



Valuing the Heritage of the Channel Islands

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Elizabeth Castle, Jersey

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An initial assessment against
World Heritage Site criteria and
Public Value criteria

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For

Jersey Heritage

August 2008.

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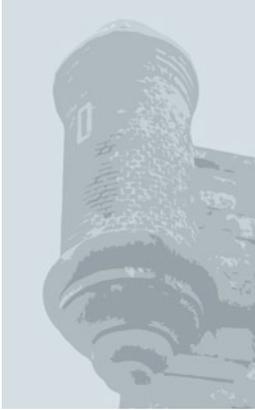
This report would not have been possible without the very kind support, enthusiasm, time and hospitality of John Mesch and his colleagues of the Société Jersiaise, including Dr John Renouf and John Stratford. John organised a packed visit programme for the 5th to the 8th February 2008, provided transport, organised a flight, and answered endless questions. Many other people kindly took time to speak to me including Senator Freddie Cohen, Deputy Carolyn Labey, Rod McLoughlin, Chick Anthony and Margaret Finlaison FSA. Paul Bernal of the CIOS gave us a wonderful tour of Noirmont Head and Paul Simmonds kindly enabled us to visit the Jersey War Tunnels. Please note that I fully appreciate that it is impossible to capture the range and quality of the heritage of the Islands in a short visit, and apologise for any omissions.

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18th August 2008.

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Introduction



The aim of this report is to present an initial assessment of the heritage resource in the Channel Islands against the World Heritage Site nomination criteria, and against Public Value criteria.

It was commissioned by Jon Carter of Jersey Heritage in collaboration with Rod McLoughlin and Kevin Pilley of the Departments of Education, Sport and Culture and Planning, which have funded the report and with the support of members of the Société Jersiaise. The report follows on from a visit to Jersey by Chris Young of English Heritage to advise on World Heritage Issues. The brief for the work is set out in Appendix Five.

The project is in response to a proposal put forward by the Société Jersiaise in November 2007, proposing World Heritage Site status for the Channel Islands. The paper notes that proposals have been made at regular intervals over the years that the Islands should apply for World Heritage Site status. In 1997 Jersey was invited by the UK to make nominations and Mont Orgueil Castle, La Cotte de St Brelade and La Hougue Bie were put forward, although none was selected. In 2000 Alderney considered the submission of the collection of Victorian Forts, and in 2003/4 Lane and Brown recommended that Jersey and Guernsey should submit the coastal fortresses. The Environmental Section of La Société Jersiaise produced a discussion paper in 2003 identifying possible sites for nomination, and a working group was set up.

Overall the conclusions of this report are that the Islands have a rich and diverse heritage, which makes an important contribution to their identity and to the quality of life. That heritage includes specific sites and monuments, as well as the distinctive patterns of landscape and building that are unique to the Islands. The intangible heritage of the Islands is particularly strong, and consists not only of their distinctive political structures but also traditions relating to agriculture and seafaring. It is possible that with pressure for development, that some aspects of that heritage could be at risk.

The report concludes that more could be done to understand the value of heritage to Jersey both as a factor in the quality of life for residents and as an element in attracting visitors. This would also help to underpin a better understanding of the role of heritage amongst decision-makers.

The report also notes that the fortifications of the Channel Islands as a whole represent a very significant group, and that there may be some potential in putting them forward for inclusion on the UK Tentative List, as and when it is revised. This would require close working between the Sociétés on the Islands, as a basis for a joint approach.

During the writing of the report, the first conference on the Jersey Cultural Strategy was held. It was an exciting event, that highlighted the importance of Jersey's culture in the distinctiveness and identity of the island, but also identified some issues – not least the perception of the role of heritage in culture, and some concerns that caring for the heritage was incompatible with a forward looking society. This underpinned the report's conclusion that although there are policies in place for caring for heritage, more needs to be done to understand the positive contribution that heritage can make to society, to the economy, to the environment and to the quality of life.



*View of Elizabeth Castle,
Jersey*

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation One: Do more to capture the value of heritage on Jersey

The first question asked of this report was what more could be done to capture the wider value of heritage in Jersey in order to ensure that it was being appropriately managed and promoted.

In Jersey, as elsewhere, heritage is under pressure. Even where policies to protect heritage are in place, it can be at risk through overdevelopment, through inappropriate development and through lack of public resources. At the heart of this is often a limited understanding by decision-makers of the positive role that heritage can play in identity and culture, and in creating vibrant places to live with a high quality of life. This is a difficult situation to remedy, and is one faced by many different countries.

In the UK and elsewhere there has been a clear trend towards making better use of data and research in order to understand what is happening to heritage and how it is at risk, as well as in order to understand how heritage can contribute to economic, social and environmental agendas. Chapter One provides a brief overview of some of the recent thinking and research that has been exploring the value and benefits of caring for the heritage in the UK and abroad.

Some of the strategies put in place in the UK to deal with it include greater use of heritage audits and data gathering, and more research into the impact, benefits and value of protecting heritage, and in particular studies that seek to capture public opinions.

This report recommends that Jersey explore options for improving data about heritage in order to begin to overcome some of the misconceptions that often exist, including:

- Public opinion poll work to explore perceptions of heritage;
- Better data on heritage resources and in particular heritage at risk;
- Better information for interested visitors not just on individual sites but the heritage of the Islands.

In particular it is recommended that the island develop some research and perhaps a series of events around the question of *What Makes Jersey Special?*

Recommendation Two: Develop a world heritage bid for the Channel World Heritage status.

A rapid desk top assessment of the existing heritage resource in Jersey and the Channel Islands has concluded that there are very many individually important sites on the Islands, but in isolation none of them is sufficiently important to demonstrate Outstanding Universal Value.

However the fortifications as a group, including the Second World War remains, have the potential in terms of the density of remains, the diversity of different military site types and the long time span that they represent. Some are also in outstanding coastal locations. They represent 800 years of conflict between England and France in a bid to control the globe.

A bid for world heritage status would not be easy. The first step is to be included in the UK Tentative list which is likely to be reviewed as the result of a current piece of work being undertaken by DCMS. And it is likely that in order to be included in the revised list, sites will need to do some work in order to demonstrate their value, including comparative research. They will also need to demonstrate a commitment to good management.

This report suggests that it is worth doing further work on the fortifications as a basis for exploring their potential. Given the strong commitment of the Société and its local knowledge, it is suggested that they might spearhead the work, with support from Jersey Heritage.

However, there is no question that any bid would need to come from the Channel Islands jointly. The sites on Alderney and Guernsey are as much a part of the story as those on Jersey; there is a common history and heritage which cannot be ignored. Individual experts on Guernsey, Alderney and Jersey have done very important work on the sites, and an initial starting point might be the Sociétés working together.

Chapter One – New work on capturing the value of heritage



This chapter provides a rapid overview of recent work in the UK and elsewhere on the value of heritage, and makes recommendations about how it can be used in Jersey.

1.0 Introduction

Heritage has been defined in its widest sense as

‘what we have inherited from the past, value and want to hand on to the future’

It can encompass tangible items such as

- the historic environment, including historic buildings, sites and monuments as well as landscapes parks and gardens
- collections including archives, objects in museums and large transport items such as buses, boats and trains

However, heritage is not confined to physical items – it can include intangible heritage such as language, memories and oral traditions.

The idea of heritage is therefore a very wide one, covering much of the environment around us, and much of our culture. It is often impossible to disentangle heritage issues from natural and wildlife management, or from arts and culture.

A wide range of institutions have a role in protecting the heritage. These include museums, galleries and libraries which may be responsible for collections; planning departments which take responsibility for the statutory protection of buildings, settlements and archaeological sites; and environmental bodies which are often responsible for both cultural and natural heritage. Public funding for heritage can come from a wide variety of places - arts and cultural bodies, environmental bodies, community funds or subsidies such as agricultural support.

However, because heritage covers such a wide range of areas, it is easily forgotten in setting public policies. For example heritage issues are often neglected in environmental thinking, down-played in arts and cultural agendas and carry little weight in planning policies.

One way in which this can be counter-acted is to better understand the value of heritage and in particular, the contribution that it can make to society, to the economy and to the environment.

Over the past decade or so, there has been a growing amount of work focussed on collecting data about the heritage in order to understand its value and benefits. This work has involved theoretical studies about the idea of value and heritage, as well as surveys relating to the different ways in which people value heritage. It has also involved the collection of data about the heritage itself. The net result is a growing understanding of the extent of our heritage and the benefits that it can potentially deliver as a tool for influencing public policy.

1.1 Gathering data about heritage

The first trend has been to gather more data about the heritage.

1.1.1 Heritage Counts

In England 'Heritage Counts' has been published annually by English Heritage on behalf of the sector every year since 2002. The document brings together basic data about the heritage such as data on heritage assets and grant-giving. It also provides an overview of current research into heritage relating to issues such as skills, economic impact and benefits. The report includes a series of heritage indicators grouped as follows:

Understanding the assets (designated assets, historic areas and open spaces and acquiring information)

Caring and sharing (data on sites at risk, management information, capacity and resources, training and skills and new users)

Using and benefiting (education and lifelong learning, economic benefits, participation, well being and quality of life, environmental benefits and managing the public historic estate)

Although there are some weaknesses (the indicators are often just numbers, rather than information tools that summarise complex issues and indicate overall status and trends) it is immensely helpful to have all of the information together in one place.

The Annual Report is supplemented by local reports. These are particularly valuable as they are produced jointly by English Heritage with other organisations such as the National Trust, the Heritage Lottery Fund and local authorities, as well as non-heritage bodies such as regional development agencies. This joint working has proved very useful. The local reports also play an important role in regional advocacy. Heritage Counts can be found at: <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/hc/>

In Scotland a similar Heritage Audit has just been set up. Again this brings heritage agencies together with others (Historic Scotland, HLF, RCAHMS, HHA, BEFS and planners) and is aimed at providing a statistical base for understanding and managing the historic environment. Details of the audit can be found at: <http://www.heritageaudit.org.uk/>

Of course these audits mirror better established audits for the natural environment and for the countryside, such as the annual State of the Countryside Review, as well as the work undertaken for natural heritage as part of the UK Biodiversity Action plan process and the Environment Agency work on the State of the Environment.

In a related initiative, the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) undertook a survey of heritage needs across collections, natural and built heritage in order to identify sectoral priorities.

1.2 Research into the value of heritage

Another trend relates to the growing number of surveys and studies aimed at capturing the value or benefits of heritage.

1.2.1 Public opinion surveys

As part of the work around 'Power of Place' an English Heritage initiative looking at the management of the historic environment, a number of surveys were commissioned from MORI in 2001 aimed at establishing how people felt about the heritage. The surveys identified issues such as attitudes to heritage, support for heritage in education, and the extent to which people recognised that heritage was not just about monuments (MORI 2001).

A more recent MORI poll commissioned as part of the History Matters campaign found that 73 per cent of those polled are interested in history while just 59 per cent are interested in sport in general and less than half (48 per cent) expressed interest in football.

Other important findings include:

- 80 percent think history matters in today's society with just 16 percent disagreeing;
- 73 percent think too many old buildings are being demolished while only 13 percent do not;
- 69 percent think history is a "cool" subject with only 20 percent saying it was "uncool"
- By comparison with the ringing endorsement for history, celebrities only interested 25 per cent of those polled¹.

More recent surveys have been done for London, which concluded that London's heritage was valued by its residents, and felt that heritage played a valuable role in the culture of London. But whilst residents agreed that is important to think about preserving modern buildings, there were mixed feelings about whether or not new buildings enhance local character.²

1.2.2 Taking Part Survey

In England the government has set targets for participation in arts and in the historic environment, and in order to help underpin that work, DCMS has commissioned the major Taking Part Survey, covering leisure, culture and sport. It is a major exercise with a sample size of around 29,000 people undertaken by BMRB.

¹ <http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/MediaCentre/Archive/History+Matters.htm>

² <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/upload/pdf/morireport1.pdf>



Some of the headline findings have been that Enjoyment was the main reason given for attendance at historic environment sites and arts events and also for participation in arts activities and active sports.

- Accompanying children was a commonly cited reason for engagement; appearing as one of the top four of main reason given for all sectors except attendance at archives and participation in arts activities.
- For all sectors examined, having more free time or being less busy was the main factor given that would encourage more frequent engagement.
- Lack of interest was the main reason given for non-attendance at historic environment sites, museums and galleries and arts events as well as participation in arts activities.
- Poor health was frequently mentioned as a reason for non-engagement; appearing as one of the top three of main reason given for all sectors except attendance at archives and libraries³.

1.2.3 Economic and social impact studies

There has been increasing use of economic impact methodologies in heritage, including

- economic impact studies that measure economic investments and employment gains directly related to conservation activities
- hedonic pricing and value transfer methods; the first looks at things like increments in property values located close to heritage assets
- contingent valuation and willingness to pay methods which look at the amount users or even non users are willing to pay for something

For example, HLF have commissioned a series of economic impact studies for funded projects, which have identified the number of jobs created; English Heritage have looked at the investment performance of listed and unlisted office buildings and at the impact of conserved farm buildings.

PWC has commissioned a review of Valuation studies in heritage (2007) which reviewed different methodologies and their application, and English Heritage commissioned a review of contingent valuation studies in heritage⁴ that concluded that there was

‘Limited scope for value transfer applications in heritage related appraisal’.

In the USA, Donovan Rypkema has undertaken a large number of economic impact studies, and published a useful guide for community leaders that brings together results from those studies and shows how they can be used in advocacy.

³ http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/research/final_levelsbarriers.pdf

⁴ http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/upload/pdf/ValofHistoricEnv__eftecExecSumED2.pdf

1.2.4 Social impact studies

There is growing interest in the social impact of heritage projects; Museums Libraries and Archives (MLA) has identified a set of generic learning outcomes from heritage projects, and are in the process of developing social outcomes. These include

- knowledge and understanding
- activity, behaviour and progression
- enjoyment inspiration and creativity
- attitudes and values
- skills.

They are also beginning to think about generic social outcomes for heritage projects.

HLF have commissioned a number of studies designed to identify social outcomes that arise from participating in heritage projects. There is evidence to show that people who take part in heritage projects develop new skills, meet new friends, and generally gain in confidence. Other studies have shown that visiting heritage sites is a source of enjoyment and relaxation and that heritage sites are good places to meet people.

1.2.5 Environmental studies

Finally, the environmental impact of retaining existing buildings has been explored by English Heritage and others. English Heritage have looked at the embodied energy in historic buildings, and at the energy performance of older and newer buildings and HLF have explored issues of whole life costing in relation to old buildings.

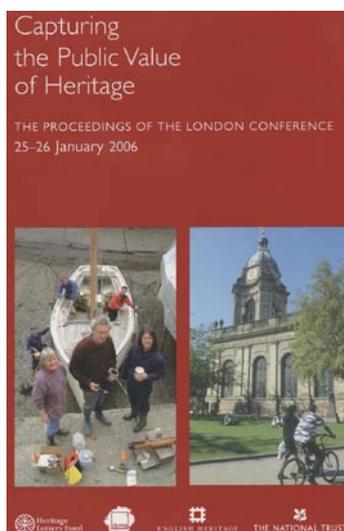
Construction and demolition are one of the largest producers of waste in the UK; and concrete as a material produces very high levels of greenhouse gases. Household emissions also make a major contribution to global warming.

Re-using historic buildings can reduce waste and avoid the need for concrete; traditional heritage building techniques such as the use of lime mortar and timber can also reduce carbon emissions.



1.3 The bigger picture – public value

1.3.1 Capturing the Public Value of heritage conference



In January 2006, a conference was held at the Royal Geographical Society in London, entitled 'Capturing the Public Value of Heritage'. The aim of the event was to bring together some of the work on the value of heritage. The event included presentations from economists, social scientists, heritage organisations, local authorities and members of the public.

