

IMPACT

Investing in England's Heritage

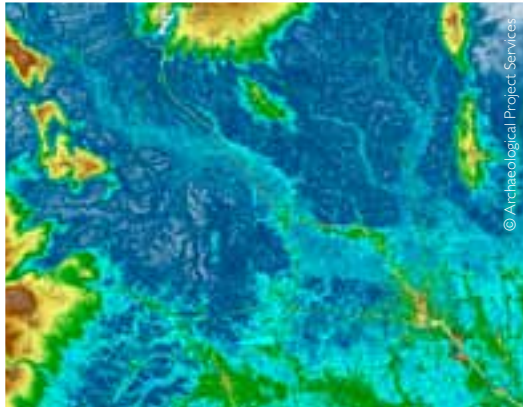
A report of projects funded under the Historic Environment Enabling Programme and Aggregate Levy Sustainability Fund from 2007-10.



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© festival events CBA



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Sinah Common gun emplacement stabilisation undertaken as part of the vulnerable monuments scheme

Cover images: Illustrations from projects which took place during 2007-10: (Main picture) Row of elevated beach huts built fronting onto the beach side at Frinton-on Sea, Essex, (bottom, left to right) St Enodoc Church and a golf course in the dunes beside the Camel Estuary, Cornwall – the grave of Sir John Betjeman is just to the right inside the gate; Lidar image of the Lincolnshire Fens north and west of Boston; Demonstration of rope making at Corfe Castle, Dorset.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

English Heritage would like to thank all the organisations and individuals who have provided text and pictures for this report. Copyright rests with the individual contributors.

For further details of the HEEP/ ALSF programmes please refer to the [English Heritage website](#), or contact:

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Archaeologists from Cornwall Council Historic Environment Service working on the Lyonesse Project.

INTRODUCTION

The Historic Environment Enabling Programme is a central strategic budget through which English Heritage commissions the research necessary for evidence-based policy and supports nationally important initiatives which deliver against its strategic priorities and underpin its lead role for the Historic Environment. Projects are targeted to develop understanding, promote the value of the historic environment, to support and encourage the care of our past, and to allow people to enjoy it as many different ways as possible.

Archaeologist Neil Fitzpatrick excavating the remains of a 7th to 8th century female burial



© Wessex Archaeology

The Programme encompasses the former Archaeology Commissions, Maritime Archaeology, and Historic Buildings and Areas Research Department budgets. The programme reinforces a seamless approach to the historic environment, and covers the marine and terrestrial historic environment, buildings, historic areas and landscapes, and methodological and technical development, as well as conventional archaeology. It is not just about research, but promotes best practice, delivers public access and outreach, and supports training and capacity-building.

The Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund (ALSF) was introduced in April 2002 to provide funds to tackle a wide range of problems in areas affected by the extraction of aggregates. It is distributed on behalf of Defra by English Heritage and includes a ring-fenced allocation for marine initiatives which is to be distributed by English Heritage and CEFAS. A full listing of projects funded can be found through [English Heritage SHAPE online](#).

All project reports received to date are available on the Archaeological Data Service website and via the Sustainable Aggregates website.

In the case of both funds projects are commissioned against national priorities in support of English Heritage's Strategy for 2005-2010. From April 2008 projects have been commissioned against the priorities defined in SHAPE, our new strategic project framework for the historic environment, informed by the English Heritage Research Strategy and detailed strategy documents for specific policy and research areas such as those currently available for the marine and coastal historic environment.

The Historic Environment Enabling Programme and Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund were managed by the Historic Environment Commissions Team. In summer 2010 Historic Environment Commissions was rebranded as National Heritage Protection Commissions. The Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund came to an end at the close of the 2010 financial year.

THIS REPORT

The projects that we enable through grants from the Historic Environment Enabling Programme and Aggregate Levy Sustainability fund deliver understanding of the past around and below us, encourage people to value what still survives, deliver the means to improve the way they care for their historic environment, and open it up for more people to enjoy, through objects recovered, conserved and displayed, buildings revealed and explained, and books published and sold.

