Wessex Archaeology

Les Gellettes, Jersey

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

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LES GELLETTES,
ISLAND OF JERSEY

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

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LES GELLETTES, ISLAND OF JERSEY

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

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Summary

In May 2010 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Channel 4's Time Team at the site of the German 2nd Battery of mixed anti-aircraft battalion 364 to the south of Les Gellettes on the island of Jersey, centred on X:38458.40, Y:68062.53.

The Battery was constructed following the Occupation of the island in July 1940 and contained six 88mm and three 20mm anti-aircraft guns, just a small percentage of the 165 anti-aircraft guns recorded on the island by November 1944.

The evaluation aimed to identify the character, date, condition and extent of both the surviving earthworks and extant remains within the Battery and the underlying archaeological remains, following the post-war reclamation of the site and its return to agriculture.

Examination of aerial photographs dated to 1943 and 1944 showed that the northern half of the Site had been completely cleared of upstanding remains and the area returned to fields and pasture, although the southern part of the Site contained some very well preserved earthworks associated with the Battery, including gun emplacements, air-raid shelters and the ablution block. These structures were visible on the aerial photographs.

The surviving remains of the Battery were recorded. Limited excavation within 14 trenches, accompanied by the examination of aerial photographs, was able to show that structures had been hastily built in preparation for a land assault using whatever materials were to hand. This may have occurred as a result of Field-Marshal Rommel's visit to the Atlantic Wall and his call for the further fortification of the defences there, but it is also possible that some followed the D-Day landings, and the end of supply ships to the island at a time when the threat of an Allied invasion was a real possibility.

The results of the evaluation, as the first archaeological investigation of the Site, warrant further dissemination. It is therefore recommended that a short summary report, based on the information presented in this assessment report, should be submitted for publication in the annual journal of the Société Jersiaise.

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Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

Acknowledgements

This programme of post-excavation and assessment work was commissioned and funded by Videotext Communications Ltd, and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank the staff at Videotext, and in particular Michael Douglas (Series Editor), Jane Hammond (Head of Production), Jim Mower (Development Producer), Ben Knappett (Assistant Producer), Alex Rowson (Researcher), Kerry Ely (Locations Manager) and Emily Woodburn (Production Coordinator) for their considerable help during the recording and post-excavation work.

The geophysical survey was undertaken by John Gater, Jimmy Adcock, Emma Wood of GSB Prospection. The field and topographical survey was undertaken by Dr Henry Chapman of University of Birmingham and landscape survey and map regression by Stewart Ainsworth of English Heritage. The excavation strategy was devised by Ben Robinson (Peterborough Museum) and Martin Brown (Defence Estates Archaeologist). The on-site recording was co-ordinated by Steve Thompson, and on-site finds processing was carried out by Naomi Hall, both of Wessex Archaeology.

The excavations were undertaken by Time Team's retained archaeologists, Phil Harding (Wessex Archaeology), Tracey Smith, Matt Williams, Ian Powlesland, Raksha Dave and Faye Simpson assisted by Catherine Drew, Charlotte Faiers, Dave Saxby, Neville Constantine, Richard Hewitt and Robert Hartle of Museum of London Archaeology with Sarah James and Victoria Bell. The metal detector survey was carried out by Ken Rive and Derycke Egré. On-site finds identification was undertaken by Andy Robertshaw (Royal Logistical Corps Museum) and Martin Brown assisted by Graeme Delanoe and Damien Horn.

The archive was collated and all post-excavation assessment and analysis undertaken by Wessex Archaeology. This report was compiled by Steve Thompson with specialist reports prepared by Naomi Hall (Finds). The illustrations were prepared by Rob Goller. The post-excavation project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Lorraine Mepham.

The project benefited from discussion with Stewart Ainsworth, Martin Brown, Andy Robertshaw and Phil Harding.

Finally thanks are extended to Paul Simmonds and Chris Addy of the Jersey War Tunnels and Liz Marks and Peter Henwood of the Sorrel Stables and Saddlery Centre for allowing access to the Site for geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation.

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'It ought to be possible, by the use of our sea power to prevent the invasion of the islands by the enemy….' (Winston Churchill addresses the War Office, 14 June 1940)

'Channel Islands will not, repeat not be defended against external invasion by sea or air' (Telegram from Whitehall, 19 June 1940)

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Videotext Communications Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological recording and post-excavation work on an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' at the site the German 2nd Battery of mixed anti-aircraft battalion 364 to the south of Les Gellettes, Jersey (hereafter the 'Site') (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 This report documents the results of archaeological survey and evaluation undertaken by Time Team, and presents an assessment of the results of these works.

1.2 The Site, location and geology

1.2.1 The Site is located at coordinates X:38458.40, Y:68062.53 at a height of approximately 120m above sea level. Les Gellettes, within the parish of St Lawrence, is approximately 4.8 km north-west of St Helier and approximately 2 km south-east of St Peter's Church.

1.2.2 Jersey; the largest and most southerly of the Channel Islands, lies some 161 km south of mainland Britain and just 22.5 km from the French coast (the Contentin peninsula in Normandy). The island measures *c.* 14.5 km by 8 km and covers an area of some 116.55 square kilometres.

1.2.3 The Site is divided into three areas. Area 1 is located at the southern tip of the Site within dense woodland and covers an area of 2.38 hectares, centred on coordinates X:38458.40, Y:68062.53 at a height of approximately 120 above sea level. Area 1 contains the substantial and well preserved remains of the anti-aircraft battery. The remains survive as earthwork gun positions, trench systems, air-raid shelters/bunkers and building platforms.

1.2.4 Area 2 is located to the north and covers an area of 1.57 hectares and is currently under pasture, and centred on X:38438.00, Y:68263.00 at a height of approximately 121m above sea level.

1.2.5 Area 3 is located immediately north of Area 1 and covers an area of 0.66 hectares and is centred on X: 38450.60, Y:68132.78 at a height of approximately 120m above sea level, and at the time of the evaluation was under arable cultivation. The underlying geology consists of Jersey Shale.

1.3 Historical Background

Introduction

1.3.1 The following historical background was taken from the project design for this programme of works, prepared by Jim Mower following discussion with Historian Michael Ginn and Chris Addy of the Jersey War Tunnels (Videotext Communications 2010).

1.3.2 A number of other sources were referenced; in particular:

- *Channel Islands at War: A German Perspective* (Forty 1999)
- *The War in The Channel Islands; Then and Now* (Ramsey 1981)
- *The Channel Islands 1941-45: Hitler's Impregnable Fortress (Stephenson 2006)*
- *Ho8; Jersey War Tunnels Guide Book and Illustrated Record of the German Occupation of Jersey* (Jersey War Tunnels)
- *Jersey Occupied; The German Armed Forces in Jersey 1940-1945* (Ginn 2009)

1.3.3 During the 1930s the small island of Jersey, whose population was some 50,000, was a major holiday resort for thousands of British tourists, while agriculture and horticulture for the production of potatoes, flowers, tomatoes and apples provided occupations for the population.

1.3.4 At the same time in Germany, the National Socialist German Workers Party (*Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei*), the NSDAP or Nazi Party, was growing in size and power under the leadership of Adolf Hitler. As they gained more support in, and control over the German State Parliament (*Reichstag*), Hitler set about removing all opposition through a combination of legislation and violence. After the removal of potential threats from within the SA (*Sturmabteilung* or Stormtroopers, the paramilitary section of the NSDAP) in 1934 (during the Night of the Long Knives), and the proclamation of Hitler as Head of State (*Führer und Reichskanzler*), the NSDAP and its leaders concentrated on their ideologies of racial purity and the persecution of their racial enemies, and the expansion of the Third Reich (*Deutsches Reich*) through the acquisition of *Lebensraum* or 'living space' for members of the 'Aryan race'. The expansion of Germany and the acquisition of *Lebensraum* began with the annexing first of Austria and then of Czechoslovakia and then in September 1939 the invasion of Poland. When demands by the British for immediate withdrawal went unheeded, Britain declared war on Germany.

1.3.5 Jersey at first remained relatively untouched by the war and continued to advertise itself as a holiday destination, until May 1940 when Germany launched its Western Offensive into Holland, Belgium and France. At this time Lieutenant-Governor Major General Harrison, Governor of Jersey, asked the War Office what measures were to be taken to protect the island from attack.

1.3.6 The German onslaught into western Europe would eventually lead to the mass evacuation of Allied forces from Dunkirk, and a request by the Admiralty for Jersey to aid in the rescue operation from St. Malo of retreating Allied soldiers in June 1940. This operation saw some 19 small boats rescue 50 men and allowed British demolition forces to destroy the port on their retreat to prevent its use by the Germans.

1.3.7 With German forces just 22.5 km from Jersey, invasion of the islands became a real possibility and eventually Lieutenant-Governor Harrison received his answer in a telegram from Whitehall dated 19 June 1940:

'Channel Islands will not, repeat not be defended against external invasion by sea or air'. (Telegram from Whitehall, 19 June 1940)

1.3.8 Jersey and the islands of Guernsey, Sark and Alderney were subsequently evacuated of British troops and the Lieutenant-Governor of Jersey was withdrawn as well. Around 23,000 people registered for evacuation from Jersey although only 6,600 islanders actually left. Many remained following the public declaration by Bailiff Alexander Countache, who had chosen to remain, stating *'I will never leave and my wife will be by my side'*. Countache had chosen to follow the orders left to him in the event that the Lieutenant-Governor left, that he *'should stay at his post and administer the government of the Island to the best of his abilities'.* Countache and some 45,000 islanders were now left to await the inevitable invasion.

1.3.9 On June 28 1940 a bombing raid over St Helier harbour and Le Rocque killed 11 people and injured many more. The raid had been to test the island's defences, and similar attacks took place on Guernsey. These raids were to assess the level and capabilities of the Allied defences of the island and determine how Operation *Grüne Pfeile* (Green Arrow), the invasion and occupation of the Channel Islands, was to be conducted. A strong Allied response would have led to further bombings. The Germans had not known that the island was undefended and on the morning of 1 July 1940 letters outlining the manner in which the island was to surrender were dropped. Later that day with Bailiff Countache calling for calm, Captain Erick Gussek, the first German Commandant and around 100 German troops arrived. The Occupation had begun.

1.3.10 With the forced evacuation from Dunkirk and St Malo and the seizing of the Channel Islands, Hitler began preparations for Operation Seelőwe (Sealion), the invasion of mainland Britain. On 16 July 1940 *'Directive No.16 for Preparations of a Landing Operation against England'* stated:

'Since England in spite of her hopeless military situation shows no signs of being ready to come to an understanding. I have decided to prepare a landing operation against England and if necessary to carry it out. The aim of this operation will be to eliminate the English homeland as a base for the prosecution of the war against Germany and, if necessary, to occupy it completely.'

