

## ARCHAEOLOGY



### What is Archaeology?

Archaeology is the study of people from the ancient past through remains which are often buried under the ground in the same areas as people live to-day.

Archaeology is often uncovered when the foundations for shops, houses or schools are being dug. Many areas of Guernsey, particularly St Peter Port itself have recently been developed for new buildings of all types.



Archaeologists dig in the ground and find different soils and textures. If the ground is a different colour it may mean that the ground has been disturbed sometime in the past. These differences are called a 'Feature'

*Inside the 'Bonded Store'*

If the archaeologist believes that the top layers of soil will have nothing important to reveal then a machine may be brought in to clear the surface.



However, usually the archaeologists must clear each section of the site very carefully by hand. The soil is taken away to a 'Spoil Heap' and will be sifted again before it is removed completely to make sure that nothing is missed.

Sometimes the weather is very hot so the ground is dry and dusty. This makes digging very difficult. The best time to dig is after rain as the features show up better.