

Dear John,

Please find below a email summary of my research, focused on the documentary and aerial imagery, on the cemetery sites as promised, additional information is publically available on the JTrails web-site.

The sites of main cemeteries are perfectly clear public knowledge in a variety of contemporary sources, though as I and Caroline observed at an early point in our researches, they probably extended further than the boundaries marked at the end of the War, as the Germans both tidied up the original cemetery and then later bulldozed it to hide its full extent. Caroline's geophysical survey work almost certainly amplifies this further.

The presence of burials in the beach at the Anti-tank wall at low-tide mark is also a matter of clear testimony and it is commonplace testimony that workers who fell into castings during construction were left there and so interference with structures, such as the anti-tank wall, may be interference with war-graves.

It is likely that there are other sites in the Longis Common area, as we have references to two mass graves for Jewish prisoners shot as retaliation for Allied air-raids on Germany and prisoner testimony also suggests that the Germans were opportunists as far as burials were concerned and also prisoners who died of starvation while roaming the island for food would sometimes lay undetected and it is possible that other individual remains could be present close to the surface.

For these reasons excavation works in this whole area would be very unwise and I must also emphasize that I have now spoken with Jewish Religious authorities who have extreme concern at the activities taking place and at the potential desecration of sacred remains. A moratorium on further work should be called immediately for a proper and responsible view to be taken. A failure to do so could seriously tarnish the island's reputation for years to come.

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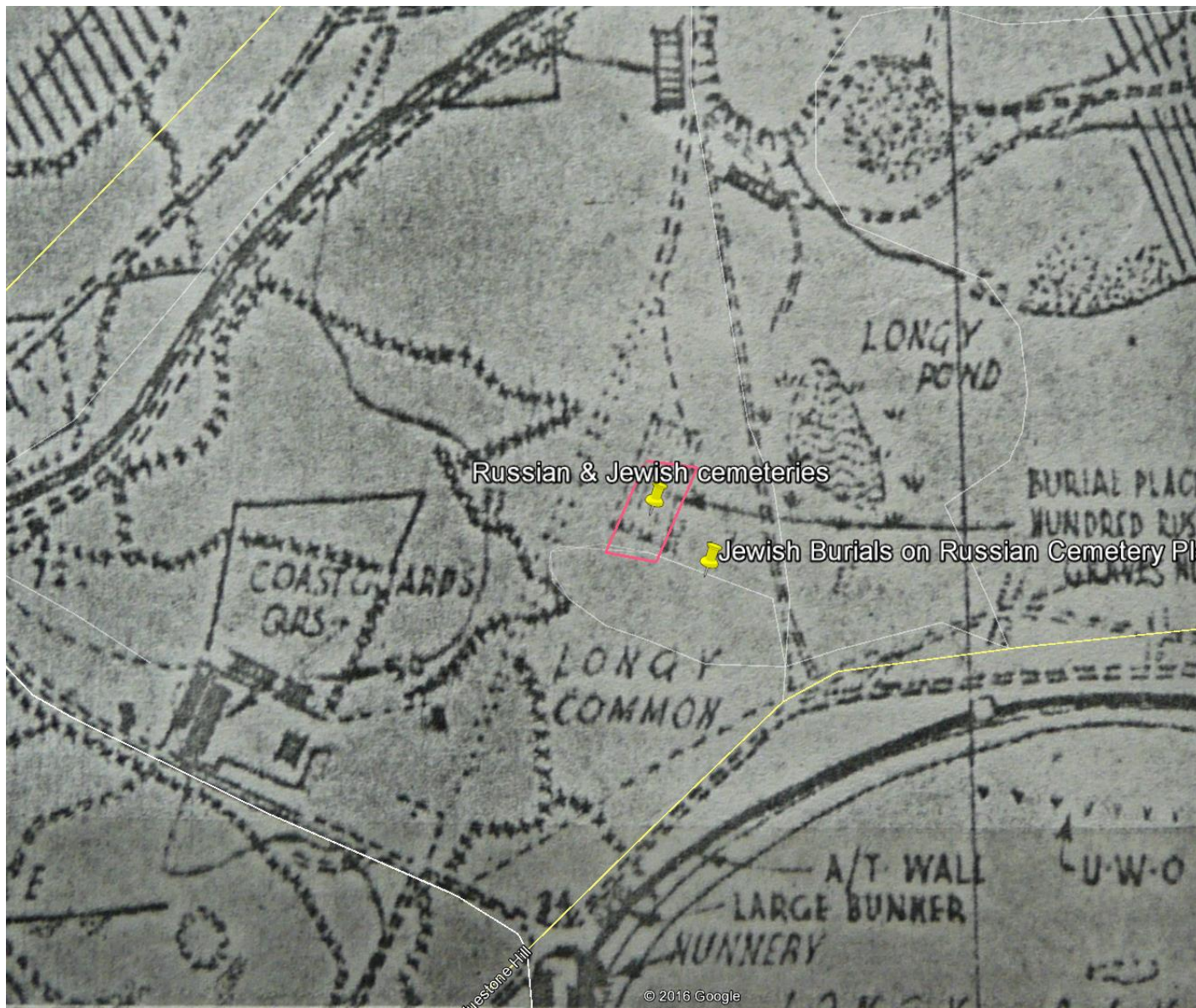
Below: Summary information on Cemetery Sites using integrated aerial imagery: When the imagery is integrated it shows close agreement as to the visible boundary of the main cemetery site at the close of the War.



