



Winter 2006

Number 62

# The ARCHAEOLOGIST



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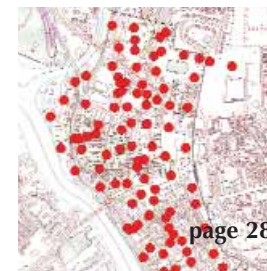
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This edition of *TA* takes us into urgent national concerns with urban regeneration. Many in the wider world think that, to be effective, such regeneration must consider people's need for identity and a sense of place, which in turn means being able to read and understand the physical fabric of the communities and thus respect their own place and contribution to history. And who better than archaeologist to make this happen? The history may be Roman (Chester), medieval (Southampton) or 1970s (Southwark), but archaeologists will always make a valuable contribution. We hope that the selection of case histories presented here will inspire even greater involvement of archaeologists in regeneration teams in the future.

At IFA's AGM in October, Mike Dawson described activities of IFA in the past year, David Baker reported on the work he is doing on stewardship of the historic environment, and Kate Geary on the proposed new qualification in archaeological practice. A Council for 2006/7 was voted in nem con, amendments were made to the *Code of conduct*, adding sexual orientation and religious belief to the list of factors that may not be discriminated against, and requiring at least IFA pay minima for employees. A minor change to special all interest group by-laws was a requirement that officers should normally be members of IFA. Full wording of these changes can be downloaded from [www.archaeologists.net](http://www.archaeologists.net).

Two new honorary MIFAs, both eminent in their own right as well as having given great service to IFA, were voted in. These were Sue Davies, Chief Executive of Wessex Archaeology, member of the

UK National Commission for UNESCO and Chair of its Culture Sector Committee (and past Chair of IFA); and David Breeze, until recently Chief Inspector of Historic Scotland, who has wide responsibilities for world heritage sites, especially on the Roman frontiers, and is chair of British Archaeological Awards.

Meanwhile, IFA's HLF-supported Bursary scheme is progressing well. Five placements are up and running, with RCAHMS, University of Winchester, ADS, English Heritage and Worcestershire County Council. We are recruiting for a sixth placement with Cardiff University, and preparations for further placements are underway.

Alison Taylor



Alison.Taylor@archaeologists.net



Prof David Breeze,  
new Hon MIFA

## Notes to contributors

### Themes and deadlines

Spring: Archaeological Field Survey  
deadline: 15 December 2006

Summer: Post-medieval archaeology  
in Britain  
deadline: 15 March 2007

### Contributions and letter/emails are

always welcome. It is intended to make *TA* digitally available to institutions through the SAL/CBA e-publications initiative. If this raises copyright issues with any authors, artists or photographers, please notify the editor. Short articles (max. 1000 words) are preferred. They should be sent as an email attachment, which must include captions and credits for illustrations. The editor will edit and shorten if necessary. Illustrations are very important. These can be supplied as originals, on CD or as emails, at a minimum resolution of 500 kb. More detailed *Notes for contributors* for each issue are available from the editor.

Opinions expressed in *The Archaeologist* are those of the authors, and are not necessarily those of IFA.

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# FROM THE FINDS TRAY



## Advisory Committee for Historic Wreck Sites (ACHWS)

The ACHWS was set up to advise Government on the suitability of wreck sites to be designated for protection on the grounds of historical, archaeological or artistic interest in accordance with the Protection of Wreck Acts 1973. Its Annual Report 2005 is now available to download from the Maritime Archaeology pages of English Heritage's website ([www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk)). Hard copies of the Report are available free from [maritime@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:maritime@english-heritage.org.uk).

## 'Mapping Medieval Townscapes'

Queen's University Belfast and the ADS have launched 'Mapping Medieval Townscapes: a digital atlas of the new towns of Edward I', on [http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/resources.html?atlas\\_ahrb\\_2005](http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/resources.html?atlas_ahrb_2005). Created by Keith Lilley, Chris Lloyd and Steve Trick, the atlas uses mapping as a medium to explore how urban landscapes were shaped in the middle ages. This atlas project has deepened understanding of the forms and formation of medieval towns, combining GIS and Global Positioning Systems to map and analyse medieval urban landscapes.

## Reducing archaeological risk in construction

For construction clients and contractors, failure to follow archaeological good practice and comply with planning guidance during the planning, design and construction process can lead to delays, legal proceedings and damage to reputations. The Construction Industry Research and Information Association (CIRIA) new project *Managing archaeological risk in construction* (RP741), with a project team comprising CIRIA, Museum of London Archaeology Service (MoLAS), Scott Wilson and IFA, aims to develop a best practice guide for construction clients and contractors on managing risks and maximising benefits from archaeology on construction sites. The guide will enable the user to understand and comply with planning guidance on archaeology and the historic environment, integrating archaeology into the project process, and will demonstrate the ways in which archaeology or heritage matters may enhance or add value to a development. Contact Sarah Reid at CIRIA, Classic House, 174-180 Old Street, London EC1V 9BP; Tel: 020 7549 3300; [enquiries@ciria.org](mailto:enquiries@ciria.org)

## More World Heritage

The Antonine Wall, Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and the twin monastery of Wearmouth and Jarrow have been chosen as the UK's next three nominations to become World Heritage Sites. The Antonine Wall was built by Antoninus Pius following the re-conquest of southern Scotland in AD142. From 142 to about 165 it was the north-west frontier of the Roman Empire. It would form an extension to the *Frontiers of the Roman Empire Transnational World Heritage Site* presently consisting of Hadrian's Wall and the Upper Raetian German Limes.

Pontcysyllte Aqueduct is one of the world's most spectacular achievements of waterways engineering. It was a pioneer of cast iron construction and the highest canal aqueduct ever built. The Anglo-Saxon monastery at Wearmouth and Jarrow was the creation of Benedict Biscop, who returned from Rome determined to build a monastery 'in the Roman manner'. Bede was a member of the community from the age of seven.



Section of turf ramparts of the Antonine Wall

# FROM THE FINDS TRAY

## IFA Annual Conference, 2-4 April 2007

Planned sessions include:

*Plough damage: just too big to handle?*  
Steve Trow, English Heritage

*Debating the ethics and values of heritage*  
Mark Williams, Archaeological  
Project Services and Liz Bates,  
Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire

*Great excavations*  
John Schofield, English Heritage

*Archaeology and the arts*  
David Jennings and David  
Wilkinson, Oxford Archaeology

*The setting of cultural heritage features*  
Paul Masser and Richard Conolly,  
Headland Archaeology

*The archaeology of inclusion*  
Tim Phillips, University of Reading

*Visions of the future: live debates on big  
issues in the historic environment*  
Peter Hinton, Institute of Field  
Archaeologists

*IFA workplace training*  
Kate Geary and Natasha Kingham,  
Institute of Field Archaeologists

*Bells, whistles and machines that go  
ping! Recent advances and applications  
of archaeological science*  
Jane Sidell, Andrew David and  
Vanessa Straker, English Heritage

*Diggers Forum*  
Chris Clarke, IFA Diggers Forum

*Regeneration and reform: the sector and  
our influence*  
Catherine Cavanagh, IFA Buildings  
Group

*Three sheets to the wind? National  
strategies for ship and boat remains*  
Julie Satchell, IFA Maritime Group

*Pirates, plunder, professionalism?*  
Duncan Brown, IFA Finds Group

## *Permissions to excavate human remains in English Cathedrals*

In December 2005, the Coroners' Section of the Home Office was transferred to the Department for Constitutional Affairs (DCA), and as a result licences for the removal of human remains are now issued by the DCA. As Church of England cathedrals (in England) and their precincts are not covered by the faculty jurisdiction, the same licence is required for the removal of human remains as would normally be required for a site outside Church of England jurisdiction (ie DCA licence). The Care of Cathedrals Measure 1990 does not provide any exemption from the Burial Act 1857.

If you require a licence, contact Paul Ansell  
paul.ansell@dca.gsi.gov.uk, 020 7340 6664 or John Thompson  
john.thompson@dca.gsi.gov.uk, 020 7340 6663. If you have any  
queries or problems, contact Allie Nickell, Allie.nickell@c-of-e.org.uk,  
020 7898 1862

## *Low-level aerial photography*

In light of recent accidents with cherry pickers and the health and safety issues of working at heights on scaffolding etc, a new Aerial-Cam service is aimed specifically at archaeologists' needs for photography from a raised perspective. It provides a safe and effective way of photographically recording with oblique and vertical shots from up to 22m above ground, providing high quality images using a telescopic mast mounted on the back of a Landrover. Suitable for recording buildings, gardens, monuments and archaeological excavations. For details contact adam@archaeology-safaris.co.uk

Woodhenge, photographed by Aerial-Cam. © Stonehenge Riverside Project



# DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

Andrew Taylor

Peter Hinton writes: 'Ethical competence' is the buzz phrase in professional institute circles at present, emphasising that professionalism is about more than technical competence, involving as it does an understanding of an institute's code of conduct and other guidance on acceptable, proper behaviour. From time to time there are concerns that IFA members may have breached our Code of conduct: it is important that these are investigated properly, and that justice is done – and seen to be done. Recognising that our former disciplinary procedure was not adequate, at its AGM in 2005 the Institute adopted revised disciplinary regulations. Clauses 38 and 39 of the regulations require a lay person (who is not a member of the Institute) to conduct an annual review of cases, presenting his/her findings to Council and producing a report for publication summarising the cases. Below, Andrew Taylor, IFA's accountant, sets out his analysis of our disciplinary work over the past year.

In July, assisted by Barbara Taylor who is also a lay person, I reviewed all the paperwork relating to seven real or potential disciplinary cases since September 2005.

Three of the seven potential cases had reached a conclusion. One instance related to an allegation that work was inadequate: on the basis of the preliminary investigation the Vice Chair for Standards decided not to accept the allegation as the evidence showed there was no case to answer (clause 6). In each of the other two cases the allegations were received: both related to the provision of false information to the institute and in both cases the Executive committee accepted the findings of the investigator (clause 9), issuing an 'advisory recommendation' (clause 13b) and recording it on the members' files.

Four files were still 'live'. In one case a disciplinary panel was in the process of being appointed (clauses 16-17), and in two others an allegation had been received and was being investigated (clauses 9-13). In the remaining case the Chair had decided not to prepare or have prepared a formal allegation at this stage on the basis that there were matters that would be more appropriately resolved by discussion (clause 4): the Chair was in the process of arranging IFA facilitation of those discussions.

Part of the job of the reviewer is to assess whether there is any suggestion of 'closing ranks', and dismissing cases on spurious grounds either to

protect the reputation of the profession and the members of its representative body, or to avoid time-consuming and costly investigations. I can confirm that there was no evidence whatsoever to suggest that the Institute had been anything other than diligent in investigating the allegations made to it and the causes of potential concern that had come to its notice. I found that the IFA had been extremely thorough in its handling of all the cases, had complied fully with its regulations, and acted in a fair and proper manner.

A second part of the reviewer's role is to comment on possible improvements to the regulations and the procedures followed. The regulations appear to be fit for purpose and no changes are proposed. I made four recommendations regarding housekeeping, and also suggested that the Institute consider whether to set up a system to monitor compliance with the advisory recommendations it makes. In some cases ('do this') it will be easier than others ('don't do that again'), but it would enhance the credibility of the Institute if it were able to monitor whether its recommendations had been followed, and may give it the option of acting if they have not.

Note: since this report a disciplinary panel has reached its conclusions on one of the cases and has recommended a sanction that has been accepted by the Executive committee. An appeal has been received.

Andrew Taylor

# British Archaeological Awards 2006

Alison Taylor

The biennial British Archaeological Awards ceremony for 2006, held this November in Birmingham, highlighted an array of interesting archaeological projects that ought to discredit any idea that British archaeology is somehow dominated by the need to please planners or has even become boring. Winners ranged from twelve year olds to professors and from local amateur groups to our largest commercial organisations, and projects stretched from discovery of Palaeolithic tools on East Anglian beaches to 19th-century factories, from excavations running for 27 years to the excitement of sudden unexpected discovery. IFA members and RAOs were of course well represented throughout.

Local volunteers played an integral role in the Whiteleaf Hill Local Nature Reserve Project, winner of the IFA Award. Photograph: Oxford Archaeology



The IFA Award itself, for the best archaeological project that demonstrated commitment to professional standards and ethics, was won by Buckinghamshire County Council for the Whiteleaf Hill Local Nature Reserve Project, where work on an amazingly rich historic and natural landscape involved Oxford Archaeology in work initiated by community representatives and the

county council. Here, archaeological research through fieldwork and museum archives and use of innovative conservation techniques were brought together, and there was extensive community participation plus integration with the natural environment. Judges were impressed by the successful partnerships, strong research focus and education programme.

The first runner-up for the IFA Award was Shoreditch Park Community Archaeology Project, a collaboration between the local community and Museum of London staff that examined remains of houses damaged by bombing during the Second World War. Judges particularly likes the joint emphases on research and community outreach. The other runner up was the A421/A428 *Exploring the clay lands of Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire* project, where excavations of eighteen sites were run by a productive partnership of Oxford Archaeology and Albion Archaeology, with CgMs as consultants. Working together on this major infrastructure project, they all had 'an overt commitment to good quality research and public dissemination'. Research dividends included evidence for early colonisation of clay soils as settlements were moved from river valley. Impressively, the first report has already been circulated to 5000 households in the area.

*Exploring the clay lands of Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire* project was also runner-up for **Current Archaeology Developer Funded Award**, but the overall winner was 'the richest Anglo-Saxon burial since Sutton Hoo' at Prittlewell in Essex. The remarkable discovery of this untouched royal burial was superbly excavated by MoLAS, generously

A Roman-British farmstead occupied from the 1st to 4th centuries AD on the edge of the Bedfordshire claylands, one of 18 sites excavated along the route of the A421/A428 Great Barford Bypass and Caxton to Hardwick Improvements Scheme. The project by Albion Archaeology, Oxford Archaeology and CgMs was highly recommended for two British Archaeological Awards. Photograph: Edmund Nuttall plc



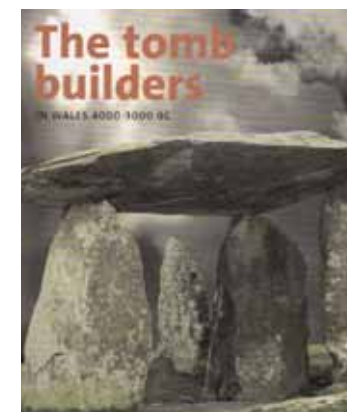
supported in the field and outreach programmes by Southend Borough Council.

Work in progress on Shoreditch Park Community Archaeology Project. Photograph: MoLAS

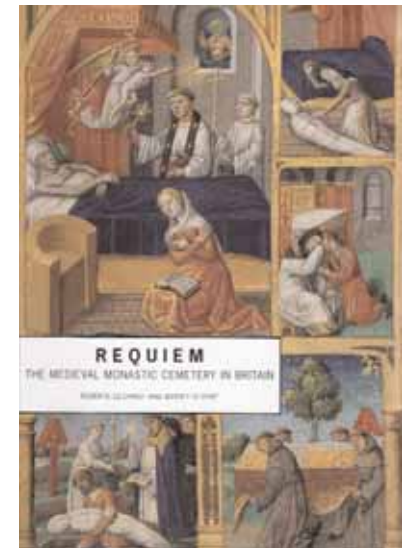
The two **Book Awards** (popular and scholarly) had an impressive collection of publications to choose between. The judges complained that it was even difficult to divide books into the two categories, that the 'popular books were also scholarly and the scholarly books definitely readable', which is a very healthy sign for archaeological publication and for archaeology itself. Again, IFA members excelled. Steve Burrow of the National Museum of Wales (which published the book) won the popular prize with *The Tomb Builders in Wales 4000-3000 BC*, described as 'beautifully produced and illustrated, written in very accessible language'. Focusing on the people and their environment as much as the tomb structures, this was acclaimed as a model of popular publication, especially as it gave inspiration to all readers to go out and explore the monuments themselves, taking with them real understanding.

