

Mont Crévelt.

It is probable that there was some kind of fortification which dominated the creek where the harbour at Saint Sampson was developed later. During the Middle Ages, the coast provided shelter for the boats which couldn't find it along the only jetty in Saint Peter Port. It also protected the Bridge which was the link between the Clos du Valle and the rest of the island.

As elsewhere in Guernsey, on top of the mound (or tumulus) there was a tower which had been built during the American War of Independence. Later platforms and walls were built and at the beginning of the nineteenth century there were four cannons there. The name of the Governor Sir John Doyle is coupled with this tower as with other forts on the island. He it was who organised the defence of Guernsey during this time of war. In 1867 when there was trouble between France and England, this fort was important once more for the defence of the island.

All this ceased when the States bought it from the Crown for £600 in 1899. During the last war, the Germans reinforced it with crenelations in concrete which make it look rather ugly. In 1984, the department for Public Works cleared brambles and weeds from the area around the old building. They put in some granite steps with a path, and some benches so that people can sit and admire the view towards Herm and the other islands. Later it was used by the Sea Scouts.