA Standard and Guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment (revised Nov 2011), which states that a DBA '*will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area*' and that in '*development context desk-based assessment will establish the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the historic environment (or will identify the need for further evaluation to do so), and will enable reasoned proposals and decisions to be made whether to mitigate, offset or accept without further intervention that impact*' (IFA 2011: 4).

#### **3.1. Walk-Over Survey**

A walk-over survey of the Project Site was undertaken on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2012 in bright dry conditions, in order to:

- Confirm the presence/absence/condition of any previously identified archaeological features, deposits or sites within or close to the Project Site;
- Detect any surface evidence for previously unknown archaeological features, deposits or sites within or close to the Project Site;
- Assess the topography, ground conditions, land-use, areas of made ground and any previous or continuing impacts to the Project Site;
- Gain familiarity with the landscape context of the Project Site and zones of vision to or from the Project Site, as appropriate. This is especially important where changes in settings to protected sites may occur;
- Inspect and report on recent groundwork and associated impact.

Note: A specific requirement of the Brief was to inspect and report on recent groundwork and associated impact. The site visit showed that apart from the removal of a greenhouse (the concrete base for which still survives), there was little to suggest any form of significant ground disturbance on the Project Site.

#### **3.2. Data Collation**

The DBA involved consultation of available archaeological and historical information from documentary, cartographic, photographic and historic environment record sources within a



1000m radius of the Project Site, in order to identify the known and potential archaeological resource. This is the Study Area.

The aim was to produce a document that not only considered the potential for archaeological remains on the Project Site, but to also put these into their historical and archaeological context.

The primary repositories for information consulted comprised:

Société Jersiaise Coutanche Library

- Historic maps and documents;
- Register Sites of Special Interest and Buildings of Local Interest;
- Annual Bulletin of the Société Jersiaise;
- Books and articles on the archaeology and history of Jersey

Absolute Archaeology

- Database of archaeological sites in the Channel Islands (derived from Paul Driscoll's PhD thesis);

Jersey Archive

- Aerial photographs;

States of Jersey

- Department of the Environment Register of Buildings and Sites of Architectural, Archaeological and Historical Importance, and the Schedule of Areas of Archaeological Potential.

## 4. Archaeological and Historical Baseline Survey

### 4.1. Introduction

The information presented here is derived from a range of different sources (as determined in section 3.2). The archaeological sites included in the discussion below can be found in the Project Gazetteer (**Appendix 1**) and graphically in the Cultural Heritage Resource (**Figure 3**).

### 4.2. Map Regression and Aerial Photographic Analysis

Map/Aerial Photo	Date	Observations	Fig No
Speed	1610	Two buildings east of Grand Vaux and in the general area of the Project Site.	4
Dumaresque	1685	The specific location of the Project Site cannot be identified, although in the broad location there is a representation of a building. That this building differs in style from the known church buildings on the Dumaresque map suggests that it was secular rather than religious.	-
Duke of Richmond	1795	Buildings are clearly extant on the Project Site, one sub-square in shape, in the location of the current Ponterrin Villa and orientated NNE-SSW and the other in the location of the ruined building in the grounds of Ponterrin Villa.	5
Plees	1817	Ponterrin House (manor) is depicted, but none of the structure on the Project Site is.	
Godfray	1849	La Rue du Ponterrin and Petit Ponterrin are clearly depicted as part of the road network. A rectangular structure is present on the Project Site, presumably Ponterrin Villa, but the ruined building is not recorded, probably because it was not occupied.	6
East	1880s	Ponterrin Manor and Ponterrin Villa are depicted but none of the outbuildings of the Project Site are.	
Ansted and Latham	1893	No buildings represented on the project site and roads are poorly depicted. However, chapels are acknowledged frequently on the map, but none is made reference to for the Project Site	7
Ordnance Survey	1934	Most of the existing structures are recorded, including the ruined building, although here it forms part of a series of outbuildings rather than being depicted individually.	8
AP (L/C/14/B/8/3/1)	1943	Project Site and the buildings on it are depicted. A possible linear feature connects La Fosse a l'Ecrivain with the field called Le Pré (meaning water meadow probably, so named due to its proximity to the stream). Also intriguing, but not directly connected to the Project Site is a D-shaped enclosure located c.400m SSW of the Project Site.	9

**Table 1: Summary of map and aerial photo observations**

One of the earliest maps of Jersey, Speed (AD 1610) obviously lacks cartographic accuracy, but it does depict a number of major roads along with a sequence of houses and other buildings within the Study Area (Figure 3). Notable here are two buildings, roughly in the location of the Project Site and to the east of Grand Vaux stream and the absence of any road network next to the house (although this may be due to a lack of recording rather than a true absence).

By the time of the 1795 Richmond map, Le Ponterrin is clearly depicted, as is a building on the site of the current Ponterrin Villa and the Ruined Structure. Field boundaries on either side of La Rue du Ponterrin appear to partially align, indicating that they may predate the creation of the road.

By 1849, and the time of the Godfray Map, Le Ponterrin is occupied by P de Faye and Ponterrin Villa by C Cabot (and is referred to in the census for 1851 as Cabot's Farm).

Later maps prove little additional information, some recording the structures on the Project Site, other not.

Whilst there is some debate over the location of the Chapelle du Maur (see below), the place names within the immediate landscape of the Project Site are revealing. The nearest road (which runs in a northeast-southwest direction) to the south is *La Fosse de l'Ecrivain*. *Ecrivain* is a derivative of scriven or scribe (a notary) and a Walter Scrivain is recorded as living there in 1579 (Stevens *et al.* 1986) and *fosse*, a common place name in Jersey, refers to a ditch or embankment. As such it may be that the road to the south was a former enclosure boundary, perhaps linking to another boundary which is now Petit Ponterrin road. However, immediately east of where La Fosse de l'Ecrivain and Petit Ponterrin meet, the road diverts in a SE direction and aerial photographic analysis of the 1943 vertical images (L/C/14/B/8/3/1), shows a faint linear feature which could be a continuation of that boundary prior to the divergence of the road. However, this linear feature is less clear on the 1965, 1975 or modern aerial photographs.

To the east of the Project Site is *Petit Ponterrin* and to the west is *Rue due Château Clairval*, the latter word of which refers to a clear vale (Stevens *et al.* 1986). To the north is *Rue de Ponterrin*, named after the fief and unlikely to be a derivative of pont (e.g. bridge).

