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# The ARCHAEOLOGIST



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PROTECTION**

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**Heritage protection**

When this issue of TA was planned last summer the archaeological world looked flourishing and optimistic, and a new way to protect our past was a topical theme. Kenny Aitchison's report *Archaeology Labour Market Intelligence: Profiling the Profession 2007-08* had just shown that the market for archaeologists was at an all-time high and growing steadily, there was real progress towards improving pay and conditions, and we were assured that a new Heritage Bill, with input from IfA and other archaeological interests, was expected in 2009.

As articles were collected over the autumn the mood darkened. Building schemes were halted and archaeologists lost work, (today at least half our members are now seriously worried about their jobs or have already lost them), IfA's registered organisations find it impossible to plan for substantial improvements for staff benefits as the recession gets worse, and expectations for the Heritage Protection Bill to be announced in the Queen's Speech were downplayed and finally abandoned. Alongside this, and more seriously for protection of the archaeological resource on a world scale, accession to the Hague Convention has been put on hold. Now that ratification is underway in the US, as UNESCO says, the UK 'will be the only international power, and the only major combatant in the 2003 invasion of Iraq, not to have legislation under discussion to enable it to sign and ratify the 1954 (Hague)

UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict'. Given the destruction of archaeological sites and artefacts in current and recent conflicts in which we are engaged, this is a disgraceful situation to be in.

This December therefore there seem few grounds for optimism, but we are at least assured (p26-7) that English Heritage intends to implement every aspect of heritage protection (such as improved HERs) that is feasible without primary legislation, and frameworks are in place for better training and conditions for archaeologists when an economic upturn appears. Significantly too, Government has assured us that a new draft Planning Policy Statement (PPS) for the historic environment for England will be released early next year, updating PPGs 15 and 16, with similar proposals in Wales. As it is through these that some 98% of the historic environment is protected, we must fight hard to ensure that any changes strengthen not weaken heritage protection, and to maintain determined optimism that the longer-term prospects for archaeology could, just possibly, be bright.



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**Notes to contributors**

**Themes and deadlines**

Spring: New techniques for prospection, dating and identification  
deadline: 1 February 2009

**Contributions and letter/emails** are always welcome. TA is made digitally available through our website and if this raises copyright issues with any authors, artists or photographers, please notify the editor. Accessed digitally, web links are especially useful in articles, so do include these where relevant. 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



**Will we (ever) get a Heritage Protection Bill?**

Speaking at the launch of *Heritage Counts* on 30 October Andy Burnham, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, deliberately lowered expectations that a Heritage Protection Bill will form part of the next Parliamentary session. The next session, hardly surprisingly, will be dominated by legislation to support the Government's programme of tackling financial instability. However, he did point to the priority being given to a new Planning Policy Statement to combine and replace PPG 15 and 16, which he thought could deliver most of the reforms in the draft HPR Bill without primary legislation. These and similar comments provoked the following exchange in Parliament:

**Mr. Jeremy Hunt (South-West Surrey) (Con):** Will the Secretary of State confirm rumours that the heritage protection Bill has been dropped from the Queen's Speech? If that is the case, is that not the final nail in the coffin for the Government's heritage policies? We have seen lottery money plundered, the Government telling churches to turn themselves into cafés and gyms and now the denial of the vital parliamentary time that would allow the heritage sector better to look after the heritage that belongs to us all. When can we have a positive vision for our heritage sector? Is it condemned to yet more years of neglect and decline?

**Andy Burnham:** I do not accept the hon. Gentleman's criticism. In the recent spending round, English Heritage received an increase in funding. We have worked with all parties in the heritage sector to introduce the first heritage protection Bill for 30 years. That is clear evidence of the Government's commitment to the sector.... he will know that the Planning Bill will require us to bring forward a new planning policy statement on the built heritage, replacing planning policy guidance 15 and 16. We will do so shortly, and we will issue that statement for consultation. We recognise the importance of the built heritage and we are taking active steps to protect it.

**(more) Heritage at Risk**

In one useful outcome of the build-up to HPR English Heritage announced the first all-encompassing register of neglected or decaying historic treasures, and introduced new ways to save them (<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/ConWebDoc.13844>). Simon Thurley, said: 'Even in its first year, our *Heritage At Risk* project will constitute the most detailed picture ever gathered of the true state of the nation's heritage. Year on year we will be able to see how much of this heritage has been rescued and how much is still at risk.' In London, Mayor Boris Johnson said he would use this new Register to help bring London's listed buildings at risk back into use. £60 million has been earmarked for empty properties, with listed buildings identified as a priority. These include non-residential listed buildings, such as a 19th-century sailmakers and chandlers in West India Dock Road and a former workshop and engineering works in Southwark.

# FROM THE FINDS TRAY

## Portable Antiquities Scheme's future assured

The launch in November 2008 of the annual report (for 2005/06) of the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) was used by Culture Minister, Barbara Follet, to say that an independent report had come out strongly in favour of PAS. The report by Kate Clark (p52) concludes that 'PAS is generally well managed with a clear sense of direction, efficient administration and excellent reporting on outputs ... PAS appears to be well-liked, delivering genuine partnership and good value for money.' The full report can be seen at <http://www.finds.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2008/11/pas-final.pdf>. This also recognises that PAS needs more funding from all its partners.



A medieval silver gilt mount or terminal, with a man's bearded face emerging from

foliage, found in Oakley, Buckinghamshire and acquired by Buckinghamshire County Museum.

© Portable Antiquities Scheme



A 7th-century gold cross pendant from Lincolnshire, now acquired by North Lincolnshire Museum. © Portable Antiquities Scheme

## Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage

This UNESCO 2001 Convention is designed to guarantee preservation of the underwater cultural heritage through a specific protection and cooperation framework among its States Parties. On 2 October 2008 in Barbados, twenty States ratified the Convention, which will therefore come into force on 2 January 2009, with the First Meeting of States Parties of the Convention scheduled to take place in spring 2009.

## CPD STUDY PACK CLUB: Ready access to CPD resources

Any members frustrated in their professional obligations towards CPD should try the CPD Study Pack Club ([www.cpdclub.co.uk](http://www.cpdclub.co.uk)), says *Michael Heaton*. Though set up primarily for construction professionals and estate managers, much of its educational material is relevant to professional archaeology but not yet available through traditional archaeological courses. Subjects include Law (contract, tort collateral warranties etc), Contract Management, Practice Management, Health and Safety, Property Development Economics, Site Investigation etc. The club is endorsed by RICS, so it ought to be good enough for us. Membership is free but members are charged £150 for six packs, which are delivered (and returned) one at a time on a six week cycle. The club doesn't provide specifically archaeological material, but as most of the booklets are produced by the College of Estate Management at Reading University (near IfA offices), that omission could be corrected if enough sign up.

*Kate Geary*, IfA's Training & Standards co-ordinator adds – IfA members are reminded that any activity can count towards CPD if it addresses a learning need identified in their personal development plan. More information on IfA's CPD scheme, and guidance on producing a personal development plan, can be found on at <http://www.archaeologists.net/modules/icontent/index.php?page=20>.

## Cirencester Excavation Committee remembered

Cotswold Archaeology hosted a nostalgia fest in Cirencester this October to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Cirencester Excavation Committee. Alan McWhirr, Christopher Catling and Tim Darvill spoke on archaeology in the town in the '60s, '70s and '80s respectively, noting just how many of today's archaeologists got their first taste of archaeology in the town. Neil Holbrook, Chief Executive of Cotswold Archaeology, successor to CEC, talked about the transition from voluntary to professional excavation in the town, and recent discoveries.



The oldest surviving member of the Cirencester excavation committee, 'Sam' Sheppard Frere, at the 50th anniversary

celebrations, with Cotswold Archaeology trustees Carolyn Heighway and Richard Bryant.

## And more endangered sites

This time it is UNESCO that is calling on the UK Government to take urgent action to protect world heritage sites endangered by development. These include Stonehenge, Edinburgh's Old Town, Neolithic Orkney, Georgian Bath and the Tower of London. Tall new buildings in London and Bath, and failure to tackle road problems at Stonehenge put the status of these sites at risk, as does the decision in Edinburgh to site a hotel, housing and offices next to the Royal Mile. More generally, UNESCO is critical of UK's failure to protect the character and settings of world heritage sites, and 'lack of clarity' in managing conflicts between conservation and development.

## Bronze Age Review

This new free-to-access and peer-reviewed online journal is dedicated to furthering understanding of the period c. 2500 BC - 800 BC in Britain and neighbouring regions. It will publish interim excavation reports, reviews, databases and other articles. The first volume can be found at <http://www.britishmuseum.org/bronzeagereview> and includes goals and recommendations for Bronze Age research in Britain. Suggestions, comments and new chapters are invited by 31 January, and these will be used to create a research agenda for the Bronze Age in Britain, with publication by British Museum Press. To submit to subsequent issues or to find more contact the editor Ben Roberts, [broberts@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk](mailto:broberts@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk).

The Mold cape, a sample of the British Bronze Age © the British Museum



# FROM THE FINDS TRAY

## Nautical Archaeology Society 2008 Annual Conference: *encouraging access*

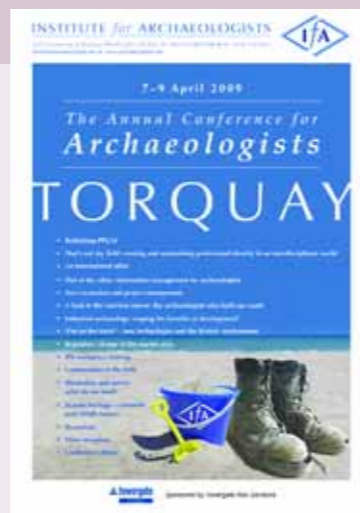
This Conference, held in November in the Historic Dockyard, Portsmouth, concentrated on ways to open up marine archaeology to a wider audience. Mark Beattie-Edwards reviewed the HLF 'Diving into History' project, Sarah Ward considered benchmarking competency and broadening access, and Nigel Nailing asked whether the Newport Ship provides access for all. Rebecca Stalker presented 'Splash!' an innovative programme for under-privileged teens, and Matthew Harpster, spoke of an NAS-inspired programme to protect the maritime heritage of Northern Cyprus. Irena Radic Rossi moved us to the Aegean to showcase work with protective cages which give *in situ* protection in Croatia, while David Blackman presented a way of visualising an 'Ancient Dockyard in Sicily'. Gordon Le Pard presented the global HLF Big Anchor Project, Philip Robertson the 'Sound of Mull Archaeological Project', Mark Holley introduced new methods of rapid field survey for submerged sites in the Great Lakes, and Mike Williams gave a wonderful overview of the M2 Submarine Anniversary Project.

NAS 2009 is planned for the 6 to 8 November at the Historic Dockyard, Portsmouth.  
*Sarah Ward*



## IfA Annual Conference for Archaeologists, 7-9 April 2009

Our 2009 annual conference will be held at the Riviera International Centre in Torquay. There will be the usual range of informative and topical sessions including heritage protection reform, the PPS and circular, good practice guidance, the Marine Bill, community archaeology, training and new technologies. Excursions and social events include Devon manor houses and landscapes, Torre Abbey and Torquay, a wine reception in Torre Abbey and a social BBQ. The provisional programme and booking form can be downloaded from the website or requested from the IfA office.



## Archaeology and development. A good practice guide to managing risk and maximising benefit

B Barber, J Carver, P Hinton, T Nixon 2008 £80

The Construction Industry Research and Information Association (CIRIA) has just published this manual for its members. Guidelines cover the organisation of UK archaeology, relevant legislation, and how archaeological investigation can be integrated into development projects. It strongly promotes IfA Registered Organisations. The text reflects current law and planning guidance, though it flags up proposed changes under HPR. A list of contents can be found at [ciria.org/acatalog/C672.html](http://ciria.org/acatalog/C672.html), for those unwilling to spend £80.

# VIEW *from* the CHAIR

Gerry Wait

This is one of the most exciting times in the IfA's history – what with Heritage Protection Reform, local government reorganisation, the movement to modernise and broaden the Institute to reflect the breadth of work our members do, and issues of accreditation. On a broader canvas our profession must also examine the pressures and threats of an economic recession, the effects of which we're only just beginning to witness. It may be a cliché, but to be asked to take a leadership role at a time like this is both a great compliment as well as a humbling experience. However, the Council and the Executive Committee are full of people on whom I – and the Institute and its members – can rely.

We have just passed our AGM, when we voted overwhelmingly to make important changes to our Institute. The least significant change is in our name, where we substituted 'for' in place of 'Field', retaining the IfA or IfA acronym, but even this is deceptive. Underlying it is a fundamental change in how we view ourselves and how we intend to act. We are not losing sight of the importance of field archaeology, but we are giving precedence to the unifying concept of the historic environment. Increasingly our members are not *field* archaeologists so much as archaeologists and heritage professionals whose work spans many disciplines. In recognising this diversity and the opportunity it gives us to have a political voice, we are taking the first steps towards aligning IfA as a premier professional institute and consultee.

To support this we have updated nearly all of our Institute's core documents, significantly the criteria for membership and registration, and our codes and standards.

Does this matter? Yes, to every one of us, and to all other archaeologists working in the UK. Our internal revolution coincided with chances to be involved in drafting fundamental heritage legislation and its supporting PPS, planning circular and guidance. Even if the Heritage Protection Reform Bill did not materialise this year as expected, the importance of getting these documents right cannot be overstated –



Gerry in Valetta, September 2008

*It may be a cliché, but to be asked to take a leadership role at a time like this is both a great compliment as well as a humbling experience.*

our livelihoods may depend upon it. They will in any case drive the way that Government works, and clauses in the PPS will reverberate for good or ill in the world of developer-led archaeology.

This also gives the opportunity to advance self-regulation – the jargon for this is erecting 'barriers to entry for professional practice'. What it really means is using membership in the Institute – and the corporate quality assurance badge of Registered Organisation – as a basic requirement for undertaking work (where appropriate) arising through the planning process. This is an important first step in levelling the commercial/competitive playing field, allowing IfA ROs to raise the standard and value of archaeological work and to set more appropriate wages and terms and conditions. This is by no means the end of the changes. The Heritage Bill may not be in the next parliament, but creating the PPS and Guidance – arguably more important to many of us – will continue apace. IfA's advocacy role must therefore continue.

We are also facing a serious economic situation, with all the threats that a recession brings. The Institute will be looking carefully at what we can do to support our members, including how we promote the Registered Organisation scheme, balancing membership subscriptions in a period of economic turmoil, offering and promoting training, and providing other benefits.

**Gerry Wait**  
Chair, IfA

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# Survey results:

## Members' views on Continuing Professional Development

Members will remember that during the summer they were canvassed for views on Continuing Professional Development (CPD) as part of a project run by the Professional Associations Research Network (PARN). The research allows us to compare our responses with 6000 respondents from 24 participating professional associations. Participants were self-selecting, meaning that responses probably came from those with strong opinions, so we were cautiously pleased to learn that IfA members generally feel positive about the concept of CPD, and that the requirements of the Institute are important drivers in focusing their participation.

The views expressed will help us to develop IfA's approach. Currently, our system is 'input-based' – members are recommended to accumulate 50 hours of CPD time over any two year period. Only 8% thought this the best approach, 33% preferring an output-based system – valuing the *results* of CPD rather than hours spent at it – and 55% would like a combination system. Worryingly, 15% stated that they had undertaken no CPD at all in the last 12 months, though this may reflect lack of recognition of the range of activities that can contribute. The biggest motivators are to improve performance in current roles and a sense of professional duty – exactly the sentiment of IfA's *Code of conduct* and our current approach.

Kenneth Aitchison & Kate Geary

Typically, IfA members' employers will contribute to the costs of CPD only if it meets the needs of the employer as well as those of the individual – and while two thirds of respondents told us that their employer does contribute, most (53%) told us that they also contribute personally, suggesting that a shared sense of responsibility is the norm. The support of employers in identifying training needs and development opportunities through the appraisal or development review system is invaluable and IfA Registered Organisations are strongly encouraged to help in this way. Responses also provided helpful data about members' use of online planning and recording tools. The options for doing this are currently quite limited, but we hope to offer more in the future.

In 2009 IfA will be moving towards a system whereby members will need to demonstrate they are keeping their skills up to date (see Roger White and Kenneth Aitchison, *TA* 67), and results of this survey will be useful in refining IfA's systems for delivering this goal. The transition will involve a robust communications strategy. Even though at the time of the survey eight of the previous nine issues of *TA* contained articles or references to CPD, it was disappointing to receive some replies which indicated that there is still confusion about CPD and its value.

