




Jersey
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WALKING GUIDE

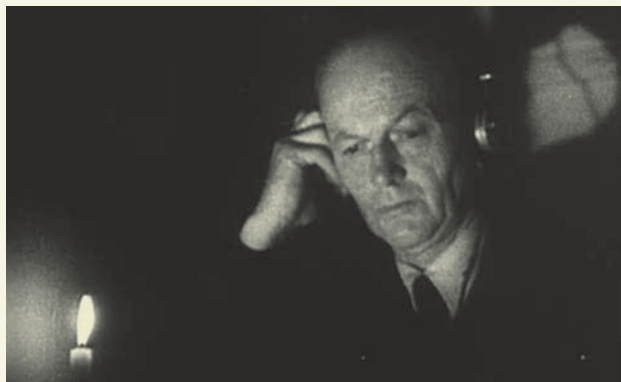
DISCOVER SITES OF CIVILIAN WARTIME
PROTEST AND DEFIANCE IN OCCUPIED JERSEY



view Trail films at



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RESISTANCE TRAIL GUIDE

DISCOVER SITES OF CIVILIAN WARTIME
PROTEST AND DEFIANCE IN OCCUPIED JERSEY

During the German Occupation of Jersey from 1st July 1940 to 9th May 1945, the civilian population of 41,000 lived under the overwhelming presence of 11,000 German troops on an Island of nine by five miles. Whilst large-scale organised resistance activity was not possible, acts of dissent and disobedience were undertaken by many Islanders at great risk to themselves.

Typical offences tried by German courts included the possession of a radio – these were confiscated in June 1942 – spreading the BBC news, distributing anti-Nazi propaganda, insulting a member of the German Forces, sheltering escaped Russian slave workers, stealing German goods, attempting to escape from the Island by boat, and possession of a weapon or camera.

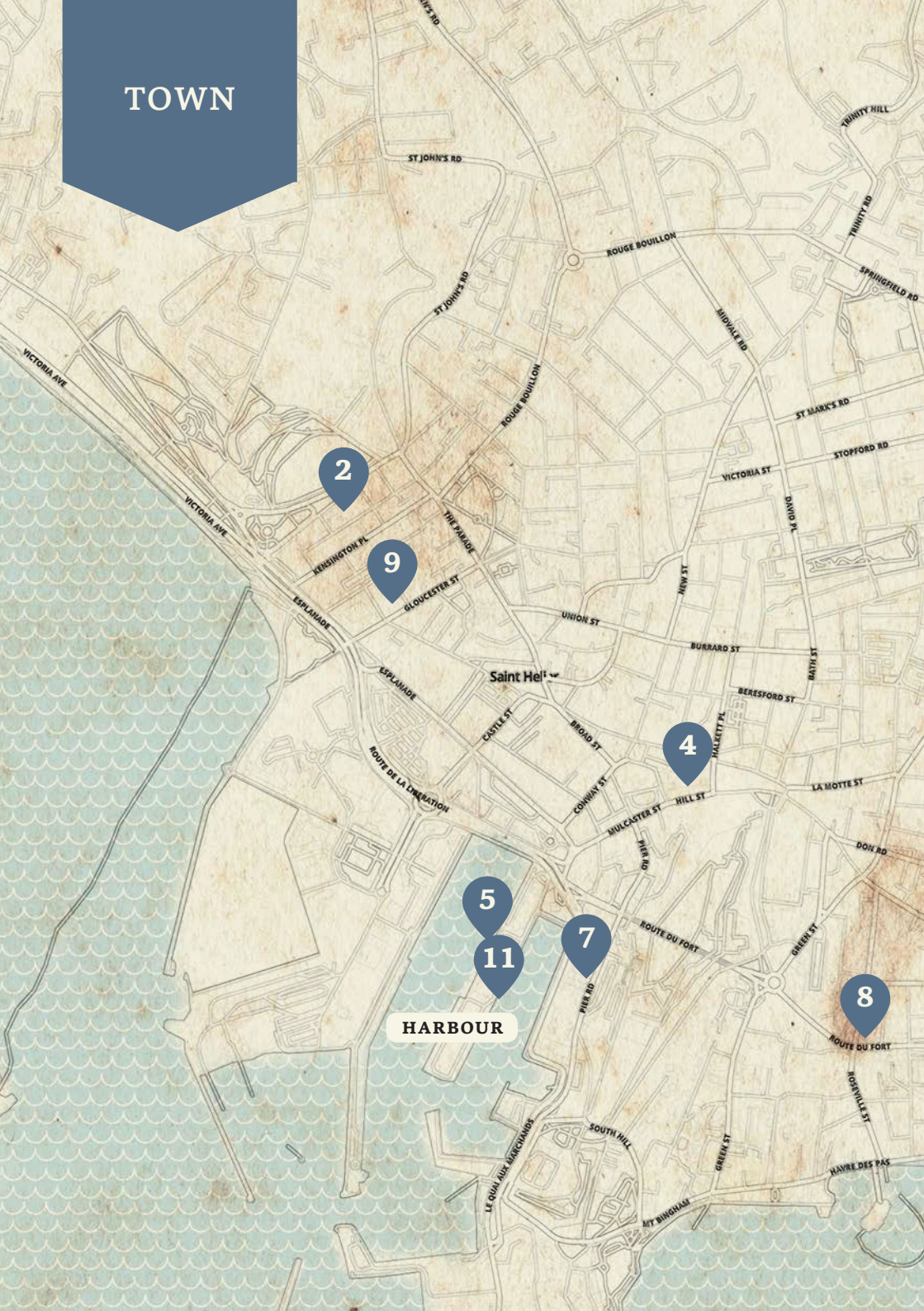
This guide introduces you to a selection of important sites with which resistance stories are intimately connected, and give you a sense of the solidarity and patriotism that existed widely in the Island community under these challenging conditions.