The 1943 aerial photo is also of note, showing a D-shaped enclosure, c.400m SSW of the Project Site. Although unlikely to have any direct bearing on the Project Site, it is of unusual form in comparison to the surrounding areas and is also extant on the Richmond map of 1795.

### **4.3. Previous Archaeological activity**

No previous archaeological activity is known to have occurred on the Project Site or within its immediate vicinity. This, of course, does not negate the possibility for the preservation of archaeological remains below ground. There has been a lack of systematic and proactive research into the island, which means that vast areas of the island have either been unexplored archaeologically, or attempts have not been made, predominantly because of assumption rather than evidence.

#### **4.4. Palaeoenvironmental**

No palaeoenvironmental assessment has taken place within the study area. The closest sample is from Grand Vaux, which along with a series of other sites of the inland plateau of the island, revealed high levels of pollen associated with crop growing and lower levels of arboreal pollen, suggesting farming rather than woodland (Jones et al. 1990: 27-28).

#### **4.5. Prehistory (250,000 BC – 56 BC)**

The prehistoric resource within the Study Area is limited. Only two sites of likely (although not confirmed) prehistoric origin are known from the Study Area. Tête du Fief de la Houquette is located c.980m SSW of the Project Site (Project Gazetteer: 1) is a possible Bronze Age barrow, although Hawkes (1939: 299) remarks that it could be an old windmill mound. Excavations in 1915 did reveal some stone features, possibly representing cists.

La Pierre de la Fetelle (also called La Dame Blanche or the Rocking Stone) is a white stone located c.955m SW (Project Gazetteer: 2). Although it is unclear if this stone is naturally or artificially placed, it has a partially smooth exterior, suggestive of human contact, perhaps associated with superstitious activity (Hawkes 1939: 310-311).

The most significant prehistoric monument in the Channel Islands, La Hougue Bie, is located just outside of the Study Area and is therefore not considered here.

#### **4.6. Gallo-Roman (56 BC – AD 400)**

No known Gallo-Roman activity is recorded from the Study Area, although this is likely to reflect a lack of deliberate research into the Gallo-Roman landscapes of the island.

#### **4.7. Early Medieval (AD 400 – AD 973)**

There is no evidence for Early Medieval activity within the Study Area, although again this may be symptomatic of the same issues surrounding the Gallo-Roman period.

## **4.8. Medieval (AD 973 – AD 1600)**

During the Medieval period the Project Site was located in the Vingtaine du Maufant and the Fief du Roi. The main building is called Le Ponterrin (also referred to as Ponterrin Manor) and is located to the north of the Project Site, on the other side of La Rue du Ponterrin (see Photo 16).

This house is recognised as having medieval origins, although it was altered in the 16<sup>th</sup> century (Project Gazetteer: 3) and probably takes its name from the fief in Trinity granted to the Abbess de Caen by William I. Confusion occurs over the term Ponterrin, which is probably likely to be derived from the Ponterre family who lived in Trinity in 1271 (Stevens 1980: 196). Until 1641, Ponterrin house was within the Fief du Roi, with the Fief du Ponterrin in Trinity.

### **4.8.1. Ecclesiastical Associations**

A key consideration in this DBA is the ecclesiastical associations to the Project Site and particularly the Medieval Chapelle de St Maur, which has been postulated to have existed in the area immediately N-NW of Le Ponterrin (Stevens *et al.* 1986), and even linked with the ruined structure in the grounds of Ponterrin Villa (Jersey Heritage 2008). The connections are based partly on place-names, such as the Jardin de l'Abbé occurring immediately west of Le Ponterrin House (and even the house itself being referred to as the Monastery) and the potential location of the Chapelle de St Maur, supposedly located in the same field.

As Rodwell (2009) points out, names such as l'Abbé and the Monastery were adopted throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century at various locations in the islands and this may be the case here, rather than it being related to any historical activity. Furthermore, although Stevens *et al.* (1986) depict the chapel near to Le Ponterrin they make reference to De st Croix (1869), whose work is notoriously unreliable and full of errors. He makes reference to the Chapel of St Maur on a number of occasions, but places it both in St Saviour and in Trinity (De st Croix 1869: 164; 169, 179). As such any use of his work as a basis for fact must be treated with extreme caution.

### **4.8.2. Chapel de St Maur**

The ruined building (Project Gazetteer: 5) within the grounds of Ponterrin Villa (see Photos 4-7) is obviously of interest, but previous study of this may have misdirected focus away from other potentially interesting features on the site (see below). The ruined structure appears secular in form and indeed there is little suggest that it is the site of the

Chapel de St Maur. That does not of course exclude the possibility that it replaced an earlier building. None of the documentary or map evidence presented in this DBA can show that it was an ecclesiastical building. It was possible, during the site visit to get access behind the ruined building (to the rear of the fireplace) but this appears to have been rendered recently, and little architectural features of note were identified due to this.

#### **4.8.3. Outbuilding**

During the Site Visit the outbuilding attached to Ponterrin Villa was earmarked for consideration. Historic Building Recording of the Project Site is being dealt with by another contractor, and obviously a site visit cannot compensate for proper building recording, but comment is necessary here, because the outbuilding to the rear may be preserving an earlier building.

The building (Project Gazetteer: 4), as it currently stands is a granite structure with brick reveals on windows and doors. On the floor to the south of the outbuilding and beneath the window opening is a circular stone feature of unknown function. It is clear from both the exterior and interior that the eaves of the building have been altered at various points, but one of the most notable aspects is the outline of a previously existing roof attached to the current Ponterrin Villa (see Photos 9-13). The pitch of this roof is steep enough to imply thatch, suggesting that it may be early and it may be that Ponterrin Villa was built against the already existing structure. Either way they are not contemporary and it is difficult to see how the current outbuilding relates to the previous roofline, even taking into account movement of the eaves.

The outbuilding has clearly gone through several phases of rebuilding, reflected in the different types and quality of material used in its construction and alteration and this is clear both on the outside and the inside. The differing styles of material may result from the reuse of earlier building materials.

Differences in the internal stonework facing the current entrance to the building seem to imply that a blocked doorway/entrance once existed (see Photo 14), flanked by a surviving post or stud surmounted by a joist (both of which are visible externally from La Rue du Ponterrin). This doorway would have led directly onto La Rue du Ponterrin.