At the heart of the event was the concept of Public Value – sometimes called Cultural Value - which identifies three kinds of value that heritage can potentially create:

Intrinsic Value – heritage sites are defined by their very nature as sites that communities or groups of people value, regardless of ownership. Sites may have a historical, aesthetic, social or scientific value.

Institutional Value – these are the values displayed by heritage institutions, such as trust, accountability and transparency. This is particularly important for institutions that care for something that the public values.

Instrumental Value – these are the benefits that can flow from investing in or protecting heritage sites. They may be economic, social or environmental. For example investment in a public park may bring social benefits to communities such as health benefits or a place to meet and play; it also may bring economic benefits in terms of local house prices.

The conference was part of a general trend towards recognising the need for better data on the heritage, which is reflected in the annual Heritage Counts report in England, and the new Scottish Heritage Audit as well as audits in Australia and elsewhere.

1.3.2 Applying the Public Value Test

Following the London Conference, the HLF have further developed the Public Value framework as a way of drawing together some of the different studies of the value of heritage into a more coherent framework (Clark and Maer 2008).

Over the past 14 years, the Fund has invested some £4 billion in a wide range of heritage projects. In order to assess the impact of that work it has commissioned a series of research studies including economic impact assessments, neighbourhood surveys, visitor surveys and surveys of people who have participated in heritage projects. This has provided a 'data bank' of case studies, quantitative and qualitative data about the impact of heritage funding.

The Cultural or Public Value Framework has then been used to assess that impact. The Framework involved looking at

Intrinsic value:

How well funding had actually protected heritage sites, which drew upon data on stewardship, opinion surveys and qualitative assessments of the conservation impacts of completed projects

Sources: *interrogation of existing records; visitor surveys; conservation outcomes study.*

Instrumental benefits

Evidence for the social and economic impacts of funding heritage, using data on learning, individual well-being, strengthened local communities and prosperity

Sources: *surveys of participants; neighbourhood surveys; economic impact studies*

Institutional values

Data on trust, equity in funding distribution, and data on organisations funded by HLF to test resilience; data on value for money

Sources: *Customer care surveys; data on overheads; data on funding distribution.*

The work has recently been published in the latest edition of Cultural Trends (Clark and Maeer 2008) which drew out conclusions relating to:

- the social benefits of participating in heritage projects such as new friends and social networks, new skills, new confidence, inter-generational connections
- the learning benefits from heritage projects
- how heritage projects can and do create jobs
- the impact of heritage projects on local areas
- local perceptions of heritage projects and the difference they can make to the quality of life
- what makes a good heritage project.

Chapter Two – The heritage of the Channel Islands



This chapter provides a preliminary desk top assessment of the overall heritage resource. It contains a very brief summary of the geography and history of the Islands, identifies the main organisations that are responsible for heritage, and the kinds of sites that survive.

2.1 Introduction

In order to explore questions such as the value of heritage in Jersey, or whether or not a World Heritage bid might be appropriate, it is important first to understand the heritage of Jersey. One of the requirements of the brief for this study was to undertake a desk-top assessment of the heritage resource in Jersey and the Channel Islands. Clearly such an exercise can never be anything more than superficial; nevertheless I have tried to bring together an initial overview of heritage, covering a brief outline history, the historic environment and intangible heritage.

One of the conclusions of this study is that information about the heritage is widely scattered – for the professional information about heritage management and resources is not drawn together in one place; some information came from government web sites but there is not a single easy source.

For a visitor to the Islands, there is some general information on tourism websites and in more detailed guides to individual sites, but again there is not a single comprehensive resource.

The second conclusion is that the location of the Islands close to France, allied with their historical allegiance to the Crown has created a very distinctive heritage, reflected in unique building styles, a very characteristic landscape and a strong intangible heritage comprising language, tradition and of course unique political structures. It would be useful to better understand and capture that distinctiveness, and perhaps to find out more about how people who live in Jersey see it.

2.2 Geography and politics

The Channel Islands lie between 60 and 100 miles from the south coast of England, although Jersey, the most southerly isle, is only 14 miles from France. The largest island is Jersey approximately 12 nautical miles from the Cotentin peninsula of France. The land slopes gently upwards from south to north; Guernsey is around 25 square miles in size; the islands of Herm and Sark lie to the east. Alderney is roughly 3 miles long and a mile wide and is 9 miles to the west of France. It has high cliffs to the west and south.



Guernsey from the air

Constitutionally the Islands are divided into two bailiwicks, Jersey and Guernsey, each with its own Lieutenant Governor. Sark, with its own independent legislature and court, falls within the Bailiwick of Guernsey, as does Alderney which has its own. The Bailiwick of Jersey includes the uninhabited islets of the Minquiers, Écréhous and the Pierres de Lecq.



Pembroke Bay, Guernsey

The Bailiwicks of Jersey and Guernsey are Crown Dependencies and are therefore not part of the United Kingdom or Great Britain. Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney and Sark have their own legislature, judicial system and administration. The British Government has traditionally been responsible for defense and foreign affairs and the ultimate responsibility for good governance lies with the Crown through the Lord Chancellor. They are not members of the European Community but have a special relationship set out in Protocol 3 to the Treaty of Accession, but they are within the Common Agricultural Area, the Common External Tariff and Common Agricultural Policy, while being free to levy their own excise duties on goods. Jersey has ratified the Granada convention on architectural heritage and the Valletta convention on archaeology.

2.3 Brief History

For visitors and those who are unfamiliar with the heritage of Jersey, it is important to first understand the unique political history of the Islands.

In 2004 the Islands celebrated 800 years of allegiance to the English Crown; they were in the possession of Duke William of Normandy when he invaded England in 1066 and they remained loyal to King John as Duke of Normandy when he lost the last of his lands in Normandy in 1204. Prior to that, the Islands were close to mainland Europe; after that date their fortunes remained much closer to Britain (Renouf 2007).

After 1471 Edward IV appointed separate Governors for the “Bailiwicks” of Jersey and Guernsey (the latter including Alderney, Sark and Herm), which have remained separate jurisdictions ever since, and the States developed a distinctive system of government with a Bailiff, Jurats, Constables and Rectors. In 1481, following French attacks, the Pope placed the Islands under the protection of the church.

The Islands have largely been economically dependent upon the twin activities of sea trading and farming, exploiting their commercial neutrality and lack of duties. The discovery of the New World opened up new markets, and islanders were active in exploiting the cod banks of Newfoundland. At home the cottage industry of knitting also became an important source of domestic by employment.

During the Civil War Guernsey and Alderney sided with Parliament; Jersey tried to preserve its neutrality, but the gentry took the part of the King and Jersey became a Royalist base. The Royalists were driven out in 1651, but regained their privileges after the Restoration. With the Restoration, fishermen returned to cod fishing, and this hazardous but profitable trade led to the construction of new houses and the creation of the first Chamber of Commerce in the British Isles in Jersey in 1768.

When France joined the American War of Independence against England in (1773) the smuggling activities of the Channel Islands were renewed. Jersey was invaded by France but the troops were overcome. After Napoleon's defeat in 1815 privateering officially ended and in the 1840s smuggling declined. Although loyal to England, the Islands retained close links with France; following the Reformation Huguenots fled to the Islands in the 16th and 17th centuries; and after the French Revolution there was another flood of refugees. Seasonal farm workers also came from France. But whilst the language of the church, States and Courts remained French, English was the language of commerce, the military and the gentry.

Despite agricultural decline and the failure of the stocking trade, the 19th century saw an increase in the prosperity of the Islands. In Jersey developments in cattle breeding and potato production created the Islands' two most distinctive products, the Jersey Royal Potato and the Jersey cow. In Guernsey success in the global maritime trade and the rise of the stone industry also generated prosperity. The construction of the breakwater and the forts in Alderney in the mid-19th century established the stone industry and created much local employment. In 1847 the railway from London reached Southampton to connect with steamships which had begun a regular service to the Islands, stimulating both trade and tourism. The Islands maintained their tariff-free position with England and America where there were punitive tariffs against non-British goods. They retained strong connections with the Americas through cod fishing until the 1880s; the freedom to trade also enabled them to undercut English ship builders and by 1865 Jersey was the 5th largest wooden ship building port in the British Isles.

During the Second World War, the Islands were occupied by Germany, and an elaborate system of defences was built, out of proportion to their strategic significance. British-born people and undesirables were deported to internment camps and there was much hardship. The only concentration camp on British soil was located on Alderney.

After the war the Islands recovered quickly but there were many changes. There were political reforms for the States in 1948 (including a written constitution in Alderney which looked to Guernsey for various governmental functions) and in the 1950s a tax loophole was discovered where death duties could be saved if money was lent on mortgages through Jersey financial system. Capital flowed into the Islands and Jersey established itself as a major banking centre offering shelter from UK taxes for those working outside UK.

Today the finance industry remains vital in Guernsey and Jersey. The political stability, low taxes and proximity to London have attracted the very rich and retirees. In the 1970s the Islands wanted to remain outside the European Economic Community but obtain some benefits, so they negotiated a special recognition.

*L'Ancrese Gun Emplacement,
Jersey*



2.4 Historic environment

This distinctive political history of the Islands, the strong cultural connections with both Britain and France as well as the defensive issues that arise from their proximity to France, have resulted in distinctive historic environment.

2.4.1 Archaeology



L'Ouziere Axe - Jersey Heritage Trust.

In brief, the Islands of Guernsey, Alderney, Sark and Herm as well as the smaller islands of Jethou, Lihou, Brecqhou and Burhou contain a high density of archaeological remains including:

- Spectacular dolmens, standing stones and carved prehistoric figures;
- Iron age fortifications, settlements and warrior burials;
- Roman shipwrecks and harbour buildings;
- Mediaeval churches and castles;
- Historic landscapes of granite cottages and small fields bounded by earth banks;
- Extensive 18th and 19th century fortifications, gun batteries and coastal defense towers
- Impressive concrete bunkers, towers and emplacements from the German occupation of 1940-45;
- At least 800 known wrecks of ships and aircraft.



Medieval Brooch from Les Ecrehous.

For Jersey, the White Paper on archaeology (see above) provides an overview of over 160 archaeological sites ranging in size from individual standing stones to an expansive area of St Ouen's Bay covering the remains of a Neolithic forest. In brief the sites include:

- Individual find spots, including bronze hoards, and find spots of Roman material;
- Flint scatters;
- Menhirs;
- Over 60 hougues and megalithic remains;
- 3 prehistoric landscapes;
- A variety of habitation sites which include habitation of all periods from prehistoric sites, to unenclosed strip fields, peat beds, to the prisoner of war camp at St Brelade;
- Promontory Forts.

As well as a large number of possible prehistoric sites identified by field names. A schedule of the proposed sites is available at www.gov.je

The best known archaeological site on the Islands is probably La Cotte de St Brelade on Jersey, perhaps one of the most important Palaeolithic sites in the British Isles, with evidence for Neanderthal hominids, a mass kill and of course important flora and fauna. (see Appendix Four).

The most spectacular of the many Neolithic sites on the Islands is La Hougue Bie on Jersey a passage grave under a mound some 12m high and 54m in diameter. There is an unusually long passage with a bottle shaped chamber with three side chambers. There are several uprights with rare evidence for ritual activity in a megalithic tomb. It is one of the most impressive megalithic monuments in Europe and as a dominant feature in the landscape has been the focus of many myths and legends. In the early medieval period a later chapel was built on the site to perhaps counteract paganism. In the 18th century the pseudo Gothic Princes Tower was built around the medieval chapel. The stone appears to have been brought from some distance away, and several different



Faldouet Dolmen, Jersey. Built around 6,000 years ago (c.4000-3250BC), this Neolithic grave houses a passage which leads into its unusual double burial chamber.

Right: La Hougue Bie, Jersey



places, and the tomb is aligned on the equinoctial sunrise.

Heather Sebire (2005) has published a useful overview of the archaeology and early history of the Channel Islands which provides more details on individual sites.

2.4.2 Historic buildings



St Helier Church, Jersey

The Islands have a rich and distinctive architectural tradition, which draws upon both English and French styles, but is unique in its own right.

The predominant building material in Jersey is local granite, which is cut and dressed in high quality buildings and in the details of buildings that use coarser stone. There is pictorial evidence for timber framed buildings in the 19th century in St Helier for example, although these do not survive. Thatch was widespread until the later 19th century, and is frequently preserved under corrugated iron. Today the predominant roofing material is pantile, and later slate.



La Hougue Bie Chapel, Jersey

Each of the parishes on Jersey has its own church, many of which may be very early foundations with celtic dedications. Many are of local granite with stone roofs, relatively modest in design; many were also used for civil purposes. In the 12th century the parishes were reorganised under the Archbishopric of Mortmain, and many of the churches rebuilt on a standard plan. A few ancient chapels survive, including on Jersey the Fisherman's Chapel in St Brelade's, the chapels at La Hougue Bie, as well as the ruined chapel on Lihou. Of the more recent churches, the most notable on Jersey is St Matthew's Church with unique glass by Rene Lalique. On Guernsey notable Victorian churches include St Joseph's church by Pugin and St Stephen's by George Frederick Bodley. Non-conformism became increasingly important in the 19th century, and a recent study for Jersey Heritage has identified an important range of surviving buildings.

The architecture of the Islands reflects both British and French traditions; French influences can be seen in church architecture, in high status houses, and in details such as stair turrets, arches and carpentry traditions. English influence can be seen from the early 18th century onwards when many houses were rebuilt, and in details such as English style panelling, staircases, and the use of vertical sliding sashes, as well as in the villa and terraces built around St Helier from the 1830s onwards.



Warren Farm, Noirmont, Jersey

One of the most distinctive architectural features of Jersey is the large number of historic farm complexes including a house and a range of agricultural buildings such as stables, cart sheds, pig sties. In their characterisation study, Lake and Edwards describe how local farm buildings reflect the importance of family-based farming from the later 17th century. The most distinctive characteristics are the twin arched entrances to farmyards, and two storey combination sheds built in the late 19th century which include spaces for preparing feed and germinating potatoes above stabling. Many farmsteads were rebuilt in the late 17th century when the agricultural economy moved from one based on mixed and arable agriculture, to a cash economy based on cider, dairy produces and later the Jersey cow, potatoes and market produce.



St Helier Waterfront, Jersey

Jersey's railways have produced some distinctive buildings and structures, and former station buildings in St Helier and St Aubin are of considerable architectural quality. The warehouses of the water front area of St Helier, and surviving watermills in the countryside are examples of important and distinct industrial building types. Victorian public buildings commissioned by the States were generally constructed to a high standard of design, such as the States Building, the Halkett Place Market and the Public Abattoir (Drury).

There are also a series of locally distinctive features such as dovecotes, milestones and wells, many of which have been catalogued and recorded by the Societies. In 1814 milestones were placed along the military roads that were laid out as part of the defences of France, all measured from the statue of George II in the Royal Square, and others were added later during the reign of Queen Victoria. About 30 or 40 of these have been listed by members of the Société Jersiaise.

2.4.3 Landscape



Jersey field boundaries

It seems that Jersey was heavily wooded, but there is evidence for clearance during the Neolithic and Bronze Age and now less than 3% of the island is wooded. The system of open fields and strip farming and some enclosure survived until the 17th century, where Jersey at least was planted with orchards in the centre and east of the island. Today the landscape of Jersey includes high densities of historic farmsteads, small to medium scale enclosed fields and hedgebanks, mostly built to shelter cider and apple orchards and to manage livestock in the 16th to 17th centuries. There are traces of an earlier pattern of enclosures and strip fields with distinctive curved boundaries, many in coastal areas. The landscape is also characterised by an earlier pattern of winding, narrow and sunken lanes. A landscape character study for Jersey has been done by Land Use Consultants.

