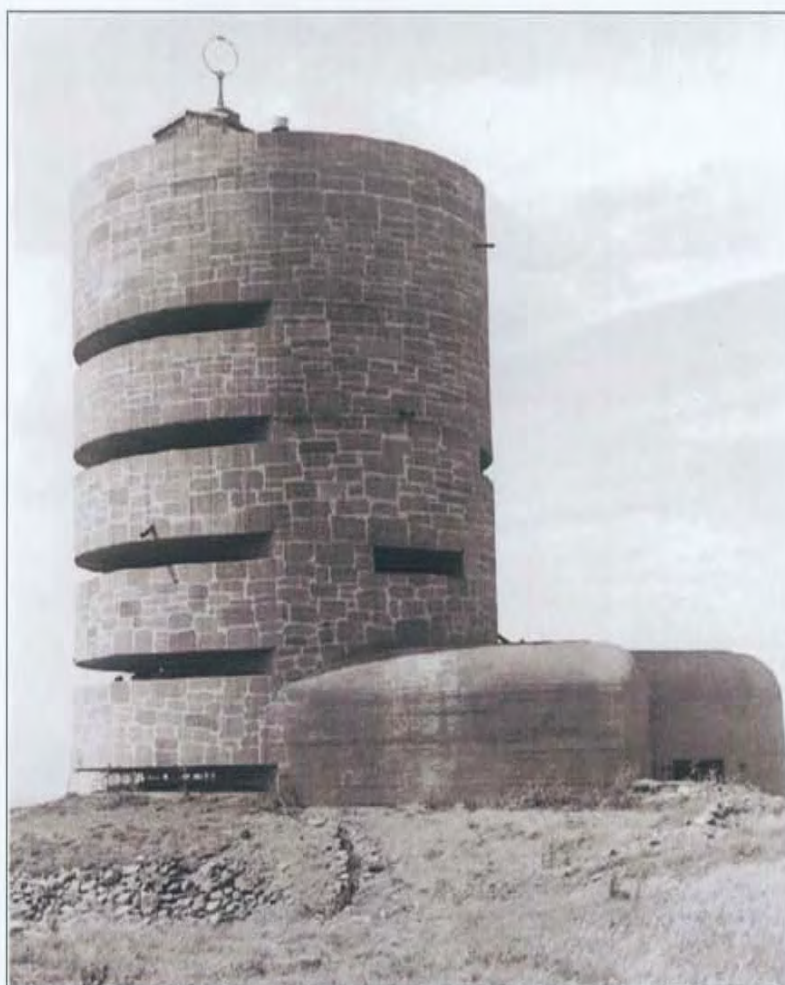


Jersey Heritage Trust

MP2 Tower Conservation Statement



January 2006

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1 Introduction

The Jersey Heritage Trust prepared this conservation statement for the MP2 tower in consultation with the Conservation Advisory Group in November 2005-January 2006.

The primary purpose of the statement is to draw together readily available existing information, to set down a chronology for the site, an overview of the key surviving elements, a statement of significance, the identification of major conservation issues and a set of outline policies. It also identifies key gaps in our knowledge of the site and the issues affecting it. The conservation statement is subject to further review and refinement.

2 Brief history of the site

See articles in appendix C for a more detailed history.

In 1941, the German High Command was ordered to convert the Channel Islands into unassailable fortresses. The numerous artillery batteries that were set up needed an effective system of fire control and so a comprehensive system of naval direction-finding and range-finding towers (known as *Marinepeilständen und Meßstellen* – abbreviated to *MP*) were planned. Only three towers were completed in Jersey, one of which is the MP2 tower at La Corbière.

MP towers are unique to the Channel Islands, not being found anywhere else on the Atlantic Wall.

The MP2 tower was originally camouflaged to resemble an eighteenth century Jersey granite round tower. At the top of the tower was a small cabin housing radio direction-finding equipment that enabled German naval vessels to obtain their bearings (see appendices B.i, B.ii & B.iii).

MP2 was adapted for use by the States of Jersey Harbours and Airport Committee in 1976. A glass panelled control room was added to the top of the tower from which a duty officer could monitor the radio traffic of all shipping passing through the entrance to the English Channel (see appendix A.i).

A garage block was added on the east side of the tower before 1980 (see appendices A.ii & A.iii).

January 2006 - the MP2 tower is owned by the Public of the Island of Jersey under the management of the Jersey Heritage Trust (see appendix A.iv).

3 Overview of the key surviving elements

The MP2 is a round tower with an enclosed basement, above which are five storeys, each with a wide observation slot on the seaside. Most slots have been bricked up. The ground floor is extended into a single storey entrance and store area. There are three defensive embrasures on the landside of the tower. The tower is constructed from reinforced concrete. It is 17.80 metres high with walls not less than two metres thick. Surviving 1940s interior features include a concrete staircase and a steel door to the ground floor store.

Post-war additions include a glass panelled control room on the roof, with associated fire escape ladders, and a blockwork garage and new entrance link to the east.

Further to the east is a buried personnel shelter of reinforced concrete that was associated with the tower. Known as Regalbau Type 622, the shelter is one of only three examples of this particular type of fortification in Jersey (see appendix B.iv). The entrance to the shelter is blocked up.

Photographic and documentary evidence shows that notable features of the c.1942 building that have been lost include:

- 1940s roof-top radio direction-finding equipment;
- 1940s interior fittings;
- 1940s external camouflage scheme.

4 Statement of significance

4.1 Archaeological significance

There is no evidence of archaeological significance at the site other than the buried personnel shelter and the access ramps to it.

4.2 Historical and architectural significance

The MP2 tower is one of the most prominent and architecturally impressive buildings in the German fortification network in Jersey. It also forms part of the Atlantic Wall, an extensive system of coastal fortifications built by the German Third Reich during the Second World War along the western coast of Europe (1942-44) in order to defend against an anticipated Anglo-American invasion.

The architectural integrity of the building survives close to its original form and physical context. The design of the building is military and functional but that stark functionality also reflects the architectural movements that evolved in 1920/30s Germany.

4.3 Ecological and landscape significance

This structure has no known ecological significance. However, the boundary of La Lande du Ouest Site of Special Interest abuts the structure to the west and to the south. No activities including disturbance of the ground, dumping of any material, or access by any machinery should take place in this SSI without consultation with the Environment Department.

4.4 Cultural significance

The MP2 tower has been used as an 'observation' tower for most of its history, first as a naval direction-finding and range-finding tower for the German forces during the Occupation, and later as a radio tower by the States of Jersey Harbours and Airport Committee.

The tower can also be viewed as a symbol of oppression as it was constructed by the forced labourers of Organisation Todt, and its main raison d'être was the prevention of the liberation of Jersey from German occupation.

5 Identification of major conservation issues

The following is an assessment of the way in which the significance of the MP2 tower could be vulnerable.

- Care must be taken to ensure that the significance of the MP2 tower is not eroded through neglect. The building is in an exposed coastal location and an ill-maintained structure will be subject to water ingress and salt laden deposits leading to damp conditions and damage from insect and fungal infestations as well as intrusive plant growth.
- Without proper maintenance and repair of the MP2 tower there will be physical damage to the fabric and thereby to the significance of the building.

- A potential problem is a lack of continuing and long-term interest in the MP2 tower and the subsequent reduction in resources to properly maintain it in years to come – especially if appropriate and successful new uses cannot be found for the site.
- Caré must be taken to ensure that the significance of the MP2 tower is not eroded through inappropriate repairs and alterations. The use of inappropriate materials or methods of alteration and repair will be damaging to the character of the building and will contribute to further decline in the integrity of the historic fabric and structure. Good quality works are required that do not damage the integrity or durability of the historic fabric.
- A condition survey is needed to identify the range of problems throughout the building e.g. whether there is water ingress through walls, roofs and windows.
- The significance of the site is potentially vulnerable to legislative and regulatory requirements that may be applied if a new use is found for it e.g. compliance with building byelaws or provision for people with special needs.

6 Statutory and policy framework

6.1 International Conventions

Since 1987, the States of Jersey has been a signatory to the Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe 1985 (Granada Convention). The Convention places broad obligations on member states to introduce legislative, policy and other measures to protect the architectural heritage. The States is also a signatory to the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, 1992, (Valletta Convention) which imposes similar obligations in respect of the archaeological heritage.

6.2 The Island Planning (Jersey) Law, 1964 (as amended)

- **Planning Permission** - will be required for change of use and for any works classed as development.
- **Sites of Special Interest** - under Article 11, the States of Jersey may designate as Sites of Special Interest, buildings and places of public importance by reason of special zoological, botanical, archaeological, architectural, artistic, cultural, geological, historical, scientific or traditional interest. Designation provides legal protection under Article 12 against demolition and damaging alteration and control over other intrusive actions such as metal detecting, the defacing of the site and the removal of plants and animals. This equates to the type of protection that is afforded to Scheduled Ancient Monuments in England.

The MP2 tower is in the process of being designated as a Site of Special Interest - it is intended that the designation will encompass the tower and the associated personnel shelter to the east (see appendix D). In the meantime, the Trust has agreed to treat the site as if it were already a designated Site of Special Interest. SSI Permission is therefore required before there is any physical intervention in the tower's site and structure.

The boundary of La Lande du Ouest Site of Special Interest (designated in 1996) abuts the MP2 Tower to the west and to the south. For further information see Island Planning (Designation of Sites of Special Interest) (Jersey) Orders at www.jerseylegalinfo.je.

6.3 The Jersey Island Plan, 2002

The Jersey Island Plan, approved by the States in July 2002, contains policies specifically intended to offer protection for Sites of Special Interest and for archaeological resources. Policies G11 and G12 are of particular relevance. Policy G11 states, among other things, that there will be a presumption against development that would have an adverse impact on the special character of a Site of Special Interest, whilst Policy G12 makes provisions relating to the preservation, safeguarding and recording of archaeological remains, as appropriate. Policy G13 makes a presumption in favour of the preservation of the architectural and historic character and integrity of registered buildings and places. Policy TR3 presumes in favour of proposals for the development of new, or extensions to existing, tourism and cultural attractions, providing certain criteria are satisfied.

The Plan notes that the MP2 tower lies within the 'Zone of Outstanding Character' (C4). This is defined as parts of the coast and countryside considered to be of national and international importance. As such the area merits the highest levels of protection.

6.4 Supplementary planning guidance

The Interim Policies for the Conservation of Historic Buildings were adopted by the Planning & Environment Committee in 1998 and will continue to provide clarification on matters relating to the built heritage until it is replaced by new Committee guidance. Interim Policy HB12 is of particular relevance and states: 'There is a presumption in favour of the preservation of the fabric, internal structure, plan form, historic interiors and fittings, as well as the contribution to the townscape or countryside, of registered buildings that are designated as Sites of Special Interest; therefore permission will not normally be granted for the internal alteration ... of a designated SSI, or works to the exterior, if they would adversely affect its special interest or character'.

6.5 The Building Bye Laws (Jersey), 2004

Work at the MP2 tower will have to comply with the Building Bye-laws.

6.6 Conservation of Wildlife (Jersey) Law, 2000

Work to and use of the MP2 tower must be compatible with the provisions of the Wildlife Law. This Law makes provision for the protection of specified wild animals, birds and plants and their habitats and empowers the Environment and Public Services Committee to grant licences in respect of activities that would otherwise be prohibited.

6.7 Health and Safety at Work (Jersey) Law, 1989

Methods of repair work and the safety of staff and visitors will be subject to Health and Safety Legislation. It is a matter for property owners and those managing sites to

ensure that relevant health and safety requirements are satisfied, under the provisions of the Health and Safety at Work (Jersey) Law, 1989.

6.8 Other relevant guidance

The States of Jersey and the Jersey Heritage Trust are obliged to work within Jersey law, approved local planning policy and published advice. Any works proposed for the MP2 tower will have to comply with statutory and policy regulations outlined above.

Best current practice from other jurisdictions also provides valuable guidance. The 'British Standard Guide to the Principles of the Conservation of Historic Buildings BS7913:1998' is a valuable standard in that it sets out general conservation principles relating to historic buildings as well as providing definitions of terminology (see Appendix F).

7 Conservation policies

7.1 Conservation philosophy

Potential new uses for the MP2 tower makes some change inevitable but any changes must always be subject to the constraint that the significance of the site must not be materially damaged.

7.2 Policy for recording and mitigation strategies

When any work is proposed to maintain, repair or alter the MP2 tower, the Jersey Heritage Trust will:

- carry out a full and detailed record in drawings and photographs sufficient to show the nature of the area affected with an assessment of the impact on the historic fabric and the ecology;
- draw up a brief in advance of any physical investigation or excavation in accordance with the Trust's archaeological protocol (see Appendix E) and an ecological mitigation strategy to be agreed with the Environment Department;
- obtain Planning permission, Building Bye-law permission and SSI permission to undertake the works;
- carry out the work in accordance with the brief and any conditions attached to the above permissions;
- make a full record of the work in progress and deposit the detailed written, drawn and photographic records at the Jersey Archive, followed by appropriate publication.

7.3 Policy for maintenance and repair

The priority for the Jersey Heritage Trust is to maintain the physical fabric of the MP2 tower to ensure its future survival by using materials and construction methods appropriate to the site. Consideration should also be given to correcting past 'mistakes' that are damaging to the significance of the building.

In order to achieve this, the Trust will:

- carry out a quinquennial condition survey of the MP2 tower;
- draw up an annual programme of works together with a phased maintenance schedule;
- use contractors and specialists with appropriate experience of building conservation work to achieve the best possible craftsmanship and selection of materials;
- carry out repairs under competent supervision and regular inspection including an archaeological watching brief if required.

7.4 Policy for reconstruction and alteration

- consideration will be given to appropriate new uses for the MP2 tower to ensure that it continues to play a role in Jersey society whilst maintaining its character and significance;
- reconstruction work may be justified where it is desirable for the maintenance of the structure and where it completes a damaged element; the work must be carried out harmoniously with the original whilst being, upon close inspection, distinguishable from it;
- reconstruction work can only be carried out where there is evidence of the historic form of the structure through a detailed study of the building and its archaeology - reconstruction work should stop where conjecture begins;
- consideration will be given to improving visitor interpretation and facilities at the MP2 tower if this does not involve the loss of historic fabric or damage to the character and significance of the site; any new work should be easily identifiable and of the highest quality;
- all reconstruction work and alterations must adhere to the principle of 'reversibility';
- consideration will be given to improving access (physical and intellectual) to the site for all people, including those with special needs;
- consideration will be given to the future use of the Regalbau Type 622 personnel shelter;
- consideration will be given to security provision at the MP2 tower to ensure that the significance of the site is not damaged through vandalism or other intrusive activities.

7.5 Policy for service provision

There is already some service provision at the MP2 tower including electricity, water and toilets. The Jersey Heritage Trust will ensure that:

- any additional services are to be installed with a minimal loss of fabric and in routes where they are accessible for future maintenance / renewal work;
- cables and pipes are surface mounted except where they can be laid within modern floor structures or in other accessible voids or ducts;

- the survival of historic fabric and below ground archaeology will take precedence over the installation of services.

7.6 Policy for interpretation

Consideration should be given to the dissemination of knowledge about the MP2 tower, such as the production of a multi-lingual guidebook, resource material for educational visits and a programme of events that complement the site and contribute to the understanding of its history.

7.7 Policy for site activity

The Jersey Heritage Trust will ensure that activities potentially damaging to the historic fabric of the site are not permitted.

8 Summary of proposed additional research and analysis

A condition survey to identify the range of problems at the MP2 tower.	To be undertaken by the Jersey Heritage Trust
Implement a quinquennial condition survey of the site.	To be undertaken by the Jersey Heritage Trust
Draw up an annual programme of works together with a phased maintenance schedule.	To be undertaken by the Jersey Heritage Trust
An agreed ecological mitigation strategy.	To be undertaken by the Jersey Heritage Trust with advice from the Environment Department

9 Implementation and review

- The Jersey Heritage Trust has undertaken to produce a conservation statement for the MP2 tower according to current best practice (as set out in the English Heritage guidance 'Informed Conservation' 2001).
- In order to consult with other interested parties with relevant knowledge, the Jersey Heritage Trust has set up a Conservation Advisory Group to comment on and contribute knowledge to the structure and content of the conservation statement, and thereafter to monitor proposals for change, to ensure upstream consultation with relevant bodies on change, and to advise the JHT on matters relating to the conservation of the MP2 tower.
- The Conservation Advisory Group comprises representatives from the National Trust, the Société Jersiaise, the Channel Islands Occupation Society, the Planning and Environment Department's Historic Buildings Officer, an officer from the Environment Department and the project team from the Jersey Heritage Trust.
- The Jersey Heritage Trust Board of Trustees formally adopted the conservation statement for the MP2 tower on 7th December 2005.

- The conservation statement will be regularly reviewed and refined every 3 years.

10 Sources and references

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Ginns M & Bryans P (1978) *German Fortifications in Jersey*, Meadowbank (St Lawrence) Trading Co. Ltd

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States of Jersey Environment Department - statement on ecological significance.