It is likely that the outbuilding was once a two storey building and the floor significantly lowered, so that you would step down into the structure. The current joists are far too low, making it impossible to walk through the ground floor without ducking. Furthermore the joists are below and obscure a brick lined window to the west, which is visible from the

outside (see Photo 15). Judging by the low height of the current beams it is likely that the current floor surface has been raised back up to the original ground level and at one point you would have stepped down into the building from the south and from the Rue du Ponterrin entrance on the north. The lowering of the ground floor in this manner, to allow for the insertion of a second storey has been noted elsewhere on the island, for example at Clos du Ménage in St Ouen (Driscoll & Martin 2010).

The date of the current building could not be ascertained as a result of this study. However, the potential for it to be concealing an earlier structure must not be ruled out. The roof outline, which differs significantly from the current outbuilding roofline, appears to be from an earlier building abutting Ponterrin Villa (abutting but not an extension of).

#### **4.9. Post-Medieval (AD 1600 – AD 1900)**

In 1641 Phillip Falle married Suzanne Pison and Ponterrin House the Fief de Ponterrin were united (Stevens 1980: 196). By 1795 the field systems around the Project Site had been enclosed and by the 19<sup>th</sup> century Ponterrin Villa (Project Gazetteer: 6) had been built.

## **5. Discussion and Impact Assessment**

### **5.1. Historic Environment Assessment of the Project Site**

The baseline survey presented above has shown that limited archaeological activity is known from the Study Area, although much of this is probably due to a lack of research to date, rather than absence of evidence.

Previous assessments have provided opposing views on the potential and significance of Le Ponterrin and the evidence presented in these need discussion. The two most significant documents in this respect are the Jersey Heritage Trust Supplementary Report on the Ruined Building at La Ponterrin Villa (Finch 2008) and a short statement by Dr Warwick Rodwell on the Age and Significance of the Ruined Building South-west of the House (Rodwell 2009). Both of these documents were used to inform the Register of Buildings and Sites of Architectural, Archaeological and Historical Importance in Jersey entry for Le Ponterrin.

Rodwell's assessment is particularly scathing of the evidence used to justify the interpretation of the ruined building as a potential former medieval chapel, citing antiquarian romanticism as a cause for misleading archaeological potential and dismissing a number of architectural features as either not being ecclesiastical in origin, or not being in situ. This approach is entirely justified as far as the standing structure of the building goes. For example, the fireplace is clearly a structural component of the building and would be wholly at odds with known chapels in southern Britain or northwest France.

The lack of direct associated archaeological, historical or architectural evidence to support the notion that the ruined structure is the former chapel of Le Maur, is therefore problematic is ascertaining the correct location of the Chapel de St Maur.

However, the Finch report is entirely reasonable in its approach, for it deals not only with the standing structure, but also with the potential below ground archaeological resource, a resource that cannot be quantified without further and intrusive investigative work. That potential archaeology, even the chapel of Le Maur itself, could be either in the vicinity or indeed beneath the current ruined structure is entirely plausible, even if not provable at present. Whilst there may be concerns about the architectural affiliations and links to a chapel these have no bearing on below ground archaeology, with the exception that the construction of the post-medieval cottage may have impacted on previously extant archaeology.



The ecclesiastical connections to the Project Site are at present unclear and none of the examined documentary, cartographic or extant archaeological evidence can support it. However, it is possible that previously existing buildings are present on the site in the location of the outbuilding to the west of Ponterrin Villa.

## **5.2. The Development Proposals**

The current development proposals differ from ones previously submitted, which had been to split the site into three residential units. Instead the current proposals intend to extend Ponterrin Villa to the south to create a snug and cellar; extend and convert the outbuilding immediately west of Ponterrin Villa to create an entrance hall, utility room, kitchen and garden room, alter the current vehicle entrance to the south by moving the current stone pillars and the entrance orientation to provide better vehicular access, along with works associated with drainage and utilities.

Current development proposals involve the partial reduction and levelling of areas between the ruined structure and the outbuilding, although it must be noted that the ruined structure will itself not be touched. Further ground disturbance is to occur towards the current vehicle entrance to the Project Site, where pillars are to be removed and the entrance orientation altered to provide better vehicular access. Drainage and utilities are also proposed but these are likely to follow existing utility channels, rather than creating new ones.

The most significant groundwork will occur immediately south of Ponterrin Villa, where substantial subterranean excavations are proposed to create a cellar above which will be a snug. In addition, the current proposals also involve the extension of the outbuilding to the west of Ponterrin Villa, by removing the south wall and rebuilding it a metre from its current position and towards the ruined structure.

Such ground disturbance could have a significant impact on the archaeological resource. Although the ruined building as it currently stands is almost certainly not the Chapel de St Maur and instead a vernacular cottage of the late medieval or post-medieval period, if a previous structure did exist in the vicinity excavation of the cellar area and indeed excavation of the foundation trench to support the southward extension of the western outbuilding wall could impact upon this.

In order to avoid risk to the developer, mitigation could involve an archaeological evaluation in the areas of key historic entrance and ground work activity.

## 6. Conclusion

No evidence to support an ecclesiastical origin for the heritage assets in the Project Site could be found through the documentary, cartographic, aerial photographic or archaeological archives. This does not mean, of course that the ruined building in the grounds is not an important heritage asset in its own right, nor that the Chapel de St Maur exists somewhere in the vicinity. In fact the inability to accurately locate the Chapel due to mixed details from historic sources, along with the knowledge that it is probably located somewhere in the vicinity justifies the designation of the Project Site and the surrounding buildings and fields as an area of archaeological potential.

Place name evidence implies that the Project Site may have been bounded, c.180m, to the south by an earthwork possibly forming an enclosure and aerial photo analysis suggests that this boundary may have been diverted at some point to its current position.

Furthermore, it is possible that a building previously existed on site that has been either replaced or significantly altered by the outbuilding to the west of Ponterrin Villa. The mix of material used, the alterations that have turned a 2 storey building into one (including an infilling of the floor which must have originally stepped down) and the still extant outline of a former roof line of relatively steep pitch, imply either dramatic reworking of the existing structure or a rebuild from an earlier one.

Of course evidence for a significant rebuild of one building on the Project Site may imply that another had also been rebuilt and perhaps the ruined building replaced an earlier building too. Whilst there is little evidence to support this, the ruined structure has itself been altered, the eastern gable end removed and replaced by a doorway through a process of extension, and the original doorway to the south blocked up.