1.3.11 It was made clear that preparations for the operation must be completed by the middle of August 1940 and that *'The English Air Force must be so reduced morally and physically that it is unable to deliver any significant*

attack against the German crossing'. 'Directive No. 17', dated 2 August stated:

'In order to create the conditions necessary for the final overthrow of England, I intend to wage the air and sea war against the English homeland in a more intensified form than before….The German air force is to beat down the English Air Force with all available forces as quickly as possible.'

1.3.12 Civil affairs on Jersey by this time were under the command of Colonel Schumacher until October 1941 and later Colonel Knackfüss until 1944, while Colonel Graf von Schmettow was the overall commander of the military forces in the Channel Islands. Von Schmettow was replaced in July 1941 by Major-General Müller, only to take up the post again in September 1943 following promotion to Major-General, but was replaced in February 1945 by Vice Admiral Hüffmeier.

1.3.13 Von Schmettow received instructions early in 1940 for the installation of a series of defences on the Channel Islands which would eventually absorb over 8% of the resources allocated to the construction of the defences of the 1,500-mile long Atlantic Wall, by 1944. If these materials had been allocated to enhancing the fortifications of the European coastline, when the Allies landed on D-Day the German defences would have been 10% stronger (Ramsey 1981, 56).

1.3.14 On 20 October 1941, Hitler issued a proclamation *'with regard to the permanent fortifying of the islands to convert them into an 'impregnable fortress'* (Stephenson 2006, 11). The Channel Islands represented a strategic but also disturbing triumph over Britain - the Occupation of British soil. Hitler was determined the Islands would never return to the British.

1.3.15 The defence of Jersey involved the construction of hundreds of anti-naval, anti-tank and anti-aircraft gun positions using forced labour from occupied eastern Europe and Spain under the command of the *Organisation Todt* (OT). Many anti-aircraft batteries were installed around the island to help protect a host of military installations. In the early months of the occupation, air defence was the responsibility of Army Anti-Aircraft Gun Platoons, but these were soon replaced by the FlaK Regiments and Brigades of the Luftwaffe.

1.3.16 Early in 1944 Field-Marshal Erwin Rommel was appointed to oversee the defences of the Atlantic Wall which he found to be wholly inadequate and so set about strengthening them. By November 1944 a total of 165 anti-aircraft guns had been installed on Jersey (Stephenson 2006, 36) and were being operated either by the Luftwaffe or a small number of Army units.

1.3.17 The Les Gellettes Battery was overseen by Luftwaffe FlaK Division 152 in 1942, then Division 364 in 1943, both being part of FlaK Regiment 40. This battery was sited more or less below the flight path of aircraft approaching Jersey airport from the east and also protected the tunnel Ho8 which, until early 1944, was intended to be an artillery barracks and workshop.

1.3.18 The main weaponry of the anti-aircraft batteries were 88mm and the 20mm FlaK guns (FlaK is derived from *Flugzeugabwehr-Kanone* meaning anti-

aircraft gun, with the 88mm known universally known as the *Acht acht* (8-8) from the German *Acht-komma-acth zentimeter* (8.8cm)). Four variants of the 88mm gun were used during the Second World War (18, 36, 37 and 41), while the 20mm FlaK gun had two variants; the Flak 30 and the Flak 38 or FlaKvierling 38, which combined a quadruple-barrelled version.

1.3.19 At Les Gellettes the battery was armed with six 88mm FlaK 36/37 and three 20mm FlaK 38, but no radar capability is recorded. The battery did, however, have a powerful searchlight. There was a clear view along the lower end of St. Peters Valley to the beach between Bel Royal and Beaumont, and this battery was ideally sited to be employed as coastal artillery if not firing against aircraft. The southern edge of the battery site was well prepared as an infantry defensive position, with trenches and barbed wire. As with the other installations on Jersey, Les Gellettes would have been constructed using forced labour.

1.3.20 At the end of the Occupation in May 1945, the British Liberation Force 135 had an enormous task in removing all the German hardware from the Islands, the majority of which was dumped at sea. The area surrounding the Les Gellettes Battery was also heavily mined; a proportion of the German garrison was kept behind to remove all the 67,000 mines dispersed throughout the island.

1.4 Previous Archaeological Work

1.4.1 No previous archaeological work has taken place at Les Gellettes.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1.1 A project design for the work was compiled (Videotext Communications 2010), providing full details of the research aims and methods. A brief summary is provided here.

2.1.2 The project aimed to carry out a limited programme of non-intrusive investigations and intrusive excavation. The results of this work will also form an important resource for the future management of the site

2.1.3 The following general research aims were to be addressed:

Research Aim 1:

2.1.4 To characterise the Site in regard to its date range. Current interpretation of site use is based on historical knowledge and documentation. Non-invasive survey and invasive trenching aimed to confirm the date for construction, occupation and abandonment of the Site.

Research Aim 2:

2.1.5 To characterise the condition of sub-surface archaeological deposits. Archaeological deposits relating to the Second World War are a fragile and finite resource.

Research Aim 3:

2.1.6 To define the extent of surviving surface and sub-surface archaeological deposits. No survey work or excavation has previously taken place on the

Site, and the current project will have implications for future conservation strategies and the overall management plan for the site.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Geophysical Survey

3.1.1 Prior to the excavation of evaluation trenches, a geophysical survey was carried out across the Site using a combination of resistance and magnetic survey. The survey grid was tied in to the Ordnance Survey grid using a Trimble real time differential GPS system.

3.2 Landscape and Earthwork Survey

3.2.1 A landscape survey and examination of the aerial photographs of the Site was undertaken by Stewart Ainsworth, Senior Investigator of the Archaeological Survey and Investigation Team, English Heritage, together with Defence Estates Archaeologist Martin Brown. A summary of discussions with Ainsworth and Brown on the results of this survey and cartographic analysis is presented here.

3.3 Evaluation Trenches

3.3.1 Investigation of the Site was undertaken with excavation of 14 trenches of varying sizes, sited over specific earthworks and structures identified on the 1944 aerial photograph of the Site and then located on the ground (**Figure 1**).

3.3.2 The trenches were excavated using a combination of machine and hand digging. All machine trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision and ceased at the identification of significant archaeological remains or at natural geology if this was encountered first. When machine excavation had ceased all trenches were cleaned by hand and archaeological deposits investigated.

3.3.3 At various stages during excavation the deposits were scanned by a metal detector and signals marked in order to facilitate investigation. The excavated up-cast was scanned by metal detector.

3.3.4 All archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Trenches were located using a Trimble Real Time Differential GPS survey system and Trimble Total Station. All archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20 with sections drawn at 1:10. All principal strata and features were related to the Ordnance Survey datum.

3.3.5 A full photographic record of the investigations and individual features was maintained, utilising digital images. The photographic record illustrated both the detail and general context of the archaeology revealed and the Site as a whole.

3.3.6 At the completion of the work, all trenches were reinstated using the excavated material.

3.3.7 The work was carried out on the 22 to 25 May 2010. The archive and all artefacts were subsequently transported to the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury where they were processed and assessed for this report.

3.4 Copyright

3.4.1 This report may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferrable by Wessex Archaeology. You are reminded that you remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Details of individual excavated contexts and features and the full geophysical report (GSB Prospection 2010) are retained in the archive. Detailed descriptions of the excavated sequences and structures can be found in **Appendix 1**.

4.2 Geophysical Survey

Introduction

4.2.1 Geophysical survey was carried out over three areas comprising areas of paddock, ploughed field and fairly dense woodland using a combination of magnetic and ground penetrating radar surveys. (**Figure 1**).

4.2.2 Conditions for survey varied from one extreme to another. The paddocks were ideal as the ground was under pasture and flat, but due to the thick woodland, root systems, extant remains and earthworks, survey in the main battery area was challenging and only a few GPR transects were able to be collected.

4.2.3 All GPR interpretations are based on analysis of both the raw and filtered time-slice datasets as well as the original radargrams. Any depths referred to in the interpretation of GPR data *are only ever an approximation*.

4.3 Results

Magnetic Survey

Area 2

4.3.1 Aerial photography from this area appeared to show a number of structures that were present during the German occupation; survey was located over some of these apparent features. Results clearly show a response in the west of the data that is likely to correspond to one of the buildings. However, further structures have not been detected which suggests that these were likely to have been temporary buildings or located on mounds of earth.

4.4 GPR Survey

Area 1

4.4.1 A small number of traverses were run up to, and over, two small depressions believed to be single-occupant machine gun nests, (Structures C and D). Strong dipping reflectors were identified on the eastern sides of the 'nests' sloping down to the east. At first it was thought that this may be evidence of a revetment, or similar, but once the natural geology had been uncovered elsewhere on site, it was realised that this surface was more likely to be an effect of the natural, dipping laminated slabs of mudstone/shale.

Area 2

4.4.2 Upon excavation, the soil in this area was found to be extremely compacted, possibly an effect of the site clearance post-1945. This overburden probably accounts for the majority of variation seen within the top 0.5m, aside from anomalies associated with the current field boundary and gateways.

4.4.3 A zone of strong reflections and increased response, coincident with the aforementioned broad magnetic anomaly, relates directly to the demolished and reburied bunker. It seems likely that many of the linear anomalies seen crossing the survey area are cable runs or other services associated with the wartime activity, although later interventions such as trenches for laying drainage or water pipes in the paddocks could produce similar responses. Some other isolated reflectors have been identified, one of which has a clearly metallic signature; these are likely to be other remnants of the military occupation of this site, especially given that many lie in close proximity to the linear anomalies and trends.

Area 3

4.4.4 There is some near-surface variation recorded within the top 0.5m of the data which is likely to be a combination of natural soil variation, agriculture and modern dumping of material on the site. The exceptions to this are shallow anomalies in the south of the survey area, adjacent to an entrance into the woods containing the extant bunkers and gun emplacements; it seems likely that these relate to this complex.

4.4.5 Beyond 0.5m below ground level, a narrow north-south anomaly correlates with an aerial photograph showing a trench/field boundary running along this line. Two other weaker linear anomalies, to the west, may well be the partial remnants of service routes associated with the military installation.