*Requiem: the medieval monastic cemetery in Britain* by Roberta Gilchrist and Barney Sloane, published by MoLAS, again a very readable and well illustrated

*Requiem*, winner of the Scholarly Book Award, 'will be the work of reference for medieval mortuary studies for years to come'



*The Tomb Builders*, winner of the Popular Book Award, 'uncovers the complex nature of prehistoric burial monuments'





Rachel Taylor (second from right) and Yvette Taylor (second from left) with their families at the National Trust's restored back-to-back houses in Birmingham. Photograph: Young Archaeologists Club (your editor is pale at thinking that this really is archaeology)

book (and beautifully designed by TA's designer Sue Cawood), won the Scholarly Book Award. The book was described as 'a groundbreaking piece of synthesis and analysis exemplifying the impact of archaeology alongside little-known documentary sources. This is an exemplary approach to burial studies that will be the work of reference for medieval mortuary studies for years to come'.

Winners of the **Association for Industrial Archaeology** prize were, most appropriately, the SPACE Organisation for regeneration of the Custard Factory itself, where the awards ceremony was held. Bird's Custard Factory really was the place that the stuff we ate in our childhood was invented and manufactured by Alfred Bird and his son, because his wife was allergic to eggs. The derelict industrial buildings have now been reborn as an arts and media quarter and centre for creative

Sixteenth-century dinner ware illustrated in *Before the Mast: Life and death aboard the Mary Rose*, winner of the Keith Muckelroy Memorial Award



industries and were appreciated as an inspiring venue.

The **Young Archaeologist of the Year Award**, organised by CBA's Young Archaeologists' Club, was a formal finale to a fun weekend that had taken Club members behind the scenes of various Birmingham heritage attractions. Their two winners for this year's theme of 'Buildings' were Rachel Taylor and Yvette Taylor (no relations but a significant surname), for studies of a Cambridge primary school and a Somerset windmill.

Not surprisingly, given the standard and quantity of work underwater today, there were six high quality publications short-listed for the **Keith Muckelroy Memorial Award** for maritime archaeology. The overall prize for 'an amazing achievement' went to Julie Gardiner and Michael Allen for *Before the Mast: Life and death aboard the Mary Rose*, published by the Mary Rose Trust, with considerable input from Wessex Archaeology. Apparently, a daunting 54 experts were co-ordinated to produce the catalogue, explanation and analysis – and this is only Volume 4. The judges commented on how much the book was used by land archaeologists as well as the maritime kind, and how it will be a standard reference work for us all for a long time to come.

Other prize winners on the day included the **Channel 4 Television Awards**. The Broadcast Award went to *The First Emperor*, produced by Lion Television for Channel 4, the Non-Broadcast Category to Sean Caveille for a series of interviews about television archaeology, and the ICT Award to Stan Beckensall and Aron Mazel for *Northumberland Rock Art: Access to the Beckensall Archive*. This remarkable archive includes over 6000 rock art images plus panoramic virtual reality views, all of which can be searched in various ways, and is a celebration of the work of the prolific Stan Beckensall. The Upper Nene Archaeological Society won not only the **Mick Aston Award** for the presentation of archaeology but also the **Graham Webster Laurels**, for work over 27 years at Piddington Roman villa. In addition to significant new information, with a Claudian fort now suspected beneath the villa structure, the Friendship-Taylors and the Upper Nene Archaeological Society have trained their own volunteers, are publishing results as fascicules and have also restored a redundant chapel for storage and display as there was nowhere else in Northamptonshire to deposit finds. Nearly all if this work was through voluntary effort.

Discoveries by Mike Chambers, Bob Mulch and Paul Durbridge of flint tools on East Anglian

beaches demonstrated advanced hand-axe technology now thought to be evidence for the earliest known occupation not only in Britain but in the whole of northern Europe. These three sharp-sighted amateur archaeologists were the worthy winners of Tarmac's **Finders Award**.

The **Silver Trowel Award** for the greatest initiative

in archaeology rewarded a different sort of individual achievement, that of John Barnett, who has published a whole series of books and articles on the archaeology, especially the industrial archaeology, of the Peak District. His prolific work is even more valuable for being published at many different levels, significantly raising the profile of archaeology in the Peak District.



Still digging at Piddington Roman villa, with yet another building discovered just outside the villa. Photograph: Roy Friendship-Taylor



Prittlewell, 'the remarkable discovery of this untouched royal burial'. Photographs: MoLAS

The current Archaeological Award for Prittlewell went to Southend on Sea Borough Council (their representative is being cuddled by Mick Aston) and MoLAS (Ian Blair, far right). Photograph: David Weight

The Custard Factory – once home of Bird's Custard, now a catalyst for creative people in the West Midlands and host for the British Archaeological Awards 2006



# DEFENDING HISTORIC BUILDINGS

## in the regeneration process

Lynne Walker



41 Pilcher Gate, Nottingham – proposed for demolition. Photograph: the Georgian Group

In *TA 55* I talked about one of the CBA's cases; the Cambridge Nuclear Bunker (thoughtfully described as the ugliest listed building in Britain). Initially proposed for partial demolition which (would have seen one wall left standing) we have since advised on a new application which retains the building for storage use with minimal external change, and a recording condition for archival purposes. That's encouraging and we do have other examples where we believe we have made a difference.

### DANGERS IN REGENERATION

The urban regeneration of cities and towns, though welcome in many ways, has led to a number of cases where advice and gentle pressure can make an essential difference. Obvious cases are industrial sites – maltings, cotton mills, pottery works, ironworks and paper mills etc that are no longer in production. Their value now lies in the development potential of the site, with key buildings often proposed for residential use (loft-style living in Manchester for example), and minor buildings (which often played a part in the processes carried out on site) usually marked for demolition, with a substantial element of new build, usually of many storeys.

### ATTRITION AND SUBDIVISION

There are also less obvious forms of attrition. For example, subdivision of a Victorian or Edwardian villa for residential accommodation might involve insertion of a lift shaft through a prestigious entrance hall, or partitions breaking through decorative plasterwork and obscuring the original plan form of the building (as illustrated in Bristol). Or it may be the loss of an 18th-century merchants house (eg 41 Pilcher Gate, Nottingham), which has been added to in the 19th century as the building dropped in status to be used for warehousing and then manufacturing: we need to make a case for the value that we believe these changes add to the building and its site within the Lace Market Conservation Area, rather than accept that they detract from the building. The same applied to the Church Inn, Bury, which was proposed for demolition for road widening and a Morrisons supermarket.

### WORKERS' HOUSING

My final example relates to the misguided idea that regeneration requires demolition of workers' housing. How good it is to see in the government's response to the Culture, Media and Sports Committee Report on *Protecting and Preserving our*



Historic Farm Buildings Conference Yorkshire. Tithe Barn Bolton Abbey Estate

*Heritage* October 2006 that many more Victorian houses in the Pathfinder areas are to be refurbished rather than demolished. We must however bear in mind that refurbishment comes in many forms. ADOACTUS schemes in Whitefield, Lancashire and Moss Side, Manchester see the exteriors of terraces retained but the interiors gutted so that the plan is completely re-ordered. Service areas become living rooms and former parlours become kitchens facing onto the main street, the back of the house is open from ground floor to roof slope, one bedroom is lost and in some cases the traditional Lancashire single-storey kitchen to the rear is demolished for french doors overlooking the back alleys. Other notable sites where we became involved were the Royal Worcester Porcelain site in Worcester, the Ironworks site, St Edmondsbury in Bury St Edmonds and the Nailsworth Maltings, Stroud.

This is just a snapshot of some of the 4000 cases we receive annually. On top of these, this year we organised a regional historic farm buildings conference on behalf of the Historic Farm Buildings Forum at Bolton Abbey estate Yorkshire. There we looked at questions of conversion of traditional farm buildings, at new design in the landscape and at appropriate new uses for farm buildings. We also opened our headquarters, St Mary's House, 66 Bootham, York, for Heritage Open Days. We held two introductory days on e-planning for our volunteers and took part in a pilot scheme with other national amenity societies and six selected local authorities to monitor the effect of the changes in the planning system. And 2007 looks like being another interesting year.



ADOACTUS alterations to workers' housing, Every Street, Nelson, Whitefield, Lancashire. Photograph: Sylvia Wilson



ADOACTUS refurbishment of terrace housing Moss Side Manchester. Photograph: Sylvia Wilson

Lynne Walker  
Historic Buildings Officer  
Council for British Archaeology

Interpretation panels will enable visitors to understand the significance of heritage structures along the route from peripheral car parks to the city, such as the neo-Gothic stone monument, erected in 1862 to commemorate a bishop of Gloucester who was burned on the site in 1555



## Conservation area appraisal: a key regeneration tool

Christopher Catling

*People who care about heritage often complain that little attention is paid to the historic environment in regeneration schemes and local development frameworks, but this is not always so. In Gloucester, for example, the City Council has used conservation area appraisals and management plans as key tools for the regeneration process, and is using archaeologists to ensure that understanding underpins design decisions.*

Many visitors assume that Gloucester's appearance must be the result of bombing or of 1960s' utopian planning visions. In fact, most damage was wrought to the medieval heritage in the late 1930s when 'slum clearance' programmes resulted in demolition of scores of timber-framed buildings, many on long narrow plots that dated from the early 10th-century refounding of this royal city by Aethelflaeda, Lady of the Mercians. The scale of damage is summed up in David Verey's *Buildings of England Gloucestershire*

*Volume II*, which contains a litany of regrettable planning decisions such as the main entrance to the cathedral precinct where 'twenty-two listed buildings were demolished for the rebuilding of St Mary's Square, together with a remarkable group of 15th-century timber framed cottages'.

### Recovering from past mistakes

Today Gloucester City Council is working to recover from past mistakes. With the County Council and the South West Regional Development Agency it set up Gloucester Heritage Urban Regeneration Company in 2003 which secured funds from ODPM (now DCLG) for an area regeneration framework for the city centre. First, a rapid characterisation study was commissioned from Alan Baxter Associates with a brief agreed with English Heritage, which considered historical development in macroscopic terms, while Cirencester-based Conservation Studio undertook a thorough review to provide fine-grained detail.

### Empowering conservation

Conservation areas are often overlooked as a conservation tool. They were the brainchild of the Civic Trust and enshrined in the 1967 Civic Amenities Act, giving local planning authorities statutory duty to identify and designate 'areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'. Subsequent legislation (most recently the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990) has reinforced these powers to control development and demolition within conservation areas, and placed an additional duty for regular reviews. Best Value Performance Indicators now require reviews every five years, consultation with the local community and publication of management plans for enhancement. There are now over 7000 conservation areas in England. Cotswold District Council currently holds the record for the largest number with a total of 144. Gloucester has thirteen, covering the city centre and several historic suburbs.

The emphasis is very much on the appearance of the area, which is frustrating for archaeologists who want more than a pretty façade, but the powerful presumption against change and the terms used in conservation area appraisal do allow scope for identifying and mapping historical and archaeological features that make an area special.

### Appraisal, analysis and action

Appraisal includes a report and comprehensive photographic record, along with a coded map that shows such positive features as listed buildings, key

unlisted buildings, 'landmark' buildings, important trees and tree groups, scheduled monuments and archaeological sites, designated landscapes, historic shop fronts, street lights, signage and paving, open spaces, views and anything else that contributes to the area's historical or architectural character. Features that have a negative impact are also identified.

Analysis leads to a management plan for preserving what is good and working to remove or reverse what is bad. Just how far this can go depends on the budgets and determination of the local authority. Sadly some local authorities do very little and the conservation area might as well not be designated. Others take a more proactive stance: they consult local communities on the draft report and incorporate their views; they encourage local communities to take responsibility and apply for grants; produce design guidance for the area for investors and architects and also for householders, as Islington has just done, encouraging them to maintaining the historic character of their properties (inside and out).

Conservation area appraisals can identify unauthorised alterations, leading to appropriate action, and local authorities also have the right to apply for an Article 4(2) Direction under the Town and Country Planning Act (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 which removes permitted development rights that householders might have to change doors or windows or build extensions without planning permission, and usually to abide by a design code.

### An archaeological exercise

Above all, as in the case of Gloucester, conservation area appraisal, by looking critically and in detail at a whole city, building by building, plot by plot, asking what history gives each area its essential character, has enriched the regeneration process. This is basically an archaeological exercise in interpretation undertaken from an unusual perspective. It reveals hidden gems and ensures that nothing will be swept away in the name of regeneration that is of archaeological, historical or architectural value.

In Gloucester it identified opportunities to enhance archaeological sites (St Oswald's Saxon Priory, for example) and reveal long-hidden historical assets, such as Gloucester prison, sited on a Norman castle and a pioneering example of 18th-century prison reform – relocating the prison establishment will enable this underutilised archaeological and historical asset to be brought into community use. It has identified walking routes from peripheral car

parks to the city centre that will be enhanced in such a way as to lead visitors past the city's historic jewels. And not only has it identified key sites where large scale development will benefit the city; it has contributed to the way that those buildings will be designed, with respect to local building materials, the scale, rhythm and patterning of elevations, the views and the landscaping – buildings that contribute to and enhance the sense of Gloucester as a specific and unique historic place, rather than an anywhere city.

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Twelfth-century St Mary's Gate, once the main entrance to Gloucester's abbey (now cathedral) precincts is a little known jewel of Gloucester's heritage: new routes are planned to bring visitors into the city from peripheral car parks via this gate and thus encourage a richer visitor experience and a wider awareness of Gloucester's rich heritage



Conservation area appraisal has identified St Mary de Lode as an underused heritage asset. Though hardly evident from the exterior, this is a Saxon church, close to the site of the city's Saxon quay. It replaced a timber mausoleum of 5/6th century date, which was in turn built over a large Roman building (still visible beneath the floor at the west end of the nave). Plans are being drawn up to cure the damp problems caused by the concrete render and to encourage greater community use of a church that is currently locked most of the time



# Urban regeneration and commercially viable, sustainable heritage solutions

Neil Macnab



The experience of Scott Wilson Heritage Group, which has been working in the UK regeneration sector since 2002, shows that in most cases regeneration, though led by the public sector, cannot be delivered unless the private sector is also involved. Heritage is important, but one of many elements within any regeneration scheme. This article illustrates the approach we have taken in some key projects.

## GLOUCESTER QUAYS: HISTORIC BUILDINGS SECURED FOR THE FUTURE

This regeneration scheme covering 25 acres is bisected by the Gloucester and Sharpness Canal and incorporates 14 listed canal-side structures, a conservation area and Llanthony Secunda Priory. Development will comprise private residential and affordable housing, new highway infrastructure, a canal bridge and a factory outlet as well as retail, hotel and leisure facilities and a new further education college.



Benefits that flow from this mixed-use regeneration include reuse and conversion of listed buildings, particularly derelict canal-side warehouses, and revitalisation of a run-down area on the edge of Gloucester city centre. Llanthony Secunda Priory, a scheduled monument at the heart of the development area, will be enhanced and brought back into the public domain, with long-term plans for its care, use and appreciation.

The development scheme enjoys public support and has done much for the heritage within Gloucester. It should, however, be borne in mind that heritage was not the main driver: without the factory outlet, regeneration would not be commercially viable and listed buildings would not be refurbished sympathetically. Combining private sector skills and heritage has created a development scheme that is creative, vibrant and dynamic, mixing contemporary design and historic structures to produce modern development with a sustainable future. Gloucester Quays is providing a real stimulus for other regeneration schemes within Gloucester.