Statutory and policy framework references:

- Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada, 3.X.1985)
- European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Revised) (Valletta, 16.I.1992)
- The Island Planning (Jersey) Law, 1964 (as amended)
- The Building Bye Laws (Jersey), 2004
- The Conservation of Wildlife (Jersey) Law, 2000.
- The Health and Safety at Work (Jersey) Law, 1989.
- The Jersey Island Plan, 2002.
- The Interim Policies for the Conservation of Historic Buildings, 1998 (States of Jersey Planning and Building Services Department)
- British Standard Guide to the Principles of the Conservation of Historic Buildings (BS 7913:1998)

Jersey Heritage Trust (Jersey Archive):

- Ordnance Survey Map of Jersey, 1981 (ref: L/F/70/A/92)
- Plans, elevations and survey of the German bunker at Corbière and the proposed Jersey Radio Station to be added to the bunker – Department of Public Building and Works drawing nos.2566/2,3 & 5 – 14th February 1975 (ref: L/D/25/H/7)

Jersey Heritage Trust (other sources):

- Protocol for Archaeological Work, 2005

Société Jersiaise Photographic Archive:

- German coastal artillery observation tower built during the Occupation at Corbiere with radio direction finder (ref: SJPA/034391)
- German coastal artillery observation tower at Corbiere with radio direction finding aerial on roof (ref: SJPA/036149)
- German searchlight at Corbiere (ref: SJPA/036176)

States of Jersey Planning and Building Services Department:

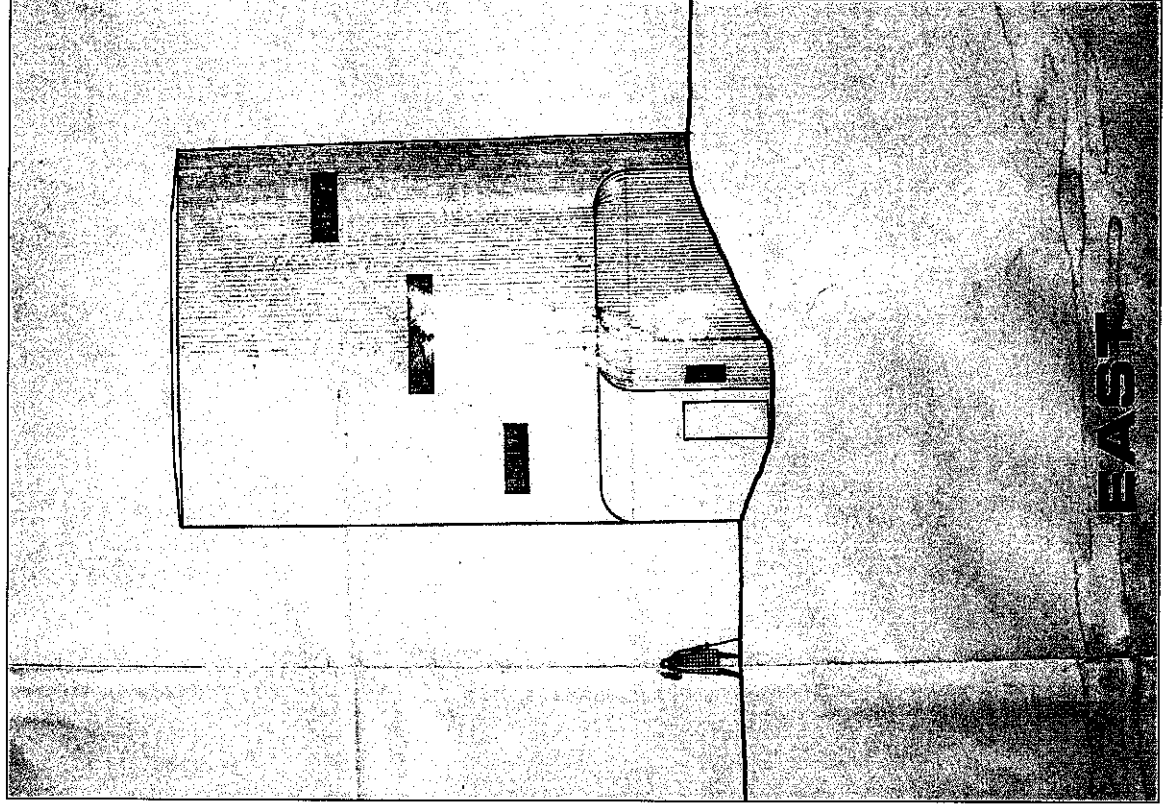
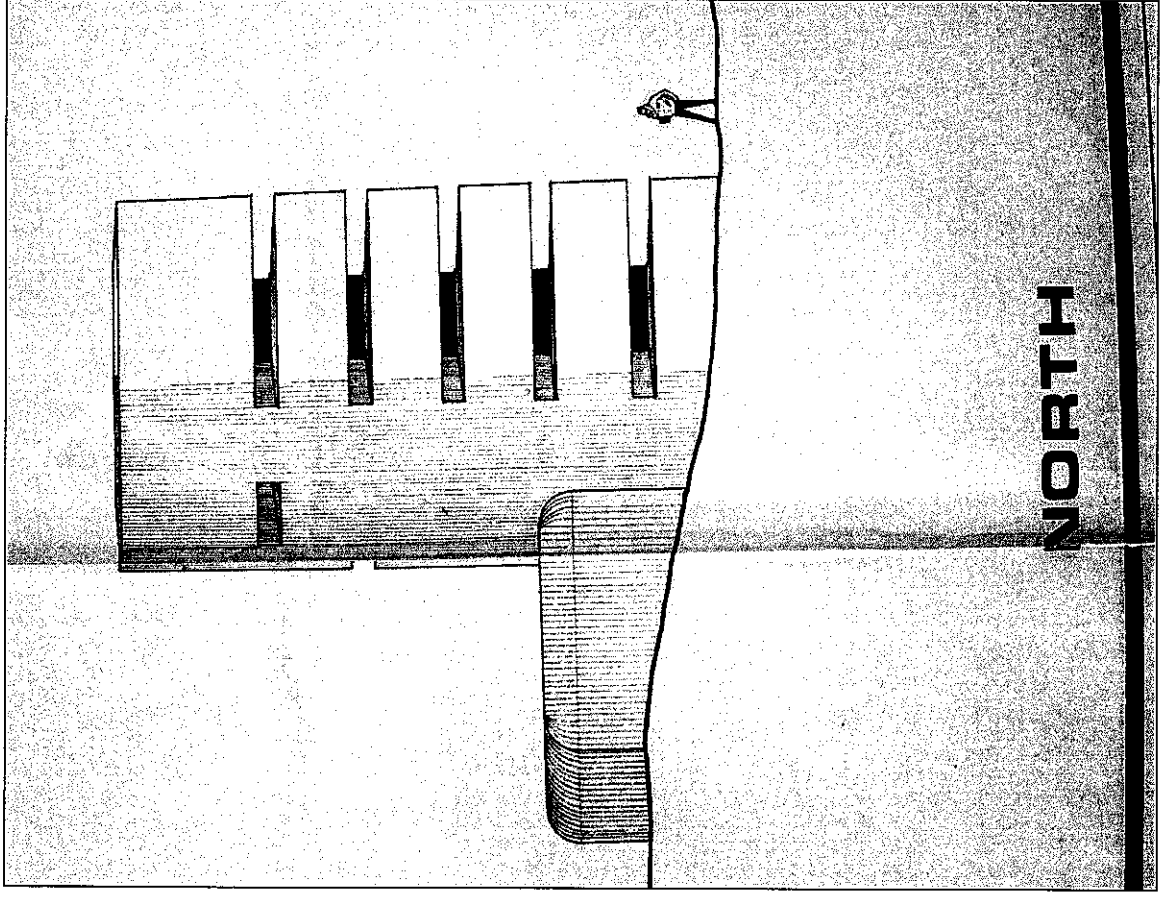
- Historic Buildings Register (ref: BR0206)
- Ordnance Survey Map of Jersey, 2003

Appendix A

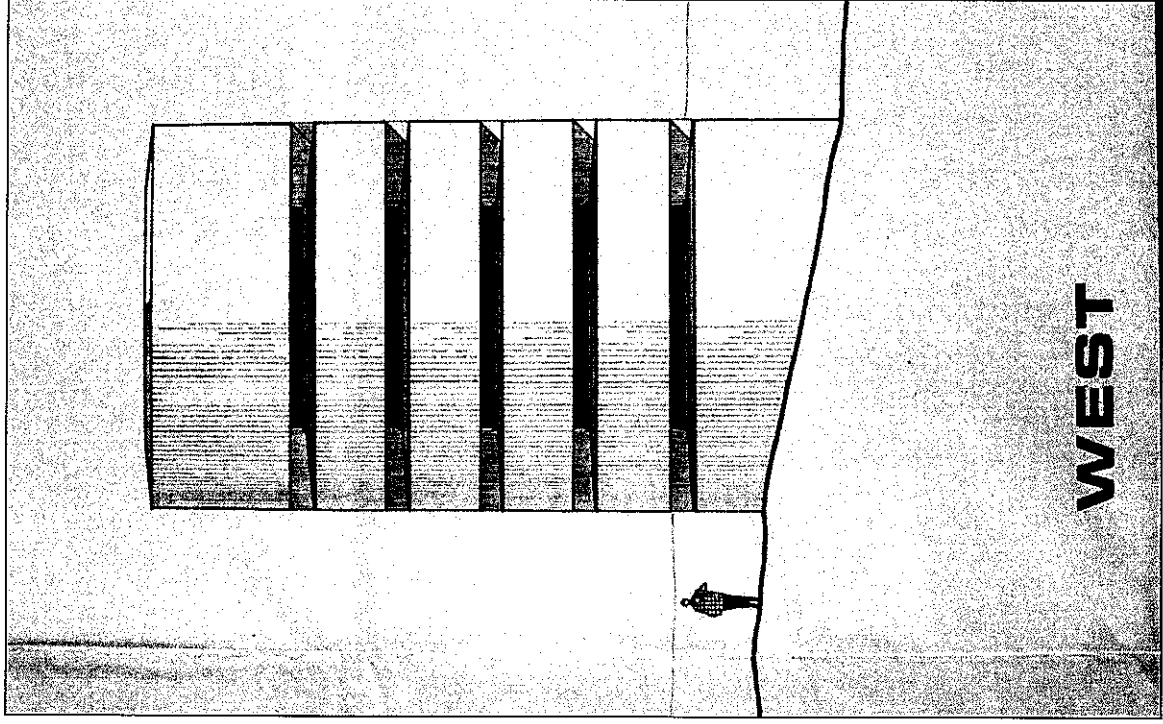
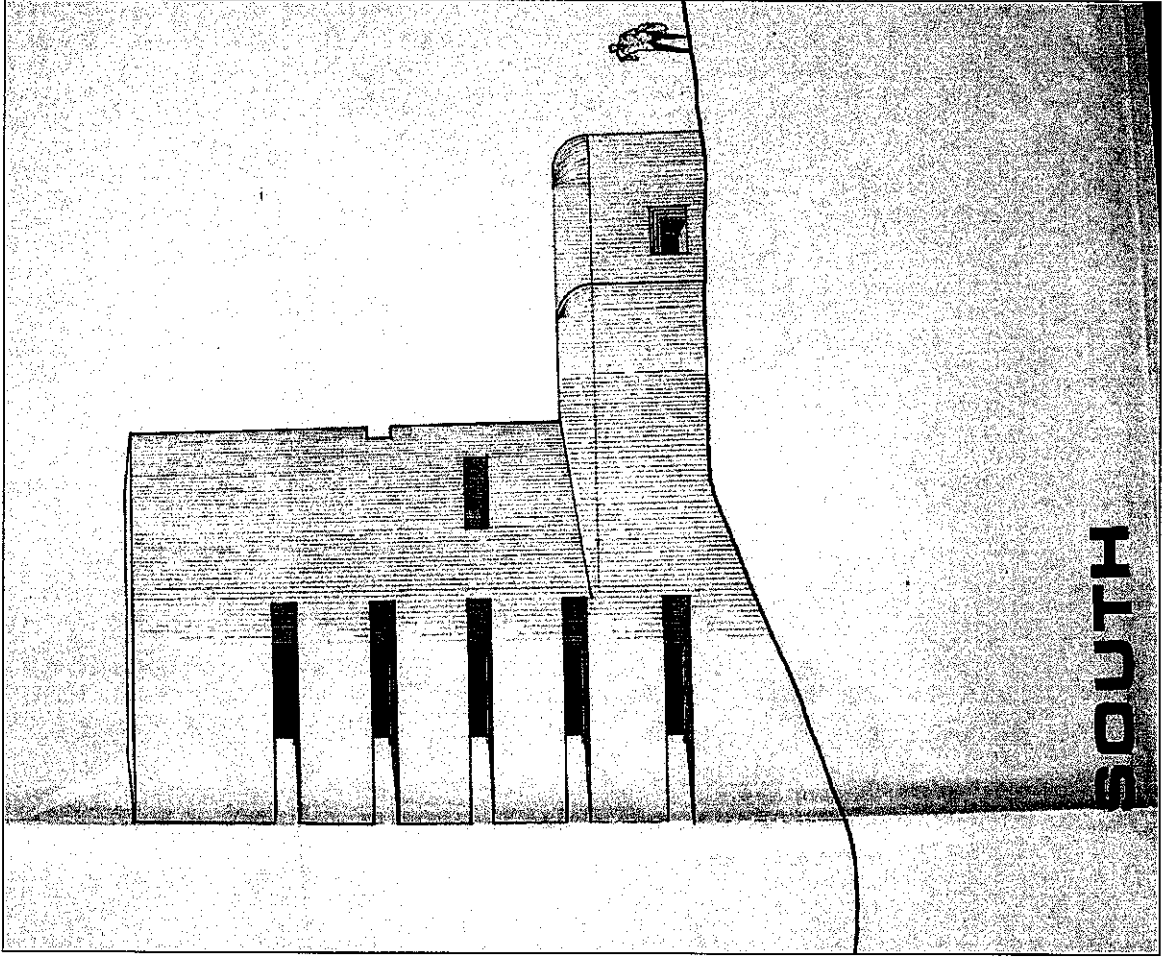
Plans and maps

A.i

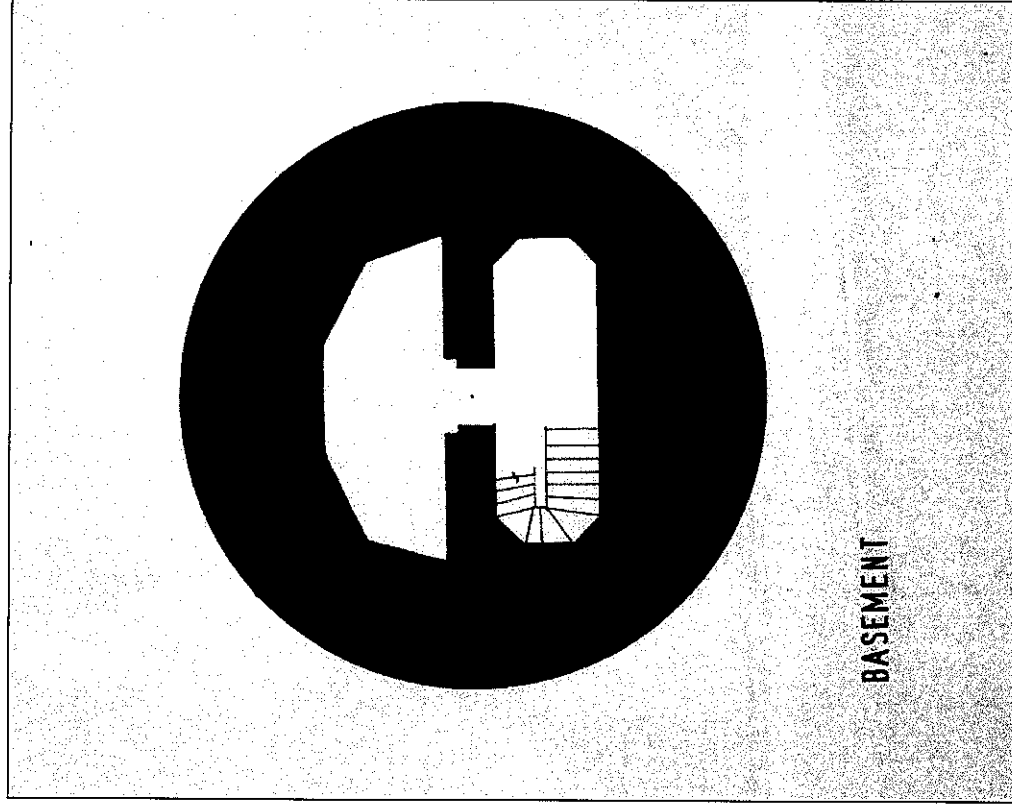
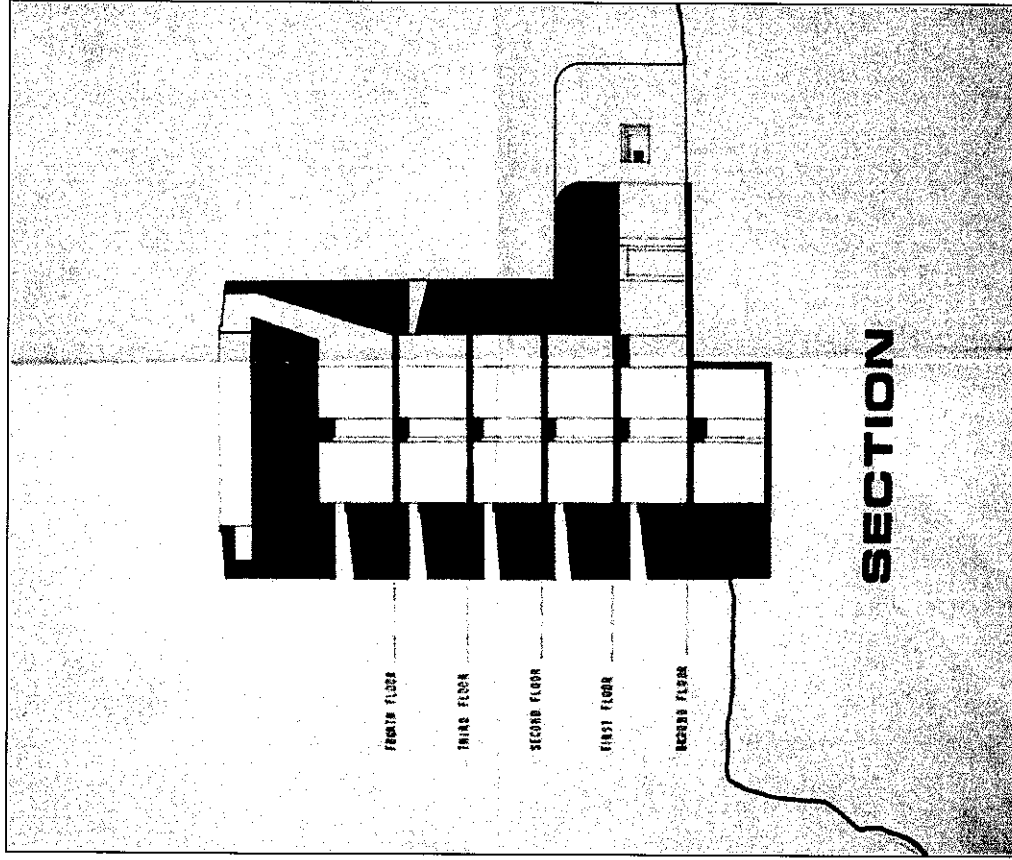
Plans, elevations and survey of the German bunker at Corbière and the proposed
Jersey Radio Station to be added to the bunker – Department of Public Building and
Works drawing nos.2566/2,3 & 5 – 14th February 1975
(Jersey Archive ref: L/D/25/H/7)