Current Situation Map showing main cemetery sites. The red boundary is the cemetery boundary given on the Royal Engineers Map at the end of the War – the 'official' boundary.



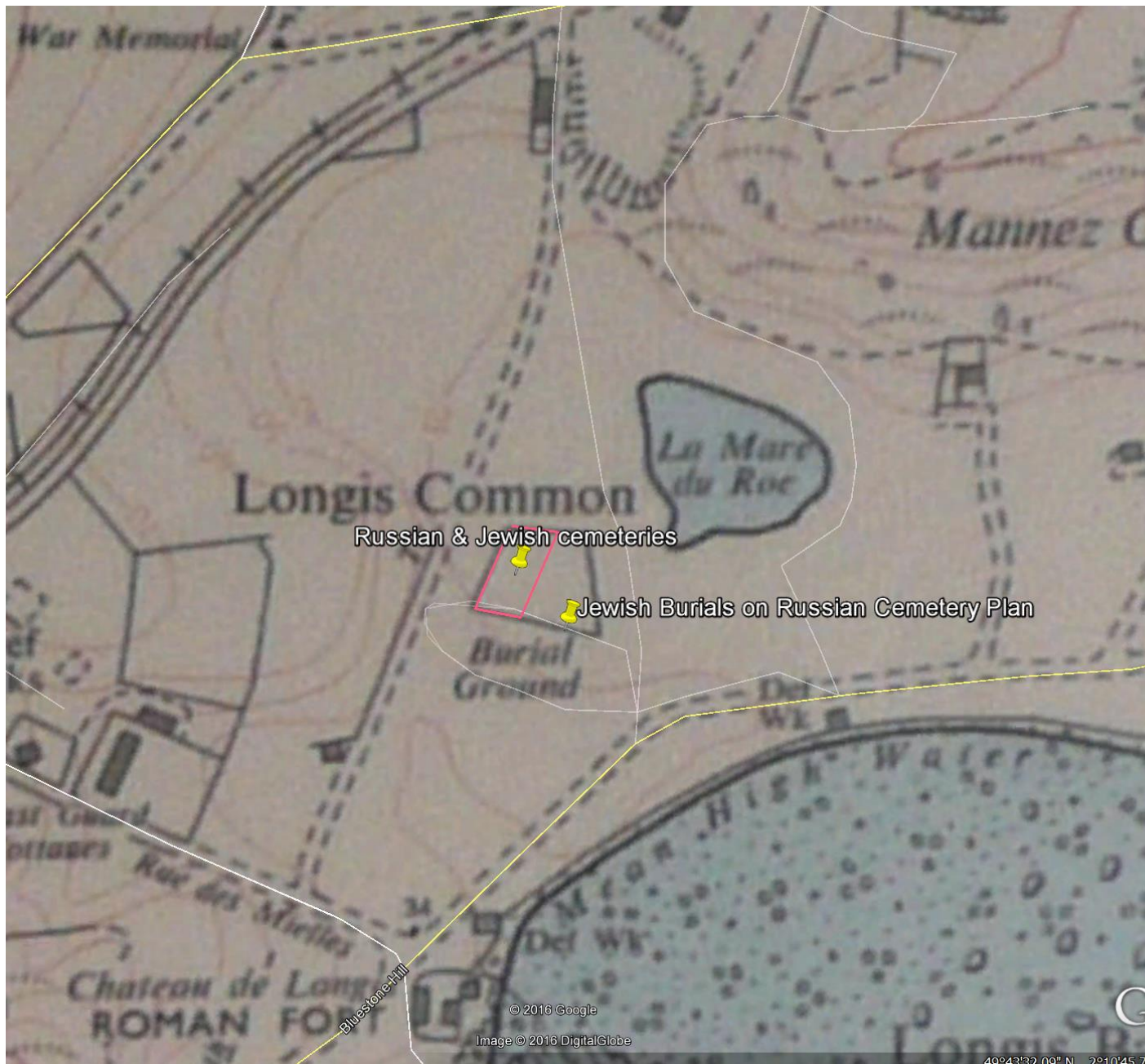
Aerial Allied Imagery from 1943 showing the cemetery area. Fresh excavations are clearly seen as white areas – these may have initially been to extract minerals – and which were then re-used for burial. This and other imagery and mapping shows that the Royal Engineers map only showed the core of the cemetery and clearly all of white exposed areas were potentially used for burials.



Royal Engineers Map showing 'Russian' Burial Site



Aerial Imagery from 1945 showing burial sites and integrated with Google Earth



Ordnance Survey Map showing a larger burial area than in the Engineer's Map following the larger enclosure given in the 'official' plan of the Russian Cemetery, and the enclosure visible in the aerial images and which shows the 'Jewish' graves and graves of 43 unknown Soviet citizens on the eastern boundary.



Close-up of 1945 aerial image showing the site during its development and use.



Close-up of 1945 aerial image showing boundaries of the site.