We would like to thank both PARN for their work, and the 196 members who took the time and effort to reply to the survey. The full report is available on IfA's website.

**Kenneth Aitchison**

IfA Head of Projects and Professional Development

**Kate Geary**

IfA Training and Standards Coordinator

# PAY, QUALITY *and the role of*

*As part of the recent consultation on IfA minimum salaries, arising from the project to benchmark archaeological salaries against those in comparator industries, some respondents questioned whether IfA should really be seeking to influence pay and conditions across the sector. Some felt this brought it too close to a trade union role while others felt that pay was an area governed by market forces that we should leave well alone. Yet IfA is not alone in setting recommended minimum salaries. ICON, the Museums Association, CILIP (the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals) and the Society of Archivists all make similar recommendations, feeling that it is appropriate to influence pay because of the impact that low pay has on standards and quality of work.*

This is not to suggest that the adage 'you pay peanuts, you get monkeys' is true. Archaeologists, in common with conservators, archivists and museum staff, are mostly skilled, dedicated people, motivated by a love of their discipline. However, every year the industry loses highly competent, experienced staff who reluctantly decide that they can no longer afford to pursue their chosen career. The fact that they are replaced with less experienced staff inevitably leads to concerns about quality of work. It is hard to quantify this loss, but approximately 40% of people who have left IfA since we started collecting data on reasons for leaving in 2006 gave as their reason that they are also leaving archaeology. This loss of experience is illustrated clearly in the difficulties many organisations face in recruiting for senior and specialist roles.

It's not just about pay. Access to training and opportunities for career development are also important factors in retention of staff. Lack of investment in training for junior or temporary site staff suggests that they are not valued, a concern repeated by many candidates interviewed for workplace learning placements. Yet, alongside this are complaints by employers that archaeology graduates are underprepared for contract archaeology and lack essential skills. Ironically, short-term



Kate Geary

contracts mean that some employers see little point in investing in training or development for these new graduates. Unlike archaeology, it seems, junior site staff are an infinite and renewable resource, refreshed each year.

But this may not be the case much longer. According to the latest labour market intelligence figures, (Aitchison & Edwards 2008 Profiling the Profession 2007/08, with data collected just before the current economic downturn), numbers employed in archaeology grew by 29% between 1997-98 and 2002-03 and by 20% between 2002-03 and 2007-08. At the same time, numbers studying archaeology peaked in 2006-07 and have since declined. A new generation of students with different priorities and expectations, coupled with the potential for tuition fees to rise further, may mean that this trend will continue. Graduates, quite reasonably, expect that their investment in gaining academic qualifications will result in a job with opportunities for progression and career development. If archaeology can't offer them that, it is likely that they will look elsewhere.

It might seem wholly inappropriate to be talking about better pay, conditions and opportunities for progression at a time when many organisations are struggling and when redundancies are inevitable. In the short term, the picture is likely to get very gloomy indeed. But a short-term crisis doesn't mean that we can forget about development needs in the medium and long term. We must stop accepting the loss of skilled archaeologists as inevitable and deal with the reasons behind it, complex and difficult though they may be, in a coherent and unified way once and for all.

**Kate Geary**

Training & Standards Co-ordinator

# Disability

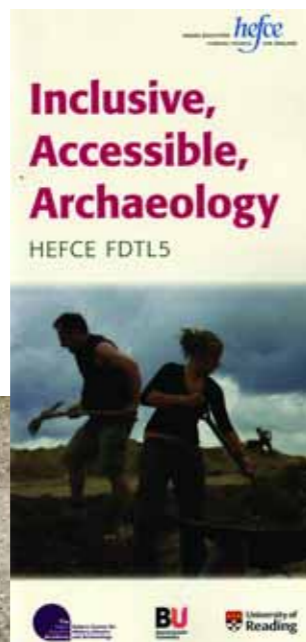
## and the archaeological profession

### – call for participants

Tim Phillips

The recession is proving hard for many people and the number of jobs being advertised has been decreasing since last summer. With fewer jobs available, potential employees find themselves in a more competitive environment, and for an archaeologist carrying the tag 'disabled' the situation can be even more difficult.

Until recently, little was known about the extent and nature of disability within archaeology. The *Inclusive, Accessible, Archaeology* (IAA) project (see <http://www.britarch.info/accessible/>) looked at the issues surrounding disability and archaeology in Higher Education, especially fieldwork training. The project found that around 14% of undergraduate Archaeology students have some form of recognised disability, highly significant as the vast majority of people working in archaeology have a



Many disabilities are not easily recognisable. This photograph of one of the volunteers on the IAA project is of a student excavating on site; she has diabetes and a visual impairment, but you would not know that just by looking at this image

first degree in the subject. The IAA project also found that a significant number of archaeologists have a recognised disability and are working successfully within the profession. This is not surprising, as many so-called 'disabilities' are not visible or easily recognisable. Indeed, in talking to working archaeologists, it appeared to the IAA project team that nearly everyone knew or had worked with somebody with some form of disability.

On the back of the success of the IAA project, English Heritage has commissioned the Department of Archaeology at the University of Reading to carry out another project looking at disability within the archaeological profession. This has been funded by a small grant through HEAP and is being carried out in close consultation with the IfA as a major stakeholder. The brief is to produce good practice guidelines for the employment of disabled archaeologists in the profession. These are to be based on the good practices already being followed by employers and employees. The guidelines will be published as an IfA Professional Paper.

The project team is now looking for participants willing to tell their story, whether this be positive or negative. We would therefore be very eager to talk to anyone who has had experiences of disability within archaeology, either at a personal level or with the people they have worked alongside or supervised. All the information will be used anonymously and presented in such a way that no individual or organisation can be identified. The participants will also be invited to comment on the draft of the guidelines.

If you are interested in participating in the project and might be willing to tell your story, please contact [t.j.phillips@reading.ac.uk](mailto:t.j.phillips@reading.ac.uk), tel. 0118 3788293

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## Building Foundations – *a geotechnical standard*

Frigga Kruse

In 1999 the British Standards Institute (BSI) published BS 5930:1999 *Code of Practice for Site Investigation*, which outlined the terminology and system for describing and classifying soils for engineering purposes. Recently, this was replaced by BS EN 1997-2:2007, *Eurocode 7 Geotechnical Design. Ground Investigation and Testing*, and consequently the structural national codes we work with will be withdrawn by March 2010.

Since 1999, the geotechnical profession used a national standard for soil description which is becoming obsolete before archaeologists got around to lobbying for changes that would allow more archaeologically significant information to be logged, such as spot-dating finds, organic content, waterlogging and the nature of context boundaries.

In light of the new Eurocodes being implemented by institutions of which the BSI is only one, hesitation is likely to have cost archaeologists their chance to suggest aforementioned changes at an overseable, national level. Instead, commercial archaeologists should collectively be looking to adopt BS EN 1997-2:2007, or more simply, Eurocode 7, which is catching on fast. It would enhance our knowledge of the civil engineering dawn across Europe and carve out a niche for ourselves in which we not only speak



A typical soil profile exposure in geotechnical trial pits – why not log archaeology at the same time?

## *for soil description*

a common language with the geotechnical and civil engineers with whom we have contact but we would also make ourselves more employable as geotechnical personnel (who usually work under better conditions for greater pay).

In the spirit of embracing multidisciplinary approaches as well as progressing our own profession we should take another look at our most basic medium, the soil, and the feasibility of adopting the existing standard for its description. We would then have the possibility of logging soil for engineering purposes and yet include information vital to the archaeologist: after the geotechnical full-stop there has always been a space for additional information at no extra cost.

Let us build the proverbial foundation to our profession not by finding faults with the system and demanding change, but by embracing the system, speaking the lingo, applying it in site investigations, and presenting workable examples. We can then lobby for realistic alterations when the time is right and archaeology gains its deserved recognition amongst site investigation professions.

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# Outsourcing:

## Cambridgeshire's archaeological field unit goes west

Adrian Tindall

*Since the advent of contract archaeology local authorities have considered transferring their archaeological units to an external provider ('outsourcing') as a way of reconciling curatorial and contractual roles. This has rarely if ever been successfully carried out, yet in July 2008 Cambridgeshire County Council's archaeological field unit, CAM ARC, became Oxford Archaeology (East). This marked the end of a long and complex process which, because no guidance existed, proved a learning experience for all.*

### Respected RO

The field unit had operated as a trading unit of the County Council since the early 1990s, competing for development-led contracts in eastern England. A medium-sized Registered Organisation with a turnover of around £2m a year, it was successful and respected. In 2006, it relocated to customised leasehold premises and was re-branded as CAM ARC.

Arguments for outsourcing were simple. It operated in one of the most competitive archaeological environments in the UK, its market share in Cambridgeshire had fallen significantly, and it was increasingly competing for work elsewhere. Its commercial contracts with the County Council

represented only a fraction of its work, while local government bureaucracy caused frustration and delay, with corporate obligations occupying one third of staff time. Outsourcing also offered commercial freedom to compete more successfully, and it removed risk from the local authority.

### Market testing

In February 2007 market testing of potential partners and informal consultation of staff and unions began. A notice and briefing document in the Official Journal of the European Union invited interest from Registered Organisations, bringing sixteen responses that included universities, other units, multidisciplinary consultancies, and an EU environmental agency. Discussions with a representative sample identified the significant issues and emphasised the high regard in which CAM ARC was held. Inevitably, there was discussion within the profession, sometimes ill-informed. For example, this was not a cost-cutting exercise – CAM ARC received no subsidy and outsourcing would not lead to savings. The ritual spectre of the 'Tesco Unit' was also raised, though quite how working for an organisation of 15,000 non-archaeologists was professionally preferable to working for one of 300 archaeologists was never explained.

Following briefings to staff and the Joint Consultation and Negotiating Group of relevant unions a questionnaire invited informal views. Feedback from staff was generally open-minded and constructive. The vast majority preferred a Registered Organisation, and most preferred a public or not-for-profit organisation to a private sector partner. Whilst there was no clear mandate for change, there was no overwhelming resistance to it. A Programme Board was set up to provide strategic direction and political management, a Project Team to implement the process, and a Staff Group to represent staff and unions. A Shared Folder provided access to project documents, a TUPE question and answer log, and a message board for staff views. A Pre-Qualification Questionnaire was issued to ROs which had expressed an interest, requesting further information about the scale and nature of their business, their 'cultural fit' with CAM ARC and their vision for its future.



### Consultation and selection

The eight outline tenders were independently scored against a weighted matrix and brought together to create % scores. Three shortlisted organisations were invited to submit more detailed proposals. One withdrew, and two made presentations to staff and the Programme Board. Their brief covered cultural and employment issues such as job security and mobility, project ownership and research interests. After questions, staff completed feedback sheets which were collated for the Programme Board in preparation for the second round of presentation and interview, which covered areas such as business fit, financial viability, legal issues, and employment terms.

### Preferred bidder

Following a supplementary questionnaire to clarify financial and other issues, the Programme Board unanimously agreed to recommend Oxford Archaeology (OA) as its preferred bidder, in accordance with the clear preference of staff. This recommendation was formally approved by the County Council's Cabinet in January and by OA's Board of Trustees in March 2008.

Transfer had to be cost-neutral, but obligations included redundancy and pension liabilities, leasehold commitments, and outstanding post-excavation and publication costs. To offset these, a framework agreement awarded OA all archaeological work on County Council developments for four years after transfer – a normal local government practice following an open tender process.

### Legal processes and documents

The due diligence and TUPE transfer process was carried out by a Project Team of representatives from finance, HR, Unison, payroll, pensions, property, facilities management, IT, public relations, and legal services. This long and complex process included the close down and transfer of financial accounts, collation and provision of HR information, reassignment of property leases and transfer of IT systems (despite the



best efforts of the network provider). Many legal documents had to be prepared – transfer agreement and disclosures, framework agreement and standard conditions, pension admission agreement, and a service level agreement covering outreach and learning. Transfer finally took place on 1 July.

### Comfort and optimism

Success was due to various reasons. Staff and unions were fully engaged from the outset, and Unison was helpful and constructive, commending the openness of the process – indeed, we were invited to make a joint presentation to an EU employer and trade union conference on Reforming Public Services. It had the support of politicians and senior managers, providing a smooth political passage and freedom to engage and negotiate with potential partners. It was well resourced, with a dedicated Project Manager and a strong Programme Board and Project Team, with the services of a specialist procurement consultant and dedicated business support. And the timescale was ambitious but realistic. Although it took over 18 months to complete (the wheels of local government grind slow), the project maintained its momentum and kept to a minimum uncertainty for staff and disruption of business. Finally, the professional reputation of OA, and its obvious cultural fit with CAM ARC ensured that staff felt comfortable and optimistic.

The transfer marks a new era, in which we hope the business will prosper and its reputation for promoting the research and understanding of archaeology in Cambridgeshire and the east of England will develop yet further.

FAR LEFT  
(left to right) Chris Gosden, Chair Board of Trustees, Oxford Archaeology, Paul Spoerry, ex-manager of CAM ARC now Head of Oxford Archaeology East, and David Jennings, Chief Executive, Oxford Archaeology. Photograph: James Fairbairn

LEFT  
Some of who they are getting – ex-CAM ARC, left to right, Richard Mortimer, Toby Gane, Aileen Connor, James Drummond Murray, Elizabeth Popescu, Steve Macaulay, Paul Spoerry, Mark Hinman. Photograph: James Fairbairn

The changing face of the field unit from AFU (top left) to CAM ARC (top right) and Oxford Archaeology East (bottom), with the common theme of a brooch from Barrington Anglo-Saxon cemetery



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# Protection and understanding through earthwork survey – a purely British practice?



Kate  
Page-Smith

*With a tradition stretching back over 300 years, analytical earthwork survey and investigation has had a monumental impact upon archaeological research in Great Britain. Increasing interest and international recognition of landscape archaeology could make this valuable and versatile specialism a cornerstone of archaeological methodology. Yet, despite continued encouragement from English Heritage and Welsh and Scottish Royal Commissions, the discipline has remained isolated, with little international communication and discussion. It even appears that analytical earthwork survey is fundamentally a British technique.*

Eager to dispel this myth, at the 2007 European Association of Archaeologists conference in Zadar, Croatia, I mustered speakers from Ireland, Sweden, the Netherlands, Spain and the USA as well as England for a session on 'Investigating Field Survey'. Mark Bowden from English Heritage, Paul Belford from Ironbridge Archaeology and Margaret Gowen from Margaret Gowen & Co Ltd all provided excellent insights into the history and current condition of analytical earthwork survey, but other speakers (perhaps because the title was too vague) talked about walkover survey or landscape archaeology in general. Disappointingly, this reaffirmed the impression that analytical earthwork survey is indeed a British technique.

I believe that other countries *have* undertaken this earthwork survey as we know it, but varied terminology makes it difficult to distinguish. Even within English Heritage, it may be referred to as

landscape investigation, analytical survey and investigation, earthwork survey, archaeological survey, archaeological investigation etc. Perhaps it is terminology that has hindered creation of a shared identity.

Most developer-funded work is focused on individual sites and there is rarely the opportunity to explore the landscape setting. Overcoming this requires input from curatorial archaeologists, as mentioned by Paul Belford at EAA and further emphasised by Mark Bowden at the 2008 IfA conference in Swansea. Presently there are few opportunities for curators to insist upon analytical earthwork survey, so it could even become extinct in England, despite the attempts by English Heritage and IfA to train EPPICs in the discipline. These schemes provide excellent transferable skills; however the job opportunities are limited.

It is sad that one of the original methods of archaeology seems to be dying out. The multi-disciplinary approach provides greater understanding of sites and their landscapes, and offers comprehensive and cost-effective evaluation for projects. The EAA session demonstrated great international interest, and if this was developed this would enhance its status in Britain. This is certainly something to strive for, and I hope this is a catalyst for the successful return of analytical earthwork survey to the forefront of archaeological research.

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## HERITAGE PROTECTION REFORM – AN ENGLISH HERITAGE OVERVIEW

Sarah Buckingham

# W

hat is Heritage Protection Reform? As a phenomenon that has been with us for eight years it should need no introduction, but it is worth recapping why we are where we are today. Heritage Protection Review – as it originally was – originated in response to sectoral concerns as a 'once in a generation opportunity' to look at systems for designating and managing the historic environment with fresh eyes, with the intention to

**review** systems that have been in operation for many years – 120 years in the case of protection of ancient monuments

**consolidate** piecemeal developments that have built up to a complex, sometimes inconsistent, system; while maintaining robust protection of what is special

**recalibrate** our measures, to re-align them with contemporary reality, addressing issues such as sustainability and community involvement. Protection and management of the historic environment must not be seen as a quirky or antiquated regulatory backwater; it must sit within the mainstream of environmental management.