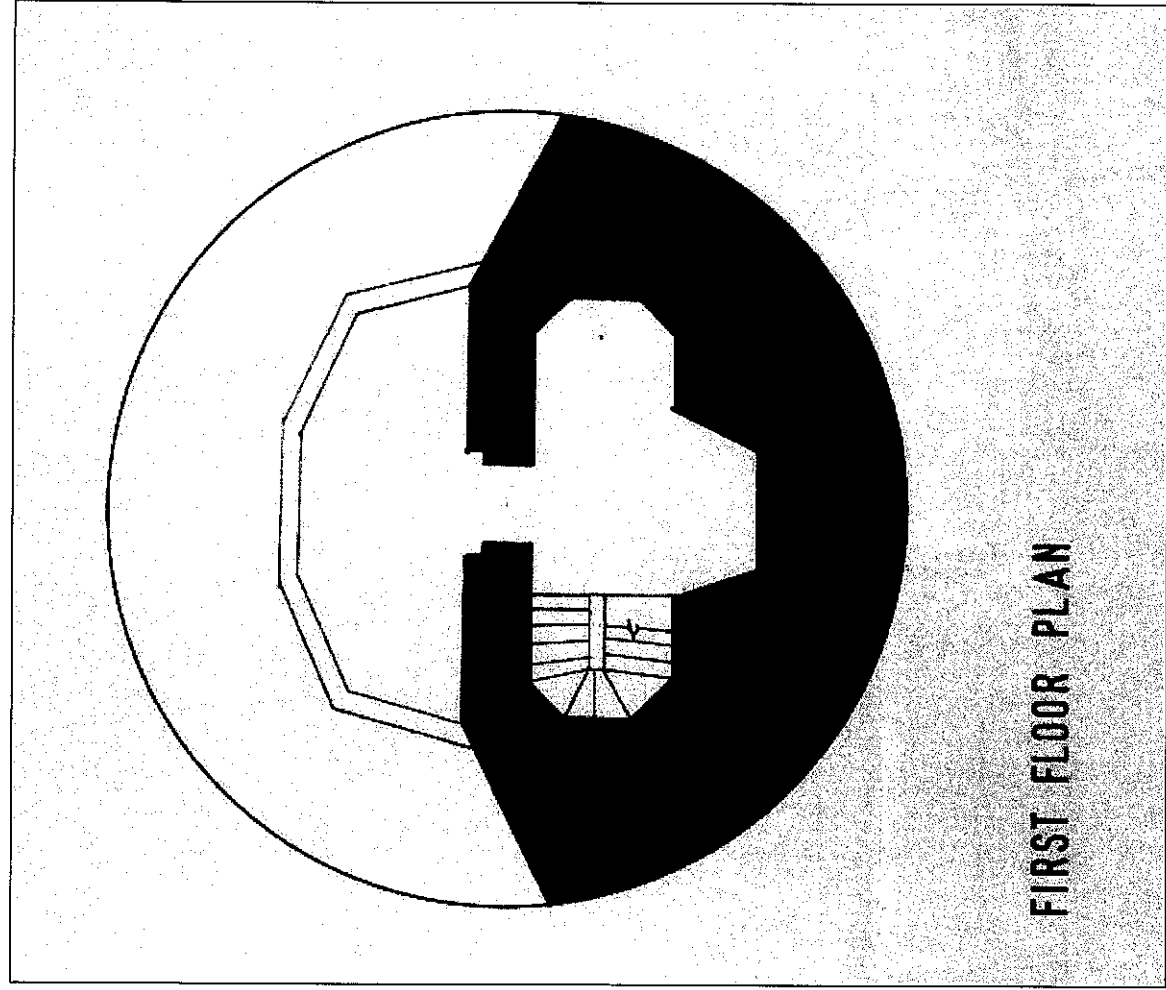
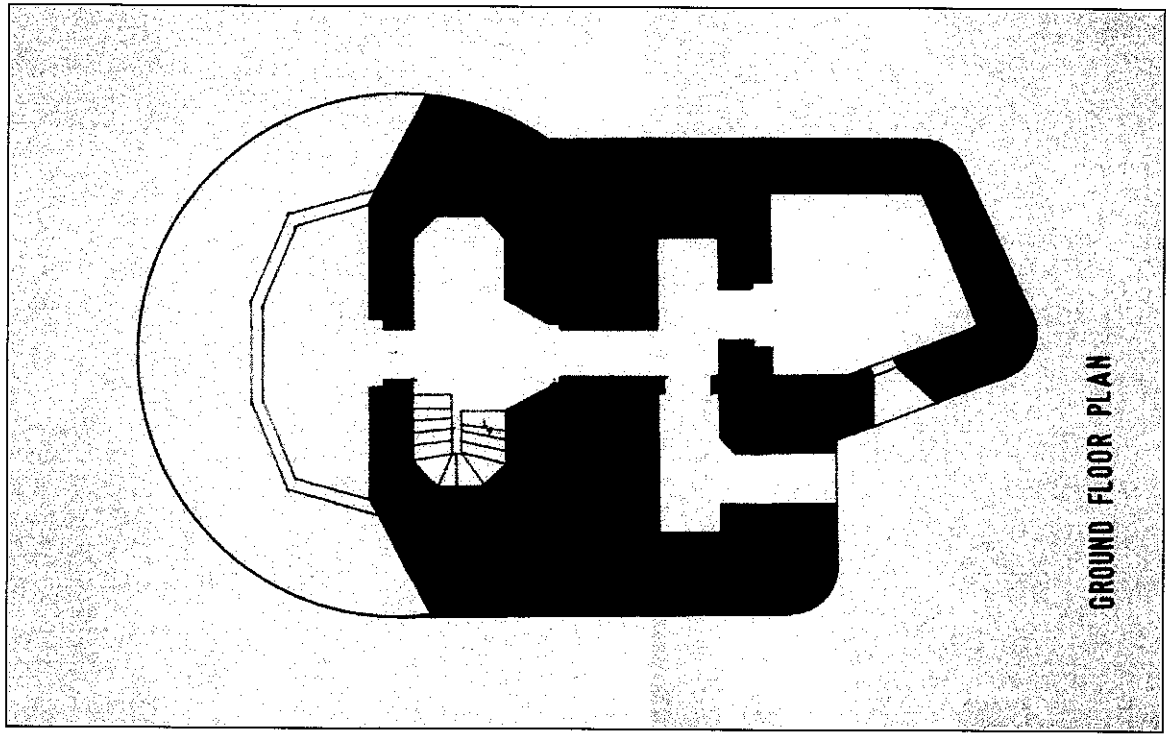
Survey of German Bunker, Corbière (drawing nos.2566/2&3)

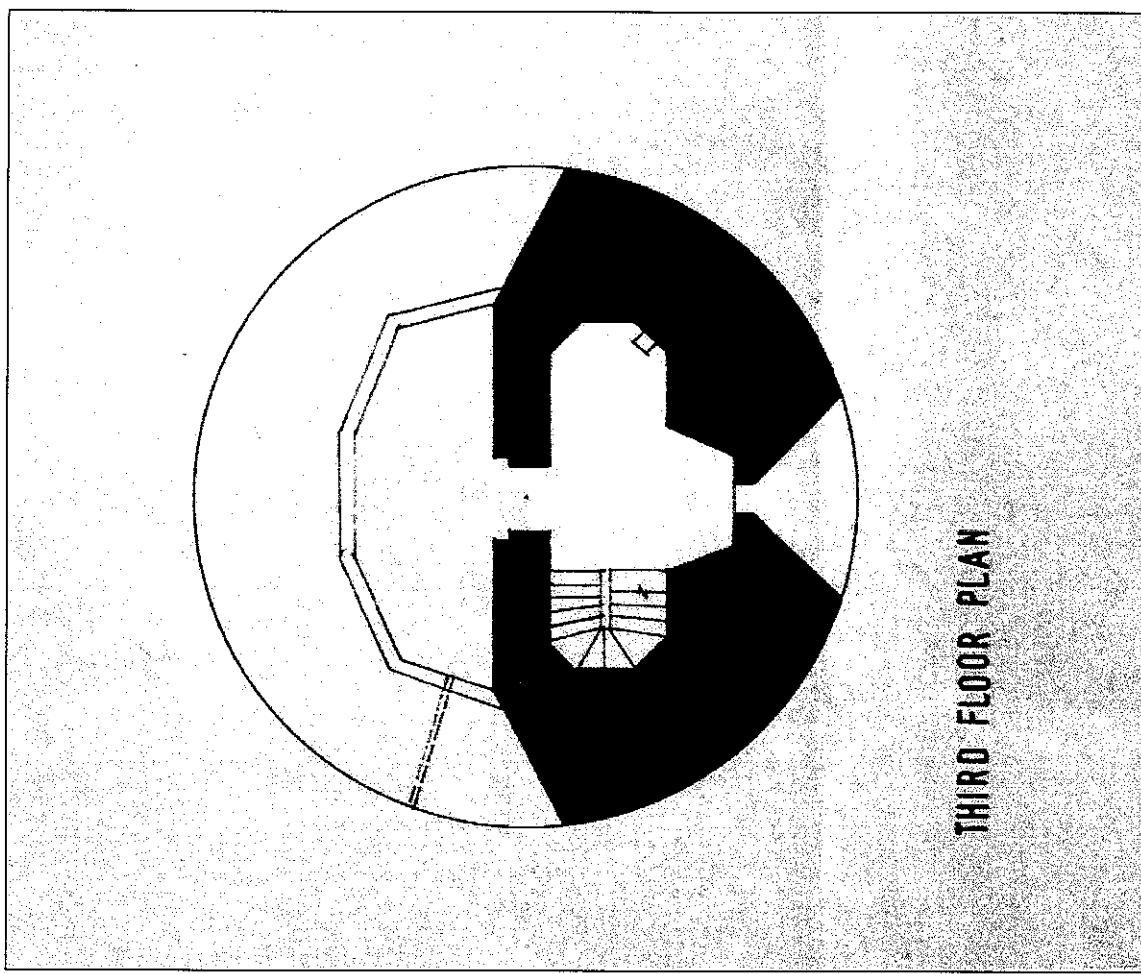
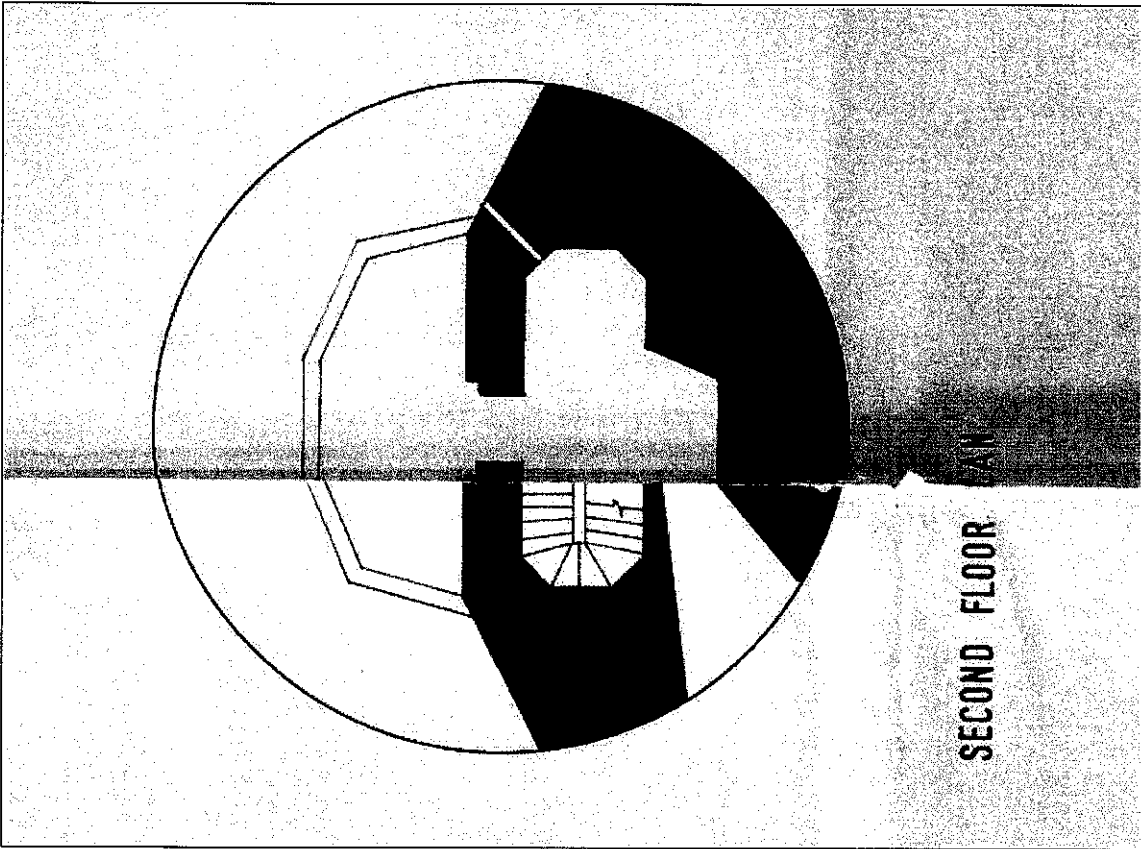


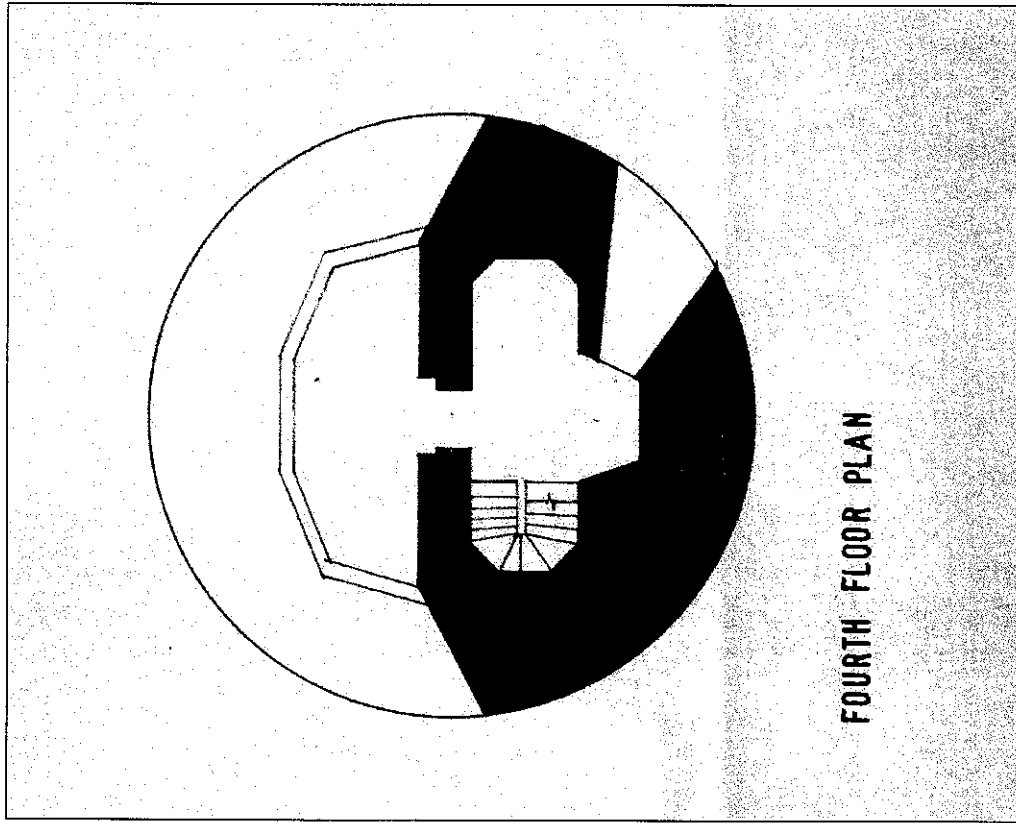
Survey of German Bunker, Corbière (drawing nos. 2566/2&3)



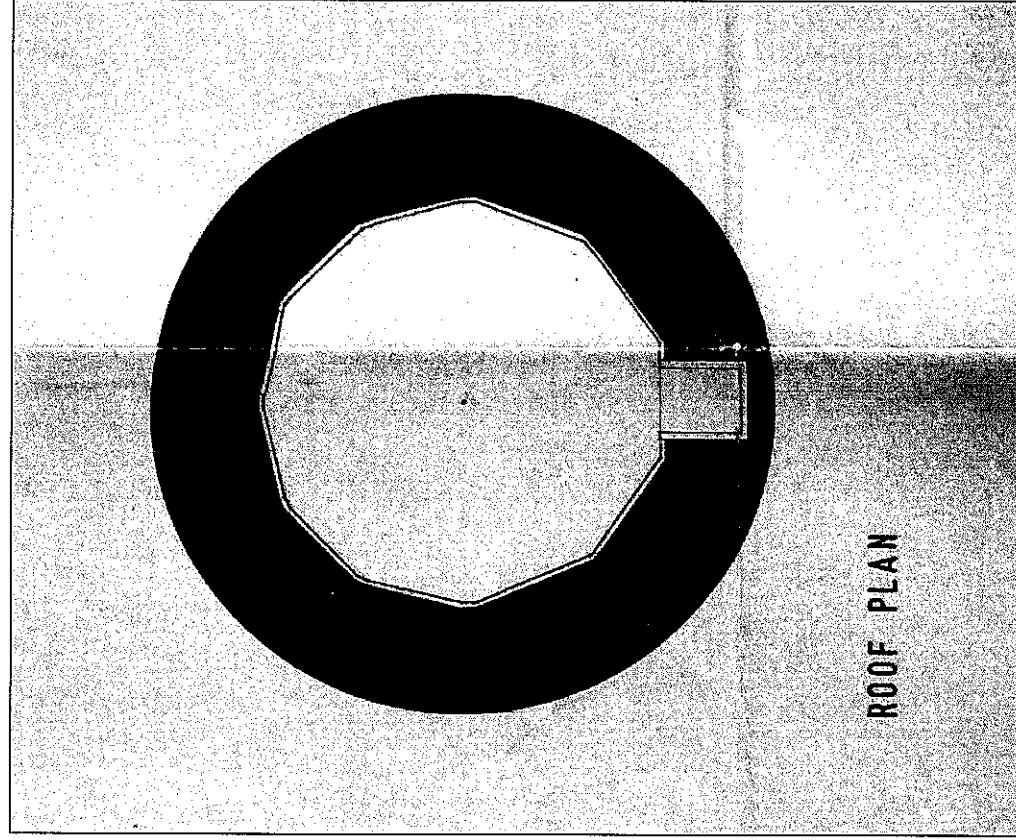
Survey of German Bunker, Corbière (drawing nos.2566/2&3)





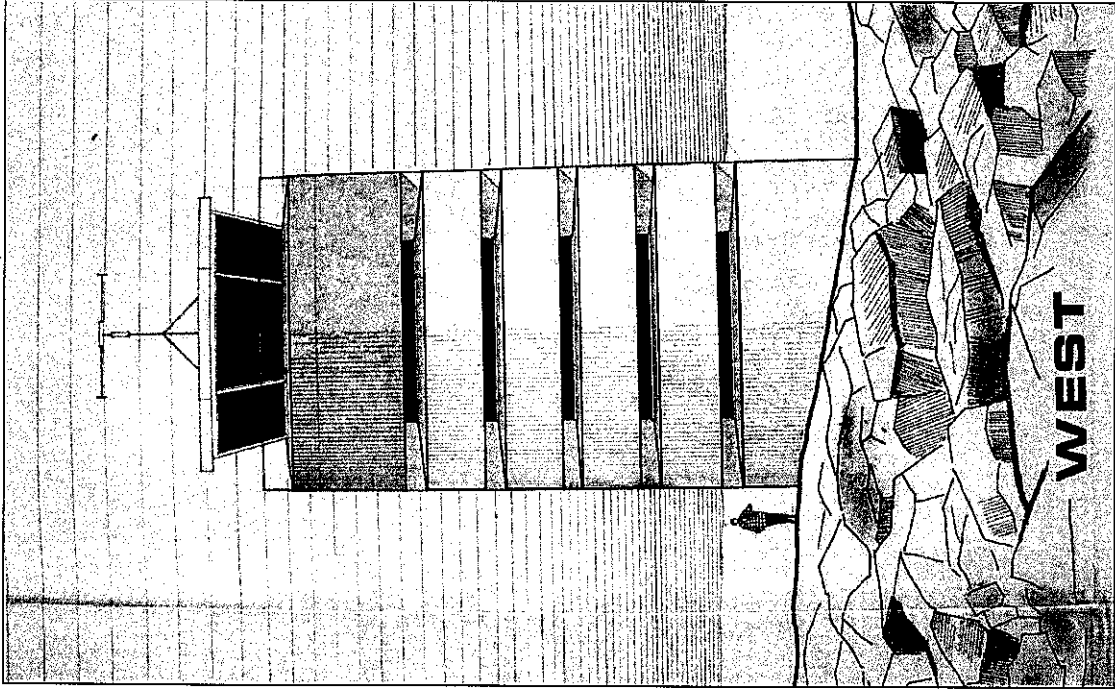
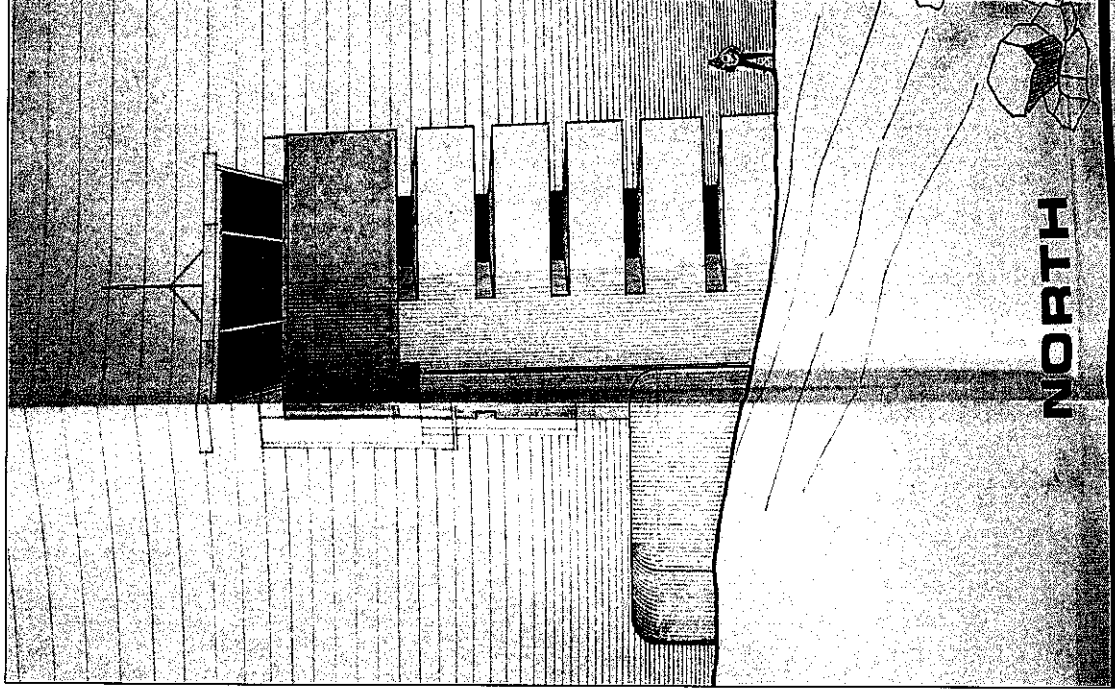