Due to the ground disturbance affecting the possible archaeological resource, mitigation should consider an archaeological evaluation.

## 7. Bibliography

- Department of Planning and Environment. (2008). *Ruined building at La Ponterrin Villa, Rue du Ponterrin, St. Saviour -intention to list as BLI, AS and AAP*. States of Jersey: Decision Ref MD-PE-2008-0067.
- Department of Planning and Environment. (2009). *Le Ponterrin, La Rue du Ponterrin, St Saviour*. States of Jersey: Register of Buildings and Sites of Architectural, Archaeological and Historical Importance in Jersey.
- Department of Planning and Environment. (2010). *Le Ponterrin; ruined building at Le Ponterrin Villa; and adjacent land including part Field 145A, La Rue du ponterrin, St Saviour*. States of Jersey: Decision Ref MD-PE-2008-0151.
- Driscoll, S. and Martin, P. (2010). *Photographic Building Survey Clos du Ménage, Le Vier Mont, St Ouen*. Absolute Archaeology: Unpublished report.
- Finch, O. (2008). *Ruined building at La Ponterrin Villa, La Rue du Ponterrin, St Saviour*. Jersey Heritage: Register for Buildings and Sites of Architectural, Archaeological and Historical Importance in Jersey; Review.
- IGS. 1982. Jersey Geology Map (Channel Islands Sheet 2: Solid and Drift). Southampton: Ordnance Survey
- Jones, R. L., Keen, D. H., Birnie, J. F. and Waton, P. 1990. *Past Landscapes of Jersey: Environmental changes during the last ten thousand years*. Jersey: Société Jersiaise.
- Rodwell, W. (2009). *Ponterrin Villa, St Saviour, Jersey: The Age and Significance of the Ruined Building South-west of the House*. Unpublished report.
- States of Jersey. 2002. *Jersey Island Plan 2002 – General Policies*. Jersey: States of Jersey.
- States of Jersey, Department of Planning and Environment. Register of Buildings and Sites of Architectural, Archaeological and Historical importance in Jersey.
- Stevens, J. (1980). *Old Jersey Houses and those who lived in them: Vol I*. Chichester: Phillimore.
- Stevens, C., Arthur, J., Stevens, J., and Le Maistre, F. (1986). *Jersey Place Names*. Jersey: Société Jersiaise.

