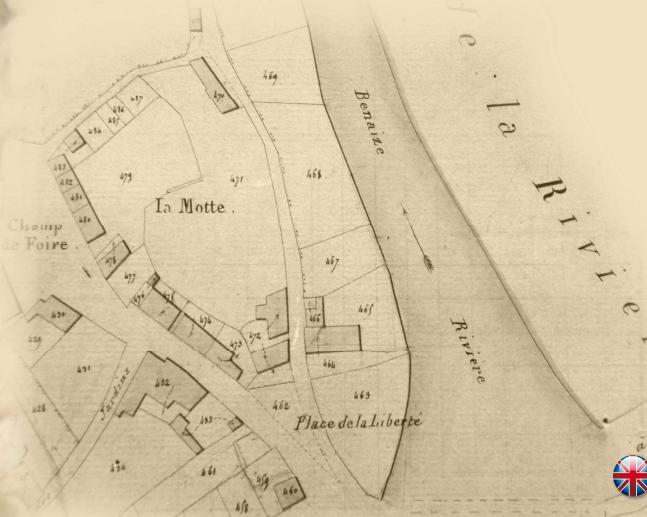
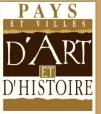


LA TRIMOUILLE

La motte castrale
The castle mound



Cadastral map from 1832, section A feuille 3, mairie of La Trimouille.
Land Registry 1832, section A, sheet 3, Town Hall, La Trimouille.

Les traces dans le parcellaire



The cadastral map of 1832 and aerial photographs show the site of the castle area with its distinctive shape with a pointed end. The mound, an artificial hillock, on which stood a wooden or stone keep, also appears on the old land register. Over the centuries many houses were built along the former site of the castle, thus demarcating the old outline of the castle.

Aerial view of the site of the castle, photo Christian Richard.



Traces in the cadastral survey

The land register of 1832 and aerial photos show the site of the castle area with its distinctive shape with a pointed end. The mound, an artificial hillock, on which stood a wooden or stone keep, also appears on the old land register. Over the centuries many houses were built along the former site of the castle, thus demarcating the old outline of the castle.

Un peu d'histoire

La Trimouille est le berceau d'une famille illustre dont plusieurs générations ont servi les rois de France. Les premiers seigneurs connus sont cités au XI^e s. et les premières mentions du « castrum Tremoliae », le château de « La Trémouille », remontent au XII^e s. À partir du milieu du XV^e s. les seigneurs de La Trimouille portent aussi le titre de princes de Talmont et de vicomtes de Thouars (Deux-Sèvres).

Symbole féodal important, la motte et le château ont été érigés sur une butte dominant la Benaize, site stratégique. Un texte du XVI^e s. révèle que le château est en ruine depuis longtemps et qu'il ne sert plus de lieu de résidence aux puissants seigneurs de La Trimouille. Cependant, un écrit d'Henri de La Trimouille, en 1666, témoigne de l'importance symbolique du lieu : « J'ai une affection particulière pour ce lieu car il porte mon nom (...) ».



A bit of history

La Trimouille is the birthplace of an illustrious family, which, over several generations, served the kings of France. The first-known lords were mentioned in the 11th century, and the first references to the 'castrum Tremoliae', the castle of La Trémouille, go back to the 12th century. From the middle of the 15th century the lords of La Trimouille also had the title of Prince of Talmont and Viscount of Thouars (Deux-Sèvres). An important feudal symbol, the mound and the castle were erected on a hill on a strategic site, overlooking the River Benaize. A text from the 16th century reveals that the castle had been in ruins for a long time and no longer served as the residence of the powerful lords of La Trimouille. However, a reference in the charter of Thouars in 1666, quoting Henri de la Trimouille, is proof of the symbolic importance of the place: 'I have a particular affection for this place as it bears my name (...)'.



Une interprétation faite au XIX^e s. du château de La Trimouille, Revue de Bretagne, collection Jean-Louis Portes.
An interpretation of the castle in La Trimouille created in the 19th century,
Revue de Bretagne, collection Jean-Louis Portes.

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