FOURTH FLOOR PLAN

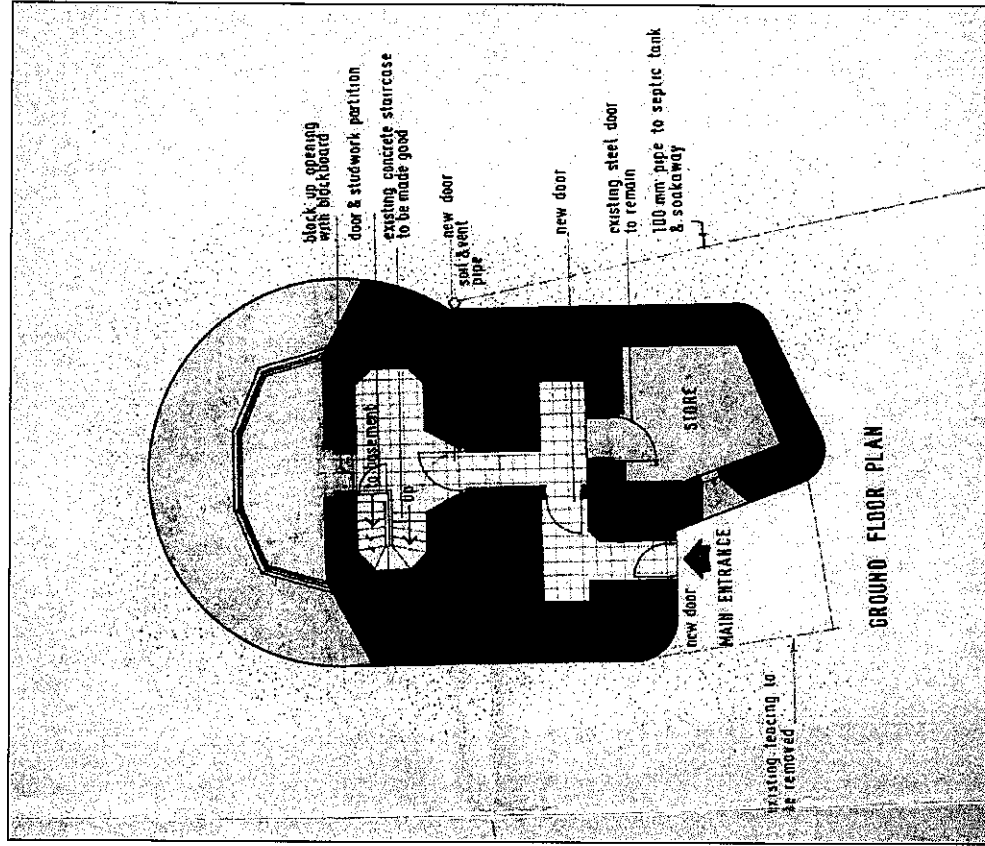
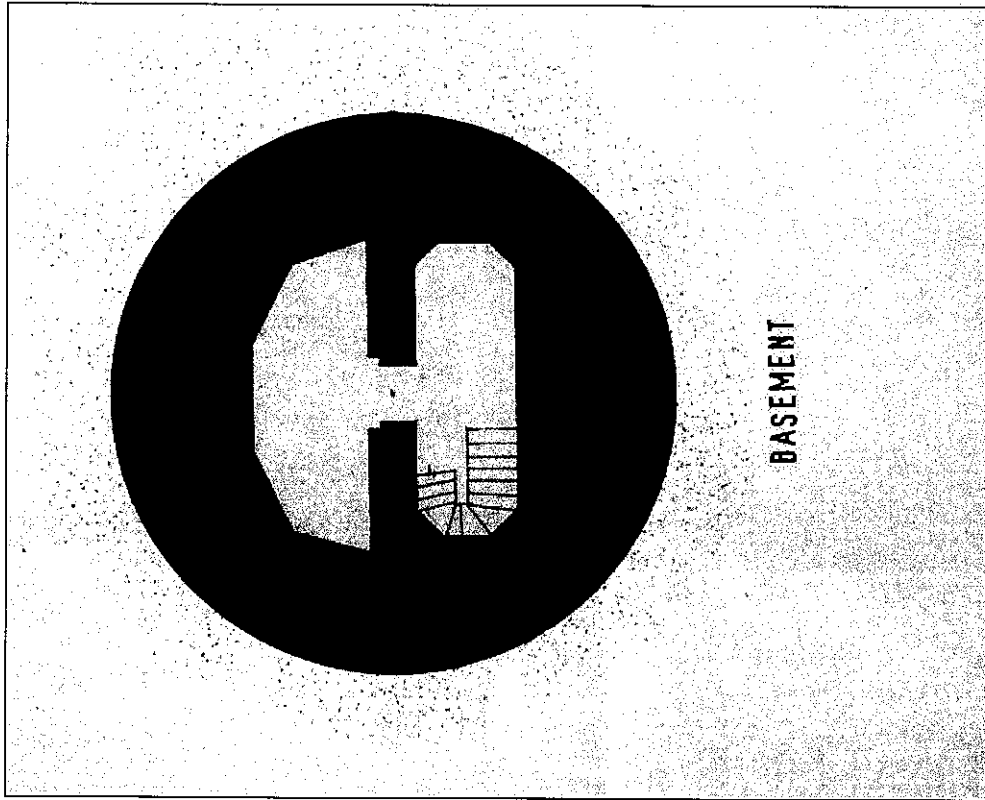


ROOF PLAN

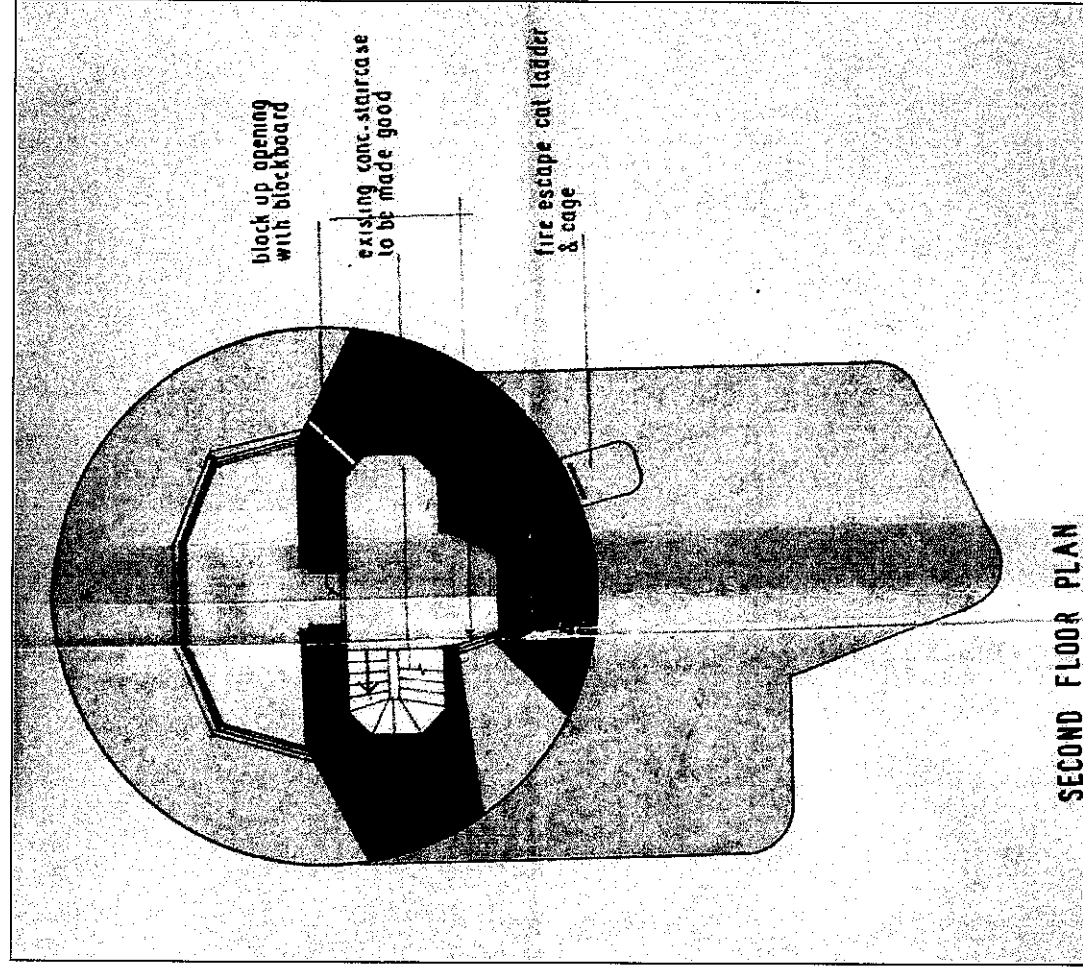
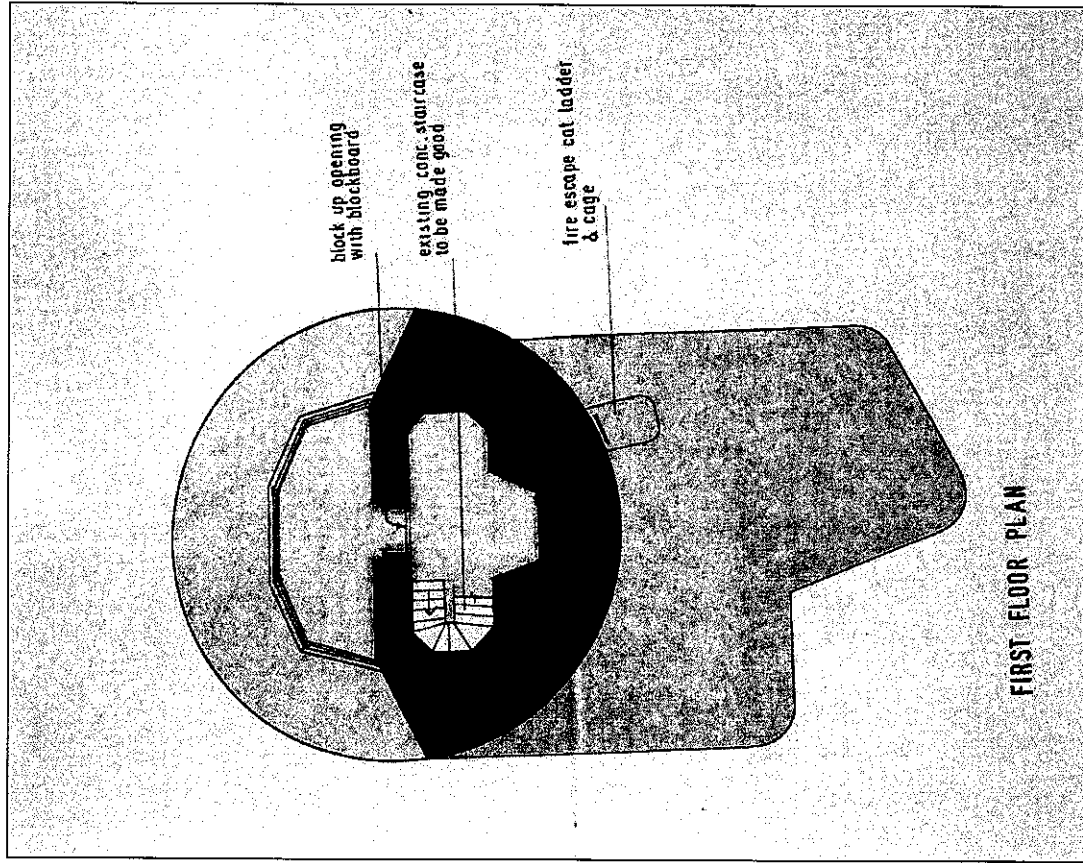
Survey of German Bunker, Corbière (drawing nos. 2566/2&3)



Proposed Jersey Radio Station (drawing no.2566/5)



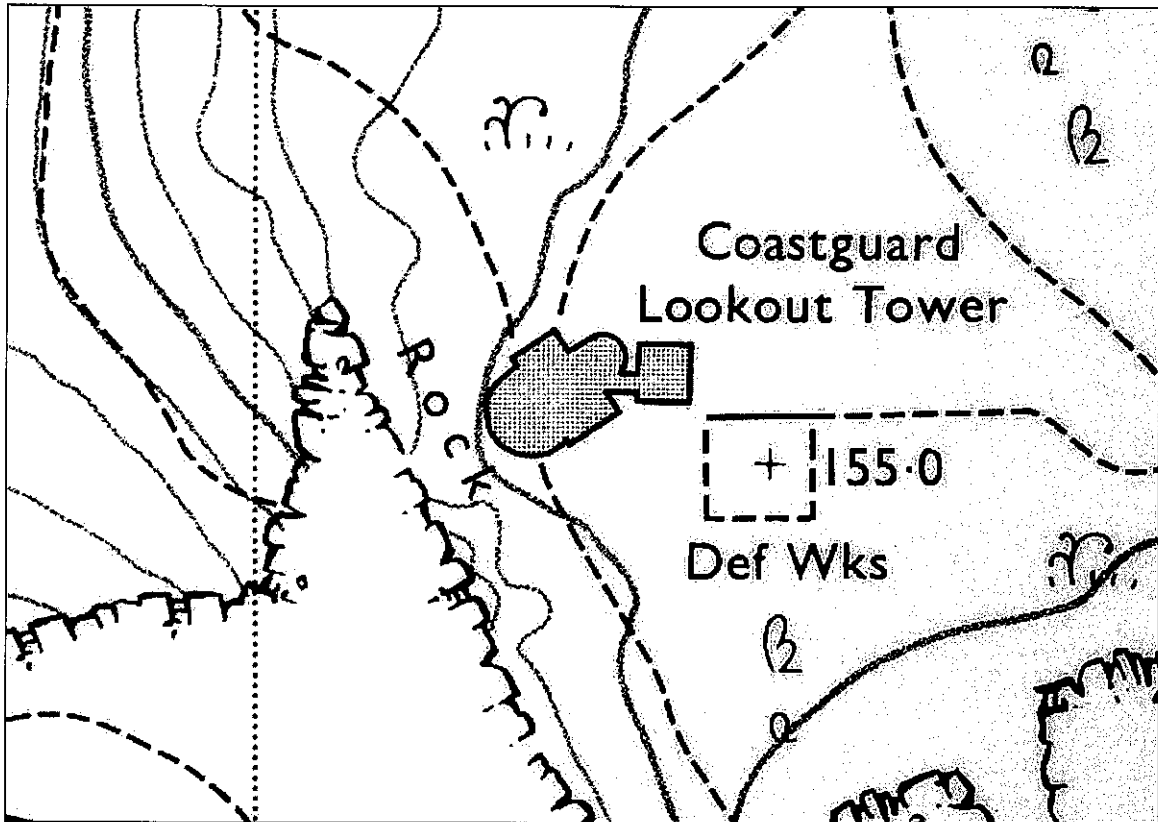
Proposed Jersey Radio Station (drawing no.2566/5)



Proposed Jersey Radio Station (drawing no.2566/5)

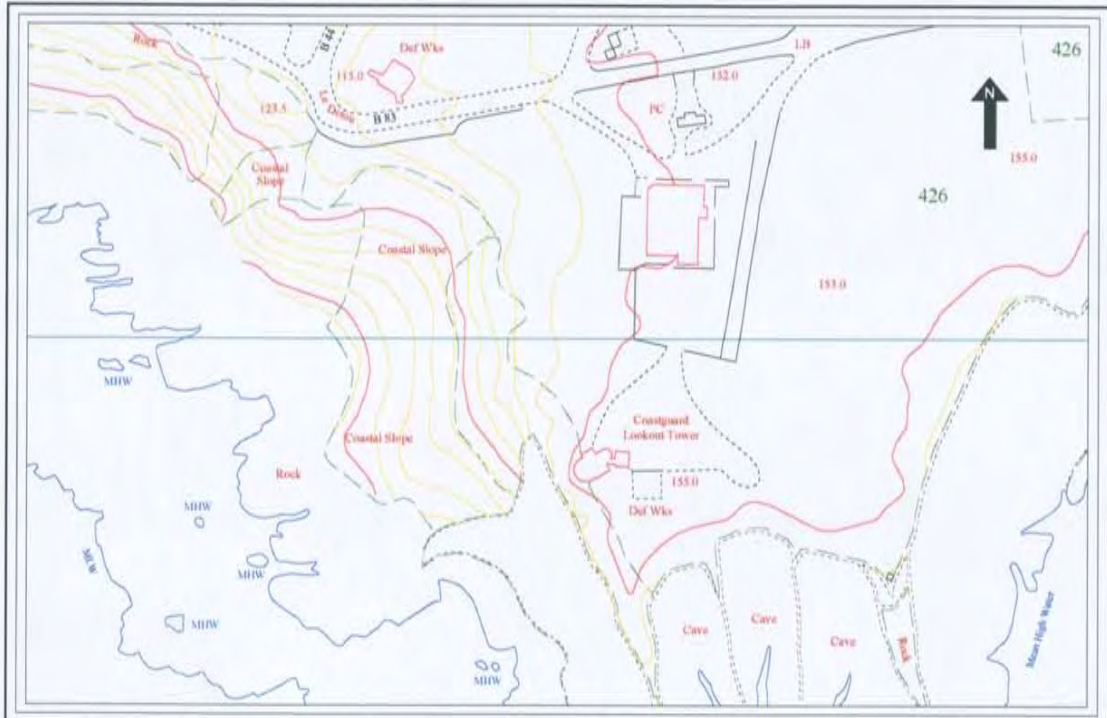
A.ii

Ordnance Survey Map of Jersey, 1981
(Jersey Archive ref: L/F/70/A/92)