# 8. Figures

Figure 1: Project Site Location

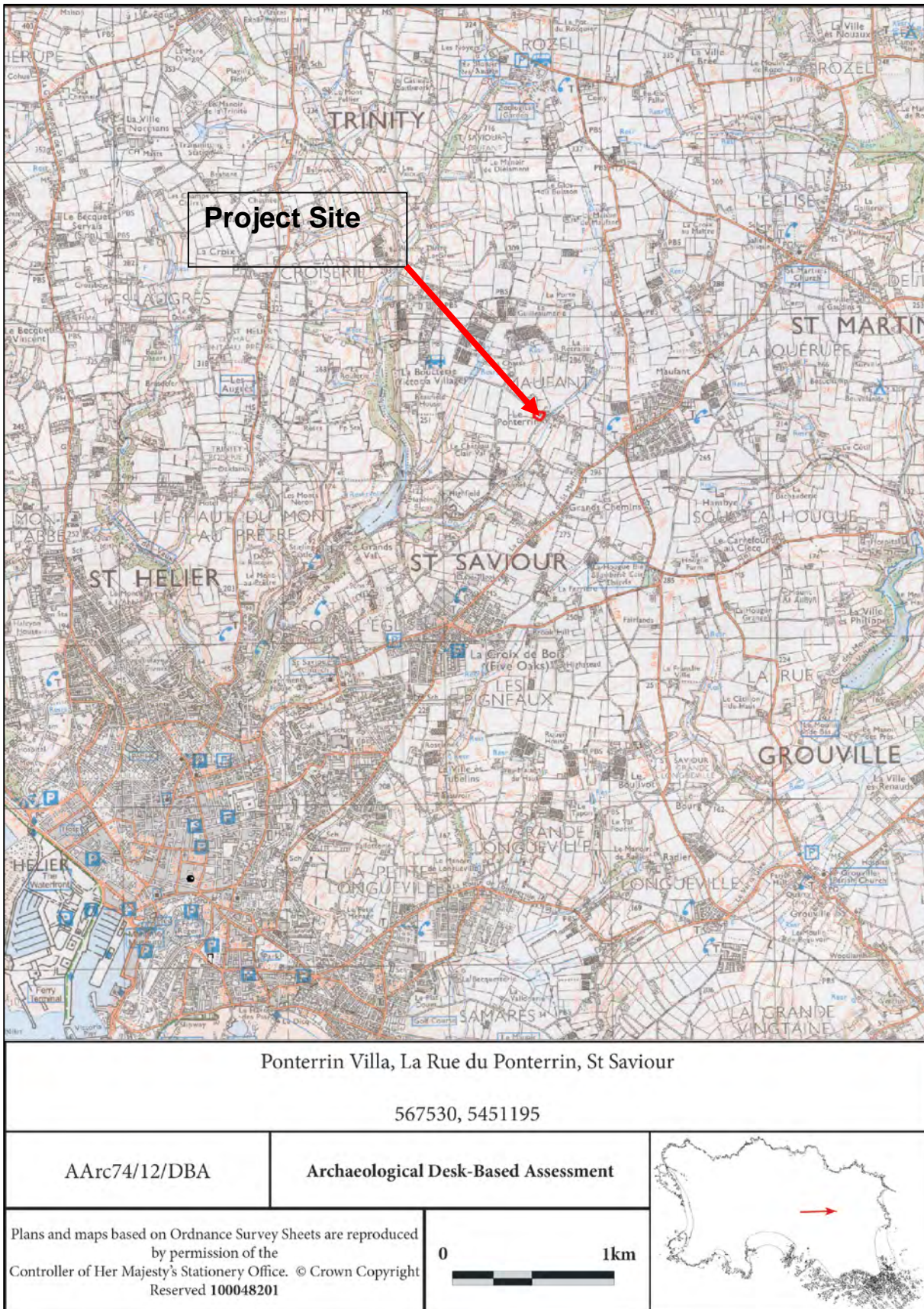


Figure 2: Site Plan including proposed development © Sara Marsh Architect Ltd

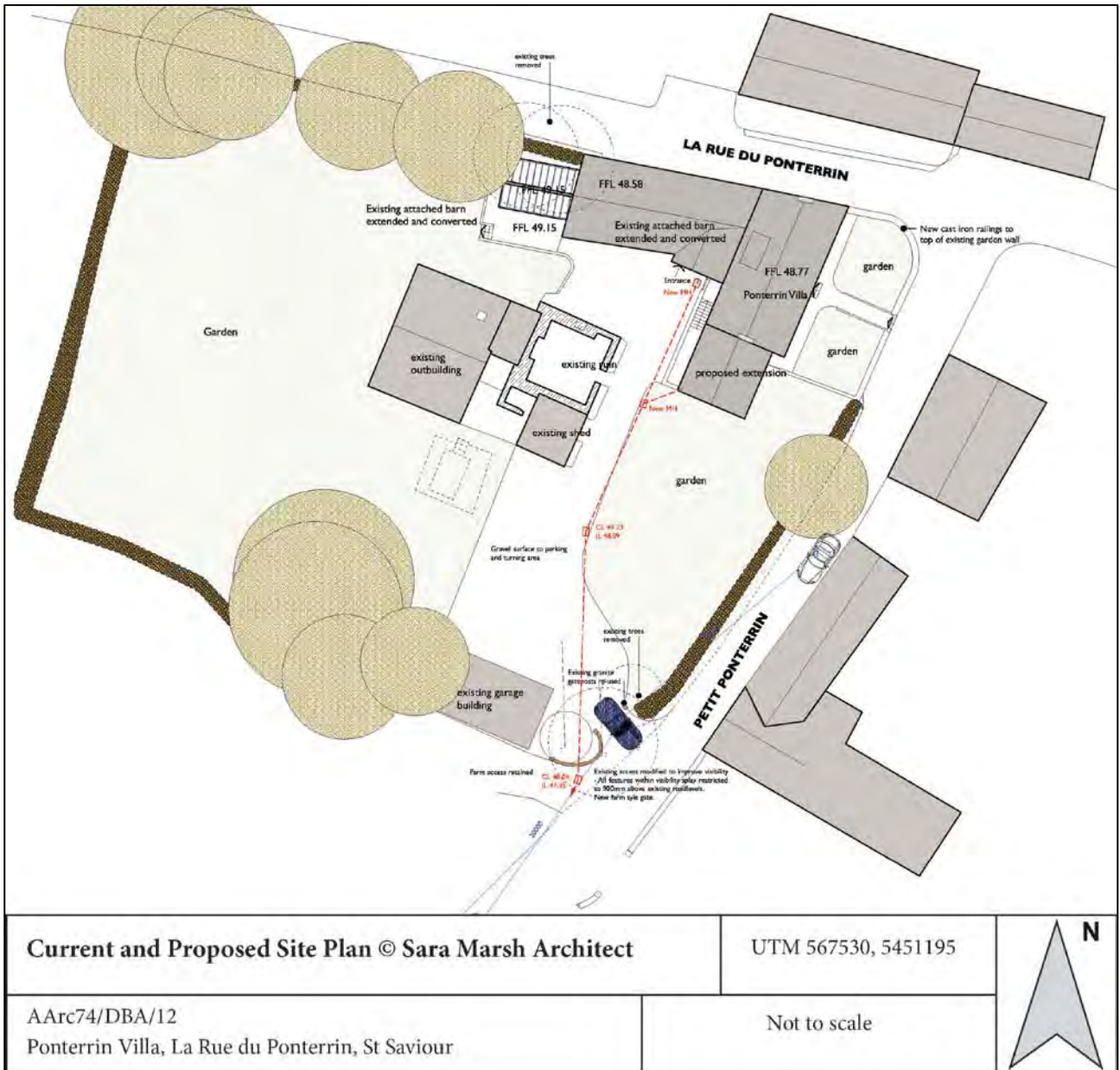