## WAKEFIELD WATERFRONT: INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY AND REGENERATION

This major urban regeneration project in the north of England is being undertaken by CTP St James Ltd with partners British Waterways and Wakefield

Downings Malthouse, Grade II listed Canal-side warehouse, Gloucester Quays © Peel Holdings

Metropolitan District Council. It involves regeneration of the historic Wakefield waterfront area, including Calder Navigation Warehouse, adjacent to the Aire and Calder Navigation. The scheme comprises sympathetic conversion of three listed mill complexes as part of extensive mixed-use development which will revitalise and give a sustainable future for this derelict district on the edge of Wakefield. CTP St James Ltd has provided a robust business case, which has attracted public sector grants to enable the listed buildings to be retained and converted. The scheme has enabled waterfront areas and features to be opened up to the public and will bring this part of Wakefield back into the town centre. It also will complement other regeneration initiatives within the town. Extensive public consultation has engendered great support with increased understanding of the area's industrial archaeology.

## LLANTHONY WHARF: MEDIEVAL PRIORY AND MODERN COLLEGE

Scott Wilson were appointed by GLOSCAT (a college/campus for 16+ education and technical skills) to design an archaeological strategy for preservation of nationally important archaeological remains associated with, but outside, the scheduled area of Llanthony Secunda Priory (part of the larger Gloucester Quays Regeneration Scheme). The development will house the new college. Research and evaluation informed sensitive design of foundations, including particular pile settings, pile types, concrete beams and the spanning of archaeological remains. We worked closely with design engineers, the Gloucester City Council archaeology officer and English Heritage.

Made ground was stripped to expose archaeological horizons which were cleaned, planned and assessed. Collaborative design then resulted in the option of a pile grid and spanning regime to allow 95% of the archaeological remains to be preserved. These revealed evidence for medieval cloisters, providing information on their layout, form, function, date and character. Evidence for medieval burial practice within the priory cloister area was also revealed.

Beneficial aspects of this regeneration project include preservation of the majority of these nationally important archaeological deposits, the sensitive design and setting of the new building in relation to the Priory, and creation of a contemporary but complementary environment within the heart of the Gloucester Quays. The archaeological investigations raised local interest in heritage, and GLOSCAT are now working with English Heritage and the National Heritage Training

Group to develop heritage construction skills for industry which will be taught at the new campus.

Consideration of the heritage asset has influenced this regeneration scheme and been an important factor in the development of design solutions. The development as a whole has benefited from the design and setting of the nearby Llanthony Secunda Priory and the challenge of innovative design.

## MARRYING HISTORICAL CONTEXT AND CONTEMPORARY DESIGN

All these projects demonstrate that there can be successful marriages between the public and private sectors, and historical context and contemporary design. The direct benefits to heritage are a combination of preservation in situ and sustainable, sympathetic restoration and reuse within contemporary townscapes. These developments can aid regeneration of larger areas by drawing people in, providing upgraded facilities and public open space and creating new sustainable communities.

Heritage consultants must be able to understand the wider aspects and implications of commercial development as well as the economic forces that drive regeneration. Our role also encompasses design of imaginative and innovative solutions within complex multi-faceted projects. Public sector support is important within regeneration, and heritage is an important element allowing individual projects to stand apart. It is important, however, to realise as professionals that regeneration will not occur without private sector development skills.

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GLOSCAT during excavation, looking towards Llanthony Secunda Priory.  
© Scott Wilson



Southampton was one of England's leading medieval ports. During the 13th century and again in the 15th century its trade in commodities such as wine, wool and cloth made it one of the most prosperous and cosmopolitan towns in the country. From the later 16th century much international trade was lost to other ports (principally London) and Southampton suffered a long decline, until its fortunes revived with the growth of passenger trade to America in the mid 19th century.

■ **Devastation**

During the Second World War the city suffered devastating bombing, and post-war reconstruction paid little regard to the historic character of the old town. Medieval property plots were widened or ignored, building heights increased, and the construction of the Castle Way inner ring-road in the 1950s sliced through the medieval gridded street pattern.

In 2000 Southampton planning department adopted the 'Southampton Old Town development strategy'. The aim of this was 'to rediscover, conserve, enhance and redefine the Old Town's historic character'. Although few timber-framed buildings survived war and redevelopment, Southampton still has a rich legacy of historic vaulted cellars and stretches of town wall, over ninety listed buildings and 45 ancient monuments.

■ **Blight and reinstatement**

Now, thanks to co-operation between Linden Homes Southern Ltd and the planning department, new apartments within the French Quarter have included reinstatement of elements of the medieval street pattern. Castle Way ring-road has been removed, and the frontage of French Street has been pushed back to its medieval line. Brewhouse Lane, a thoroughfare that may date from the origins of the medieval port in the late Saxon period, has been reinstated, allowing a line of sight from the High Street to the medieval Merchant's House in French



An unexpected medieval well-house (with 16th-century rebuild) in the back garden of tenement 237 Polymond Hall/Hampton Court. © Oxford

# Reviving Southampton's French Quarter

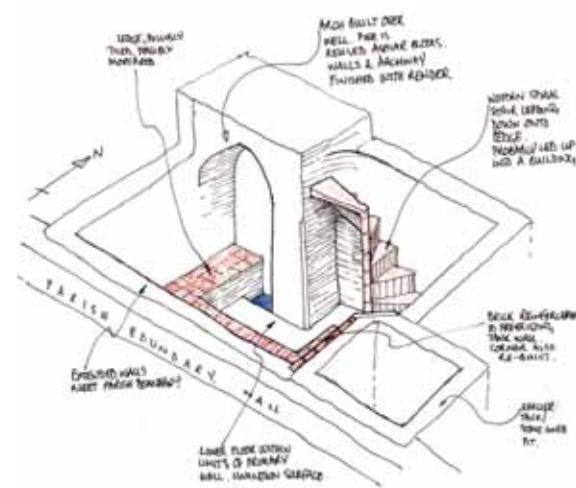
Richard Brown

**New development in the historic core of Southampton, informed by historical research and excavation, is reinstating elements of the medieval street pattern that had been lost during unsympathetic post-war reconstruction.**



Street. The whole effect is a development in sympathy with its surviving medieval surroundings, a first step in enhancing an area blighted by rapid post-war redevelopment.

Oxford Archaeology was appointed by CgMs Consulting, acting for Linden Homes, to excavate the area in advance of construction. The site covers approximately 0.5 ha, with an impressive sequence of medieval vaulted cellars. The entire footprint of the development and all areas subject to below-ground impact were excavated.



Reconstruction of the medieval cellar. © Oxford Archaeology

■ **Fossilisation for a thousand years**

Pits and structures of late Saxon to 12th-century date apparently formed part of a rapidly developing but loosely structured settlement. In the 13th century the whole area was laid out anew, this time on a formal grid pattern. Excavations revealed thoroughfares and tenement boundaries of the 13th century, defined by medieval and later cellar walls that had largely survived until 1950. This fossilisation of property boundaries allows us to correlate the structural history of the site with artefacts and environmental evidence from nearly a thousand 13th- to 19th-century backyard pits, cisterns and latrines, and with the wealth of documentary resources for the area. A wide range of finds includes exotic and rare pottery imports, a firing mechanism for a 14th-century crossbow, and the stock of a 1940s' chemist shop that was bombed into the medieval cellar below. The whole assemblage will provide a massive demographic dataset.

■ **Polymond Hall/Hampton Court: a Venetian ambassador and a nonconformist hymn writer**

One interesting property fronting onto French Street had been a timber building in the 10th to 12th centuries but by the 13th century is identified in documentary sources as the location of the 'great stone houses of Richard of Leicester', a leading townsman of his day. The property was acquired by St Denys's Priory, probably in 1371 as the gift of Roger Haywode, and in the late 14th century it was the residence of another leading citizen, John

Polymond, after whom it was subsequently named. During the 15th century Polymond Hall was home to an Italian merchant and to the Venetian ambassador, and exotic pottery has been recovered from a latrine in the courtyard.

A central courtyard was laid in the 16th century. By the 1620s the property was described as a large house with outbuildings, stables, shops, cellars, gardens and orchards. The Nonconformist Watts family lived here from 1675 to 1737, and the house was the boyhood home of the celebrated hymn writer Isaac Watts. His father, Isaac Watts Snr, ran a boarding school and a small cloth factory at the site.

In 1737 the property was sold to the Woodford family, who carried out extensive remodelling and renamed it Hampton Court. The Woodfords may be responsible for much of the layout visible on the Royal Engineers' Map of 1846, which shows a house built around three sides of a courtyard garden with a further garden to the rear. During the 19th century the property became a post office and then Hampton Court Brewery.

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The site under excavation (High Street to the right, Castle Way to the left of the photograph). © Oxford Archaeology

58 French Street, a medieval merchant's house, adjacent to the site. © Oxford Archaeology





The fourteen-storey slab of Bradenham overshadows residues of what it replaced



Four- and fourteen-storey slabs with first and second floor walkways

## The historic environment and regeneration of 20th-century social housing

Jonathan Smith

The London Borough of Southwark is due to regenerate more than 100ha of council housing. In this programme is the Aylesbury, a late 1960s housing estate in the centre of the borough. It houses nearly 8000 residents, many suffering grave social problems, and is famous, or infamous, for contrasting reasons.

Firstly, viewers of Channel Four will be familiar with the estate as the subject of a branding clip (*pan left across desolate, washing line and rubbish strewn, run-down estate until the logo emerges amid the late brutalist structures*). Situated close to the Labour Party's old central office on Walworth Road, it was where Tony Blair delivered his first speech as Prime Minister. One implication of what he said was that such 'failing' estates would no longer be tolerated under New Labour. Nearly ten years on the decision has been made to proceed with regeneration. This will mean staged demolition and replacement with at least twice the number of dwellings, built as low-rise 'traditional' housing.

### Ambitious post-war development

Greater London Council's architects in the 1960s were charged with solving London's housing problems by

wholesale clearance of 19th-century dwellings and construction of ambitious, technically advanced, industrial-scale estates. Southwark architects developed a scheme that Pevsner described as 'the most ambitious post-war development by any London borough'. He noted that the preferred form was not the tower, but the 'slab', where the housing blocks are between four and fourteen stories high. The estate includes the longest housing block in Europe, built to an industrialised system. The slabs are grouped alternately around garage courts and grassed areas. A major precept was separation of traffic from pedestrians, which resulted in raised walkways and bridges at second floor and higher levels. Construction began in 1967 and was completed in 1977.

The site is of uncertain but probably low potential for significant buried archaeological remains, but its standing structures are definitely notable in the historic environment. They are representative of Southwark's democratically-controlled social housing, a category of building that had only about fifty years of construction and is now starting to disappear; its modernist architectural philosophy, whose genesis is in the designs and ideas for the modern 20th-century industrial city inspired by Le Corbusier and, though modernist styles survive in individual buildings across Southwark, the Aylesbury represents one of the first and last examples of large scale, modernist urban planning in the UK. It is also of technological significance, having employed the Jasper 12M panel-built system

as did Ronan Point in Canning Town. Following the partial collapse of Ronan Point in 1967, the system was never used again

### Archaeological programme

The programme the Council is drawing up will identify constraints the historic environment may have on the master planning, and will build community inclusion into the regeneration programme via, in particular, appreciation of the recent past. Archaeologists have been commissioned to produce a desk-based assessment of the estate. This will not only focus the subsequent intrusive evaluation phase, but will also inform the master planners when they reinstate a 19th-century street plan (a stated aim). These pre-planning investigations will model any buried archaeology and indicate likely constraints this will exert on master planning, with mitigation strategies for any significant elements. We are already able to require low-level building recording across the whole estate, with more detailed records of representative elements in advance of demolition.

### Community excavations and oral history

The archaeologists' fieldwork will be communicated to the community through press, posters and site tours. Intrusive evaluations will lead into set-piece community training excavations for residents and school students. It is anticipated that these will mainly deal with 19th- and 20th-century elements of the historic environment, with findings linked into oral history. About a quarter of residents have lived on the estate from the beginning and will have memories of its 44-year life and of what it replaced. Oral histories will have a great deal to indicate about the changing local social, demographic and economic situations, and of the success or otherwise of previous regeneration programmes. The estate is tarred as a failure: what do residents feel about this? Was it ever a success? Was it doomed to failure? Should we have kept what it replaced? Why are similar estates, such as the Barbican in the City of London not viewed in a similar vein?

Building recording will include technical training for students and adults, and will encourage residents' engagement with their estate's history. Short films will record how representative samples of residents move through and use the estate. Residents will narrate how they view and access the estate, how it has changed, how they would have chosen to change it. Old photographs of the estate, its construction and what it replaced will be collected alongside competitions of new photography, written descriptions and paintings. A vote will decide which element of the estate should be retained as a

monument to the Aylesbury (my own vote would be for one of the rather wonderful switch back ramps).

### Identifying success and failure

Information generated will be housed and exhibited in a dynamic 'information hub', a central building that will also house the master planners. It will be a meeting place where people can add their information and viewpoint. It will be multi-media and include on-site specialist staff. It has the potential to be both a celebration and condemnation, by the residents, of the successes and failures of their estate: of the modernists' visions, the social housing projects of the 1960s and 70s, of management by Southwark Council and of the passing of democratically controlled, local social housing.

By using the regeneration of an area's historic environment to develop inclusive engagement of its communities and by looking at that environment in terms of its history, residents will take ownership of their past and their future. In a not atypical top-down approach, the chair of Southwark's housing committee once stated that this 'will be the biggest attack on bad housing conditions that this part of London has ever known'. I will leave you to ponder whether this was uttered in 1965 or 2005 and how we change 'slum clearance' to 'regeneration' with more than semantics.

Jonathan Smith  
Senior Archaeology Officer  
Southwark Council



Switchback ramps that would get my vote

All photographs by  
Jonathan Smith

# SHARP PRACTICE:

## regenerating historic military sites in Europe

Mark Stevenson

English Heritage London Region has been involved with regeneration of the former Royal Arsenal, Woolwich site for over ten years. When the original masterplan was approved in 2000, the landowners, London Development Agency, LDA, were well advanced in an extensive programme of remediation and basic maintenance of some of the 22 Listed Buildings.

In 2001 English Heritage hosted a stakeholder seminar to identify what more needed to be done.

One outcome was that methods in dealing with heritage issues deserved a wider audience, and a European project under INTERREG IIIc would fulfill this aspiration. Finance from LDA and the lead developer, Berkeley Homes (East Thames) Ltd, enabled 21st Century ERA Ltd to win support from the European Union funding authority. Oxford Archaeology was invited to take part, having undertaken building recording and most of the archaeological fieldwork on site.

### Arsenal sites

Taking former arsenal sites as the common vehicle in looking at major historic brownfield sites, partners are the University of Cadiz with the *Real Carenero* and *Suazo Bridge*, Malta Heritage Trust with their *Malta at War Museum* and *Shelters, Three Cities*, and the Estonian Arts Academy supported by the Estonian Heritage Board with *Battery* on the Baltic coast north of Tallinn.

### Real Carenero

Real Carenero, the old arsenal of the Suazo Bridge sites, in an area of saltmarsh guarding the causeway that linked Cadiz with mainland Spain, has been largely neglected, and squatters and a scrap metal business have taken up residence. Suazo Bridge is Roman in origin but was much repaired in later

Detail of the central feature of the Real Carenero façade, Cadiz. © English Heritage



Fort St Angelo dominates the Grand Harbour of Malta within an extensive system of defences. © English Heritage



centuries. In 1985 it was designated a site of Cultural Heritage and added to the list of Andalusian Historical Heritage in 1988. Post-medieval buildings north of the causeway supplied troop needs and facilitated ship building and repair. New buildings increased capacity during the Succession War of 1700-14. The complex, guarded by flanking batteries, was besieged by Napoleon, and Cadiz became the focus of French-free Spain. The Spanish congress in Cadiz drafted the new constitution here that became law in 1812. The site is therefore nationally important and provides key anniversary dates by which to achieve the site's rehabilitation.