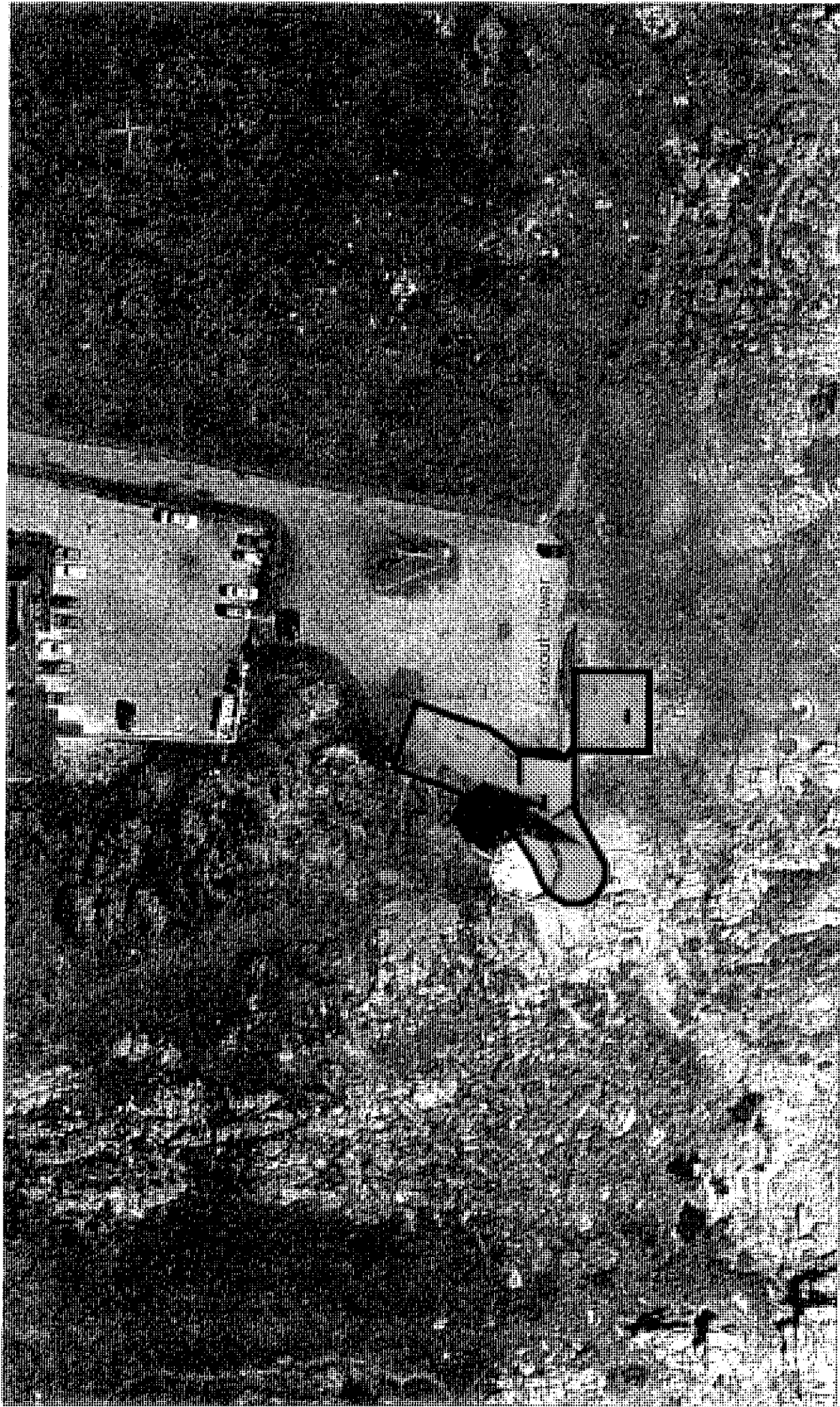
A.iii

Ordnance Survey Map of Jersey, 2003
(States of Jersey Planning and Building Services Department)



A.iv

Plan showing the extent of the site under management responsibility of
the Jersey Heritage Trust



Drawing No:

581/1

Radio Tower St Brelade Jan '06

Boundary Information Supplied by the States of Jersey Planning Office, but no responsibility can be accepted for error.



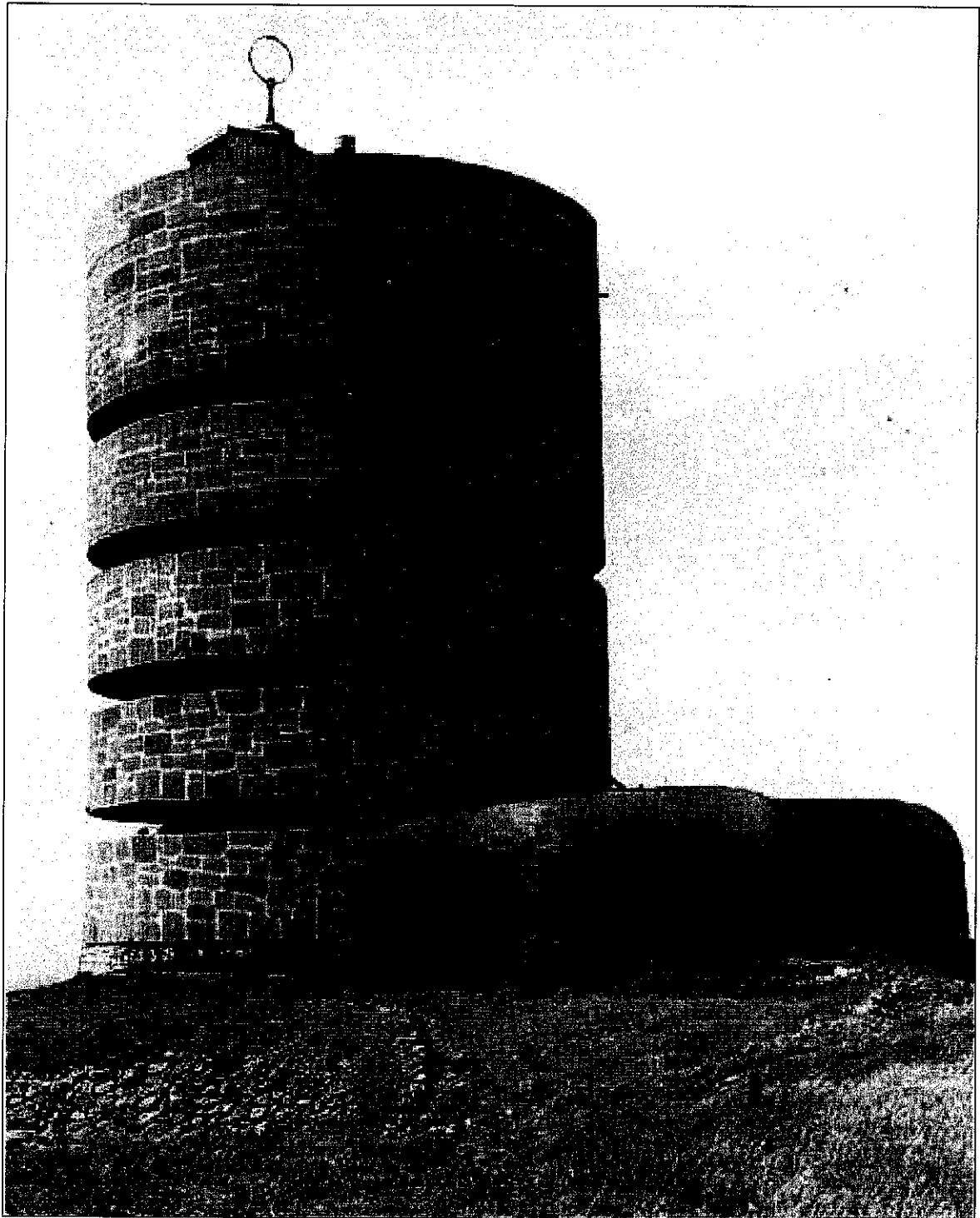
STATES OF JERSEY
PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION
COMMISSION

Appendix B

Photographs

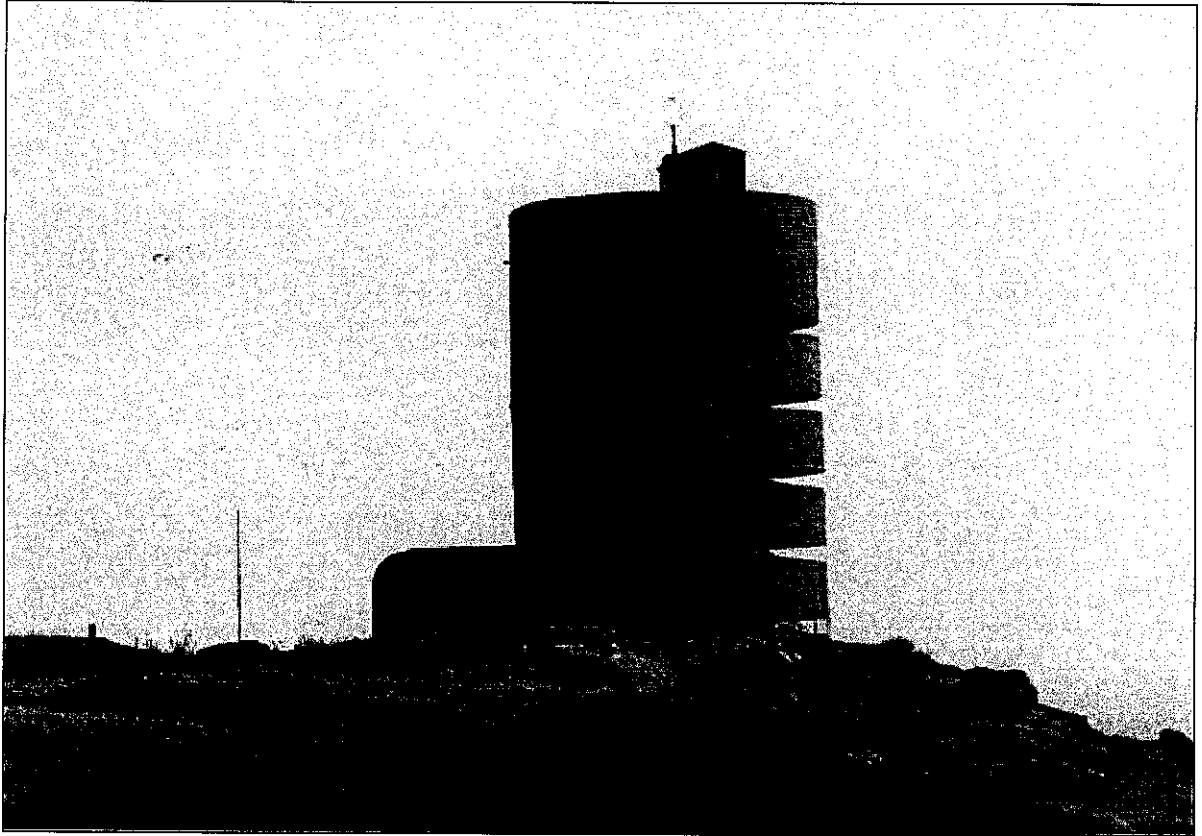
B.i

German coastal artillery observation tower showing camouflage paint
(Société Jersiaise Photographic Archive ref: SJPA/034391)



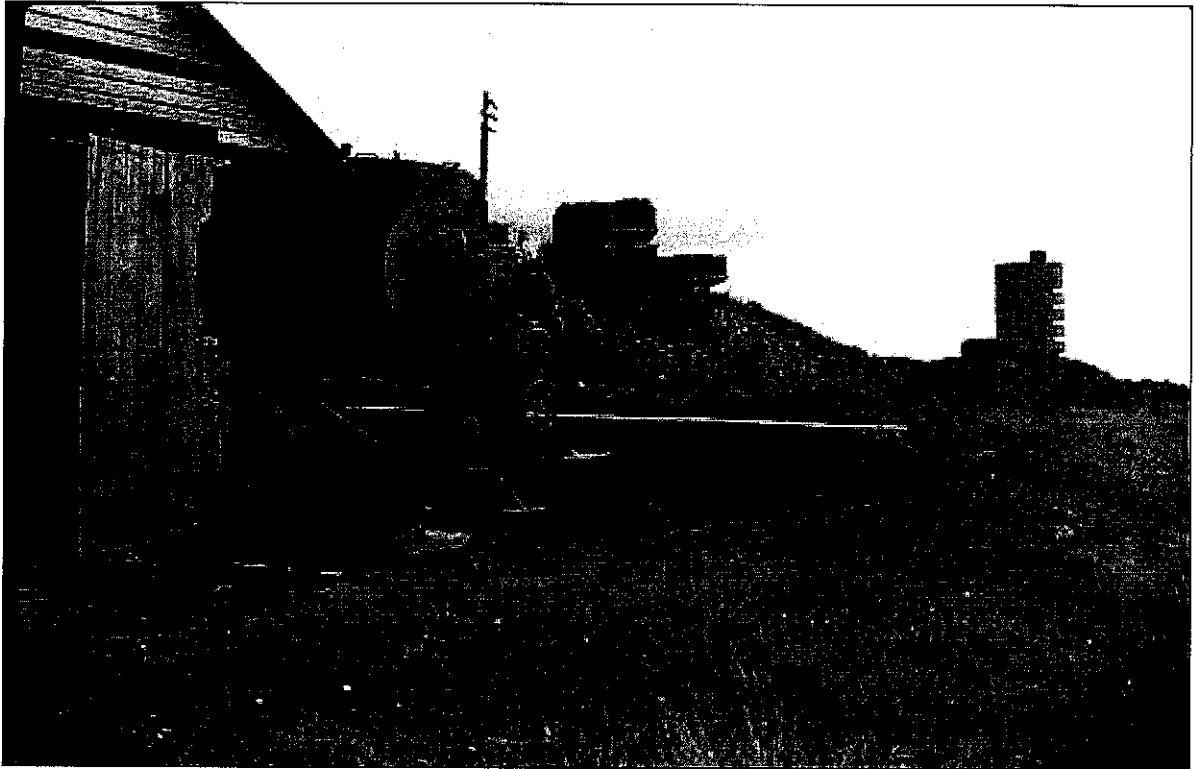
B.ii

German coastal artillery observation tower with radio direction finding aerial on roof
(Société Jersiaise Photographic Archive ref: SJPA/036149)



B.iii

German searchlight at Corbiere with MP2 Tower in the background
(Société Jersiaise Photographic Archive ref: SJPA/036176)



B.iv

Photographs of the MP2 Observation Tower 1989-2005
(Environment & Public Services Committee Historic Buildings Register ref: BR0206)





MP2 Observation Tower c.1989



Associated personnel shelter c.1989



c.1989



c.1989



interior of tower



March 2005



interior of tower

March 2005



interior of tower

March 2005



interior of tower

March 2005



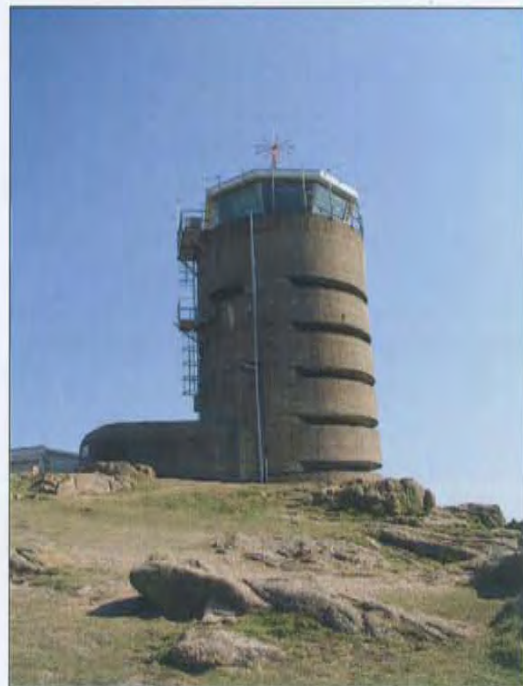
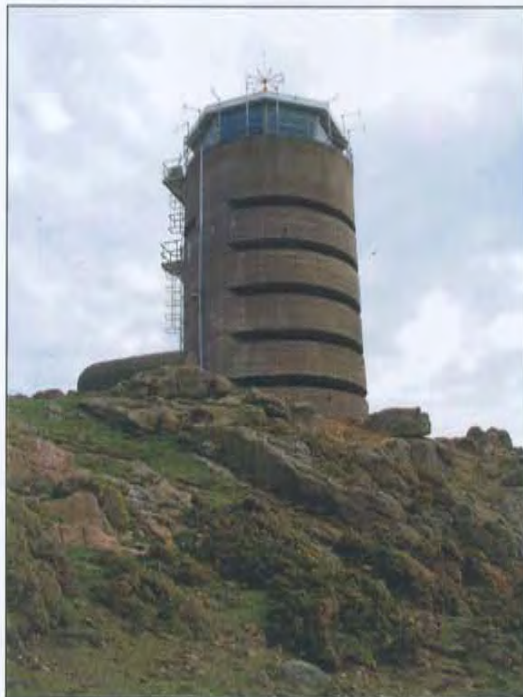
interior of tower