4.4.6 The most noticeable anomaly in this area is a broad, sub-circular, zone of increased response and high amplitude anomalies in the centre of the survey area. The interpretation of this zone is somewhat difficult as there was not sufficient time to investigate it further. Despite the coincidence with the line of the trench/field boundary, the position within the overall site layout suggests it is not a military feature (S. Ainsworth, pers. comm.). With the feature lying on the crest of a slight rise, this leaves two other possibilities: firstly, that this is a shallow outcrop of the solid geology (given that it is a highly fractured mudstone/slate material) or, secondly, that this is the remnants of a prehistoric burial feature, examples of which are known to exist across the island. Immediately east of this spread of anomalies, the

field was ploughed for potatoes; the fact that cultivation stops at this zone might suggest that it is not possible to plough, which would perhaps add weight to the first of these possible interpretations.

4.4.7 Some metallic reflectors have been noted within the topsoil, but there has been material dumped in the south-west corner of this field and so they are not necessarily related to the military phase of use.

4.5 Conclusions

4.5.1 The geophysical survey has identified a number of features relating to the military occupation of Les Gellettes though these had, for the most part, already been identified through contemporary aerial photographs.

4.5.2 The limited area available for survey and very shallow geology within the woodland made discerning other military features nearly impossible. The shallow geology has also clouded interpretation of an anomalous zone of responses immediately north of the woods. Whilst very unlikely to be a military feature, a question remains as to whether the reflectors are born of a geological outcrop (undoubtedly the most likely interpretation) or the remnants of a prehistoric cairn lying on the crest of a slight rise in the landscape.

4.6 Landscape and Earthwork Survey

4.6.1 Existing maps, plans and background documentary material provided as part of the project were used as the basis for analysis, in particular two RAF reconnaissance aerial photographs dating respectively to 3 July 1943 (ref SJPA-038263, RAF 4062, S/854 543 SQDN 3/7/43) and 8 August 1944 (ref SJPA-038272, RAF 3112, 106G.2056 8/8/44; **Figure 2**).

4.6.2 The 1943 photo clearly shows the extent of the Battery at Les Gellettes set up as an anti-aircraft position with the 88mm gun positions and a single 20mm gun position with associated accommodation blocks and command centres. This photo shows three of the structures investigated during the evaluation: Structure B (the ablution block), Structure H (the 88mm gun emplacement) and Structure I (the command centre).

4.6.3 By 1944, however, it is clear that there have been a number of additions to the Battery including Structure A (20mm gun emplacement), Structure F (timber building), Structures J, N and M (slit trench, machine gun position and air-raid shelter) and Structure L (air-raid shelter). As well as these structures, further slit trenches were excavated to the north in Area 2 to the east of Structure I and to the south, connecting Structure H to a new air raid shelter to the east and the continuation of the slit trench J.

4.6.4 A number of the smaller structures (C, D, E, G and K) are not visible on the later photograph and, following the walk-over survey, it became clear that further slit trench digging to the southern limit of the Site had taken place after August 1944.

4.7 Evaluation Trenches

4.8 Introduction

4.8.1 A total of 14 trenches were excavated. Trenches 1-10 and 12-14 were located in Area 1 with a single trench (Trench 11) excavated in Area 2. Each trench was targeted upon features and structures identified from the 1944 RAF aerial photograph. Each structure investigated has been assigned an individual letter to aid description and interpretation.

4.9 Area 1

4.10 Structure A: 20mm Anti-aircraft gun emplacement (Trench 1; Figures 1, 3, 4)

4.10.1 Structure A comprised a roughly circular earthwork *c*. 10m in diameter and *c*. 1.50m high, with an internal hollow *c*. 4.80m in diameter. This was interpreted as a 20mm anti-aircraft gun emplacement. Trench 1 was located in the north-east corner of the structure to investigate one of two entrances observed on the aerial photograph.

4.10.2 The natural geology and original ground surface were recorded as **116** and **113**/**117** respectively and this had been cut by **118** for the construction of the gun emplacement. The surrounding earthwork bank forming the blast barrier for the emplacement (**Fig. 3, Plate 1**) was constructed from redeposited natural deposits **102**, **104**, **107**, **108** and **109** and any waste material lying around (a roll of roofing felt was incorporated into **107**).

4.10.3 The edge of the original, wider entrance indicated on the aerial photograph, which would have allowed access in for the gun, could not be identified, but there were a number of deposits interpreted as deliberate blocking events to create a narrower entrance and so create a more effective blast barrier, recorded as **106**, **110** and **114**. The new narrow entrance was defined by 'cut' **115**, upright concrete post **111** and plywood plank **105**.

4.10.4 Within the interior of the gun emplacement the original ground surface had been disturbed and compacted by movement within the position, and following the abandonment of the Battery the surrounding blast barrier earthwork had slumped into the interior. These slumping deposits were recorded as **103** and **112** and were sealed beneath the current topsoil and leaf litter **101**.

4.11 Structure B: The Ablution Block (Trenches 2, 5 and 6; Figures 1, 3, 4)

4.11.1 Structure B comprised a terrace *c*. 13.4m long by 10m wide, excavated into the eastern side of a natural slope within the Battery. The excavated upcast had been used to form extensive blast barriers on the northern, western and southern sides while leaving the eastern side open. The surround blast barrier survived to a height of *c*. 1.30m on the western side. Within this blast barrier was constructed a post-built ablution block.

4.11.2 In Trench 2 the terrace cut was recorded as **205** and this created a level platform out of the natural geology **204**. In Trench 5 the natural geology **506** was cut by post-hole **505** which contained the remains of iron post-pad **503** for the corner post of the structure.

4.11.3 In Trench 6, to the east of the main ablution block area, was a drain made from a length of C-shaped angle iron (**604**) with drain cut **603**. The angle iron was capped by square galvanised iron plates with distinctive T-shaped cut-outs in the centre. These capping plates were re-used base plates for holding pickets to carry barbed wire, and their use here suggests a rather hurried or temporary construction making use of whatever materials were to hand.

4.12 Structure C (Trench 3), Structure D (Trench 4), Structure G (Trench 9): Single Manned Machine Gun/ Rifle Pits (Figures 1, 3)

4.12.1 Three identical earthworks were positioned around the 20mm anti-aircraft gun emplacement (Structure A), which were interpreted as firing positions, each for a single soldier, providing covering fire in the event of land assault on the Battery. The structures were circular, *c*. 2m to 4m in diameter, consisting of a circular, vertical-sided pit *c.* 1m in diameter and excavated to a depth of 1.40m, with the excavated upcast forming a surrounding earthen bank (**Figure 3, Plate 2**).

4.12.2 The pits were recorded as cuts **303**, **403** and **903** with the upcast forming the bank as **304**, **404** and **904** respectively. They had been deliberately backfilled in the post-war period.

4.13 Structure E: Ammunition Store (Trench 7; Figures 1, 3)

4.13.1 Structure E comprised a sub-rectangular, rock-cut room (**703**), 2.50m long by 1.85m wide and 1.50m deep. The excavated upcast formed a considerable blast barrier (**705**) 2.60m wide; this, however, had slumped and would originally have been narrower. In the south-west corner was an entrance leading down to the base of the structure. The interior was infilled with a post-war slumping episode (**704**) derived from the surrounding blast barrier.

4.13.2 Structure E was interpreted as a possible ammunition store due to the considerable effort taken to protect whatever was stored within it - the depth of the room and the size of the blast barrier.

4.13.3 The 1944 aerial photograph (**Figure 2**) places Structure E in the north-west corner of a small paddock, obscured by a dense tree line. This would have been a deliberate positioning so that the structure would not have been a clear target for Allied planes.

4.14 Structure F: Timber post-built structure (Trench 8; Figures 1, 3, 4)

4.14.1 To the south of the ablution block was a second structure built on a terrace (8.2m long by 4m wide), excavated into the eastern side of the natural slope (**Figure 3, Plate 3**). The terrace cut (**803**) had removed much material to form the blast barrier (**804**), which was recorded as 0.50m high. Beneath this was the natural bedrock (**802**) on which sat three concrete blocks (**805**). The concrete blocks were of different sizes, and were interpreted as post-pads to support the timber posts of the building.

4.15 Structure H: 88mm Anti-aircraft gun emplacement (Trench 10; Figures 1, 3, 5)

4.15.1 Structure H was a roughly rectangular sunken feature **1008**, 9.5m long by 7.20m wide and excavated into the natural bedrock to a depth of 1m, with the excavated upcast creating a defensive blast barrier (**1009**) around the outside of the feature. The vertical cut edges of the feature would have originally been faced with a wooden revetment **1005**, held in place by T-shaped picket poles, observed in the north-west and north-east corners. The feature had two entrances, located on the western and eastern sides; the western entrance was considerably wider at 1.40m, and it was through this that the 88mm gun was initially brought. The narrower (0.85m wide) entrance on the eastern side led to an air-raid shelter and the core of the Battery.

4.15.2 In the north-east corner of **1008** was a 1.95m by 1m recess which was interpreted as an ammunition store.

4.15.3 Located towards the centre of Structure H was a concrete base (4.70m by 3.80m) to which the 88mm gun would have been fixed. Concrete base **1006** was constructed within cut **1007** which was slightly larger than the concrete base to allow for drainage around the gun emplacement. The void was filled with a rubble deposit (**1004**) to aid drainage and was overlain by trench boards **1003**. Two areas of trench boards survived at the north-west corner and on the eastern side of **1006**.

4.15.4 The concrete base would have held a static 88mm gun, following its removal from the transporting chassis and cruciform outrigger, with the base plate bolted to a raised pedestal which was in turn bolted to the concrete base. At the centre of **1006** was a circular recess surrounded by the remains of 16 iron bolts on which the raised pedestal and gun's base plate would have sat. The gun was located directly over the circular recess which was linked to a rectangular recess (located in the north-east corner of **1006**) by a conduit incorporated into the concrete. This conduit would have held control cables linking the controller and range finder for operating the gun to the gun itself.

4.15.5 The structure was only revealed in plan and the actual depth of the concrete is unknown, but it was at least 1.30m thick, as seen in the rectangular recess.

4.15.6 The 88mm gun emplacement **1006** is identical in form to one from La Mayne, also on Jersey (**Figure 5, Plate 6**).

4.16 Structure I: ?Command Centre (Trench 11; Figures 1, 6)

4.16.1 Trench 11 was targeted on anomalies identified in the geophysical survey, which were interpreted as the remains of a sunken building shown on the 1944 aerial photograph (**Figure 2**). The building comprises a central rectangular structure with a second ancillary building on the north-west corner.

4.16.2 Following the end of the war the building had been demolished and the remains dumped into the original cut excavated for the construction of the building.

4.16.3 The construction cut (**1105**) cut into natural **1113**. At its base were layers **1109** and **1111**, which were interpreted as levelling deposits laid down prior to construction. Two possible floor surfaces (**1110** and **1112**) covered **1109** and **1111**. In the north-western section of the trench was a series of wooden fragments interpreted as part of the revetment structure supporting **1105**.

