

FIELD 941, LA CHEVE RUE, ST. MARY

Archaeological Watching Brief

On Behalf Of:

The Jersey Electricity Co Ltd



By

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON THE SITE KNOWN AS FIELD 941, LA CHEVE RUE, ST. MARY

UTM 6108 5312

PL. App No: P/2009/1227

Summary

Absolute Archaeology was commissioned by Mr Phil Buckley (Construction Engineer) on behalf of the Jersey Electricity Co Ltd, to undertake a watching brief in associated with the excavation of field 941 for the installation of a low voltage cable.

The work was subject to the conditions laid down by States of Jersey Planning and Environment Department (pl. app no. P/2009/1227).

*No features of archaeological interest were revealed during the course of the groundworks.
No artefacts were recovered as a result of the watching brief.*

Acknowledgements

Absolute Archaeology would like to acknowledge the assistance of the Mr Phil Buckley in the production of this report. We would also like to acknowledge the contractual ground workers, for showing great patience during the investigation.

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Maps

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Abbreviations

JD

Jersey Datum; used to express a given height above mean sea level related specifically to Jersey.

UTM

Universal Transverse Mercator (Grid Zone 30 Central Meridian 3°W International Spheroid/European datum).

SEA LEVEL

Heights are to the nearest metre above sea level, based on the Bench Mark at the Harbour in St Helier of 9m.

CONTENTS

1. Introduction	7
2. Site Information	7
3. Archaeological/Historical Background	7
4. Methodology	8
5. Results	8
6. Conclusion	9
7. Archive	9
8. References	9
9. Figures	10
10. Plates	12

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1	Site Location	10
Figure 2	Site Plan	11

PLATES

Miscellaneous photos of the archaeological monitoring	12-13
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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report sets out the results of the archaeological watching brief on part of Field 941, La Cheve Rue, St Mary. The specification was to monitor all groundworks associated with the installation of a low voltage electricity cable on behalf of the Jersey Electricity Co Ltd. The watching brief was carried out by Absolute Archaeology on Thursday 8th 2009.

1.2 The work was commissioned by Mr Phil Buckley, on behalf the Jersey Electricity Co Ltd.

2 SITE INFORMATION

2.1 Field 941 is located in the parish of St Mary, with access from La Cheve Rue. It is set in a predominantly rural landscape comprising both arable and pasture land. The site is currently grazed.

2.2 The site is recorded as the location of La Cheve Rue Stone, which was moved to its current position at the field boundary during the mid 20th century.

2.3 The excavation comprised a service trench measuring c.500mm (w) x 1.2m (d) x 35m (l).

2.4 The site lies c. 97m above sea level and is defined by coarse grained granite of St Mary's type, sealed by loess deposits.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL/HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 The area around the site is known for a collection of archaeological remains, including tumuli of Bronze Age date.

3.2 The site was considered to be an area of archaeological potential, due to La Cheve Rue Stone, located in the field (later relocated to form part of the field boundary).

3.3 The stone has been considered to be part of a menhir (a standing stone generally considered Neolithic in date), although its size makes this unlikely. Local residents lay claim to a burial monument within the field, but no excavation has taken place to confirm this and the watching brief failed to reveal any trace of archaeological activity.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Monitoring of all groundworks associated with the excavation took place.

4.2 This was carried out in accordance with IFA (2008) *Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching brief*.

4.3 The archive has been prepared using the site code A Arc 20 and has been allocated the archive code LCR-09.

5 RESULTS

5.1 The excavation revealed a topsoil/turfline of friable loamy silt, sealing sequences of blown sand and buried topsoil (see photograph 4).

5.2 All groundworks were closely monitored during the mechanical removal of soil from the service trench. The excavation revealed no evidence of archaeological activity. All spoil heaps were monitored and revealed no evidence of archaeological artefacts.

6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 As discussed above, no archaeological features or artefacts were identified as a result of the watching brief. The investigation focussed on all groundworks associated with the excavation.