2.5 Intangible heritage

Once again, the distinctive political history of the Islands, and their unique cultural position between France and England, mean that the Islands have a very strong intangible heritage.

2.5.1 Language

The most obvious example is language, which as the Jersey Cultural Strategy notes, brings distinctiveness, a sense of localness and a whole new set of skills all of which are important qualities in attracting the creative economy. It is fundamental to the Island's identity. The traditional language of Jersey is Jèrriais but the island almost lost its language in the 20th century, and by 2001 there were less than 3000 speakers, but strenuous efforts are being made to reestablish it. Objective 1.9 of the strategy is

To investigate the feasibility of adopting Jèrriais as the Island's official minority language and to work with the Société Jersiaise, Le Don Balleine and L'Assemblée d'Jèrriais to revive the language of Jèrriais.

The Education Sport and Culture department is funding Le Don Balleine to provide a programme in schools teaching Jèrriais. L'Assemblée d'Jèrriais promotes the language generally. Jèrriais is a Romance language of western Norman origin.

On Guernsey, Guernesiaise the Norman Language of the island is spoken fluently by around 2% of the population, although 14% claim some understanding. Le Coumte d'la Culture Guernesiaise is a local group set up to promote, foster and encourage the language and culture of the Bailiwick; the Coumte raises funds to teach Guernsiaise in local schools and publishes educational material.

2.5.2 Political institutions

One of the most distinctive aspects of the intangible heritage of the Islands are the political institutions and traditions, which are unique.

The Queen is the head of state who appoints a Lieutenant Governor who serves as her representative and commander of the Armed Forces. On Jersey, legislative power rests with the Assembly of the States, of which the Bailiff is the president. The voting members consist of Senators, Deputies and Connétables. The States of Jersey derive their name from the estates of the Crown, represented by the Bailiff and Jurats, the church (the rectors of the parishes) and the people, represented by the Connétables. The States sit in a chamber adjacent to the Royal Court, in Jacobean style with benches arranged in a horseshoe form around the twin seats of the Bailiff and Lieutenant Governor – the Bailiff sitting slightly higher to demonstrate precedence.

Charles II granted a Royal Mace to the Island in 1663 in gratitude for the support Jersey offered during and after the Civil War. It is an outstanding piece of craftsmanship, consisting of 11 pieces of silver gilt. The Mace is carried before the Bailiff at ceremonial sittings of the Royal Court and meetings of the States Assembly. It symbolises the ancient links with the Crown, the special status of the Island and one of the most turbulent periods of British history.



The Royal Mace granted to Jersey in 1663



The Royal Court, Jersey

The States of Guernsey are officially called the States of Deliberation and consist of 45 deputies, with representatives from Alderney, a self-governing dependency. Again the Lieutenant Governor is the representative of the Crown. Each parish is administered by a Douzaine, assisted by two elected Constables. The legal system is customary derived from Norman French law heavily overlain by English common law.

Until 2008 Sark was the last truly feudal state in Europe as the laws, particularly relating to inheritance have changed little since 1565. The first Seigneur colonised the island in 1565 with Queen Elizabeth's blessing and granted 40 islanders tenements. The Seigneur holds the island on lease from the Crown in perpetuity. Even to this day, the island is split up into 40 leaseholds but the population stands at around 550.

2.5.3 Traditions

Perhaps because of their island geography, their isolation, the very large tidal range and the ability of the Islands to take advantage of their commercial neutrality, there are many other distinctive traditions, particularly relating to agriculture.

On Jersey for example, the Jersey Evening Post has documented a variety of local traditions including:

- The continuing important role of the 12 parishes which date back almost a millennium – each with an elected Constable, and Centeniers and Vingteniers; parish responsibilities include social welfare, upkeep of the church and rectory, repairs to minor roads, refuse collection, policing etc. Similar systems in France and England have long been lost;
- Traditions such as branchage – the clearing of roadside verges with traditional implements; it is a traditional parochial duty but increasingly undertaken through mechanical means;
- The production of cider apples which in the 1830s was an important industry; much of the landscape has been shaped by the banks built to protect the orchards;
- Other agricultural products such as the giant cabbages and the Jersey Royal potato developed in the 19th century, and the breeds such as the distinctive Jersey Cow;
- The tradition of low water fishing as a result of the huge tidal range and many rock pools, and traditional food such as ormer (abalone) obtained only at low water as well as the gathering of vrac or seaweed to be used as fertilisers;
- Clameur de Haro – the Norman tradition of crying for Justice.



The Jersey Royal Potato Logo



Jersey's coastline is suitable for low water fishing

2.6 Heritage management in the Channel Islands

2.6.1 Introduction

In both Bailiwicks, responsibility for heritage within the planning system falls within the planning/environment departments, whilst there is a separate museum service within culture which cares for individual sites. The Islands have a particularly strong voluntary heritage sector, with a long tradition of active engagement and protection of natural and cultural heritage.

2.6.2 Heritage in the States of Jersey



Logo for the States of Jersey

The Minister for Planning and Environment has an obligation to protect sites, buildings, structures and places that have special value or importance to the Island, whilst museums and cultural strategy fall under the Ministry of Education, Sport and Culture. The States of Jersey Cultural Strategy (2005), talks about the economic and social benefits of culture, defined widely to include arts and heritage, and sets out a core vision:

‘That the people and the States of Jersey recognise and value culture in all its forms as central to the life of the Island, to its identity, to its quality of life, to its sense of community, and to its future prosperity’.

and seven aims:

- To foster, develop and strengthen the Island’s identity
- To make cultural activities integral to the economic and social development of Jersey
- To help develop and boost economic activity
- To enrich the quality of life for all residents and enhance our visitors’ experience
- To help develop culture at the grass roots
- To help foster lifelong learning
- To widen access to, and participation in, cultural activities

Amongst the objectives are several relating directly to heritage, including

Objective 1.4: To confer a general responsibility to Jersey Heritage for all monuments, ancient and modern

Objective 2.4: To develop asset management plans for current cultural buildings with a commitment from the States to fund identified repairs and maintenance costs.

Objective 4.4: To develop guidelines and management plans that will help improve public space and the built environment.

These objectives reinforce commitments in the Island Plan 2002, which sets general policies for planning, including heritage. There is a commitment to protect and enhance historic built fabric and to maintain character, form, quality and function of the coastal strip, urban and rural settlements, and the character and quality of the countryside. An Urban Character Appraisal of St Helier has been prepared as well as a wider Countryside Character Appraisal. The section on Built Environment proposes the designation of Conservation Areas in St Helier Centre, Gorey Village, Mont Orgueil and St Aubin.



Mont Orgueil Castle located in the parish of St Martin, Jersey

The Historic Buildings Section of the Planning and Environment Department helps raise awareness of Jersey's architectural heritage and conservation, gives advice to owners, provides limited financial assistance for repair works and advises on decisions made by development control and building control staff.

There is a statutory Register of Buildings and Sites of Architectural, Archaeological and Historical Importance in Jersey, established under the Interim Policy Statement for the Conservation of Historic Buildings, 1998. There is a two-tier system of grading with Buildings of Local Interest and Sites of Special Interest (SSIs). The SSI designation is also used for ecological and wildlife sites. In 2007 the Minister published supplementary planning guidance on archaeology noting that areas of archaeological sensitivity were to be categorised at 3 levels of interest - Sites of Special Interest (SSI), Archaeological Sites (AS) and Areas of Archaeological Potential (AAP). A new Ministerial Registration and Listing Advisory Group has been set up to advise the Minister.

La Société Jersiaise was founded in 1873 'for study of the History Language the Geology, the natural history and the antiquities of the Island and their preservation'. It has traditionally held responsibility for archaeological and other heritage matters in Jersey, including running the museum.

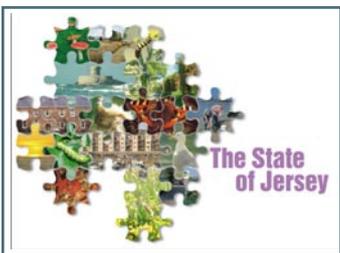
Jersey Heritage was formed in 1980 to co-ordinate museum and art resources on the island and formally took on responsibility for the Museum in 1987. The purpose of the Trust is to care for, promote access to and act as advocates for Jersey's heritage and culture. It receives an annual grant from the States and is responsible for the island's major historic sites, museums and public archives, including the Jersey Museum and Art Gallery, the Maritime Museum and Occupation Tapestry Gallery, Mont Orgueil Castle, Elizabeth Castle, Hamptonne Country Life Museum and La Hougue Bie. In 2000 the Trust opened the new Jersey Archive. The Museum also makes recommendations for heritage protection. A programme of restoration in conjunction with the Tourism Development Fund is bringing some buildings back into use as holiday accommodation.

The **National Trust for Jersey** is an independent charitable organisation dedicated to preserving and safeguarding sites of historic, aesthetic and natural interest for the benefit of the island. It was established in 1936 and is the island's largest private land owner caring for over 130 sites.





The Jersey War Tunnels - now an independent Museum



Many of the fortifications are in private ownership although some were purchased from the War Office once they became militarily obsolete. However, the Jersey War Tunnels is an independent Museum, committed to preserving recording and presenting an accurate account of the Occupation of Jersey. It is located in the best known of Jersey's many tunnel complexes built by forced labour under German command. Ending the war as an underground hospital, it is now home to a permanent exhibition that enables you to understand and experience the impact of the Occupation on Jersey and its people.

In January 2005 the government published The State of Jersey – a report on the condition of Jersey's environment, which covers climate change, air quality, biodiversity, land use, contaminated land, fresh and marine water quality, waste management, land management, and quality of life.

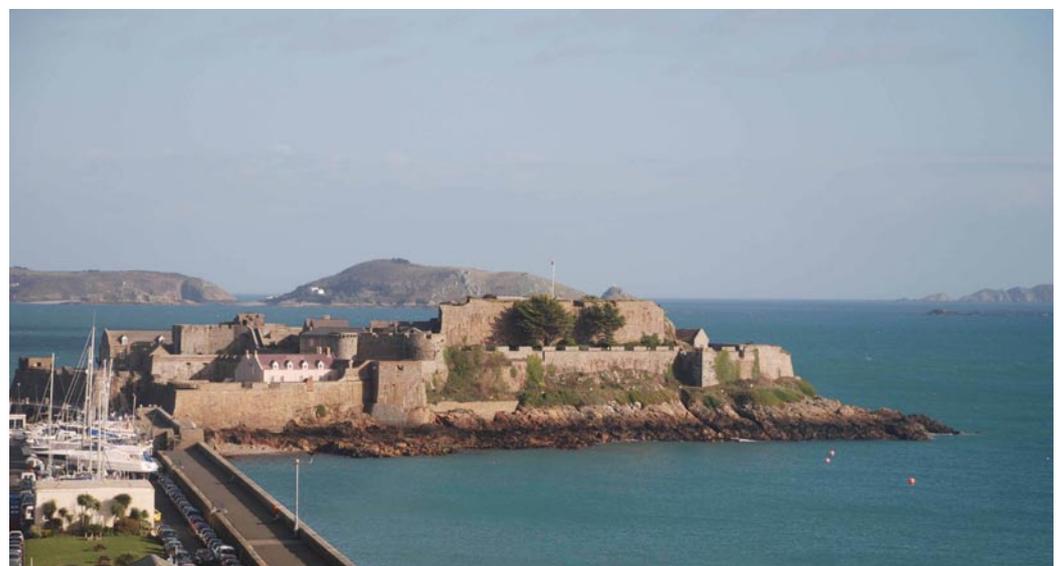
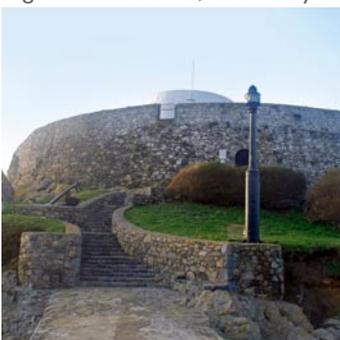
2.6.3 Heritage in the States of Guernsey

The Corporate Strategy for the States of Guernsey includes a commitment to:

... preserve the unique cultural identity that Guernsey enjoys. This identity is based on the strong traditions of a community that values the past but is also self-confident about the future.

The Culture and Leisure Department is responsible for monuments, sites, buildings and objects of, 'aesthetic, anthropological, archaeological, artistic, cultural, ethnological historic and scientific value'. The Museum Service is part of the Department of Culture and Leisure, and their mandate is the maintenance and care of over 80 historic sites ranging from the Island's showpiece sites like Castle Cornet and Fort Grey, to the much smaller sites and dolmens found along the coastline. The section is also responsible for the care of objects and museum collections, managing a programme of field archaeology and rescue archaeology. The service looks after four Museums – Castle Cornet, Guernsey Museum and Art Gallery, Fort Grey Shipwreck Museum and the Telephone Museum. The Museum Service Strategy 2007-2012 includes Action Plans for the Management of Collections, Archaeology and Historic Sites, Education, Access and Inclusion, Displays and Visitor Facilities, and other issues.

Left: Fort Grey, Guernsey
Right: Castle Cornet, Guernsey



The Environment Department advises the States on environmental policy, including policy for the conservation, enhancement and sustainable development of the natural and physical environment of the Island. Its responsibilities include conservation, spatial and land use policy and the management of natural and semi-natural environment of States owned lands including Lihou island and parks and gardens as well as the processing of development applications relating to protected buildings and scheduled sites. Heritage is protected under the Ancient Monuments and Protected Buildings (Guernsey) Law 1967.

La Société Guernesiaise was founded in 1882 to encourage the study of the history, natural history, geography and geology of the Bailiwick of Guernsey, the conservation of the Bailiwick's natural environment and the preservation of its historic buildings and monuments. It provides advice to the States of Guernsey Departments and also runs the Guernsey Biological Records Centre. There is an Archaeology Section that operates in conjunction with the Guernsey Museum Archaeology Group and it contributes to rescue archaeology. There is also a Historic Buildings Section which aims to understand and study the built heritage, to record buildings, to provide assistance to house owners and to campaign to prevent unnecessary loss.

The Museums Director in Guernsey is Curatorial Advisor to the Alderney Museum. The Alderney Museum is owned and administered by the Alderney Society, the organisation dedicated to the historical, environmental and scientific promotion of the island of Alderney. There are sub-groups dealing with History and archaeology, and Natural History. The Alderney Maritime Trust was formed to safeguard the wreck of an Elizabethan warship which sunk c. 1587 off the north coast of Alderney.

There is also a **National Trust of Guernsey** which aims to preserve and enhance the Island's natural beauty, its historic buildings and its heritage. It was founded in 1960 and owns 75 properties or parcels of land, including the Folk Museum. The **Channel Islands Occupation Society** was formed to study all aspects of the German military occupation of the British Channel Islands during the Second World War. The society organises guided tours, excursions and talks and continues to built up an extensive sound, documentary and photographic archive. There are branches in Guernsey and Jersey, Practical projects include the restoration of the Naval Signals HQ bunker at St Jacques on Guernsey, and eight fortifications sites on Jersey including the remains at Noirmont Point.



Right: Noirmont, Jersey

2.7 Issues

2.7.1 Gathering information



North Coast of Jersey

As noted in the introduction, it was relatively difficult to draw together information about heritage in Jersey and the Channel Islands. There are excellent individual publications – including a brief history of the Islands, Heather Sebire’s book about archaeology, guidebooks for individual sites and more detailed work on architecture and landscape. There are also areas on web sites that direct visitors to the main sites.

However, there is not one single guide to the heritage of the Islands that draws together information about all of the heritage, and that could be used by an interested visitor to explore not just the well known sites but other places. Raoul Lempriere’s study, is a useful starting point but it is out of date, and cannot easily be used as a touring guide.

