

STATES OF JERSEY



Jersey

DRAFT HERITAGE (JERSEY) LAW 202- (P.121/2025) – ADDENDUM

**Presented to the States on 24th December 2025
by the Minister for Sustainable Economic Development**

STATES GREFFE

CODE OF PRACTICE

HERITAGE (JERSEY) LAW 202-

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Code of Practice (“Code”) is made under Article 14 of the Heritage (Jersey) Law (“Law”) and should be read in conjunction with the Law and Regulations made under the Law.
- 1.2 Non-compliance with the Code does not itself render a person liable to legal action, but is admissible in proceedings and may be taken into account by a court when considering compliance with the Law or Regulations or Orders made under the Law, the Viscount during an inquest, or the Minister when determining the amount of a reward, if any to be paid, including a reduction of the reward. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 3, 14(5)*.
- 1.3 The purpose of the Heritage (Jersey) Law 202- is both to ensure that knowledge of the archaeological heritage is safeguarded as a source of the collective memory and as an instrument for historical and scientific study, and that objects of particular archaeological and historical significance to Jersey are secured in the public museum collection managed by the Jersey Heritage Trust for the benefit of the Public of the Island.
- 1.4 The Law reflects the island’s unique legal and cultural context. It aligns with relevant international conventions and best practice in heritage protection, whilst retaining the Jersey customary law on Treasure Trove.
- 1.5 Under the Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-, all archaeological objects discovered in Jersey must be reported to the appropriate body. Objects that are formally designated as Jersey National Antiquities belong to the Public of the Island. Treasure Trove remains the property of the Crown. This Code of Practice provides guidance on the implementation of the Law with a particular focus on the reporting, handling and protection of archaeological objects.
- 1.6 This Code sets out a step-by-step guide to the procedures for managing the discovery of archaeological objects, and the roles and responsibilities of all parties involved in the process. In addition, the Code provides detailed guidance on the licensing requirements for conducting archaeological excavations on non-designated sites. See **Appendix A – Process Flowchart for Archaeological Finds**

2 Definitions

Accessioning

The formal process of entering an object into the public museum collection managed by the Jersey Heritage Trust.

Archaeological Context

The spatial and temporal relationship of an artefact or feature within an archaeological site.

Archaeological Excavation

An intrusive investigation on or under land or the seabed (whether or not the investigation involves the removal of the surface) for the purpose of: (a) generally searching for

archaeological objects; or (b) exposing or examining any particular structure or item of archaeological interest.

Archaeological Object

An object found on or under the land, foreshore or seabed of Jersey that: (a) has been created or modified by human activity and is at least 300 years old at the time of discovery, or is of historical interest despite being less than 300 years old; (b) is historical human remains (anatomical parts of a human such as skeletal and soft tissue remains) or ancient animal remains; (c) is Treasure Trove, or (d) is Wreck or is found in or on a wreck. *This definition also applies to objects in the possession of a person who acquired them by means other than discovery.*

Archaeology Research Framework & Research Agenda

The current state of knowledge, research priorities and future directions for archaeological investigation within Jersey.

Assemblage

A group of archaeological objects found in the same context - such as a single site, stratified deposit, or specific feature like a burial - that are associated with one another.

Auger Survey

Transect or area-based arrangements of drilled auger-holes used to describe deposits and collect samples.

Borehole Survey

Type of survey involving the drilling of deep and narrow shafts in the ground used to describe deposits, understand stratigraphy and collect core samples.

Chance Find

Any archaeological object discovered outside of organised archaeological fieldwork. This includes all finds made using metal detectors. Chance finds may consist of single items or assemblages from any period.

CIfA (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists)

The leading professional body representing archaeologists working in the UK and internationally.

Collections Agreement

The agreement between the Government of Jersey and the Jersey Heritage Trust for the management of publicly owned cultural objects.

Core Sampling

The retrieval of samples for laboratory analysis from buried features that have been sampled using boring equipment.

Ecofacts

Natural materials (such as plant remains, animal bones or sediments) that are not manufactured by humans but are found in archaeological contexts and provide insight into past environments, diets and human activity.

Find

An archaeological object, or two or more archaeological objects found together or within the same archaeological context. Objects are considered part of the same find if they were originally deposited together, even if they are discovered at different times or in different places due to later disturbance or scattering.

Finds Liaison Officer

A professional staff member of the Jersey Heritage Trust responsible for recording archaeological finds made by the public.

Findspot

The precise location where an object is discovered.

Hard-pack Sub-surface of a Beach or Foreshore

The undisturbed layers of sediment or soil located beneath the surface sand layers, which may preserve archaeological evidence due to limited exposure and disturbance.

Historic Environment Record

A comprehensive database of Jersey's archaeological sites, historic buildings, landscapes, and recorded finds, including Treasure Trove and Jersey National Antiquities.

Human Remains

The bodies, or parts of bodies, of once living *Homo sapiens* or *Homo neanderthalensis*, or other specimens of the genus *Homo*.

INRAP (Institut National de Recherches Archéologiques Préventives)

The National Institute for Preventive Archaeological Research in France, which plays a central role in certifying and employing professional archaeologists for rescue excavations and research. Archaeologists working for INRAP must meet strict professional and academic criteria.

Jersey Heritage Trust

A nationally accredited organisation responsible for Jersey's major historic sites, museums, archives, and collections. It is established under the 1983 Act of Incorporation and manages the Island's Historic Environment Record.

Jersey National Antiquity

An archaeological object that is, whether considered alone or as part of a larger find: (a) of exceptional scientific or academic significance for any branch of Jersey art, learning or history;

- (b) so closely connected with Jersey national life and history that its loss would be a misfortune;
- (c) of exceptional aesthetic importance; or (d) otherwise of significant historical, archaeological or cultural interest.

Listed Place

A site legally protected as a Site of Special Interest under Article 51 of the Planning and Building (Jersey) Law 2002, due to its particular significance - such as archaeological or historical interest.

Metal Detecting Survey

The structured and carefully executed scanning of the ground surface with a metal detecting device to recover surface scatters of metal objects and plot them spatially within the study area as part of an archaeological survey. Alternatively, the use of a metal detector to locate metal artefacts on an archaeological excavation that otherwise would go unnoticed.

Minister

The Minister of the Government of Jersey with responsibility for heritage matters, currently the Minister for Sustainable Economic Development.

National

Pertaining to the Bailiwick of Jersey.

Organised Archaeological Fieldwork

Field projects conducted according to recognised archaeological standards to recover data systematically.

Ploughsoil

The upper layer of soil that has been disturbed by agricultural activity. The depth of ploughsoil can vary across the island depending on local conditions and farming practices. As a general guide, fields are usually ploughed to around 25–30cm for standard agricultural use. However, following potato harvests, it is common for fields to be sub-soiled more deeply, often reaching 35cm or more. These depths are indicative and may differ from site to site.

Professional Accreditation

A formal recognition of an archaeologist's skills, knowledge and behaviours, and how they apply these to carry out work effectively to professional standards.

Project Design

A document that sets out how archaeological work will be conducted.

Receiver of Wreck

Agents of the Impôts (Head of the Jersey Customs and Immigration Service) responsible for administering reports of wreck finds.

Recreational Metal Detecting

The hobby of using a metal detector to search for buried coins or artefacts.

Registered Archaeological Organisation

An organisation recognised by the Government of Jersey for adhering to professional archaeological standards, including the Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

Test Pit

Systematically positioned hole, or holes, utilised in all studies that aim to sample the nature of the topsoil and subsurface deposits.

Treasure Trove

Two or more objects: (a) each of which is made of more than 50% gold or silver; (b) that have been deliberately hidden together on land (whether or not with other objects) with the intention that they are to be recovered; and (c) whose owner, or whose owner's heirs, are unknown.

Treasure Valuation Committee (TVC)

The TVC is an independent advisory panel of qualified experts - specialising in archaeology, history, numismatics, and antiquities - based at the British Museum. It plays a central role in evaluating the market value of archaeological finds and recommending appropriate rewards for finders and landowners.

Trial Trench

Archaeologically excavated trench, either hand or machine dug, as part of a sampling programme to evaluate the presence/absence, nature, preservation, age and extent of any buried archaeological features.

Viscount

The Viscount's Department, which acts as Coroner and determines whether an object qualifies as Treasure Trove or a Jersey National Antiquity.