7 ARCHIVE

- 7.1 Due to negative results, deposition of an archive is not deemed necessary. However, copies of this report will be submitted to the our client, C/O Mr P Buckley, Société Jersiaise and to the States of Jersey Planning and Environment Department in order to satisfy the terms of the brief. A copy will also be forwarded to the Jersey Heritage Trust for their records.

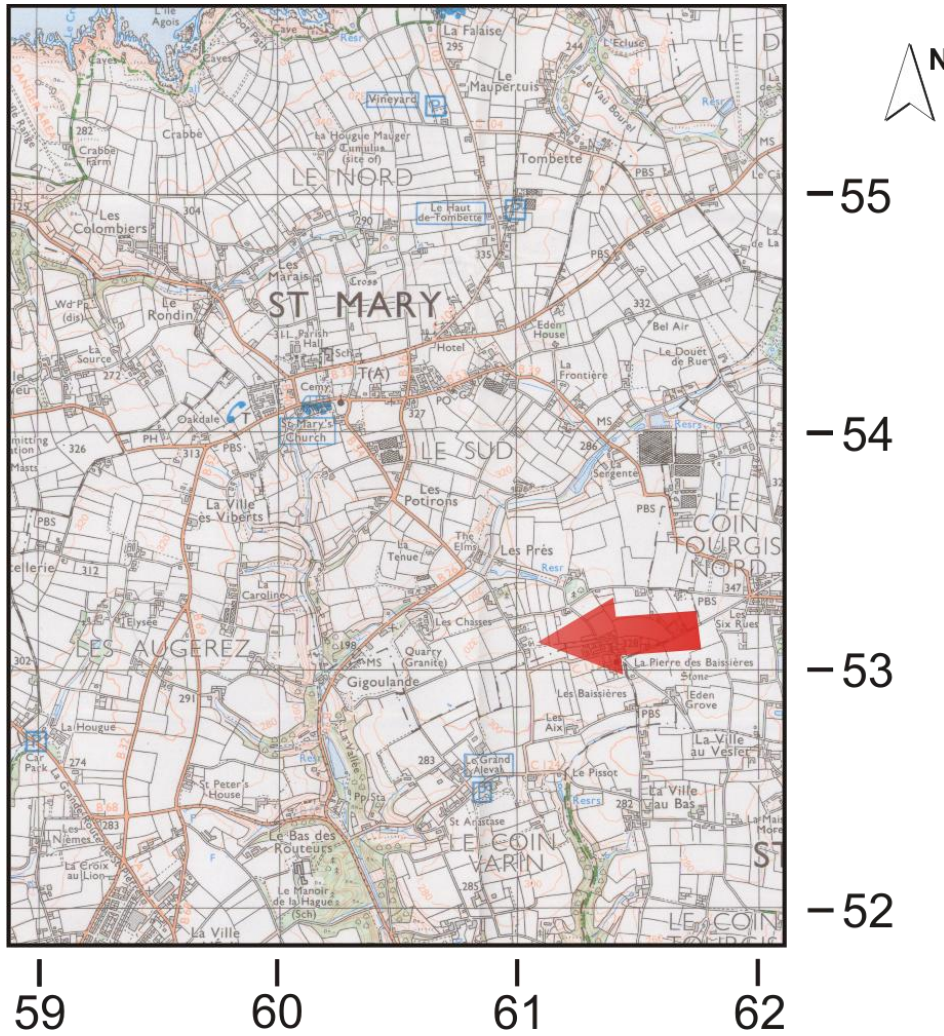
8 REFERENCES

English Heritage, 1991, *Management of Archaeological Projects 2*

IFA. 2008. *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological Watching brief*