By encouraging people to enjoy their historic buildings and landscapes, we hope in turn to generate a thirst for understanding it, completing the cycle. The impact of the Programme in promoting this cycle is enormous. To provide the clearest possible introduction to the extraordinary breadth of activities we support throughout the country, we have focused on the primary aims of the projects and grouped them against English Heritage's strategic objectives for 2005-2010, and against our Research Strategy themes. There are a number of web-links included throughout the

text: these were correct at time of going to press, but of course may change over time. They are not exhaustive, but represent a quick and easy way for those with access to the internet to discover more about the projects described here.

We have also not specified each funded organisation in the main text, for reasons of space. However, a list of all the projects and organisations we have funded a full listing of projects funded and summaries of selected projects is available at [English Heritage SHAPE online](#). ALSF-funded projects are differentiated from HEEP projects by the use of **purple text**.

Feedback on any aspect of this report would be greatly appreciated. For this, and any further information please contact the appropriate member of the [National Heritage Protection Commissions Team](#).

Barney Sloane

Head of Historic Environment Commissions

Neil Redfern, © English Heritage



A burnt shooting butt on Fylingdales Moor, in danger of significant erosion from wind and rain – English Heritage staff engage in historic re-enactment



Watermeadows, Shelwick Green,
Herefordshire

UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Defining, characterising and analysing the historic environment.

The Historic Environment Enabling Programme (HEEP) and Aggregate Levy Sustainability Fund are a vital element in enabling people to understand, appreciate and care for the historic environment. Careful use of these funds allow individuals and communities, both professional and non-professional, to develop a wider understanding of the riches of our past, and encourages their participation in its successful management. Limited resources mean that we provide funding only for the most important and urgent needs of the historic environment. Work commissioned by us from 2007-10 to help people develop this understanding fell into three complementary categories, reflecting the focus of English Heritage's Research Strategy:

- *Promoting new techniques of analysis and research*
- *Encouraging the sector to develop and disseminate national and regional frameworks for research into the historic environment*
- *Enabling detailed research on the most important aspects of our past landscapes, buildings, monuments and maritime heritage*

Every single research project is based on partnership, and each concentrates on knowledge-sharing and transfer. All of our funded work is guided by the need to provide straightforward access to results.

Very large Post War Fields
at Wolvey, Rugby



DEFINING THE QUESTIONS

Supporting Research Frameworks: National, regional, local, diachronic and thematic frameworks.

It is essential that English Heritage spending is focused where it can do the most good. One of our most important roles is to facilitate and enable others working in the historic environment, particularly in the creation of collaborative research frameworks. In doing so, we ensure that the resulting research values are embedded in all future work, help set priorities and sustaining long-term objectives. Such frameworks are being received enthusiastically by the sector, which regards them as a high priority.

Support has been provided for the development of regional frameworks which are almost complete for all of England's nine regions, some World Heritage Sites, and some more closely defined local sites. Once the major set of national, regional and period frameworks are firmly in place, their ownership will reside in the research community who are best placed to develop strategies which will ensure their use, revision and longevity. On completion, a review will be undertaken to identify gaps and inconsistencies, so a programme of support for upgrades to agreed standards can be defined. As described in previous reports, work continues steadily across a number of fronts. The **North East** and **North West Regions** are complete and published, and the **West Midlands Region** and the **Eastern Region's** updated frameworks have both gone to publication. The **East Midlands Region** and

the **London Region** are on course to complete the final parts of their framework in the near future, and good progress is being made in the remaining regions.

In addition to these over arching frameworks, English Heritage is undertaking a series of regional reviews covering the different types of environmental evidence from archaeological sites and palaeoenvironmental deposits. The purpose of these reviews is to determine the extent of our knowledge of the past, as gained from the study of biological remains, sediments and soils in England. They seek to identify gaps in our current understanding, and highlight priorities and directions for future research at a local, regional and national level. As such the reviews provide essential research in support of the development of the regional and national research frameworks mentioned above.