Wreck

Wreck includes: flotsam (goods lost from a ship that has sunk or otherwise perished, which are recoverable because they have floated); jetsam (goods cast overboard in order to lighten a vessel that is in danger of sinking); derelict (property that has been abandoned and deserted at sea by those who were in charge, without any hope of recovering it - this includes vessels and cargo); and lagan or ligam (goods cast overboard from a ship, which are buoyed so that they can be recovered later). *It's important to note that objects deliberately buried during prehistory on land which now lies below the low water mark, are not classified as wreck.*

3 Reporting of Objects

- 3.1 Whenever an object is discovered in Jersey - whether by chance or through activities such as metal detecting, beachcombing, field walking, fishing or during construction work - the finder must check if it might be an 'archaeological object' under the law i.e. the object appears to have been made or altered by people and is probably more than 300 years old, or if newer, it has special historical importance.
- 3.2 Please note that potential Treasure Trove i.e. a group of gold or silver objects, must be reported regardless of their age or perceived historical significance.
- 3.3 Archaeological objects are not limited to metal items. They can be made from a wide range of materials including flint, pottery, glass and wood. The definition also extends to historically significant human remains, and ancient animal remains.
- 3.4 Certain types of objects - such as unworked natural objects and items made of modern materials, as outlined in Appendix B - are generally not regarded as being of archaeological interest and therefore do not need to be reported, unless they appear to hold a particular historical significance to Jersey's distinctive culture and heritage. When in doubt, it is best for the finder to err on the side of caution and report any object they believe may be of potential interest. See **Appendix B – Guidelines for Objects That Do Not Need to Be Reported.**
- 3.5 Otherwise, the finder is required to report the object to the Finds Liaison Officer at the Jersey Heritage Trust as soon as possible and in any event no later than 14 days beginning on the day after the day on which the object is found. Reports should be submitted using the finds reporting form available on the Jersey Heritage website. See **Appendix C – Directory of Useful Contacts.** See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 2, 5(1).*
- 3.6 Please note that conservation advice can be time critical and objects such as waterlogged wood or iron objects will need treating immediately upon discovery. The Finds Liaison Officer will liaise with the museum conservator as soon as they are notified about an object.
- 3.7 The finder must provide the Finds Liaison Officer with all relevant details about the discovery, including the most accurate possible location of the findspot. This may be recorded using latitude and longitude coordinates via a GPS device or mobile phone application (e.g. Google Earth or what3words), an 8-figure Jersey Grid Reference taken in the field or, if these are not available, by marking the location on a 1:25,000 scale map. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 2, 5(2).*
- 3.8 Although many chance finds are recovered from disturbed contexts - such as ploughsoil or surface sand layers on beaches - where objects may have shifted from their original locations, valuable information can still be gained by accurately recording the findspot. For example, distribution mapping may help identify or connect scattered hoards or reveal broader patterns of object deposition across the landscape.
- 3.9 The finder must deposit the object with the Jersey Heritage Trust within one month of being requested to do so by the Finds Liaison Officer. The Finds Liaison Officer will

give the finder a receipt on delivery of the find and retain the object in safe storage until its future is determined. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 2, 5(3)*.

- 3.10 If the finder believes they have discovered a partially visible archaeological object in undisturbed ground - such as beneath the ploughsoil or within the compacted sub-surface of a beach - or if they notice a concentration of finds or unusual materials, the finder should stop digging immediately and contact the Finds Liaison Officer to report the discovery and seek guidance. These types of finds - whether individual objects or groups - and their surroundings are best understood through careful investigation by an archaeologist. Such notification will not prejudice the finder's and/or landowner's position for any reward should a reward be payable. The finder should refrain from publicising the discovery, including through social media or other public platforms.
- 3.11 If a finder removes an archaeological object from undisturbed ground without notifying the Finds Liaison Officer they will be required to justify their actions, and such conduct may adversely affect their eligibility for any reward should one be payable.
- 3.12 The finder is also required to report the discovery of archaeological objects deliberately hidden or buried within the structure of a building. This includes items such as a witch-bottle, and deliberately concealed garments (sometimes with the space intentionally sealed afterwards).
- 3.13 Individuals deliberately searching for objects, such as metal-detector users, must not operate on a Listed Place without prior permission from the Government of Jersey. Detectorists should also seek guidance from other landowners - including the Crown, common land (Commune de Fief) and the National Trust for Jersey - who impose restrictions on metal-detecting on their property. See **Appendix D – Code of Conduct for Responsible Metal Detecting in Jersey**.
- 3.14 Any person who acquires an archaeological object - other than by finding it - must report it to the Finds Liaison Officer if they have reasonable grounds to believe it has not already been disclosed to the Finds Liaison Officer by the original finder. In such cases, the object must be reported no later than 14 days beginning on the day after the day on which the person becomes aware they have acquired an archaeological object. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 2, 5(4)*.
- 3.15 Exceptions to reporting are: (a) the discovery of human remains, which should not be disturbed and must immediately be reported to the States of Jersey Police; (b) the discovery of explosives or munitions, which should not be disturbed and must immediately be reported to the States of Jersey Police or the coastguard; (c) the discovery of wreck, which must be reported to the Receiver of Wreck; (d) the object is found during the course of licensed archaeological fieldwork. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 2, 7(1-2)*.
- 3.16 The States of Jersey Police will assess the remains in accordance with the *Procedure for Identification of Found Bones 2014*. If the bones are found to be human, but do not appear to be recent and are not immediately suspicious, the Police will notify the Jersey Heritage Trust. See **Appendix E – Guidance for the Care of Human Remains**.
- 3.17 If the Receiver of Wreck determines that the wreck may be, or may contain, an archaeological object, they will notify the Jersey Heritage Trust. Please note that objects that were deliberately

buried during prehistory on land which now lies below the low water mark are not classified as wreck but are eligible for consideration as Treasure Trove or Jersey National Antiquities. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 4A, 3(146A)*.

- 3.18 When an object is discovered through planned archaeological fieldwork conducted by a Registered Archaeological Organisation - whether as part of a planning decision for a designated site or a licence for archaeological excavation on a non-designated site - that organisation is responsible for conducting the finds assessment and subsequently depositing the assemblage and site archive with the Jersey Heritage Trust upon completion of post-excavation work.
- 3.19 When the deposited assemblage and site archive is received by Jersey Heritage, the Finds Liaison Officer will assess whether any of the objects may qualify as Treasure Trove or as a Jersey National Antiquity. If so, the landowner may be eligible for a reward.

4 Protection of Objects

- 4.1 The finder, or another person, must not discard, damage or destroy an object which they know or have reason to believe is an archaeological object, and must take reasonable measures to preserve it. Archaeological objects must not be improperly cleaned, repaired or marked. Finders are expected to follow the guidance on the care of objects as outlined in this Code. See **Appendix F – Guidance on the Care of Objects**. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 2, 8(1)*.
- 4.2 Once in receipt of an object, the Finds Liaison Officer will liaise with the museum conservators, curate and safely transfer the object until it is either returned to the finder or accessioned into the public museum collection managed by the Jersey Heritage Trust.
- 4.3 Where necessary, the Jersey Heritage Trust conservation staff will undertake conservation treatment and scientific analysis, including x-radiography, cleaning to clarify identification of the object, ‘first aid’ to ensure the material is stable, and repacking in the appropriate micro-climate.

5 Recording of Objects

- 5.1 When an object is reported to the Finds Liaison Officer, they will verify whether the findspot lies within a listed site. If it is determined that the object was removed from a protected site without the necessary permissions, the Finds Liaison Officer will notify the Government of Jersey Planning and Building Compliance.
- 5.2 If a reported find is clearly not of archaeological or historical interest - such as an unworked natural object or an item made from modern materials, as outlined in Appendix B - the Finds Liaison Officer will not record it, and the object will remain in the possession of the finder, or be returned to them at the earliest opportunity.
- 5.3 In all other cases, the Finds Liaison Officer will conduct a preliminary assessment of the object, within a reasonable timeframe, to decide whether it is important enough to be added to Jersey’s Historic Environment Record (HER). All archaeological objects of interest which are 300 years of age or older are likely to be recorded. The recording of later objects will be more

selective. See **Appendix G – Guidance on the Historic Environment Record for Jersey**. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 3, 10(1)*.

- 5.4 If a reported find meets the legal definition of an archaeological object but is considered of insufficient interest to be added to the HER - such as a common type or a fragmentary survival - it will remain in the possession of the finder or be returned to them by the Finds Liaison Officer at the earliest opportunity, accompanied by a guidance note on ownership. In these cases, the Finds Liaison Officer will ensure there is a log of the find - using the online reporting form as the primary source - which includes basic details about the object and the finder. If the finder does not want the object returned, the Jersey Heritage Trust reserves the right to dispose of the object as it thinks fit. See **Appendix H – Guidance Note on Ownership**. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 3, 10(4)*.
- 5.5 If an object is assessed to be of archaeological or historical significance, the Finds Liaison Officer will create an entry in the Historic Environment Record and prepare a 'Finds Identification Report'. This report includes a detailed description, high-quality scale photographs, research into the object's archaeological significance, and any expert opinions obtained.
- 5.6 The Finds Liaison Officer, informed by this appraisal, will then evaluate whether the archaeological object may be Treasure Trove as defined in the Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-, or may be a Jersey National Antiquity when assessed against the appropriate criteria. See **Appendix I – Definition of Treasure Trove & Appendix J – Criteria for Designation as a Jersey National Antiquity**.
- 5.7 If the Finds Liaison Officer considers the object may be Treasure Trove, they will inform the person who reported its finding or acquisition, the Receiver General and the Viscount no later than 28 days after the day on which that conclusion has been reached, issuing a 'Recommendation Report on Potential Treasure Trove' together with the finds identification report. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 3, 10(2)*.
- 5.8 If the Finds Liaison Officer considers the object may be a Jersey National Antiquity, they will notify the finder (or the person who acquired the object) and the Viscount no later than 28 days after the day on which that conclusion has been reached, issuing a 'Recommendation Report on Potential Jersey National Antiquity' together with the finds identification report. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 3, 10(3)*.
- 5.9 Where applicable, the recommendation report will outline how the object meets the legal definition of Treasure Trove under the Heritage (Jersey) Law 202- and identify which criteria for designation as a Jersey National Antiquity are satisfied. The report will also include observations on the reporting, treatment and deposition of the object. The financial value of the object is not a relevant consideration in this assessment.
- 5.10 If the Finds Liaison Officer determines that the object does not meet the criteria to recommend as Treasure Trove or a Jersey National Antiquity, it will be returned to the finder. The finder will be notified and provided with the finds identification report, along with a guidance note on ownership.

- 5.11 It is the finder's responsibility to collect the object once notified by the Finds Liaison Officer. If the finder does not want the object or in the event of the object not being collected within six months of that notification the Jersey Heritage Trust reserves the right to dispose of the object as it thinks fit including accessioning into the museum collection, retaining as part of a handling collection or discarding. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 3, 10(4)*.
- 5.12 The process - from the initial report by the finder to the notification of the Viscount - will normally be completed within six months. In exceptional circumstances, such as particularly complex finds or large hoards, this timeframe may need to be extended.