March 2005



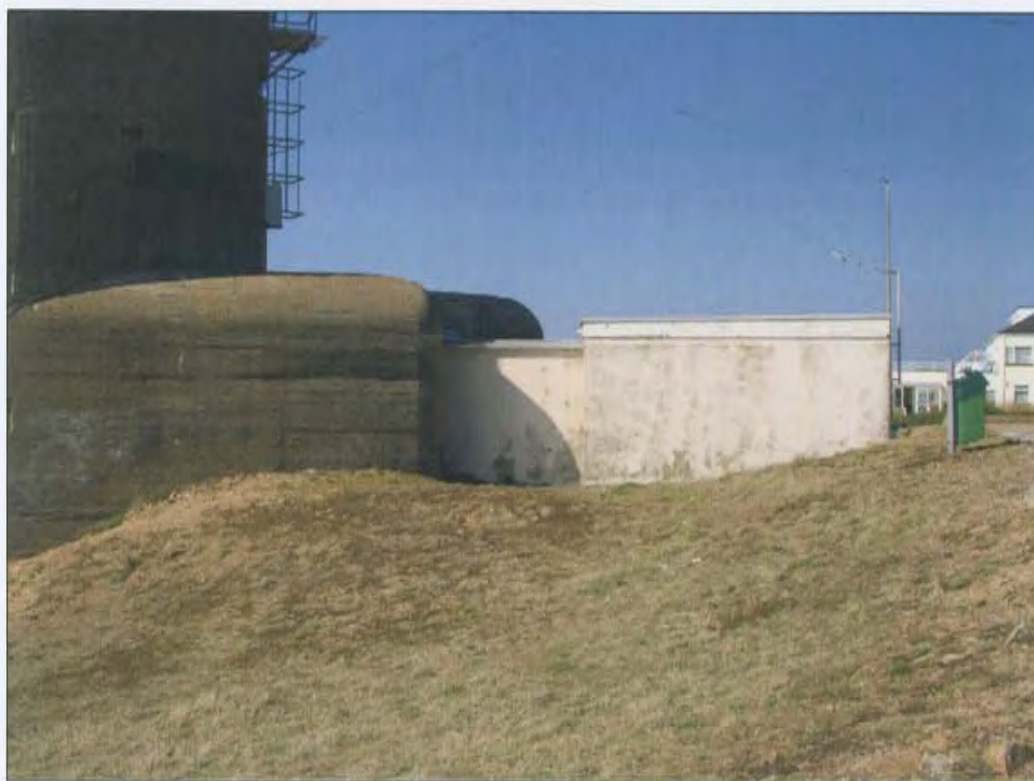
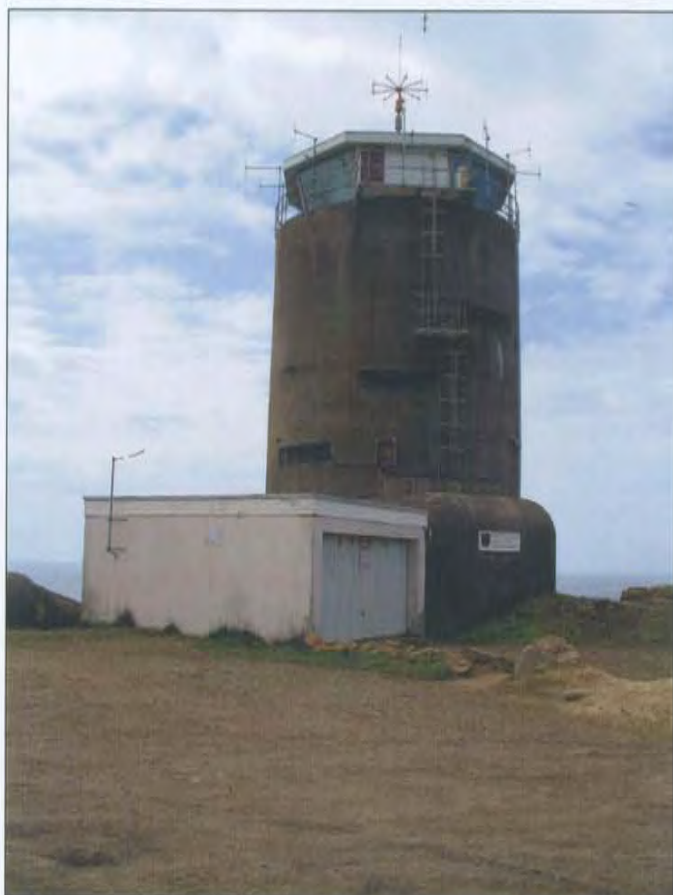
interior of tower

March 2005



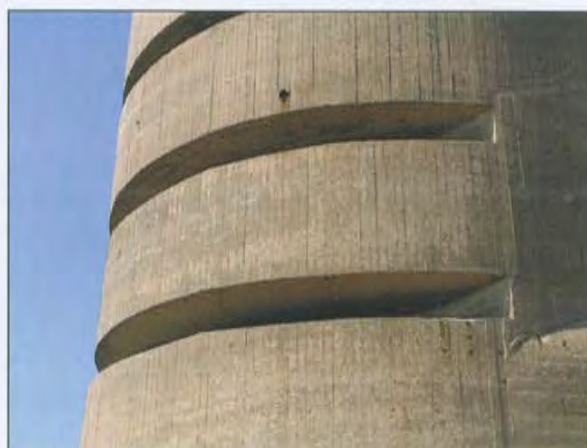
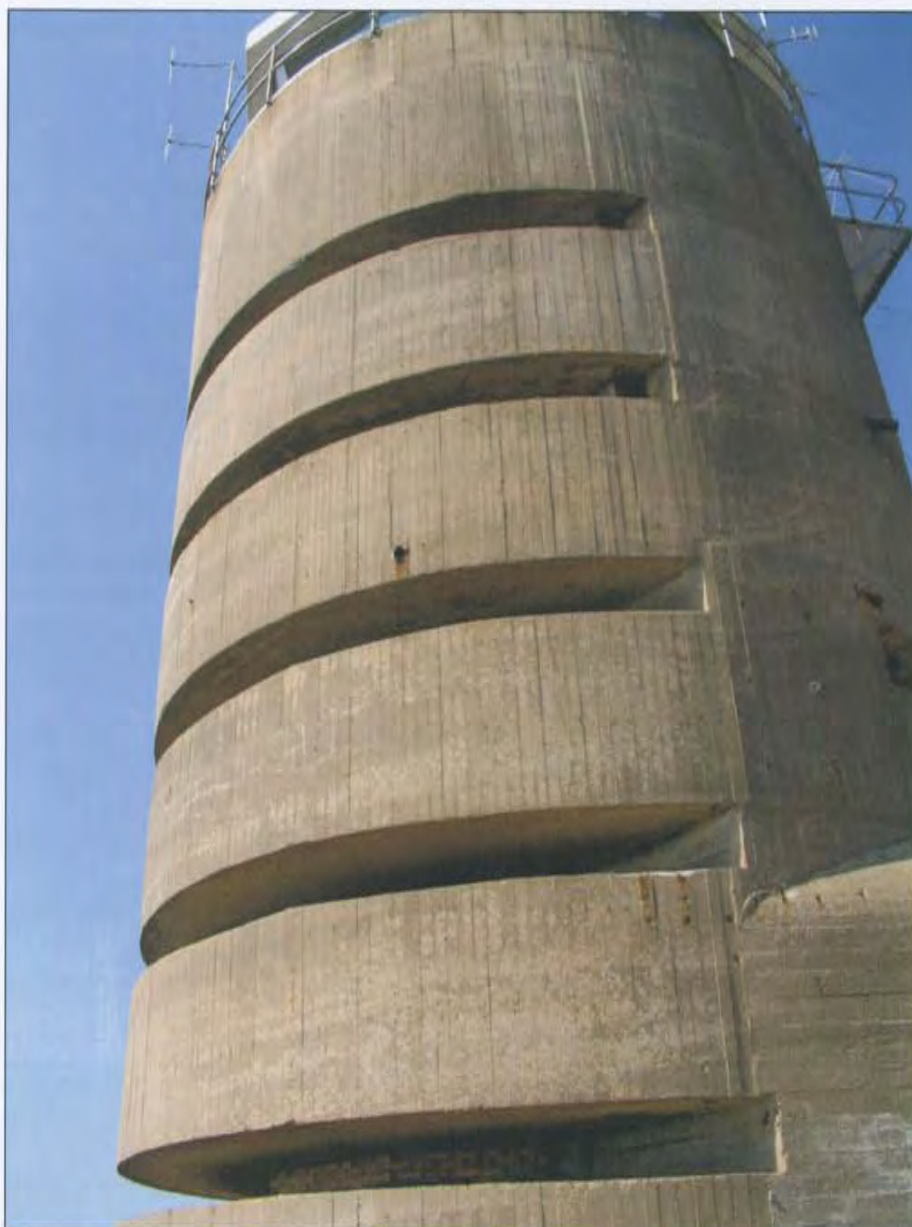
MP2 Observation Tower

July 2005



MP2 Observation Tower

July 2005



MP2 Observation Tower

July 2005

Appendix C

Published articles

8 - ARTILLERY OBSERVATION POSTS

Of all the German fortifications in Jersey, the most prominent and impressive are the three large naval artillery direction and range-finding towers (*Marine Peilstände und Meßstellen*). Nine were planned but only three were completed, at Noirmont Point (MP 1), La Corbière (MP 2), and at Les Landes, St. Ouen, (MP 3), of which mention has been made earlier. All three survive, whilst the basement of a fourth (MP 9) under construction is buried in the garden of the property known as "Lesadrieux" in La Rue de la Hougette, St. Clement.

For the benefit of the curious, the others were to have been located at Plémont, St. Ouen, (MP 4); Sorel Point, St. John (MP 5); Belle Hougue Point, Trinity (MP 6); La Coupe, St. Martin (MP 7); and at Victoria Tower, Faldouet (MP 8).

The multi-storied layout of these towers is explained by the fact that each floor was intended to control a separate artillery battery, using the long base method of range-finding which depended upon a cross bearing being taken upon a target from two adjacent towers; the known distance between the two forming a base line upon which calculations could be made. The system only really worked when concentrating on a single target, and had an invasion fleet of several hundred ships appeared off any of the Channel Islands, as happened elsewhere, the observer in one tower could never really have been sure that the ship upon which he was obtaining a bearing was the same one that his opposite number in the neighbouring tower would be targetting. Hence the whole system was pointless and, in the event, the towers were used for simple observation purposes or for mounting radar or anti-aircraft guns.

Army Coastal Artillery Observation Posts

Although only built to reinforced field standards, and therefore not included in the Building Progress Reports, it would be opportune to mention here the split-level observation posts of the Army coastal artillery as they are both numerous and prominent. These may be seen at La Corbière (M 1); Les Landes, St. Ouen (M 2a and 2); Plémont, St. Ouen, and converted into a store for the adjacent holiday camp (M 3); Sorel Point, St. John (M 4); Egypt, Trinity, and now in use as a nuclear monitoring station (M 5); South Hill Gardens, St. Helier (M 9); Le Chemin des Signaux, La Moye, St. Brelade (M 10 and M 10a, with the former now in use as the headquarters of the Jersey Amateur Radio Society).

To complete the list, it should be mentioned that M 6 and M 8 were housed in adapted windmills at Rozel and Grouville, respectively, while M 7 consisted of specially erected turrets on the summit of the mediaeval Mont Orgueil Castle.

Battery Observation Posts

Whilst all the coastal batteries had observers stationed in the buildings mentioned above, some had, in addition, their own battery observation posts which were usually reinforced field type constructions with two or three rooms, one of which would be the observation room.

Batterie Hindenburg : This battery had a purpose-built observation post which now lies beneath the property known as No.10 La Petite Ruelle, La Route Orange, St. Brelade, and is incorporated into the house.

Batterie Ludendorff : Made use of St. Ouen's Mill in which the ranging chart still survives above the observation slits.

Batterie Endrass : A now sealed battery observation post stands at the top of Westmount Gardens, St. Helier, with sweeping views over St. Aubin's Bay, necessary for this harbour blocking battery.

Batterie Schlieffen, Verclut, Grouville : When this battery moved to Jersey from Guernsey in August, 1944, it took over the command post of an infantry resistance nest for use as an observation post. This survives, but is difficult of access and well overgrown.

Batterie Haeseler, La Coupe, St. Martin : Also moving to Jersey from Guernsey at the same time as *Schlieffen*, this battery had a field type observation post of which all traces have long since vanished.

All the divisional artillery batteries had their own purpose-built observation posts, with the exception of *Batterie Dietl* at Maufant which shared Rozel Mill with the coastal artillery, and *Batterie Seeckt* at La Rue au Blancq, St. Clement, which used the 19th century folly known as Nicolle Tower. All survive, but it may be noted that the observation post of *Batterie Brauchitsch* which stands in the grounds of "Floreale", high above Gorey Village, has been sealed and converted into a water catchment tank for the garden.

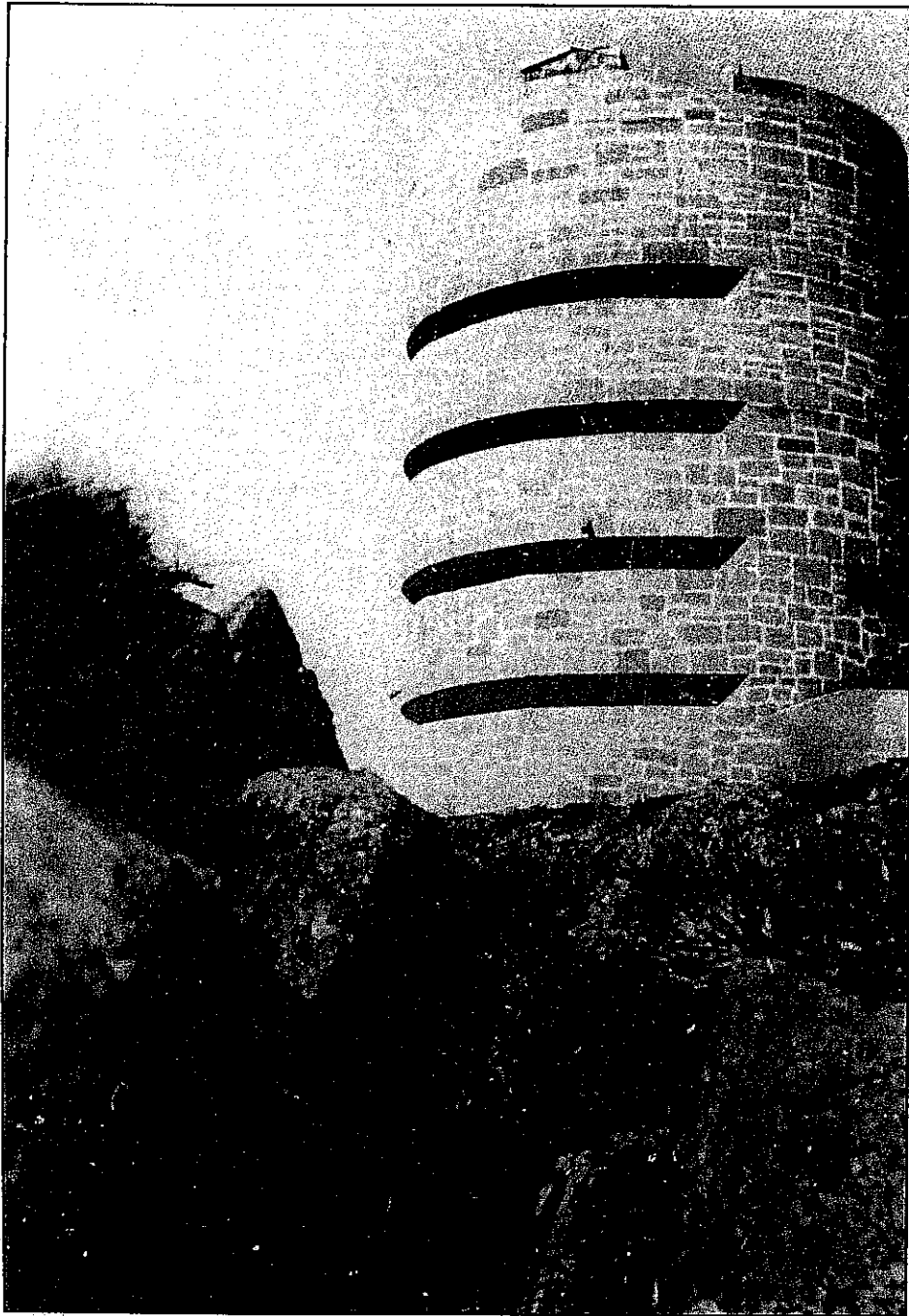


Fig.87 - 1944 photograph of *MP 2* at La Corbière camouflaged to resemble a granite 18th Century Round Tower.

La Société Jersiaise

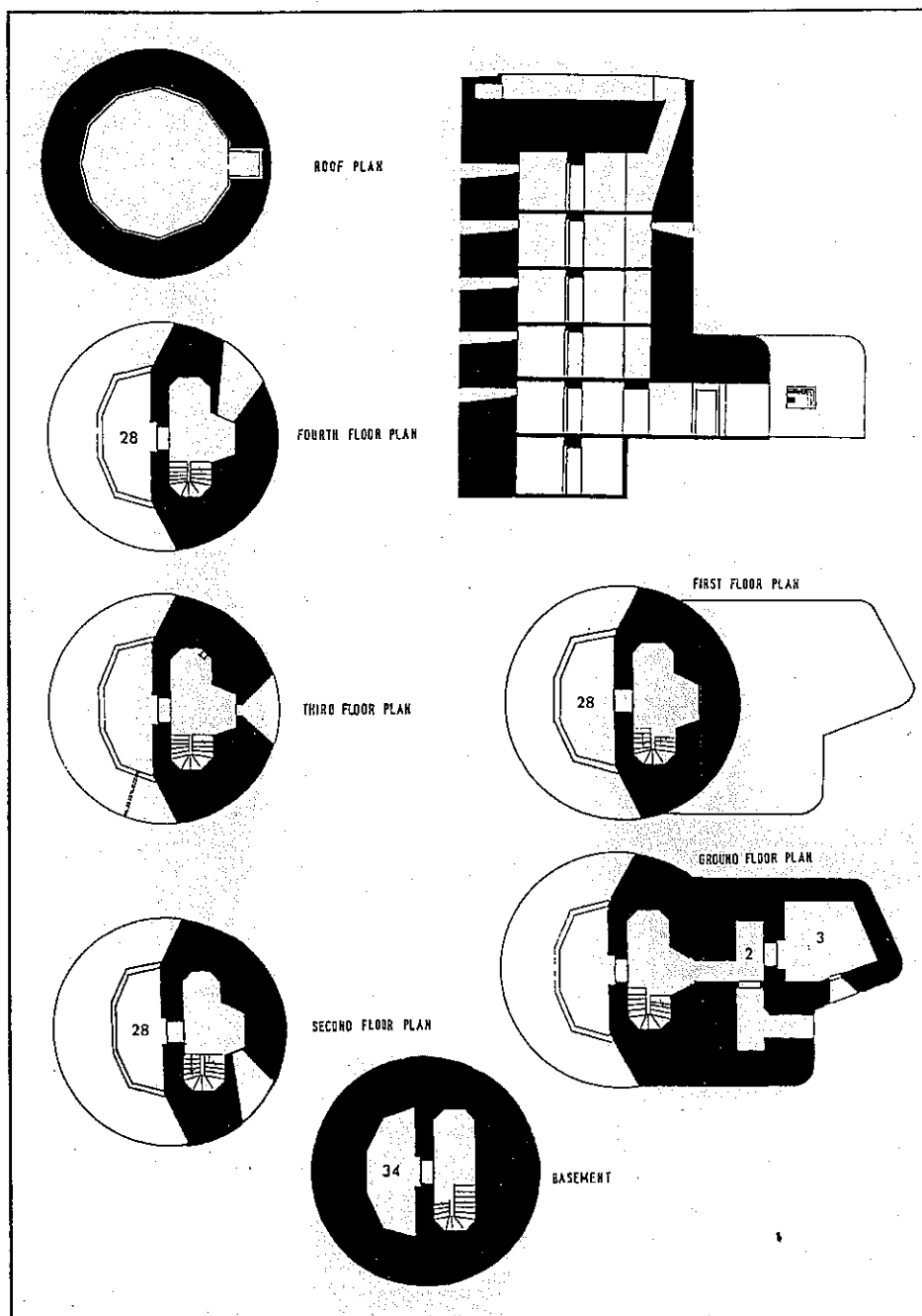


Fig.88 - MP 2 at La Corbière. These towers were all grade 'A' structures and the five storied versions are 17.80 metres high or, precisely, 55 feet 9 and three eighths inches.

COASTAL ARTILLERY OBSERVATION POSTS

by Michael Ginns

When Hitler ordered that the Channel Islands should be converted into unassailable fortresses in 1941, it was the intention of the German High Command that the islands should become *naval* fortresses.

Some naval batteries under the control of MAA 604 (*Marineartillerie Abteilung 604* = Naval Artillery Battalion 604) had already begun to arrive in the Channel Islands from March 1941 onwards, to protect them from British attack. With the consolidation of the naval fortress plan at the end of the same year, it was the ultimate intention that the main islands of Alderney, Guernsey and Jersey would mount one 38cm calibre battery each, and as secondary armament Guernsey and Jersey would have four 15cm batteries each and Alderney two.