2.7.2 Management Strategies

In the CI, as in most other places, responsibility for heritage is split between planning and cultural services. Although on Jersey great strides have been made in introducing heritage policies, including the register of SSIs and new policies on conservation, much remains to be done. The pace of development means that there can be issues in implementing the policies.

Neither Jersey nor Guernsey has a ‘developer pays’ system for archaeology as operated under PPG 16 in the UK whereby a developer takes responsibility for any archaeological evaluation or excavation that arise from the development of an archaeological site.



Left: Noirmont Tower, Jersey



Right: Late 18th Century Tower,
L'Ancrese Bay, Guernsey

Chapter Three - Capturing the value of heritage in the Channel Islands



3.0 Introduction

This chapter looks at what might be done to better understand the value of heritage on the Channel Islands, and in particular the value to the public. Very often it is assumed that people do not value heritage, yet as studies in the UK have shown, people often have an informed and sophisticated understanding of local heritage and its value.

As noted above, the Jersey Cultural Strategy contains a useful review of some of the general evidence for the social and economic benefits of culture and in particular the arts, but there is no doubt that there is less evidence available for heritage, in part because less research has been done. And with less evidence for the impact and benefits of heritage, it is often harder to argue for policies and resources.

3.1 Intrinsic Value

The significance of the heritage to the Islands is something that deserves to be better celebrated:

- the distinctive architecture and building traditions that have shaped the settlements of the Islands;
- the unique nature of the agricultural buildings;
- the range and variety of fortifications, which illustrate technological developments, political relationships and important events in human history;
- the variety of prehistoric sites and remains;
- the features that characterise the landscape – steep banks, wells, narrow roads, patterns of field systems;
- the importance of intangible heritage – traditions, political systems and language.

Many of these arise out of the geography and landscape of the Islands, their isolated nature, and the political history of their relationship to England and to France.

But from a brief visit, there is also the impression that some aspects of this heritage may be at risk. The pace of development in towns such as St Helier on Jersey is likely to be having a significant impact on buried deposits; the pressure for new housing appears to be generating ribbon development and putting pressure on coastal locations. Recent work to save language and varieties of cider apples suggest that some of intangible heritage may be at risk. Across the whole of the UK agricultural buildings are subject to alterations for domestic use and are losing much of their distinctiveness and character.

It would be useful to know more about the pressure on the heritage, and what impact they are having. In particular:

- Are there buildings at risk?
- What has the impact of development been on archaeological remains?

As noted, many people are passionate about their heritage, and the Islands have a strong and active voluntary sector. It would be useful to know more about the significance of the heritage to the people of the Channel Islands – what is important to them?

Right: Thelma Tilling, a Societe Jersiaise volunteer at the lavoir at Le Douet de Pirou.



3.2 Instrumental benefits

This initial survey has highlighted the range and diversity of the heritage of the Channel Islands, but the value of that heritage is not always acknowledged in strategies for tourism, economic development or even environmental strategies. For example, the State of Jersey environmental report does not consider the potential role of heritage in the quality of the environment, or in delivering environmental benefits.

The process of setting out to research and understand the public value of heritage has several benefits – it can provide data to help make the case for investment, it can inform policy by exploring the effectiveness of investment or the needs of the heritage. And finally, the process of asking questions can in itself raise interest in and the profile of heritage.

There are a number of areas that could be explored:

Heritage and identity

The Cultural Strategy talks about the importance of culture in the identity of the Islands; what is the specific role of heritage? What do local people see as being of most importance to them? What makes one island distinct from another; one settlement or parish distinct from their neighbour? What are the shared values of the island?

Heritage and individual well being

The Islands attract many people who have retired; it is also notable that the Islands have a particularly strong voluntary sector for the heritage. Why do people get involved with heritage projects? What do they do? What benefits do they get from taking part?

Heritage and the quality of life

What contribution does heritage make to the quality of life on the Islands? Does it affect where people choose to live?

Right: Guernsey's Coastline



Prosperity

It would be useful to review the economic impact of investments in heritage – for example the recent project at Mont Orgueil. What direct and indirect employment was created? Whilst there is no question that heritage projects will have a lesser economic impact than the finance industry, it might be useful to explore some of the qualitative differences in the impact of investment. For example, do heritage projects use more local materials, and create more local employment?

The role of heritage in tourism

The tourism industry is clearly changing with the impact of cheap airfares. What impact does heritage have on decisions to visit the Islands? What is the market for specialist tourism? How easy is it to find out about the heritage of the Islands and to visit it?

3.3 Institutional Values

Mark Moore, of the Harvard University Business School has been looking at public institutions and the problem of how to measure the value that they deliver for the public when their benefits cannot necessarily be measured in pure financial terms. He stresses issues such as trust and accountability and transparency.

This is a relatively new area for heritage organisations, which have been slower than other areas of public life to develop a culture of accountability, audit and evaluation. As a result there is almost no data available on how effective heritage protection regimes are; to what extent heritage organisations are trusted; how well heritage funding is being spent. And whilst targets and accountability can be destructive, the lack of information also means that it is impossible to learn lessons about what is most effective, and how best scarce resources can be allocated.

One way of achieving this is to collect better data on the heritage and what is happening to it which provides a basis for assessing how effective protection is. As a hypothetical example, if it was discovered that 90% of a particular kind of heritage had been lost over the past 20 years, this might make a case for better action or protection. Another way of looking at this is to explore public attitudes to heritage protection; it is often assumed that the public do not welcome heritage protection, but this is not always the case and often concerns are more about fairness.

HLF ran a series of Citizens' Juries, where groups of people who were not heritage specialists were shown a series of heritage projects, and asked about their views on whether the projects were worthwhile, whether they felt the heritage was important and how well they felt the organisation had dealt with them.

3.4 Recommendations

There is a huge range of work that has been done on the value of heritage in the UK and abroad, and it would be impossible to replicate all of it. However, the following kinds of research are likely to be most useful in the context of the Channel Islands:

Mori-type survey of attitudes to heritage

An understanding of how different groups in society define and value heritage. Extensive surveys with a representative sample size could explore how the population as a whole see their heritage. It would also be useful to explore any concerns.

What makes Jersey special?

The Cultural Strategy conference shows that people have strong views on the identity and distinctiveness of Jersey, and this is likely to be the case also on Guernsey. Some deliberative research – e.g. Citizen’s Juries – to understand what makes each island special, and what people most care about would help to articulate that.

Gather data about heritage in one place

The Annual UK Heritage Counts work (and the regional reports) is a useful model involving joint working on heritage and gathering data. A similar exercise could be done on Jersey for example, although it would need to be very broad, encompassing heritage and culture.

Consider including heritage in the State of Jersey report

The State of Jersey report focuses on the environment. Including heritage and cultural data might help to foster joint working on environmental/heritage issues.

Develop a heritage at risk survey, looking at buildings, monuments and landscapes

A better understanding of the pressures faced by the historic environment in Jersey – for example archaeology, historic buildings and landscape – might help to create a more informed debate in the planning sector about the impact of development on heritage.

Chapter Four – a World Heritage Site for the Islands?

4.0 Introduction.

One of the key questions posed in the brief is whether or not there is any merit in putting forward a bid for a World Heritage Site for Jersey. As noted in the introduction, a previous attempt has been made to put forward a bid.

This chapter explains the basic process for nominating a World Heritage Site and discusses some of the current policy issues. On the basis of the desk top review of heritage (and further detailed work in Appendix Three), it suggests that the fortifications of Jersey and the Channel Islands represent the heritage resource that has the most potential for nomination of a world heritage site.

4.1 World Heritage designation

World Heritage sites are sites that are of ‘outstanding universal value’. They include both natural and cultural heritage sites, and to date there are 851 sites around the world – 660 cultural sites, 166 natural sites and 25 mixed sites in 141 countries. Sites are inscribed under the World Heritage Convention (1972), a UNESCO heritage convention which requires parties to:

- have general systems for protecting heritage;
- identify, protect, conserve, present and transmit to future generations heritage of outstanding universal value;
- co-operate internationally for protection of heritage;
- report to the World Heritage Committee on how well they are doing.

The governing body for the Convention is the World Heritage Committee, with 21 member states, elected in rotation for up to 6 years. There is a UNESCO World Heritage Centre which provides the secretariat and the Committee is advised by the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the Rome Conservation Centre (ICCROM).



Right: Blenheim Palace,
Oxfordshire

Right: Ironbridge Gorge



In the UK World Heritage is the responsibility of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). UK UNESCO National Commission advises the government on all matters to do with UNESCO and ICOMOS UK advises on World Heritage issues. For Jersey and Guernsey, the UK government acts on behalf of the Crown dependencies in international matters. Both the Council of Europe and UNESCO have conventions for cultural heritage, but it is up to each entity to decide whether or not it will adhere to a particular convention. DCMS has a twice yearly interdepartmental group to coordinate World Heritage Issues.

There are 27 UK World Heritage Sites – 17 in England, 4 in Scotland, 2 in Wales and 1 in Northern Ireland. There are also 3 in Overseas Territories. These are:

- Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd (1986)
- Durham Castle and Cathedral (1986)
- Giant's Causeway and Causeway Coast (1986)
- Ironbridge Gorge (1986)
- St Kilda (1986, 2004, 2005)
- Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites (1986)
- Studley Royal Park including the Ruins of Fountains Abbey (1986)
- Blenheim Palace (1987)
- City of Bath (1987)
- Frontiers of the Roman Empire (1987, 2005)
- Westminster Palace, Westminster Abbey and Saint Margaret's Church (1987)
- Canterbury Cathedral, St Augustine's Abbey, and St Martin's Church (1988)
- Henderson Island (1988)
- Tower of London (1988)
- Gough and Inaccessible Islands (1995, 2004)
- Old and New Towns of Edinburgh (1995)
- Maritime Greenwich (1997)
- Heart of Neolithic Orkney (1999)
- Blaenavon Industrial Landscape (2000)
- Historic Town of St George and Related Fortifications, Bermuda (2000)
- Derwent Valley Mills (2001)
- Dorset and East Devon Coast (2001)
- New Lanark (2001)
- Saltaire (2001)
- Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (2003)
- Liverpool – Maritime Mercantile City (2004)
- Cornwall and West Devon Mining Landscape (2006)



Blaenavon Industrial Landscape

4.2 The UK Tentative List

Before a site can be put forward to UNESCO it is placed on a Tentative List. A site has to be on this list in order to be nominated by the national government and only one is submitted each year. DCMS allocates nomination slots in consultation with devolved governments.

The UK reviewed its tentative list 1997-9; there were originally 25 sites on the list; nine have been inscribed and two are under evaluation. The UK is now effectively limited to one site per year so there should be no more than 15 on a ten-year list. Although some sites on the current list are unlikely to make a full bid, there are other sites which are hoping to get onto the list.

The current UK Tentative List includes:

Chatham Naval Dockyard
Darwin's Home and Workplace: Down House and Environs
The Lake District
Manchester and Salford (Ancoats, Castlefield and Worsley)
Monkwearmouth and Jarrow Monastic Sites
The New Forest
The Great Western Railway: Paddington-Bristol (selected parts)
Shakespeare's Stratford
The Wash and North Norfolk Coast
The Cairngorm Mountains
The Flow Country
The Forth rail bridge
Pont-Cysyllte Aqueduct
Mount Stewart Gardens
Fountain Cavern Anguilla
The Fortress of Gibraltar.

At the time of writing, Pontcysyllte Aqueduct was submitted in January 2008 for consideration by the Committee in 2009; Darwin at Down was to be resubmitted in January 2009 for consideration in 2010 and the Twin Monastery of Wearmouth and Jarrow was to be submitted in January 2010 for consideration in 2011.



Right: *Wast Water, the Lake District*

4.3 UK Policy Review

Some time ago, DCMS announced that it would review the Tentative List and as part of that work has commissioned a study by Price Waterhouse Cooper of the impact and benefits of World Heritage status as a basis for recommending policy for future nominations. The reason for the review has been the feeling that the World Heritage List is unbalanced geographically and thematically; that there is an increasing interest in applying for World Heritage Status but a limited understanding of the responsibilities but at the same time there is low public awareness of World Heritage sites in the UK.

The review coincides with proposals for stronger protection of World Heritage Sites under the current Heritage Protection Review and the publication of a draft planning policy statement on World Heritage Sites.

It was intended that the review would be completed in February 2008 and that new bids for the Tentative list might be submitted in July but at the time of writing the report was with Ministers and had not yet been published.

Some initial findings were reported at a Tourism Society Conference in 2007 and area as follows:

Benefits

Initial findings from the review suggest that the principal benefits are to tourism (particularly WH as a trip motivator, and the benefits for marketing). There are also benefits relating to regeneration, learning, social capital, civic pride and conservation. The process of making a bid increases partnership working and can leverage in additional funding for heritage.

Costs

The costs include the process of making a bid and managing the site. No costs have yet been published but these are likely to include the cost of preparing a Management Plan as well as the time involved in managing the process and in particular in bringing together partnerships.

Jurassic Coast

At the same conference, Sally King of the Jurassic Coast WHS reported on the benefits of WH status - working with tourism businesses, encouraging sustainable tourism out of season and in developing a brand. She reported on how the 'Jurassic Coast' had become a public brand with considerable positive press coverage and strong awareness of visitors of the World Heritage Designation. She reported 19% of visitors stating that WH designation had influenced the decision to visit, and described the 'Welcome Jurassic Host' scheme for training guides. Over 350 businesses had benefited from this. There were opportunities to visit the sites through buses, and by boat however she did say that it was difficult to assess carrying capacity – there had been increasing traffic in the area but it was impossible to establish whether this related to commuting or to WHS status.

Cornish Mining Sites

Cornish Mining Sites have recently been inscribed as a WHS. The nominated site included around 10 different areas spread around Cornwall, including 7 landscape components, mines sites, settlements, small holdings, great houses and transport remains.



Cornish Heritage Website

A presentation on the Cornish Mining sites identified 15 different partners involved in funding the bid including local authorities, heritage agencies, regeneration agencies. They prepared a Management Plan, which covers issues ranging from administration to protection, conservation, presentation, marketing and outreach. Marketing has been a key part of the strategy, with target audiences including cultural and overseas tourists, local residents, walkers and educational markets. The aim was to create a new landscape destination. An economic impact assessment in 2003 prior to nomination identified the impact of mining heritage on the local economy, noting the support for local businesses.

Reporting on his experience of the benefits of world heritage inscription, Chris Blandford noted that even the work done prior to inscription had benefited sites such as Chatham and the Lake District. After inscription, the benefits included heritage lead regeneration, increased tourism, greater funding opportunities, and social and economic benefits in areas such as Blaenavon and Cornwall.

4.4 A CI Nomination?

At the time of writing the DCMS review was unpublished, but it is possible that the review will emphasise both the costs and benefits of nomination. The review may identify gaps in the UK list. It is also possible that it will suggest a 'two-stage' process of nomination, involving the preparation of initial nomination document to be used as the basis for inclusion in the Tentative List. The review could also raise issues about the rate of nomination and whether or not the UK has nominated too many sites. It also might look at the potential for serial nominations in partnership with other countries.

Subject to the review, it is likely that if the CI were to make a bid to include a heritage site on the revised UK Tentative List, the first step would be to demonstrate that the site met the basic criteria for inscription as the basis for an initial nomination document.

The formal criteria are that in order to be inscribed, a site must be 'of outstanding universal value' which means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity. It must display:

- authenticity and integrity;
- effective legal protection; and
- appropriate management.