English Heritage is working with Government and the historic environment sector to ensure that Heritage Protection Reform is implemented as an essential component of modernised approaches to managing the historic environment – 'Constructive Conservation'. We see this reform as based equally on three legs

**culture change** necessary to manage the historic environment in an integrated and constructive way through the reformed system, to be achieved through training and practical project work, embracing new approaches to secure wider engagement and involvement

**components of reform**, including a Heritage Protection Act, a Planning Policy Statement for the Historic Environment, and a unified list of designated heritage assets as the key enablers of the new approach

**adequate support** for the reformed system, politically, financially and through its operation by suitably skilled practitioners, with English Heritage leading and enabling informed debate on and advocacy for resourcing and capacity within the sector.

Experience of implementing change has shown that thoroughgoing reform is an incremental process, to be achieved step by step over several years. Rachael McMillan (p18) sets out the background to reform and charts the path taken so far – but we anticipate a further five to ten years activity before all the pieces are finally in place.

### Sarah Buckingham

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Kenilworth Castle. English Heritage at its best combines programmes to increase understanding, protect historic fabric and character, and provide public enjoyment. These aspirations should apply too to assets with less obvious appeal. Photograph: English Heritage





# IfA, the Heritage Protection Bill and planning guidance

Peter Hinton

This article is probably out of date and possibly wrong. Your editor keeps as short a lead-in time as possible for *TA*, but this still tends to overlap with important developments. Now being a time of great uncertainty, the Bill has been overtaken by larger political developments, leaving the sector to drive forward reforms on a more piecemeal basis. Nevertheless, many of the processes stimulated by the Bill will proceed, as EH colleagues explain in this *TA*, so it is helpful for members to see how IfA is involved.

The development of the draft Bill and planning guidance has kept your institute on its toes over the last year or so, and a great deal of Council and staff time has been spent on advocacy, advice and occasionally argument about the draft Bill and related documents. Mostly we have worked through The Archaeology Forum (TAF) to ensure the sector is presented consistently, but when necessary have acted independently (see <http://www.archaeologists.net/modules/icontent/index.php?page=217>). More importantly, on most issues we have been ahead of the consultation, influencing drafts before they appear.

## The Bill

- provides unified registers of all heritage assets in England and Wales
- devolves responsibility for consents to local authorities
- requires local authorities to maintain or have access to a Historic Environment Record
- abolishes the need for separate Conservation Area consent
- permits Heritage Protection Agreements between owners, local authorities and EH/Welsh Ministers to govern the management of assets and avoid repeat consent applications
- plugs important loopholes in Conservation Area protection
- avoids future class consents permitting cultivation of protected monuments
- extends the range of maritime resources that can be protected
- provides interim protection for sites and structures being considered for designation
- implements the 1954 Hague Convention by indicating how the UK will protect heritage abroad during armed conflict and by indicating assets to be protected at home

## Planning guidance

- provides the framework for managing the 95-98% of the historic environment in England and Wales not covered by the Bill
- levers in c £180m of heritage research, mainly from the private sector (2007 figures)
- funds 58% of archaeological posts in the UK (2007 figures)

## So far, either through TAF or on its own, IfA has

- staged meetings, seminars and conference events to sound out membership views
- contributed to policy documents
- participated in working parties on local authority delivery
- contributed to workshops and private meetings with DCMS, Cadw and English Heritage
- commented on the draft White Paper, responded to the published White Paper and commented on the draft Bill
- fed into draft circulars and guidance that support the Bill
- provided written evidence to the House of Commons Culture, Media and Sport Committee, which conducted pre-legislative scrutiny on the Bill
- given oral evidence on behalf of TAF to the Committee's Inquiry
- written to the Secretary of State and the Welsh Minister on the White Paper and to the English Minister on the CMS committee report clarifying our position and emphasising our support
- provided briefings to APPAG on the importance of the Bill and on areas of potential concern
- provided a voice for members to Government and the heritage agencies

As ever with such advocacy, there is a mixture of public statements on the record, briefing behind the scenes and coordinated choreography. Getting the right mix can be difficult when positions change unexpectedly, or when a culture stands in the way of creative solutions. Throughout, IfA has been supportive and constructive – we want positive responses to our suggestions, not defences against criticism – though making it equally clear that our support cannot be unconditional while so many areas remain to be clarified or improved.

Time will tell how successful this approach has been. We know our contributions have improved some areas of policy, and our evolution into a more broad-based institute at the AGM can only strengthen us. IfA has never before had the level of influence and respect in Government that it has now. And that's just as well: while much of the guidance, including the all-important Planning Policy Statement for England and revised planning guidance documents for Wales, remains unseen, the Institute must retain room to manoeuvre and the leverage to effect further improvements.

## At the time of writing the key issues to sort out remain

- confirming that the PPS adequately covers all aspects of the historic environment including artefact scatters and palaeoenvironmental deposits
- ensuring that the PPS/circular enables local authorities to specify opportunities for public participation and to provide public benefit including provisions for storage, conservation and display of artefacts and archives in museums and other appropriate depositories, and for improved standards of publication and dissemination of results
- including in the PPS/circular mechanisms to enable use of the IfA registered organisation scheme to address deterrents to good practice
- addressing the failure to notify archaeological authorities of destructive works outside the planning process, as in the (to be abolished) 1979 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act
- removing class consents that allow protected sites to be ploughed – a problem that would not be replicated for future designations but will remain a threat to current scheduled sites
- working through the implications of changing the criterion for protection from national importance to 'special archaeological interest'
- making sure that local authority historic environment services not only maintain a Historic Environment Record, but are provided with adequate skilled staff, and engage in strategic planning, education and outreach as well as development control

Your institute will continue to work hard with its TAF colleagues to keep these issues firmly on the governmental radar.

## Peter Hinton

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# HPR

## Heritage Protection Reform:

### a brief history

Rachael McMillan

**HPR** was conceived in 2000 with the publication of *Power of Place*. At the behest of Government, this reviewed all policies relating to the historic environment and recommended action points for Government, the sector and local authorities. In return, Government committed itself to reviewing current legislation governing the historic environment, through *A Force for our Future* (2001).

#### • Consultations

Work then began in earnest, with wide ranging consultations that involved local authorities, amenity groups, developers, the public, archaeologists, architects and academics. The result was *Protecting our historic environment: Making the system work better* (July 2003). Suggestions for reform were made under the headings *Simplifying; Openness; Flexibility* and *Rigour*. Pilot projects were set up to test recommendations made in the initial consultation paper, and their results were fed into a White Paper. Parallel reviews on marine and ecclesiastical systems also came up with recommendations to align these within the overall HPR programme.

#### • White Paper

DCMS' decision report, *Review of Heritage Protection: the way forward* (June 2004), highlighted

changes that could be made without primary legislation. These included handing the listing process over from DCMS to English Heritage, which occurred from April 2005 (although decisions on whether to list or not still rest with the Secretary of State). Refinements were made to the decision report, culminating in the White Paper *Heritage Protection for the 21st Century* (March 2007). Recommendations were outlined that would pave the way for a Bill to be introduced to Parliament, setting out a reformed system. Alongside the White Paper a circular was issued to replace section 6 of PPG15 and to revise the principles of selection for listing buildings. New selection guides were published ([www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show.nav.8833](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show.nav.8833)).

#### • Draft Bill

The draft Heritage Protection Bill, published April 2008, was the culmination of collaborative work between DCMS, English Heritage and the sector. The Bill highlights the tenets of HPR – partnership, openness, flexibility and simplification of the system to ensure it responds to current and future needs of the historic environment. The principles of HPR can now be embedded throughout the historic environment.

Depending on Government legislative priorities, there will be more documents and consultations to announce in 2009.

The following timeline provides further background information for exploring the draft Heritage Protection Bill.

#### HPR TIMELINE

##### 2000 English Heritage publishes

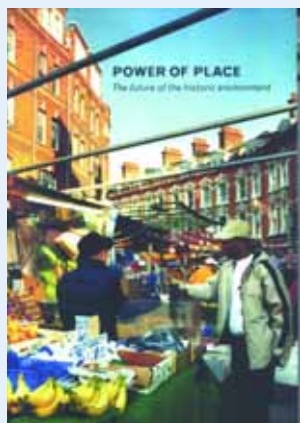
*A Power of Place*  
<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/ConWebDoc.42>

##### 2001 Government publishes

*A Force for our Future*

##### 2003 Government publishes

*Protecting our historic environment: Making the system work better*  
<http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/consultation/ReviewHPR.pdf>  
Historic Environment Records: benchmarks for good practice (consultation)  
[http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference\\_library/consultations/1166.aspx](http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/consultations/1166.aspx)



##### 2004 Government publishes

*Review of heritage protection: the way forward*  
<http://www.culture.gov.uk/images/publications/reviewofheritageprotection.pdf>  
*The future of Ecclesiastical Exemption*  
*Protecting our marine historic environment: making the system work better*  
[http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference\\_library/consultations/1101.aspx](http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/consultations/1101.aspx)  
**English Heritage publishes**  
*a Review of the National Monuments Record*

##### 2005 Government publishes

*Protecting our marine historic environment – making the system work better* (Analysis of responses)  
[http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference\\_library/consultations/1101.aspx](http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/consultations/1101.aspx)  
*Ecclesiastical Exemption: the way forward*  
[http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference\\_library/publications/3748.aspx](http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/publications/3748.aspx)  
*Revisions to Principles of Selection for listing buildings: Planning Policy Guidance Note 15* (consultation)  
[http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference\\_library/consultations/1182.aspx](http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/consultations/1182.aspx)

##### 2006 Government publishes

*Heritage Protection Review – Assessment of eight pilot projects*  
[http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference\\_library/consultations/1156.aspx](http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/consultations/1156.aspx)  
English Heritage's *Conservation Bulletin, Issue 52* (Summer 2006) is entirely devoted to HPR

##### 2007 Government publishes

The White Paper, *Heritage Protection for the 21st Century*  
Circular 01/2007 to replace Section 6 of current PPG15 with revised Principles of Selection  
*New principles of selection for listing buildings: an analysis of consultation responses*  
*Heritage Protection for the 21st Century: An analysis of consultation responses*  
*Historic Environment Local Delivery (consolidated report) by Atkins*  
(All documents can be viewed at: [http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference\\_library/consultations/1156.aspx](http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/consultations/1156.aspx))  
**English Heritage publishes** a series of building selection guides on its website  
<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.8833>

##### 2008 Government publishes

The draft Heritage Protection Bill  
Additional clauses and Explanatory Notes for the draft Bill on Conservation Areas  
Guidance and draft Exemption Order for Ecclesiastical Exemption  
Guidance on Historic Environment Records  
Select Committee Report on the draft Bill and Government response  
(All documents can be viewed at: [http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference\\_library/publications/5075.aspx](http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/publications/5075.aspx))  
**English Heritage publishes**  
*A Commentary on the draft Bill*  
[http://www.englishheritage.org.uk/upload/pdf/English\\_Heritage\\_Commentary\\_on\\_the\\_Heritage\\_Protection\\_Bill2.pdf](http://www.englishheritage.org.uk/upload/pdf/English_Heritage_Commentary_on_the_Heritage_Protection_Bill2.pdf)

Other useful websites include  
Historic Environment Local Management ([www.helm.org.uk](http://www.helm.org.uk))  
Details of HPR related training, guidance and case studies.  
Heritage Gateway ([www.heritagegateway.org.uk](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk))  
A single point of access to historic environment records across England.

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HPR



The 2007 Heritage Protection White Paper expressed amongst other intentions the aim of Government to 'improve designation by involving the public in decisions about what is protected and how.' Since the Monument Protection Programme (MPP) stopped recommending designations, English Heritage has focused almost exclusively on responding to requests for spot-designation, mainly in respect of buildings. We need now to re-shape our designation activity to be more proactive, to achieve wider public engagement and to return to looking at assets across the range, with renewed attention for archaeology and parks and gardens. This programme, Strategic Designation, is a key element of Heritage Protection Reform.

In order to make informed and balanced choices about what to protect English Heritage needs to consider aspects of heritage that may be under-protected at present and which may be of special interest. We must move from reactive operations to a strategic programme, matching resources with agreed priorities. The new designation system will place stronger emphasis on thematic programmes rather than on individual designation requests.

To ensure wider public engagement, Government has asked English Heritage to start consultations early in 2009. The sector and public will be consulted on topics that span the entire historic environment, from prehistory to post-war and marine environments. The final programme of strategic designation is currently scheduled to start in July 2009, after which there will be annual reviews and evaluation of priorities to ensure designations remain relevant and address emerging issues.

To inform this process we are auditing past programmes undertaken by the former Listing, MPP and Parks and Gardens teams to assess how far they progressed and their fitness for current approaches. As part of the exercise, traditionally socially excluded

groups will also be approached for views on what should be protected.

The strategic programme is a good opportunity to re-engage with archaeological designation and address current imbalances. We will also look at designation anomalies, to prepare for the unified register. This includes issues like dual designation, where assets are currently both scheduled and listed, and a review of Old County Number schedulings to allow for transfer onto the new database. We are also trialling Defined Area Survey projects where discrete areas under redevelopment pressure are being assessed, as part of the shift towards a more proactive approach.

Strategic designation will be the main driver for embedding principles of HPR within the designation system, encouraging openness, clarity and opportunities for wide public engagement that will raise the profile of the historic environment and contribute to its better management.

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ABOVE  
A new type of listed site – Orford Ness, Former Atomic Weapons Research Establishment, Suffolk. Photograph: Steve Cole  
© English Heritage

## TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING IN THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Paul Jeffery

English Heritage is developing a range of ways to work with partners across the sector and beyond to deliver and support development of skills and understanding. These include using the successful Historic Environment Local Management (HELM) brand to deliver courses and online information packages. The first five HPR events under the HELM umbrella deal with how management agreements through Heritage Partnership Agreements can be developed and operated, and the first event, aimed at local authority conservation officers and archaeologists was hosted by the University of East Anglia (a pilot site). A further four are planned for early 2009 (programme below). Events in 2009/10 will include historic environment records, the role of local designation and models for integrated historic environment services.

We are also developing an internal training programme. Our Heritage Protection Department core training for advisers now includes mentoring and job shadowing, supported by a nine-day series of courses on

- H&S awareness for lone workers in the historic environment (1 day)
- understanding designation (2 days)
- understanding archaeology for designation (2 days)
- understanding buildings for designation (2 days)
- understanding landscapes for designation (2 days)

This programme has become the core of the new Historic Environment Trainee scheme and has informed the content of courses available through the OUDCE programme. Elements of these courses and more will be developed for other staff in EH and across the sector, and will include E-Learning packages.

Further outreach for 2009/2010 will help local authorities and amenity and voluntary sector groups (including local archaeological societies) to develop projects that enhance local knowledge and understanding of the historic environment. This will include enhancing the content and presentation of historic environment records.

Further details will be made available through HELM and EH websites as the programme develops.

During the last year there has been much discussion about the staff and skills available to manage the historic environment. The debate mainly related to perceived existing shortfalls, but of more direct relevance are additional demands that reform of the system will place on both numbers and skills of staff, primarily in local planning authorities, where additional responsibilities will sit. DCMS has repeatedly stated that Government will fund any additional burdens on local authorities resulting from the changes, but pilot projects and studies of best practice within various local models indicate that most reforms can be accommodated by re-allocating existing resources and by a clearer and more effective system of managing casework.



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Explaining the benefits of managing heritage assets at UEA through a management agreement to local authority delegates.  
© Jane Driscoll, English Heritage, 2008

HELM *Heritage Partnership Agreements* events will be held on

**15 January** Mandolay Hotel, Guildford

**29 January** Empire & Commonwealth Museum, Bristol

**12 February** Assembly Rooms, Newcastle

**26 February** Lancashire Conservation Studios, Preston

To book a place and for further details see [www.helm.org.uk](http://www.helm.org.uk) ('training courses').