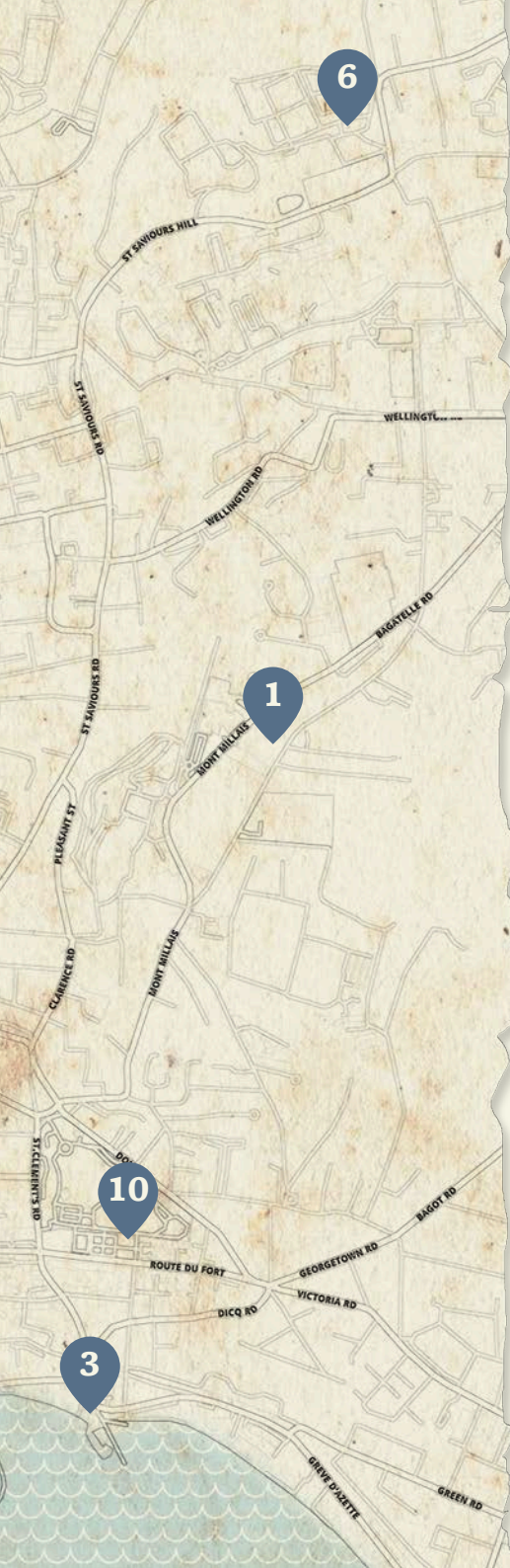
before you set off!