4.16.4 Following the building's demolition, a series of dumps of building materials were dumped into **1105** (**1103**, **1106**, **1107** and **1108**).

4.17 Structures J, M and N: Slit Trench System, Machine Gun Position and Air-raid shelter/bunker (Trench 12; Figures 1, 3)

4.17.1 Structures J, M and N comprised a machine gun position and a prefabricated concrete air-raid shelter joined by a stretch of slit trench. These structures are located to the south of the main Battery in an area comprising an extensive slit trench network. The slit trench and positions are visible on the 1944 aerial photograph (**Figure 2**) but now form part of a much larger complex of trenching indicating further digging after August 1944. The machine gun position and the slit trench were investigated by the excavation of small trenches (Trench 12); the air-raid shelter was not excavated.

4.17.2 The slit trench and machine gun position were formed by the excavation of **1205** into the natural geology to a depth of *c*. 0.50m; the excavated upcast being used to create blast barriers (**1204**) along the top of the trench and around the gun position.

4.17.3 The gun position was formed of a curving hollow into the natural with a large reused concrete slab (**1206**) placed directly upon the natural. This was interpreted as the base for a machine gun, to provide cover towards the south.

4.17.4 To the south-east, a prefabricated air-raid shelter (**1207**) was recorded; no excavation took place inthis location, but it appeared identical in form to Structure L, investigated in Trench 14 (see below).

4.17.5 The slit trench and gun position had been infilled with collapsed blast barrier material (**1203**) and general erosion since the end of the war.

4.18 Structure K: ?Range Finder/Machine Gun position (Trench 13, Figures 1, 3)

4.18.1 Structure K comprised an irregularly shaped earthwork incorporating a number of blocked entranceways and additions and appeared like no other earthwork on the Site. It was interpreted as a possible range finder or machine gun position, or a structure that had been altered from an original use to a new function.

4.18.2 No distinct edge for the structure was identified but the base was recorded as **1305** and it was clear that excavated material had been used to create the surrounding earthwork (**1304**).

4.19 Structure L: Prefabricated Concrete Air-raid shelter (Trench 14; Figures 1, 3)

4.19.1 Structure L was one of a number of prefabricated concrete air-raid shelters with surrounding earthen blast barriers located within the core of the Battery.

4.19.2 The structure comprised a hollow (**1408**) 4.5m by 4.2m in size, excavated into the natural bedrock (**1409**), with the excavated upcast utilised to form the surrounding blast barrier **1407** around the shelter. The bare rock edges of the hollow were initially lined with corrugated iron sheeting, of which **1403** was a remnant which had fallen into the base of the hollow. The corrugated iron sheets would originally have been held by wire ties to the rock. Access into the hollow was via a sloping entrance in the north-west corner

4.19.3 Within the hollow was the shelter itself (**1406**), built from pre-formed concrete sections, 3m long by 1.92m wide and 2m high, with walls 0.12m thick. The entrance was located at the western end of the shelter with an air vent in the roof at the eastern end. The roof was made of concrete and covered in layer of felt, then capped with earth.

5 FINDS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 In general the site was very poorly stratified with in many cases only general erosion and backfilling deposits directly overlying the features. As a result, Second World War material was often found in the same context as much later material. Therefore, where material is not closely datable it is unclear whether it relates to the use of the Site in the Second World War or is later intrusive material.

5.1.2 Very little earlier material was recovered, but a saddle quern (Obj No 35) and a piece of possible late prehistoric pottery were recovered from Trench 1 topsoil. A possible copper alloy coin or jetton from Trench 11 (Obj No 45) has not been dated.

5.2 Military finds

5.2.1 Relatively little ammunition was retrieved from the Site. A number of 7.92x57mm rounds were found of both the brass and steel case type (including one copper-plated steel case). These are likely to relate to the use of machine guns on the Site as seen in Trenches 3, 4 and 12 (Structures C, D, G and M). Interestingly, where discernible, the headstamps indicate that these rounds date from 1935-39, demonstrating that these must come from the stockpiling of ammunition and armaments before the formal outbreak of hostilities.

5.2.2 Six larger 20mm FlaK 30 or 38 rounds were retrieved, which would be consistent with the anti-aircraft guns deployed at the Site, one emplacement of which was located in Trench 1 (Structure A).

5.2.3 The largest round found was an 88mm FlaK 18 shell (Obj No 13; **Figure 7, Plate 8**) from the larger anti-aircraft guns, one emplacement of which was located in Trench 10 (Structure H). One more unusual item (Obj No 85) was

an 88mm practice round or *Ubungsgranate* (**Figure 7, Plate 9)** found in Trench 11. A small gun cleaning brush (Obj No 44) was also found.

5.2.4 Large concrete fragments from Trench 11 suggest that at least some of the structures utilised reinforced concrete. Fragments of corrugated iron, sandbags and a small number of bricks are also likely to relate to building construction, although the evidence suggests many of the structures may have been timber-built and fairly temporary. A stamp on a fragment of ceramic pipe (SIBYLLE ELIE, MANUFACTURE DE POTERIE, LORGUES (VAR)) indicates that at least some of the construction materials were brought in from France. Even more temporary structures may be indicated by a German military type aluminium tent peg (Obj No 50). A fencepost with a T-shaped cross section was also recovered (Obj No 53) and several base plates for this style of post were seen in Trench 6 where they had been reused to cover a drain (Obj No 56). A corkscrew picket fencepost was also found (Obj No 54).

5.2.5 A number of electrical fittings were recovered. Notable amongst these were the earpiece from a set of headphones (Obj No 144), a Bakelite switch (Obj No 62), plugs or connectors (Obj Nos 21, 120), fragments of several ceramic plugs or connectors (Obj Nos 92 and 119) and a junction box (Obj No 52). A ceramic connector found within Obj No 52 was stamped D.R.G.M. (*Deutsches Reich Gebrauchsmuster,* or German Reich Registered Design). Many of these items are likely to relate to the use of radio and other communication devices on the Site. A side or top plate from a large item of equipment (Obj No 123) could also be from a radio set. Batteries were also recovered (Obj Nos 9, 11 and 29) as well as a small torch bulb (Obj No 36).

5.2.6 There were a number of fixtures and fittings from boxes. Two iron base plates with handles were found (Obj Nos 80 and 129), both from Trench 11. Nails in the base plates suggest that these were fitted onto a probably larger, wooden box. An iron corner from a box (Obj No 7) and a box clasp (Obj No 8) were discovered in Trench 4. Three almost identical hinges were also found in Trench 11 (Obj Nos 65, 90 and130), although it is not clear whether these are from a box or a door. Large numbers of iron nails were also recovered, occurring in most excavated contexts, as well as several sub-oval iron loops (Obj Nos 81, 122, and 127) which seem to form buckle-style fittings, although some may possibly be catches from ammunition boxes.

5.2.7 A small Bakelite container was recovered from Trench 2 (Obj No 28) which would originally have contained Losantin - skin decontamination tablets (*Hautengiftungsmittel*). This bleach powder would be rubbed onto the skin in the event of exposure to blistering gases such as mustard gas. Other finds which may be medical are two glass ampoules (Obj Nos 31 and 76) which may have contained a vaccination such as anti-tetanus, or may have been for inhalation upon exposure to toxic smoke. A tube of ointment (Obj No 26) seems to have contained some kind of salicylic acid preparation.

5.2.8 Other more personal military finds include an apparently handmade imitation of a German medal (Obj No 2). An earlier First World War French 75mm shell from Trench 11 had been crafted in a piece of ‘trench art’ as an ashtray (Obj No 51). A plain uniform button was also recovered (Obj No 2).

5.3 Domestic finds

5.3.1 A number of more personal, domestic items were found. Three of the aluminium tubes found contained toothpaste (Obj Nos 30, 47 and 64); two are French and only one is German. A moulded glass bottle (Obj No 148) is embossed with the brand OCAP, a French waterless shampoo. A plexiglass toothbrush (Obj No 22) is of German manufacture. Further toiletry items include a mirror (Obj No 14) and fragments of two shallow, enamel-coated bowls (Obj Nos 114 and 115), which are of the type suitable for hand washing.

5.3.2 Some indications of food consumption and preparation were also found. Possible food tins (Obj Nos 12 and 108) were recovered from Trench 4, and a collection of five tins were found together in Trench 11 (Obj No 55). Visible on one from the group from Trench 11 is the label NEW ZEALAND and an anchor logo, indicating that it contained Anchor butter. The presence of Allied foodstuffs suggests this may have come from one of the Red Cross food parcels that were delivered in 1944-5 by the SS Vega. A spatula (Obj No 27), spoon (Obj No 117), handle from an enamel-coated mug (Obj No 82) and two saucepan lids (Obj No 77) were recovered, but it is not certain whether all these items actually date to the Second World War.

5.3.3 Relatively little pottery was found, with the majority recovered from Trenches 4, 10 and 11. It consists almost entirely of post-industrial glazed whitewares and contains a mixture of plain and decorated sherds. These contexts also produced the majority of the glass. The glass is a mixture of bottle and window glass with occasional more decorative fragments. For example, two fragments from Trench 10 topsoil may be from the lid of an item such as a powder dish, and a number of fragments from Trench 8 topsoil probably derive from a glass lampshade. Green glass wine bottles dominate the glass assemblage, especially in post-war backfill **402**, but some of this may relate to later use of the Site. Four conjoining fragments from a glazed white bowl made by Faienceries de Gien were also recovered from **402** and the maker's mark on the base suggests a date in the 1960s.

5.3.4 A pair of shoes and some strips apparently cut off a pair of wellington boots came from post-war backfill **402**. The style of the shoes is not distinctly datable and, given the other items present in this context, they could be intrusive.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1.1 The evaluation succeeded in identifying the date, character and condition of the earthworks and underlying archaeological remains of the German mixed anti-aircraft battery. However, the actual extent of the surviving remains could not be traced due to the amount of redevelopment and agricultural activity in the northern half of the Site (Areas 2 and 3). Moreover, where the earthworks and structures of the Battery did survive (Area 1), they were too extensive to be recorded to the fullest within such a short time scale. Therefore only those earthworks which could be investigated by evaluation trenches were recorded.

6.1.2 The 1944 RAF aerial photograph (**Figure 2**) showed the extent of the Battery and it is clear that following the end of the War the southern limits of

the Battery remained relatively untouched once the Site was abandoned. The tree cover which had taken root over the last 65 years or so had protected the remains to a large degree.