# A Planning Policy Statement for the historic environment

Charles Wagner

**W**hen the Heritage Protection Bill was published in April 2008, it was a clear signal to us in English Heritage to start work on the various support documents that would link the new heritage protection system to the new Spatial Planning System, created under the Planning & Compensation Act 2004. The principal document required would be a Planning Policy Statement (PPS) to replace the long-lived and loved PPG16 of 1990 and PPG15 of 1994.

An early aim was to get agreement from Communities & Local Government (CLG) and DCMS that there was a need for a PPS (Policy Planning Statement), and that a consultation draft should coincide with the proposed Heritage Protection Bill. This was confirmed in July when DCMS appeared before the CMS Select Committee for pre-legislative scrutiny of the Bill.

Early work on the new PPS consisted of dissecting the two PPGs to extract policy from guidance. With PPG16 this was relatively straightforward, but PPG15 has policy interwoven with guidance in a flowing narrative. The key principles were then set beside the six principles in *Conservation Principles: Policies and Guidance, for the sustainable management of the historic environment* (English Heritage April 2008), and this created a useful document with which to engage the historic environment sector. It was easy then to seek views on good and bad elements of the

existing PPGs, what was missing, and whether our key principles were universally agreed.

The time scale was always ambitious. English Heritage began working with CLG and DCMS on the PPS in August, with a consultation draft required by the end of 2008. It didn't help that ministers at both CLG and DCMS changed in October, and that CLG decided the PPS format needed to change: we are the guinea pig of course.

What is clear is that the new PPS will be a slim document containing only Government policy, with explanation of the policy text where essential. Many useful sections of guidance in the PPGs will have to be accommodated in supporting documents even though, when PPSs were created, it was envisaged that each would be supported by at least one circular and a Good/Best Practice Guidance. We are now working on the structure of the documents, seeing how useful PPG guidance can fit into them.

Technically, the timetable for the PPS was tied in with the HPR Bill, which was expected in the Queen's Speech at the opening of Parliament on 3 December. However, it now looks as if the PPS will be considered more favourably by Government than HPR and will come first. We certainly believe that we have made a case for a PPS come what may, and that a draft will be issued for consultation in 2009, if only because of the diminished value of PPGs in the new spatial planning system.

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## Archaeology under cultivation: *reforming Class Consent*

Vince Holyoak

*Concerns about the effects of cultivation on our archaeological heritage have been raised periodically by successive generations of archaeologists since the 19th century. What is new is the opportunity afforded by Heritage Protection Reform to make fundamental, if gradual, improvements to the way designated sites under cultivation are conserved and managed in the future.*

In 2003 English Heritage launched the *Ripping up History* campaign which showed that almost 3000 scheduled monuments were still being ploughed, quite legally, under the terms of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act. Given the extent to which designated monuments are routinely damaged as a result, the Government's 2004 Heritage White Paper included a commitment to reform the anomaly, and English Heritage was tasked with enabling this to happen.

A major component of the preparatory work was the collaboration of English Heritage and DEFRA on the

Cultivation trials on the experimental earthworks constructed by Oxford Archaeology and Cranfield University Soils Science Department as part of the joint English Heritage/DEFRA-sponsored project. Photograph: Oxford Archaeology

Conservation of Scheduled Monuments in Cultivation (COSMIC) project, undertaken by Oxford Archaeology, which not only developed and tested a risk assessment methodology for sites under cultivation, but provided recommendations for mitigating these risks. The key message from the COSMIC pilot was that for a significant number of sites it is not necessary to cease cultivation, as they can be protected by less invasive tillage techniques. Those containing earthworks, or situated on slopes or in areas of light soils are particularly vulnerable: those in valley bottoms or where they are already deeply cultivated will be less susceptible.

COSMIC was followed by a project comparing the archaeological impacts of less invasive cultivation techniques (such as minimum tillage and non-inversion tillage) with more traditional methods, at the same time evaluating the possibility of monitoring the depth of cultivation (see Conservation Bulletin 54, 2007. *Conservation of Scheduled Monuments in Cultivation*). COSMIC and the follow-up provide a risk-based system allowing tailored responses to separate high-risk sites where further cultivation is likely to be damaging, medium risk sites where cultivation could continue but with conditions, and low risk sites where continued cultivation is unlikely to lead to further degradation.

As a result, a revised class consent will facilitate the review of assets on a case by case basis. This cannot be achieved overnight, but will provide means of finally addressing this long-standing problem. This tailored approach also fits better with existing incentivised management schemes, such as Natural England's Environmental Stewardship scheme and another of the Heritage Protection Reviews innovations, Heritage Partnership Agreements.

**Vince Holyoak**  
Senior Policy Advisor  
English Heritage

Looking at the relationship between wheel and track loading and soil compaction using the soil test bin at the Cranfield University Soils Science Department. Photograph: Oxford Archaeology



# HERITAGE PROTECTION IN THE English marine zone

Mark Dunkley



The draft Bill allows for creation of Marine Heritage Sites, enabling designation of structures (such as this fish trap in Holbrook Bay, Suffolk), vessels, vehicles and aircraft. Photograph: Peter Murphy

Government commitment to reform heritage protection in the marine zone commenced in March 2004 with *Protecting the Marine Historic Environment: Making the system work better* (DCMS 2004). The paper set out key issues relating to marine historic environment (MHE) designation and proposed a legislative framework that enabled 'positive, transparent, inclusive, sustainable and, above all, effective management'.

## LEGISLATIVE CHANGE?

Analysis of responses to this document (DCMS, July 2005) included Government's intention to set up working parties to examine definitions and designations, recovery and salvage matters, and to identify possible changes to the present system. The working parties reported to DCMS in advance of the *Heritage Protection Review White Paper* (March 2007), in which specific provision was made for legislative change affecting the marine historic environment across territorial waters of the UK (consistent with the current extent of the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973). These provisions would include

- broadening the range of marine historic assets that can be protected
- making designation decisions on the basis of 'special interest'
- publishing new selection criteria
- introducing interim protection
- a new statutory duty for the Receiver of Wrecks

During public consultation, although comments on marine heritage were not sought, respondents expressed disappointment that the issue of Salvage

Law had not been addressed. DCMS stated that they 'do not intend...to make substantive changes to salvage law in relation to marine historic assets, as...this would be a disproportionate response'. At the same time, Scottish Ministers withdrew from the specific UK-wide (marine) applications of the proposed Bill, preferring to legislate on the devolved issue in the Scottish Parliament. Similarly, Northern Ireland withdrew, having decided that it had adequate provision under Article 38 of the Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (NI) Order 1995. Northern Ireland also has provision for reporting finds from the seabed under Article 42 of the same Order, though a review of this legislation is to commence in April 2009.

## MORE PROTECTION

The draft Heritage Protection Bill will repeal several Acts, including the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973. Instead, there are provisions for creation of Marine Heritage Sites and protection of non-vessel marine heritage assets, such as vehicles, aircraft and, for the first time, archaeological structures and sites that are partly or wholly below the high water mark in English waters. All wrecks protected under Section 1



Archaeological Investigation will continue to be required for determining the 'special interest' of candidate Marine Heritage Sites. Photograph: Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology, SolMap project 2008

responsibility for dangerous wrecks and cargo will be accommodated within the Merchant Shipping Act 1995. A new duty will oblige the Receiver of Wreck to pass on information relating to marine heritage to qualifying bodies.

## HERITAGE PROTECTION IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

English Heritage has set up a dedicated Heritage Protection Reform Team to both lead and co-ordinate the many aspects of delivering the new system, with the marine elements of the implementation strategy undertaken by a Maritime Designation Advisor.

## UNIFIED PROTECTION

Initially introduced as a private member's bill, the current law to protect wreck sites from unauthorised interference has always excluded other types of marine archaeology from statutory protection. The draft Heritage Protection Bill will, for the first time, enable the unified protection of all types of archaeological sites, structures and objects within English waters. Criteria for 'special interest' as well as delivery of supporting policy and guidance documentation will now be developed (with sectoral participation) to support and underpin proposed legislative changes.

NB. DEFRA's commitment to the marine heritage has also been encouraging. In *Safeguarding Sea Life* (2005), the joint UK response to the Review of Marine Nature Conservation includes as Strategic Goals: 'to increase our understanding of the marine environment, its natural processes and our cultural marine heritage and the impact that human activities have upon them.' In addition, the UK Government and Devolved Administrations recently set out high level marine objectives for the UK marine area (*Our Seas – a shared resource*, June 2008). Here, cultural heritage features, in that a long term view is taken to promote appropriate management as a component of a 'healthy, productive and biologically diverse' marine environment.

## Mark Dunkley

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of the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973 will become Marine Heritage Sites. Detailed *Principles of Selection* will define what is 'special' in the marine environment but, unlike terrestrial sites, the Secretary of State (SoS) will make designation decisions, after consultation with owners, planning authorities and other bodies. Assets will automatically be afforded provisional protection during the consultation period.

There is provision to enable archaeological investigation if this is required to assess significance. SoS, English Heritage or local authorities will be permitted to finance this and EH will have the ability to make grants and loans, although specific mechanisms have yet to be determined. Information on all listed sites will be available online through the Heritage Gateway ([www.heritagegateway.com](http://www.heritagegateway.com)).

Access to marine heritage sites is to be licensed (by EH), the licences defining permitted activities and containing specific conditions. Some robust sites may be designated as suitable for unintrusive diving activities (analogous to scheduling, where access is permitted but unauthorised interference is not). Certificates of no intent to designate will be available, as for terrestrial structures.

## REVISIONS TO THE MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT 1995

Section 2 of the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973 enables designation of prohibited areas around dangerous wrecks. With repeal of this Act,

# The Queen's Speech:

Peter Beacham

## English Heritage responds

*This final EH article was prepared after the Queen's Speech on 3 December, with the disappointment of knowing for certain that HPR was to be dropped from the next Parliamentary session (and just before TA was due at the printers).*

*"It is disappointing, but understandable in the current economic climate, that Parliamentary time has not been found to take forward the Heritage Protection Bill in this session. However, we welcome the Government's firm commitment to the HPR programme already underway and to introducing legislation at the earliest opportunity.*

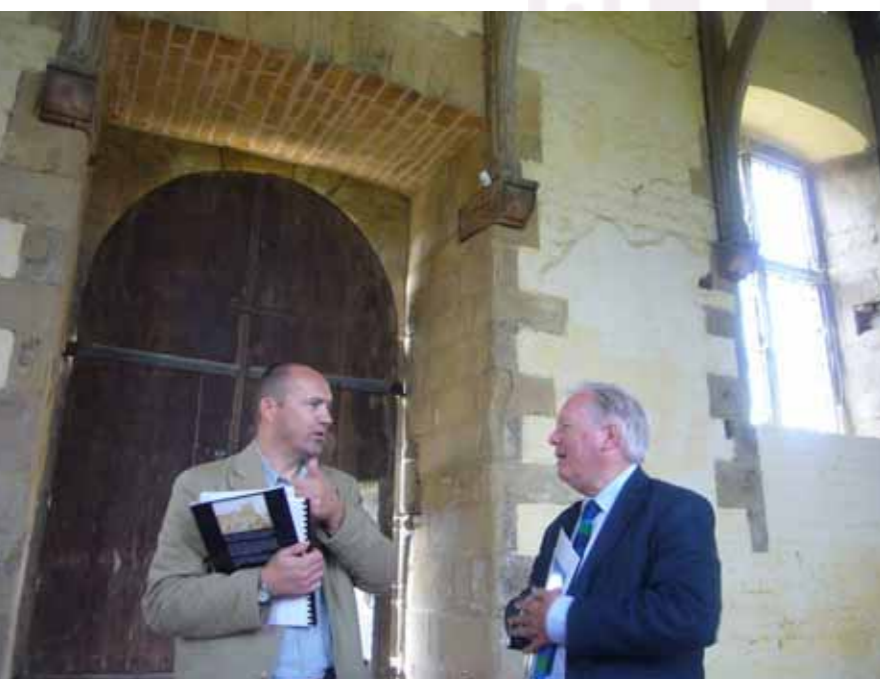
*The good news is that most of the changes set out in the Heritage White Paper can go ahead. Using the new Planning Policy Statement, accompanying Guidance and forthcoming English Heritage initiatives as a focus for reform we can achieve many of our goals to improve the system, widen public involvement and simplify protection processes."*

### WHAT CAN'T BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT THE BILL

Worrying after the Queen's Speech – Paul Jeffery (left) and Peter Beacham consider how to make the best of things

- formal right for owners to appeal against a listing decision
- local authorities gaining power to grant consent for the 2% of cases that include archaeology and currently have to be passed to central government
- statutory Historic Environment Records
- interim legal protection for historic places being considered for designation
- designation for sites of early human activity
- bringing together separate registers for listing, scheduling, registration and designated marine sites
- responsibility for designation passing from DCMS to English Heritage
- single Historic Asset Consent replacing separate Listed Building and Scheduled Monument Consent
- local authorities granting all new Historic Asset Consents,
- Conservation Area Consent merging with Planning Permission
- Heritage Partnership Agreements eliminating multiple consent applications for large or complex sites

However, with the new PPS and our own initiatives as the focus for reform, we still have a full programme for 2009. We invite you to visit [www.english-heritage.org.uk/reform](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/reform) to find out more about our heritage protection reform programme.



### WHAT WE CAN ACHIEVE WITHOUT THE BILL

- a transparent system. We have made our designation advice easier to understand and open to the public by publishing the selection criteria online. We have also expanded and improved information on our website at [www.english-heritage.org.uk/heritageprotection](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/heritageprotection).
- except where it may threaten a site, we tell the owner when it is being considered for designation
- an online form and guidance for suggesting buildings for listing. The public will participate in a debate about priorities for a strategic listing programme
- increased public consultation with expert bodies and organisations
- Skilling and Resourcing the Historic Environment Sector. We have started training and capacity-building to support local authorities and encourage best practice. During 2009, local management agreement pilot projects will also spread knowledge and skills by practical participation
- we are working with the LGA, IHBC and ALGAO on a comprehensive assessment of local authority resources to strengthen advocacy for a better-resourced sector, with the most detailed study yet about current and future resources needs. This will be published in February 2009.
- local authorities will be urged by the PPS to create full Historic Environment Records. Before this can become statutory, EH will explore how best to support authorities in enhancing existing records to a consistent standard
- local authorities will be encouraged by the PPS and guidance to explore the benefits of local lists as part of Historic Environment Records. They will also be asked to publish their criteria for those assets
- we are spreading our constructive approach to other conservation professionals through our policy *Constructive Conservation*
- we published our Conservation Principles in April 08 as a framework for making consistent, well-informed and objective conservation decisions
- we strongly encourage pre-application discussion, to resolve consent issues at the earliest stage. This will be promoted through the PPS and guidance
- in conservation areas, reform of secondary planning legislation will enable control over partial demolition – which has been a problem since the Shimizu judgement in 1997 – and reform of permitted development rights will allow control over damaging alterations
- changes to the status of World Heritage Sites will make them a material consideration in the planning system, and this will apply also to their settings. These changes will be delivered by the draft WHS Planning Circular
- the Marine Bill will provide some protection for marine heritage in English waters and the continental shelf
- we are using IT advances to speed up handling of designation applications and already have developed resources needed to prepare advice more quickly
- we are bringing together all the separate registers for listing, scheduling and registration onto a fully accessible, integrated online database
- our online Heritage Gateway will provide a single point of access to designation registers and historic environment records across England
- we will develop new selection criteria and clearer designation records for Marine sites, to bring them in line with buildings and monuments
- all list entries after 2008 will have a clear explanation of their special interest
- Heritage Management Agreements will help owners become more involved in heritage protection and help consent applications be dealt with more smoothly, without duplication
- we will work with religious denominations to streamline their management systems under ecclesiastical exemption.

Testing these aspirations and working with partners to achieve all the goals within our current resources will be good training for aligning processes after heritage protection legislation is passed.

**Peter Beacham**  
Heritage Protection Director  
English Heritage

# A Scottish perspective on planning reform and the historic environment

Jim MacDonald and Malcolm Cooper

While there are major organisational and structural differences, Scotland's heritage protection legislation closely resembles that in England and Wales, the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 providing a common legislative framework for archaeology and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas)(Scotland) Act 1997 covering similar ground to its 1990 equivalent (PPG 16) in England. Similarly, whilst our approach to modernising this system may appear different, in fact we are covering much the same ground.

## Achieving change

Where England and Wales pursued change through legislation, in Scotland we believe that issues can be dealt with first by seeking improvements to processes and activities within the current legislative system and, rather than tearing up the system and starting again, by making tightly focused amendments to the 1979 and 1997 Acts. This is not to suggest that our system is fine as it is – we know reform is required but believe it can be delivered in ways which make it quicker to achieve as well as avoiding the uncertainties that radical legislative review introduces.