### Maltese heritage

'Three Cities' is the main ancient settlement on Malta, built on tongues of land that project into the Grand Harbour. It was this feature that gave people their livelihoods in trade and in building and repairing ships. The Knights arrived in 1530 and fortified the Three Cities until a new capital, Valletta, was built on the far side of the harbour. In the Second World War Malta sustained almost continuous bombing, and afterwards people generally did not move back to bombed out ancient settlements, so the area became extremely poor. The Maltese have tended to focus on the period of the Knights of Malta to build a successful tourist trade but this has been to the detriment of their more recent history. Enter the Malta Heritage Trust, which has taken on important neglected sites and developed tourist and, equally important,

ministerial interest. A current venture, the Malta at War Museum, gives people a chance to learn about what happened at the individual and family level, with access to wartime shelters kitted out with authentic donated material. Success of this venture is dependent upon other enterprises within the Three Cities working together to provide a complementary package to entice visitors as well as providing a stronger lobbying voice.

### Defences and the prison at Tallinn

Battery, on the Baltic coast to the west of the main harbour of Tallinn, was built by Czar Nicholas I in 1827 as part of the Baltic defence system to protect the approach to St Petersburg. The arc-shaped three-storey building contained 162 cannons but was never used in anger. Behind the main building two converging wings housed the officers, offices and other functions before use of the site changed in 1858 to that of a warehouse, flats and an Orthodox church.

Following the Russian Revolution, Estonia declared independence but was immediately overrun by Germany. Following the Estonian War of Independence in 1920 Battery became first a detention centre and then the central prison of Tallinn. In 1940 Russia captured Estonia, only for Germany to retake it in 1941. Battery was used as part of the 'final solution', with a large number of people being transferred to the prison before being murdered. When Russia regained control of Estonia following the war it continued the prison use of the site, and across the country in the first four years



No.1 Dock, The Grand Harbour, Three Cities, the focus of several initiatives, public and private, that are now coming together to develop a common strategy

60,000 Estonians were either killed or deported. Following Independence in 1991, Estonia joined the EU in 2004 and the prison finally vacated the site in 2005. Various schemes have been suggested but the recent declaration by the National Heritage Board is that it should be a cultural site.

## Woolwich Royal Arsenal

The history of The Warren, Woolwich goes back to hurried construction of the triangular Prince Rupert Fort at the edge of the marsh east of what is now Woolwich Ferry in 1667, to protect Woolwich dockyard and London from possible Dutch attack. In the 18th century this fort disappeared under land reclamation as the site expanded to provide a wide range of arsenal functions. In 1805 George III re-

named it the Royal Arsenal, and it grew with each military action within the British empire. By the First World War it occupied 1285 acres and employed 80,000 people, many of them women.

Between the wars there was some non-military work such as manufacture of milk churns and locomotives, to ease unemployment. Then preparations for war were stepped up so that by 1940 40,000 people were working here. The site was eventually closed in 1967, with 500 acres given to the GLC to build Thamesmead. The western historic core was the subject of clearance of many buildings and the remediation of an earlier infilled canal, before being sold to English Partnerships for £1 with the aspiration to see the site regenerated.

## SHARP's diverse mix

Each site and partner represent a diverse mix that has gives SHARP its richness and strength, enabling the group to produce a clear guidance 'blueprint'. With a framework for regeneration of historic brownfield sites, each partner will be encouraged to develop specific guidance that fits its own planning, political and cultural context.

The project was launched at Woolwich in December 2004 to a capacity audience, followed by two rounds of partner meetings in each of the participating countries. Round one was primarily fact finding, the second to meet local stakeholders, promote SHARP and provide a vehicle to raise local awareness. In each country there has been interest expressed by national newspapers and television as well as regional and national politicians. In the second round partners spoke in more detail with local representatives and discussed shared experiences in workshops, looking in detail at the six identified themes: master planning, public/private partnership, heritage, tourism, education and sustainable regeneration.

The two-year project is to culminate with a conference at *Firepower!* the Royal Artillery Museum, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, 6 February 2007. Admission is free but due to limited space, application will need to be made for a seat.

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Restored Shell Foundry Gatehouse, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich.  
© Berkeley Homes (East Thames) Ltd



Aerial view of Royal Arsenal, Woolwich at near completion of the first main phase of regeneration.  
© Berkeley Homes (East Thames) Ltd



# Urban waterfronts in Wales

Andrew Marvell and Kate Howell

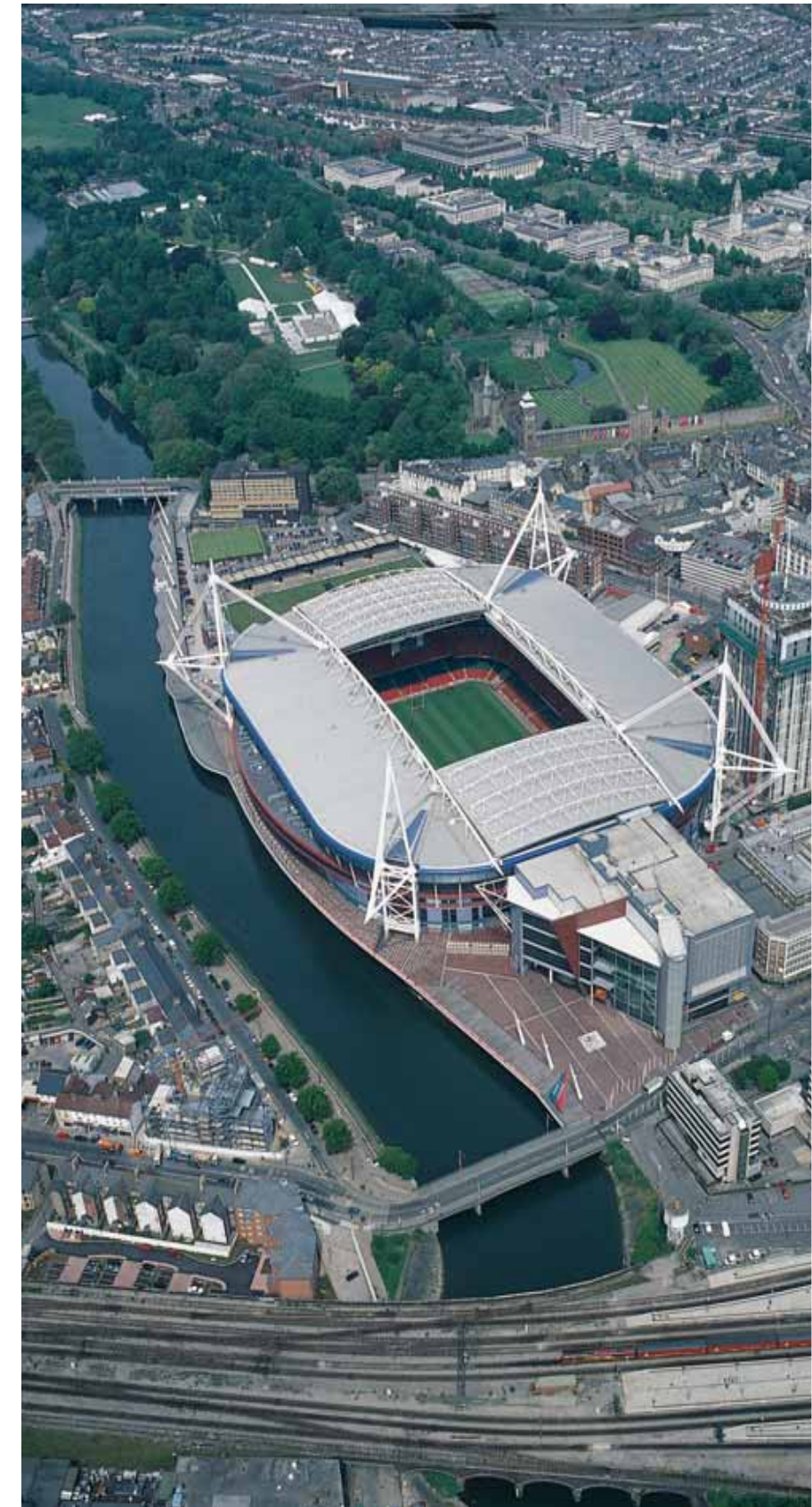
Major historic ports in south-east Wales (Chepstow, Newport, Cardiff and Swansea), followed by subsidiary ports and major landing-places and havens, have been studied by Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust with support from Cadw in order to inform and encourage future conservation of a crucial heritage resource.

Regional sites and monuments records, the National Monuments Record, documentary and cartographic evidence and other published sources formed a project database which was linked to Ordnance Survey data using GIS. Historic maps were geocoded and overlaid with OS data, enabling map regression. The course of rivers and position of waterfront features were plotted, the condition of known sites ascertained and further unreported interests identified on site visits, and the potential for survival of maritime archaeological remains was assessed. Zoned maps were created to showing areas of high, medium and low potential.

Waterfronts are not static relicts of the past but have altered, and continue to alter, with changing fashions and requirements. Indeed, the location of the modern docks in Cardiff, Newport and Swansea are all some distance from the medieval harbours, having moved downstream to accommodate passage of larger vessels. River courses alter over time through natural erosion or silting. In Cardiff and Swansea, the rivers were canalised in the 19th century to create an artificial topography.

Waterfronts are not static relicts of the past but have altered, and continue to alter, with changing fashions and requirements.

The canalised River Taff near the Millennium Stadium from the air. Prior to 19th-century canalisation the river followed a large meander, taking it under the site of the Stadium and along the present streets before rejoining the present course by the bridges to carry the Great Western Railway (bottom of photograph). This crossing effectively cut off the upper town reaches to all but the smallest river craft. © RCAHMW





Urban waterfronts can contain spectacular but fragile remains such as the Newport Ship, excavated in 2002. These attract immense public interest. Following detailed recording, study and conservation the remains of the Newport Ship will be displayed near to the point of discovery. In themselves such remains provide a focal point in a regenerated urban environment. © GGAT

activities that took place, and demonstrate the scale of sea-borne and river-borne commerce in the past.

### Waterfronts at risk

Waterfront resources are at risk for a variety of reasons. The locations are increasingly under pressure from urban regeneration projects, and the desirability of waterside locations for residential, cultural and commercial developments can be seen in the number of schemes currently being planned and implemented across south-east Wales. Engineering schemes to protect the modern waterfront settlements, such as flood alleviation projects, can disturb features, artefacts and palaeoenvironmental deposits. Development pressure means these locations are increasingly built upon, with loss to the cultural heritage resource, often in a piecemeal manner.

The fragile nature of many waterfront remains means they can be easily damaged. Wooden structures survive remarkably well when waterlogged, but once this anaerobic environment is disturbed, rapid decay begins.

### Why protect waterfronts?

The benefits of preserving the cultural heritage of waterfront locations include both social and economic advantages. The incorporation of historic features within new developments gives a project a unique aspect, creating a distinctive and characteristic new environment that remains linked with the past. In commercial schemes this distinctiveness can be successfully marketed as a selling point. On a wider scale, the preservation of the historic environment is vital for the expanding heritage tourism industry.

The value of preserving historic features is equally important in social terms. Highlighting the historic environment of an area encourages respect for the

### The waterfront resource

The cultural heritage resource of these waterfront locations takes many forms and may be visible or buried. It includes shipwrecks, wharfs, slipways and other structures; transport infrastructure, including roads, railways and canals; buildings including warehouses, churches and lighthouses, and palaeoenvironmental information. Evidence may be documentary and from oral history sources, or from pictographic, cartographic and photographic records.

Spectacular archaeological discoveries such as the Newport Ship excite us all, but apparently mundane remains include a lightship *The Juno* still moored at Briton Ferry, which took part in the evacuation of Allied troops from Dunkirk. Whilst not always as visually exciting as boats and ships, the information that can be gathered from surviving structures, transport infrastructure and buildings is of great value when examining the nature and extent of past exploitation of these waterfront areas. These features give an insight into the range of



Great Western Wharf, Newport. Built by the East Usk Railways and Docks Company in the mid-19th Century, it was envisaged that the wharf would become part of a major dock in competition with Newport Town Dock and the other wharfs established on the opposing bank of the Usk. Overtime the structure became unstable and potentially dangerous and could not easily be incorporated into redevelopment; it was fully recorded and surveyed before demolition. © GGAT

Highlighting the historic environment of an area encourages respect for the modern environment.

The differences and similarities of waterfront activities over time can be addressed, and continuities and changes of use understood. In maintaining a connection with the past, a deep-rooted sense of place can be engendered, which will enhance the experiences of those working in, living in and visiting waterfront locations.

A booklet on the project, *Wales, waterfronts and the world*, Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust Ltd

(ISBN 1-870419-05-7) has been prepared and results have already been disseminated directly to key audiences.

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Development pressure means these locations are increasingly built upon, with loss to the cultural heritage resource, often in a piecemeal manner.



J-Shed SA1 Development, King's Dock, Swansea. This former warehouse building has been renovated and modernised, reversing its use as an industrial building into a spacious apartment block. © GGAT



# Little Houses make a **big** difference in historic small towns

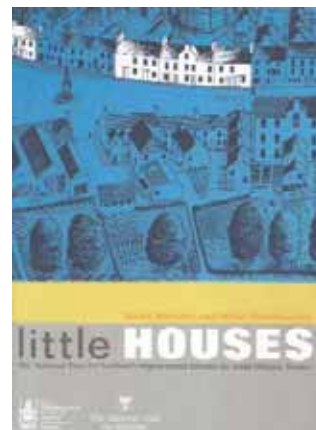
Robin Turner and Derek Alexander

Almost from its inception in 1931, the National Trust for Scotland has been involved in saving small historic houses in declining Scottish burghs. In the process it has transformed historic towns such as Dunkeld, Culross, the East Neuk of Fife villages – and the vibrant communities that inhabit them. The Little Houses Improvement Scheme (LHIS) began in the 1950s with a simple idea. Take over a historic building in need of TLC; find the resources and restore it to the conservation standards of the day; then sell it on – almost inevitably at a loss – with a Conservation Agreement or Burden that legally protects its special qualities in the future. The Fife village of Culross is one of the best examples of this regeneration; a concerted effort led to changing a declining community into one that has become so proud of itself its burghers are proposing a realistic bid for World Heritage Site status.

## Recording and rewards

More recent projects include a significant archaeological component, and the scheme has been important in raising the profile of buildings archaeology in Scotland. The experience at Bo'ness is typical: a semi-derelict and unvalued structure turns out to be far more interesting than anyone could have imagined. The challenge is to make the case for this level of recording to the rest of the buildings preservation trust movement, despite the problems of raising even more money. The reward, of course, is that the enhanced historical importance of the building leads to even greater civic pride, one of the main aims of such projects.

With several important projects in train, LHIS remains a key way in which NTS fulfils its statutory aim of promoting conservation, access and enjoyment of Scotland's heritage. Archaeology, both standing and below ground, is now an integral part of the process, showing people that they can and should be proud of their local heritage.



## Dymock's burning secret

Dymock's Building in Bo'ness, once 'Glasgow's east port', includes a 17th-century merchant's house with fine panelled rooms, a yard with arched entrance and lean-to stables. With its central location, the dilapidated but historically important building was ideal for conversion through LHIS to amenity housing for the elderly.