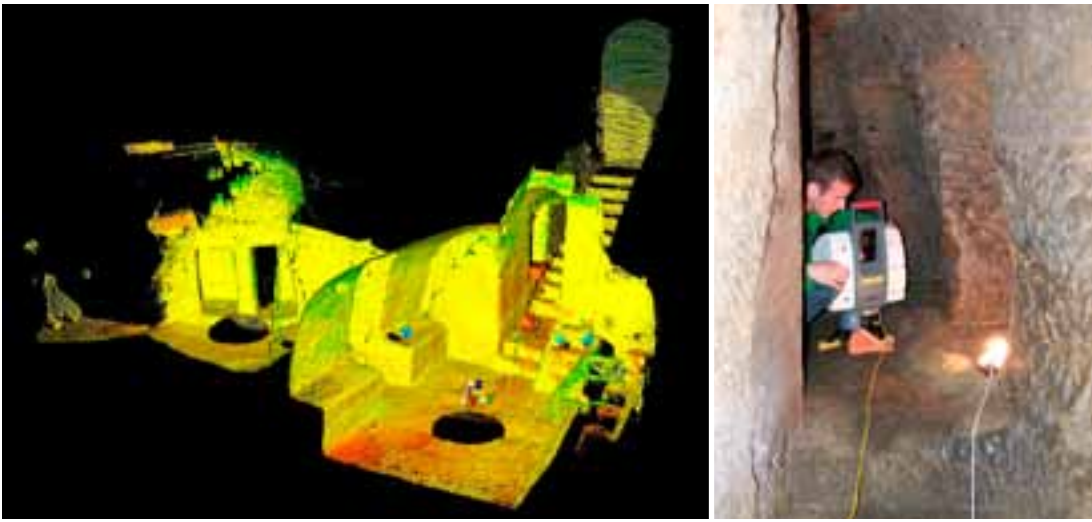
The **Southern Region Review of Molluscan Studies** is currently in preparation. In addition to the aims described above it seeks to provide a coherent picture of the development of molluscan studies, and to assess the contribution of archaeological molluscan studies to the reconstruction of chronologies, palaeoenvironments and palaeoeconomies in southern England. In particular it highlights the need for research on Neolithic monuments

Below left: Recording of later prehistoric palaeochannel of the River Trent in Girton Quarry, Nottinghamshire

Below right: Microscopic analysis of waterlogged plant remains from Romano-British features at Tilm Quarry, Nottinghamshire



Both images © Trent & Peak Archaeology



Far left: Laser scan of the Apothecary's Cave, Bridlesmith Gate, Nottingham

Left: Laser scanning in the Apothecary's Cave, Bridlesmith Gate, Nottingham

outside Wessex, and the importance of ecological studies in understanding sub-fossil assemblages.

The **Review of Pollen Studies from the South of England** is also now in the final stages of preparation. It provides a comprehensive account and gazetteer, county by county, of pollen analyses from the region, and follows on directly from (and updates) a review published in the mid-1980s, highlighting progress and identifying gaps which still need to be filled. The second half of the review consists of a series of themed chapters dealing with subjects such as: the Holocene vegetational development of the southern chalklands; towards an understanding of the Neolithic elm decline; lime woodland in southern England; pollen analysis of archaeological contexts and underwater environs - analysis of submerged archaeological contexts and sea-level change and palaeoecology.

The **Geoarchaeological Regional Review of Marine Deposits along the Coastline of Southern England** has recently been published. Coastal deposition has led to the accumulation of some of the thickest deposits of Holocene sediments in the British Isles. Often permanently waterlogged, these sediments provide ideal conditions for the preservation both of archaeological remains and palaeoenvironmental material. The coast continues to be a dynamic environment and this review comes at a time when the United Kingdom's coastal sediments are increasingly at risk of erosion, caused by rising sea-levels driven by climate change. It therefore includes deposits that formed in a terrestrial environment but are now submerged as a result of a rise in relative sea-level.

English Heritage is also supporting the development of a **Marine Research Framework** using funding from the Aggregate Levy Sustainability Fund (ALSF). This framework will provide an overview of previous research to enable long-term strategic planning for England's maritime heritage, and a

statement of agreed research priorities within which researchers can shape projects. This is being developed by the maritime archaeology sector and will utilise the breadth of knowledge and experience within the sector to set out its priorities. Publication is expected in 2011.

We also expect to see publication of the **Revised Research Framework of Post-Roman Ceramic Studies in Britain** (which covers England, Scotland and Wales) in 2011. The 2009-10 programme of work to produce this document included a review of developments since 1994, an assessment of current research priorities and the status of the sector; and the production of a revised agenda for future research and development as well as a strategy for achieving this agenda. Financial support from CADW and Historic Scotland enable the extension of the project beyond England, and support in kind has been given Medieval Pottery Research Group, the Society for Medieval Archaeology and the Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology.