The criteria for inclusion are that a site must:

- (i) represent a masterpiece of human creative genius or
- (ii) exhibit an important exchange of human values over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, townplanning or landscape design or
- (iii) bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or civilisation which is living or which has disappeared or
- (iv) be an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technological, ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stages in human history or
- (v) be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land use, sea use which is representative of a culture (or cultures) or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change or
- (vi) be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions with or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance (although the committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in conjunction with other criteria)

Although these are the formal criteria, there are some further factors to consider. For example, in terms of World Heritage policy, it is generally acknowledged that there are too many European sites; there is also a preponderance of monumental sites and walled urban centres. There is a general level of interest in trans-national sites. In 1999 the UK identified what were at the time under-represented areas, including industrial sites global influence, cultural landscapes and natural sites, although it is not certain whether the current review will identify similar themes.

In conclusion, the current review is likely to highlight the costs and benefits of inscription and will define a way forward for the Tentative List. In some ways, therefore, it could be a good time for the CI to make a bid for inclusion in a reviewed Tentative List.

4.5 Assessment against World Heritage Criteria

4.5.1 Introduction

Chapter Two of this report provides a very initial overview of the heritage sites of the Channel Islands. The site that perhaps has some potential as a World Heritage site is La Cotte de St Brelade, but although it is of immense importance to the understanding of the UK during the Palaeolithic, it would be difficult to make the case for its outstanding universal value (see Appendix). La Hougue Bie similarly is an impressive Neolithic site, but it is possible to identify other examples of similar sites in the UK and elsewhere. Mont Orgueil again is a very well preserved castle, but it would be difficult to argue that it was unique or outstanding in comparison to castle sites in, for example the south or west of England.

4.5.2 The fortifications

Whilst the Channel Islands have a wide variety of important natural and cultural heritage, including important intangible heritage in the form of language, traditions and political institutions, it is perhaps the fortifications as a group that stand out as examples of heritage that might be of international significance.

Appendix One provides an initial overview of the fortifications of the Channel Islands. It demonstrates that throughout their history, the Islands have been heavily fortified, but their political history, geography and defensive needs have given rise to unique and unusual styles of fortification. Appendix Two identifies some of the individual sites.

However, as Appendix Three shows, there are already a very large number of World Heritage sites that focus on or include fortifications of all periods, from the Iron Age to the twentieth century, and many of them commemorate particular traditions of military architecture, including British, Spanish, Ottoman, Asian and other traditions of fortress design. Therefore it is vital to consider what might cause the fortifications of the Channel Islands to stand out from other groups.

It is difficult to make a case for the fortifications on the basis of their being the only, first, largest or other distinguishing factor. However, there are several areas in which the fortifications are particularly significant:

Duration

The duration of occupation of these sites, from the first century AD to the Second World War marks these sites out. There are excellent examples of Tudor Defences (for example Elizabeth castle); of Napoleonic defences (in particular the series of towers around the coasts of Jersey and Guernsey built in 1778 which prefigure the Martello Tower); Victorian fortifications (particularly Fort Albert on Alderney) and of course the range of Second World War fortifications built during the German Occupation.



Right: Observation Tower, Mont Orgueil, Jersey



Right: Barracks, Guernsey

Diversity

The Islands demonstrate a full range of military fortifications, including fortresses, batteries, barracks buildings, military roads, boulevards, as well as hospitals, store areas, command posts etc. This is particularly true of the sites remaining from the Second World War, where there is a huge range of different types of sites surviving.

Density

The three islands of Jersey, Guernsey and Alderney demonstrate a huge density of sites in a small area – for example there are over a hundred 18th century sites on Jersey alone, of which 40 have significant remains and ten are very important. There are many more sites relating to the 19th century, and of course the 20th century. The work done by the many local societies interested in mapping these has revealed a huge number of surviving sites on each of the islands, and in particular, Alderney.



Right: Range finder, Noirmont, Jersey

Setting

Many of the sites of the Channel Islands are also distinguished by their outstanding landscape setting around the coasts of the Islands, which are often protected areas.



Right: Eighteenth Century Tower looking across Pembroke Bay, Guernsey

Second World War remains

Of all the groups of fortifications on the Islands, it is the remains of the Second World War German Occupation that perhaps best stand out. Many were built on top of or re-using elements of earlier fortifications; the complexity of command and control has also resulted in a wide range of inland features such as command posts and bunkers, storage tunnels and hospital sites. As well as being of technological significance, the sites are an important testament to the suffering of the local population and of the labourers from across Europe brought here to construct them.

Taken together, the fortifications represent the whole history of conflict in Europe, played out between Britain and France over the past 800 years and beyond, as the two nations struggled for control of the globe.



Right: Many earlier fortifications were re-used by German forces during the occupation of the Channel Islands

4.5.3 International comparisons

Although there are important individual sites in the Channel Islands - such as Mont Orgueil, Fort Albert and Castle Cornet - there are many individual military sites in the British Isles and abroad, that are in themselves as or more physically impressive than those of the Channel Islands.

There are larger Victorian fortresses on the Isle of Wight, larger Napoleonic defences (for example Fort George) in Scotland or on the south coast of Britain; and more extensive examples of fortifications such as the Valletta Lines of Malta. However many of these are individual sites and not associated with a system such as that of the Channel Islands.

Also many of these (for example the fortifications of Portsmouth) are now located in urban or indeed suburban areas, or scattered over a much wider area than the fortifications of the Channel Islands.

It has not been possible to assess the comparative extent and completeness of other Second World War remains – the only broadly comparative World Heritage Site is the defences of Amsterdam, a system built in the late 19th century, which depended upon the use of water in conjunction with fortifications. The concentration camp at Auschwitz/Birkenau is also a World Heritage Site, inscribed under criterion vi.

For the Atlantic Wall, several large coastal batteries survive in Norway, and in Holland and Belgium there are local preservation groups who are seeking to conserve sites. Batterie Vara at Kristiansand in Norway is a Museum; various batteries remain in the Netherlands, Germany and on the French coast. At Batterie Todt in France much work has been done, but many of the other French coastal sites are in poor condition, in part due to coastal erosion.

A list of Atlantik Wall sites can be found at <http://www.ww2sites.com/index.php?action=jump&page=00aw>

4.5.4 World Heritage Criteria

In conclusion, the fortifications have the potential to meet three of the World Heritage Criteria:

The Conway towers and the Napoleonic defences in their own right illustrate an important development in architecture or technology, as a precursor to the Martello Tower, and as a form of defence that was later adopted by others, whilst there are examples of each form of military defence from simple ditched enclosures, through round towers, to architecture that reflects developments in military thinking in the from the medieval period to present day. (Criterion ii)

As a group it could be argued that the fortifications are an example of a type of architectural ensemble which illustrate significant stages in human history, in that they attest to nearly 700 years of conflict between Britain and France, which had implications for the history of the rest of the world from the Caribbean to India. (Criterion iv)

It could also be argued that in particular, the Second World War remains are directly and tangibly associated with events that are of outstanding universal significance. (Criterion vi).

4.6 Management Criteria

As noted above, in order to qualify for inscription, sites also need to demonstrate:

- a. authenticity and integrity;
- b. effective legal protection; and
- c. appropriate management.

Authenticity refers to the truth and credibility of the evidence for judging site values; integrity is measure of the wholeness and intactness of the site, and there are three strands to the management criteria - commitment, policies and coordination.

4.6.1 Authenticity

Authenticity refers to the truth and credibility of the evidence for judging site values.

There has been a considerable amount of research into the fortifications of the Channel Islands, and the work of Colin Platt, Andrews Saunders, Warwick Rodwell, Andrew Brown and many others demonstrate. This has resulted in a strong archaeological and historical basis for assessing significance. The two local societies, the Société Jersiaise and the Société Guernesaise were each founded in the 19th century and have a long tradition of research and assessment of the local heritage. For the Second World War material, there are very active voluntary groups on Alderney, Guernsey and Jersey, who have devoted a huge amount of time to researching and surveying the surviving remains.

The fortifications are particularly well documented, through a series of historical maps and accounts compiled in the seventeenth and 18th centuries and also through the Germans' own detailed records of the fortifications compiled in 1944.

4.6.2 Effective legal protection

Chapter Two of this report identifies the legal systems for protecting sites and monuments in the States of Guernsey and Jersey.

The vast majority of the earlier fortifications are protected sites, although not all of the Second World War remains are protected.

Any bid would need to demonstrate that the policies in place for protecting the heritage were effective in protecting the fortifications, including the coastline.

4.6.3 Appropriate management

Major sites such as Castle Cornet, Mont Orgueil, Elizabeth Castle, Fort Grey are in the care of States organisations. They are well cared for and well presented, and open to the public. Fort Regent in Jersey is well preserved, despite its current use as a leisure centre, although the landscaped gardens are in need of more regular maintenance. There are also conservation statements or management plans in place for many of these sites.

There is an independent award-winning Jersey War Tunnels Museum which tells the story of the Occupation and some the dilemmas faced by local people. On Guernsey La Vallete German Underground Museum is open to the public, as is the German Military Underground Hospital. There is also a German Occupation Museum and St Saviours Tuller are open to the Public.

On Jersey, Guernsey and Alderney local groups are committed to managing many of the Second World War sites, and several have been open to the public on a voluntary basis. These include Pleinmont Observation Tower, the Hommet Casemate Bunker and Rouse Tower on Guernsey. Over the years many German personnel have returned to the Islands to share their experiences and knowledge of the Occupation.

There are many challenges in managing the 20th century heritage; some of the concrete is in poor condition, and in places there can be conflicts between the management of natural and cultural heritage. There is a strong risk that these sites could also become the focus of inappropriate political activity.

Both Guernsey and Jersey face huge development pressures which could in the future put the heritage of some coastal areas at risk through inappropriate development.

Right: Elizabeth Castle Barracks, Jersey





Right: Members of the Societe Jersiaise play an active role in identifying and conserving the island's heritage.

4.7 Role of the community

Amendment WHC 08/01 dated January 2008 has included in its list of strategic objectives at Paragraph 26 of The Operational Guidelines: “5. Enhance the role of communities in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.”

One of the strengths of Jersey, Guernsey and Alderney is the community involvement in heritage through the work of the Societes and also of individuals who are committed to researching and caring for heritage. Indeed, the idea for nominating a World Heritage Site in Jersey at least came from the Societe.

A potential bid for inclusion in the UK Tentative List could be led by the voluntary sector, who have a range of expertise relating to the local heritage. Of course it would need the backing of government but there is no reason why it could not be initiated at community level.

4.8 The Islands

Any bid would need to include sites on Jersey, Guernsey, and in particular Alderney. The Islands have a shared history, and the sites can only be understood in the context of fortifying and defending the Islands as a group.

Whilst there may be some barriers to working together, the two Societes on Jersey and Guernsey are both strongly committed to local history and have an excellent tradition of scholarship and understanding of their own local heritage. It is hoped that the Societes might be able to initiate joint working in a way that could be more difficult for others.



Mount Orgueil, Jersey

Recommendation

As noted above, any application for inclusion on the World Heritage List is a slow and long drawn out process. The first step is to get onto the UK Tentative List, which itself has not yet been reviewed. It will also be important to take account of the DCMS review which is likely to be quite circumspect about the value of nomination. Any application will also require considerable work to explore the potential for the fortifications in terms of outstanding universal value. There is no doubt that this will not be easy – there are many other examples of fortifications in the UK and abroad and the fortifications of the Channel Islands do not have one single defining outstanding characteristic.

However, there is no doubt also that the process of working towards a nomination can bring benefits for the heritage – it is a way of raising the profile of heritage, of encouraging places to be proud of their heritage, of encouraging further research. It is also often a useful opportunity to scrutinise heritage protection, management and legislation. So there are benefits to the process, whatever the outcome.

Given these issues, the recommendation here is that it is worth taking further the potential for the fortifications of the Islands to be included in the UK Tentative List, as and when that list is reviewed whilst keeping in mind the fact that the exercise is as much about helping the Islands to recognise, appreciate and capitalise on a very important heritage, whether or not any final application is successful. It is suggested that the bid be led in the first instance by the Societes in conjunction with local historians on Alderney, although it would require the endorsement of government.

Conclusions

Heritage is always an area of risk – it is often overlooked in political decisions, often caricatured as a brake on the economy and usually ignored in environmental debates. Its potential to contribute to educational and social objectives is often overlooked.

But heritage is a source of identity and pride; it contributes a surprising amount to the places and the quality of life, and is an important factor in identity.

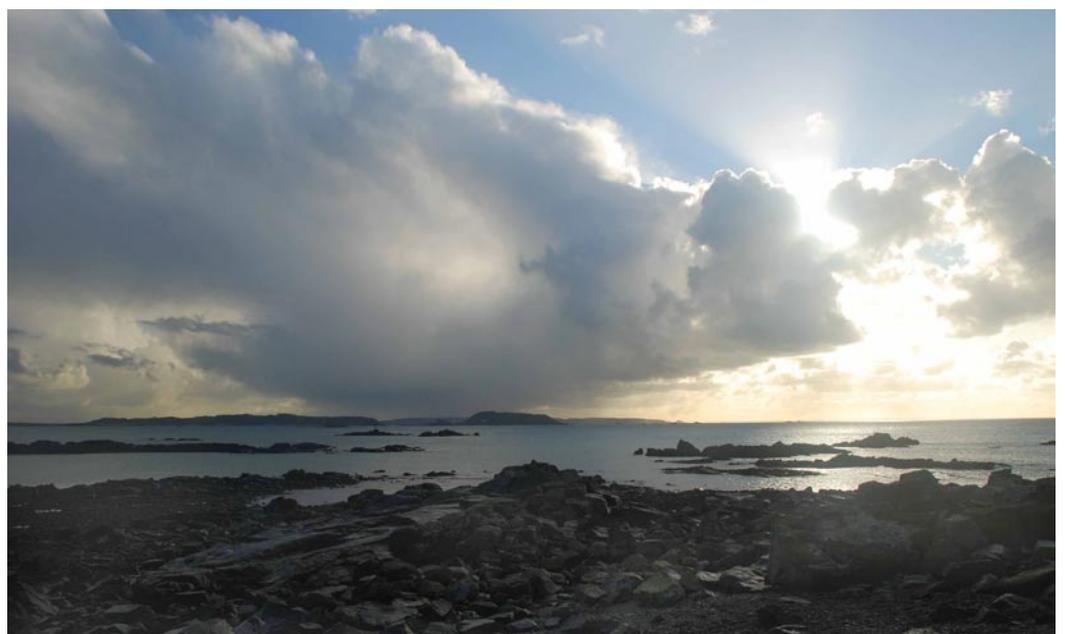
One of the reasons that heritage is overlooked is the lack of data about it – we often don't know enough about where it is, why it matters, what is happening to it and what contribution it can make.

Doing further work towards the possible inclusion of the fortifications on the UK World Heritage Tentative List would be one way of raising the profile of and interest in the heritage of the Channel Islands, and this would have benefits for local people and for tourists.

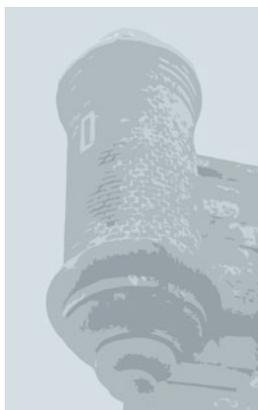
At the same time, doing more to understand the extent, condition and survival of heritage sites, and the pressures they face would also help to integrate heritage into planning better and encourage better decisions.

Finally the process of talking to the people of the Islands about their heritage and why it matters to them, and what contribution it makes to their lives, would be immensely helpful in raising the profile of heritage in wider policy and decision making.

The Islands are special, and this deserves to be celebrated.