Figure 3: Cultural Heritage Resource within the Study Area

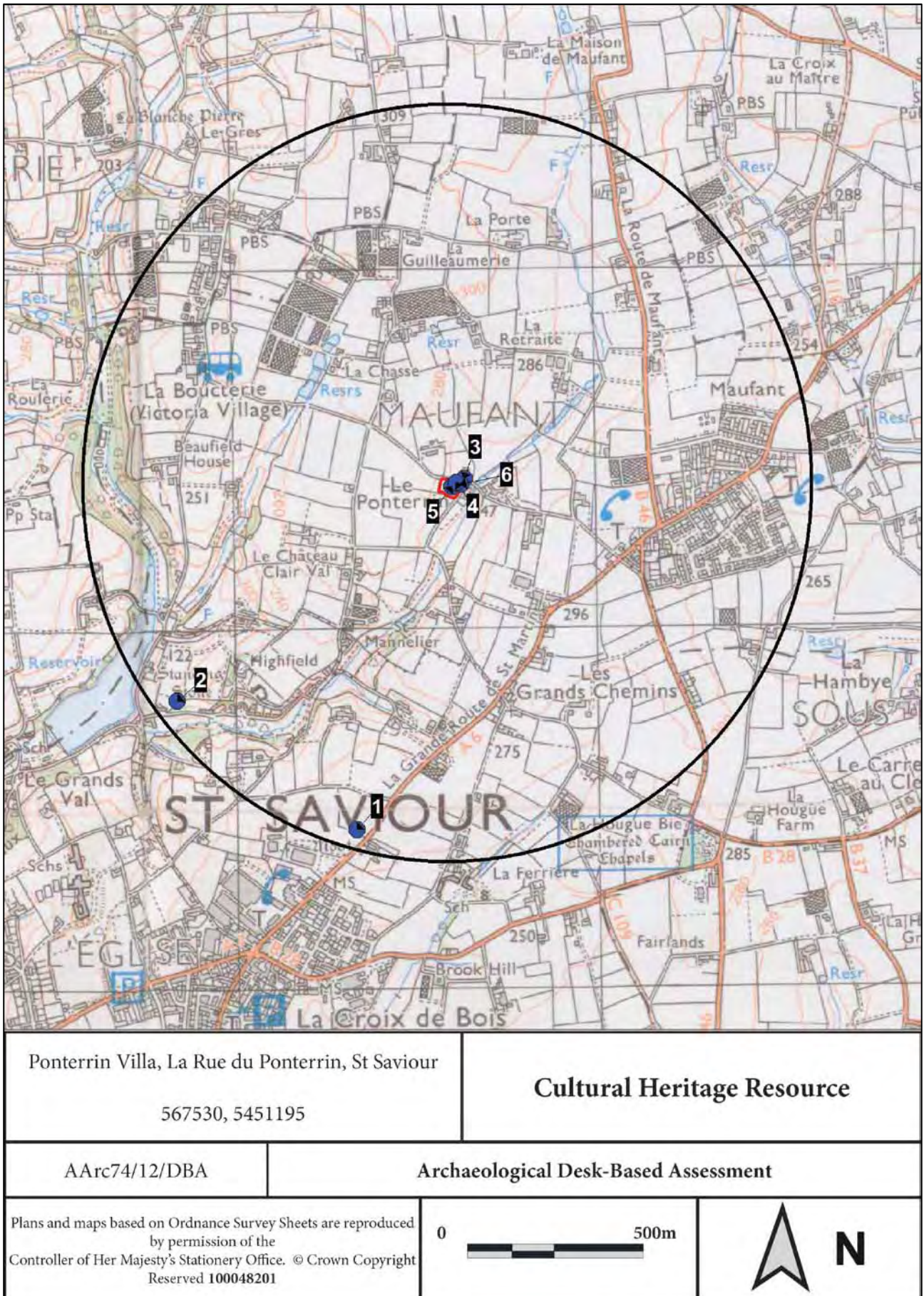


Figure 4: 1610 Speed Map



Figure 5: 1795 Richmond Map

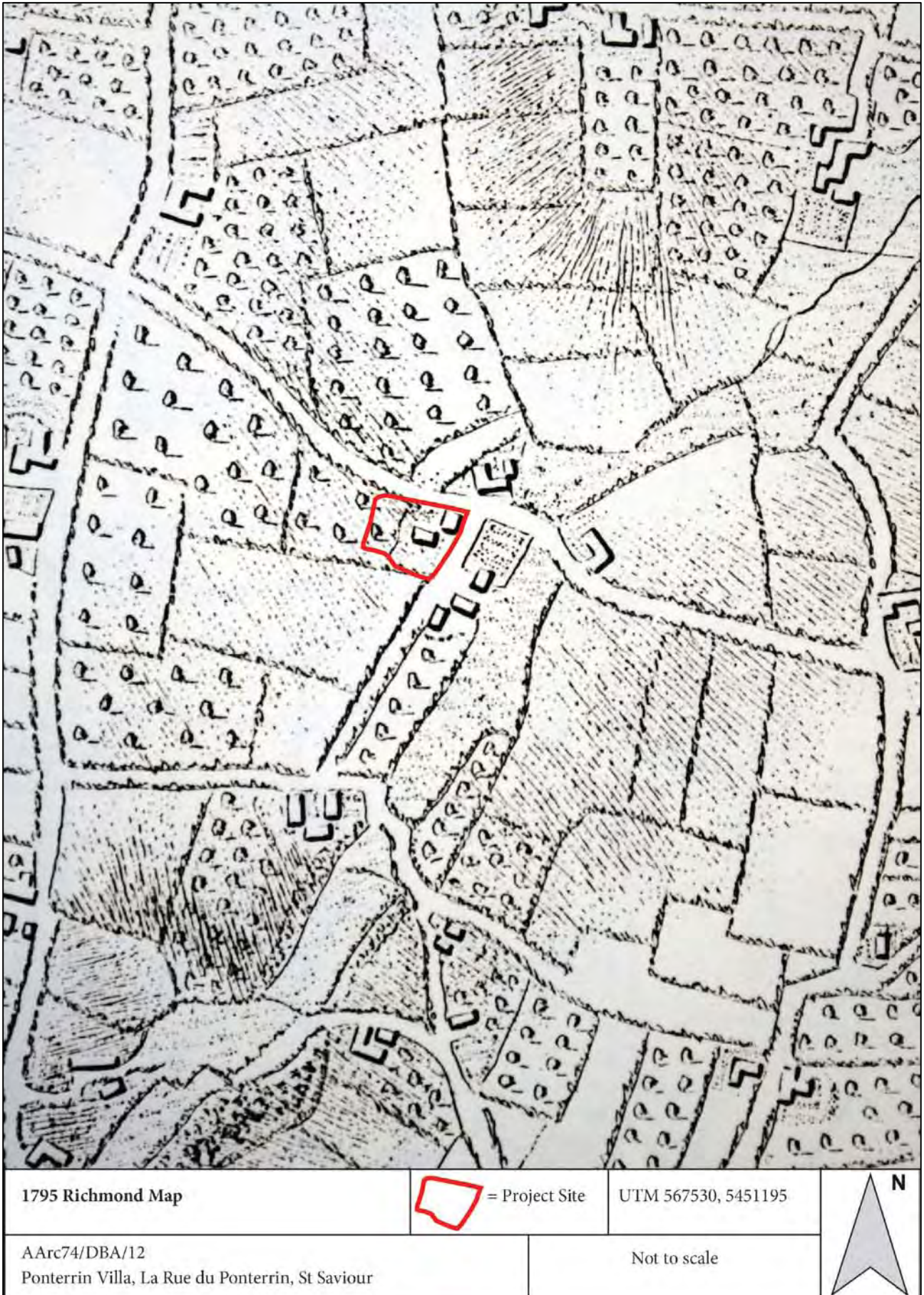




Figure 6: 1849 Godfray Map