## Sustainable economic growth

At present we are in the midst of major reforms of the planning system. Government and its agencies, local authorities and the private sector will have to adapt rapidly. At the heart of this reform is the determination to develop a more mature and trusting relationship between central and local government, and to ensure that the planning system supports the key objective of delivering sustainable economic growth for Scotland. Our Government is quick to emphasise that this does not mean development

anywhere at any cost. Instead, reforms are about speeding up decision making, allowing more decisions to be taken locally and making the whole process more transparent. So our approach to modernising heritage protection is about building better partnerships with communities, developers and local authorities, adapting processes to remove unnecessary bureaucracy, building capacity and understanding at the local level and ensuring that the historic environment is aligned with the Government's key objectives. Overall, this will allow more decision to be taken at the local level.

## Management without legislation

Historic Scotland, as part of the Scottish government, also wants to develop its relationship with local authority partners, and so we are consulting on a new Joint Working Agreement in order to clarify roles and responsibilities across a range of statutory casework and consultation activities. We especially need to use this route to examine how we can improve management of the historic environment without major legislation. For example, the Joint Working Agreement enables us to be involved in developments relating to World Heritage Sites, which currently is not legally required. In this way we can agree tailored solutions appropriate to individual sites – flexibility we could not have achieved through legislation.

Alongside these projects, we are updating our operational guidance, preparing best practice guides and preparing for the roll out of the national e-planning programme in 2009. All of these projects sit comfortably with the ambition to create a more responsive planning system.

It's an ambitious programme, involving significant time and money. However, the investment is well worth making if it unlocks resources at local and national levels, resources which are important if the historic environment is to play a full part in supporting and indeed leading the sustainable economic growth of Scotland.

If anyone would like to be involved in the consultation process for the Bill to amend the heritage legislation in Scotland, please contact [hs.policy@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:hs.policy@scotland.gsi.gov.uk).

## Jim MacDonald

Deputy Chief Inspector  
Historic Scotland

## Malcolm Cooper

Chief Inspector  
Historic Scotland

Photographs © Historic Scotland

Castlemilk Stables. These 18th-century stables have been brought back into use thanks to strong local support. They reinforce a sense of place within the area



The Ring of Brodgar is a key element of Orkney's World Heritage Site. Its management is led by the local authority



Belmont House is an example of successful reuse of a building at risk



Kibble Palace, 19th-century glasshouses which are the centrepiece of Glasgow's Botanic Gardens





The Tir Gofal agri-environment scheme in Wales includes provision for the conservation and enhancement of archaeological features.  
Photograph: Alice Pyper, Dyfed Archaeological Trust



## PROTECTING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

# ON THE FARMLAND OF WALES: MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT

Gwilym Hughes, Peter Gaskell and Mike Yates

**T**he largely upland nature of Wales is reflected in the character of agricultural practices. Agriculture is currently dominated by livestock, with cattle, sheep and dairy comprising 80% of farm types. However, economic drivers and the shift in EU farming subsidies from production to environmental and sustainability issues is having an effect on agricultural patterns.

### PROTECTION AND ASSESSMENT

Historically, management of archaeological sites on farmland in Wales has focused on legal protection for sites (currently numbering 3994) of national importance, by Cadw. Monitoring by Field Monument Wardens has provided valuable information on changing conditions, in addition to contact with owners. Cadw also grant-aids the Welsh Archaeological Trusts in major assessment programmes, enhancing the information on HERs and leading to improved protection and management. Nearly 24,000 monuments have been visited, described and assessed, and over the next two years, with support from the Archaeological Trusts, Cadw will complete assessment for scheduling of all known field monuments dating to the prehistoric and Roman periods – a major achievement.

### AUDITING CHANGE

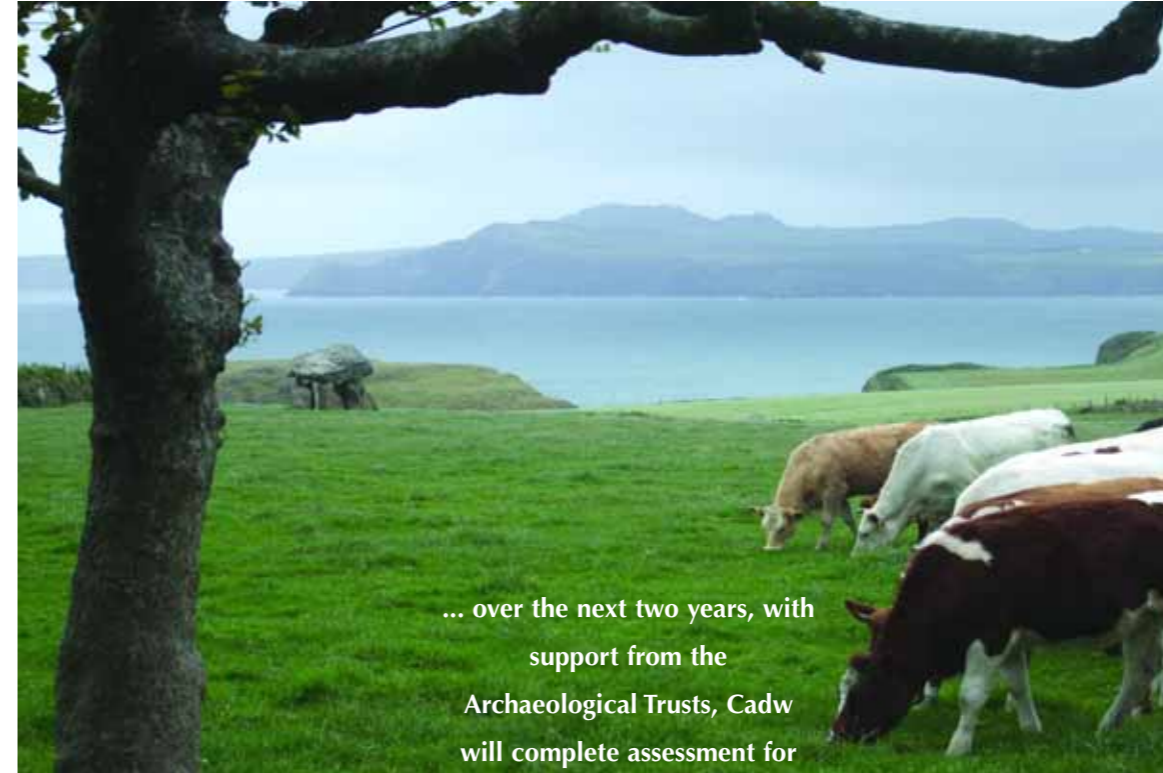
We still need to manage and monitor tens of thousands of field monuments that do not meet the

criteria for national importance. Agri-environment schemes provide one opportunity for taking a more holistic view to such management.

Tir Gofal and Tir Cynal, which between them cover 43% of agricultural land in Wales, have had considerable success in introducing new management regimes and improving the quality of information on historic features. However, we do not currently have quantitative and qualitative evidence to demonstrate the level of their impact or to allow an audit of our investment. Cadw is therefore developing a methodology to monitor conditions and threats, with Peter Gaskell of the Countryside and Community Research Institute of Gloucester University and Ken Murphy and Alice Pyper of Dyfed Archaeological Trust. Likely impacts have been assessed, data sources on the condition of sites evaluated, and operational indicators to implement this monitoring programme proposed.

### IMPACTS AND INDICATORS

Different types of management change were cross-tabulated with their likely impact on sites, identifying key factors relevant to survival and condition of archaeological sites. Negative factors such as expansion of cultivation, increasing stock levels, increased farm infrastructure, abandonment and uncontrolled scrub development were identified



... over the next two years, with support from the Archaeological Trusts, Cadw will complete assessment for scheduling of all known field monuments dating to the prehistoric and Roman periods – a major achievement.

and compared with positive factors such as reduction in cultivation, replacement of heavy animals by sheep and appropriate stock levels to control scrub.

Two types of operational indicators were identified: *early warning indicators* drawn from agricultural census data and satellite imagery and *actual impact indicators* using data held by Historic Environment Records. It was concluded that the basis for repeat monitoring should be a combination of analysis of digital vertical aerial photography (VAPs) and field survey. At Stage 1, we will prepare baseline data and Stage 2 repeat monitoring and analysis.

The 41, 036 field monuments recorded in HERs as being located on agricultural land were divided into five types on the basis of vulnerability and management requirements.

- **BUILDINGS** – with recognisable upstanding masonry, such as industrial structures (10,479 sites)
- **OTHER STONE STRUCTURES** – mounds or banks of stone, such as Bronze Age burial cairns or abandoned medieval settlements (10,134 sites)
- **EARTHWORKS** – mounds or banks such as castle mounds or Iron Age hillforts (13,894 sites)
- **MEGALITHS** – singly or in groups, such as Neolithic burial chambers or Bronze Age stone rows (1265 sites)
- **NO UPSTANDING REMAINS** – eg cropmarks or geophysical surveys (5264 sites).

The division of Wales into five farming area types on the basis of topography, climate and core farming

economy has been used as the basis for impact indicators. Each of these five areas is subject to

specific farming pressures. For example the likely reduction in sheep numbers in Less Favoured Areas (severely disadvantaged) zone (LFA – SDA) may lead to scrub encroachment. Almost two-thirds of the field monuments identified on HERs lie in the LFA-SDA.

The sample design for monitoring involves selecting a stratified sample of 2000 sites based on site and farming area types, with statisticians from the University of Birmingham helping develop the actual sampling methodology. This will form the basis for baseline data. Work is currently underway to prepare a sample set, including site dossiers, with analysis of current Vertical Aerial Photographs. This will provide the crucial basis for future monitoring on a five-yearly cycle, using new digital VAP mapping data and sample field visits.

As this programme progresses we will have a real data set whereby to measure the impact of changing farming patterns on the historic environment of Welsh farmland as well as the impact of environmental management programmes.

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Carreg Sampson – Megalithic tomb, located on farmland in Pembrokeshire.  
Photograph: Gwilym Hughes, Cadw

# HP Heritage Protection in One Cornwall

Nicholas Johnson

New heritage protection reforms (HPR) are not the only change Cornwall's heritage service faces in the next couple of years. Another is local government re-organisation, known as One Cornwall. Whilst both will result in chaos in the short term, creation of one single Cornwall Council out of seven authorities will provide a great opportunity to deliver HPR.

## Powerful service

The proposed heritage reforms will be crucial in consolidating the position and role of local authority curators, and in Cornwall every effort is being made to create a new service that sits within a more powerful Environment Service. As the HPR process helps blur artificial gaps between Archaeological and Conservation services, we can create a unified Historic Environment Advice and Information Service that comprises 22 curators (11 Conservation Officers, 3 World Heritage Site, 1 HECAS, 3 Planning Archaeologists, 4 HER). There will also be a substantial projects team, able to deliver research, development management recording and regeneration initiatives.

## Heritage Partnership Agreements

There will of course be new duties placed on local authorities. Duties such as Heritage Consent, and creation and maintenance of Local Lists in addition to maintenance of HERs will strengthen opportunities to protect the historic environment. However it is the introduction of Heritage Partnership Agreements that really takes us into a new world. We have been lucky to be involved in one of the more successful pilot projects, looking at heritage structures within the domain of the County Surveyor. These include historic road bridges and footbridges, granite wayside crosses and milestones.

Bureaucracy surrounding listed building consent for normal maintenance, as well as emergency works, was significantly reduced and standard conservation guidelines on repair and maintenance of structures

within the highway were readily agreed. One Cornwall presents us with the chance to extend this good practice across all Cornwall, and highway authorities elsewhere are also expressing interest. It doesn't seem impossible to extend the concept of repair and maintenance conservation guidelines to the public realm in historic settlements. Historic pavements, street furniture, traditional signage etc will all now be the responsibility of the new Cornwall Council, and a comprehensive rural highway heritage asset HPA and urban public realm HPAs seem a reasonable aspiration.

## Protecting the public realm

In recognition that the County Council is responsible for so much of the public realm (schools, libraries, farms, parks, historic mine buildings and recreation sites etc) a Scrutiny Panel examined how maintenance of heritage assets could be improved. The combined property of the new council will be huge and it will be a priority of the Historic Environment Service to ensure that heritage assets owned or managed by Cornwall Council are recorded, assessed and maintained on a regular basis. Over the last two years, for example, 671 bridges (241 listed), 605 milestones (312 listed) and 548 historic schools (116 listed) have been added to the HER and we are pursuing town halls, libraries and institutes, police stations, fire stations, clinks and prisons. We are particularly fortunate in having an active branch of the Milestone Society which is recording them all (over 700); with our help they are submitting regular batches for listing and are working with the highways department to kick start a milestone maintenance programme. We move on to the 300+ traditional cast iron finger posts next!

## Crosses, barrows, menhirs and holy wells

Cornwall and Scilly contain more than 1800 scheduled monuments and over the last decade English Heritage and Heritage Lottery money has been matched by local authority grants to fund the Scheduled Monument Management Programme. More than a hundred monuments have been repaired and conserved. These range from uncovering St Piran's Church from sand, repairing

broken wayside crosses, clearing scrub off barrows, repairing erosion on hillforts, setting upright menhirs and stone circles, taking graffiti off megalithic monuments, clearing out holy wells, and hiding security chips in stone crosses.

The programme has proved popular with local communities and compares well with repair grants to listed buildings. We all hope that new arrangements next April will allow us to carry on with these

initiatives, which represent sensible targeting of increasingly scarce local authority resources. If we have to target then designated sites and our own estate seem a good place to start.

## Nicholas Johnson

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Tremethick Cross being repaired after lorry damage, see below ▾



◀ Lorry damage to medieval Respryn Bridge, Bodmin. The HPA Pilot Project created generic guidance on repairs and future maintenance that has greatly reduced the need for repeated consents



◀ There is a market in granite monuments, and medieval stone crosses are being micro-chipped in an attempt to make tracing after theft easier



◀ Repainted milestone. First fruits of a return to milestone maintenance in Cornwall



◀ Lorry on top of Tremethick Cross, near Penzance



Scheduled Monument Management Project in action at Gunrith Menhir, St Buryan. Re-erection of a fallen scheduled standing stone ▶



◀ School visit to a scheduled deserted settlement on Samson, Isles of Scilly. 18th/19th-century cottages evacuated in 1855 are being repaired

# CONSERVATION AREAS: *protecting the jewels in England's crown*

Christopher Catling

*There are more than 9000 conservation areas in England, by definition all representing the jewels of England's historic environment. Local planning authorities are legally obliged to identify and designate areas, which are defined in Section 69 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as areas 'of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance'. Most local authorities have conformed with this part of the Act since the concept of statutory conservation areas was first introduced in the Civic Amenities Act 1967. But they are also required, under Section 71 of the 1990 act, 'to formulate and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of these conservation areas', and this is where many planning authorities fall down.*

Another problem is that many published appraisals are now very old. English Heritage recommends that appraisals and management plans be reviewed every five years, but many appraisals were written in the early 1970s and have never been revised. Even where an exemplary authority has up-to-date appraisals, public access is not easy: there is no central repository, nor even an index to those that exist (can I interest anyone in an offer to compile one?).

## *Managing change*

Conservation areas are one of our most powerful tools for managing change within the historic environment. A good appraisal will identify what is special and significant and will consider systematically the significance of the location and setting, morphology of the settlement and factors that have influenced its layout, street patterns and streetscape; it will identify areas of archaeological potential and buildings of historical and architectural interest (whether listed or not), and groups of buildings. Some appraisals include a building by building audit, and others focus on assessing locally distinctive features. Open spaces, designed landscapes, views and significant trees are included, as these are often integral to the character of a settlement.

## *Preservation and enhancement*

The appraisal has to be submitted to public scrutiny. Some local authorities start with a public meeting, inviting comment on what residents value about the proposed conservation area and what they would include or exclude: others undertake the appraisal

and then put the report to community consultations, with exhibitions. The appraisal is then used as a basis for recommendations for ensuring that special qualities are preserved and enhanced. These recommendations can range from a design code to guide restoration and new construction to comprehensive regeneration schemes. The appraisal and management plan can be adopted by the local authority as supplementary planning guidance or as council planning policy, meaning that applications for development will be measured against criteria set out in the appraisal. Councils can also use conservation area appraisals as the basis for withdrawing permitted development rights: requiring the owners of domestic property to seek planning permission for changing windows and doors, building extensions, paving a garden to create parking space, inserting roof lights, etc.