6 Treasure Trove and Jersey National Antiquities

- 6.1 When the Viscount receives notification from the Finds Liaison Officer, they will hold an inquest into whether the archaeological object is Treasure Trove or a Jersey National Antiquity (or both). See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 4A, 20A(1)*.
- 6.2 The Viscount will give their findings in writing. The finder should retain a copy of the Viscount's report for as long as they retain the object and transfer it with the object if it is given away or otherwise disposed of. This serves as proof that the object has already been considered under the Law. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 4A, 20B*.
- 6.3 If the outcome of the inquest is that the object is not Treasure Trove or a Jersey National Antiquity it will be returned to the finder.
- 6.4 The exception is for any object found on the foreshore or other land conveyed to the Public of the Island, in which case the Jersey Heritage Trust can directly choose whether to accession the object into the public museum collection. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 4A, 20C(3)*.
- 6.5 It is the finder's responsibility to collect the object from the Finds Liaison Officer once notified. The finder can still choose to donate the object to the public museum collection at this stage if they so wish. Otherwise, if the finder does not want the object returned, or in the event of the object not being collected within six months of that notification, the Jersey Heritage Trust reserves the right to accession the object into the public museum collection or to dispose of the object as it thinks fit. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 4A, 20C(4)*.
- 6.6 If the outcome of the inquest is that the object is a Jersey National Antiquity, it belongs to the Public of the Island. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 3, 11(1)*.
- 6.7 If the outcome of the inquest is that the object is Treasure Trove, it is held by the Minister in trust for the Crown. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 3, 12*.
- 6.8 A hoard is considered a single archaeological find, even if its individual items are discovered by different finders over an extended period. Hoards may comprise a mixture of artefacts, some of which may qualify as Treasure Trove, while others may fall under the category of Jersey National Antiquity. This distinction should not affect the treatment of the hoard, which should be preserved and managed as a single, unified assemblage. Individual components of a hoard may be subject to different ownerships, but the hoard itself must be kept together to maintain its archaeological integrity and interpretive value.

- 6.9 The Minister will ensure that Treasure Trove and Jersey National Antiquities are preserved and protected by depositing such objects with the Jersey Heritage Trust. The Trust will accession them into the public museum collection and will be responsible for their administration and conservation on behalf of the Crown and/or the Public of the Island, in accordance with the terms of the Collections Agreement.

7 Determination of Reward

- 7.1 The Minister may pay a reward to the finder of a Jersey National Antiquity (which is not classified as Treasure Trove), the owner of the land on which the object was found and any other person the Minister considers appropriate, in recognition of the cultural value of the object. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 3, 13(1)*.
- 7.2 Following consultation with the Receiver General, the Minister may pay a reward to the finder of a Jersey National Antiquity that qualifies as Treasure Trove, to the owner of the land on which the object was found and to any other person the Minister and the Receiver General considers appropriate, in recognition of the cultural value of the object. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 3, 13(2)*.
- 7.3 The finder and/or landowner has the opportunity to: (a) waive any possible reward payment to allow the Jersey Heritage Trust to acquire the object on behalf of the Public of the Island without payment; or (b) make an application in the manner specified by the Minister for a reward within 28 days after the Viscount provides the finding of the inquest. See *Heritage (Reward) (Jersey) Regulations 202- ; Article 2*.
- 7.4 Human remains, including those contained within objects such as reliquaries, are excluded from the reward valuation process.
- 7.5 When determining the appropriate reward for a Jersey National Antiquity that is not classified as Treasure Trove, the Minister must consult suitably qualified experts with specialisms in fields such as archaeology, history, numismatics, and antiquities. Rewards will be linked to the market value of the object but will not exceed it. These valuations may differ from auction-based comparisons, as they exclude additional costs such as auction house commissions, which typically represent around 20% of the final sale price. See *Heritage (Reward) (Jersey) Regulations 202- ; Article 4(1)*.
- 7.6 When determining the appropriate reward for an archaeological object that is Treasure Trove, the Minister must consult suitably qualified experts as appear appropriate to the Minister as well as those who appear appropriate to the Receiver General. See *Heritage (Reward) (Jersey) Regulations 202- ; Article 4(2)*.
- 7.7 The Government of Jersey has an agreement with the Treasure Valuation Committee (TVC) based at the British Museum to carry out this work. The TVC also covers finds from England, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man. The process for doing so will mirror the process detailed in the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice. A guidance document issued by the TVC [Memorandum on Valuation of Treasure](#) defines how 'value' is interpreted and applied when assessing the market worth of declared finds for reward purposes.

- 7.8 Interested parties may commission and submit their own valuations, at their own expense, prior to consideration by the TVC. If an in-person inspection of the find is required by a private valuer, arrangements must be made directly with Jersey Heritage, who are holding the find.
- 7.9 Interested parties may challenge the recommendation of the TVC prior to consideration by the Minister only if they can present new and relevant information concerning the find.
- 7.10 The Heritage (Jersey) Law 202- provides that rewards may be paid for finds designated as Jersey National Antiquities (JNA), regardless of the material composition, as well as for Treasure Trove. While most valuations will fall within the remit of the TVC, the Minister may seek alternative expert advice if the TVC declines to assess a JNA.
- 7.11 Where conservation work is required to stabilise and conserve an object or to assist in its identification in preparation for the Viscount's inquiry or reward valuation, the Minister may deduct the associated costs from the final reward, to reimburse Jersey Heritage or another expert body who have committed funds to this research. See *Heritage (Reward) (Jersey) Regulations 202-; Article 3(3)*.
- 7.12 The Minister may review the circumstances of a case to determine whether there are grounds for reducing the reward - such as instances where the finder or landowner has contravened articles of the Heritage (Jersey) Law or failed to comply with the Code of Practice, taking into account observations on the reporting, treatment and deposition of the object within the Jersey Heritage Recommendation Report and the findings of the Viscount inquiry. See **Appendix K – Guidance on the Reduction of Rewards**. See *Heritage (Reward) (Jersey) Regulations 202-; Article 3(4)*.
- 7.13 If the finder and/or landowner are convicted under the Heritage (Jersey) Law, they will be ineligible to receive any reward. See *Heritage (Reward) (Jersey) Regulations 202-; Article 3(5)*.
- 7.14 The Minister will allocate the reward equally between the finder and the landowner – with a 50% share paid to the finder (“finder’s share”) and a 50% share paid to the landowner (“landowner’s share”). Where there is more than one finder and/or more than one landowner, it is the responsibility of those parties to agree on how their respective shares are to be apportioned.
- 7.15 The responsibility for demonstrating that permission has been granted by the landowner to search for and remove objects rests solely with the finder.
- 7.16 No reward will be payable for finds made by archaeologists or individuals engaged in planned archaeological excavation or investigation, either licensed under the Heritage (Archaeological Excavations) (Jersey) Regulations 202- or during development for which planning permission has been granted under the Planning Law.
- 7.17 Finds made during construction or development work by builders or developers operating under a planning permission may be eligible for a reward.
- 7.18 If an applicant disagrees with the decision of the Minister, they may request a review of the decision within 28 days beginning on the day the Minister informs them of the reward. See *Heritage (Reward) (Jersey) Regulations 202-; Article 5*.

- 7.19 The Minister will send the reward payment by electronic means into a bank account(s) advised by the finder and/or landowner. If the finder and/or landowner fails to provide bank account details within 100 days of the request to do so, no reward payment will be made.
- 7.20 The Jersey Heritage Trust will publish an annual report detailing Treasure Trove and Jersey National Antiquities acquired under the Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-.
- 7.21 The entire process - from the initial report by the finder to the reward payment and the accessioning of the object into the public museum collection managed by the Jersey Heritage Trust - will typically be completed within 12 months. In exceptional circumstances, such as particularly complex finds, this timeframe may need to be extended.

8 Licensing of Archaeological Excavation

- 8.1 Archaeological excavation is controlled in Jersey to ensure that work is undertaken to a sufficient standard, and that archaeological remains are properly recorded and cared for.
- 8.2 Archaeological excavation is defined as, '*an intrusive investigation on or under land or the seabed (whether or not the investigation involves the removal of the surface of the land or seabed) for the purpose (a) of searching generally for archaeological objects; or (b) of searching for, exposing or examining a particular structure or thing of archaeological interest. See **Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 5, 18(3).***
- 8.3 This definition encompasses a wide range of activities, including: trial trenches and test pits; subsurface sampling such as borehole, auger or core surveys; and any other form of intrusive investigation on land, the foreshore, or the seabed in Jersey, where the purpose is to search for archaeological objects, structures or deposits.
- 8.4 Any person intending to undertake such works must obtain a licence under Article 16 of the Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-, unless one of the following circumstances applies:
- The activity is permitted under Article 55(3) of the Planning and Building (Jersey) Law on a listed site (either consent for the works has been granted, or the activity is specified as a permitted activity in the entry on the List of Sites of Special Interests relating to the site).
 - The investigation is conducted in accordance with conditions of a planning permission granted under Article 19 of the Planning Law.
 - The work is carried out on behalf of the Jersey Heritage Trust solely to secure an archaeological object or structure at imminent risk of loss, destruction or decay.
 - The investigation does not disturb the land below the ploughsoil on agricultural land or does not disturb the hard-pack sub-surface below the surface layer on the foreshore. The depth of ploughsoil can vary across the island depending on local conditions and farming practices. As a general guide, fields are usually ploughed to around 25–30 cm for standard agricultural use. However, following potato harvests, it is common for fields to be sub-soiled more deeply, often reaching 35 cm or more. These depths are indicative and may differ from site to site. See **Heritage (Licensing of Archaeological Excavations) (Jersey) Regulations 202-; Article 3(1).**

8.5 Metal detecting and other forms of excavation therefore do not require a licence providing:

- The site is not a Site of Special Interest (Listed Building or Listed Place) which has been protected for its archaeological interest.
- Any digging is on agricultural land and is within the depth of the ploughsoil.
- Any digging on the foreshore is within the surface layer and does not penetrate the undisturbed compacted sub-surface beneath.