9 FIGURES

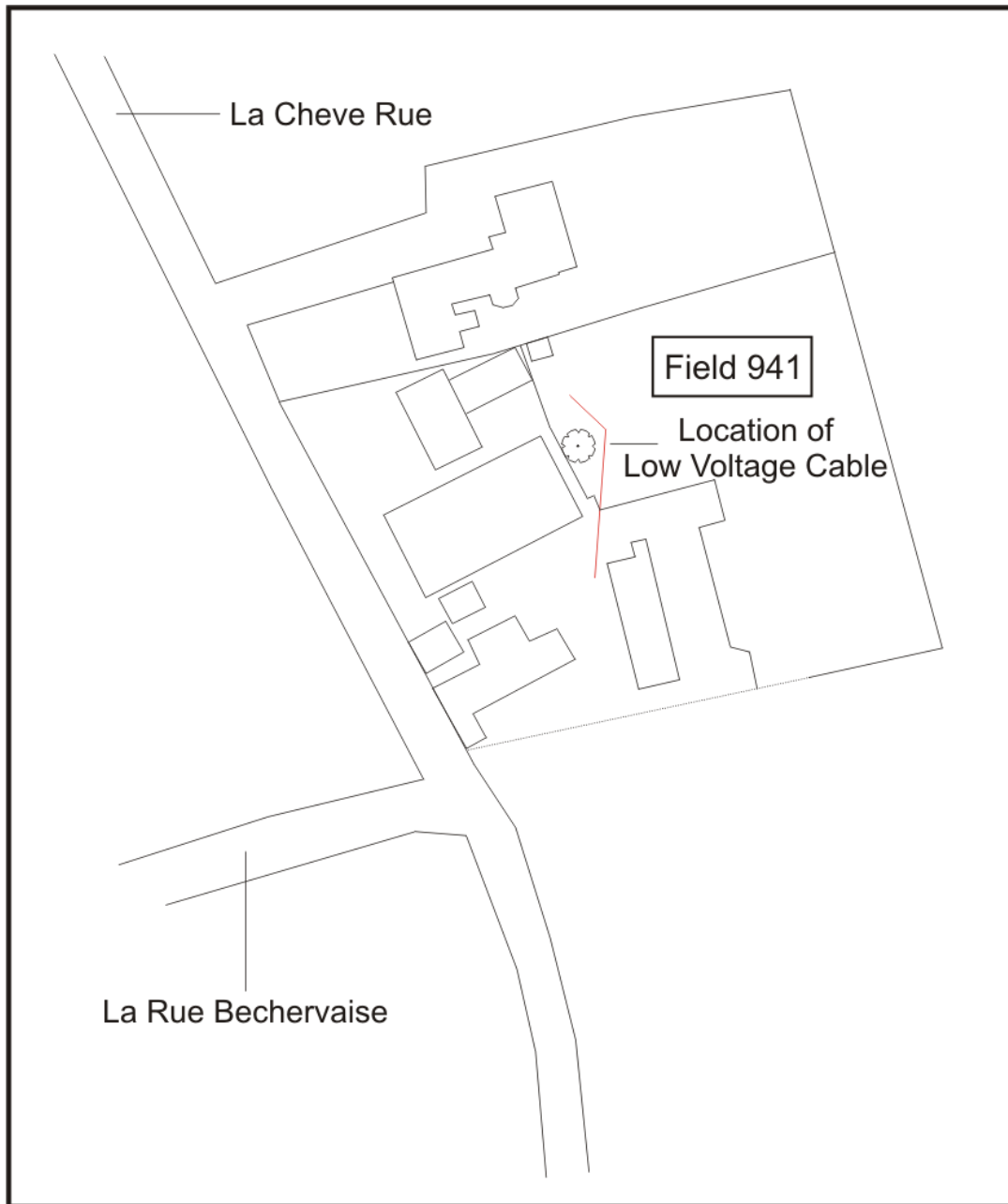
Figure 1: Location of Site (Not to Scale)



← = Location of site



Figure 2: Site Plan (Not to Scale)



10 Photographs



Photograph 1: WSW Facing Section with 1m Scale



Photograph 2: NbW View of service trench



Photograph 3: SEbS view of service trench with
X1 300mm scale and x1 500mm scale



Photograph 4: NbW view showing dark
bands of buried topsoil