With such powerful tools on the statute book, England's historic environment ought to be exemplary. Why then, in historic towns and villages, are you greeted by buildings that have lost their character and dignity: uPVC windows everywhere, 'Georgian' doors in brown-stained wood in vernacular cottages, front gardens sacrificed to tarmac? The answers are complex, but are often to do with political will. The best conservation areas need a committed conservation team supported by well-informed elected members, these two being mutually reinforcing. As for the community, I have yet to chair a public consultation where the electorate was not wholly in favour of conservation

areas: often people want to go further than the law and resources permit.

## *Training courses*

English Heritage plays a role by publishing guidance on conservation area appraisal and management, and by running training courses under the HELM banner (I ran such a course, along with IHBC President Eddie Booth, in Derby on 4 December 2008, and will do another at Sheffield on 12 March 2009, ([www.helm.org.uk/server/show/ConWebDoc.11473](http://www.helm.org.uk/server/show/ConWebDoc.11473)).

## *Quantifying degradation*

English Heritage has also announced that the new *Heritage at Risk* register to be published in 2009 will include an assessment of the condition of England's conservation areas, the pressures they are under and the risks they face. Questionnaires have gone to every local authority aimed at quantifying precisely how many conservation areas there are and how many of them have up-to-date appraisals, and how buildings in conservation areas have suffered loss of historic detail or character, and deterioration or degradation of quality.

I predict that we will all be shocked by the result: but at least we will have a benchmark for measuring future trends, and a set of data to use to lobby for a higher priority to be given by local authorities to the care of those crown jewels.

**Christopher Catling**  
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The Good: Hawkshead — everyone's idea of the perfect conservation area



The Bad: instructive comparisons between the two halves of the same 19th-century Lake District dwellings. One way to measure which conservation areas are under threat is to look at properties whose character has been eroded by alterations to window openings and replacement of traditional windows



The Bad: if you scored features that erode the historic, traditional and vernacular character of buildings in a conservation area, this one would score maximum points — all it lacks is a set of prominent roof lights



The Ugly: how not to treat a listed building



Evidence that conservation area status need not stifle bold modern design: the Wordsworth Centre in Grasmere Town End





Lifting a medieval 'salt-ship' from Earthworks Archaeological Services' excavation at Second Wood Street, Nantwich, 2004. Photograph: Mark Leah, Cheshire County Council

## Protection of waterlogged sites: *by whom, for whom?*

Tim Malim and Ian Panter

environment, in addition to a regular monitoring regime? This is particularly relevant to waterlogged sites, where we not only have to prevent drying out of deposits, but also ensure the right kind of water flows through the site.

### Management strategy

SLR Consulting and York Archaeological Trust have been working on two pioneering projects to assess the physical and chemical properties of the burial environment for well preserved waterlogged remains, and to design a management strategy for monitoring their continued preservation. The approach to both has been similar, although the contexts and threats are quite different. The first concerns deep urban deposits in the historic salt-working town of Nantwich, Cheshire, and the second is a Bronze Age timber platform and settlement in the fens near Peterborough.

### Case study 1: Nantwich

The historic core of Nantwich has been subject to piecemeal attrition from regeneration and development for thirty years. During this time spectacular timber structures, wooden and leather artefacts and organic remains have been found, dating from Roman, Saxon and medieval periods. This urban wetland covers about 12ha, with deposits up to 4m deep in both riverside and valley side locations. Cheshire County Council and English Heritage have funded research to investigate the formation processes and character of these waterlogged deposits, in order to design a management strategy for future sustainable development.

A geoarchaeological coring programme consisting of 30 boreholes using a windowless sampler confirmed the limits of the waterlogged area and provided stratigraphic samples to assess the presence and condition of organic remains. In addition to recording the physical nature of the deposit sequence, the assessment undertook a suite of chemical tests aimed at understanding the soil

chemistry that had helped preserve remains. The boreholes also provided an opportunity to install dipwells throughout the town, for future monitoring of water quality and level.

### Case study 2: Must Farm

At Must Farm, near Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, remains of a timber platform and associated cultural material from the Bronze Age and Early Iron Age have been found within a palaeochannel. The quality of artefacts and organic remains is exceptional, and these include textiles, glass beads and over 50 complete pots with food residues. The site lies adjacent to a large water-filled quarry that was in operation from the 1940s to late '70s and, although not directly threatened, its proximity to a new concession area has raised urgent concerns. In addition, there are threats from intensive water extraction for agricultural activity, plus encroaching industrial use.

Evaluation by Cambridge Archaeological Unit allowed intensive assessment by a multi-disciplinary team of archaeological scientists. This established the existing condition of preservation for wood, artefacts and ecofacts, and examined the redox and chemical character of the deposits in which the remains had survived, as well as their physical nature. Dipwells and redox probes were installed over the rest of the site, from which water quality and levels have been mapped. Against this baseline data a monitoring programme is proceeding to record seasonal fluctuations in the water level, and to detect any changes to the chemical composition within the deposits. Of particular importance is the redox potential (measurement of the oxidation state of the sediments) which will determine whether deposits are anaerobic or aerobic, and thus allow varying degrees of microbiological decay.

### Effective?

Monitoring for many years at both schemes will be necessary before there is sufficient data to confirm whether *preservation in situ* is effective, but these two cases pose fundamental questions for our stewardship of the archaeological resource.

Working within urban Nantwich includes liaison with scores of owners, public bodies and utility companies, and future management will need an integrated approach with infrastructural development, permeability of surfaces, and sustainable urban drainage. To preserve the burial environment within the town will need not just piecemeal conditions (such as liberal use of piling designs) but also radical incorporation of principles of archaeological sustainability by, and awareness-raising of, urban



Windowless sampler retrieving sediment cores from backs of burghage plots in Nantwich, July 2007. Photograph: Tim Malim, SLR Consulting



Cambridge Archaeological Unit's evaluation of the timber platform at Must Farm, showing ash revetment and cultural horizon, with waterfilled quarry behind, November 2006. Photograph: Tim Malim, SLR Consulting

*Preservation in situ* is the mantra that archaeological policy decisions have professed for the past twenty years. It has largely been enforced through the planning process as enshrined in PPG 16 and reiterated in government guidance. Amongst archaeologists this policy was criticised, as it substitutes the main *raison d'être* of archaeologists, investigation and informed interpretation, for a notion of archaeological remains surviving indefinitely within an area of agreed development. The efficacy of this policy has remained largely untested, and is often implemented without monitoring.

### Waterlogged sites

Recently the debate has moved to archaeological science, and questions are now asked over whether *preservation in situ* is really a sustainable option. How do we know whether the policy is working unless we understand the character of the burial environment and the archaeological remains, and what changes the development might cause to this

planners; and all for a resource that the public will never see. At Must Farm a management strategy has been designed related to the 25-year programme of the adjacent quarry, but external factors may still exert unpredictable indirect impacts.

And who keeps monitoring over the long-term? Who disseminates the knowledge and significance of what is preserved? How do we know that the public actually cares for what it cannot see anyway? There is no doubt that archaeological excavation excites public interest: does *preservation in situ*?

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# OBJECTS IN THE REAR VIEW MIRROR: ARCHAEOLOGY AND ROADS

Magnus Alexander

Cars have only been with us for just over a hundred years but have had a dramatic effect upon rural and urban landscapes. Extensive areas of countryside now lie under roads and most town centres have been remodelled to accommodate the car. English Heritage's *Car Project* is exploring this impact on people and places, and as part of this we are re-examining the history of road archaeology.



## EARLY LOSSES

New road construction took off in the inter-war years, when many bypasses were constructed, and concerns about road building were expressed as early as the 1920s; OGS Crawford wrote in 1926 that with a range of threats including 'arterial roads and ribbon-development' it was 'unlikely that any open country or downland will be left in Southern England in a hundred years time' (quoted by Kitty Hauser). Despite these concerns, the earliest archaeological interventions identified so far that were specifically in response to road construction did not take place until the late 1950s. They continued to be rare for another decade; Peter Fowler noted in 1971 that by 1969, when the M5 Research Committee was formed, 'almost 1000 miles of motorway had been built in Britain without many archaeological eyebrows being raised'. It is clear that much archaeology was lost without record. Estimates vary widely but it seems that a minimum figure might be one site per kilometre of motorway constructed (*Monuments At Risk Survey*, EH 1998, 135). By 1969 it seems likely that a minimum of 1100 sites were lost under motorways alone.



## DESPERATE SALVAGE

Creation of the M5 Committee marked the beginning of improvements in the fortunes of archaeology in the face of major roads construction; before their work only one site on the M5 had been identified and proposed for excavation: afterwards more than 200 were known. The M5 Committee was followed by others for the M4, M3, M11, M40 and M50. County-based rescue committees were also set up and had their work cut out, not only with motorway development, but with the threat from major urban road schemes. In Dover, excavations in advance of a new road, which at one point included ninety days non-stop work, discovered two Roman forts, one with walls standing almost 3m high, and the well-known 'Painted House'. Unusually for this era the archaeological discoveries led to a redesign of the road. At this time it was far more common for the road to carry on regardless, with archaeologists desperately salvaging what they could.

Motorways built, under construction or planned in about 1973, showing (in red) those that received any archaeological attention (after Fowler)



A34 Chieveley

A6 Rushden and Higham bypass

A43 Silverstone Fields Farm. Photographs: Northamptonshire Archaeology



## EARLY FRUITS

Things were not entirely negative. Road construction provided many opportunities where the people and organisations were in place to take advantage of them. Larger schemes provided a non-archaeologically determined slice through the landscape, and it was on the Gloucestershire and Somerset sections of the M5 that landscape archaeology was first employed on a large scale. Historic maps and aerial photographs were examined, field names extracted from the tithe apportionments, the whole length of the route was walked and hundreds of sites and features identified. New roads within towns also allowed access to medieval, and even Romano-British, core areas on an unprecedented scale.



## BETTER GUIDANCE

Since the 1970s the position has steadily improved. Funding, though it still seems tight, has become more reliable. The European Environmental Impact Assessment directive was introduced in 1988, PPG 16 followed in 1990 and its guidance taken into account in the *Design Manual for Roads and Bridges* soon after. The principle that the developer pays has also gradually become established. Archaeology is now firmly embedded within the road planning process and road construction is still leading to new discoveries such as the 'Prittlewell Prince', and allows major regional studies such as the M6 Toll or the A1(M).

Topsoil removal on the M3 in the 1983 (© W D Cocroft)



## WHAT ABOUT THE ARCHAEOLOGIST?

Whilst the results of these programmes have found their way into the literature the experience of working on them has not. What was it like to be directly involved in this period of immense landscape change? What was the day-to-day experience of an archaeologist on a major road scheme like then and what is it like now? And can we trace a progression in the way that archaeologists have participated and responded to the development of our roads? How did they manage these projects? How did they negotiate with contractors and DoT? What was their involvement with local communities and local people during the building of these new roads?

To explore these questions there will be a session at the 2009 IFA Conference in Torquay this April. Through the accounts of archaeologists who gave us some of the earliest 'roads archaeology', we will look back at the creation of one aspect of our modern landscape as it happened.

### Magnus Alexander

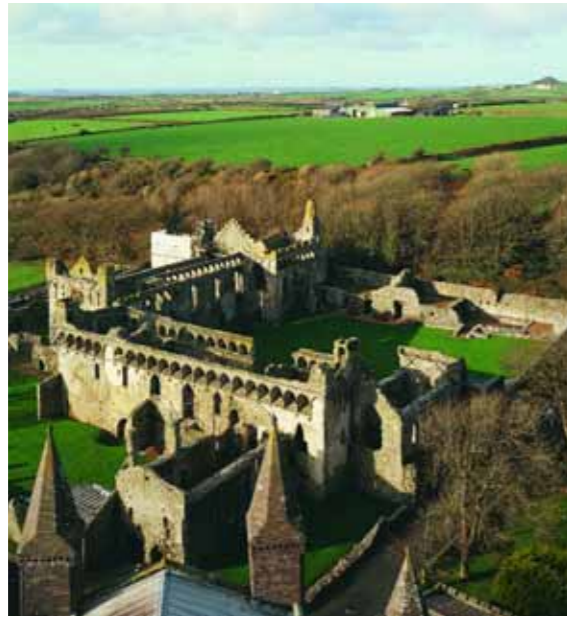
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# PROTECTION IN ACTION:

## conserving St Davids Bishop's Palace Kathryn Roberts

St Davids Bishop's Palace, from the top of the cathedral



St Davids Bishop's Palace, cared for by Cadw on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government, lies in the small city of St Davids, Pembrokeshire. Less familiar than the famous cathedral there, it is one of the most complete surviving examples of secular buildings of the early 14th century.

The palace was built by Bishop Henry de Gower (1328-47) and comprises two main ranges providing duplicated suites of private and state apartments, the Bishop's Hall, solar and domestic wing in one, the Great Hall, Chamber, domestic wing and chapel in the other. It was a magnificent building with elaborate decoration which included intricate stone carvings, brightly coloured stonework and an arcaded parapet. Occupation lasted until the 17th century, after which it fell into disrepair and ruin. The palace passed into state guardianship in 1932 since

Mason at work on the Bathstone wheel window. Spokes damaged beyond repair have been removed ready for insertion of replacements (as in the right of the picture). After cleaning, the window was given a 'shelter coat' of lime to act as a sacrificial surface to protect the original stonework



which time there have been several phases of excavation and conservation, first by the Ministry of Public Building and Works and latterly by Cadwraeth Cymru (Cadw's in-house work unit). The current conservation programme began in the mid-1990s and is due to finish in 2009.

### Informing conservation

Before conservation work commenced a detailed archaeological investigation was carried out, directed by Rick Turner, Cadw Inspector of Ancient Monuments. This included stone-by-stone architectural records of main elevations, studies of architectural moulding profiles and statuary, and reviews of documentary descriptions and pictorial records. Sixteen phases of construction, the evolution of the palace and functions of the different rooms were all identified. The results (Turner 2000) informed both the conservation project and current visitor presentation.

Site-specific conservation principles were established at the start, ensuring a consistent approach and stipulating conservation techniques, materials and levels of intervention, such as how and under what circumstances weathered stone may be replaced (based on considerations of structural importance, availability of suitable replacement stone and architectural importance).

### Weathered stonework

Geological investigations indicated that the palace was constructed almost entirely from locally sourced materials. The rubble stone walls were built with Pebidian Tuffs (Precambrian Volcanic tuffs) from Pont-y-Penydd Quarry (purple and green) and Porthlysgi Bay cliffs (brown and yellow), with varying proportions in different phases. Originally the walls were covered with lime render, providing a fine, smooth finish and protection from erosion. As the render fell away, underlying rubble stone walls became vulnerable to weathering. Although the Pont-y Penydd tuff proved relatively hard wearing, the yellow tuff was crumbling away and in some cases had to be cut out and replaced. Where erosion was less severe, lime render was applied, its consistency, appearance and colour decided after experimentation. In order to strike a balance between the benefits of applying render and acknowledgement that the building being conserved

is a ruin, the conservation principles for this site specified that render coverage should be applied only to vulnerable areas.

### Decorative stonework

Originally the Bishop's Palace was resplendent with decorative stonework, mostly carved from local purple-coloured Caerbwdy sandstone (quarried at nearby Caerbwdy Bay). Caerbwdy stone is vulnerable to weathering which causes the surface to spall and flake, destroying valuable architectural details. When moulded profiles were examined it was apparent that, at the current rate of deterioration, few details would remain detectable within a generation, and so it was decided to produce carved stone copies of dressings to their original profiles for incorporation into the building. Conservation guidelines specified that such replacements could only be used where the originals were weathered beyond repair/recognition and there was sufficient information to determine the original profile. Stone was obtained under special licence from the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park to allow the Caerbwdy Bay quarry to re-opened on a one-off basis.

### Repairing corbels

A unique, arcaded parapet containing over 130 carved corbels incorporates subjects including human heads, animals and mythical creatures. This represents the largest group of sculptures in a domestic building of this period, although sadly 53 corbels are eroded beyond recognition. In the mid-1980s the corbels were photographed, recorded, cleaned and conserved, but today many have weathered more badly. Each has now received painstaking individual treatment, involving repairs to spalling and broken stonework using metal pins and resin and infilling cracks using soft limestone-based mortar, with crushed Caerbwdy stone dust to replicate original colour.

