

# Le Creux ès Faïes

Early Guernsey Archaeology Site

## 4 Prehistoric passage grave

La Creux ès Faïes prehistoric passage grave is one of many fine examples to be seen in the island. It is 9 metres long with a narrow entrance expanding into a round ended chamber. Two of the original capstones survive and it is probable that the whole structure would have been roofed. The remains of an earth mound, which would have originally covered the tomb, measure some 18 meters in diameter. Stones from the surrounding kerb which have been re-positioned are visible on the north side of the mound.

The tomb was built during the Neolithic period c 4000 to 2500 BC and was in use until the Late Bronze Age c 1000 BC. Successive burials or cremations were deposited within the chambers together with grave goods which include pottery, flint and stone tools.

The tomb was excavated by F C Lukis in 1840 when pottery of Beaker type and barbed and tanged flint arrowheads dating to 1800 BC were discovered.

### Guernsey Folklore

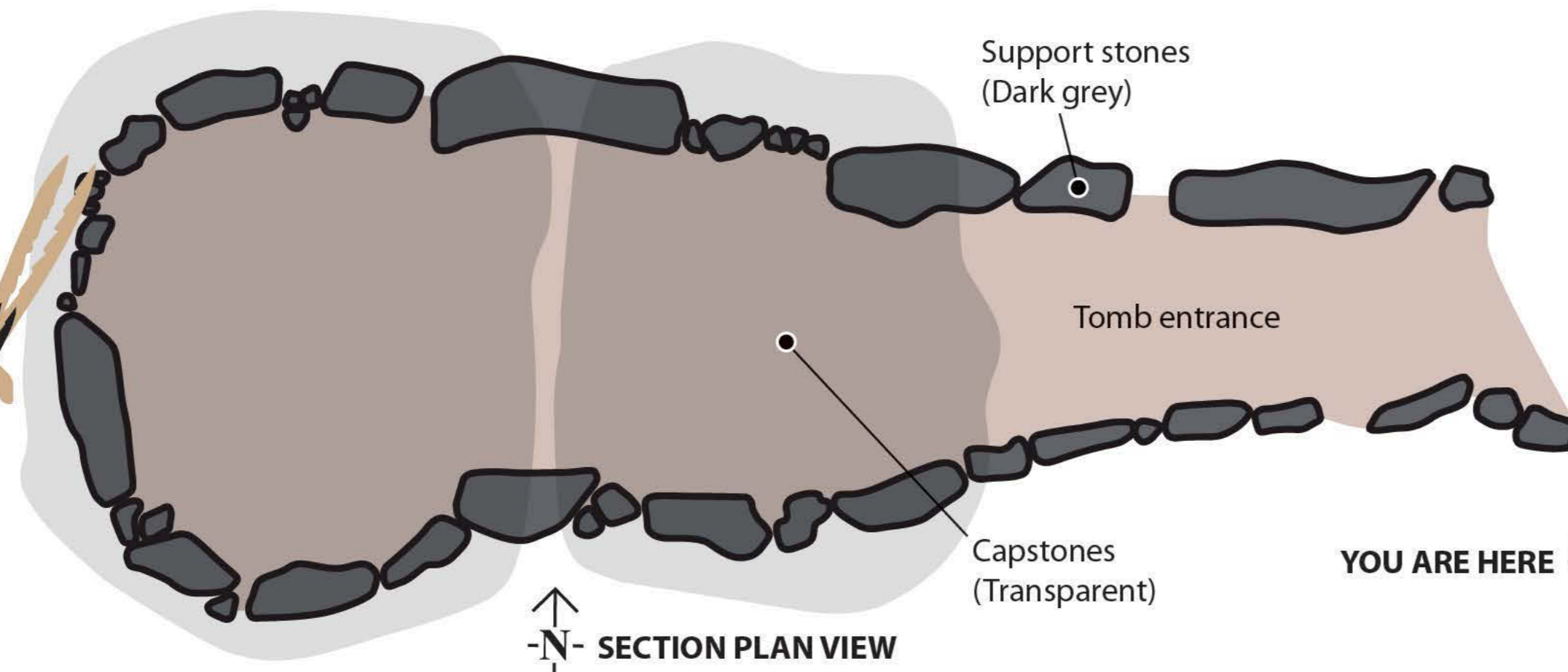
The tomb is known locally as the cave of the fairies. It was thought that fairies came out at midnight on moonlit nights to dance on the Mont Saint and Le Catoroc. Soldiers barracked at L'Eree also used the tomb as a den, so to stop this it was filled with rubble by the Officers. This was how Lukis found it when he started excavations in the nineteenth century. Later it was even used as a stable for cattle.



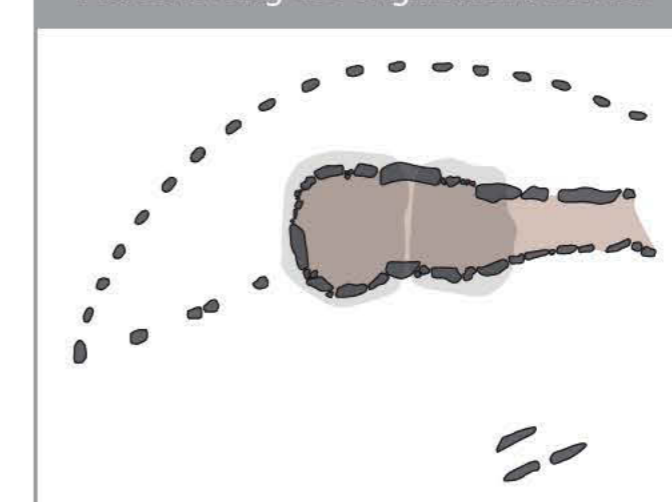
Artist's impression of a burial ceremony at the chamber entrance  
illustration by Brian Byron



Flint arrowheads and prehistoric pottery were found inside the chamber on display at Guernsey Museum & Art Gallery



Plan showing the original kerb stones



Other Burial Chambers can be found in Guernsey

La Varde Le Déhus  
Les Fouaillages La Platte Mare  
La Rocque qui Sonne

Le Trépied  
YOU ARE HERE

### Welcome

This scheduled **Ancient Monument** is cared for by the Culture & Leisure Department. If you have any comments about it please telephone us on 01481 726518 or write to us at Guernsey Museum & Art Gallery, Candie Gardens, St Peter Port, GY1 1UG

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