Due to the exigencies of the war as it progressed, this ambitious plan never reached fruition. Some of the naval batteries already installed were indeed re-armed with the modern 15cm SK c/28 weapons but the only large calibre battery installed was that known as *Mirus* on Guernsey with four 30.5cm guns of Russian manufacture dating from the year 1914.

In order to bring the artillery defences up to the standard demanded by Hitler it became necessary to call upon a mixed bag of coastal artillery units of the Army equipped variously with a few modern German weapons as well as a larger number of French pieces of World War I vintage. In May 1943, these units were incorporated in the then newly formed HKAR 1265 (*Heeresküstenartillerie Regiment 1265* = Army Coastal Regiment 1265).

However, equipped with guns of whatsoever calibre, provenance and age, all the 36 batteries which eventually found themselves in the Channel Islands had to be provided with an effective system of fire control and to this end (and with the eventual naval fortress plan still in mind) a comprehensive system of naval direction-finding and range-finding towers (known as *Marinepeilstanden und Messstellen* = naval direction and range-finding positions, usually abbreviated to *MP*) was planned for erection around the coastlines of the larger islands. Ultimately not all were constructed, but those that were completed were to strict "fortress" standards, i.e. with reinforced concrete not less than two metres thick.

Intended only as a stopgap, the Army coastal batteries made do with a chain of range-finding positions consisting of split level concrete constructions (built to "reinforced field" standard, i.e. with concrete up to one metre thick) as well as adapted mills, castles, guard houses and old forts.

The Germany Army often criticised the Navy for siting its coastal batteries in exposed positions at the edge of cliffs and thus making them liable to sudden attacks by Commandos. The Navy responded by explaining that this was standard practice as they were used to direct gun laying methods as on a ship where the target is usually in view of the gunners.

NAVAL BATTERY FIRE CONTROL AND COMMAND POSITIONS

All the naval batteries in the Channel Islands were provided with a command post known as a *Leitstand*. These were substantial bunkers built to fortress standards and containing all the modern fire control systems that might be found on a warship. Batteries *Annes* and *Elsass* in Alderney were provided with a standard *M 120* command bunker on one floor only but *Strassburg* in Guernsey, and *Lothringen* in Jersey, had a modified version on two floors which incorporated crew quarters on the lower level. Battery *Dollmann* on Guernsey (manned by the Army but intended for later conversion to a naval battery) had a *Leitstand* bunker of an entirely different design and that of the large calibre battery *Mirus* was far more complex and is fully described in Colin Partridge's excellent book *Mirus - The Making of a Battery*, to which the reader is referred.

It is indeed fortunate that the *Leitstand* bunker of battery *Lothringen* at Noirmont Point, Jersey, has remained largely intact and has been preserved and partially restored by the Occupation Society. As already stated, this bunker performs all the functions of the fire control system found on a warship and the main feature is the double, stepped, armoured cupolas which supported the azimuth periscopes. The cupolas at Noirmont are the sole surviving examples in the Channel Islands, all the others having fallen victim to the scrapman's torch in the 1950s. (See Figs. 1 & 2).

The apparatus housed beneath the armoured cupolas was the *Lange Zielsaeule C.38* (Long Target Pillar, 1938 - see Fig. 3). Normally this was used in conjunction with the *Entfernungsmessgerät* (Stereoscopic range-finder (see also Fig. 2). The range-finder was employed to determine the range of a target while the *Zielsaeule*, actually an azimuth periscope, determined the direction. Parallax, deflection and ballistic corrections were applied and the corrected data sent to the guns. The *Leitstand* could also be used as one end of the base line when the so-called "long base" method of range-finding was employed, although this only applied to major calibre batteries such as *Mirus* on Guernsey. The other end of the base line would be the *Peilstand* (direction-finding position - see Fig. 4 for details).

German coastal batteries on the main Atlantic Wall along the French coast were intended to fire only at targets out to sea and directly to their front; as a result, the guns were almost universally placed under concrete as a protection against air attack. The batteries on the Channel Islands, however, enjoyed all round fields of fire and were capable of firing right across the particular island on which they were emplaced at targets which were completely out of sight of the gunners and the battery's own range-finding capability. To overcome this problem a system of direction and range-finding positions was devised which, had the fortification programme ever been brought to fruition, would have resulted in a chain of monolithic, multi-storied towers around the coasts of the three main islands. In the event, the grand total of 22 towers was never completed due to the run down of the building force in October 1943, and the fact that *Kapitän zur See* Julius Steinbach, Naval Commander Channel Islands, had definite doubts about the usefulness of these towers, particularly when multiple targets were in sight.

JERSEY

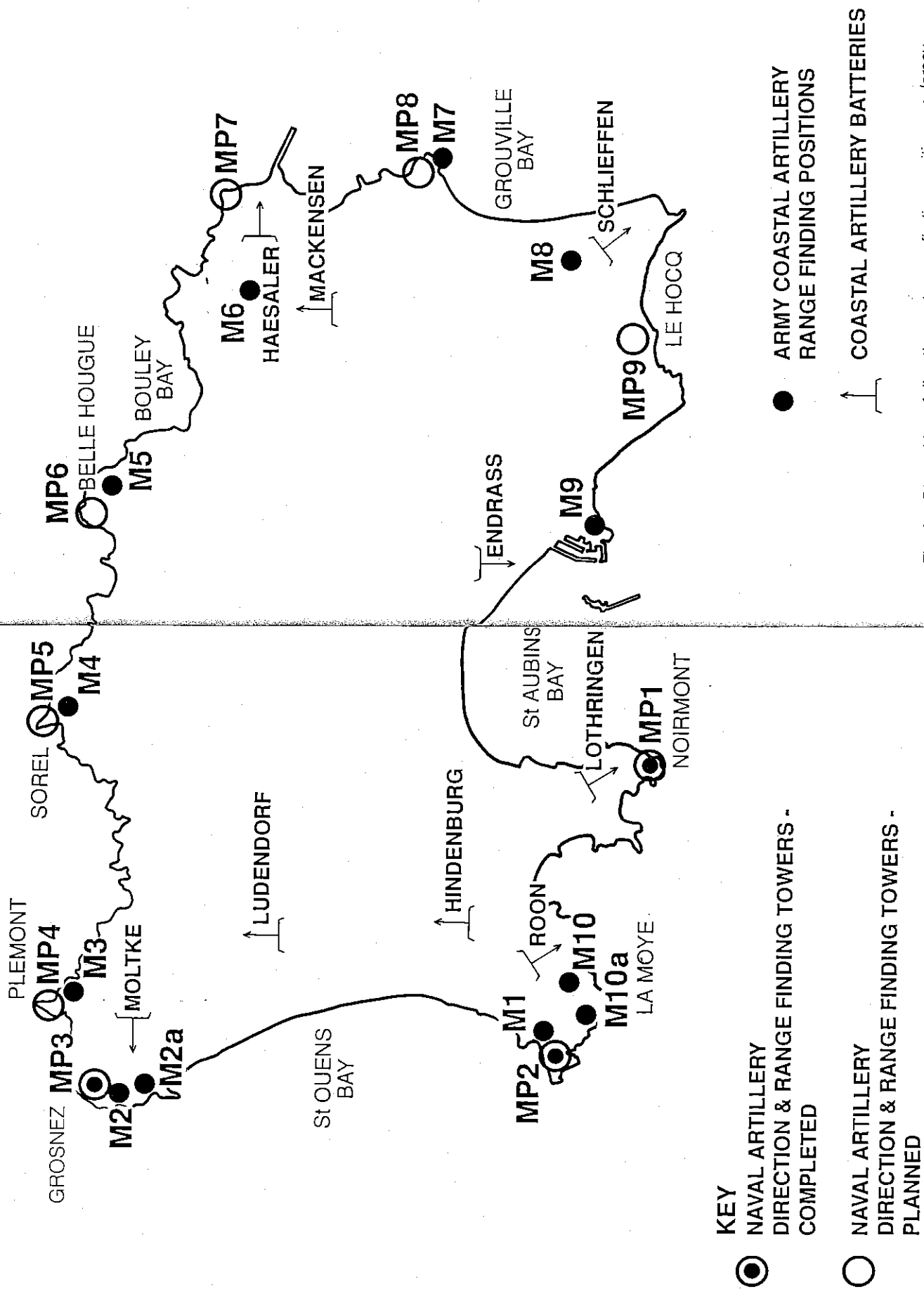


Fig. 6 - Disposition of direction and range-finding positions on Jersey.

JERSEY

MP 1 : Noirmont Point - This tower is unique as the entrance is on the top floor rather than the bottom and it has four observation slits instead of the usual five. During the war a 2cm *Flak Oerlikon* gun was mounted on the roof.

The tower is in the care of the Occupation Society and is open to the public during the summer months.

MP 2 : La Corbière - As the *MP* towers are unique to the Channel Islands, not being found anywhere else on the Atlantic Wall, the theory has sometimes been advanced that their shape was deliberately chosen so that they would blend in with the numerous Martello and pre-Martello round towers which abound in the Channel Islands.

Those who question this theory claim that this would have been pointless as the positions of the old 18/19th century constructions were well known and clearly marked on pre-war Ordnance Survey maps. However, *MP 2* was deliberately camouflaged to resemble an older tower with imitation, painted granite blocks - see Fig. 10.

At the summit of the tower a small cabin was to be seen and this housed radio direction-finding equipment (not radar) which enabled German naval vessels to obtain their bearings.

For many years *MP 2* has come under the aegis of the States of Jersey Harbours & Airport Committee and housed radio equipment. Since 1976 it has been the home of Jersey Radio (not B.B.C. Radio Jersey) and from the glass panelled control room atop the tower a duty officer monitors the radio traffic of all shipping passing through the entrance to the English Channel.

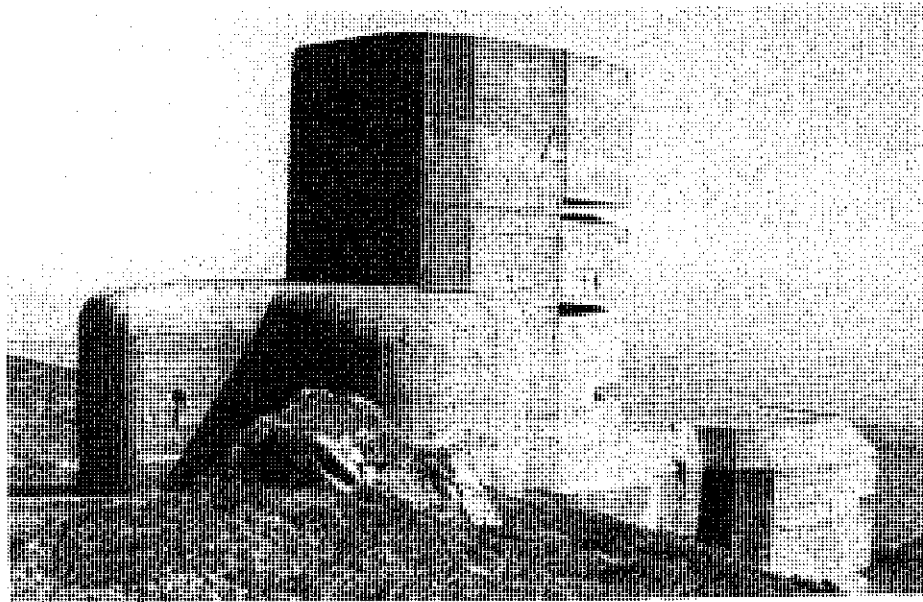
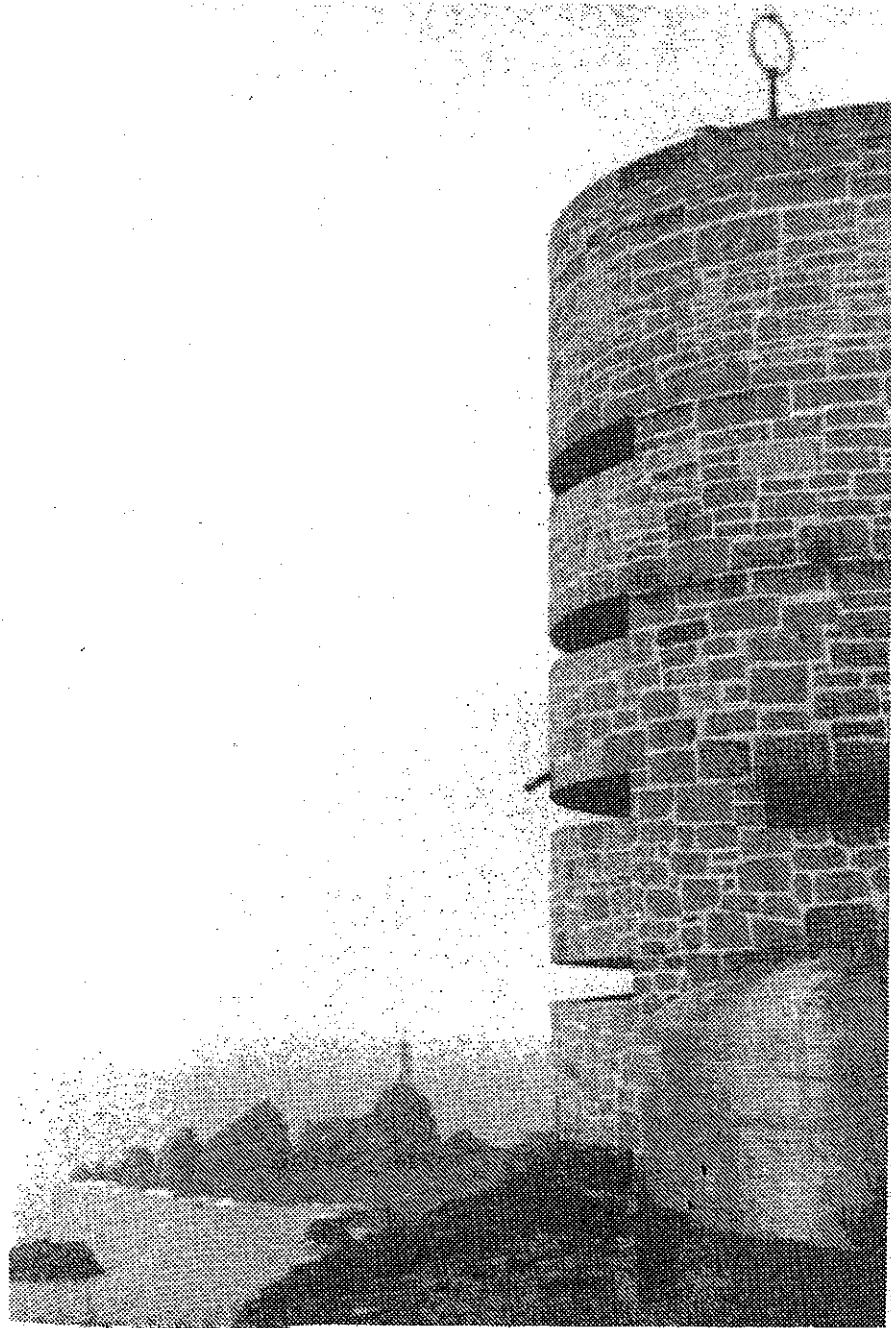


Fig. 5 – *MP 4* at L'Angle. Note the very unusual design.

(Photo: K. Tough)

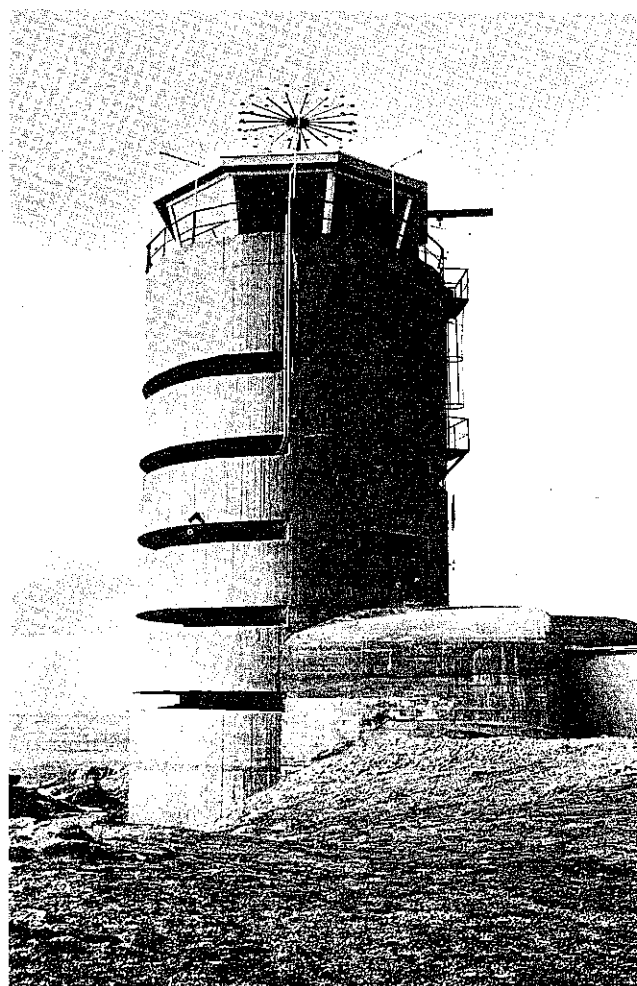


Ramsey W G (1981) The War in the Channel Islands - Then and Now



Above: Back to Charles Brown and his magnificent flying machine — now buzzing the direction-finding tower MP2 at La Corbiere. *Below left:* The tower was a normal construction in reinforced concrete — the stonework effect has been created by

an artist (Societe Jersiaise). *Below right:* Only the merest traces of paint remain today, the tower now being occupied as a modern-day counterpart to its former use. It became operational again in March 1977 after a conversion costing £30,000.



6. OBSERVATION TOWERS

With the exception of *Batterie Endrass*, the guns of all the batteries mentioned in the previous chapter were capable of traversing through 360°. In the case of the larger weapons this meant that they were capable of firing at targets out to sea on the opposite side of the Island. However, artillery fire against targets that are out of sight to the gunners is useless unless properly observed and directed so that it was necessary to provide a comprehensive system of observation posts right around the Island.

Overall command for the firing of targets at sea was in the hands of the Naval Commander-in-Chief in Guernsey, and the ultimate intention was that the Channel Islands should become naval fortresses. Many of the Army coastal batteries, for example, were only intended to be stop-gap affairs. If events had followed their planned course, they would have been replaced by those of the Navy.

Fortress Type Towers. In accordance with this policy therefore, the OT soon began work on a number of *Marinepeilstanden und Messtellungen* (naval direction finding and signalling positions). These are the three huge concrete towers at Noirmont (MP 1), Corbiere (MP 2) and Les Landes, St. Ouen (MP 3), which greet the traveller by sea to Jersey. They were the forerunners of a chain of nine which it was intended to erect right round the coast. Each tower together with its contiguous personnel shelters consumed no less than 7,000 bags of cement in the making and most of them were constructed in the form of a spiral, this being visible in the set concrete – MP 2 at Corbiere being a good example.

MP 1 – Noirmont: Like all the towers this was equipped with range finding apparatus. However unlike the other two towers it had a 2cm Flak Oerlikon mounted on the roof. Today it stands empty, but not forlorn, for there can be few visitors to Jersey who have not made a pilgrimage, albeit

unknowingly to the Island's War Memorial at Noirmont Point and stood on top of MP 1 looking out to sea (see fig. 21a).