6.1.3 Comparisons between the aerial photographs of July 1943 and August 1944 indicate that considerable construction work within the Battery occurred in the intervening 13-month period, and this is not surprising as the Battery would have evolved over time as the nature of the conflict changed. What is apparent from the post-July 1943 additions is the expedient nature of their construction, re-using left-over materials, whatever was to hand.

6.1.4 There is also a clear change in the nature of the structures and earthworks, with a move away from aerial attack and defence in the form of 88mm and 20mm gun positions (although both these types of gun could be utilised for land based warfare) to land-based, defended positions in the form of slit trenches and machine gun positions.

6.1.5 It is possible that these later structures were built following the appointment of Field-Marshal Rommel as overseer of the fortifications of the Atlantic coast. Rommel feared that Normandy would be the location of the Allied invasion and was shocked by the lack of defences and the slow progress of construction. Following his tour of the Normandy defences in January and February 1944 he ordered the further fortification of the Atlantic Wall.

6.1.6 It is also possible that some of the earthworks marked a response to the events of D-Day (6 June 1944) and the Normandy landings, as suddenly there was a real possibility of the invasion of Jersey by the Allies. The Battery therefore needed to be defended against a possible Allied land assault. The hasty nature of the construction may support this, as does the expedient use of whatever materials were available - there would be no more German supply boats to reinforce the troops on the ground due to the control of the Channel by the Allies. Following D-Day, the Channel Islands were left to fend for themselves with no support from either Germany or Britain. Britain's lack of assistance was suitably demonstrated by Winston Churchill's speech of 27 September 1944 '*Let 'em starve...they can rot at their leisure*'.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1.1 The results of the evaluation, as the first archaeological investigation of the Site, warrant further dissemination. No further analysis of the stratigraphic records, finds or environmental data is proposed, but it is recommended that a short summary report, based on the information presented in this assessment report, should be submitted for publication in the annual journal of the Société Jersiaise.

7.1.2 The summary report would be in the region of 2000-3000 words of narrative text, with one or two accompanying plans. Artefactual information would be integrated into the narrative text as appropriate.

8 ARCHIVE

8.1.1 The project archive, which includes written and drawn records as well as digital data, artefacts and ecofacts, has been prepared in accordance with nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2007). The finds have already been returned to Jersey (Jersey War Tunnels), in accordance with the Export Licence issued for their initial removal from the island. The remaining archive is currently held at the Wessex Archaeology offices under the project code 74154, and will eventually be deposited with the finds.

9 REFERENCES

9.1 Bibliography

Brown, D.H., 2007. *Archaeological archives; a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*, Archaeological Archives Forum

Forty, G. 1999. *Channel Islands at War: A German Perspective*

Ginn, M. 2009. *Jersey Occupied; The German Armed Forces in Jersey 1940-1945*

GSB Prospection, 2010. *Geophysical Survey Report 2010/38: Les Gellettes, Jersey, Channel Islands.*

Jersey War Tunnels. *Ho8; Jersey War Tunnels Guide Book and Illustrated Record of the German Occupation of Jersey*

Ramsey, W.G. 1981. *The War in The Channel Islands: Then and Now*

Stephenson, C. 2006. *The Channel Islands 1941-45: Hitler's Impregnable Fortress*

Videotext Communications, 2010. *Proposed Archaeological Evaluation Les Gellettes, Island of Jersey, X426857.98, Y5427937.52* unpublished project design

9.2 Aerial Photographs

(Held by the Société Jersiaise Photographic Archive)

RAF Aerial Photo dated 3rd July 1943 (ref SJPA-038263, RAF 4062, S/854 543 SQDN 3/7/43)

RAF Aerial Photo dated 8th August 1944 (ref SJPA-038272, RAF 3112, 106G.2056 8/8/44).

9.3 Online resources

GIEN makers marks
http://www.tableideas.com/Service_Pages/gien-marks.htm

Headstamp information
http://home.scarlet.be/p.colmant/german7_92x57.htm

Losantin information
http://luftschutzmanner.tripod.com/id6.html
http://www.mp44.nl/equipment/skin_decontamination.htm

Red Cross shipment information
http://www.redcross.org.uk/standard.asp?id=101464

German equipment
http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/Germany/HB/index.html

APPENDIX 1: TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

bgl = below ground level
a SL = above sea level

Structure A: 20mm Anti-aircraft gun emplacement Trench 1			**Centred on co-ordinate**	X:38477.66, Y:68084.77
Dimensions: 6m x 3m	**Max Depth:** 0.75m		**Ground Surface**	114.50m a SL
Context	**Description**			**Depth (bgl)**
101	Topsoil	Current topsoil and leaf litter, very loose, mid-brown silty loam, leaf litter-rich material. Combination of natural accumulation and degraded earthwork material following the abandonment of the Site. Stratigraphically seals slumping/infilling deposits 112 and 103.		0.14m thick
102	Layer	Deliberate deposit of mid-brown compact fine silty loam with occasional fragments of stone. One of a series of layers deposited to create surrounding earthen rampart around 20mm anti aircraft machine gun position. Sand bags probably utilised to create the earthwork although none were observed *in situ.* Fragments of sand bag material were recovered during the excavation. Overlies 107.		1.14m thick
103	Layer	Collapse/slumping deposit filling entrance to Structure A following the abandonment of the emplacement. Mid grey-brown loose silty loam with common fragments of stone. Fills the entrance way **115** formed by upright concrete post 111 and second unidentified post.		0.94m thick
104	Layer	Deliberate deposit of light yellow-brown silty loam forming part of the surround earthen rampart of Structure A. Below 107 and overlies 109.		0.49m thick
105	Structure	Fragment of plywood revetment associated with 111 and the entrance **115** into Structure A. Wooden fragment 0.30m long by 0.30m wide and 0.03m thick.		-
106	Layer	Deliberate deposit of mid-yellow silty sand, interpreted as blocking deposit filling the original wide entrance into Structure A. This entrance was used to get the 20mm anti-aircraft gun into position and later narrowed to allow access for the troops manning the position. The narrowing of entrance would have improved the protective nature of the earthen rampart as a blast barrier. Equivalent to 110 and put in place before the creation of entrance **115** with 111 and revetment 105.		0.30m thick
107	Layer	Deliberate deposit of dark brown silty loam forming part of the earthen rampart of Structure A. Incorporated into 107 is a roll of roofing felt (any material lying around was utilised expediently to create the protective earthen blast barrier).		0.78m thick
108	Layer	Deliberate deposit of light yellow fine silt, not revealed in section; dumped material creating earthen rampart of Structure A. Below 104 and sealing 109. Perhaps the remains of a single sand bag of material.		0.10m thick
109	Layer	Deliberate deposit of mid brown silty loam forming the earthen rampart of Structure A. The dark natural of the material implies it is redeposited topsoil material, and the earliest dump of material to form the earthwork.		0.20m thick
110	Layer	Deliberate deposit of mid-yellow silty sand interpreted as a blocking deposit filling the original wide entrance into Structure A; equivalent to 106.		012m thick
111	Structure	Concrete post which, associated with 105 and **115**, formed the entrance into Structure A for the following the infilling of the original entrance way. Set into 110; 0.20m long by 0.20m square and		0.30m high

		0.30m high.	
112	Layer	Mid-brown silty loam with common small stone fragments; slumping of earthen rampart of Structure A into the interior of the gun emplacement following the removal of the gun and the abandonment of the position. Stratigraphically later than 102; physically seals 117. Sealed by 101.	0.47m thick
113	Layer	Mid- to dark brown silty loam, possibly the remains of the original ground surface, compact due to trampling and activity during the construction of Structure A. Overlain by 106 and 110 following the infilling of the original entrance way.	0.20m+
114	Layer	Deliberate deposit of mid-brown fine silty sand. Overlies 106; used to infill the original entrance into Structure A. Infilled to create a more effective blast barrier. Overlies 106 and sealed by collapse material 103.	0.40m thick
115	**Cut**	**115 is the 'cut' of the second phase entrance into Structure A for access for the troops manning the gun. Entrance formed on one side by concrete post 111 and reveted by timber. Area worn away by movement in and out of the emplacement; can be seen through 106/110.**	**-**
116	Natural	Mid- to light brown silty loam with small inclusions of stone. Top of natural.	-
117	Layer	Mid-brown silty loam; possible degraded ground surface.	-
118	**Cut**	**Initial cut for the construction of Structure A; inner edge observed cutting into 117.**	**-**

Structure B: The Ablution Block Trench 2		**Co ordinates**	X:38492.57, Y:68093.15
Dimensions: 3m x 1.5m	**Max Depth:** 0.15m	**Ground Surface**	113.50m a SL

Context	**Description**		**Depth (bgl)**
201	Topsoil	Mid-brown silty loam composed predominantly of decayed vegetation, leaf litter. Seals 102.	0-0.05m
202	Layer	Light yellow brown silty loam with common small subangular and angular fragments of stone (<0.05m). Slumping deposit derived from surrounding earthwork 203. In fill of terrace cut **205** following the abandonment of Structure B.	0.5-0.15m
203	Earthwork	Extant rectangular earthwork, 14m long by maximum of 12m wide; surviving to a height of 1.30m. Created by terracing into natural west - east slope, with material piled up to north, west and south to create substantial blast barrier. Eastern side is open. Earthwork surrounded wooden post-built structure interpreted as the ablution block following the excavation of Trench 6 and the recovery of toothpaste tubes (see Trenches 5 and 6).	-
204	Natural	Natural bedrock truncated by terrace cut **205** to create earthwork 203.	-
205	**Cut**	**Cut excavated into the natural slope of the Site with excavated up cast utilised to create the blast barrier 203.**	**-**

Structure C: Single Manned Machine Gun/Rifle Pit Trench 3		**Co ordinates**	X:38476.56, Y:68093.76
Dimensions: 4m by 4m	**Max Depth:** 1.40m	**Ground Surface**	115.4m a SL

Context	**Description**		**Depth (bgl)**
301	Topsoil	Mid greyish-brown silty loam; current ground surface, topsoil	0.08m thick

		and leaf litter-rich material; overlies 302.	
302	Layer	Light grey sandy silt with occasional angular stones, infill of single manned machine gun position following its abandonment. Combination of natural erosion into the feature and deliberate post-war backfilling.	1.40m thick
303	**Cut**	**Cut of circular pit, 1.50m in diameter at the top and 0.70m at the base and 1.40m deep; steep sides and flat base. One of at least three identical single-manned machine gun positions around Structure A (see also 403 and 903).**	**1.40m deep**
304	Layer	Mid yellow-brown, slightly sandy silt upcast material from the excavation of the machine gun pit **303**. Upcast utilised as earthwork around the position to provide cover and defence. Material overlies the original ground surface 305.	0.16m thick
305	Ground surface	Mid to light yellowish-brown moderately compact fine sandy silt. Original ground surface through which **303** was dug and sealed beneath the excavated up cast 304.	0.20m thick
306	Natural	Natural bedrock below 305, cut by **303**.	