Appendix One - the Fortifications of the Channel Islands

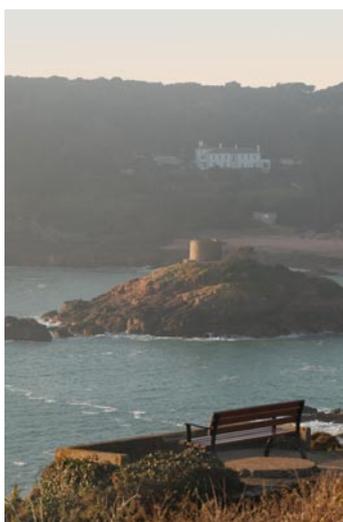


A1.0 Introduction

A possible candidate for World Heritage status are the fortifications of the Channel Islands, either as individual sites, or as a group.

From 1204 the Channel Islands became a forward bastion of the English Crown on the French side of the Channel; Guernsey in particular, with its sheltered roadstead, was a valuable staging post on the sea route to the English lands in Gascony. The Islands suffered French invasions during the Hundred Years War; thereafter they remained in English hands, with the exception of the German Occupation from 1940 to 1945; both those traumas, separated by 600 years, resulted from the same factor, namely the loss of naval control of the English Channel. The result of this frontline existence is a wealth of fortification, especially Tudor artillery forts guarding the main harbours of Guernsey and Jersey, chains of proto-Martello towers of c. 1780, ten early Victorian forts in Alderney - one polygonal, the others bastioned - and finally incorporation in Hitler's Atlantic Wall, when 613,000 cu. metres of reinforced concrete were invested in tunnels, towers and batteries throughout the Islands

This section of the report provides a brief initial overview of those fortifications. Please note that this is a superficial introduction and is far from comprehensive. There are a number of general accounts of fortifications (eg Saunders) as well as more detailed accounts for each period including the work of Heather Sebire (archaeology and early history), Colin Platt on the period 1540-1630, of Bernard Lane and Andrew Brown, Trevor Davenport on the German Defences of Alderney and a report by Colin Partridge as part of the Fortress Guernsey initiative 1989-2002. There are also more detailed accounts of individual sites, including Mont Orgueil (Warwick Rodwell), Individual Conservation Plans or Statements have also been prepared by Jersey Heritage for sites including Mont Orgueil, Fort Leicester, Archirondel Tower, L'Etacquerel Fort, MP2 Tower and La Tour Carree.



Portelet Bay, Jersey

A1.1 Fortifications by period

Early evidence for fortifications

The earliest evidence for defences date to the first millennium BC and may have been a response to outside threat or an indication of pressure on land within the Islands themselves. The largest earthwork is at Jerbourg at Guernsey and appear to date to the Bronze Age, c. 1200/1000 BC. There is also evidence of pottery from the 5th and 6th century BC at Vale Castle suggesting that it was a defended hill fort.

In Jersey, Le Catel de Rozel is a large scale promontory fort, and there are other defended sites at Fremont Earth work, Le Câtel de Lecq, and Plémont Promontory Fort. There is the site of a defensive Ditch at La Chemin de la Belle Hougue and the possible site of an earthwork at Le Chemin du Portelet (Sebire 2005:99-100).



*Pepper pot sentry box,
Elizabeth Castle Jersey*

Medieval fortifications

King John raised a *levee en masse* but recruits were not required to serve the Crown outside their own island, unless the sovereign was captured by an enemy. Small garrisons of English troops were maintained in the Islands from then until 1930, with reinforcements sent to help at various times of danger.

After 1204 King John recognised the strategic importance of the Islands and reviewed the fortifications. The two great castles of the Islands (often referred to as the king's castles) were built at this time – Castle Cornet in Guernsey and Mont Orgueil in Jersey. It is possible that at least one fortified castle was standing in Guernsey before 1204 the Chateau de Marais just north of St Peter Port, where excavations suggest that it was built around the beginning of the 13th century.

The French regularly attacked Jersey during the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. In 1338 the Islands were invaded twice – the French held Castle Cornet for seven years and captured and looted Alderney. In 1461 the French took Mont Orgueil on Jersey and held the island for 7 years. Grosnez fortification was probably built around 1330 probably only ever served as a refuge. Taken by the French in 1373 and 1381 and probably demolished during or after the French Occupation of 1461-68. Vale Castle in Guernsey is on a hill overlooking St Sampson's harbour; it was probably built around 1370-1400 and remained in use during later wars.

Tudor defences

With English involvement in Europe throughout the sixteenth century, invasion of the Islands continued to be a threat. In 1564 Richard Popinjay, who had built castles in Portsmouth, drew up fresh plans for Mont Orgueil and Castle Cornet, and a Commission of Enquiry in 1567 resulted in the modification and extension of the defences in line with the most up to date science of fortification. Major works were undertaken at Mont Orgueil in the 15th century and again in the late 16th century and there are also important Tudor defences of 1540 at St Aubin's Fort.

After a period of peace there was a renewed threat of invasion and in 1593 Elizabeth sent her engineer Paul Ivy to complete a long delayed programme of work at Mount Orgueil and to advise on work to other castles. He recognised the vulnerability of Mont Orgueil to cannon fire and recommended the main effort be put to Elizabeth Castle where he set out to create a modern Fortress. Elizabeth Castle stands on a tidal islet where there was an earlier religious site associated with St Helier. Castle building began some time after 1550.

Essex Hill on Alderney was fortified in Tudor times and there is a small star fort visible at La Vermondaye on Sark. There are also two other forts at Chateau des Quenevets and Le Grand Fort which may date to the French occupation of 1549-1553.

Civil war fortifications

During the Civil War Jersey tried to preserve its neutrality, but the gentry took the part of the King and Jersey became a Royalist base. The Royalists held Mont Orgueil, but Parliament elected its own governor. In 1643 Sir George de Carteret recovered the island for the King and became Bailiff and Lt Governor. After the execution of Charles I, Jersey was the first place to declare his son King in 1649. In 1651 an expedition set sail to recapture Jersey; de Carteret held out at Elizabeth Castle but a bomb landed on the old abbey church which was being used as a munitions store, and the castle eventually surrendered. De Carteret fled to France but after the Restoration his position of authority was restored.



Guernsey Powder House

Guernsey sided with Parliament, in part because of the higher proportion of Calvinists and other Reformed churches, as well as Charles I's refusal to take up the case of some Guernsey seamen who had been captured by the Barbary corsairs. The allegiance was not total, however; there were a few Royalist uprisings in the Southwest of the island, while Castle Cornet occupied by the Governor, Sir Peter Osborne, remained stubbornly Royalist. The castle was under siege for eight years but was supplied by sea until 1651 when it became the last Royalist stronghold to capitulate. In 1672 a massive explosion in a powder magazine killed seven people and completely altered the castle. Alderney also sided with Parliament.

In 1666 Louis XIV was massing troops intending to take Jersey; although the invasion was aborted Elizabeth Castle was completed.

Napoleonic defences

Lane and Brown (2004) have identified over a hundred fortifications sites from this period, of which at least four sites have substantial evidence of historic significance.

In 1680 Charles II sent Colonel Legge to survey island defences; his detailed map was accompanied by measured surveys of fortifications, lists of ordnance and an assessment of the most vulnerable points. He was not impressed by the state of preparedness of the Islands, and identified weak points. William of Orange's landing at Brixham in 1688 marked the beginning of the great era of British military and especially naval power, with France as the 'perpetual enemy'. The consequence for the Channel Islands was a loss of their neutral status and a renewed threat of invasion. On Jersey parish Constables were instructed to erect or renew and maintain guard houses around the coastline; additions were made to Elizabeth Castle and a Castle Gunner appointed to bring new artillery expertise to the island.

By the mid 18th century, there was a rising professionalism in artillery and engineering influenced by the French engineer Vauban. Crown defences such as Elizabeth Castle were strengthened, a military road was built and batteries updated. More than 40 invasion plans were said to be hatched in the middle decades of the century, occasioned by conflict between Britain and France and the use of the Islands' harbours by privateers. In 1745 Alderney was granted its own seal and the Militia were put on a proper footing; batteries were built in addition to the new harbour that had been constructed at Braye in 1736. Other mid 18th century works include the creation of 'boulevards' on which to mount cannon, and the construction of a military road. Batteries were updated in coastal locations, and defensive lines strengthened.

In 1772 Sir Henry Seymour Conway was appointed Governor of Jersey; he was unusually well versed in the theory of fortifications, and he immediately set about updating the fortifications, constructing Fort Henry.

France again tried to conquer Jersey first in 1779 and again in 1781. France joined America in its War of Independence against England in 1778 and as a result, Jersey's privateering activities were renewed with vigour. France and Spain formed an alliance and in 1779 launched a second Armada designed to seize control of the English Channel, land troops on the south coast and seize the vital dockyard at Portsmouth.

Conway formed a new plan to fortify Jersey, by erecting a number of round towers with small cannon on the top which would 'annoy the enemy excessively in their boats and could not be battered by their ships'. Work started in 1778 under Captain Bisset on 22 in Jersey and another 15 in Guernsey. Technically these were 'pre-Martello' towers, around 15 years ahead of their English counterparts. They had a lower floor with an entrance at first floor, two floors with loophole slits for musketry defence. Originally they had open roofs which were later adapted to mount 12 pounder guns. The towers of Jersey differ slightly from those of Guernsey.

A second invasion was mounted in 1781, when Baron de Rullecourt landed at La Rocque and marched on St Helier, but was overcome by the local Militia under Major Peirson. Elizabeth Castle was not able to provide adequate defences and a new fortification was built above St Helier on Mont de la Ville called Fort Regent. The invasion also gave new impetus to the programme of building towers. As well as towers there were batteries, guard houses and magazines.

The map produced by the Duke of Richmond in 1787 provides another overview of fortifications, just prior to the construction of the military road network by General Don, who was appointed governor of Jersey in 1806. He was a man of immense vigour who introduced a signalling system and put the army on a war footing. Perhaps his greatest achievement was the introduction of a network of main roads to facilitate troop movements across the Islands

During this period, new barrack blocks were built at Castle Cornet, and alterations made at Mont Orgueil although these were no longer the most strategic fortifications. Surviving from this period on Jersey are 17 Conway Towers, 7 Martello Towers, at least 7 small forts (such as Fort Henry and L'Etacquerel Fort), various guard houses and magazines, batteries and boulevards, signal stations, barracks and other fieldwork and military structures including military roads and harbours. Fort Regent dating from 1806 also survives.

Castle Cornet, Guernsey



In 1793 the revolutionary leaders of France declared war on Britain and Jersey became a haven for refugees from the terror and a base for military operations. Jersey privateers also harassed French shipping. The struggle with France continued until Napoleon's death in 1815. The French prepared an invasion force at St Malo to seize the Islands but the attack never took place. Work continued on the construction of coastal towers. Napoleon was particularly incensed by the Channel Islands and in particular the activities of the privateers, declaring that

‘France can tolerate no longer this nest of brigands and assassins. Europe must be purged of this vermin. Jersey is England’s shame’ (Hunt 43)

He assembled an invasion force on the French coast in 1803-5 but it never set sail, and the fleet was defeated off Cape Trafalgar. Nevertheless new defences were being constructed in England, using the model of the towers of Jersey and Guernsey – a line of towers controlling a long stretch of vulnerable coastline without the need for continuous entrenchments. The standard Martello tower of 1804-5 was developed from early examples built in Cape Town and Ireland, but its adoption was influenced by Conway’s conception of the 1770s.



One of the 18th Century Towers on Jersey.

Victorian fortifications

After the Napoleonic wars, many of the island fortifications fell into disrepair. An inquiry in 1831 revealed that with the advent of steam vessels able to keep their position close to the shore, new measures were necessary, and a series of towers on the English Martello pattern were built between 1831 and 1837, almost the last to be erected in the British Isles. Works were also resumed on the forts thought to be vulnerable to steam vessels, including Fort Leicester and La Crete. Improvements were also made to Jersey’s harbours.

However in 1840 the French began to build large naval harbours at Cherbourg and St Malo which caused alarm at the Admiralty who, worried about the dockyards of Portsmouth and Plymouth that were in easy reach of new steam driven warships, retaliated with new naval bases along the south coast and planned “Harbours of Refuge” in Alderney, Jersey and Guernsey. Alderney’s was, after several changes of plan, to be big enough to shelter the entire Channel fleet. Between 1850 and 59, Alderney was refortified with a chain of 18 separate forts and batteries and a bigger harbour at Braye. The massive new breakwater was begun but not completed, as it was not big enough for iron warships. Fort Albert was the last fort to be built in 1856-59 and is one of the most important forts on the island as an early prototype for the forts of the English south coast (such as Fort Brockhurst). A new harbour was also built at St Catherine’s on Jersey but it became apparent that it would be useless and the project was abandoned.



St Catherine’s Breakwater, Jersey

However, just as the new fortifications were being completed advances in artillery, warships, armour and fortification (such as the development of rifled ordnance in the 1850s and advances in the power, range and accuracy of large guns) meant that the fine new forts were almost obsolete. Jersey was no longer regarded as a fortress island although campaigns of fortress building continued on Alderney.

On Jersey the unfinished St Catherine’s harbour dating from the 1840s was the last major initiative in Island defence works during the 19th century.

The German Defences



The German Occupation is remembered at the Jersey War Tunnels.

After the First World War the British Government concluded that the Islands were of little strategic value and to defend them would serve no military purpose. With the Germans rapidly advancing westwards in 1940 the remaining British troops were withdrawn and the Islands demilitarised. However the failure of the British Government to inform the Germans of this led to the bombing of St Helier and St Peter Port on 28 June 1940. After officially being informed that the Islands were demilitarised, the Germans occupied Guernsey on 30 June, Jersey on 1 July, Alderney on 2 July and Sark on 4 July. The inhabitants of Alderney were evacuated on 23 June⁵. About 20% of the population of Jersey, 50% of that of Guernsey and virtually the whole 1,450 population of Alderney left the Islands. Most of the Sarkees decided to remain.

Hitler had a personal obsession with the possession of British soil. The occupation of the Islands was of great propaganda value. He intended to invade Britain as part of Operation Sea Lion, and had it gone ahead these would have been invaluable staging posts. Hitler saw the capture of the Islands as a strategic and emotional triumph and was determined that they would never be returned to Britain. He firmly believed that the British would try to recapture the Islands. The Luftwaffe failed to gain superiority during the Battle of Britain in 1940 so Operation Sea Lion was cancelled, and Hitler sought to cut off supplies to Britain. After Pearl Harbour and the entry of USA into the war in 1941 Hitler issued orders for building the so called Atlantic Wall to defend the whole of the coastline of Europe for 1700 miles from Norway to the Spanish border. Two months earlier he had issued a directive to turn the Channel Islands into an impregnable fortress – the Islands subsequently became part of the Atlantic Wall.



One of the few surviving trench networks at L'Eree, Guernsey.

It was originally intended that the Islands should become a naval fortress with heavy coastal artillery batteries acting as anchored battleships which would allow the French coast to be less heavily defended. This was not possible and the army was appointed to fortify the Islands. By May 1943 there were 13000 army personnel, as well as 1850 Luftwaffe and 1420 Kriegsmarine. Two building programmes were planned – one to defend the island and the other to secure it permanently but only the first was undertaken. Nearly twenty percent of all of the material that went into the Atlantic Wall was committed to the Channel Islands.

The defences consisted of coastal defences to prevent an enemy landing, coastal artillery to engage targets at sea and anti aircraft defences. These were supported by headquarters bunkers, a fortress telephone network and tunnels to house reserve supplies and troops. The bunkers were built to standard design, each allocated a standard construction number (Regelbaunummer), and graded according to the thickness of the concrete. They included

- Fortress standard bunkers with walls up to 2m thick
- Reinforced field order installations with walls 1.2m thick
- Field works, including basic defences such as trenches and fox holes
- Other defences such as minefields and anti tank obstacles.

The 100 series were graded as B or A with concrete 1m and 3.5m thick, but these were superseded by the 400 and 500 series, often to incorporate captured French and Czech weapons.