Kirkdale Archaeology Ltd undertook detailed recording of the upstanding building and excavated where building work would destroy buried deposits. The results have enhanced our understanding of the town as well as transforming our appreciation of the property, and have heavily influenced the final conversion scheme. The yard area revealed a sequence of intact cobbled surfaces, with paving and post pads indicating 18th-century cart sheds and stables. It became evident that many surrounding structures had been reused for industrial purposes. During the 19th century two cast-iron pans, about 2m diameter and 1m deep, were dug behind the house. These were initially thought to be tanks for the settling and separation of whale oil products, but chemical analysis of the residues failed to confirm this interpretation. Another possibility is that they were 'barking pots' used to steep fishing nets. The base of one of the enigmatic pans was recovered and incorporated in the final layout of the courtyard.

Excavation west of the house revealed industrial waste that had been dumped to extend the natural shoreline, resulting in construction of the town's West Pier around 1636. This dump underlay the earliest parts of the merchant's house and sealed remains of an unsuspected massive, heavily burnt stone structure.

Roughly spade-shaped in plan, this structure was up to 9m across, with walls 1.8m thick surviving to



Dymock's Building: north façade, before restoration. © NTS



Dymock's Building: north façade, after restoration. © NTS



Dymock's Building: iron pans, possibly for steeping fishing nets. © NTS



Dymock's Building: 16th-century salt kiln? © NTS

1.5m. There were two angled embrasures and what appeared to be flues in the straight southern wall. Heavily heat-affected, the walls of beach stones overlay burnt sandy deposits, suggesting the structure had been used as a kiln or furnace. It was possibly a salt-pan, a common structure around Bo'ness in the 16th century.

Archaeological work always attracts public interest and this project was no exception. Open days were well attended and primary schools took part in a programme on 'How to be a good archaeologist' ([www.ntseducation.org.uk](http://www.ntseducation.org.uk)). The local community took no time to warm to the project and to re-establish ownership of the town's history.

Detailed recording and research have provided a remarkable insight not just into this structure but the origins and development of the late medieval burgh of Bo'ness. The building is now a major asset rather than a liability, and a further substantial restoration project of the nearby Hippodrome Cinema has become the next step in changing the fortunes of the historic town

## Little Houses: the book

The fascinating history of the politics and practicalities of NTS work with little houses over its first 75 years is told in *Little Houses: the National Trust for Scotland's Improvement Scheme for Small Historic Homes* by Diane Watters and Miles Glendinning, available from [www.rcahms.gov.uk/publications.html](http://www.rcahms.gov.uk/publications.html).

Robin Turner  
Head of Archaeology, National Trust for Scotland

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Fife Harling stamp, featuring an LHIS restoration of The Nunnery, Culross



# Great Yarmouth: urban regeneration and the Archaeological Map

Ken Hamilton

Heritage is at the forefront of Great Yarmouth's regeneration, through the inteGREAT programme (involving Norfolk County Council, Great Yarmouth Borough Council and EEDA). The aim is to broaden the image and appeal of Yarmouth beyond that of a dedicated seaside resort and to promote it as an historic town. To this end, £3 million have been provided to restore and renovate historic buildings as part of the Townscape Heritage Initiative. Running alongside this are several ERDF Objective 2 funded projects: the Great Yarmouth Archaeological Map, the Maritime Heritage Initiative, which curates the Maritime East Archive, the Time and Tide Museum, restoration of Nelson's Monument and the Priory Centre.

- Archaeology's input

The initial contribution of archaeology is the Great Yarmouth Archaeological Map project, which aims to improve understanding of Great Yarmouth's

archaeological resources through urban characterisation (it includes the extensive urban survey of Great Yarmouth), website access to the historic environment record and explanatory texts, and determination of the depth and nature of the surviving archaeological deposits through a deposit model derived from targeted borehole investigations.

- Extensive urban survey

This archaeological, historical, and character assessment of Great Yarmouth is the pilot study for the Extensive Urban Survey (EUS) of Norfolk. It uses a spatial approach, similar to that developed in Lancashire (2000-4), identifying historic character zones surviving in modern Yarmouth, along with past character zones identified through historical records and historic maps. Each character zone is accompanied by an explanatory text.

- Public access website

The Great Yarmouth Archaeological Map website ([www.gyam.org.uk](http://www.gyam.org.uk)) is a significant outreach tool. It comprises a database of all Norfolk historic environment records for Great Yarmouth (with appropriate mapping), and a series of narrative web pages which put the database records into context for the public. It also records, in non-technical terms, the methods and results of the Great Yarmouth deposit modelling exercise.

- The Deposit Model

These are a common urban archaeological management tool, usually derived from a synthesis of past excavation records. However, there has been little archaeological intervention in the historic core of Great Yarmouth, so data on the depth and nature of the archaeological deposits had to be derived from boreholes.

Apart from avoiding roads, services, and known Second World War bomb sites and air raid shelters, the 114 boreholes were targeted on a pseudo-random basis but, where possible, within 50m of adjacent boreholes. Undisturbed samples were recovered from the entire length of all boreholes. All samples were opened and logged in the laboratory by a geotechnical engineer and an archaeologist simultaneously, and then sieved for artefacts. The 3-D locations of all artefacts recovered were recorded, and entered into the borehole database. Borehole logs were entered into a specific borehole database (Rockworks 2004), and interpolated into a 3-D data volume. The data volume was constrained laterally to the limits of the survey area.

The results can be used to produce palaeotopographies (apparent past land surfaces), which can be exported to appropriate visualisation software and displayed as contour plots or surface maps. Surface maps have proven to be extremely useful in outreach contexts, as a method of visualising early Great Yarmouth. Overlaying contour maps and surfaces with geo-referenced street plans allows the original contexts of surviving historic buildings to be determined.

- Project outcomes

The model has begun to play a role in development control in Great Yarmouth: the depth of archaeological

deposits beneath any proposed development within the town walls can be determined from the data volume, and the nature of the deposits from adjacent borehole logs. For example, during recent underpinning of the Town Hall, we provided both borehole logs and interpolated sections of the ground beneath the Hall to the engineers and architects, removing the need for exploratory boreholes and reducing the overall cost of the project. The final results of the project will be used to write a supplement to the Great Yarmouth Local Plan.

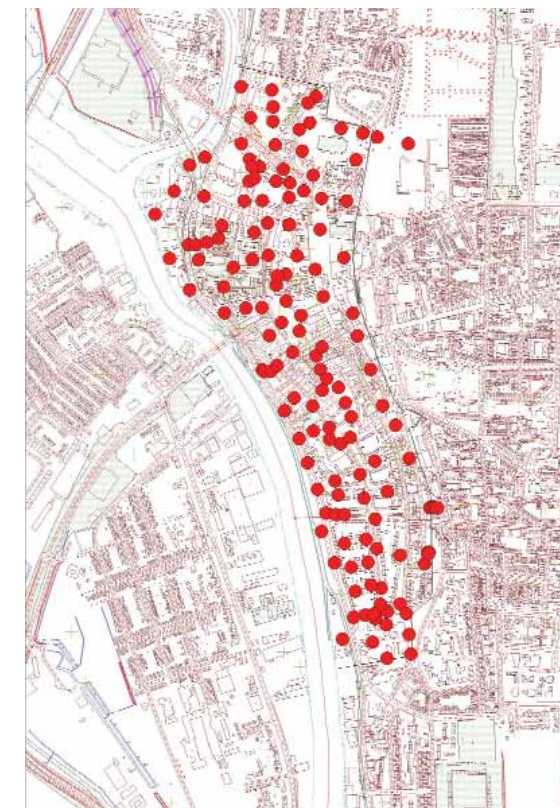
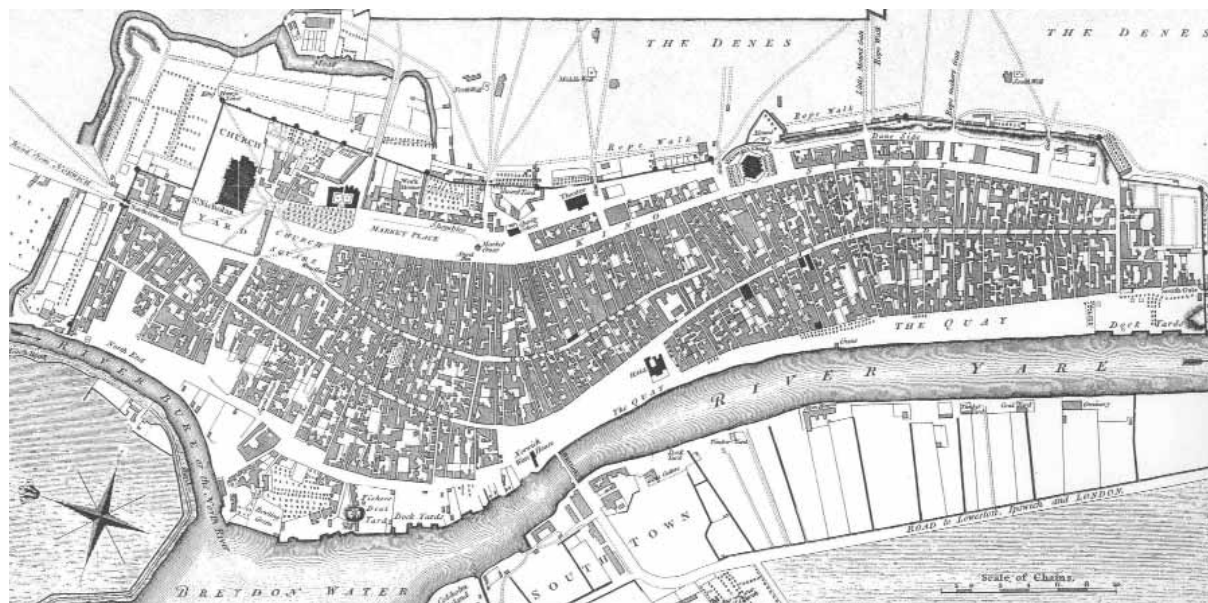
The deposit model has revealed significant information about the physical formation of Great Yarmouth from AD1000 to the present. For example, it shows that the river Yare ran several metres east of its current line in the medieval period. The land was reclaimed throughout the medieval period, and the river had attained its present course by about 1600AD.

The Great Yarmouth Archaeological Map is an ERDF Objective 2, English Heritage and Norfolk County Council project.

Ken Hamilton

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Faden's map of Great Yarmouth (1797), showing the Rows, the walls, and the lack of extramural development



Coring in Market Row.  
Photograph: Ken Hamilton

Time and Tide Museum.  
Photograph: Norfolk Museum and Archaeology Service



Distribution of GYAM boreholes





# Archaeology & regeneration in Leicester

Chris Wardle and Richard Buckley

Leicester is a city with a long and illustrious past. Its origins lay in the late Iron Age, and in the mid-1st century AD its rise as an urban centre began. By the late 2nd century it was a tribal capital, with defences enclosing some 47 hectares of street grid in which there were many fine public buildings, including a forum-basilica, bath complex and at least one temple.

Since the end of Roman rule the city's fortunes have repeatedly ebbed and flowed: a recent cycle came when a thriving hosiery industry that began with an

influx of frame knitters in the late 18th century and reached its zenith after the introduction of mechanisation in the late 19th century, collapsed in the early 1970s. The city now finds itself urgently in need of regeneration, with low average incomes, limited job opportunities, a poor housing stock and a poor external image.

Against this background Leicester Regeneration Company (LRC) was founded in 2001, with a brief to develop a masterplan and steer it towards completion in partnership with the private sector. This masterplan included four regeneration areas extending outwards from the fringes of the city centre. The purpose of these is to draw more commercial activity and high-tech industries to the city, to establish pleasant residential areas on the edge of the city centre and to reinvigorate the economy.

## HIGHCROSS QUARTER: A RETAIL CORE IN A ROMAN CITY

A fifth regeneration area within Leicester's historic centre is aimed at reviving the retail core. It is felt that as a regional shopping centre Leicester is losing out to its main rival, Nottingham, so the plan is to reinvigorate the retail by extending the 1991 shopping mall, The Shires. In addition to shops and car parks, the enlarged mall is to incorporate a multiplex cinema, two public squares and 119 apartments. The aim is to bring about a renaissance of the retail core and increase its ranking in the national league of shopping centres from fifteenth to eighth.

This entire development lies within the Roman defences, and occupies some 9.6% of the walled Roman and medieval town. Archaeological deposits can be as much as 4.5m deep. The archaeological implications of the Shires West were great, but, as a key element of the regeneration of the city, it was imperative that it should go ahead.

## MITIGATION AND EVALUATION

Fortunately the developers were quick to appreciate these difficulties, and appointed University of

Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS) as their archaeological consultant. One difficulty was that there were standing buildings across much of the site, many of which needed to be acquired and demolished before ground investigations could take place. As a consequence field evaluation was undertaken on a phased basis between 2003 and 2006.

Although archaeological deposits, ranging from mesolithic flints to 19th-century burials, were present over most of the development site, there were only three sites covering about 1.76ha where extensive archaeological recording was necessary: St Peter's Lane site, where the Church of St Peter, demolished in the 16th century, was identified and where piles would have been driven through human remains (see TA 60, 26-7); Highcross Street, where complex deposits of an important street frontage were affected; and Vine Street, where a multi-storey car park was due to cut into important Roman deposits.

## HIGHCROSS STREET: A ROMAN MARKET HALL AND SAXONS WITHIN THE RUINS

Evaluation on the east side of a principal street of Roman and medieval Leicester indicated a substantial pocket of well-preserved archaeological remains – some 3.5m of stratification from the early Roman period onwards, stretching 30m from the frontage. Excavation revealed a complex sequence of medieval and post-medieval buildings within four narrow plots. Buildings on the street frontage were probably timber framed, resting on stone foundations. As ground levels rose as a result of intense occupation, some stone boundary walls became cellar walls. In the backyards were the usual range of cesspits, wells and outhouses, plus structures pointing to specific activities. One property had a series of stone ovens, probably associated with brewing. Finds from medieval phases included late medieval riveted chainmail.

Some 3m below present ground level, timber buildings tentatively dated to the Saxo-Norman period were identified – the first structures of this period found in Leicester so far. Nearby, close to street frontage, was extensive dark earth containing 9th and 10th-century pottery. Beneath this was evidence for a large post-built structure, perhaps a hall, together with an Anglo-Saxon sunken-featured building cutting into Roman rubble. Two other sunken-featured buildings have been identified in the vicinity, indicating dispersed settlement of the 5th-7th century within the ruins of the Roman town.