Make sure you visit the Resistance Trail website to view a video about each location, featuring Occupation residents and relatives of political prisoners.

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TOWN

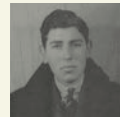




Victoria College House, Mont Millais, St Helier

This was the Headquarters of the German Civil Affairs Department (Feldkommandantur 515), where Occupation laws were created for the civilian population, and offences against them were tried in a military court. Islanders given prison sentences in excess of three months were deported to France, with a risk of being moved from a prison to a concentration camp, whilst lighter sentences were served in Jersey's Newgate Street Prison.

Norman Le Brocq and Leslie Huelin



19, Peirson Road, St Helier

Led by Leslie Huelin and Norman Le Brocq, the Jersey Communist Party (JCP) first met here at Huelin's flat in late 1943. They soon began circulating translated BBC news sheets amongst the foreign workers and offered shelter to Russians who had escaped from their labour camps. Later the JCP contacted a German anti-Nazi soldier named Paul Mülbach, with whom they went on produce six propaganda leaflets inciting mutiny in the ranks.



No. 1, Silvertide, Havre des Pas, St Helier

This building was the headquarters of the German Secret Field Police (Geheime Feldpolizei – GFP) who, whilst they were not the Gestapo, both dressed and acted like them. The head of the GFP was Hauptmann Bode, his second in command being Hauptwachtmeister Heinz Carl Wölfe, known as 'Wolf, of the Gestapo'. Many Islanders thought to be guilty of offences were brought to Silvertide for interrogation, which was often accompanied by physical abuse.

Joseph Le Guyader



V-Sign, Royal Square, St Helier

During the War the letter 'V' was used as a symbol of Allied victory. Despite it soon being forbidden, many Islanders painted roads, walls and signs with it to make the Germans feel like they were surrounded by hostility. This large 'V' was incorporated into the paving of the Royal Square by stonemason Joseph Le Guyader in the closing months of the Occupation, and revealed at the time of the Liberation.



Occupation Tapestry Gallery, Maritime Museum, St Helier

The Occupation Tapestry was created to mark the 50th anniversary of the Liberation in 1995. Its twelve panels, one for each Island Parish, represent specific themes and events of the period, and include symbols of resistance such as the V-sign in the Royal Square, use of forbidden radios and escape by boat.

Clifford Cohu and Joseph Tierney



St Saviour's Church, St Saviour

On the southern wall of the nave is a memorial plaque to Canon Clifford Cohu, who was the parish minister from 1940. Cohu called out the BBC news while cycling through St Helier and passed it on to patients in the General Hospital. His source was the news sheets compiled by cemetery worker Joseph Tierney and Arthur Wakeham, who listened to a forbidden radio belonging to John Nicolle and his father. Eighteen people in total were eventually arrested in early 1943, with Cohu, Tierney, Nicolle and Arthur Dimmery being deported – none of these men survived.

Maurice Hill



Pier Road, South Hill & Mount Bingham, St Helier

In September 1942 Hitler announced the deportation of all English-born residents of the Channel Islands in retaliation for the removal of German civilians working in British-occupied Iran. Crowds gathered to protest as hundreds were herded onto boats; patriotic singing erupted and echoed back and forth between those on land and on board. On 29 September as many as 1,000 people were present; the demonstration became a riot and many were arrested, some of whom were later themselves deported.