Structure D: Single-Manned Machine Gun/Rifle Pit Trench 4		**Co ordinates**	X:38479.25, Y:68076.56
Dimensions: 3m by 3m	**Max Depth:** 1.40m	**Ground Surface**	114.5m a SL

Context	**Description**		**Depth (bgl)**
401	Topsoil	Current topsoil and loose leaf litter material. Natural accumulation over backfill material 402.	0.30m thick
402	Layer	Deliberate post-war backfill of **403**, yellow-brown fine silty sand, containing abundant glass, iron and ceramic finds. Deliberate dumping ground for waste material.	1.10m thick
403	**Cut**	**Cut of circular pit, 1.20m in diameter at the top and 0.95m at the base, 1.40m deep; steep sides and flat base. One of at least three identical single-manned machine gun positions around Structure A (see also 303 and 903).**	**1.40m deep**
404	Layer	Mid yellow-brown, slightly sandy silt upcast material from the excavation of the machine gun pit **403**. Upcast used as earthwork around the position to provide cover and defence. Material overlies the original ground surface 405.	0.40m thick
405	Ground surface	Mid to light yellowish-brown, moderately compact, fine sandy silt. Original ground surface through which **403** was dug and sealed beneath the excavated upcast 404.	0.20m thick
406	Natural	Natural bedrock below 405, cut by **403**.	-

Structure B: The Ablution Block Trench 5		**Co ordinates**	X:38491.17, Y:68097.74
Dimensions: 1.2m by 1.2m	**Max Depth:** 0.36m	**Ground Surface**	113.50m a SL

Context	**Description**		**Depth (bgl)**
501	Topsoil	Mid to light greyish-brown silty sand with moderate small to medium subangular stones. Current topsoil, leaf litter rich natural accumulation and eroded material from the surrounding earthwork of Structure B.	0.36m thick
502	Fill	Mid greyish-brown silty loam; upper fill of post hole **505**, material accumulated following the abandonment of the Site and demolition of the building. Fill of **505** but stratigraphically above 503.	0.05m thick
503	Structure	Iron post-pad/cap for base of timber post within post hole **505**.	0.06m deep

		0.09m in diameter and 0.06m deep.	
504	Fill	Mid to light orange-brown sandy silt with abundant stones, acting as packing material around timber post held by 503 in **505**.	0.10m thick
505	**Cut**	**Cut of circular post hole in north-east corner of earthwork Structure B. 0.30m long by 0.27m wide and 0.12m deep. Would have held a timber post with iron base cap 503 and stone packing 504. Indication of timber building within blast barrier earthwork.**	**0.12m deep**
506	Natural	Natural bedrock cut by **505**.	-

Structure B: The Ablution Block Trench 6			**Co ordinates**	X:38500.34, Y:68093.16
Dimensions: 2m by 2m		**Max Depth:** 0.10m	**Ground Surface**	113.50m a SL
Context	**Description**			**Depth (bgl)**
601	Topsoil	Current topsoil and loose leaf litter material, natural accumulation over time.		0.10m thick
602	Subsoil	Mid yellow brown silty loam heavily bioturbated and cut through by drain **603**.		-
603	**Cut**	**Cut of drain leading away from the ablution block Structure B to the east. Contains length of C-shaped angle iron as the main body of the drain and capped with picket fence base plates.**		**-**
604	Structure	Length of galvanised iron C-shaped angle iron, used as drain leading away from the ablution block. Capped with 605.		-
605	Capping plates	Capping for drain formed from base plates for German barbed wire picket/poles. These galvanised plates were 0.30m long by 0.30m wide had a T-shaped cut-out in the centre to receive a T-shaped upright post carrying the barbed wire. Base plate sunk into the ground to make extraction difficult. The use of these base plates implies either a very hurried or temporary drain.		-

Structure E: Ammunition Store Trench 7			**Co ordinates**	X:38492.97, Y:68066.21
Dimensions: 0.5m by 0.5m		**Max Depth:** 0.45m	**Ground Surface**	112.50m a SL
Context	**Description**			**Depth (bgl)**
701	Topsoil	Current topsoil and leaf litter-rich material. Loose light yellow-brown silty loam overlying post-abandonment accumulation material 704.		0-0.05m
702	Ground Surface	Original 1940s ground surface, mid-brown silty loam which overlies the natural bedrock 705. Cut by 703 for the construction of Structure D.		0.30m thick
703	**Cut**	**Cut of rectangular rock-cut structure. 2.50m long by 1.85m wide and 1.50m deep, with vertical sides and flat base. Structure was entered by opening in SW corner leading to pathway which led to the north to Structures B and F. Excavated bedrock upcast thrown up around the north, east and southern sides of the structure to create an extensive blast barrier. Western side partially surrounded by blast barrier except for entrance in SW corner. Small size and depth of structure and extensive blast barrier suggests that it was an ammunition store,**		**1.50m deep**

		but no traces of munitions or other finds associated with its possible function were recovered.	
704	Layer	Mid to light grey silty loam; post-abandonment accumulation material derived from surrounding earthwork blast barrier. Overlying base of cut **703** and sealed by (701).	0.40m deep
705	Earthwork	Surrounding earthen blast barrier created around **703** using upcast from excavation of **703**. Surrounds all four sides of structure with gap for entrance in the SW corner.	0.40m high

Structure F: Timber building Trench 8			**Co ordinates**	X:38489.42, Y:68079.31	
Dimensions: 4.5m by 0.5m max		**Max Depth:** 0.40m	**Ground Surface**	112.95m a SL	
Context	**Description**				**Depth (bgl)**
801	Topsoil	Current topsoil and leaf litter-rich material. Loose light yellow-brown silty loam mixed with post-abandonment accumulation material. Overlies concrete blocks 805.			0.40m thick
802	Natural	Natural bedrock, truncated by excavation of terrace **803**.			-
803	**Cut**	**Cut of terrace excavated into the west to east natural slope of the Site to create a building platform. Rectangular in shape, 4.6m long by 3.9m wide; surrounded by an earthen blast barrier constructed from the excavated upcast.**			**0.60m deep**
804	Earthwork	Earthen bank which surrounds the north, west and southern sides of the terrace **803** and partially encloses the eastern side as well, though the majority of the eastern side remains open for access to the building. Earthwork sits upon the old ground surface 806; 0.50m high, and derived from the excavated material from terrace **803**.			0.50m high
805	Concrete blocks.	Three different sized concrete blocks located against the western side of Structure F; interpreted as post pads for a timber-framed building within blast barrier 804. The different sizes suggests that the blocks were not made specifically to be used as post pads, but were used expediently,, perhaps in hasty construction. Recorded as 0.27m x 0.19m x 0.10m, 0.23m x 0.23m x 0.12m and 0.46m x 0.22m x 0.12m in size.			-
806	Ground Surface	Original 1940s ground surface, mid-brown silty loam; overlies natural bedrock 802. Cut by **803** for the construction of Structure F.			0.30m thick

Structure G: Single-Manned Machine Gun/Rifle Pit. Trench 9			**Co ordinates**	X:38469.77, Y:68067.42	
Dimensions: 1.60m by 1.7m		**Max Depth:** 1.40m	**Ground Surface**	113.20m a SL	
Context	**Description**				**Depth (bgl)**
901	Topsoil	Current topsoil and loose leaf litter material. Natural accumulation over backfill material 902.			0.20m thick
902	Layer	Deliberate post-war backfill of **903**, yellow-brown fine silty sand, containing abundant glass, iron and ceramic finds. Deliberate dumping ground for waste material.			1.10m thick
903	**Cut**	**Cut of circular pit; 1.30m in diameter at the top and 0.80m at the base and 1.40m deep; steep sides and flat base. One of at least three identical single-manned machine gun positions around Structure A (see also 303 and 403).**			**1.40m deep**
904	Layer	Mid yellow-brown, slightly sandy silt, upcast material from			0.20m thick

		excavation of machine gun pit **903**. Upcast used as earthwork around the position to provide cover and defence; 0.60m wide. Material overlies the original ground surface 905.	
905	Ground surface	Mid to light yellowish-brown, moderately compact, fine sandy silt. Original ground surface through which **903** was dug; sealed beneath excavated upcast 904.	0.20m thick
906	Natural	Natural bedrock below 905; cut by **903**.	-

Structure H: 88mm Anti-aircraft gun emplacement Trench 10			**Co ordinates**	X:38430.84, Y:68073.35
Dimensions: 9.6m x 7.2m		**Max Depth:** 1.20m	**Ground Surface**	117.00m a SL
Context	**Description**			**Depth (bgl)**
1001	Layer	Light brownish-grey with hint of yellow, sandy silt and common small natural stone fragments. Post-abandonment infilling deposit within Structure H. Following removal of gun, surrounding earthen blast barrier eroded into the centre of the emplacement. Overlies collapsed revetment 1005.		0.30m thick
1002	Topsoil	Current topsoil and leaf litter-rich material; mid brownish-grey silty sand; overlies 1001.		0.05m thick
1003	Wooden flooring	Two distinct areas of trench boards around concrete gun emplacement 1006, 6m x 0.70m and 2.4m x 0.80m; overlie 1004. Planks approximately 0.70m long x 0.10m wide and 0.015m thick; they overlie and are nailed to wooden joists 1.20m long by 0.10m wide.		-
1004	Layer	Deliberate deposit of rubble within construction cut **1007** against concrete gun emplacement 1006. Material used as a soak-away to divert water away from centre of structure; overlain by wooden planking 1003. Not excavated.		-
1005	Wooden revetment	Remains of wooden revetment located within a small ammunition storage area in the NE corner of Structure H. A number of vertical revetment boards were observed which appear to have been held in place in part by a T-shaped upright picket post.		-
1006	Structure	Concrete gun emplacement for fixed (static) positioned 88mm anti-aircraft gun position, The gun had been removed from its transporting chassis, and cruciform outrigger with its base plate bolted to raised pedestal bolted to concrete base. The base is roughly square in shape, approximately 4m by 4m; contains number of recesses and fittings associated with use of gun. Central circular recess surrounded by remains of 16 iron bolts on which raised pedestal and gun base plate would have sat. Gun located directly over circular recess through which control cables would have attached to the gun. Circular recess linked to rectangular recess located in the NE corner of 1006 by a conduit incorporated into the concrete. Conduit would have contained cables linking controller and range finder to the gun. Structure only revealed in plan and actual depth of concrete unknown (at least 1.30m thick). Constructed within trench 1007 and butted by drainage material 1004, and trench boards 1003.		1.30m thick
1007	**Cut**	**Construction cut for concrete gun emplacement 1006, excavated slightly larger than 1006. The voids infilled with 1004 and covered with 1003 to create drainage around the gun emplacement. 5.20m long by 4.70m wide and at least 1.30m deep. Cut excavated through exposed bedrock 1009 at the base of cut 1008.**		**<1.30m deep**

1008	**Cut**	**Construction cut for Structure H. Sunken gun emplacement excavated to give flat protected position through which 1007 could be excavated for construction of concrete gun emplacement. Excavated upcast used to create surrounding blast barrier 1010. 9.5m long by 7.20m wide and over 1m deep, but not fully exposed. Roughly square in shape with a rectangular recess in the NE corner interpreted as an ammunition store. Cut would have been lined with timber revetment to prevent loose stones falling into central area. Two entrances into the emplacement were observed, and are still used as footpaths today. The wider western entrance was only partially observed (the entrance through which 88mm gun was initially brought). A smaller entrance was located on the eastern side which led into the main area of the battery and towards an air raid shelter/bunker.**	
1009	Earthwork	Encompassing earthen blast barrier which surrounds 1008 and constructed of upcast from 1008.	-
1010	Natural	Natural bedrock.	