Closer examination of the rubble beneath the Anglo-Saxon features revealed one of the most remarkable



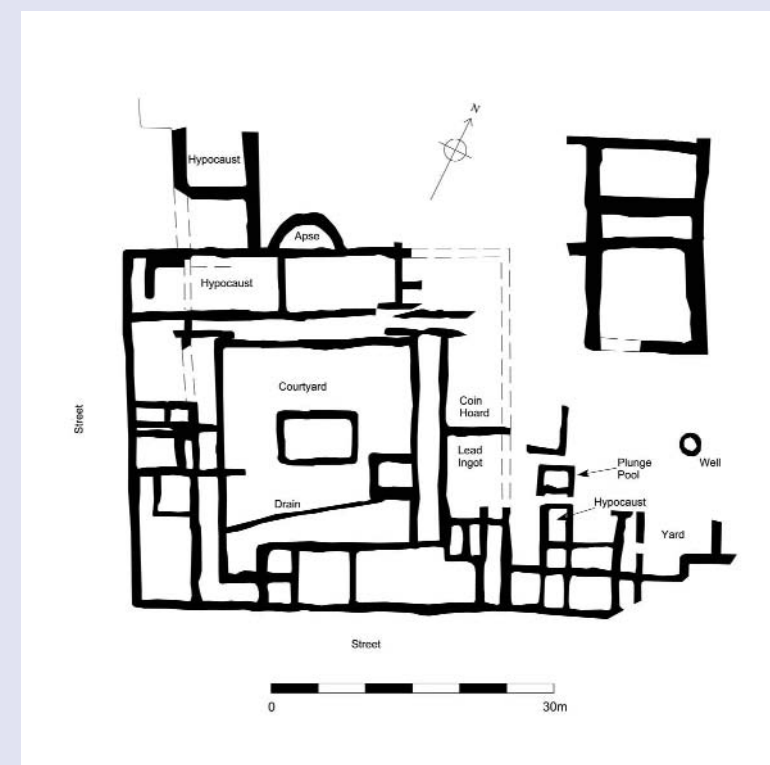
The collapsed wall of a Roman macellum (market hall) with bands of Roman bricks, and with traces of the Anglo-Saxon structure in the centre foreground. © ULAS

discoveries of the excavation – the collapsed wall of a large Roman building, almost certainly the *macellum* identified by John Wachter in 1958. The wall was at least 8m high and was constructed of granite rubble with regular tile bonding courses. It had fallen across a Roman street and the rubble contained traces of a tile relieving arch and the jamb and arch of a window. Beneath the wall, cutting into the edge of the street, were hearths of uncertain function, possibly used to extract silver from Roman coins.

## VINE STREET: A ROMAN TOWN HOUSE

Excavations over 6500 square metres covered around 60% of one Roman insula. The most important discovery was a Roman townhouse of courtyard plan, measuring some 40m by 38m. The earliest elements dated from the 2nd century and consisted

Vine Street town house plan. © ULAS



Highcross Street: excavations in progress on the medieval high street frontage. © ULAS



Medieval chain mail from Highcross Street. © ULAS





Lead curse tablet from Vine Street. © ULAS



A lead seal of the Twentieth Legion found in a room in the west wing

of two strip buildings each with frontages on different streets. These buildings appear to have been linked together during a major building phase, which extended the west wing to the north and added a north and east wing, all of which surrounded a central courtyard. To the east, a semi-detached range contained a probable bath suite, with hypocaust and plunge pool. The north wing included an apsidal room, whilst other rooms of this range had hypocausts. An added range seems to have had another bath suite. A corner room produced evidence for later industrial processes, including smithing and bone working, which suggest that the status of the building declined in later periods. Another possibility is that some rooms on the frontage were always used for commercial or industrial activity, with the house being focused on the courtyard away from the street. In the east wing, several dispersed coin hoards, deposited in around AD341, were discovered buried inside one of the rooms and appeared to have been disturbed in antiquity – perhaps during digging to retrieve hoarded items of greater value. In an adjacent room, a lead pig had been deliberately buried and covered with roofing slates. Finds elsewhere on the site suggest occupation until the late 4th century. Next to the town house, a large rectangular structure of the 3rd century, with thick stone walls and a sequence of mortar floors, was almost certainly a public building.

Significant finds from the Vine Street site have included two lead curses, currently in the process of being translated, and three lead seals, two of which



Excavations in Vine Street, with the main reception rooms of the town house complete with apse and the courtyard and street frontages. © ULAS



Excavating a lead pig concealed beneath a floor within the house. © ULAS

are identifiable as being from the sixth and twentieth legions. They would have been used for sealing documents or consignments of goods and may hint that the house which have been occupied by a public official.

Fine Roman buildings, the first evidence for early Anglo-Saxon settlement in Leicester, exceptional preservation of structural remains and rich finds of many periods – Leicester is proving it's a place to be proud of and where the latest urban regeneration has worthy predecessors.

Chris Wardle  
Leicester City Council

Richard Buckley  
University of Leicester Archaeology Services

## THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF TOWN COMMONS

Mark Bowden, Graham Brown and Nicky Smith

Commons were attached to urban as well as to rural settlements. Commoners in towns enjoyed the same rights as their country cousins – grazing, fishing and the taking of fuel, small timber and minerals. They also had other local rights where appropriate, such as setting up tenter frames, playing games or drying laundry.

In 1995 the former RCHME undertook an archaeological survey of the Town Moor at Newcastle-upon-Tyne. This revealed not only the expected remains of cultivation, mining, the 18th-century race course and recent military activity, but the earthworks of what appears to be a late prehistoric or Romano-British settlement – all within a mile and a half of the city centre. It is well known that earthworks also existed on other town commons, at Lincoln for instance. Clearly there was a case for further research on a national scale, both to study the archaeology of the use of these common lands, and to look at the degree to which that – relatively benign – land use had preserved features of earlier periods.

The opportunity came after the merger of the RCHME and EH in 1999. EH had a number of initiatives aimed at promoting the historic environment within the urban agenda, including public parks and cemeteries, but the few surviving urban commons are another sort of urban open

space that have been largely overlooked by archaeologists and historians. They were therefore identified by Paul Everson, then head of Archaeological Survey & Investigation, as a suitable target for investigation – a unique contribution that AS&I (more used to working in a rural environment) could make to urban agenda.

A literature search, wide-ranging reconnaissance and a few selective detailed surveys have confirmed the importance of these commons as an archaeological resource. As predicted, they do preserve as earthworks a wide range of historic features reflecting their use for sporting, leisure and military activities, grazing, quarrying, and occasional cultivation. But they also preserve extensive earlier landscapes – settlements, cemeteries, roads, boundaries and field systems.

The results of the project will be published next year. It is hoped that this will be a stimulus both for further research, and for improved management and conservation of these important urban green spaces. For further information about the project, contact [mark.bowden@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:mark.bowden@english-heritage.org.uk).

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GPS survey of Westwood Common, Beverley. Photograph: Richard Addison

# WORCESTER:

## Urban regeneration and archaeological partnerships

Robin Jackson, Martin Watts  
and James Dinn

Worcester, with aspirations to develop as a 'first rank cathedral and university city', has several areas within and around its historic centre identified for re-development over the next few years. Some of these areas, including the Newport Street site, were once part of the historic townscape but were cleared in the mid 20th century to become surface car parks. Others are the remains of 19th-century industrial complexes (for instance the Royal Worcester Porcelain factory). Proposed developments include innovative riverside re-development of the former city hospital and a council depot into a second campus for the University of Worcester, linked to a 'world class joint academic and public library and history centre'.

### PLANNING FOR PRESERVATION

At Newport Street, an opportunity arose for archaeologists to examine the largest single area ever investigated within the medieval city walls, in the context of a strategy which retained the majority of archaeological remains in situ. The site was identified as having importance for the medieval and early post-medieval periods (it included some 14 former property holdings), with a high potential for significant Roman deposits. Archenfield Archaeology, consultants for the project, undertook a desk-based assessment, and brought in Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service (WHEAS) to undertake field evaluation, leading to a series of archaeological planning conditions. These included full archaeological excavation to the formation level for development, sample excavation of deeper deposits, piled foundations, and monitoring of the impact of development on groundwater. Addressing a range of research priorities identified in a draft research framework, developed as part of the Urban Archaeological Strategy, was central to the mitigation strategy.

### COMBINED FORCES

A rapid start and large staff were required by the developers Cabot Homes, so WHEAS joined forces with fellow RAO, Cotswold Archaeology, and their

successful tender was implemented through an ICE Contract for Archaeological Investigation. The collaboration successfully combined WHEAS' extensive local knowledge and specialist finds and environmental teams with Cotswold Archaeology's regional and logistical expertise.

### REVEALING HISTORY

The excavation provided the first certain evidence of a Roman road linking the small town to a presumed ford or bridge across the Severn at the end of what later became Newport Street. Importantly, this road has been shown to have continued in use until a medieval bridge was built and the road shifted slightly to its current alignment. Later remains included numerous medieval and post-medieval buildings fronting the street, with ovens, hearths and other industrial remains providing evidence for leatherworking, iron-smithing, and the weaving and dyeing of cloth in back-plots between the medieval bridge and the commercial heart of the city. The surviving foundations of 19th-century courts packed into the former back plot areas, reflected the rapid decline in prosperity of the area following the construction in 1781 of a new bridge a short distance downstream, effectively relegating Newport Street to a minor back lane.

Archaeological input into the regeneration project has continued beyond the completion of site work, with the digitised excavation plan providing a blueprint for certain aspects of the new development, and with the direct involvement of archaeological expertise in designing plaques that will inform the public of the historical context of the site.

Since completion of fieldwork, joint working on the post-excavation assessment has continued along similar lines. The collaborative approach has both facilitated this element of the regeneration of Worcester's riverside and yielded a considerable body of important archaeological information. Hopefully it has also established a precedent that will allow greater exchange of knowledge between RAOs and provide more stable employment for archaeologists within the area.

Robin Jackson  
Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service

Martin Watts  
Cotswold Archaeology

James Dinn  
Worcester City Council



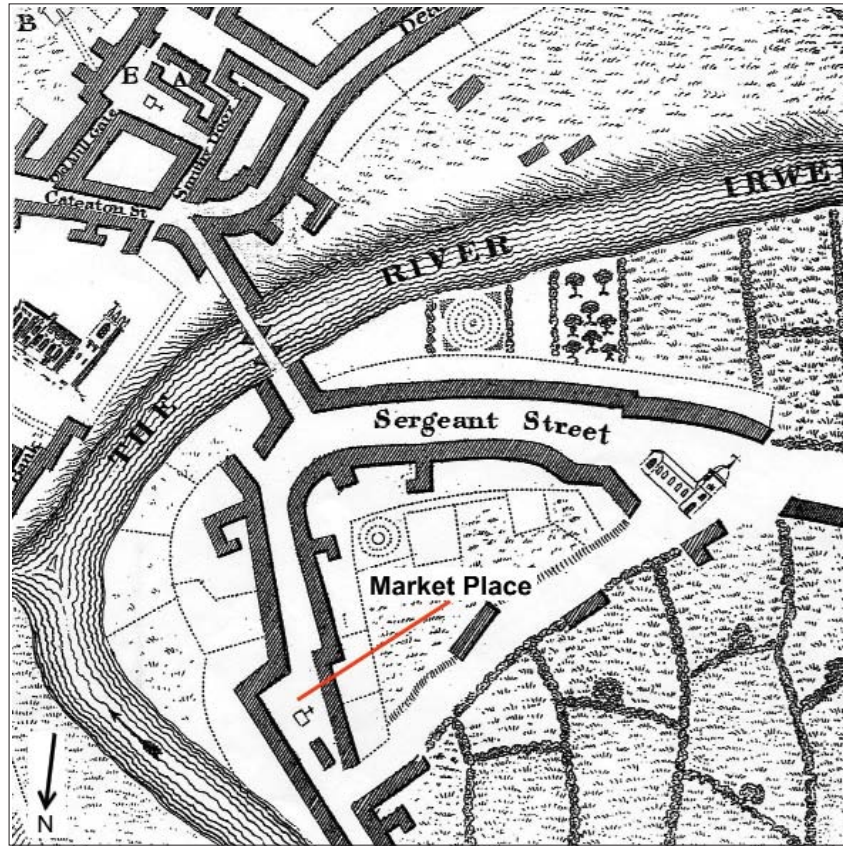
Aerial view of the excavations.  
© Mike Glyde



Archaeologists from Cotswold Archaeology and WHEAS excavating a late medieval oven or dye-vat base. © WHEAS



12th/13th-century cellar on Newport Street – the scales are sitting on a Roman road surface revealed below its floor.  
© WHEAS



A plan of Manchester and Salford c 1650

# Salford

Salford was already an important place in 1086, was granted a market in 1228 and by 1230 a charter had given it borough status. A survey of 1346 records 129 burgages, but its economic base was only in agriculture and its market declined in the post-medieval period. Until recently knowledge about medieval Salford rested largely upon maps from the post-medieval period, which show that the basic layout changed little until the late 18th century. The town plan was an irregular triangle, the interior

Salford's medieval market place today, with Manchester Cathedral and Arndale Shopping Centre beyond the railway viaduct on the left



## Rediscovering medieval Salford: archaeology and urban regeneration

Norman Redhead

Salford City Council has recently produced a master plan for the regeneration of Greengate, an area of dereliction just across the River Irwell from the medieval core of Manchester and the vibrant shopping centre there. This area was once the medieval core of Salford, yet no buildings survive from before the 19th century. This scheme has presented a unique opportunity to restore the historic identity of Salford.

probably occupied by garden plots, orchards, or crofts. A number of medieval buildings survived until the 20th century. The market was held on the rectangular village green, where there was a market cross, stocks and the town pump. Alongside was the exchange building or courthouse, in which both the Portmanmote and the Salford Hundred Court sat.

### Car parks and dereliction

By 1787-94 industrialisation was changing the town's character. Salford was extending beyond its original nucleus and the medieval 'triangle' was starting to infill. By 1848 there were dense concentrations of workers' housing, with terraces of back-to-back dwellings, chapels, public houses, and various industrial works. A size works, foundry, brewery, tannery, print works and cotton mill were all present in a very small area. The 20th century saw closure of the railway station, industrial decline and slum clearance, with decay leading to an area dominated by car parks and dereliction. Remarkably, the rectangular market place is still discernible at the junction of Greengate and Gravel Lane.

### Regeneration Master Plan

The draft regeneration master plan made little reference to the historic legacy of the Greengate area, an oversight identified by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit (GMAU) and Salford Conservation Officer. Their amended strategy incorporated

- the market place itself, with the cross (and stocks) restored as an iconic landmark structure. Information boards would tell the story of the medieval borough and its later development, illustrated with finds and excavated features
- the other key focal point will be Collier Street Baths, a Grade II listed building designed by Thomas Waterhouse and opened in 1856, which is on English Heritage's Buildings At Risk Register. It is proposed that some 20th-century buildings are demolished to open up the fine Italianate façade of this neglected building, allowing it to become an outstanding landmark building within the new development. The Baths should be restored, with commercial and public use, one possibility for the latter being an exhibition space telling the story of Greengate area's history, archaeology, and regeneration
- a new boulevard between the market place and the Baths will link key historical focal points for the regeneration scheme: the Baths to represent the industrial period and the market place and cross for the medieval period. The Baths and Cross would be landmark features at either end of the boulevard
- a new park, Greengate, forming a green heart for the regeneration area adjacent to the market place, is already featured in the master plan. GMAU have flagged up the potential for engaging local schools and residents in a community archaeology project here, giving a sense of 'ownership' in the new development
- an archaeological desk-based assessment that will facilitate exposure and presentation of key archaeological features within the designed landscape, provide an historical and archaeological framework for information boards, educational material, press releases etc and informing proposals for community archaeological involvement

Development will have a major impact on the archaeological resource, particularly where basement car parking is required. There is already some truncation from 20th-century activities but the

archaeological potential is considerable, with remains of medieval burgage plots, houses, and industrial remains and workers' housing from later periods already evident from three excavations in the regeneration area. These excavations have provided the opportunity to engage with key stakeholders, and councillors are excited at the prospect of restoring Salford's historic identity. Collaboration with the Salford University Centre for Virtual Environment will add a new dimension to presentation of the archaeological resource.

It is still early days. An Urban Regeneration Corporation has been established, planning guidance produced by Salford City Council and the master plan has been revised. The regeneration project will re-connect the two cities and provide a new and vibrant city centre quarter, with its own distinctive identity based on the restoration of Salford's medieval past.