8.6 This allows for most recreational metal detecting (i.e. searching for coins or artefacts as a hobby) to take place without a licence. Note that permission from the landowner is always required for metal detecting. For further details see *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202- Code of Practice; Section 3.13*.

8.7 Licences are issued by the Chief Officer of the Regulation Directorate at Infrastructure and Environment. It is an offence to conduct such investigations without a valid licence. See **Appendix C – Directory of Useful Contacts**. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-; Part 5, Article 18 & Heritage (Licensing of Archaeological Excavations) (Jersey) Regulations 202-; Article 2*.

8.8 A separate licence is required for each site and programme of archaeological excavations.

8.9 The application must include the following information:

- Plans showing the proposed area of archaeological excavation, including:
 - A location plan at scale 1:2500 showing the boundaries of the site.
 - A site plan at a larger scale showing the specific area where excavation will take place.
- A Project Design (PD), which must provide a detailed account of the proposed archaeological work. This document should include:
 - The nature and purpose of the excavation.
 - The methodology to be employed, including excavation strategy, recording systems, and sampling techniques.
 - The expected duration of the excavation.
 - The standards and guidance that will be followed throughout the project e.g. CIfA Standards.
 - The research objectives, which should align with the Archaeology Research Framework & Research Agenda published by Jersey Heritage.
 - The Historic Environment Record (HER) reference number, and evidence that the project is informed by HER data. If a reference number has not yet been created, this should be arranged with Jersey Heritage prior to submission.
 - Proposals for reporting, archiving, and dissemination of results.
 - Health and safety arrangements and contingency plans for unexpected discoveries.
 - Confirmation of landowner consent for the proposed excavation.

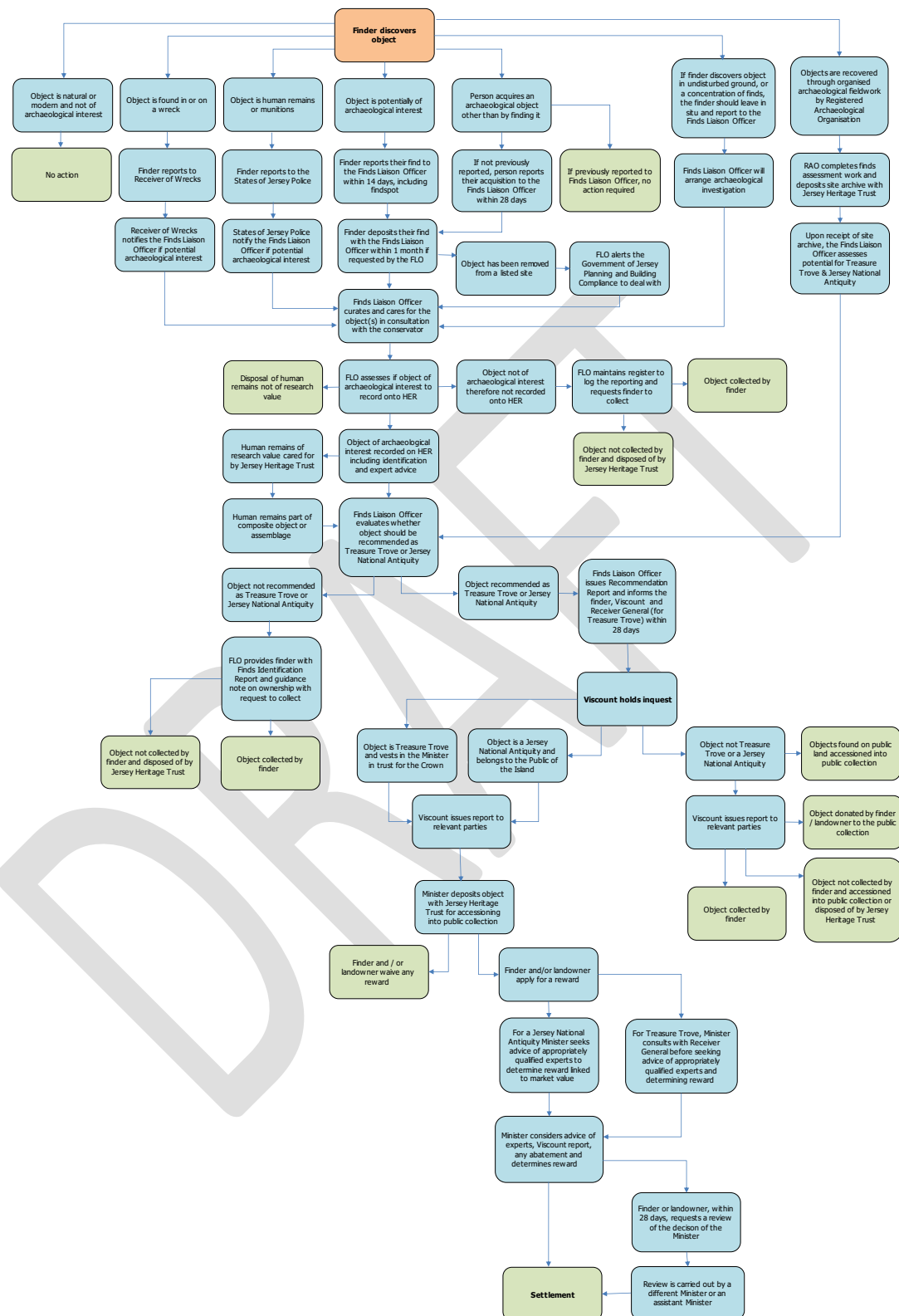
- Details of the nominated excavation director(s), including:
 - Name(s) and contact information.
 - A CV demonstrating relevant qualifications and/or experience, including professional accreditation e.g. CIfA or INRAP.
 - A statement confirming that the excavation director(s) will:
 - Be present on-site during all works (except for necessary absences).
 - Ensure compliance with the approved Project Design.
 - Oversee the creation of an appropriate site archive.
 - A fee may be required for each application.
- 8.10 Before granting a licence the Chief Officer must publish details of the proposed investigation and consider public representations.
- 8.11 The Chief Officer will consult with the Jersey Heritage Trust (as the delegated body) on licence applications, and other relevant experts as needed. See *Heritage (Licensing of Archaeological Excavations) (Jersey) Regulations 202-; Article 5(6)*.
- 8.12 If a licence is granted, it will specify the area in which the archaeological excavation may take place, the nature of the investigation, the period for which the licence is valid, and the name of each person responsible for the conduct of the investigation. The licence may contain any conditions that the Chief Officer considers necessary.
- 8.13 Unless agreed otherwise with the landowner and/or occupier, the applicant must restore the site and its surroundings to their original condition immediately on completion of the works.
- 8.14 The Chief Officer has the power to vary or revoke licences after they have been granted. This will normally only happen if applicants are not considered to be complying with the conditions of the licence, or if external factors mean that the licence cannot be implemented as granted. Applicants may also request that a licence be varied.
- 8.15 Carrying out archaeological excavations without a licence or failing to comply with the terms of a licence is an offence and is liable to a fine.
- 8.16 All archaeological objects discovered are subject to the Heritage (Jersey) Law 202-. The nominated excavation director is responsible for conducting a finds assessment and subsequently depositing the assemblage and site archive with the Jersey Heritage Trust at the conclusion of post-excavation work. The Finds Liaison Officer will assess whether any of the objects may qualify as Treasure Trove or as a Jersey National Antiquity. If so, the landowner may be eligible for a reward. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202- Code of Practice; Section 3.19*.
- 8.17 A comprehensive report must be submitted to the Historic Environment Record for Jersey within one year of completing the excavation, unless an extended deadline is formally agreed to accommodate demonstrably complex sites or significant finds. The report should include a fully illustrated and detailed account of the investigation, any specialist reports on artefacts and ecofacts, dating results for significant findings, and a comparative analysis of results. The Chief

Officer may withhold further licences if the applicant has a significant backlog of uncompleted final reports.

- 8.18 If a licence is refused, the Chief Officer must provide written reasons. Licences may also be varied or revoked. See *Heritage (Licensing of Archaeological Excavations) (Jersey) Regulations 202-; Article 6*.
- 8.19 An applicant may appeal a decision to the Minister within 28 days of notification. See *Heritage (Licensing of Archaeological Excavations) (Jersey) Regulations 202-; Article 8*.

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Appendix A – Process Flowchart for Archaeological Finds



Appendix B – Guidelines for Objects That Do Not Need to Be Reported

Certain types of objects - such as unworked natural objects and items made of modern materials, as outlined in this appendix - are generally not regarded as being of archaeological interest and therefore do not need to be reported to the Finds Liaison Officer, unless they appear to hold particular historical significance to Jersey's distinctive culture and heritage.

As a general guide, the following items do not require reporting:

- Objects - including coins - that are **less than 300 years old** (i.e. dating from after the early 1700s). *Please note that potential Treasure Trove i.e. a group of gold or silver objects, must be reported regardless of their age or perceived historical significance.*
- **Unworked natural objects** such as fossils, stones or minerals in their original state as extracted from natural deposits, unless they are known to derive from significant archaeological deposits.
- **Unworked animal remains** - such as bones or seashells - unless they show signs of human modification (e.g. carving or engraving), are known to derive from significant archaeological deposits, or originate from ancient or extinct species such as mammoth.
- Objects made of **aluminium** - a material first discovered and mass-produced in the 19th century.
- Objects made from **stainless steel** – a material developed in the early 20th century.
- **Electroplated** metal objects – first developed in the early 19th century.
- Objects made from **plastic** or **synthetic polymers** - such as Bakelite or polyethylene, which were developed in the 19th century.
- Mass-produced **moulded glass** dating from the 18th century onwards.
- **Transfer-printed pottery** (also known as transferware) - such as blue and white ceramics commonly found on the foreshore, developed in the 1750s and widely popular throughout the 19th century.
- Objects made from **modern concrete** - first formulated in 1756.
- **Modern machinery components** - such as vehicle engine parts.
- Objects **not found in Jersey** should be reported to the relevant authority in the country or region where they were discovered, in accordance with local laws.