One architectural feature built using non-local material is the fine Bathstone wheel window, the centre piece of the Great Hall. Soft Bathstone is particularly vulnerable to weathering and the window had also suffered from inappropriate early 20th-century conservation using hard cement mortars. Some spokes had eroded and were no longer structurally sound. Masons cut replica spokes from carefully sourced stone selected to match the colour and consistency of the original. The whole window was given a lime shelter coat to act as a sacrificial layer to reduce future weathering.

### Visitors welcome

A second objective of the work is to improve visitor access, in particular to the grand staterooms on the



first floor. New 'limecrete' floors are being laid to replace waterlogged gravel in the halls and private chambers. Limecrete, a mix of lime, sand and aggregate, contains no cement and so is 'breathable', and discharges no harmful salts to damage historic masonry. The new floors provide a better walking surface and can help visitors understand how the rooms functioned. Inset tiles in the Bishop's Hall define where a screen wall separated the service passage from the main hall, and the position of the dais.

A typical work specification drawing and the finished wall. Note the new render which protects an area of vulnerable Porthlysgi volcanic tuffs. The fresh white colour will fade over time

Cadw has entered new territory during the conservation work at St Davids, particularly in the use of replacement stone and experimentation with conservation of decorative stonework. The resultant unified appearance is testimony to the importance of establishing clear conservation principles at the outset. Throughout the conservation project Cadw has taken every opportunity to promote visitor appreciation of the need for (and practicalities of) conservation, including exhibitions and demonstrations by craftsmen.

Not only has conservation work preserved this historic building, it has enabled visitors to see beyond the ruin and appreciate something of its past magnificence.

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Turner R 2000 *St David's Bishop's Palace, Pembrokeshire, Antiquaries Journal* 80



A decorative arcade parapet runs around the top of the main ranges displaying a colourful chequerboard design comprised of purple Caerbwdy sandstone, cream-coloured limestone and white quartz. Selective restoration undertaken as a conservation measure also enables visitors to appreciate the overall decorative design



# IFA Buildings Archaeology Group

## UPDATE

Jonathan Mullis

This year has seen a sea-change in the development of joined-up curation of the historic environment through the planning process. The hoped-for Heritage Bill was designed to ensure that processes were simplified and that archaeology and the built heritage were no longer treated separately (exactly what BAG wants). At the same time IfA is re-positioning itself to become an institute for all heritage sector professionals, with BAG in the vanguard of its membership drive.

BAG is a special interest group within IfA which promotes the archaeological analysis, research, interpretation and conservation of standing buildings. Although buildings can tell us much about how people lived in the past it has always struck me how little they are really understood in our profession. Take a look at some reconstructions of prehistoric buildings in archaeological literature – most wouldn't survive the first windy day. In Britain we are fortunate

that we can still study some standing remains of Roman, medieval or industrial-era buildings and, although prehistoric structures have been lost, there are places in the world where similar buildings still use the same technology and materials.

So what does BAG actually do in pursuit of its noble aims? We meet, of course, including arranging site visits. At our October committee meeting, for instance, we gained exclusive access to the Bow Street Magistrates Courts and Police Station complex, a grade II listed building. Previous tours include recent case studies in Cardiff, Edinburgh and Manchester as well as getting access into Battersea Power Station. As BAG's members include archaeological curators and contractors, academics and conservation officers and everyone in between, we can draw on our members' knowledge and experience to provide responses to consultation documents. This year's responses ranged between English Heritage and the Advisory Board for Redundant Churches. We are also developing links with complementary organisations such as IHBC, SPAB, ALGAO and CBA.

Our Newsletter goes to 300 members, with information about policy, training opportunities and fieldwork roundups as well as feature-length articles. We organise a session and a tour at the annual IfA conference (this year we have an international theme) and aim to undertake a training and educational role throughout the sector. More information and past issues of the newsletter are available on IfA web pages at [www.archaeologists.net/buildings](http://www.archaeologists.net/buildings).

BAG is free to IfA members (£10 for non-IfA members) so if you would like to join, email me at [jonathan.mullis@jacobs.com](mailto:jonathan.mullis@jacobs.com).

**Jonathan Mullis**  
Honorary Secretary, IfA Buildings Archaeology Group

BAG in the dock – committee members (Jonathan Mullis, Phillip Thomas, Oliver Jessop and Bob Hill) at Bow Street Magistrates Courts which played host to Oscar Wilde, Dr Crippen, and the Kray twins. The court closed in 2006. Photograph: Catherine Cavanagh



## REBRANDING THE IfA

To coincide with the renaming of the Institute for Archaeologists, it was decided that this autumn would be a great time give the Institute a new look to go with its new name.

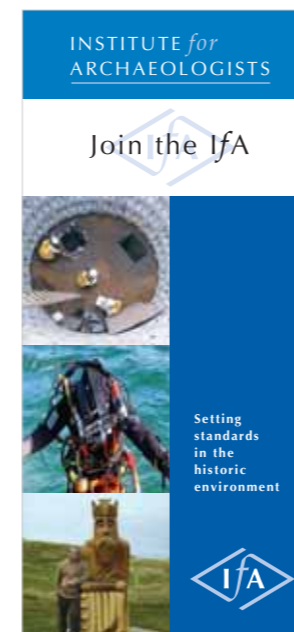


The starting point of any re-branding exercise is always the logo. The IfA's blue diamond has become such a recognisable symbol both within the profession and beyond, that it was important to retain this strong visual device. The Institute has dropped the word 'field' in favour of 'for', to make the name more inclusive, and when using the acronym IfA the 'f' will now always be used in the lower case. To reflect this, the f has been incorporated into the diamond itself – the focus of the logo is now on the initial letters I and A to emphasise the words **Institute** and **Archaeologists**. This is also reflected in the use of the two different blues - PMS 286 (darker) and 285 (lighter) - which will now be used throughout all IfA publicity material.

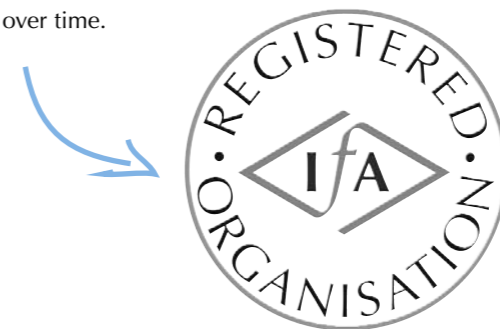
The new logo, more streamlined than its predecessor, will be clearer when reproduced at a small scale, reversed out of a dark background or used digitally. The two-tone logo can be recreated in black and white for single colour documents and as well as the two-tone version, the logo can also be used in a single tone of blue, black or white.



*The Archaeologist* has long played an important part in the visual representation of the IfA. The typefaces used in the magazine, Optima and Palatino, have both been incorporated into the new logo. Optima will now become the principal font used in the magazine and most IfA publications, and the strong and recognisable format of *TA's* front cover will be reflected in all new IfA material including the *Yearbook and Directory*, leaflets, posters, professional papers, *Standard and Guidance* literature etc.



The Registered Organisation logo has had a face lift to include the new IfA logo, and you will see a change to all IfA related material as the new look is phased in over time.



As well as all promotional literature, IfA's stationery is also being redesigned with the new branding, and the website will soon follow. It is hoped that IfA Groups will also adopt the new conventions.



# BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL AWARDS 2008

Alison Taylor

IfA members did well at the 2008 British Archaeological Awards ceremony, held in the British Museum on 10 November. They took a great number of awards, IfA's own sponsored award for Best Archaeological Project attracted excellent projects, David Breeze, Hon MfA, presided, Christopher Catling was Treasurer, your Editor was Hon Sec (although the important work was done by Sarah Howell on behalf of the Robert Kiln Trust), and Carena Lewis presented the trophies and certificates. These were the first trial of 'new look' Awards, judging criteria and processes etc having been reconsidered to reflect British archaeology in the 21st century.

## ■ 'ambitious and widely visionary research'

The Best Archaeological Project was deservedly won by Framework Archaeology for the *Heathrow Terminal 5 Excavation and Publication Project*. 'We particularly admired the Heathrow Project for its innovative approach to collaboration, which rendered the daunting scale of the project attainable; for its ambitious and widely visionary research programme' said the judges. Highly Commended awards went to the RCAHMS' *Scotland's Rural Past* project, led by Tertia Barnett, and to Nick Corcos and the *Shapwick Project* 'a terrific example of professional/amateur co-operation ... creating a community archaeology... leading to instinctive care, of the local heritage'.



Framework Archaeology reps, drawn from Oxford Archaeology and Wessex Archaeology, won IfA's best Archaeological Project Award for their work at Heathrow Terminal 5

## ■ 'disseminating knowledge of British archaeology'

Framework Archaeology also came out as Highly Commended for the Best Archaeological Innovation award, supported by Atkins Heritage, Niall Donald this time receiving the certificate for *Freeviewer*. 'Freeviewer, (which will have better explanation in IfA's *Yearbook 2009 - Ed*), in making available primary data from some very large excavations, is clearly contributing to the dissemination of knowledge in British archaeology'. The overall winner was the Linking Electronic Archives and Publications project (again to be explained in the *Yearbook*) and again 'successful in disseminating knowledge of British archaeology'. Julian Richards (ADS), Judith Winters (Internet Archaeology) and Mike Heyworth (CBA) collected this trophy.

## ■ 'enlightened our understanding'

In the Archaeological Book Award (supported by Cathedral Communications, IfA's *Yearbook* publisher) Andrew Lawson was Highly Commended, for *Chalkland: an archaeology of Stonehenge and its region*, 'an invaluable and particularly user-friendly compendium for this huge topic' as was Tony Wilmott, for *The Roman Amphitheatre in Britain* which 'enlightened our understanding and rekindled interest in a topic sometimes seen as too melodramatic for modern taste' and Roger Rosewell, for *Medieval Wall Painting*'. Chris Stringer was the outright winner for *Homo Britannicus: the incredible story of human life in Britain*, which 'weaves together natural and human history in an engrossing and relevant way'. The judging had been demanding, as finalists included Roger White's *Britannia Prima: Britain's Last Roman Province*, and Tim Darvill's *Stonehenge: The Biography of a Landscape*.

## ■ Standard setters

The Best Scholarly Archaeological book prize, supported by the Society of Antiquaries of London, went to Thomas McErlean and Norman Crothers, for *Harnessing the Tides: The Early Medieval Tide Mills at Nendrum Monastery, Strangford Lough* 'A standard setter for fieldwork reports, especially by public agencies', with Highly Commended awarded to David Bowsheer, Tony Dyson, Nick Holder and Isca Howell, for *The London Guildhall* published by the Museum of London Archaeology Service - 'comprehensive treatment of historical and contemporary iconographic evidence helps make this a model for archaeological excavation reports', and John Schofield & Wayne Cocroft, for *A Fearsome Heritage: Diverse Legacies of the Cold War* 'archaeological recognition of our post-War military and political heritage'. Worthy finalists were Martin Bell, for *Prehistoric Coastal Communities: The Mesolithic in western Britain*, Dan Hicks and Mary C Beaudry for *The Cambridge Companion to Historical Archaeology*, Andrew Gardner for *An Archaeology of Identity: Soldiers and Society in Late Roman Britain* and Adam Stout's wholly new approach to *Creating Prehistory: Druids, Ley Hunters and Archaeologists in Pre-War Britain*.

## ■ Online resources

The Best Archaeological ICT project, supported by Channel 4, went this year to CBA's Community Archaeology Forum, 'an online resource for anyone involved in a community archaeology project'. Highly Commended were Norfolk Heritage Explorer, with its 'comprehensive mapping features and the means to enable effective searching of the Norfolk Historic Environment Record'. David Gurney was awarded the certificate.

Best Archaeological Discovery:  
Hand axes and mammoth bones  
recorded under the North Sea



Judith Dobie's reconstruction of the Guildhall site in the middle ages



## ■ 75 hand axes

The Best Archaeological Discovery, sponsored by Mike Aston, had an outstanding winner nominated by Wessex Archaeology in Jan Meulmeester, a Dutch palaeontologist, and Hanson Aggregates Marine Limited for a group of 75 Palaeolithic hand axes excavated in the North Sea off Great Yarmouth after one was spotted in dredged material at Vlissingen. The British Marine Aggregate Producers Association *Protocol for Reporting Finds of Archaeological Interest* proved valuable guidance that was followed with care. Robin Taylor-Wilson and Pre-Construct Archaeology were also Highly Commended for discovery and reporting of a Roman altar from Manchester, Gary Brown collecting the certificate.



The Best Amateur Project, sponsored by the Robert Kiln Trust, had the most photogenic finds of the day, in Stephen Sherlock and Teesside Archaeological Society's 'extremely competent, well-organised and fascinating excavation of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Street House, Yorkshire' (Highly Commended)

The finale was a new Lifetime Achievement Award Silver Trowel donated by Spear and Jackson/ Neill Tools Ltd which went to Clive Orton 'a world figure in statistics and quantitative methods in archaeology'. Vivien Swan, who 'played a pivotal part in helping us all understand the wider value of Roman pottery in offering information on supply, diet, ethnicity, troop movements,...leading the field throughout Europe', and Roy Friendship-Taylor, chair of the Upper Nene Archaeological Society for 36 years, directing major volunteer excavations including the Romano-Britain villa at Piddington, 'one of the most thoroughly excavated and researched such site in the Midlands' were also much acclaimed.

## Alison Taylor

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**Underwater Archaeology:  
The NAS Guide to Principles and Practice**

Second Edition, 2009

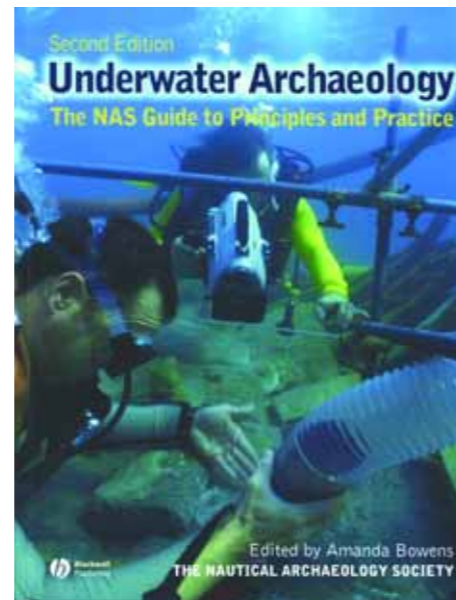
Amanda Bowens (Ed)

226pp Paperback £19.00 for NAS Members & £24.99 for Non-members. Hardcover £50 for Members, £60 for Non-members

The aim of the 1992 publication *Archaeology Underwater, The NAS Guide to Principles and Practice* was to create 'a source of practical information on how to undertake archaeological work underwater while maintaining acceptable standards'. This still remains the same seventeen years later, but updated with new approaches and new techniques. Particularly interesting are new chapters on *Safety on Archaeological Sites Underwater* and on *Foreshore, Historical Research, International and National Law, Geophysical and Remote-Sensing Surveys* and *Site Monitoring and Protection*. These chapters show us the need to combine specialisms in the management and research of our underwater cultural heritage.

However, placement of some new chapters does not add clarity to the archaeological process it is intended to describe. For example *Historical Research* should have been discussed earlier in the book, as a desktop study should precede putting your head below the water surface, whilst *Photography* should be close to *Archaeological Illustration* and to *Post-Fieldwork Analysis and Archiving*.

The writers and editor have struggled to give this edition a more international look, yet the great majority of writers are UK based. Examples used are almost exclusively from the UK, so too the References and Further Reading, and also guideline examples. NAS is still very UK-focused, and underwater archaeology is lived differently in different countries. These have different cultures, laws and priorities, and it would be extremely difficult to combine these into one book. Why should it be tried anyway? My suggestion would be to focus clearly on the UK-based avocational community, including initiatives such as the NAS Adopt-a-Wreck programme. If a future edition is intended to reflect a more international approach, a suggestion from my (Dutch) side would be to focus on the neighbouring



countries, France, Belgium and the Netherlands. There is already interaction between the diving communities of these countries and borders are constantly crossed.

Other comments are that the References and Further Reading of many chapters – eg *Project Planning, International Laws* and *Site Monitoring and Protection* – are missing some fundamental international literature. This is combined with the lack of individual authorship of chapters, making it difficult to verify that each was written by an expert in his/her field.

To conclude: the Second Edition of the NAS Guide provides a great overview of underwater archaeology. It has a clear structure and is written in a straightforward style. Principal beneficiaries will be students and avocational divers, and it will also be useful for terrestrial archaeologists wishing to learn about underwater archaeology. It will also stand as an illustration on principles and practice in the UK.