Norman Redhead  
Assistant County Archaeologist  
Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit



The Greengate Towers development, partly excavated by Oxford Archaeology North in 2006, showing a row of cellared dwellings. The back yards lay over a deep black garden soil which yielded a substantial assemblage of 17th/18th century pottery. A 13/14th century boundary ditch runs across the top of the excavation area



Part of the Abito development site, excavated by the University of Manchester Archaeological Unit in 2005. Remains ranged from 13th-century rubbish pits and property boundaries to industrial period back-to-back and blind back workers' housing

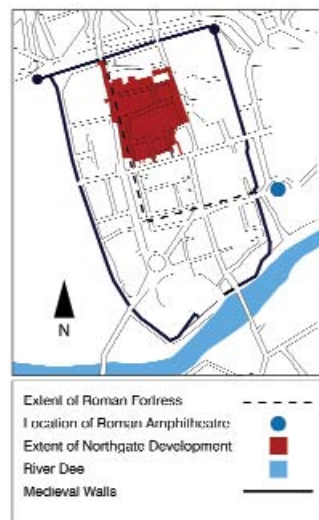
# CHESTER: contrasting approaches

Dan Garner and Mike Morris

In 1964 bulldozers began excavating basements for the new Grosvenor shopping centre in Chester. So began the destruction of the Roman legionary bath house, whose walls had survived up to 4m high. Between 1967 and 1969 a similar fate befell the equally well preserved 'Elliptical Building' – a building apparently unique in the Roman world – during construction of the 'Forum' precinct and council offices. Management of the urban archaeological resource has moved a long way since the 1960s, and Chester has learned its lesson. At the strategic level, robust policies are now in place in the Local Plan, with similar ones in the forthcoming Local Development Framework.

The city is currently undergoing development even more extensive than that of the 1960s and 1970s. Chester's development team approach has proved successful in dealing with regeneration of brownfield areas such as the canalside and the old port, but how would it cope with massive regeneration in the historic core? This was the challenge posed by the Northgate development, which at 4.6ha and £300 million is probably the biggest single building project in Chester since

Extent of Northgate development



Excavations on the site of the present bus station (1979-81) exemplify complex multi-period archaeology beneath much of the Northgate development area



construction of the legionary fortress. This joint development between the Council and ING includes a new library, market, performing arts centre, bus station, anchor department store, sixty shops and more than a hundred residential units.

## CONSTRAINTS AND CONSERVATION

A detailed design brief produced in 1999 incorporated archaeological policies and constraints applicable to the site, enabling us to grade the site into four levels, from 'no go' to zones already sterilised by previous developments. Working closely with English Heritage, the ING archaeological consultant (Tom Hassall), and structural engineers (Buro Happold), we could address the issues in earnest. The first great achievement was total reconfiguration of the traffic flow to avoid cutting through buried Roman defences. Having resolved this, the team looked at proposed foundations and groundworks. Basements and other major intrusions were sited in areas of existing disturbance, with widely spaced bored piles in areas of well preserved remains. The depth of archaeology was established at numerous locations through evaluation pits, and this information, along with further desk-based assessment and a comprehensive geophysical survey, fed into the design of the foundations and floor slab of each building.

The outcome is an engineering appraisal document (currently at revision G!) which pulls together the mitigation strategy for each building or area, detailing the archaeological grade and the percentage of its footprint which will be damaged by groundworks. A figure of 1.1% has been achieved for a large area of Roman barracks, whilst elsewhere less than 2% has been attained. In some areas additional disturbance is unavoidable but is confined to where archaeology has already been damaged. Detailed excavation or watching brief has been agreed for these areas, to be undertaken by the developer's archaeological contractor, Earthworks. The whole strategy has been secured through both archaeological condition and a S106 Agreement and work will commence early in 2007.

## AMPHITHEATRE CULTURE PARK

Elsewhere in the city a more proactive approach is being taken to the role of archaeology in urban regeneration. Chester's Roman amphitheatre is being developed as a hub attraction for the city's 'Culture Park' initiative. The concept is to re-brand and develop city-centre amenities and places of interest through key zones linked by new routes, trails, improved signage and interpretation. The enhanced display and interpretation of the amphitheatre is seen as fundamental to this

initiative. Future archaeological activities are planned for sites within the 'amphitheatre zone', such as the adjoining area of the Grosvenor Park.

## CHEQUERED HISTORY

Chester's amphitheatre has had a chequered history since its discovery in 1929 and still evokes strong emotions in local people. Large-scale excavations by FH Thompson between 1960 and 1969 left approximately 40% of the arena exposed. Seating banks were landscaped and grassed, becoming a popular venue for picnickers. However, much of the southern quadrant of the amphitheatre remains buried beneath a listed building, Dee House, and beneath a new Civil Justice Centre, built in 2000. Although constructed on the pile foundations of the previous building, the new building and car park covered some 20% of the amphitheatre's footprint, seriously hindering future exposure and display of the monument.

The Chester Amphitheatre Project was initiated in 2004 by English Heritage and Chester City Council. The aims were to inform decisions on excavation of the site and the future of Dee House, to revitalise the monument and to engage with visitors and the local community. From its inception, this research-based project has looked at all aspects of the archaeological resource (built and buried), in the surrounding townscape as well as on the amphitheatre's footprint.

## VOLUNTEERS, STUDENTS AND TV COVERAGE

The excavations have been used for training students from Chester and Liverpool universities, and a multitude of volunteers have had the

opportunity to work on the project. A walkway allows the public to view discoveries at close range and has been hugely successful: a people counter has registered over 220,000 visitors, and surveys indicate that the amphitheatre has become the city centre's second most popular attraction after the cathedral. Twice-daily tours by a resident archaeologist were complemented by free newsletters and an interpretation area in the nearby visitor centre. The project has its own dedicated website which was regularly updated during the excavation season and includes a web-log page. The site was also used as the venue for the Chester Archaeology Service's annual National Archaeology Day event. The project has been covered by a myriad of local radio and national newspaper articles, plus a BBC 'Timewatch' programme dedicated to 'Britain's Lost Colosseum'. The site will also feature in a programme on Roman Chester being made for the History Channel.

Dan Garner and Mike Morris  
Chester Archaeology Service

To find out more see <http://www.chester.gov.uk/main.asp?page=722#a1478> (for published reports)

<http://www.chester.gov.uk/northgate/home.html> (Northgate development)

<http://www.chester.gov.uk/amphitheatre/index.html> (Amphitheatre)



Gladiatorial display at National Archaeology Day 2005. The walkway can be seen on the right



Amphitheatre excavation 2006

Christopher Catling



Dai Morgan-Evans supported the creation and early days of APPAG

The All Party Parliamentary Archaeology Group (APPAG) was set up in 2001 by the Liberal Democrat peer, Lord Rupert Redesdale, himself an archaeology graduate (from Newcastle), effectively supported by Dai Morgan-Evans, then General Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of London. Rupert set up APPAG because he was concerned by the near invisibility of archaeology in policy statements emanating from English Heritage and from Government about the heritage. He was particularly incensed by what he saw as an attempt to turn archaeology into an instrument of Labour social policy in *Power of Place*, a publication over which many people at English Heritage laboured long and hard in an attempt to justify the social value of archaeology but which Rupert created headlines by irreverently dismissing in the House of Lords as 'a pile of pants'.

## ■ Lords and MPs

APPAG is not quite the largest all party group in parliament (that is rumoured to be the All Party Parliamentary Beer Group), but with 77 MPs and 53 peers it commands a good proportion of backbench Members and Lords (all party groups can include ministers and non-parliamentarians (known as 'strangers' in parliamentary language) amongst their membership, but traditionally ministers do not join). The current officers are Lord (Colin) Renfrew of Kaimsthorpe (Chairman), Lord Howarth of Newport and Lord Montagu of Beaulieu (Vice Chairmen), Lord (Rupert) Redesdale (Secretary) and Tim Loughton MP (Treasurer).

## ■ Key issues

The first task was to try and pin down exactly what the key issues were that archaeologists most cared about that could then be pursued through cross-party discussion and co-operation. Written submissions were requested from national and local archaeology groups, and a parliamentary inquiry was set up at which leading archaeologists gave evidence on what they saw as the most pressing problems.

These were summarised in a report published in

2003, and included problems that remain largely unresolved. The headline issues were

- the need for an inter-departmental government committee on archaeology, serviced by a strong team that could provide policy advice to DCMS
- amalgamation of current archaeological organisations into a single non-governmental organisation to lobby for archaeology
- to improve pay and conditions for archaeologists, with training supported by employers. Only employers with high standards should be able to bid for contracts
- support for implementing the Valletta Convention, with provision for volunteer involvement built in
- statutory SMRs (now HERs or HES)
- revisions of the present system of competitive tendering for archaeological contracts
- abolition of Class Consents that allow ploughing of scheduled monuments
- long term support for finds liaison officers under the Portable Antiquities Scheme
- boosting the study of archaeology, including prehistory, in schools
- statutory provision for an adequate public museum service

Thanks to Colin Renfrew's close involvement with issues surrounding illicit trade in antiquities there has been considerable lobbying on this issue, particularly in relation to the chaos in Iraq and damage through looting there. The Group has also been involved in campaigning over cuts to local authority funding of archaeology, has supported archaeologists over problems with DCA licensing of work on human remains, discussed and gave

unqualified support for a bored tunnel to remove traffic from Stonehenge, and commented on many maritime heritage issues.

## ■ Briefings and questions

It has received briefings on the current Heritage Protection Review by Harry Reeves of DCMS, on the looting of Baghdad Museum and measures to retrieve artefacts by Col Matthew Bogdanos of the US military, on training museum staff as special constables for combating illicit trade in antiquities by Detective Sergeant Vernon Rapley of the Metropolitan Police, on recent excavations in Westminster Hall by Philip Emery of Giffords, and a statutory requirement for local authorities to provide historic environment services (preventing further problems like those in Northamptonshire). Most recently, Peter Beacham (English Heritage) and Peter Hinton (IFA) talked about the imminent Heritage White Paper and how it should include restrictions on ploughing scheduled monuments and reforms to planning guidance to confirm that it is reasonable for the planning process to require opportunities for public participation, and to require commercial work, where appropriate, to be conducted by accredited historic environment professionals.

A recent briefing on aggregates and the Aggregates Sustainability Levy Fund led to recommendations to stop siphoning of ASLF funds by DEFRA and for more flexible guidelines for pre-pre-application evaluation work to improve standards in archaeological briefs. There have also been tours of excavations such as the Museum of London's community excavations at Shoreditch and of Warwick Rodwell's work on Edward the Confessor's tomb in Westminster Abbey. Suggestions for other tours that help inform MPs of the reality of archaeological work today are welcome.

Encouraged by APPAG, Parliamentary Questions have been asked about:

- VAT on listed buildings
- concerns over the downgrading of archaeology

within English Heritage

- progress towards implementing the Valletta Convention
- steps taken to interest young people in archaeology
- success of targets for new users from priority groups of museums and heritage (we are doing rather better than the Arts)
- the collapse of the programme of scheduling of monuments while listing of buildings increases
- protection of historic wrecks (support has also been rallied for an Early Day Motion on maritime heritage)
- employment of conservation officers in local authorities

There is a limit to what back benchers can do about any of these issues, but APPAG has proved to be a useful pressure group within parliament, and there has been an observable improvement in the level of debate in parliament about archaeological issues. Those who speak on the subject do so with greater knowledge and confidence, and are able to draw upon the expertise of the APPAG Advisory Group a group of archaeologists (including the IFA's Editor) who benefited from an informal but highly professional course organised by Lord Redesdale into how Parliament works and how it should be lobbied.

Perhaps the greatest impact that APPAG has had so far is to reassure archaeologists that their cause is reflected and respected in parliament, to give archaeology a distinct parliamentary voice (rather than being seen as a subset of heritage), and to provide a channel through which archaeological issues can be brought to the attention of parliamentarians and acted on as necessary.

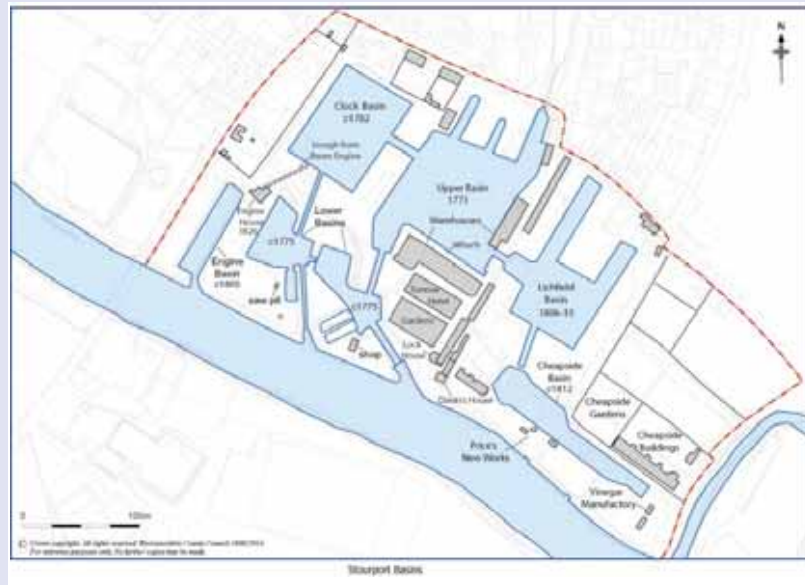
For further information about APPAG, see [www.appag.org.uk](http://www.appag.org.uk) or contact [TAF@britarch.ac.uk](mailto:TAF@britarch.ac.uk).



# Archaeologists, abstract artists and oral history

## British Waterways restoration programme in Stourport

Justin Hughes



Stourport waterways

Historic canals in the care of British Waterways are an essential part of the historic environment in many urban areas, and are often especially engaging for the public both in terms of volunteering for hard labour and enjoying the results. One popular scheme is restoration work at Stourport Canal Basins (where the Staffordshire/ Worcester Canal meets the River Severn).

'Point of Change'  
Modern art inspired by archaeology.  
© pro/POSIT

With support from the Heritage Lottery Fund, British Waterways have commissioned archaeologists to run a community-based field project staffed by local volunteers and supported by professional archaeologists, with a view to providing training in archaeological excavation, and to

examine specific elements of the Canal Basins in Stourport. This work will inform strategies for re-landscaping the historic Tontine Gardens which front a Georgian hotel built by the town's first Canal Trading Company, and for representing the site of a former tollhouse as an historic feature. The work has attracted the interest of local artists and architects who have been commissioned to produce interpretive pieces, to be included in British Waterways plans to restore the Lichfield Basin, canal wharves and service buildings.

British Waterways heritage staff and archaeologists from Worcestershire's Historic Environment Service had the opportunity to open dialogue with Stourport residents, who brought along their own written and photographic records and personal accounts of the site's history. The town's Civic Society has played an important role in negotiating for changes which reflect the past but which look to the future of the five surviving Basins. By the time the programme is concluded in 2007, it will have reaffirmed the value of combined professional and local community involvement in safeguarding local distinctiveness and a sense of place.

Justin Hughes  
Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service  
Worcestershire County Council  
Woodbury, University of Worcester  
Henwick Grove, Worcester WR2 6AJ  
jhughes@worcestershire.gov.uk



## NEW BOOKS REVIEWED



### Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) review and the historic environment: English Heritage guidance

Code no 51238 English Heritage 8pp Free

Shoreline Management Plans [SMP] provide large scale assessments of risks associated with coastal processes and present a policy framework to manage these risks. This document has been written as a supplement to DEFRA guidance (DEFRA 2006 *The Shoreline Management Plan Guidance Volumes I & II*) on compiling such plans and is intended to provide Coastal Groups (organisations tasked with the completion of SMPs) and their consultants with guidance on management regimes for the coastal historical environment (comprising historic assets such as scheduled monuments, listed buildings, protected wrecks, registered parks, gardens and battlefields), and data sources to be utilised during the SMP process.