When in doubt, it is best for finders to err on the side of caution and report any object they believe may be of potential interest.

Appendix C – Directory of Useful Contacts

Finds Liaison Officer Jersey Archive Clarence Road St Helier Jersey JE2 4JY Tel: 07797 781030 Email: flo@jerseyheritage.org <u>Link to online Finds Reporting Form</u>	Jersey Heritage The Weighbridge St Helier Jersey JE2 3NG Tel: +44(0)1534 633300 Email: info@jerseyheritage.org Conservators Email: Neil.Mahrer@jerseyheritage.org or Harry.Richards@jerseyheritage.org
States of Jersey Police Police Headquarters La Route du Fort St. Helier Jersey JE2 4PA Tel: +44(0)1534 612612 Email: hello@jersey.police.je	Jersey Coastguard Maritime House St Helier Jersey JE1 1HB Tel: +44 (0)1534 447705 Email: jerseycoastguard@ports.je
Receiver of Wreck Agents of the Impôts Head of Jersey Customs and Immigration Service Maritime House St. Helier JE1 1JD Email: rgc@gov.je	HM Receiver General Office of the Lieutenant-Governor St Saviour Jersey JE2 7GH Tel: +44(0) 1534 441702 Email: hmreceivergeneral@gov.je
Viscount's Department Morier House Halkett Place St Helier Jersey JE1 1DD Tel: +44(0)1534 441400 Email: viscount@courts.je	Minister for Sustainable Economic Development Department for the Economy Union Street St Helier Jersey JE2 3DN Tel: +44(0)1534 440183 Email: economy@gov.je
Minister for the Environment Cabinet Office PO Box 228 Jersey JE4 9SS Tel: +44(0)1534 445508 Email: planning@gov.je	Regulation Directorate Infrastructure and Environment PO Box 228 Union Street St Helier Jersey JE2 3DN Tel: +44(0)1534 445508 Email: planning@gov.je

Appendix D – Code of Conduct for Responsible Metal Detecting in Jersey

Code of Conduct for Responsible Metal Detecting in Jersey (2025)

If undertaken responsibly metal-detecting can make an important contribution to archaeological knowledge. This document aims to provide guidance for metal-detectorists who wish to contribute to our understanding of the history of Jersey. It combines both the requirements of finders under the law, as well as more general voluntary guidance on accepted best practice. Under Jersey law all archaeological objects must be reported. Those objects determined to be Treasure Trove belong to the Crown, and those determined to be a Jersey National Antiquity belong to the Public of the Island.

Being responsible means:

Before you go metal-detecting

- 1 Obtaining permission to search from the landowner regardless of the status, or perceived status, of the land. Remember that all land has an owner and an occupier (such as a tenant farmer). Be aware that ownership of the foreshore (i.e. beaches) and seabed was gifted by the Crown to the Public of Jersey in 2015. The Public recognises that metal detecting is a pastime that is often undertaken in an environment like the foreshore. Metal detecting that is reasonable and within guidance is a tolerated activity on the foreshore but those taking part should always remain mindful that there may be related statutory obligations and requirements and so are encouraged to check the Government of Jersey websites for any further information. For other areas of public land, metal detectorists are advised to seek consent from Jersey Property Holdings before undertaking their activities. See *Heritage (Jersey) Law 202- Code of Practice; Sections 8.4 - 8.6*.
- 2 Obeying the Law concerning protected sites (such as those defined as Listed Places), and those other sites on which metal-detecting might also be restricted (such as Crown property, common land *Commune de Fief*, and National Trust for Jersey land). You can obtain details of these sites from several sources, including the landowner/occupier. The Finds Liaison Officer or Historic Environment Record will help you research and better understand the site. Take extra care when detecting near Listed sites since it is not always clear where the boundaries of these lies on the ground.
- 3 Familiarising yourself with Jersey's Historic Environment Record **her.jerseyheritage.org** including contact details for the Finds Liaison Officer, and importantly with the guidance on the reporting of finds and the care of archaeological objects within the Jersey (Heritage) Law 202- Code of Practice.
- 4 Obtaining public liability insurance (to protect yourself and others from accidental damage), such as that offered by the National Council for Metal-Detecting or the Federation of Independent Detectorists.

While you are metal detecting

- 1 Working on ground that has already been disturbed (such as ploughed land or that which has formerly been ploughed), and only within the depth of ploughing. If detecting takes place on

pasture, be careful to ensure that no damage is done to the archaeological value of the land, including earthworks. Do not damage stratified archaeological deposits (that is to say, finds that seem to be in the place where they were deposited in antiquity) and minimise any ground disturbance using suitable tools and by reinstating any ground and turf as neatly as possible.

- 2 Stopping any digging and making the landowner aware that you are seeking expert help if you discover something below the ploughsoil, or a concentration of finds or unusual material, or wreck remains. The Finds Liaison Officer may be able to help or will be able to advise on an appropriate person. Reporting the find does not change your rights of discovery or prejudice your position for any reward but will result in far more archaeological evidence being recovered. Do not advertise the discovery, for example, on social media.
- 3 Recording findspots as accurately as possible for all archaeological finds, either by recording latitude and longitude using a hand-held Global Positioning Systems (GPS) device or mobile phone app such as Google Earth or what3words; recording an 8-Figure Jersey Grid Reference whilst in the field or a 1:25000 scale map if this is not possible. Bag finds individually, recording the location reference on the bag with a waterproof/indelible marker. The Finds Liaison Officer is interested in learning about all archaeological finds you discover, not just metallic items, because such finds contribute to knowledge.
- 4 Respecting [The Jersey Countryside code](#) i.e. leave gates and property as you find them and do not damage crops, frighten animals, or disturb ground nesting birds, and dispose properly of litter.

After you have been metal-detecting

- 1 Abiding by the Law by reporting all archaeological objects to the Finds Liaison Officer as soon as possible and in any event no later than 14 days after the discovery as set out in the Jersey (Heritage) Law 202- Code of Practice; also informing the relevant landowner / occupier of the discovery.
- 2 Abiding by the Law which defines an 'archaeological object' as an object found on or under land, foreshore or seabed of Jersey which: (a) has been created or modified by human activity and which is 300 years of age or older at the time of discovery or is not 300 years of age or older but is, or appears to be, of historical interest; (b) is historical human remains or ancient animal remains; or (c) is Treasure Trove. If in doubt it is best to err on the side of caution and report any object you think may be relevant.
- 3 The Code provides guidance on some types of objects that are not of archaeological interest and therefore do not need to be reported, such as unworked natural objects and things made of modern materials.
- 4 Calling the Police (01534 612612), and notifying the landowner/occupier, if you find any traces of human remains or a likely burial. Do not disturb the human remains.
- 5 Calling the Police or the coastguard, and notifying the landowner/occupier, if you find anything that may be a live explosive, device or other ordnance. Do not attempt to move or interfere with any such explosives.

- 6 Calling the Police if you notice any illegal activity whilst out metal-detecting, such as theft of farm equipment or illegal metal-detecting (nighthawking).
- 7 Reporting the discovery of objects found in or on wrecks to the Receiver of Wrecks.
- 8 Caring for the object and taking reasonable measures to preserve it. Archaeological objects must not be improperly cleaned, repaired, or marked. Guidance is provided in the Jersey (Heritage) Law 202- Code of Practice.
- 9 Many of the objects you discover will be returned to you by the Finds Liaison Officer. The Viscount will hold an inquest into the small number of archaeological objects that may be Treasure Trove or a Jersey National Antiquity as set out in the Jersey (Heritage) Law 202-. If you retain ownership of an object of archaeological interest and wish to take it out of the Island, you will require an export licence issued by the Customs Department customs@gov.je / 01534 448000.

Finding out more about archaeology and metal detecting

- You can find out more about the archaeology of Jersey from Jersey Heritage www.jerseyheritage.org or the Société Jersiaise <https://societe.je/>
- For further information about the recording and reporting of finds discovered by the public contact the Historic Environment Record JerseyHER@jerseyheritage.org or Finds Liaison Officer flo@jerseyheritage.org
- For further information about how you can become involved in archaeology contact the Société Jersiaise, Tel: +44(0)1534 758314 / Email: hello@societe.je or [Council for British Archaeology \(www.archaeologyuk.org / 01904 671417\)](http://www.archaeologyuk.org).
- You can find out about metal detecting via the Jersey Metal Detecting Society, the [National Council for Metal Detecting \(www.ncmd.co.uk\)](http://www.ncmd.co.uk), or the [Federation of Independent Detectorists \(www.fid.org.uk\)](http://www.fid.org.uk).

Based on the Code in England & Wales (2017 Revision) which has been endorsed by: Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum of Wales / PAS Cymru, Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers, British Museum / Portable Antiquities Scheme, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Council for British Archaeology, Country Land & Business Association, Institute for Archaeology (University College London), Historic England, National Council for Metal Detecting, National Farmers Union, Royal Commission on the Historical & Ancient Monuments of Wales, Society of Museum Archaeologists.

Appendix E – Guidance for the Care of Human Remains

The term human remains is used to mean the bodies, or parts of bodies, of once living people from a Human species such as *Homo sapiens* or *Homo neanderthalensis*.