MP 2 – Corbiere: This tower was also fitted with radio direction finding apparatus (see fig. 12a). MP 2, ironically enough, still partly fulfils the task for which it was originally constructed and now houses high frequency radio equipment, the property of the States of Jersey Harbours and Airport Committee.

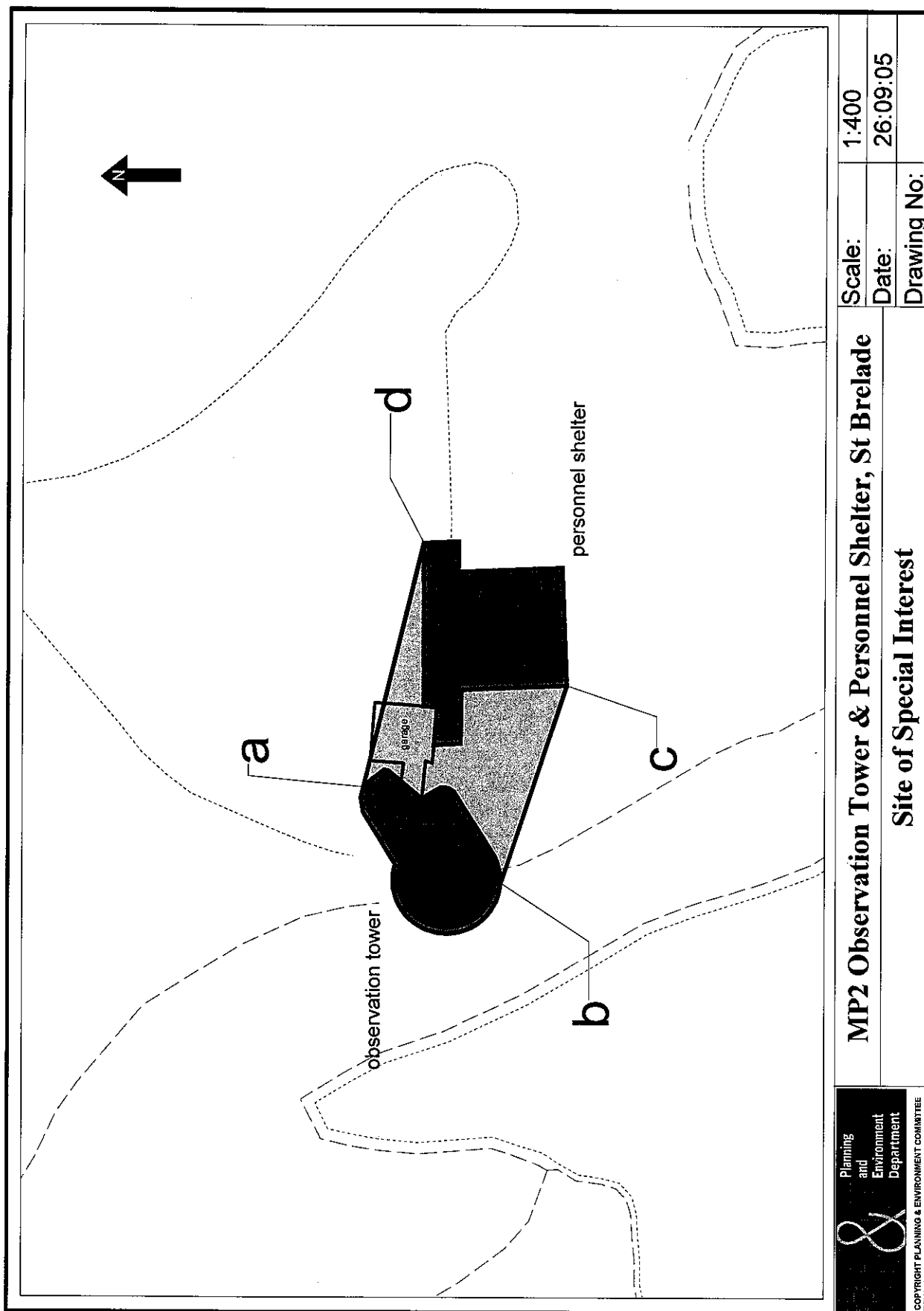
MP 3 – Les Landes: This tower was fitted with a huge *Freya* radar aerial the base of which survives today at the summit (see fig. 1). It came to be known as Fu Mo West (*Funkmess Ortungsgerat West* – Radar Set West). Today it stands not just empty – but forlorn. Very few visitors know of its existence and even knowing residents seldom grace it with a visit. However it is still possible to enter MP 3 at Les Landes and to do so alone is an eerie experience as one listens to the wind sighing ceaselessly through the observation slits and the surf thundering against the rocks far below. Of all the fortifications in Jersey this tower surely merits restoration and preservation.

NB. Fu Mo Ost was at Mont Mallet (Victoria Tower), Gorey, but this was a much less pretentious structure.

Reinforced Field Type Observation Posts. Due to their massive construction the fortress towers took a long time to build and so it was necessary to specially erect, or cleverly adapt, buildings which would temporarily fulfil the same role until the larger constructions were ready. A chain of these observation posts was virtually complete by early 1942 and each was numbered around the Island in a clockwise sequence starting with M1 at Corbiere (M= *Messtellung* = Signalling Position). All these observation posts have survived and are situated as follows:-

M1 – Corbiere. This is the square, split level, concrete structure with off set observation slits which stands at the top of the hill leading down to the lighthouse, next to the entrance to the Tartan Bar and it is typical of the specially erected buildings.

Appendix D
Site of Special Interest draft designation



DRAFT

Position and extent of the proposed Site of Special Interest

MP2 Observation Tower, La Corbiere, St. Brelade

The position and extent of the proposed Site of Special Interest are shown on the plan and are -

- (a) the outer face of the concrete observation tower from its northernmost point, as indicated by the letter "a", to its southernmost point, as indicated by the letter "b";
- (b) an imaginary line taken from the southernmost point of the outer face of the concrete observation tower, as indicated by the letter "b", to the south-west corner of the concrete personnel shelter, as indicated by the letter "c";
- (c) the outer face of the concrete personnel shelter from the south-west corner of the shelter, as indicated by the letter "c", to the north-east corner of the shelter, as indicated by the letter "d";
- (d) an imaginary line taken from the north-east corner of the concrete personnel shelter, as indicated by the letter "d", to the northernmost point of the outer face of the concrete observation tower, as indicated by the letter "a".

The glazed structure that was added to the tower at roof level in 1976, with its associated external metal ladders, and the garage extension that was added on the east side of the tower post-1976 are not regarded by the Committee as possessing special architectural, archaeological or historical interest.

26th September 2005

Appendix E

Jersey Heritage Trust – protocol for archaeological work

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1** In the absence of statutory guidance the Jersey Heritage Trust has developed its own protocol for archaeological work.
- 1.2** The purpose of this document is to set out the methods to be employed and the standards to be achieved when undertaking works of an archaeological nature at JHT sites.
- 1.3** The protocol mirrors standard practice in England and encompasses the draft *Supplementary Planning Guidance – The Historic Environment*.

2. STATUTORY, POLICY AND ADVISORY FRAMEWORK

2.1 The Island Planning (Jersey) Law, 1964 (as amended) Article 12 Protection of Sites of Special Interest

Site of Special Interest Permission is required from the Environment & Public Services Committee for the following works to an SSI:

- the demolition of a building or its alteration or extension in any manner which would seriously affect its character;
- the use or operation of any device designed or adapted for detecting or locating any metal or mineral in the ground;
- the insertion of a probe into the surface of an SSI;
- the digging of any hole on an SSI;
- the excavation in an SSI;
- the removal of any sand, stone, gravel, earth or rock from an SSI.

The sites and monuments in the care of the JHT are either designated as Sites of Special Interest (SSI) or registered as proposed Sites of Special Interest (pSSI). Whichever the case all sites will be treated as designated.

2.2 Jersey Island Plan (2002) - Policies relevant to Archaeology

- G11 Sites of Special Interest
- G12 Archaeological Resources
- G13 Buildings and Places of Architectural and Historic Interest

2.3 Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance – The Historic Environment

The SPG provides support to the policy framework set out in the Jersey Island Plan 2002 and is intended to ensure that the historic environment, including the archaeological and built heritage, is a material consideration in planning decisions, that those decisions are informed and reasonable, and that the impact of development on the historic environment is sustainable.

2.4 International Conventions – Jersey has ratified the Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada 1985) and

the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Revised) (Valletta 1992).

The conventions place obligations on member states to introduce legislative, policy and other measures to protect the archaeological and architectural heritage.

- 2.5 **Other Guidance** – It is the intention of the JHT to take into account best current practice from other jurisdictions especially English Heritage, Institute of Field Archaeologists, Council for British Archaeology etc. (see bibliography).
- 2.6 **Conservation Plans** – Work must be considered in the light of policies set out in Conservation Plans which provide site-specific guidance.

3. **DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT (DBA)**

- 3.1 A programme of assessment of the known or potential archaeological resource. It consists of a collation of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely character, extent, quality and worth of the known or potential archaeological resource. This will inform the requirement for, and scope of, any non-intrusive or intrusive surveys.
- 3.2 On a large complex site like Mont Orgueil Castle a phased programme of evaluation is adopted, with each stage informing the next.
- 3.3 The DBA should be submitted to the Planning department who will decide whether further information is needed in order to make an informed decision regarding the archaeological resource.
- 3.4 All work should be carried out with reference to the *IFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*.
- 3.5 **Consultation**
The JHT aims to ensure involvement and support from those other organisations which have an interest in the project.
- 3.6 SSI permissions are automatically referred to the Archaeology Section of the SJ for comment.
- 3.7 Also consideration is given at this stage to seeking any additional academic guidance needed.

4. **MITIGATION PLAN**

- 4.1 This is required to demonstrate that primary consideration has been given to mitigating loss by the appropriate design of foundations and other interventions prior to determination.

- 4.2 Where archaeological remains are present but preservation *in situ* is not appropriate, we must make appropriate provision for the implementation of a programme of archaeological investigation in accordance with the specification produced by the Planning Committee.

5. PROJECT DESIGN

- 5.1 Required to submit a project design to the planning department. This comprises a comprehensive document describing the background to the project, listing aims and objectives, describing the methodologies and resources to be employed and the form of reporting and archiving (EH 1991). The project design will also include appropriate risk assessment(s).
- 5.2 Project designs are to be produced for each stage of evaluation/mitigation works in response to a brief/specification produced by the planning department.

6. METHODS STATEMENT

- 6.1 The proposed data collection methods should be described, making clear why those advocated are the most appropriate and will best ensure that the data collected can fulfil the projects aims.

7. ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION

- 7.1 Excavation will examine and record the archaeological resource within a specified area (usually areas that contain significant archaeological deposits, but do not warrant preservation *in situ*) using appropriate methods and practices. These must satisfy the stated aims of the project (Project Design) and detailed in the brief/specification produced by the planning department.
It will result in one or more published accounts and an ordered, accessible archive.
- 7.2 A unique site code is issued by the JHT.
- 7.3 All work should be carried out with reference to the IFA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (1995, revised 2001).

8. ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

- 8.1 In some cases where pre-determination evaluation has shown that archaeological remains are expected to be sparse, poorly preserved

and are not significant enough to require preservation *in situ* or by detailed investigation and record, the Planning department may still require archaeological monitoring to be undertaken. The scale and scope of archaeological monitoring can vary according to circumstances and are subject to a brief provided by the department.

- 8.2 In certain circumstances remains found during a watching brief may require detailed investigation, analysis, publication and archiving.
- 8.3 On completion of the watching brief a programme of post-excavation will be undertaken, culminating in the publication of the results of the investigations and deposition of the site archive.
- 8.4 All work should be carried out with reference to the IFA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (1994, revised 2001).

9. BUILDING INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING

- 9.1 Preservation by record will be required by condition (planning) where features of interest are likely to be exposed during the works or where damage is unavoidable, or in the case of the removal or covering up of features.
The mitigation will be a full written and graphic record of the investigation.
- 9.2 The work will be undertaken by properly experienced archaeologist/building investigators and conducted according to a brief agreed with the Planning department.
- 9.3 The product of the investigation and recording of the building will be an illustrated report and published account of any discoveries
- 9.4 All work should be carried out with reference to the IFA *Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recoding of standing buildings or structures*.

10. POST-EXCAVATION

- 10.1 On completion of the fieldwork a programme of post-excavation will be undertaken, culminating in the publication of the results of the investigations and deposition of the site archive.
- 10.2 A post excavation assessment should be carried out after completion of the fieldwork and site archive to assess the potential for further analysis and publication.
- 10.3 Proposals for work to be carried out will be expressed as an updated project design

11. COLLECTION, DOCUMENTATION, CONSERVATION AND RESEARCH OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

- 11.1** All finds and samples should be treated in a proper manner and to standards agreed by the JHT.
- 11.2** JHT must make available a copy of its Acquisition Policy and Collection Management Plan. This will include recommendations on the content and presentation of the archive, the selection and retention of material, standards for documentation, packaging and conservation requirements, storage grants to be charged and arrangements for transfer of ownership and copyright issues.
- 11.3** The Curator of Archaeology to be responsible for all archaeological finds.
- 11.4** At the end of each investigation artefacts and samples to be taken off site by the Curator of archaeology – usually to La Hougue Bie.
- 11.5** The Curator of Archaeology to arrange for appropriate cleaning, marking and storage, with the assistance of the Société Jersiaise Archaeology Section.
- 11.6** The Project Archaeologist/Curator of Archaeology to inform the JHT Conservator of any conservation requirements.
- 11.7** All work should be carried out with reference to the IFA *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological material*. Best practice is also represented in the UKIC Conservation Guidelines No 2 and English Heritage Centre for Archaeology Guidelines.

12. PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION

- 12.1** Technical reports detailing the results of the various stages of evaluation will be required for approval by the Planning department. A programme of appropriate analysis and publication will form part of that requirement.
This is likely to take the form of an Assessment report and updated project design. A summary of the result will be required for inclusion in the Heritage Environment Database.
- 12.2** The JHT will seek to ensure the prompt dissemination of all work. The project archaeologist is responsible for the analysis and publication of the data. While exercising this responsibility they shall enjoy consequent rights of primacy. However failure to prepare or publish the

results within 10 years of completion of fieldwork shall be construed as a waiver of such rights.

- 12.3 There is a presumption in favour of publication locally (*Ann. Bull. Soc. Jersiaise*).
- 12.4 Consideration will also be given to more wider publications, through the JHT website and exhibitions.

13. ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

- 13.1 JHT must make provision for the archival storage of artefacts retrieved during archaeological investigation together with associated written and drawn archives.
- 13.2 A copy of all reports should be deposited with the Planning department for the Heritage Environment Database, SJ Library and the SJAS library.
- 13.3 The archive must be treated and packed in accordance with requirements of the JHT Curator of Archaeology, Conservator and Archivist.

14. STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

- 14.1 All staff including volunteers must be suitably qualified and experienced for their project role.
- 14.2 All staff and volunteers must be fully briefed and aware of the work required under the specification and must understand the aims and methodologies of the project.
- 14.3 The site director should preferably be a corporate member of the IFA or equivalent.
- 14.4 The JHT Site Resource Officer will maintain a digital photographic archive of all works in progress.

15. HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 15.1 All work is to be carried out in accordance with the latest Health and Safety legislation and good practice.

16. REFERENCES

- The Island Planning (Jersey) Law, 1964, as amended

- Island Plan Policies G11, G12, G13
- Supplementary Planning Guidance – The Historic Environment (draft)
- Granada Convention 1985
- Valetta Convention 1992
- Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 *Standards and Guidance, By-Laws*
- Institute of Field Archaeologists 1986 *Code of Conduct*
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- Institute of Field Archaeologists 1992 *Guidelines for Finds Work*
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- Museums and Gallery Commission 1992 *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections.*
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- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation 1990 *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for long-term storage.*
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- Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers 1997 *Analysis and Recording for the Conservation and Control of Works to Historic Buildings*
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- Jersey Heritage Trust *Mont Orgueil Castle Development Strategy*
- Council for British Archaeology - *Various fact sheets*

Appendix F

Glossary of building conservation terminology

Extract from section 4 of BS 7913:1998 *Guide to the principles of the conservation of historic buildings* (BSI, 1998):

NOTE. *The terms defined are those which can be regarded as having precise or technical meanings in the context of building conservation. No definitions are offered for such general terms as refurbishment, rehabilitation or renovation.*

alteration

Work the object of which is to change or improve the function of a building or artefact or to modify its appearance.

archaeology

Scientific study and interpretation of the past, based on the uncovering, retrieval, recording and interpretation of information from physical evidence.

NOTE 1. *Archaeological evidence in buildings is as likely to be visible or concealed in the superstructure as below the ground.*

NOTE 2. *Archaeological investigation can be destructive.*

conservation

Action to secure the survival or preservation of buildings, cultural artefacts, natural resources, energy or any other thing of acknowledged value for the future.

NOTE. *Where buildings or artefacts are involved, such actions should avoid significant loss of authenticity or essential qualities.*

conservation area

Area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which is desirable to preserve or enhance.

conversion

Alteration, the object of which is a change of use of a building or artefact, from one use or type to another.

design

Abstract concept of a building or artefact. It can exist in the mind or on paper and if realised, it can be represented in the building or artefact itself.

NOTE. *The design of a building can be original and unaltered, or it can be a composite made up of a series of successive designs.*

fabric

Physical material of which a building or artefact is made.

NOTE. *Its state at any particular time will be a product of the original design and of everything to which it has been subject in the course of its history, including deliberate alterations based on well considered secondary or subsequent designs, careless changes, the effects over time of weather and use, damage and decay.*

intervention

Any action which has a physical effect on the fabric of a building or artefact.

maintenance

Routine work necessary to keep the fabric of a building, the moving parts of machinery, grounds, gardens or any other artefact, in good order.

preservation

State of survival of a building or artefact, whether by historical accident or through a combination of protection and active conservation.

protection

Provision of legal restraints or controls on the destruction or damaging of buildings or artefacts, natural features, systems, sites, areas or other things of acknowledged value, with a view to their survival or preservation for the future.

NOTE. Any intervention or work likely to affect the essential qualities of a building or its character, land or anything which is legally protected would normally require a consent to be obtained through a procedure established by the relevant legislation.

rebuilding

Remaking, on the basis of a recorded or reconstructed design, a building or part of a building or artefact which has been irretrievably damaged or destroyed.

reconstruction

Re-establishment of what occurred or what existed in the past, on the basis of documentary or physical evidence.

NOTE. The strength of this evidence determines how accurate or hypothetical the reconstruction is.

repair

Work beyond the scope of regular maintenance to remedy defects, significant decay or damage caused deliberately or by accident, neglect, normal weathering or wear and tear, the object of which is to return the building or artefact to good order, without alteration or restoration.

NOTE. Most repair work should be anticipated and planned, but occasionally it can be required in response to a specific event, such as a storm or accident.

replication

Making an exact copy or copies of a building or artefact.

restoration

Alteration of a building, part of a building or artefact which has decayed, been lost or damaged or is thought to have been inappropriately repaired or altered in the past, the objective of which is to make it conform again to its design or appearance at a previous date.

NOTE. The accuracy of any restoration depends on the extent to which the original design or appearance at a previous date is known, or can be established by research.

reversibility

Concept of work to a building, part of a building or artefact being carried out in such a way that it can be reversed at some future time, without any significant damage having been done.