Structure I: ?Command Centre Trench 11		**Co ordinates**	X:38439.03, Y:68262.94
Dimensions: 7.2m x 3.5m	**Max Depth:** 1.83m	**Ground Surface**	118.83m a SL

Context	**Description**		**Depth (bgl)**
1101	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of area of pasture, mid grey-brown silty clay.	0-0.10m thick
1102	Old plough soil/sub soil	Mid orange-brown, sandy silt clay, old ploughsoil converted to pasture.	0.10-0.50m
1103	Layer	Deliberate backfill over demolished sunken building. Very dark grey, compact sandy silt. Below 1102 and overlying 1106.	0.20m thick
1104	Revetment fragments.	Remains of wooden revetment planking below 1106 and overlying **1105**. Only surviving in the NW section of Trench 11.	-
1105	**Cut**	**Construction trench for sunken building identified on the 1944 aerial photograph. Central rectangular structure with second ancillary building on NW corner. Both buildings demolished and heavily disturbed as the land was turned back to agriculture after the end of the War. Cut overlain by 1109, 1111 and 1104; cuts 1113.**	**-**
1106	Layer	Mid yellowish-grey, loose silty sand. Dumped deposit which seals earlier deliberate backfill of broken concrete 1108 and burnt deposit 1107. Material potentially derived from the flattening of the surrounding earthen blast barrier being pushed back into fill the void left by the demolished building.	0.40m thick
1107	Layer	Mid yellow-brown, fine sandy silt with common fragments of burnt timber from the demolished building. Probably contemporary with the dumping of 1108; overlies 1109.	0.32m thick
1108	Layer	Deliberate dump of pre-formed curving concrete blocks. Remains of demolished air raid shelters/bunkers. Bunkers are visible on both sides of Structure I; this is probably derived from one of these.	-
1109	Layer	Mid brown-yellow silty clay, compact deliberate levelling deposit at the base of construction trench **1105**, laid down prior to the construction of the building.	-
1110	Layer	Mid brownish-yellow, compact clay silt; possible beaten earthen floor, possibly within the ancillary building to the west.	-

1111	Layer	Mid grey-brown silty clay; levelling layer laid down prior to 1109 and 1110.	-
1112	Flooring	Remains of possible wooden flooring located to the south of beaten earthen floor 1110.	-
1113	Natural	Possibly natural deposits which overly the natural bedrock; by (1105); reworked to a certain extent by trampling.	-

Structures J, M & N: Slit trench system, machine gun position and air raid shelter/bunker Trench 12			**Co ordinates**	X:38424.81, Y:68024.28
Dimensions: -		**Max Depth:** 1.40m	**Ground Surface**	114.1m a SL
Context	**Description**			**Depth (bgl)**
1201	Topsoil	Dark brown silty loam, leaf litter-rich material.		0.02m thick
1202	Layer	Post-abandonment accumulation deposit, material derived from surrounding banks of slit trenches, mid grey-brown silty loam.		0.32m thick
1203	Fill	Post-abandonment accumulation deposit, material derived from surrounding bank around machine gun position Structure N, mid grey-brown silty loam.		0.40m thick
1204	Earthwork	Earthen rampart constructed from material excavated during construction of the slit trench Structure J, machine gun position Structure M and air-raid shelter/bunker Structure N; 0.50m high.		0.50m high
1205	**Cut**	**Cut of slit trench, machine gun position and air raid shelter/bunker.**		**0.49m deep**
1206	Structure	Concrete slab re-used for base of machine gun position. Expedient use rather than deliberate manufacture.		-
1207	Structure	Concrete air-raid shelter. Not investigated. See Trench 14 for identical structure.		-

Structure K:? Range Finder/Machine Gun Position Trench 13			**Co ordinates**	X:38458.40, Y:68062.53
Dimensions: 1.7mx 1.2m		**Max Depth:** 0.40m	**Ground Surface**	114.50m a SL
Context	**Description**			**Depth (bgl)**
1301	Topsoil	Mid yellow-brown, loose friable silty loam, common loose leaf litter material.		0.05m thick
1302	Layer	Mid yellow-brown post-abandonment slumping material into the interior of the Structure.		0.20m thick
1303	Layer	Mid yellow fine silty sand. Unclear if deliberate blocking deposit, sealing entrance to earthwork Structure K, or post-abandonment collapse/slumping deposit.		0.40m thick
1304	Earthwork	Earthen blast barrier constructed using the excavated upcast from creation of Structure K. Mid yellowish-brown sandy silt, with abundant stone fragments creating the earthwork. Shape of earthwork unlike any others investigated and therefore interpretation of Structure K is unclear. Possible range-finder or machine gun position.		-
1305	Surface	Mid brown-yellow, compact fine silty sand, possible base of structure, trampled natural.		-

Structure L: Pre-fabricated concrete air-raid shelter Trench 14			**Co ordinates**	X:429.97, Y:049.75
Dimensions: 2.8m x 0.60m	**Max Depth:** 1.50m		**Ground Surface**	115.40m a SL

Context	**Description**		**Depth (bgl)**
1401	Topsoil	Current topsoil and loose leaf litter material, mid-brown silty loam. Overlies 1402.	0.05m thick
1402	Layer	Pale yellowish-brown fine silty sand; post-abandonment accumulation deposit, derived from the erosion of the surrounding earthen blast barrier 1407. Overlain by 1401 and overlies 1403.	1.50m thick
1403	Structure	Collapsed sheet of corrugated iron which would have formed part of reveted approach into pre-fabricated air-raid shelter/bunker. Remains of iron wire tie-back to join 1403 to 1408. Sealed by 1402 and overlies 1404.	-
1404	Layer	Deliberate backfill of rubble within void between 1403 and 1408. Pale yellow-brown, fine silty sand and stone rubble. Overlain by 1403 and overlies 1405.	c.2m
1405	Layer	Backfill material below collapsed reveting 1403.	-
1406	Structure	Pre-fabricated concrete air-raid shelter/bunker constructed within **1408**. Approx. 3m long by 1.92m wide and approx. 2m high. Walls approx. 0.12m thick; roof covered by layer of felt. Vent located at the eastern end.	-
1407	Earthwork	Earthen blast barrier surrounding air-raid shelter Structure L, constructed from excavated upcast from **1408**.	0.40m high
1408	**Cut**	**Construction cut for pre-fabricated concrete air-raid shelter/bunker and associated trench. Entrance to shelter is in NW corner.**	**-**
1409	Natural	Natural bedrock, cut by **1408**.	-

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0 50 m

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Site and trench locations

Figure 1

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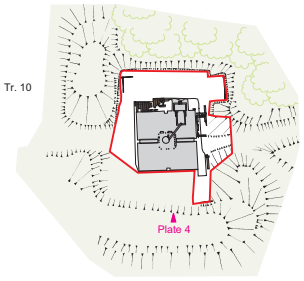
RAF aerial photograph dated 8th August 1944 in relation to the earthwork survey areas and the northernmost trench (SPJA-038272, RAF 3112,106G,2056 8/8/44)

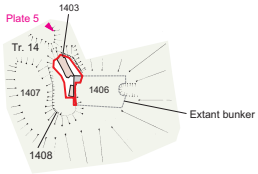
Figure 2

Plate 1: North-facing section through blast barrier of Structure A

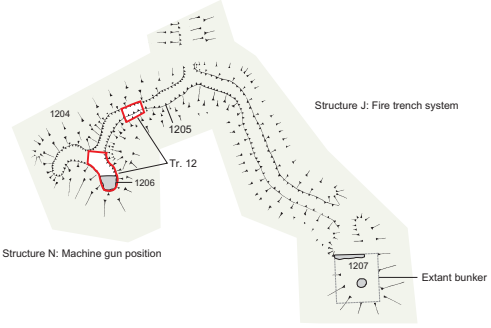
Plate 2: Trench 3 from the south-east



Structure H: 88 mm anti-aircraft gun emplacement
(see figure 5 for more detail)

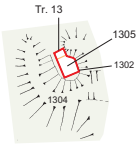


Structure L: Pre-fabricated concrete air-raid shelter/bunker



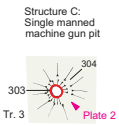
Structure N: Machine gun position

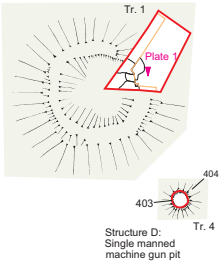
Structure M: Pre-fabricated concrete air-raid shelter/bunker