Human remains require special ethical considerations which are different from objects and must be treated with dignity and respect. Advice on best practice can be found in [Guidance for the Care of Human Remains in Museums](#)

The discovery of human remains in Jersey must be reported immediately to the States of Jersey Police, who shall inform the Viscount, in accordance with the [Inquests and Post-Mortem Examinations \(Jersey\) Law 1995](#). The human remains and any associated artefacts should not be disturbed.

The States of Jersey Police will assess the remains in accordance with the ‘Procedure for Identification of Found Bones 2014’. If the bones are found to be human, but do not appear to be recent and are not immediately suspicious, the Police will notify the Jersey Heritage Trust to carry out an assessment of archaeological significance.

No-one has a right of ownership of human remains, but the Jersey Heritage Trust will take responsibility for the care of those human remains identified as being of archaeological significance and apply the highest standards of collections management in accordance with the ‘Jersey Heritage Collections Development Policy 2020’.

- Human remains can be held in the public museum collection managed by the Jersey Heritage Trust if it is satisfied that it can hold the remains in a lawful manner, provenance has been clearly established, there is no suspicion of illicit trade, and the remains are of potential research value to the museum or wider scientific community.
- If the Jersey Heritage Trust is satisfied that the human remains are not of potential research value to the museum or wider scientific community, the remains will be disposed of following the advice in the ‘Guidance for the Care of Human Remains in Museums’ and in accordance with the directions of the Viscount and [Burials and Exhumations \(Jersey\) Law 2004](#).
- Under certain circumstances, the Jersey Heritage Trust’s governing body may take a decision to return human remains to a country or people of origin.

Human remains will not themselves be subject to the reward valuation process.

Where human remains form part of a composite object such as a holy relic mounted in a reliquary or have been reported as part of an archaeological assemblage which meets the criteria for Treasure Trove or a Jersey National Antiquity, the objects may be assessed for reward, but the human remains will not themselves be subject to the valuation process.

Appendix F – Guidance on the Care of Objects

The following notes provide guidance on the care of archaeological objects, particularly during the critical period between their removal from the ground and handover to the Finds Liaison Officer at Jersey Heritage, who will arrange coordination with an archaeological conservator. To minimise deterioration, this interval should be kept as short as possible.

Once an archaeological object is removed from the ground, there is an inherent risk of deterioration. The primary concern must be to minimise this risk while also preserving any associated evidence. Surface deposits - such as dirt or corrosion - can contain valuable information about an object's use or context. For example, corrosion layers on coins may retain traces of textile wrappings, which can be lost through improper cleaning. To protect both the object and its contextual evidence, it is generally best to pack and store finds appropriately as soon as they are excavated. Prompt and careful handling helps to reduce deterioration and safeguard important details.

The Nature of Finds

Materials

Archaeological objects can be made from a wide range of materials, including metals (such as silver, gold, iron, copper alloys, zinc, lead, tin and pewter), ceramics, glass, stone, bone, antler, ivory, amber, jet, shale, wood and leather.

Condition

Objects recovered from the ground often differ markedly from similar items that have never been buried. Excavated finds are typically more fragile, may appear altered, and are highly vulnerable to further deterioration. Their condition and appearance are influenced by factors such as the type of material, its state at the time of burial, and the characteristics of the burial environment.

Evidence

Soil and corrosion deposits adhering to an object can preserve valuable information about how it was made or used, as well as details about the burial environment. Inappropriate cleaning can easily destroy this evidence. For this reason, corrosion layers and soil concretions should be left intact until they can be assessed by a specialist.

Important Considerations for Finders

Finders should be especially mindful of the following:

- **Metal Objects**

The original surface of metal objects - particularly those made of iron, copper or silver alloys - is often preserved within the corrosion layers, not at the level of any surviving bright metal. Cleaning methods that indiscriminately remove corrosion can destroy this original surface and valuable historical information.

- **Glass Objects**

Similarly, decayed glass - especially when flaking or discoloured - retains its original surface

within the corroded layers. These should not be cleaned off, as doing so may remove critical evidence.

- **Organic Material Evidence**

What may appear to be simple corrosion on metal objects can preserve traces of organic materials - such as textiles, leather, wood, bone, horn and other plant or animal products - that were associated with the object at the time of burial. These traces may not be visible to the untrained eye but can be identified by specialists. Such evidence is extremely fragile and can be quickly lost if damp or wet objects are allowed to dry out.

- **Decorative Features**

Corrosion layers may also contain delicate decorative elements such as gilding, inlays, enamel or niello. These features are easily damaged or removed by inappropriate cleaning.

- **Soil Deposits in Containers**

Soil found inside vessels or containers may contain pollen, seeds and other organic remains that provide clues about the vessel's contents and the burial environment. These deposits should be left undisturbed until examined by a specialist.

- **Pottery Vessels**

Ceramic pots may retain microscopic traces of their original contents - such as food or liquids - on the surface or within the clay fabric. These traces are not visible but can be detected through scientific analysis. Washing the pottery will remove this evidence.

- **Paint and Gilding on Other Materials**

Traces of paint, gilding or ground layers (such as gesso or plaster) may survive on stone, wood or leather objects. These are often subtle and easily lost through indiscriminate cleaning or removal of soil and burial concretions.

- **Coins**

Bent coins should not be straightened. While some may have been distorted by agricultural activity, others were intentionally bent as part of their historical use. Attempting to straighten them can cause cracking, as the metal is typically more brittle than when originally made.

Identifying Materials Without Cleaning

Some materials, such as pure gold or gold-silver alloys, may retain an appearance close to their original state even after centuries underground. In contrast, many other materials - particularly certain metals and types of glass - can look significantly different after burial. The condition and appearance of these materials can also vary greatly depending on the burial environment.

The table below offers visual clues to help identify materials without cleaning them - an essential step in preserving valuable archaeological evidence.

Material	Visual Clues (Without Cleaning)
Gold	Does not corrode and often appears yellow and well-preserved. May show orange, brown, or green hues if copper or silver has migrated to

	the surface or if buried near other metals. These surface colours can provide insights into composition and manufacturing and should not be cleaned off.
Silver	May appear bright and shiny but is often tarnished with a black surface or covered in corrosion (lumpy, purple-grey colour) from exposure to the soil. Excavated silver is brittle and prone to cracking, especially if thin. Silver coins may appear in various colours.
Copper Alloys	Typically green or red; may appear black in waterlogged conditions. Watch for "bronze disease" - a damaging, powdery pale green corrosion resembling icing sugar.
Iron	Often appears as orange-brown lumps with soil embedded in corrosion. May conceal objects within rust layers—X-rays are often needed for identification. Corroded iron remains magnetic.
Lead	Appears grey and is very heavy. May become brittle and develop white, toxic corrosion. Always wear gloves and avoid disturbing white powder, which is hazardous.
Pewter	A tin-based alloy resembling lead. Appears silvery-grey with white or grey corrosion. Often brittle, laminated, or flattened. Attempting to reshape it is likely to cause damage.
Tin or Zinc	Tin has a dull, earthy surface; Zinc appears dull grey with white powdery encrustations and deep pitting.
Enamels	Usually found on copper alloy objects. May lose original colour and become fragile or powdery, resembling copper corrosion.
Composite Objects	May include both metal and organic components (e.g. a knife with a bone handle). Organic parts must not be allowed to dry out. Treat as organic material.
Mineralised Organics	Copper and iron can preserve organic materials through mineralisation. For example, textiles from garments may survive on the back of a brooch, or parts of a wooden shaft on an iron axehead.
Leather	Often deformed and fragile. Waterlogged leather appears very dark or black. Original form may be unrecognisable.
Bone/Antler/Ivory	Colour varies from pale to dark and cracked, depending on burial conditions. May absorb colours from nearby metal corrosion, especially copper.
Amber	Ranges from translucent yellow, cream, orange-brown to red. May develop a crazed outer crust.
Glass	Often difficult to identify. Original surface may be degraded, opaque or black iridescence, or flaking. Colour may change over time due to decay of colorants.

When an object is removed from the soil, it undergoes a sudden and dramatic change in environment. This shift can destabilise the object - regardless of how long it has survived underground - leading to rapid and potentially irreversible deterioration.

Packaging and Storage Guidelines

To minimise deterioration, archaeological finds should be placed in appropriate environments immediately after recovery. The table below provides general recommendations for storing different materials. Where indicated, seek specialist conservation advice without delay.

Storage Conditions by Material

Material	Recommended Storage Environment
Metals (iron and copper alloys showing signs of 'bronze disease')	Seal in a container with the same damp soil in which they were found. Do not allow to dry out. Iron objects, especially in Jersey, often contain salts that cause long-term corrosion and crumbling. Once dried, iron cannot be re-treated with wet desalination methods. Seek conservation advice immediately.
Metals (non-ferrous e.g. gold, silver, copper alloys); Ceramics; Unpainted stone	Store sealed in the same damp soil they were recovered from. Glazed ceramics may be damaged if dried while still salty, and low-fired ceramics can suffer surface loss due to salt crystallisation. Seek conservation advice.
Glass; Ceramics (low-fired or with flaking glaze); Painted stone and plaster; Metals with important organic remains (non-mineralised); Bone and ivory; Amber, jet, and shale	Keep sealed in the same damp soil they were found in. These materials are highly sensitive to environmental changes and should be assessed by a conservator as soon as possible.
All materials from underwater marine sites; Wood, leather, and textiles from waterlogged environments	Store wet, cool (refrigerated but not frozen), and in darkness. These materials are extremely vulnerable to drying and light exposure. Immediate conservation advice is essential.

Packaging Materials and Storage Practices

Packaging should achieve three key objectives:

1. Provide physical protection for the object.
2. Create and maintain an appropriate storage environment.
3. Be chemically inert to avoid contributing to deterioration.