Mary Richardson and Albert Bedane



Albert Bedane plaque, Greenwood, 45 Roseville Street (now Fountain Court)

On this site stood Albert Bedane's home and physiotherapy surgery where, at great risk to himself, he sheltered a Jewish lady named Mary Richardson for two years. Bedane also took in escaped Russian slave workers and others on the run from the Germans.

In the year 2000 Bedane received posthumous recognition of his bravery in the form of Israel's highest holocaust honour, 'Righteous Among the Nations'; his medal and certificate are on display in the Occupation Tapestry Gallery of the Maritime Museum in St Helier.

Joe Mièrè



Political Prisoner Memorial, Gloucester Street, St Helier

This memorial tablet marks the location of the former Newgate Street Prison, where many Jersey people were incarcerated for acts of resistance. These individuals called themselves 'political prisoners'; one such person was Joe Mièrè, who campaigned for this plaque to be erected in 1995.

THE EAST COAST

Maurice Gould



Grave of Maurice Jay Gould, Allied War Cemetery, Howard Davis Park

Maurice Gould attempted to escape from Jersey to England in 1942, with friends Dennis Audrain and Peter Hassall. Sadly Dennis drowned, whilst Maurice and Peter were arrested and later deported to France.

Having passed through various prisons and camps, Maurice contracted tuberculosis and died in October 1943. Peter survived the war and petitioned for many years to have Maurice's body returned home; he was eventually reburied here in May 1997.



The Lighthouse Memorial, New North Quay, St Helier

In 1996 this decommissioned lighthouse became a memorial to the 21 Islanders who died in Nazi prisons and camps, having been tried and deported for breaking German Occupation laws. Their names can be read on the plinth around its base, where wreaths are laid each year on 27th January to mark Holocaust Memorial Day.

John Floyd

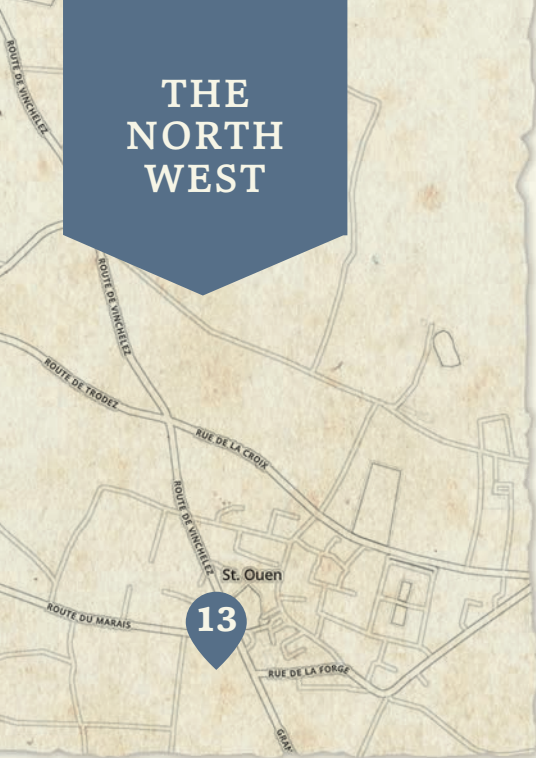


Fauci Embarkation Point

It was from here that the majority of escape attempts took place in the last months of the Occupation, with escapees being offered great assistance from those who lived in the area. At this time it has been calculated that 152 individuals attempted to escape from Jersey, often in the hope of joining the armed forces and contributing to the war effort, but also to take intelligence to the Allies. Sadly nine Islanders are known to have died during their attempts. At the end of the Occupation, around a half of all political prisoners in Jersey's jail were imprisoned for attempting to escape or for aiding those attempting to escape.