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# Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007 – an update

Kate Geary

Following revisions to the CDM regulations in 2007, IfA received guidance from the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) confirming that archaeological work would *not* be classed as construction for the purposes of the regulations. Since then, Registered Organisations have been receiving conflicting advice from local health and safety advisors and it would appear that, in practice at least, the HSE is taking a different approach from that suggested in its original letter. IfA is seeking further clarification, but in the meantime, we have been advised that

- all construction work is covered by Part 2 of the CDM Regulations which deals with general management duties
- Part 3 of the Regulations set out the additional duties relating to projects which are notifiable. Projects are notifiable if they are not carried out

for domestic clients and are more than 30 working days or 500 person days in duration. Archaeological projects may be classed as construction work in their own right (ie regardless of whether they are carried out in advance or alongside construction work) if they meet these criteria. We understand that a pragmatic approach will be taken by HSE, and whether archaeological projects are notifiable will be judged on a case by case basis. Advice should be sought from HSE if there is any doubt.

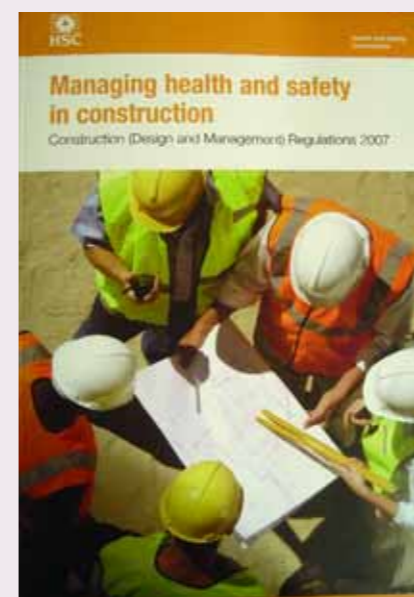
- Part 4 of the Regulations also applies to all construction work and covers the physical safeguards to be provided
- archaeological work carried out as part of notifiable construction projects should be included within the construction phase plan. Surveying *per se* is not covered by the Regulations but common sense would indicate that surveying work carried out at the same time as site clearance, or similar preparatory work, would be

Further information is available from HSE and the Health and Safety Commission's Approved Code of Practice *Managing health and safety in construction*, which can be ordered from the HSE website [www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk). Construction Skills, the Sector Skills Council for the construction industry, provides a suite of construction related health and safety training courses which may also be useful. Further details can be found at [www.cskills.org/supportbusiness/ncc/coursebooking/index.aspx](http://www.cskills.org/supportbusiness/ncc/coursebooking/index.aspx).

Archaeologists should ensure that they are aware of the requirements of the Regulations and the guidance which accompanies them and the roles of key personnel within notifiable projects, eg CDM co-ordinator, designer and principal contractor.

**Kate Geary**

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# Professional training for ceramic archaeologists

Victoria Bryant

Pottery studies have been recognised as an essential element in archaeological endeavour since the birth of the discipline in the later 18th century. Pottery can be used to create a chronology and provide clues to the processes that have led to the creation of the deposits we excavate. It illuminates many aspects of our history: use of natural resources; technology; trade patterns; social and economic systems; day to day life; social structure and aspiration; religion and ritual. The study of pottery continues to develop with changing theoretical approaches and the introduction of new scientific techniques and methodological approaches.

MPRG is a registered charity founded in 1975 to bring together people with an interest in the pottery vessels made, traded and used in Europe between the end of the Roman period and the 16th century. Its remit has subsequently expanded to include pottery of the 17th to 19th centuries from both sides of the Atlantic and beyond as well as post-Roman building material. It has over 300 personal and institutional subscribers, about one-third from outside the UK.

For a number of years the Group has been concerned with the lack of training in ceramic studies and has worked with English Heritage and IfA to develop courses and work place training. MPRG, in

association with Southampton City Council, has received a one-year workplace learning bursary from the Institute for Archaeologists to allow a trainee to develop a specialism in the study of medieval pottery and we have also piloted training days for beginners in medieval and post-medieval pottery. These took place in 2007 in Edinburgh, Salisbury, Taunton and Worcester and were aimed at members of local archaeology and history societies, field archaeologists with commercial units, museum staff etc.

MPRG, with funding from English Heritage will be continuing its training courses in 2009 (a successful course on post medieval pottery, led by David Barker at Stoke on Trent, was held in November, too late for this *TA*). The courses are designed to provide career development for archaeological ceramicists, whether working freelance, within commercial archaeological organisations, or in university or museum sectors. Whilst intended for those involved with post-Roman ceramics, they will also be useful for those studying prehistoric and Roman pottery.

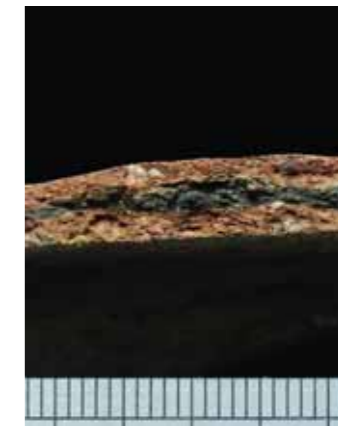
Each course runs for 2 days and costs £50, to cover tuition, course notes, refreshments and lunches. There are only 12 places per course so please book early. A booking form can be found on the MPRG website <http://medievalpotterynews.blogspot.com/>



15th-century imported pottery from Southampton, including French, Dutch, Rhenish, Iberian and Italian types. Photograph: John Lawrence, Southampton City Council



Potter throwing Spanish majolica dish. Photograph: John Hudson



Section through a sherd of 13th-century pot from Worcestershire. A detailed fabric description for Fabric 56 Malvernian unglazed ware can be found on [www.worcestershireceramics.org](http://www.worcestershireceramics.org). Photograph: Andy Chopping, Museum of London Archaeology

**Medieval Imported Pottery (2 courses)**  
**9 and 10 February, 11 and 12 February 2009**  
**Tutors** Duncan Brown and Alan Vince  
**Venue** Tudor Merchants Hall, Westgate Street, Southampton

- introduction to imported pottery found in UK ceramic assemblages
- detailed examination of the main imported ceramic wares and their dating
- practical microscope work to improve skills in identification of imported pottery

**Ceramic Fabrics: a practical guide to inclusions and descriptions**  
**September 2009 (2 courses, dates to be confirmed)**  
**Tutor** David Williams  
**Venue** University of Southampton, Avenue Campus, Highfield, Southampton

- introduction to the history, theory and methods of identifying inclusions
- introduction to geology and how this might affect locally available clays
- introduction to the effects of firing on inclusions
- practical microscope work to improve skills in identification, and recording of inclusions including sherds provided by the tutors and trainees
- practical work on writing fabric descriptions required for publication, including appropriate terminology and correct use of Munsell charts

**Technology of Pottery Production (2 courses)**  
**26 and 27 May, 28 and 29 May 2009**  
**Tutor** John Hudson  
**Venues** John Hudson's pottery, 44 Shillbank Lane Mirfield, West Yorkshire and the Swarthmore Centre, 2-7 Woodhouse Square, Leeds

- introduction and demonstration of modern country-pottery clay preparation practices, clay digging, sieving, drying out and pugging. Discussion on ware types and usage, decorating, glazing, firing and distribution of wares with reference to medieval and post-medieval practices
- visit to West Yorkshire Archaeological Services to handle ceramic finds, discuss clay sources and identification, and pottery sites and their identification and excavation
- practical work at the Swarthmore Centre, Leeds. This will include working on a medieval-style, momentum-wheel, tile making, slip-trailing, Roman lamp making, figurine making, Delft painting, coil and thumb pottery, clay tempering, sgraffito work and impressed and applied decoration

For more information please contact



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## New members

### ELECTED

#### Member (MIFA)

Simon Carlyle  
George Children  
Giles Dawkes  
Damian De Rosa  
Simon Gilmour  
Michael Grant  
Chiz Harward  
Ruth Pelling  
Jonathon Sygrave

#### Associate (AIFA)

Edward Bailey  
Linn Breslin  
Katherine Crowder  
Helen Dawson  
Helen MacQuarrie  
Janet McNaught  
Timothy Murphy  
Ross Murray  
Chris O'Connell  
Gareth Owen  
Julie Parker  
Kay Proctor  
Matt Ratcliff  
Clare Watson  
Suzie Westall

#### Practitioner (PIFA)

Jessica Berry  
Charlotte Bold  
Hannah Brown  
David Brown  
Lindsey Büster  
Keith Butler  
Ged Callaghan  
Steven Champion  
Nicholas Carter  
Anne Connors  
Thomas Conway  
Sharon Cook  
Simon Coxe  
Stella De-Villiers  
Gemma Driver  
Kristjana Eyjolfsson  
Sharon Gerber-Parfitt  
Gay Gilmour  
Emily Hamilton  
Sophie Hawke  
Ellen Kendall  
Ross Kendall  
Wajdan Majeed  
Emma Malone  
James McNicoll-  
Norbury  
Matthew Morgan  
Julia Moxham  
Marta Perez-  
Fernandez  
Alec Phillips  
Deborah Riches  
Katherine Toms  
Kate Wheaton  
Amy Willis

#### Affiliate

Mark Andrews  
Anna Bailey  
Elizabeth Barham  
Amy Bell  
Margaret Bennett  
Sarah Botfield  
Stephen Brunning  
Melissa Budgen  
Simon Chandler  
Amanda Dawson  
Gemma Duncan  
Kelly Gregory  
Helen Harman  
Diana Jones  
Christine King  
Laura Maddison  
Philip Martin  
Lesley McEwan  
Charlie Middleton  
Annika Nickson  
Claire Pykett  
Edward Renshaw  
Simon Revell  
Patricia Reynolds  
Roy Riches  
John Shearman  
Claire Soper  
Philip Thomas  
Kate Williams  
David Worsell  
Berber Wouda

#### Student

Peter Aherne  
Lynn Amadio  
Richard Beeson  
Laura Belton  
Jessica Billing  
Matthew Blewett  
Lisa Brundle  
Peter Colvin  
Tracy Connolly  
Matthew Fenn  
Colin Forrestal  
Edith Gillham  
Paolo Guadagno  
Christopher Harris  
Neil Holbrook  
Sun Woo Kim  
Janice Kinory  
Henrietta Longden  
Aaron Macleod  
Nadia Mahmoud  
Hayley Nicholls  
Matthew Palmer  
Alison Paxton  
Julie Robinson  
Siân Smith  
Geoff Smith  
Jacob Streatfeild-  
James  
Veronica Walker  
Ryan Wallace  
Jodie Ward  
James Winter

### TRANSFERS

#### Member (MIFA)

George Anelay  
Lorraine Darton  
Lucie Dingwall  
Lindsay Dunbar  
Suzanne Gailey  
Kenneth Hamilton  
Helen Martin-  
Bacon  
Jennifer Morrison  
Christopher Smith  
Mark Stevenson  
Andy Towle

#### Associate (AIFA)

Stephen Beach  
David Kaye  
Rebecca Lambert  
Philip Richardson  
Cristina Serra Ruiz  
Kathryn  
Whittington

#### Practitioner (PIFA)

Oliver Good  
Rosemary Hooker  
Kevin Paton  
Jon Tanner

#### Student

Rebecca Bennett

## Members news

### Gerry Wait MIFA 771

Gerry Wait entered archaeology in his native USA, followed by doctoral research at Oxford, a few years with the Oxford Archaeology Unit (as it was then), and moving to Cambridgeshire County Council for curatorial archaeology (with IfA's Editor) and more excavations and fieldwork. In 1994 he joined Gifford, and remained there until 2008. He then made two brave moves – he left the big corporate world of consultancy to create Nexus with Anthony Martin, so they could focus on more meaningful heritage work, and he also (in October) became Hon Chair for IfA (p7).

### Philip Crummy Mifa 1671

Philip Crummy, director of Colchester Archaeological Trust, also received an honorary doctorate this summer, this time from Essex University in recognition of his work on the archaeology of Colchester and his extensive publications on the results. Philip has been director of Colchester Archaeological Trust since 1971 and has worked tirelessly in the town and surrounding sites (perhaps most significantly at Stanway) ever since. Mark Hassall, Chair of CAT for more than 20 years, commented that Philip's 'results have been dramatic and have transformed our knowledge of Britain's premier city: the list is impressive – from the discovery of the earliest legionary fortress in Britain, to the excavation of one of the very few late Roman Christian churches known in the country; from the excavation of spectacular Roman mosaics in the private town houses of the wealthy, to Roman public buildings such as the theatre and circus (the only one certainly attested in the province)'.



### Phil Harding Mifa 377

Last summer, Phil Harding, project manager at Wessex Archaeology and Britain's favourite digger thanks to Channel 4's 'Time Team', was awarded an honorary doctorate by Southampton University. He has been a practising field archaeologist and Palaeolithic flint specialist for almost forty years, and his publication list of excavated sites is long and distinguished. He is an experienced knapper of Stone Age tools, with a long history of experimental archaeology.

Phil Harding



### David Breeze Mifa 924 and Hon MIFA

David Breeze received an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters this summer. He did his original PhD at Durham, then joined the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments in Edinburgh in 1969, becoming Chief Inspector in 1989. Throughout his career he remained active in the field, and also maintained a massive publication output, mostly on the archaeology and military history of the Roman Empire. Perhaps his best known works are on Hadrian's Wall. In 2005 he became Head of Special Heritage Projects for Historic Scotland, with responsibility for preparing the (successful) nomination of the Antonine Wall as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and he also managed the linked EU Culture 2000 project, *Frontiers of the Roman Empire*, a recognition of his high international reputation. Amongst his many responsibilities for prestigious archaeological projects, he has been Chair of the British Archaeological Awards for 15 years.

David Breeze in good company, at the recent British Archaeological Awards (p44)

# S More members' news

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## **Kate Clark MfA 861**

Kate Clark has just been appointed Director of the Historic Houses Trust of New South Wales. Before this move she ran her own heritage consultancy (most recently working for DCMS on options for future funding and management of the Portable Antiquities Scheme), and before that was Deputy Director of Policy and Research at the Heritage Lottery Fund. Kate was responsible for organising the successful 'Valuing the Heritage' conference, sponsored by HLF and held in London in 2006; before that she worked in the policy section of English Heritage, where she wrote *Informed Conservation*, whose principles underpin much work in conservation management planning for historic buildings.

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## **Brian Ayers MfA 23**

A county archaeologist who escaped this autumn, Brian Ayers, county archaeologist for Norfolk and, until his move, Chair of ALGAO, became director of the Butrint Foundation. This foundation is a charitable trust whose principal objective is to restore and preserve Butrint, a World Heritage Site in southern Albania, inhabited since the mid first millennium BC. Brian had worked in Norfolk for 29 years in various archaeological capacities. He will remain on several committees including the editorial committee of *East Anglian Archaeology*.



Brian Ayers

## **Adrian Tindall MfA 66**

After thirty years in local government archaeology, Adrian Tindall has left his post as county archaeologist with Cambridgeshire County Council to become a freelance archaeological consultant. After graduating from Sheffield and an MA in archaeological sciences at Bradford University, Adrian worked for archaeological units in North Derbyshire and West Yorkshire before helping set up the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit, with Philip Holdsworth and John Walker, in 1980. He became county archaeologist for Hereford and Worcester in 1987, then took on the same role in Cheshire until 2004 when he moved to the same post in Cambridgeshire (claiming to be the first county archaeologist in three different counties). Amongst his tasks was relocation of Cambridgeshire County Council's archaeological field unit into Oxford Archaeology (East) (p12–13).

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## **Andrea Smith MfA 418**

Andrea Smith has just joined the Board of Directors for Headland Archaeology. She had previously spent nine years as an Inspector of Ancient Monuments with Historic Scotland, with special responsibility for the Antonine Wall, and in 2004 became Director of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland where, along with day-to-day organisation, she was responsible for commenting on historic environment policy consultations from government and other national and international bodies. Now *Post-Excavation Manager*, she joined Headland in 2006.

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## **Simon Stronach MfA 2390**

Simon Stronach, Project Manager with Headland Archaeology since 2001, has also joined the Board of Directors. He has directed a wide range of excavations, and co-authored the Scottish Burgh Survey publications for Dunbar, Kirkintilloch, Barrhead and Dunfermline. He also worked from the Irish office on excavations relating to the Waterford and Carlow Bypasses.

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