Recommended Materials

- Polyethylene boxes with snap-on (self-seal) lids (e.g. freezer storage boxes).
- Polyethylene bags, preferably self-sealing.
- Polyethylene foam (non-absorbent), such as *Jiffy foam* or *Plastazote*.
- Polyether foam (absorbent, open-cell structure).
- Acid-free tissue paper.
- Permanent markers for labelling boxes, bags, and tags (e.g. black felt-tip or ballpoint pens).

Note: Never write directly on the object.

Materials to Avoid

- Cotton wool (which can snag on corrosion and is difficult to remove safely).
- Foam rubber, velvet, and felt (which can emit sulphur and tarnish metals like silver).
- Organic packaging materials (e.g. wood, cardboard, newspaper, which can promote corrosion - especially for lead).
- Metal boxes (which do not provide a stable, sealed environment).

Packaging Guidelines

- Wrap robust small finds individually in polyethylene bags with padding (e.g. Jiffy foam), then placed in polyethylene boxes.
- Separate materials by type in different boxes to avoid cross-contamination.
- Fill empty spaces in boxes with foam or bubble wrap to prevent movement during transport.
- Do not dry out damp or waterlogged objects.

Creating Controlled Environments

- **Damp Environment:** Place pads of damp (not wet) absorbent foam in the polyethylene box. For glass, layer between damp foam sheets.
- **Wet Environment:** Fully immerse bagged finds in water, or place very wet foam pads in the box (more practical for transport).
Ambient Storage: Less vulnerable materials may be stored in acid-free cardboard boxes or polyethylene crates under normal conditions.

Note: Waterlogged and marine finds require urgent professional advice.

Labelling

- Always include a label with find-spot information inside the packaging.
- Ensure labels are legible, durable, and always remain with the object.

Visual Signs of Deterioration

The table below highlights common signs that an object may be actively deteriorating. If any of these signs are observed, contact the Jersey Heritage conservator immediately and adjust the storage conditions as required.

Material	Signs of Deterioration
Copper Alloys	Bright, pale green powdery spots or patches – indicative of ‘bronze disease’.
Iron	Orange liquid on the surface; flaking, cracking, or laminating; appearance of bright orange, powdery corrosion.
Lead and Lead Alloys	White, powdery corrosion on the surface.
Ceramics and Stone	Whitish crystalline deposits (efflorescence) forming on the surface.
Any Material Stored Damp or Wet	Black spots, white fluffy growths, or a sulphurous “rotten egg” smell—signs of mould or bacterial activity.
Glass	Crazing, flaking, or delamination of the surface.
Wood, Bone, Ivory	Shrinkage, warping, or cracking—often due to drying or environmental instability.

Appendix G – Guidance on the Historic Environment Record for Jersey

The Jersey Heritage Trust must maintain a Historic Environment Record (HER) for Jersey - a comprehensive and dynamic resource containing information on the archaeology and historic environment of the Bailiwick of Jersey.

The HER is publicly available to anyone interested in Jersey's archaeology, built heritage and history. Access is available online at [Arches | Heritage Data Management](#), a database integrated with geographic information system (GIS) layers, and via a physical reference collection. Advanced access is granted to accredited researchers with a defined research agenda.

The Government of Jersey must consult the HER as a material consideration in planning and development control.

Scope of the Historic Environment Record includes:

- Information about all Listed Buildings and Listed Places in Jersey included on the List of Sites of Special Interest under Article 51 of the Planning Law, due to their special geological, archaeological, architectural, artistic, cultural or historical significance.
- Information on all Conservation Areas designated under Article 56A of the Planning Law.
- Records of all Areas of Archaeological Potential (AAP) designated under Article 6(4)(a) of the Planning Law.
- Information about other sites within Jersey or its territorial waters considered by the Jersey Heritage Trust to hold archaeological, architectural, artistic, cultural or historical interest.
- Information on archaeological objects reported under this Law, discovered during archaeological investigations or otherwise brought to the attention of the Jersey Heritage Trust - including items designated as Treasure Trove and Jersey National Antiquities.
- Documentation about the historic, archaeological or architectural development of Jersey, including details of investigations, studies and scientific research relating to sites or objects.
- Historic place names in Jersey.

Appendix H – Guidance Note on Ownership



Guidance Note on Ownership

Date:

Jersey Heritage accepts no responsibility for ownership claims relating to objects returned to finders. Any accompanying report provided is for general informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. All disputes regarding ownership - including title, possession, or use - must be resolved between the finder and any other relevant parties, such as the landowner. Jersey Heritage disclaims all liability for any loss, damage, or legal issues arising from the return of such objects. Finders are solely responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable Laws and Regulations and are strongly advised to seek independent legal advice regarding their specific circumstances.

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Appendix I – Definition of Treasure Trove

Treasure Trove refers to a specific category of find that meets all the following criteria:

- i. **There are two or more objects.**
This means that a single item cannot qualify as Treasure Trove. The requirement for multiple objects ensures that the find represents a deliberate act of deposition rather than an isolated loss.
- ii. **Each object is made of more than 50% gold or silver.**
This sets a material threshold for defining Treasure Trove. It focuses on objects predominantly composed of precious metals. Objects with less than 50% gold or silver do not meet this criterion.
- iii. **The objects were deliberately hidden together on land (whether or not with other objects) with the intention that they are to be recovered.**
This means the objects were intentionally buried or concealed, not accidentally lost. The intention to recover the objects distinguishes Treasure Trove from casual loss or abandonment.
- iv. **The owner, or owner's heirs, are unknown.**
This ensures that the objects are treated as Treasure Trove only when rightful ownership cannot be established. If an owner or heir can be identified, the objects do not qualify as Treasure Trove.

Objects are assessed based on their condition at the time of burial or deliberate concealment, not their state when excavated. This ensures that changes over time - such as corrosion, fusion or breakage - do not affect whether the find meets the criteria for Treasure Trove.

- Fusion after burial: If objects have fused together over time, they are treated as separate items as they were originally buried.
- Breakage after burial: If an object has broken into separate parts, those parts are considered as one object for assessment purposes, reflecting its original state.

Appendix J – Criteria for Designation as a Jersey National Antiquity

An archaeological object, whether considered individually or as part of a larger assemblage, may be designated a Jersey National Antiquity if it meets one or more of the following four criteria:

(a) The object is of exceptional scientific or academic significance for any branch of Jersey art, learning or history.

These ‘Learning’ objects are assessed based on their potential to advance academic research or deepen understanding of Jersey’s past.

Illustrative examples:

- Middle to Upper Palaeolithic Levallois Point (circa 40,000–50,000 BCE) (HER 0700417)
- Bronze Age Spearhead (1207-1004 BCE) (HER 0300386)
- Late Bronze Age Sword Handle Fragment (circa 1000–800 BCE) (HER 0100517)
- Trinity Hoard (Late Bronze Age circa 1000 BCE) (HER 1200234)
- Dispersed Roman Coin Hoard (2nd to 3rd centuries CE) (HER 1200345)

(b) The object is so closely connected with Jersey national life and history that its loss would be a misfortune.

These ‘History’ objects hold significant value for Jersey’s heritage and culture, and may be associated with notable individuals, significant locations, or pivotal events in the Island’s history.

Illustrative examples:

- Gallo-Roman Figurine (1st–4th century CE) (HER 0300415)
- Late Iron Age Sword Pommel (mid-late 1st century BCE) (HER 0900431)
- Medieval Seal Matrix (1200–1300 CE) (HER 0100522)
- Billon Denier à l’Hermine of Francis I of France (1515–1547) (HER 0700438)
- 17th-Century Officer’s Wheellock Pistol (HER 0100614)

(c) The object is of exceptional aesthetic importance.

These ‘Aesthetic’ objects are distinguished by their exceptional quality, demonstrating clear evidence of artistic intention, skilled craftsmanship, and creative imagination in their production. This criterion evaluates the object’s artistic merit, the techniques used in its creation, and its overall visual impact.

Illustrative examples:

- Neolithic Jadeite Axe (HER 1100320)
- Jadeite Stone Ring (HER 0900627)
- Early Medieval Irish Copper-Alloy Mount (circa 500–800 CE) (HER 0300389)
- Rhenish Cross-Enamel Brooch (circa 1000–1100 CE) (HER 1100416)
- Anglo-Scandinavian Stirrup Strap Mount (circa 1000–1100 CE) (HER 0300414)

(d) The object is otherwise of significant cultural, historical or archaeological interest.

This category allows for the recognition of objects that enrich understanding or appreciation of the past, even if they are not exceptional in isolation.

Key considerations in evaluating objects against the Jersey National Antiquity criteria

In assessing whether an object meets the criteria for significance, the following key considerations will be taken into account.

1. Rarity

- An object may be considered significant if it represents a type of find with few or no known examples in the public museum collection managed by the Jersey Heritage Trust.
- An object may be considered significant if it meaningfully expands the known Jersey or regional corpus of a particular object type, object form, art-style, use of materials or manufacturing technique and provides an exceptional insight into these aspects.
- An object may be considered significant if it exhibits a high level of preservation or completeness compared to other known examples, and this provides an exceptional insight into aspect of national or regional history, archaeology or culture.
- An object may be considered significant if it was used, treated, or modified in a rare or unusual way during its use-life, providing exceptional insight into past practices or cultural behaviours.

2. Artistic quality

- An object may be considered significant if it demonstrates artistic endeavour of particularly high quality and meaningfully contributes to the known Jersey corpus of a particular object form or style of art.

3. Location

- An object may be considered significant if it provides an exceptional insight into the specific history or culture of a place or region due to the location in which it was found, because finds of a similar type are rare in that area or the object offers strong illustrative value for understanding the specific history or culture of that place.