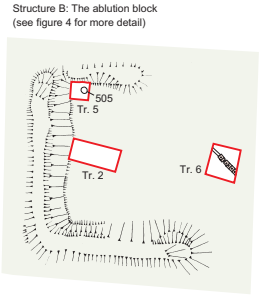


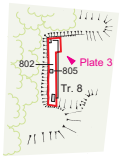
Structure K: ?Range finder

Structure G:
Single manned
machine gun pit

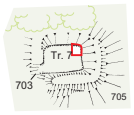








Structure F: Timber building



Structure E: Ammunition Store

Plate 3: Trench 8 from the south-east

Plate 4: Trench 10 from the south

Plate 5: Trench 14 from the north-west

Concrete
Galvanised iron
Wood

0 10 m

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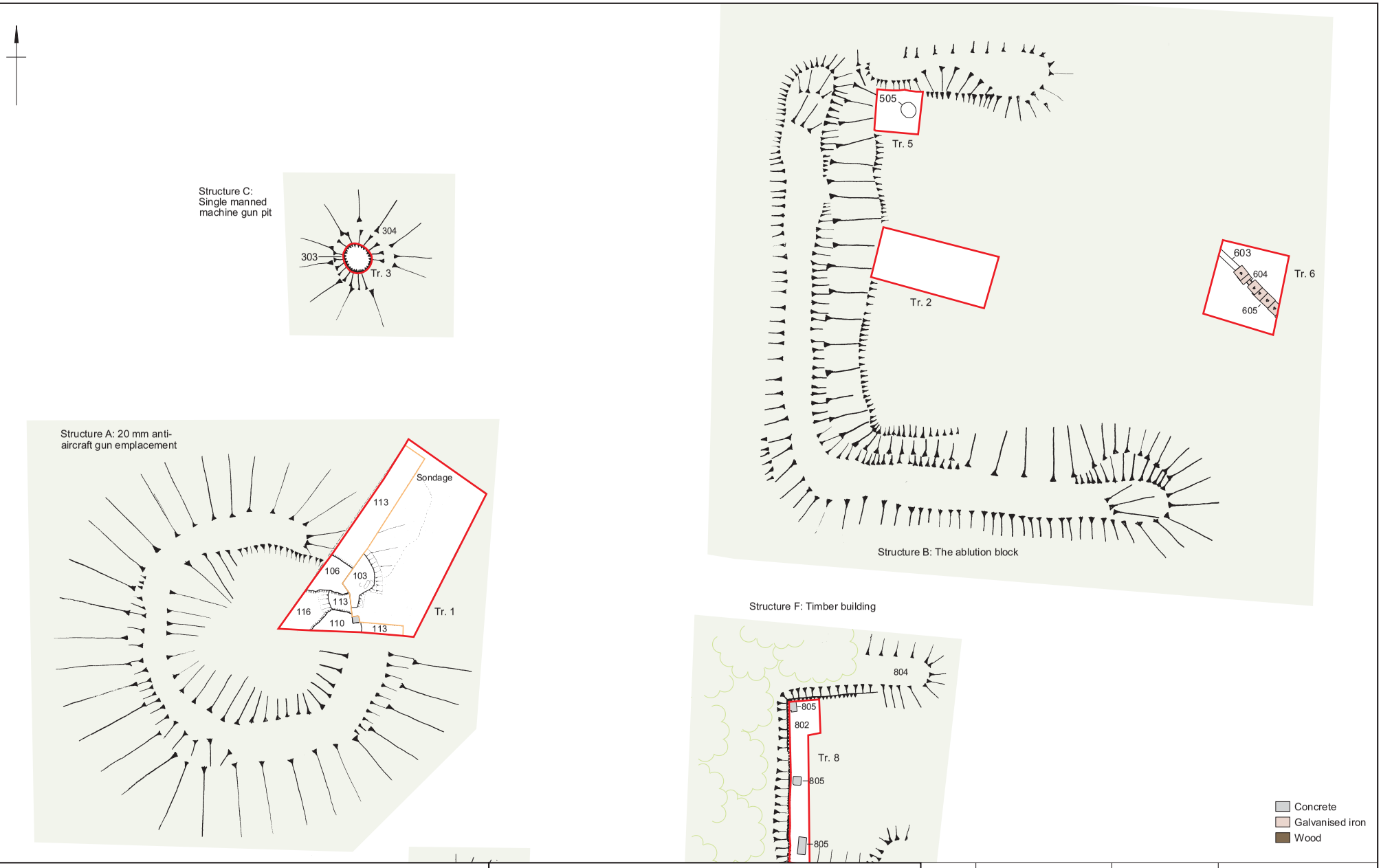
Overall plan of earthworks and trenches 1-10 and 12-14

Figure 3



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0 5 m

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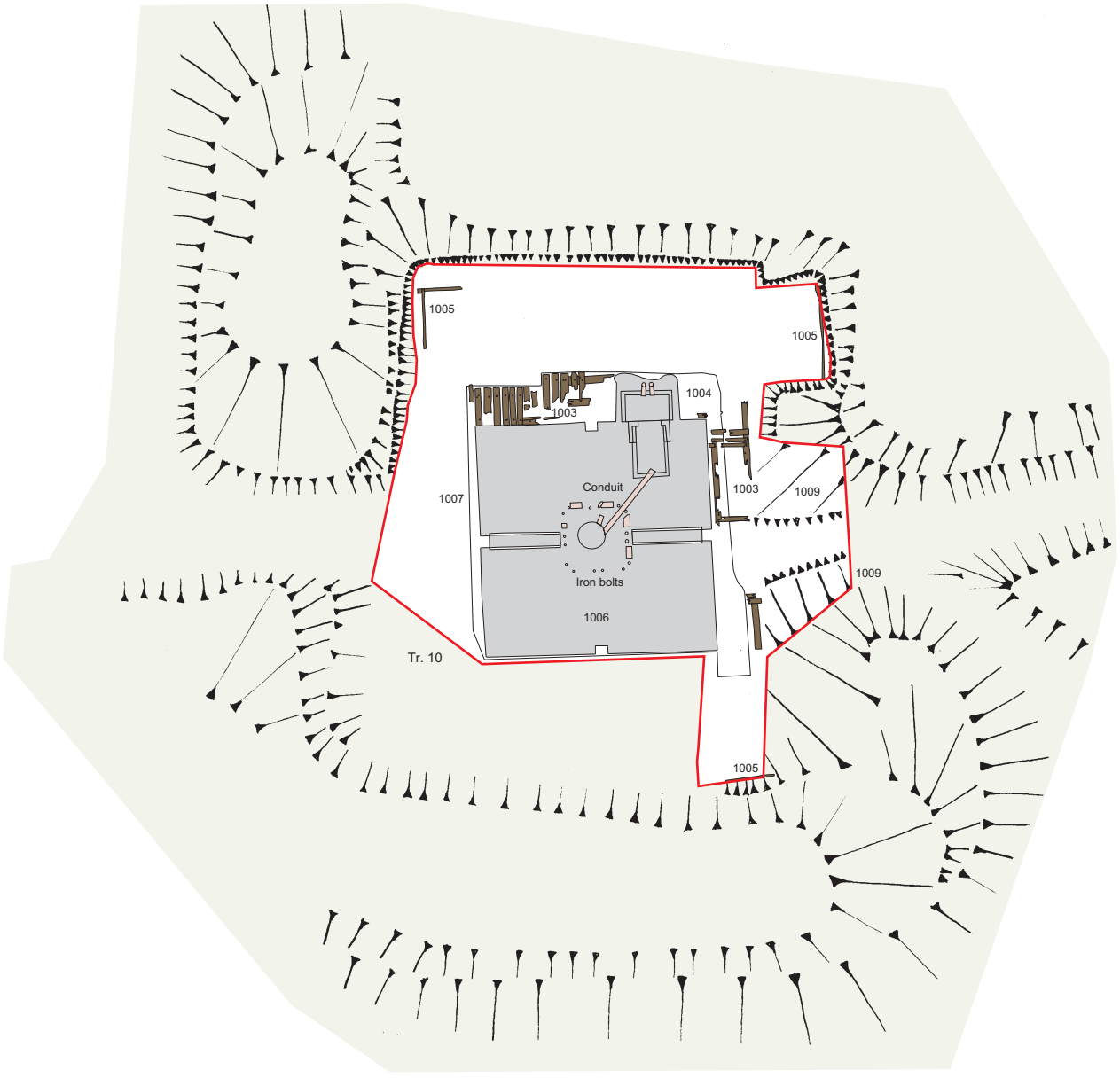
Structures A, B, C and F

Figure 4

Plate 6: 88 mm anti-aircraft gun from La Mayne, Jersey (ref:SJPA/002273)



Structure H: 88 mm anti-aircraft gun emplacement

Excavated area
Earthwork survey area

Concrete
Galvanised iron
Wood

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0 5 m

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Structure H: 88 mm anti-aircraft gun emplacement (Trench 10)

Figure 5

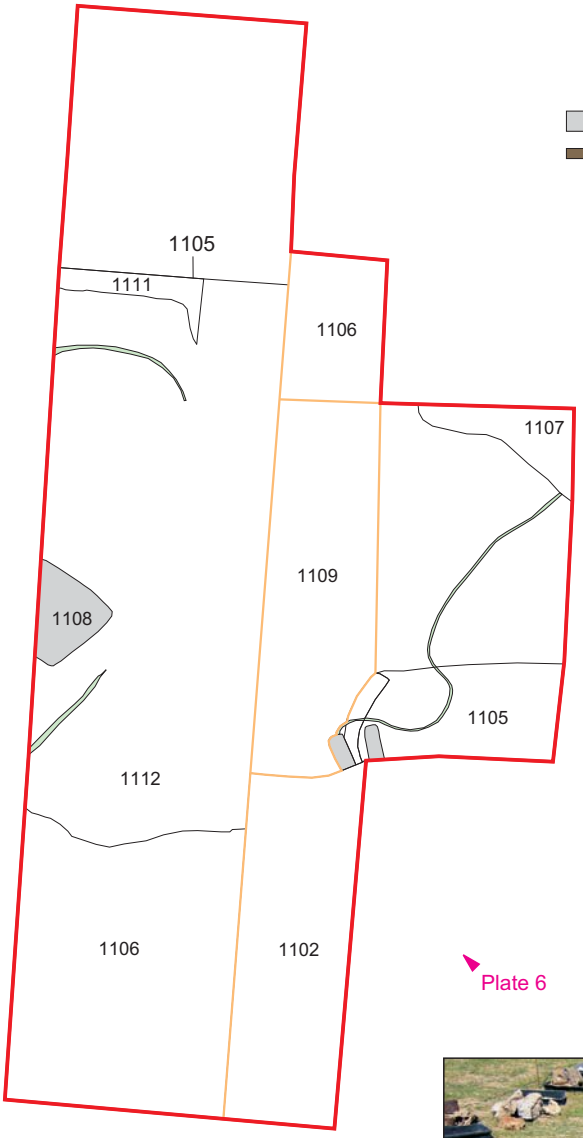

Plate 7: Trench 11 from the south-east

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Structure I: Possible command centre (Trench 11)

Figure 6

Plate 8: 88 mm anti aircraft gun shell (scale 0.5 m)

Plate 9: 88 mm anti aircraft gun practice shell (scale 0.5 m)

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