THE NORTH WEST



Louisa Gould and Bill Burriy

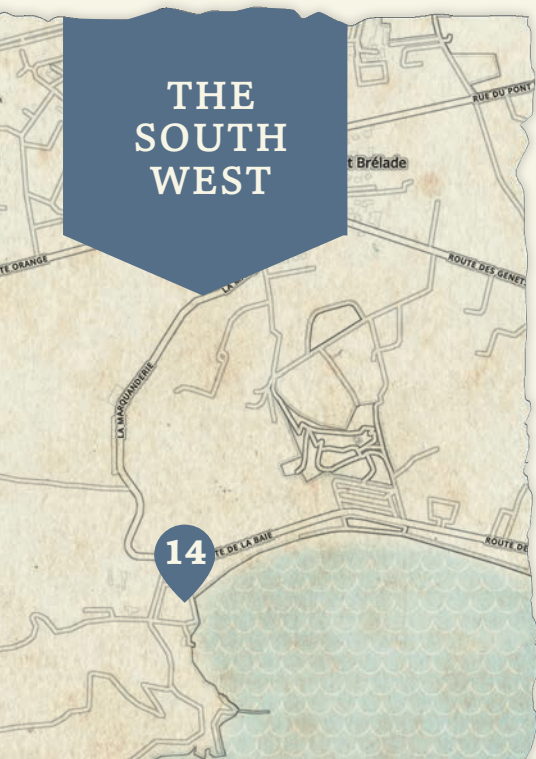


La Fontaine, Millais, St Ouen

In late 1942 Louisa Gould and her sister Ivy Forster began sheltering a Russian slave worker named Fyodor 'Bill' Burriy, who had escaped from his labour camp. They were eventually betrayed by neighbours and traces of Bill's presence, a forbidden camera and radio were discovered. Louisa, Ivy and their brother Harold Le Druillenec and friends Dora Hacquoil and Berthe Pitolet were arrested. Louisa, Harold and Berthe were deported, whilst the others were imprisoned locally.

Berthe later escaped from prison in France, but Louisa died in the gas chamber at Ravensbrück in February 1945. Harold became the only known British man to survive the horrors of Bergen-Belsen, and later testified at the Nuremberg Trials.

THE SOUTH WEST

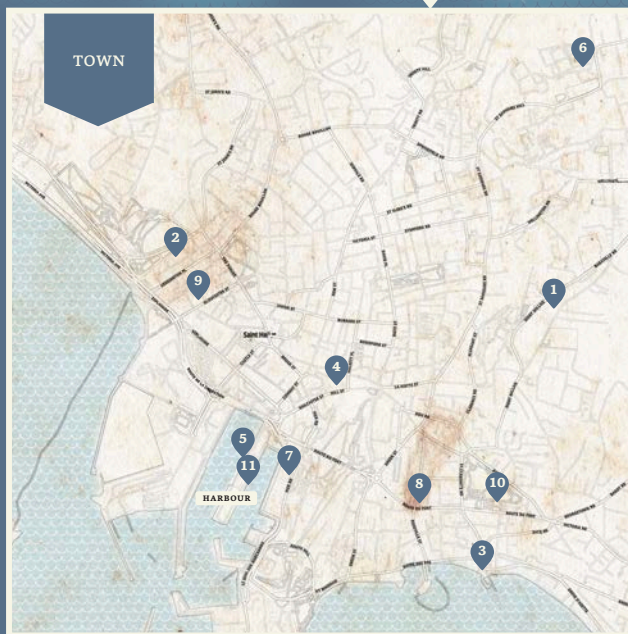


Suzanne Malherbe and Lucy Schwob



La Rocquaise, St Brelade's Bay

This was the home of Suzanne Malherbe and Lucy Schwob, who were also known by their pseudonyms Marcel Moore and Claude Cahun. They were avant garde Surrealist artists and life partners who distributed BBC news bulletins amongst the German troops - placing them in pockets, briefcases or parked cars - purporting to be the work of 'the soldier without name'. The ladies were apprehended in July 1944 and sentenced to death. Alexander Coutanche, the Bailiff of Jersey, and the French Consul appealed and they were eventually released from Jersey's prison on 8 May 1945.



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