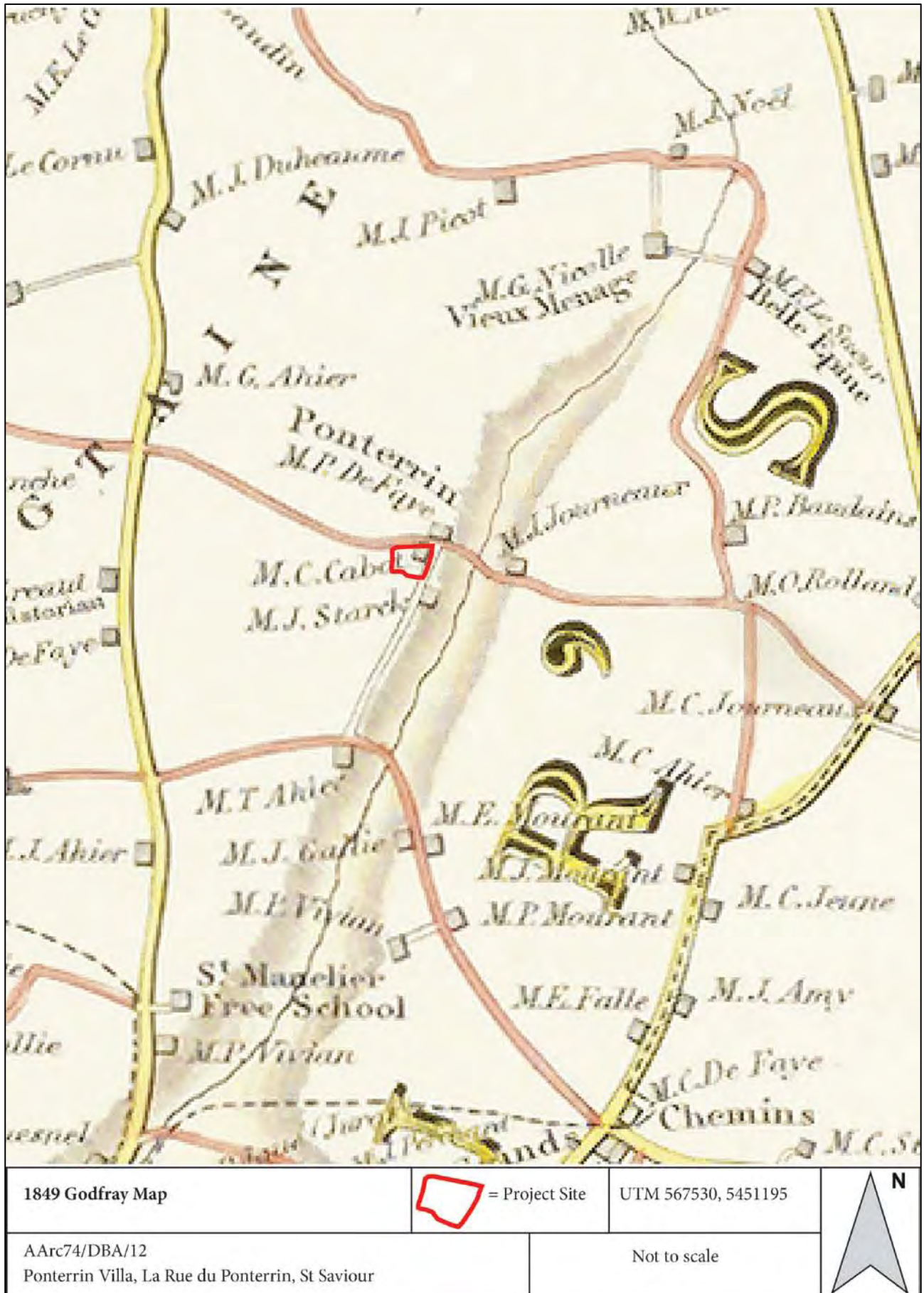


Figure 7: 1893 Ansted and Latham Map



Figure 8: 1934 OS map

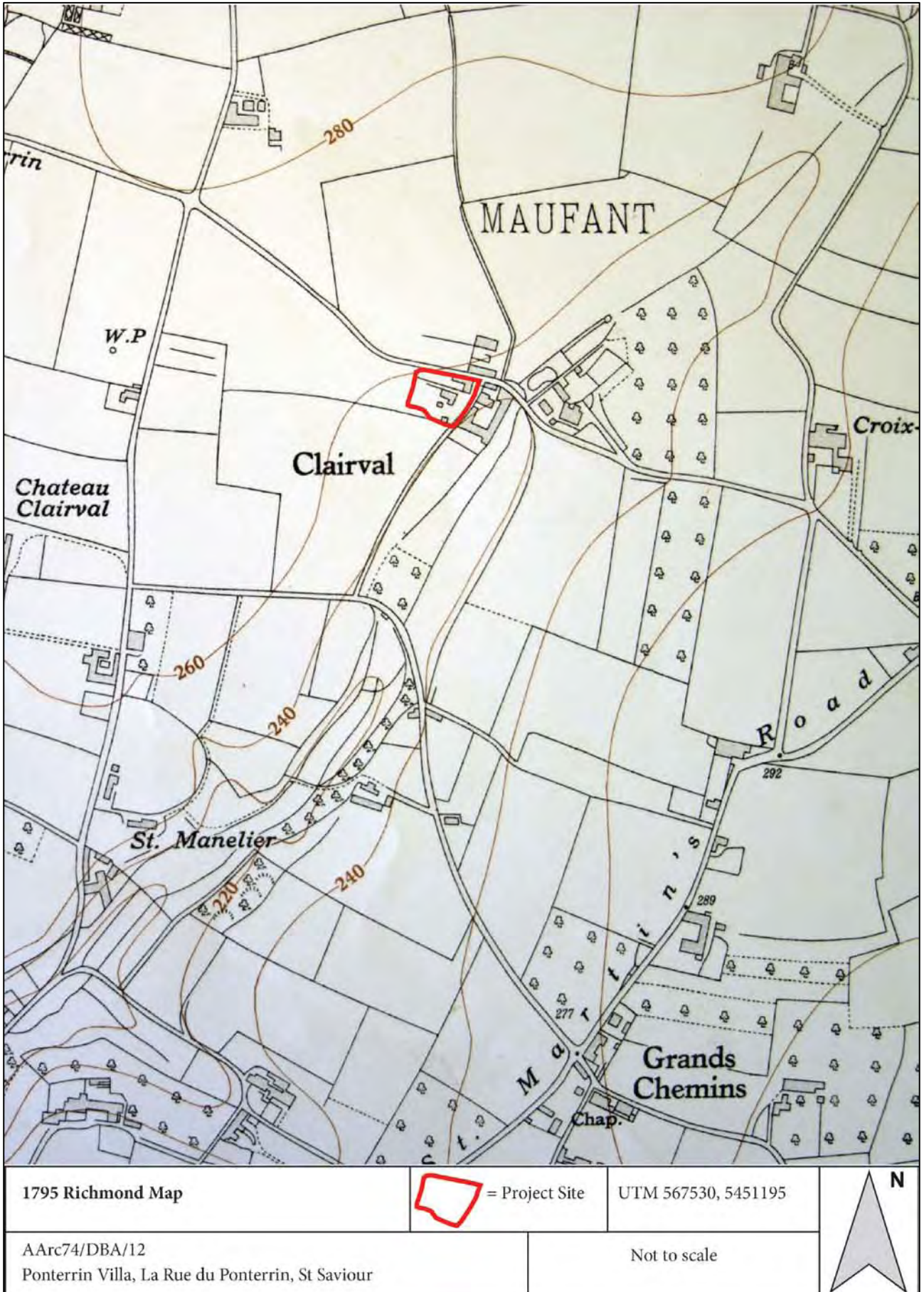





Figure 9: 1943 Aerial Photograph (L/C/14/B/8/3/1)