The majority of the permanent fortress standard construction was undertaken between 1942 and 1943 by Operation Todt (OT), which provided men for construction work

⁵ This section of the report is based on Davenport 2003.



Artillery positions at Noirmont, Jersey

wherever it was needed in German Occupied Europe. As demand grew, forced workers including Prisoners of War, political prisoners and men of all ages rounded up behind German lines – became its primary resource. More than 5000 OT labourers from all over Europe and North Africa were bought to Jersey. The Underground Hospital for example was built by Russians, and Poles, Frenchmen and Spaniards. The treatment of many of these men was harsh, but none more so than the Russians.

The islanders also faced difficulties. Just before the invasion they had to decide whether to leave or stay, and 40,000 did stay. By December 1940 there were 1750 Germans on Jersey but within a year the number increased to 11500. One thousand two hundred remaining islanders were deported to camps in Europe; those who remained were often subject to cruelties. The administration had to not only support many residents, but to pay the expenses of an army of occupation of up to 16000 people.

By 1943 the coastal fortifications were completed, but in October the workforce were recalled to the mainland to strengthen the Atlantic Wall. Construction continued at a reduced rate until June 1944 when the Islands were cut off. The period of greatest hardship was the final years of the War, when the Islands were besieged and could get no supplies from France. The occupation officially ended a day after the German surrender, on 8th May 1945.

After Liberation, the Islands were cleared of ammunition by the army but in 1947 the Ministry of Supply contracted locals to recover as much scrap metal. Guns were removed, and steel bunker fittings cut up for scrap. Many of the fortifications were buried and the areas landscaped.

Alderney

As Davenport notes, although smaller than either Guernsey or Jersey, Alderney was fortified to a greater degree for its size. It had 5 coastal artillery batteries, 22 anti aircraft batteries, 13 strong points, 12 resistance nests 3 defensive lines and 30,000 land mines. The island was turned into a vast corporate fortress with around 5-6000 slave labourers. There was no deliberate extermination of the prisoners here but, inadequate food, excessive labour, frequent beatings, poor living conditions, with no medical help and insufficient clothing, meant that considerable numbers died from malnutrition, dysentery, septicaemia and pneumonia. There were four labour camps one of which, the infamous Lager Sylt, was the only German concentration camp on British soil.



Right: One of the many well preserved fortifications on Alderney.

A1.2 Individual Sites

If the CI were to put forward fortifications as a candidate for World Heritage Inscription, it is likely that this would involve a series of sites and landscape areas, very much on the model of the sites put forward as part of the Cornish Mining Sites inscription or the Australian convict sites that have recently been nominated.

At this stage it is not possible to identify the likely groups or areas, but the following list gives an initial idea of the range of sites that survive on the Islands, from which several groups might be selected.

A 1.2.1 Individual sites on Guernsey



Vale Castle, Guernsey

Fortress Guernesey, a joint initiative between the Tourist Board and the Heritage Committee have prepared a map and list of heritage sites. These include the following fortifications:

Castle Cornet

Founded as a royal stronghold it was held by the French 1338-45. It was strengthened in the 16th century, and was under siege as a Royalist Stronghold for eight years during the Civil War. An explosion in a powder keg in 1672 killed seven people. A new barrack block was built in the 18th century. It was occupied by the Germans in 1940.

Chateau des Marais

One of the island's earliest fortified sites, it provided a refuge against marauding ships from the 11th century. The inner and outer lines of stone walls and west ditch were later additions while the powder magazine and German bunker reflect its continuing defensive value.

Mont Crevett

Overlooking St Sampson's Harbour, this includes an 18th century tower improved during the Victorian period.

Vale Castle

Built 1370-1400 with alterations in the 17th century, it became an artillery fort in 1776 and 2 divisions of Russian troops were stationed there in 1799. The barracks were abandoned in the 19th century and in 1940-5 German forces demolished barracks and built concrete fortifications.



Fort Doyle, Guernsey

Fort Doyle

Mid 19th century, designed for three heavy guns to command the other approaches to St Peter Port.

Fort Le Marchant

The most northerly promontory on the island, the fort dates to the mid 19th century and includes semi circular mountings for heavy guns.

L'Ancrese Towers

The late 18th century towers built at intervals around L'Ancrese and Pembroke bays provided interlocking fire against mass landing of troops on the open beaches, and support for intervening coastal batteries. Originally designed to mount small mortars on the roof, they each mounted a 12 pounder carronade by the end of the Napoleonic wars.

Star Fort

Located on Pembroke Bay, an earthwork defence in the shape of a six pointed star dating from 1812.

Chouet Tower/Battery

Simple open position with low earth parapets.

Rousse Tower

Originally isolated this was strengthened during the Napoleonic wars by the addition of a semi circular rampart and ditch.

Grandes Rocques Battery/magazine

Built in 1816 and typical of the many defensive sites on Guernsey's west coast.

Le Guet Watch House

Stone watch house on a high rocky outcrop, dating to the late 18th century. The forward position is now replaced by a German concrete observation post.

Burton Battery

Platform for four French 20 pounder iron guns behind a low parapet, typical of the fortifications of the Napoleonic wars. A detached powder magazine also survives.

Fort Hommet

The most prominent work along the north flank of Vazon Bay, consisting of a Martello Tower of 1804, extended in the 1850s with German additions.

Vazone Tower

Late 18th century tower, again re-occupied by the Germans.

Fort Richmond

Extensive group of defensible barracks built in the mid-Victorian period with loop-holed parapet and surrounding ditch.

Perelle Battery

Open coast battery of the 18th century.



One of the L'Ancrese Towers, Guernsey

Fort Grey

Originally detached from the shore and the site of an early fort, the current building is an 18th century concentric stone battery with positions for guns. It now houses the Shipwreck Museum.

Fort Pezeries

Small star-shaped fort at the extremity of Rocquaine bay contains a powder magazine and platforms for guns.

Fort George

Begun in 1780 and superseding Castle Cornet as the island's major defensive position, it grew from an original square detached fort into an extensive area of lines and batteries mounting 135 guns in 1801. Now occupied by housing although the outer walls can be explored.

Clarence Battery

The best preserved outwork of Fort George at the lower level on the seaward face. During the Occupation it became a light flak battery. The German defences on Guernsey include

- Naval signal Headquarters
- Coast Defence Casemate
- Several Direction Finding Towers
- Battery Dollmann
- Ammunition Tunnels
- Underground hospital
- Flak Battery Dolmen
- The trench system at L'Eree in front of one of the Direction finding towers
- Observation posts at Jerbourg

A 1.2.2 Individual sites on Jersey



Fort Regent, Jersey

Fort Regent

Built overlooking St Helier, it was continuously garrisoned until 1927 and later used by the Germans as an ordnance depot. Elaborate pump installed by Henry Maudslay.

Elizabeth Castle

Built after 1594 to replace Mont Orgueil on a former religious site, it was besieged during the Civil War extended in the 18th and 19th century and occupied by the Germans.

Mount Orgueil

13th century foundation with many phases of rebuilding in the 14th, 15th and 16th century but replaced by Fort Regent in the early 19th century. Used in the 19th century and refortified by the German Forces.

Grosnez Castle

Built in 1330 probably as a refuge, taken by the French in 1373 and 1381 but demolished during French occupation 1461. Reused as a naval signal station in 1806.

18th/19th century fortifications

Brown and Lane (2004) have provided a list of over 100 sites relating to the 18th and early 19th century fortification of Jersey, of which some 40 have substantial remains. 17 of the Conway towers survive, as well as other fortifications from the Conway period.



Grosnez Castle, Jersey

The sites they identify include

- St Aubin New Harbour, 1670-1800
- La Rocque, parish guard house of 1691
- Fort Leicester, 1745
- Le Coloron Battery St Brelade 1756 (part of an unusual fortified church yard)
- Fort William, 1760
- Fort Henry 1760
- Middle Battery magazine St Ouen's Bay 1765
- The Barracks at Elizabeth Castle
- Works to enlarge St Aubin's Fort

They list seven important sites for the French revolutionary wars, and seven for the post Napoleonic era (1815-52). They identify six groups of fortifications or areas of coastline for the 18th century – Mont de la Ville St Helier dominated by Fort Regent and its outlying fortifications, St Aubin's Bay lines, St Ouen's Bay, Greve De Lecq, Bouley Bay and Grouville Bay.

Barracks

As well as fortifications, military sites include three sets of military barracks at Greve de Lecq, La Collette and Rozel. Those at La Greve de Lecq are owned by the National Trust. They are built in 1810 and were designed to accommodate garrison troops with space for soldier, non-commissioned officers and Officers' Quarters. There are also eight listed guard-houses, and ruins of others.

Arsenals

As part of General Don's programme of fortification new military roads were constructed and drill sheds were built in each parish near the churches. In 1783 the States of Jersey organised a lottery to raise the money needed to build drill sheds and the newly proposed arsenals. Five were built to the same plan, one in St Martin's which is a granite building of three two story blocks. Field pieces were kept here before being taken into action, as well as uniforms and weapons and ammunition. Six were built of which five survive, including La Rue Des Landes, St Peter, Grouville Arsenal, one at St Lawrence, St Martin and St Helier. They also acted as a rallying points for the Militia.

German fortifications

The Register lists a number of German fortifications, including the following Sites of Special Interest:

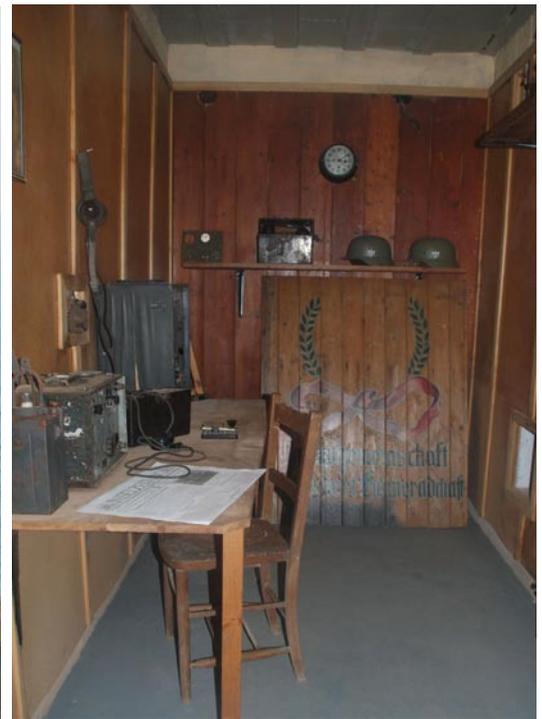
- La Rue du Moulin au bas – electricity transformer station
- Battalion HQ bunker, La Hougue Bie
- Fort William and other remains in Grouville Bay including an anti-tank wall, search light shelter, round tower and standard type casemate
- La Platte Rocque Tower, including buried casemate and searchlight shelter
- La Rue Du Moulin au Vent – mill converted into artillery Observation post
- Nicolle Tower
- Gorey Pier/Harbour Battery
- Fliquet Tower with German Addition
- St Catherine's Breakwater and associated features
- German reservoir, St Catherine's Valley
- Archirondel Tower with added German MG positions
- Tunnel for storing rations, La Route de l'Aleval
- Tunnel – Casualty Receiving Station (Underground Hospital)
- Casemate, Victoria Avenue
- Fort Leicester with three MG posts and one searchlight shelter

- Ammunition tunnel, Les Grands Vaux
- Anti tank wall, St Ouen's Bay
- Search light bunker, Tobruk stands, casemates and anti tank wall, St Ouen's Bay-La Carriere Point
- La Corbiere (bunkers, casemates, observation towers, personnel shelters etc)
- La Rue Baal – personnel shelters
- St Brelade's Bay – casemates and gun emplacements
- Noirmont Point – personnel shelters, emplacements, searchlight platforms, observation tower, command bunker, generator bunkers etc
- Old Railway Tunnel and blast wall, Railway Walk
- South Hill gun emplacements
- La Folie harbour electricity generating station and railway
- Telephone repeater station bunker, Trinity Road
- Bridge
- Command Bunkers and communications bunker Le Coin Varin
- Ammunition Tunnel La Route de l'Aleval
- Anti tank Wall, St Aubin's bay

There are many other sites of the period that are listed as Buildings of Local Interest.

Left: Dolmen Tower, Guernsey

Right: At Noirmont, on Jersey, volunteers have opened the battery to the public.



A 1.3 Brief for Further work

The following additional work would need to be done in order to progress a bid for inclusion in the UK Tentative List (please note that this might change in the light of the DCMS Study)

Aim: to survey military remains and fortifications of the Channel Islands in order to understand their extent, survival and significance; to place the fortifications as a group in their wider international context and to identify groups of sites or features that might become the basis for a bid for World Heritage Status.

Site survey

To conduct an overall map based survey to identify the range and extent of fortifications of all periods, making better use of the historical map data. The survey should also identify the full range of remains – in particular elements such as barracks, military roads, mile posts as well as batteries and fortifications. The aim would be to understand the whole landscape of fortification. The work is likely to involve creating a GIS map base, linked to data about individual sites.

Historical research

To do further historical research in order to place the fortifications in their historical context as a basis for understanding their wider significance, looking particularly at their role in the conflicts between Britain and France, as played out in the Channel, and in the New World.

Comparative research

To identify areas of the world that might have comparable groups of fortifications; in this case, one is seeking some individual comparisons, but more importantly looking for groups of remains that share the same characteristics of density, diversity and duration. It would also be important to explore links to other groups of fortifications, such as the 18th century sites of the Caribbean and USA; and the links to other Second World War sites in Europe. As part of the comparative work, it would be particularly important to look at barracks and other associated structures.

Identification of scope and area

To make a decision on the potential scope and area of any nomination – one of the key issues will be whether to nominate defined areas – such as specific groups of coastal fortresses in Guernsey or Jersey, or the fortifications as a whole. Certainly on the island of Alderney it would be almost impossible to identify a specific area.

Scope for partnership

As part of this exercise it would be useful to identify any options for joint/serial nominations with area that have similar fortifications; this would involve identifying and making contact with groups and countries that are doing similar work.

A 1.4 Preparation of bid document

The research will need to be drawn together into a document that sets out the likely outstanding universal value of the sites, but also demonstrates that they have the potential to meet other criteria relating to authenticity, protection and management.

APPENDIX TWO - The UK Tentative List

England



Chatham Naval Dockyard

Criteria C (ii), (iii), and (iv)

Chatham Dockyard is the supreme example of a Royal dockyard largely unaltered from the age of sail, at a period when the Royal Navy was instrumental in Britain's global influence and when, before the full impact of the Industrial Revolution, dockyards were the largest industrial centres in Europe.

Darwin's Home and Workplace: Down House and Environs

Criteria C (iii) and (vi)

Down House was Charles Darwin's home from 1842 until his death in 1882. Here he studied, thought and wrote his great influential works including *The Origin of Species*. The grounds and surrounding landscape provided much of the inspiration for his revolutionary insights of the natural world, ecology and bio-diversity, which continue to have significant influence today.

The Lake District

Criteria C (ii), (iii), (v) and (vi), Criteria N (i), (iii) and (iv)

The Lake District is outstandingly beautiful. It possesses a unique combination of spectacular mountains and rugged fells, pastoral and wooded valleys, and numerous lakes, tarns and rivers. The character of the area is inseparable from its cultural history, and the personalities, life styles and traditions of the Lake District people. Each valley has its own individuality, and the resulting diversity of the landscape contributes enormously to the quality of the area as a whole.