As coastal change can easily damage the historic environment, there has been an urgent need for such advice. The document sensibly points its users at early liaison with relevant archaeological curators, explains their various roles and the information and advice that they can provide. It also provides information on where the historic environment fits within the SMP process and what the key issues are at each stage.

The involvement and role of English Heritage on DEFRA's SMP Guidance is well thought out and inclusive. It makes clear that EH support is dependent upon appropriate protection or

mitigation for historic assets. However, the document also suggests problems for the historic environment. English Heritage's level of involvement in the SMP process is dependent upon how the relevant Coastal Group interprets DEFRA guidance. Perhaps the review should re-consider this over-flexible approach. English Heritage also should consider their position on the SMP process, as their involvement is currently not statutory. This position may have a negative influence on coastal groups' policies towards the historic environment, and perhaps EH should lobby more forcefully. The same observation can be considered for raising awareness of the SMP process amongst heritage professionals who may wish to contribute towards a more thorough process.

Paola Palma & Dave Parham  
Centre for Marine & Coastal Archaeology  
Bournemouth University

### JNAPC Code of Practice for Seabed Development

The Crown Estate: Joint Nautical Archaeology Policy Committee

Free 8pp

Another code, this one an updated agreement between the Crown Estate and the British Marine Aggregates Producers Association, summarises the various procedures for consultation and co-operation between seabed developers and marine archaeologists, with references to the mass of relevant legislation, directives and guiding documents throughout the UK, Europe and internationally. The stated aim is to minimise financial risks along with ensuring that archaeological mitigation is thoroughly and professionally



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undertaken. It is good to see processes outlined that are so in line with those we have got used to on land. Though principally aimed at profile-raising with aggregate producers this is a useful document for archaeologists needing reminders for legislation and contacts, and for passing to developer-colleagues.

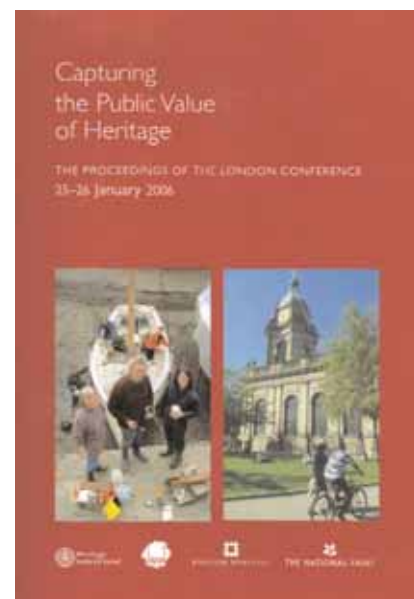
Copies are available from the Joint Nautical Archaeology Policy Committee, c/o Council for British Archaeology, St Mary's House, 66 Bootham, York, or can be downloaded from [www.jnnapc.org.uk](http://www.jnnapc.org.uk).

### Capturing the public value of heritage: the proceedings of the London conference 25–26 January 2006

Kate Clark (ed) 2006

Heritage Lottery Fund, DCMS, English Heritage and the National Trust £10 (or free pdf) 106pp

Public value is about the politics of heritage and such critical issues as who decides who gets what for what and from whom. It is not surprising therefore that this conference was so popular it had to turn many potential delegates away. This volume of edited papers is an excellent consolation prize for those who couldn't attend.



'Public value' isn't an easy concept. Readers should perhaps ignore Tessa Jowell's reductive statements that it is about public spending decisions based on giving value for money, and instead read David Throsby's more subtle explanation. He makes the critical point that public value concepts are distinct from economically driven modes of evaluation, which are themselves based on the erroneous idea that 'preservation can only be justified for pure economic reasons'.

Christina Cameron, of Parks Canada, comes closest to suggesting that heritage is akin to poetry, music, religion or art: all have an economic dimension, but it isn't their economic value that explains why human beings engage in them. There is nothing new in this recognition that some human activities are functional/economic and others are more spiritual/altruistic, and most societies have had no problem accommodating both. As Neil Cossons argues here, instinctively and institutionally we heritage professionals are closer to the public and its values than government; he points to the creation of hundreds of preservation groups and independent museums, as well as the birth of the Civic Society movement, as evidence of a 'spontaneous desire by communities to protect buildings of under-appreciated local value'.

How do we square this with the assertion that the heritage sector is out of touch and needs to learn and apply 'the public value test', and the warning that failure to do so will leave heritage as an irrelevance in 'a successful, diverse and modern Britain'?

Most papers in this volume emphasise that heritage professionals have everything to gain by adopting working methods and arguments based on public value, and we have fellow IFA member Kate Clark to thank for seeking to hammer these concepts into our consciousness by organising the conference and publishing the results. But I believe that the politicians have got it profoundly wrong if they think the public, if asked, would vote for less public spending on heritage. In reality, the sooner the politicians listen to what the public really want, the sooner we will have resources to do the job!

Copies can be downloaded from [www.english-heritage.org.uk/upload/pdf/Public-Value.pdf](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/upload/pdf/Public-Value.pdf); hard copies can be ordered from English Heritage by calling Customer Services on 0870 333 1181.

Christopher Catling

## Obituary

### Richard Avent

1948–2006

Richard Avent was at the forefront of the heritage movement in Britain in his role as Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments and Historic Buildings at Cadw. Richard had read Archaeology at Cardiff, before becoming assistant curator at Carmarthen Museum. Two years later he became an assistant inspector of ancient monuments, based in Cardiff, and remained there for the rest of his life, becoming principal inspector in 1984 on the creation of Cadw, and Chief Inspector six years later.

His academic interests began with Anglo-Saxon brooches, inspired by excavating South Cadbury under Leslie Alcock, and he published his MA thesis *Anglo-Saxon Garnet Inlaid Disc and Composite Brooches* in 1975 but, as an assistant inspector of ancient monuments, he excavated Laugharne Castle in Carmarthenshire and went on to gain an international reputation in castle studies. He wrote the landmark book *Castles of the Princes of Gwynedd* (1983), and championed long-term consolidation projects to halt centuries of decay, including a number of projects leading to the excavation, consolidation and public display of castles built by Welsh princes, notably Dryslwyn, Dinefwr and Dolforwyn castles. This work served as a useful reminder that not all castles in Wales should be seen as examples of Anglo-Norman aggression.

During his work at Cadw Richard had a significant influence over the practice of archaeology, statutory protection and the care of nationally important monuments in Wales. He saw through the listed buildings re-survey of Wales between 1984 and 2005, and introduced comprehensive assessments of prehistoric ritual sites, coastal archaeology, deserted

settlements, mines and other key types of archaeological remains. He initiated a systematic survey that produced the first national register of historic gardens. A major contribution that he made to archaeology in Wales was his support for creation of the four Welsh regional archaeological trusts. Within Cadw, he led the way in producing high quality guide books. Arnold Taylor's texts on the Edwardian castles were maintained and enhanced, whilst other titles took into account recent scholarship. This series, to which Richard Avent contributed a number of guide books, continues to be much admired by both the public and sister heritage bodies.

Upon his death the Welsh Assembly first minister, Rhodri Morgan, summed up: 'He was held in the highest esteem by his colleagues for his great knowledge and professional judgment but also for his kindness and wisdom.' His influence on others will continue, and the castles that he studied and conserved will be his permanent memorials.

Richard Avent was married to Sian Rees, a fellow Inspector of Ancient Monuments, and died with his son Rhydian, in a diving accident off Gozo on 2 August. He is survived by Sian, their daughter and their older son.



Richard Avent



# Obituary

## David Raoul Wilson, BLitt, MA, FSA, MIFA

1932-2006

David Wilson (MIFA) had three careers: as a classical scholar and Roman archaeologist, as an aerial photographer, and as a dance historian.

David's interest in Roman archaeology developed when, as a sixth-former, he dug with Sheppard Frere on the bombed sites of Canterbury, when Frere was a schoolmaster at Lancing College. After reading Classics at Oxford and his National Service he undertook fieldwork in Northern Anatolia and was then appointed Ian Richmond's research assistant at Oxford, helping revise RG Collingwood's classic *The Archaeology of Roman Britain*. In 1965, after an exhilarating trial flight, David began his

second career as aerial photographer, joining Kenneth St Joseph's small pioneering team at Cambridge University Committee for Aerial Photography (CUCAP). There he developed new skills, involving both oblique and vertical survey photography, that were relevant to many areas of research: agriculture, archaeology, ecology, forestry, geology and geographical subjects of all kinds. He was also much involved in undergraduate and extra-mural teaching and the publication of educational text-books such as the *Roman Frontiers of Britain* (1967).

These were the decades that saw the Cambridge flying programme extend into Ireland, France, the Netherlands and Denmark, and when simple reconnaissance expanded into a mature and sophisticated sub-discipline. David's contribution took many influential forms. In the air he was responsible for hundreds of new archaeological discoveries, many of which were never acknowledged, while, on the ground, his rigorous standards ensured the consistent technical excellence of the CUCAP collection and its

supporting catalogues.

He was one of the most distinguished members of CBA's Research Committee in Archaeological Aerial Photography, and Chair of the Committee for the Anglian Region. He was a founder member and subsequent secretary and chair of the Aerial Archaeology Research Group (AARG) and he made regular and enthusiastic contributions to its annual conference and Newsletter.

Upon St Joseph's retirement David became the Curator at CUCAP, an increasingly demanding role that combined the traditional skills of aerial photographer, archival conservator, librarian, academic researcher and teacher with the entrepreneurial ability to ensure CUCAP's survival in an increasingly competitive university world. His research resulted in a steady sequence of papers on subjects as diverse as Neolithic causewayed enclosures, Roman-Celtic temples (1975), villas (1974 and 2004), Roman forts (eg 1977) and smaller Roman towns. His study of the mechanics of cropmark formation led to *Air Photo Interpretation for Archaeologists* (1982), revised 2000.

David's second wife Elizabeth introduced him to early dance and the Capriol Society for Courtly Dancing, a move which led him into an entirely new form of activity. His meticulous research on the subject resulted in several excellent books, including *Domenico of Piacenza* (2006), a transcript of a 15th-century Italian dance treatise. When he retired in 1980 he dedicated himself to historical dance, setting up a National Resource Centre for Historical Dance for the Early Dance Circle and cataloguing their substantial archive library.

In his final weeks, David was hard at work updating *Roman Britain from the Air 1977-84*, completing the first revision, from 1985 to 1990, with Rebecca Jones (Jones and Wilson, forthcoming). He was also striving to finish his final magnum opus, the complete study of the basse danse from its earliest form to the latest, found in the late 16th-century volumes of Caroso and Negri.

Derek A Edwards  
dae@air-arch.fsworld.co.uk

# New members

## ELECTED

### Member (MIFA)

Alex Bayliss  
Jayne Bown  
Nikki Cook  
Lynden Cooper  
Christopher Dalglish  
Magnar Dalland  
Heather James  
James Keyte  
Charles Le Quesne  
Olivia Lelong  
Alice Lyons  
Jennifer Miller  
Rachel Morse  
Richard Mortimer  
Sarah Percival  
Stuart Robertson  
Ruth Shaffrey  
Klara Spandl  
Philip Wise

### Associate (AIFA)

Kate Bain  
Eleanor Breen  
John Brown  
Antony Brown  
Hugh Corley  
Lucie Dingwall  
Oliver Gardner  
Douglas Gordon  
Jessica Grimm  
Andrew Leonard  
John Percival  
David Sneddon  
Ian Stewart  
Lena Strid  
Stephen Townend  
Tom Wilson

### Practitioner (PIFA)

Jonathan Burton  
Kelly Clapperton  
David Fell  
Rebecca Fitzpatrick  
Andrew Francis  
Rosalind Gillis  
Maureen Kilpatrick  
Victoria Osborn  
Kate Page-Smith  
Mary Peteranna  
Alexis Rose-Deacon  
Laura Scott  
Bob Sparham

### Affiliate

Paul Bowen  
Andrew Burring  
Joanne Craig  
Jeanette Hicks  
Sorcha Ni Foghluda  
Angela Teage  
Natalie Watson  
Holly Wheeler  
Rafal Zozula

### Student

Nicola Bettley  
Andrea Cross  
Bruce Dunsmore  
Lisa Fisher  
Diana Forster  
Asuka Gamo  
Josephine Gist  
Scott Harrison  
Richard Hartis  
Karl Jones  
Matthew Kendall  
Charlotte Marinos  
Jeffrey Mikamo-White  
Bryan Moore  
Ailsing Ni Labhraí  
Zara Pryce-Maher  
Anthony Roberts  
Hayley Roberts  
Imogen Sambrook  
John Samways  
Rachel Simmons  
Timothy Southern  
Nyssa Venthem  
Robert Wallace  
Hannah White

## TRANSFERS

### Member (MIFA)

Timothy Allen  
Adam Brossler  
Judie English  
David Sabin  
Huw Sherlock

### Associate (AIFA)

Daniel Atkinson  
Nathalie Barrett  
Michael Dinwiddy  
Christopher Dyer  
George Geddes  
Nicholas Hanks  
Wesley Keir  
Andrew Peachey

### Practitioner (PIFA)

Claire Casey  
Kevin Hayward  
Guy Salkeld

## Members news

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### Patrick Ottaway MIFA 4816

Patrick Ottaway has recently moved on from York Archaeological Trust where had worked for 25 years, latterly as Head of Fieldwork. He is now managing his own consultancy, *PJO Archaeology*, which provides services both to commercial developers and academic institutions. Patrick is currently consultant to The Bristol Alliance for the Bristol Broadmead Extension and to Hammerson UK Properties for The New Shires Development in Leicester. He is writing a book on the Yorkshire region in Roman times, but also intends to spend time with his son, Edmund, born last February to wife Charmian. Contact: Patrick@pjoarchaeology.co.uk  
www.pjoarchaeology.co.uk



Patrick Ottaway

### CgMs and John Samuels Archaeological Consultants

On 11 September, CgMs Consulting acquired John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (both organisations are RAOs). All the existing staff at JSAC has transferred to CgMs, and Forbes Marsden, previously head of JSAC, has been appointed Director in charge of the business in Newark. The combination of the CgMs and JSAC teams brings the total archaeology team to 23 and has consolidated CgMs' position as the largest independent archaeological consultancy in the UK.

For further information, contact Rob Bourn (020 7832 1473 rob.bourn@cgms.co.uk) or Forbes Marsden (01636 821 727 forbes.marsden@jsac.co.uk)

### Tim Malim MIFA 1286

Tim Malim has just moved to SLR Consulting Ltd to set up a new Archaeology and Heritage Service. SLR specialises in the energy, minerals, waste management, financial, planning and development sectors. Tim will be developing a new business sector for the company and building a team of heritage staff with complementary skills based in offices across the country.

Tim was a Principal Archaeologist and Associate with Gifford from 2002 – 2006 and previously he founded and directed the Archaeological Field Unit of Cambridgeshire County Council from 1990 – 2002. During the 1980s Tim was part of the Fenland Survey and since then he has continued to conduct many research and heritage management projects in the region, focusing on prehistory and the Anglo-Saxons, and culminating in his recent publication of *Stonea and the Roman Fens* (Tempus 2005). He has also worked abroad, particularly in Peru, Chile and Sri Lanka including acting as a consultant for the Cultural Triangle World Heritage Site. Recent work has involved EIA advice for a Roman goldmine in Romania, a Conservation Management Plan for Cockersand Abbey to counter coastal erosion, interpretation panels for Cadw monuments on Anglesey, setting up a community archaeology project for Middlewich, and an excavation of Wat's Dyke in Shropshire.



Tim Malim

### Jeremy Taylor AIFA 1718

Somehow, Jeremy (Jez) Taylor was omitted from the list of IFA directors in our annual report. Of course, he does still remain a director.