1943 Aerial Photograph (L/C/14/B/8/3/1)	 = Project Site	UTM 567530, 5451195	 N
AArc74/DBA/12 Ponterrin Villa, La Rue du Ponterrin, St Saviour	0  150m		

## 9. Photographs

**Photo 1: View of the Project Site from the vehicular entrance at the SE**



**Photo 2: View of Ponterrin Villa (grey building in the background), ruined building (mid ground) and pig sty (foreground) from SW**



**Photo 3: View of Ponterrin Villa (right) in front of which is the area of the proposed cellar, western outbuilding (ahead) and ruined building (left) from S**



**Photo 4: Ruined Building showing fireplace and small entrance from east**



**Photo 5: Probable blocked doorway in southern part of ruined building**



**Photo 6: Ruined building from N**



**Photo 7: Area between Ruined Structure and Outbuilding, earmarked for levelling and extension of outbuilding (including the circular stone feature beneath the window) from E**



**Photo 8: Outbuilding to the rear (west) of Ruined Structure, now painted**



**Photo 9: Ponterrin villa with 1950s flat roofed bathroom extension and outbuilding to W**





**Photo 10: Gable end of outbuilding showing blocked window (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) and alterations to the eaves**



**Photo 11: Semi-circular feature to south of outbuilding**



**Photo 12: External view of western outbuilding from Le Rue du Ponterrin (N) showing post and joist also visible internally**



**Photo 13: View of former roofline of previous building from La Rue du Ponterrin**



**Photo 14: View of internal northern wall of outbuilding showing extant post and joist also visible from La Rue du Ponterrin**



**Photo 15: Internal view of west gable end of outbuilding with low joists and blocked up window**



**Photo 16: Le Ponterrin Manor**



## 10. Appendices

### Appendix 1: Project Gazetteer

This gazetteer has been compiled from a range of sources including the Department of the Environment Register of Buildings and Sites of Architectural, Archaeological and Historical Importance, and the Schedule of Areas of Archaeological Potential, articles from the Annual Bulletin of the Société Jersiaise and a database of archaeological sites in the Channel Islands (held by Absolute Archaeology).

No	Source	Site/Find Name	Period	Description
1	Hawkes 1939; Driscoll 2011	La Tête de la Fief de la Houquette	Prehistoric	Possible barrow or windmill mound, excavated in 1913. Stone features found during 1915 excavations may be cists.
2	Schedule of sites of archaeological importance (no 100); Hawkes 1939: 310-311	The Rocking Stone (or La Pierre de la Fettle/ La Dame Blanche)	Prehistoric	White stone (of highly siliceous rhyolite), c.2.4m high, standing on a hillside to the north of Five Oaks, and may have been a 'rocking stone,' although whether it is naturally or artificially positioned is uncertain. Some projecting portions on the south side are rounded and highly polished, which Mourant suggests may have been made by constant touching for superstitious motives, akin to the rubbing of animals. Hawkes refers to the association between white quartzite and superstitious importance. Rybot found a flint scraper nearby.
3	Historic Environment Entry: SA0223	Le Ponterrin	Medieval	16th century house with medieval origins; and 17th century gatehouse range. Associated with Fief du Ponterrin. The site is of great importance as a rare survivor of an early type of Jersey farmhouse and the quality of the architecture and of the decorated granite is exceptional.
4	Site visit	Possible early building	Medieval – post-medieval	A possible early building to the rear of Ponterrin Villa, on the location of the current outbuilding.
5	Register of Buildings and Sites of Architectural, Archaeological and Historical Importance in Jersey	Ruined Structure	Medieval-Post Medieval	<p>Ruins of single-storey Jersey vernacular cottage dating to late 1500s / early 1600s in the garden of Ponterrin Villa.</p> <p>There is a strong ecclesiastical tradition around Ponterrin with the location of the chapel of St Maur suggested to be located either in the vicinity of the ruin or in field 145A to the north.</p> <p>The 1795 Richmond map shows a rectangular building with a roughly east-west alignment on the site. The building is referred to in 'Old Jersey Houses' volume 1 and 'Chapels and Pories of Jersey' by Charles Stevens 1977 (unpublished). These state that La Chapelle de St Maur may have been at Ponterrin where there is a strong ecclesiastical tradition, and suggest that the building may be the ruins of the chapel. A stone basin found here was believed by former owners to be a holy water stoup.</p> <p>A more likely interpretation for the standing ruin is that it is a rare survival of the earliest form of vernacular building in the Island - a single-storey, single-celled</p>

				cottage with a large gable end fireplace.
6		Ponterrin Villa	Post-Med	19 <sup>th</sup> century house (considered for listing).

## Appendix 2: Abbreviations and Terminology

### ARCHAEOLOGY

Taken to mean the study of past human societies through their material remains from prehistoric times to the modern era. It is also used in this report as a means of describing physical remains (e.g. there is likely to be preservation of archaeology).

### DBA

Desk Based Assessment.

### aOD

Above Ordnance Datum; used to express a given height above mean sea level.

### PROJECT SITE

The area of the proposed development site. This may include heritage assets and boundaries that will not be directly affected by development, but which by virtue of their proximity to the actual ground disturbance are important elements of the historic environment and which must be included in any assessment.

### SEA LEVEL

Heights are to the nearest metre above sea level.

### STUDY AREA

Area around the Project Site whose Historic Environment is assessed to understand the nature of the site. The Study Area for this DBA is 1000m from the centre of the Project Site.

**Appendix 3: General chronological table (for the purposes of this DBA)**

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.
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 C�atel 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.