Manchester and Salford (Ancoats, Castlefield and Worsley)

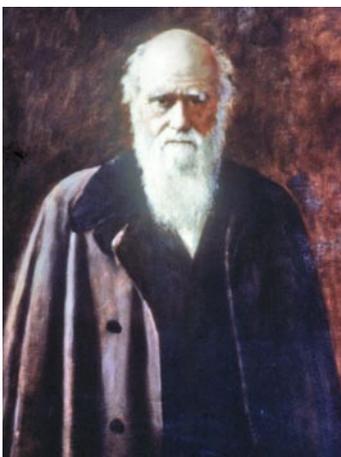
Criteria C (ii), (iii) and (iv)

Manchester is the archetypal city of the Industrial Revolution. It witnessed the creation of Britain's first industrial 'true' canal. Britain's first mainline, inter-city passenger railway and the country's first industrial suburb based on steam power; it is on these three themes that the proposed World Heritage Site designation concentrates. Thus the city centre itself, which is arguably the finest expression of a Victorian commercial district in England, complements the present nomination but is not included within the boundary of the proposed site.

Monkwearmouth and Jarrow Monastic Sites

Criteria C (iii), (iv) and (vi)

The twin Saxon monasteries at Wearmouth and Jarrow - 'one monastery in two places' - were the creation of one man, Benedict Biscop, who had travelled abroad (to Rome and elsewhere) in the 650s and had returned determined to build a monastery 'in the Roman manner'. The historian Bede was a member of the community from the age of seven, having been entrusted to Benedict Biscop c. 680.



An application to inscribe Charles Darwin's House at Downe was rejected.

The New Forest

Criteria C (ii), (iii) and (v), Criteria N (iii) and (iv)

The New Forest is an area of outstanding wildlife and landscape interest fashioned by human intervention and use over thousands of years. It extends to about 580 square kilometres, based on the New Forest Heritage Area boundary. The human processes that have shaped the landscape over time are well demonstrated by the rich archaeological heritage, particularly from the Bronze Age and Roman period, and a documented history going back to the 11th century. An extensive dispersed pastoral system is still practised today over a large part of the area. The landscapes and habitats themselves also provide an important testimony to this interaction.

The Great Western Railway: Paddington-Bristol (selected parts)

Criteria C (i), (ii), (iv) and (vi)

The Great Western Railway between London and Bristol was authorised by Parliament in 1835, and was opened in stages from both ends from 1838 onwards. The detail of its construction was entirely the conception of Isambard Kingdom Brunel and was to be, in his own words, 'the finest work in the kingdom'. It was opened throughout 1841 with the completion of the Box Tunnel, the greatest engineering feat of early railway construction. Built to Brunel's broad gauge of seven foot, its engineering works achieved a grandeur at that time unmatched elsewhere in the country and, as they were suited to high speed running, most of these structures have survived and are in daily use.

Shakespeare's Stratford

Criteria C (iii) and (vi)

The names of Stratford and Shakespeare are synonymous throughout the world. The writer who has exerted the greatest global influence was intimately connected with the town throughout his life. Stratford was where he was born, brought up, went to school, met his wife and baptised his children; it was also the place where he invested most of his theatrical earnings, maintained his family, retired and died. Many influences of Stratford and its outlying countryside have been traced in Shakespeare's writings, and a significant number of the surviving Shakespeare documents relate to his business and family affairs in Stratford.

The Wash and North Norfolk Coast

Criteria N (ii) and (iv)

The Wash and North Norfolk Coast is an area of international nature conservation importance comprising an area of some 70,000 hectares. It is designated a Ramsar site under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as a Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention). It is also a Special Protection Area under the Council Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC), and is a candidate for Special Area of Conservation under the Council Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora (92/43/EEC). Parts of the North Norfolk coast are also a Biosphere Reserve designated under the UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB).

Scotland

The Cairngorm Mountains

Criteria N (i) and (iii)

The Cairngorm Mountains comprise the largest continuous area of high ground above 1,000m in Britain and include most of the highest summits in Scotland. These mountains, with their distinctive plateau surfaces and glacially sculptured features, are surrounded by open moorland and glens. The climate reflects a unique combination of oceanic and continental influences, characterised by wet and windy conditions rather than extreme cold. The diversity of landforms present in the Cairngorms provides exceptional insights into long-term processes of mountain landscape evolution and environmental change in a maritime, mid-latitude setting in the northern hemisphere. This geomorphological development spans the latter part of the Tertiary period with its warm humid climate, through the ice ages of the last 2.5 million years, to the present day.

The Flow Country

Criteria N (ii) and (iv)

These peatlands are possibly the largest single area of blanket bog in the world. Together with associated areas of moorland and open water they are of international importance for conservation both as a habitat in their own right and because they support a diverse range of rare and unusual breeding birds.

The Forth Rail Bridge

Criteria C (i), (ii) and (iv)

The Forth Rail Bridge, which was opened in 1890, is an internationally recognised symbol of the achievements of late 19th century engineering. Its robust and original design took account of the lessons on the effect of wind on exposed bridges learned from the Tay Bridge disaster of 1879. It was the first major steel bridge in Europe. It is certainly the best known Rail Bridge in the world, and one of the most renowned civil engineering feats of all time.



Right: The Forth Rail Bridge

Wales

Pont-Cysyllte Aqueduct

Criteria C (i), (ii) and (iv)

Pont-Cysyllte Aqueduct is one of the world's most renowned and spectacular achievements of waterways engineering. Built as part of the improvement of transport to provide the arteries of industrialisation, the structure was a pioneer of cast iron construction and was the highest canal aqueduct ever built. As such, it is one of the heroic monuments which symbolise the world's first Industrial Revolution and its transformation of technology.

Northern Ireland

Mount Stewart gardens

Criteria C (ii) and (iv)

Mount Stewart is one of the most spectacular and idiosyncratic gardens of Western Europe and universally renowned for the 'extraordinary scope of its plant collections and the originality of its features which give it world-class status'. It was created within and old demesne on the shores of Strangford Lough, whose fine parkland trees and shelter belts were established for the 1782-83 house. A celebrated garden building, the Temple of the Winds, was added to the parkland in 1782-83 and the house was enlarged to the designs of Dance in 1804, and by Morrison in the late 1830s.

Overseas Territories

Fountain Cavern, Anguilla

Criteria C (i), (ii) and (iii)

The Fountain Cavern is one of 19 Indian sites identified by an archaeological survey in 1979. Of the 19 sites, following extensive scientific studies, the Fountain Cavern is considered to be the most important archaeological site on the island. The historical significance of the site to Anguilla and the region has led to the decision by the Government of Anguilla to develop a National Park with the Fountain Cavern as the focus. The other 18 sites will also form part of educational tours which centre around the National Park in order to provide a comprehensive overview of Amerindian culture in Anguilla and the region.

The Fortress of Gibraltar

Criteria C (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)

The Rock of Gibraltar is one of the world's unique examples of a natural beacon and fortress which has been the focus, because of its geological and strategic position, of the attention of humans since the early days of prehistory. The Rock has long been the symbol of strength and stability and its singular geological makeup has permitted its use and defence by successive cultures. The Rock of Gibraltar, 6 kilometres long by 1 kilometre wide, has one of the highest densities of universal heritage in the world and for this reason it is the entire peninsula, the natural fortress, which is included in the proposed World Heritage site.

APPENDIX THREE - World Heritage Sites that are fortifications



It has not been possible in the time available to prepare a comprehensive assessment of how well the Channel Islands fortifications compare with similar sites around the world. However, it is worth noting that a large number of World Heritage Sites comprise fortifications of one kind or another. Because of this, there is a strong risk that fortifications might be seen as an over-represented category, unless it is possible to demonstrate unique features for the CI ensemble. The focus on the three key factors that make the CI sites unique will be particularly important.

Examples include (please note that this list is not comprehensive as there are other castles on the list, and other sites that probably include fortifications as part of urban and other complexes):

Fortified towns of all periods

Three Castles, Defensive Wall and Ramparts of the Market Town of Bellinzona (late medieval) Switzerland

Old Town of Galle and its Fortifications Sri Lanka (16th century)

Historic Walled Town of Cuenca, Spain

Citadel Ancient City and Fortress Buildings of Derbent, Russia (all periods)

*Historic fortified town of Campeche, Mexico (17th/18th century)

*Valletta, Malta

*The Old Town of Corfu (8th century onwards, Venetian)

Historic fortified city of Carcassonne (medieval and restored)

*Old Havana and its fortifications, Cuba (16th-18th centuries)

*Port, Fortresses and Group of Monuments, Cartagena Colombia. (1533 onwards)

*The Historic District of Old Quebec (17th century onwards)

*Historic Town of St George and related Fortifications Bermuda (British, 17th to 20th century)

Groups of fortifications

The Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd, Wales (1380s)

Parthian Fortresses of Nisa, Turkmenistan (3rd Century BC to 3rd century AD)

Dacian Fortresses of the Orastie Mountains, Romania (1st century)

*Fortifications on the Caribbean Side of Panama – Portobelo San Lorenzo (18th Century)

Defence Line of Amsterdam, Netherlands (1883-1920)

*Forts and Castles, Volta, Greater Accra, Central and Western Regions, Ghana (1482-1786)

Individual sites

*La Fortaleza and San Juan National Historic Site in Puerto Rico USA
*Brimstone Hill Fortress, St Kitts (17th/18th British)
Hwaseong Fortress, Korea (18th century)
Fort and Shalamar Gardens, Lahore and fortified complex at Rohtas, Pakistan (Mughal)
Bahla Fort Oman (12th - 15th century)
Quseir Amra, Jordan (8th century)
Masada, Israel (Roman)
Agra Fort, India (16th century Mughal)
Citadel, San Souci, Ramier Haiti (19th century)
Fortress of Suomenlinna, Finland (1748)
The Tower of London, Great Britain

* Those marked with an asterisk include 18th century British fortifications

APPENDIX FOUR - Assessment of La Cotte de St Brelade



One of the sites that has been suggested as a candidate for World Heritage Status is La Cotte de St Brelade.

La Cotte a rock shelter first known to have been used by human hunters 250,000 years ago. Discovered in 1881, it has been extensively excavated and more than 200,000 finds taken from it. It is on Noirmont Headland, an Environmentally Sensitive Area with three nature reserves in close proximity – a home for rare plant species. Now a fissure in a rocky headland on the seashore, 150,000 years ago it overlooked a vast prairie stretching to France and towards England. The deposits include stone tools, and piles of mammoth and rhino bones dating to 150,000 years ago. On at least two occasions, separated by thousands of years, early Neanderthals drove herds of mammoth over the cliffs to their deaths. There is extensive use of fire on the site – carcasses dismembered and hauled into the shelter where bones, skulls and tusks were stacked against the walls of the chasm. Tools – small flake tools, and tools similar to ones used by Neanderthals in France. Teeth from the only Neanderthal fossils so far found in the British Isles. There was a long debate over disposition of finds; some material is in Cambridge, some in the British Museum and other material in Jersey.

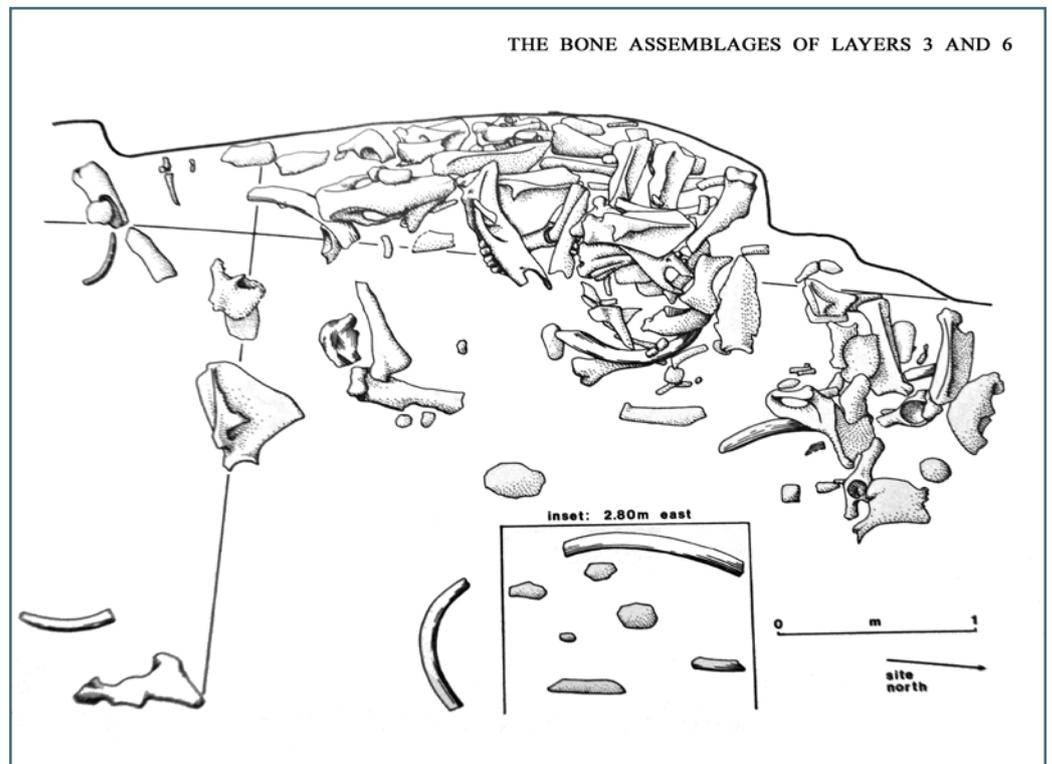
La Cotte is important

- as the only skeletal evidence for Neanderthals in the UK;
- for the wealth of animal bone, which rarely survives in other cave sites which are biologically significant but also provide evidence for butchery and food storage;
- for the potential of the as-yet unexcavated lower levels;
- for the detailed record of climate change including raised beaches and the human response to it;
- for over 100,000 stone tools dating back to the middle palaeolithic which tell us about patterns of re-use;
- for the earliest evidence in Europe of a mass kill (Scott in Callow and Cornforth 1986:183); and
- evidence for both right and left handed individuals, a distinction which is linked to the acquisition of the power of speech; early material belongs to the transition between Homo erectus and Neanderthal man.

Paul Callow notes that

‘La Cotte de St Brelade is of much greater interest than the archaeological finds alone would suggest. Certainly the richness of its industries and faunal remains place it high in the ranking of Middle and early upper Pleistocene sites...the bone heaps provide rare evidence of momentary events at the site. But because of the range of environmental information that can be placed within a chronostratigraphic framework and the interplay of marine and terrestrial responses to climatic change, La Cotte is also of importance in the wider compass of Pleistocene research.

One more element in the mosaic of changes that link the Lower to the Middle Pal in Western Europe. Extreme importance not only for Palaeolithic archaeology but for Pleistocene stratigraphy – a unique combination – a very long and strongly varying sequence of human occupation dating back a quarter of a million years with good dating and environment evidence and because of the sites coastal location, and opportunity to study the relationship between marine and terrestrial responses to climate change during the middle and upper pleistocene. There are also more finds at this site than the total number of lower and middle Palaeolithic finds for the British mainland.



La Cotte Bones, Jersey

APPENDIX FIVE - Brief for the work

An initial assessment of the heritage resource in Jersey and Guernsey against the World Heritage Site Criteria, and against public value criteria, to include the following:



1. Visit Jersey and meet key players to clarify ambitions in respect to World Heritage Site Designation
2. Visit key sites as agreed with above
3. Undertake preliminary desktop assessment of overall heritage resource including Guernsey
4. Report and recommendations on World Heritage Sites issues and evaluation of resource in terms of Outstanding Universal Values
5. Report and recommendations on further work which may contribute to development of local understanding of the value of heritage
6. If the assessment under 4 indicates the value of further detailed assessment, a schedule of key elements of a brief for this work

Jersey Heritage.

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<http://www.museums.gov.gg/>

La Société Guernsiaisie
<http://www.Société.org.gg/>

Jersey Heritage Trust
<http://www.jerseyheritagetrust.org/ABOUT/about.html>

The National Trust of Jersey
<http://www.nationaltrustjersey.org.je/general/aboutnt.asp>