4. Associations

- An object may be considered significant if it has a strong, well-evidenced association with a person or event of historic importance and provides meaningful insight into that individual or event.
- An object may be considered significant if it provides exceptional insight into broader historical or archaeological trends, such as the emergence or spread of new cultural groups within the region, the development of trade or gift-exchange networks, or patterns of conquest or settlement.

5. Artefact groups or assemblages

- An object that may not meet the criteria on its own can still be considered significant if it forms part of a group of finds - such as an assemblage or hoard - that, when considered collectively, provides exceptional insight into Jersey's history, archaeology, or culture.

Note

The assessment may take account of the physical condition of an object as well as the extent of any damage or alteration to which it may have been subjected. The financial value of an object is not a valid consideration.

Illustrative examples of objects that satisfy the criteria for Jersey National Antiquity:**Levallois Point (HER 0700417)**

This complete Levallois point, dating to around 40,000-50,000 years ago, is a finely made flint tool showcasing advanced Palaeolithic craftsmanship. It features classic Levallois traits, including a faceted striking platform and a smooth ventral surface with a bulb of percussion. Fully retouched edges and a visible fossil inclusion add to its interest. Discovered near Fliquet Bay - a key Pleistocene site - it offers valuable insight into early human technology, migration, and adaptation in Jersey's prehistoric landscape.

**Bronze Age Spearhead (HER 0300386)**

This is the largest and most complete Bronze Age spearhead found in the Channel Islands, and a rare example in the British Isles. Unlike typical fragmented hoard finds, it was recovered intact with a preserved fragment of Field Maple shaft, dated to 1207-1004 BCE. Slight damage to the tip may indicate ritual deposition. The spearhead offers significant insights into Bronze Age craftsmanship, ritual practices, and woodland use. Its rarity and preservation make it a valuable subject for ongoing research, including metallurgical and use-wear analysis.



Late Bronze Age Sword Handle Fragment (HER 0100517)

This copper-alloy fragment belongs to an Atlantic leaf-shaped sword of the Carp's Tongue Complex, dated to c. 1000-800 BCE. It features a flared end, edge ribs, and a 'tripartite tongue' hole arrangement. The patinated break and green surface indicate age. Closely linked to Ewart Park-type swords, it reflects widespread Late Bronze Age metalworking traditions across Western Europe. A rare Jersey find, it adds to the island's growing evidence of prehistoric weaponry and craftsmanship.

**Trinity Hoard (HER 1200234)**

Dating to around 1000 BCE, the Trinity Hoard comprises 25 socketed bronze axe heads tightly packed in a ceramic vessel, blades facing downward. Unlike typical founder's hoards, this may represent a merchant's stockpile or ritual offering. Discovered in situ near a ditch within a midden deposit, the context included broken pottery, charcoal, and burnt material - evidence of intense domestic or ritual activity. The hoard provides rare insight into Late Bronze Age economy, belief systems, and metalworking in Jersey, with further research offering potential links to continental Europe.



Dispersed Roman Coin Hoard (HER 1200345)

A rare Jersey find, this hoard comprises nine copper-alloy sesterterii from the 2nd-3rd centuries CE, including coins of Postumus, Faustina the Younger, and Antoninus Pius. Most are heavily worn, with partial imagery of deities like Venus, Juno, Libertas, and Hercules. The presence of a Postumus coin suggests burial during his reign, a period of economic instability in the Gallic Empire. The hoard reflects long-term coin circulation and offers insight into Jersey's Roman-era economy and cultural connections.

**Gallo-Roman Figurine (HER 0300415)**

This cast copper-alloy figurine (1st-4th century CE), likely depicting Harpocrates, blends Roman and Egyptian iconography, reflecting religious and artistic exchange in the western provinces. Despite surface wear, its fine detailing - musculature, facial features, and adornments - demonstrates skilled craftsmanship. The artefact is a rare survival of pre-Christian belief and offers insight into Gallo-Roman religious practices and Jersey's cultural links to the wider Roman Empire. Its discovery enriches understanding of provincial life and early anthropomorphic bronze casting.



Late Iron Age Sword Pommel (HER 0900431)

This cast bronze pommel, dated to the mid-late 1st century BCE, depicts a stylised human head blending Roman and Celtic features - an elongated face with a laurel wreath and lentoid eyes. Likely mounted on a La Tène III sword, it reflects cross-cultural influences and high-status symbolism. As Jersey's first identified Iron Age sword component, it links the island to wider European traditions. Its discovery alongside a Roman denarius suggests continued use or ritual deposition into the early Roman period.



Medieval Seal Matrix (HER 0100522)

Dating to 1200-1300 CE, this complete copper-alloy seal matrix features a conical form with a flat die engraved with the Agnus Dei (Lamb and Flag), symbolising Christ. The retrograde inscription, interpreted as "Seal of Peter Bagot," may link the object to the Diocese of Coutances, which oversaw Jersey's churches. Reflecting personal piety and ecclesiastical authority, it is typical of 13th-century non-heraldic seals and offers insight into medieval identity, literacy, and religious affiliation.



Billon Denier à l’Hermine of Francis I of France (1515–1547) (HER 0700438)

This coin, issued during the reign of Francis I (1515-1547), features an ermine on the obverse and a cross pattée on the reverse, both within pelleted borders. The reverse inscription suggests minting for Brittany, reflecting regional integration into the French royal domain. Its discovery in Jersey enhances understanding of early 16th-century coin circulation and the island’s continental connections during the late medieval and early modern periods.

**17th-Century Officer’s Wheellock Pistol (HER 0100614)**

Dating to the 1640s, this rare and well-preserved wheellock pistol is a fine example of mid-17th-century military craftsmanship. Its complex ignition system, predating the flintlock, was typically reserved for elite officers. The pistol’s survival in near-complete condition offers insight into the technology, status, and warfare of the English Civil War period. Its presence in Jersey suggests possible military links or personal connections to the conflict, making it a significant artefact in the island’s historic record.



Neolithic Jadeite Axe (HER 1100320)

Crafted around 7,000 years ago in the Austrian Alps, this polished jadeite axe is a ceremonial object of exceptional quality and size, belonging to the Breton ‘torpedo’ form. Likely unused as a tool, it symbolised status and spiritual significance. Its presence in Jersey highlights long-distance Neolithic exchange networks and the cultural value placed on exotic materials. As one of the finest examples found in the British Isles, it offers rare insight into prehistoric identity, belief, and craftsmanship.

**Jadeite Stone Ring (HER 0900627)**

This polished jadeite ring is one of the most important archaeological finds from Jersey and among the finest of its kind in Western Europe. Quarried from the high Alps and brought to the Island by early Neolithic farmers around 7,000 years ago, its craftsmanship and material suggest it held ceremonial or symbolic value—likely a marker of power and prestige. With no practical function, its aesthetic refinement and exotic origin point to its role in long-distance gift exchange networks, underscoring its cultural and artistic importance.



Early Medieval Irish Copper-Alloy Mount (HER 0300389)

Dating to c. 500-800 CE, this cast copper-alloy mount features champlevé enamelled decoration forming a mirrored bird motif. Likely part of a buckle or house-shrine handle, its craftsmanship and style suggest Irish origin, with parallels in insular artefacts like the Oseberg mount. Found in Jersey, it may reflect Viking movement of high-status objects. The piece offers insight into Early Medieval religious practice, artistic tradition, and cross-cultural exchange across the British Isles.

**Rhenish Cross-Enamel Brooch (HER 1100416)**

Dating to c. 1000-1100 CE, this cast copper-alloy disc brooch features a central boss and blue cloisonné enamel forming a cross, with settings for gems or coloured glass. Originating from Rhineland workshops, it reflects high-status personal adornment and widespread stylistic exchange across northern Europe. A rare continental find in Jersey, it highlights the island's early medieval connections to broader European cultural and artistic networks.



Anglo-Scandinavian Stirrup Strap Mount (HER 0300414)

Dating to c. 1000-1100 CE, this complete copper-alloy mount features addorsed beast motifs in the Ringerike or Urnes style - hallmarks of Viking Age art. Likely used on horse tack, it reflects Scandinavian influence in Britain and is the first of its kind found in Jersey. The mount offers rare evidence of Norse presence or cultural impact on the island during the late Early Medieval period.



Appendix K – Guidance on the Reduction of Rewards

The following circumstances may lead to either no reward or a reduced reward:

1. Where a finder fails to report to the Finds Liaison Officer, within 14 days, the finding of an object that the finder believes, or has reason to believe, is an archaeological object.
2. Where a person who has acquired the object other than by finding it fails to report to the Finds Liaison Officer, within 14 days, the acquisition of an object that the person believes, or has reason to believe, is an archaeological object not previously disclosed to the Finds Liaison Officer.
3. Where a finder, without a reasonable excuse, fails to provide the Finds Liaison Officer with all the relevant circumstances surrounding a find including the precise find location.
4. Where there are reasonable grounds for believing that a find was made elsewhere than on the alleged site.
5. Where a finder and/or landowner refuses to deposit an object with the Finds Liaison Officer, or fails to deposit an object promptly when requested to do so by the Finds Liaison Officer, or where there is evidence that only part of a find has been handed in.
6. Where a person has discarded, damaged or destroyed an object which that person knows or has reason to believe is an archaeological object. Damage can take various forms and includes, for example, improper cleaning, repairing or marking of the object.
7. Where a person, without reasonable excuse, fails to take reasonable measures to preserve the object; not taking account of the 'guidance on the care of objects' provided in the Code of Practice (Appendix F).
8. Where a person has caused damage to undisturbed ground - such as beneath the ploughsoil or within the compacted sub-surface of a beach - when removing an object.
9. Where there are reasonable grounds for believing that the finder was searching without relevant permission.