Also due to complete in 2011 is the **Research Framework for the Extractive Industries** in England being undertaken by the National Association of Mining History Organisations.

The picture shows the eroding cliffs at Happisburgh, Norfolk, where flint artefacts (including a handaxe) and butchered bone were discovered in the organic muds that underlie the rapidly eroding coastal cliffs. In 2004 The East of England is one of the key areas in Britain for Palaeolithic research. The picture also illustrates one of the major challenges facing the Eastern Region, that is coastal erosion and rising sea-levels. The revised text of the Regional Research Framework is available on-line at <http://www.eaareports.org.uk/>



PROMOTING INNOVATION IN RESEARCH

Bright Science: Technical and technological innovation.

Below left: Soil pitting; this image shows an alluvium filled palaeochannel the flowed across the floodplain at Newington as it developed. The palaeochannel was not identified in the coring program which preceded the monitoring despite the high-resolution of the coring intervals.

Below right: This image shows the hydrological condition of the floodplain on the basis of an extensive piezometer grid at Newington. The main point of note is that the red areas to the lower right hand side of the image demonstrate that below the SSSI at this location, there is little or no water to ca. 3m below the modern floodplain. An unsustainable situation that appears to have been caused by over-extraction in this area of the catchment

The fresh toolkit projects seek to develop new theoretical and methodological approaches which will improve understanding and management of the historic environment. To this end, Hull University have undertaken an **In-situ Preservation Literature Study**, which will function as a resource for both heritage and wetland managers wherever mitigation strategies are required in order to ensure sustainable management.

The preservation of organic waterlogged archaeological material is a matter of international importance as it often preserves information which is rarely recoverable from other contexts. This review provides a comprehensive, up-to-date, international literature overview of hydrological, physico-chemical, and microbiological research into the *in situ* preservation of organic archaeological remains within wetland environments. It discusses the nature of *in situ* preservation and the threats posed to wetland environments, and current legislation aimed at conserving wetlands. It also outlines the main methods and techniques available to archaeologists when characterising waterlogged burial environments. The report is available on the [Hull University website](#)

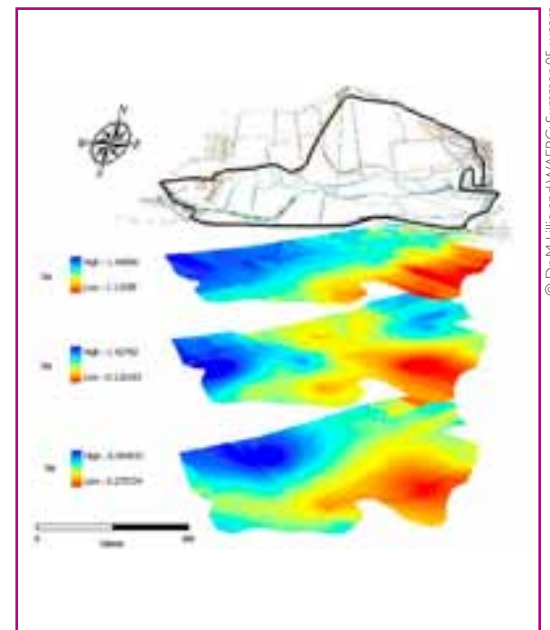
The financial year 2008-09 also saw ALSF funding awarded to marine and geophysics specialists from Cornwall County Council's Historic Environment Service so they could undertake a theoretical study of **Developing Marine Magnetometer Techniques**. The scope of the study included a review of existing literature and guidance on the use of magnetometers in marine archaeological surveys; their performance, targets and signals, deployment and post-acquisition processing of data, archiving and publication. The results of this work will inform the **Marine Geophysical Guidelines** also funded through the ALSF and due for publication in 2011.

FRESH TOOLKITS: METHODOLOGICAL AND THEORETICAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

The **Assessing the Visual Representation of Data in Archaeology** project by 3's Company (Consultancy) Limited and University of Southampton is looking at archaeological illustration, which traditionally has been a two-dimensional form of data recording within the archaeological process.



© Dr M Lillie and WAERC



© Dr M Lillie and WAERC: Summer 05 waerc

Today, archaeology has the opportunity of increased integration and interrogation of data by combining description, interpretation and synthesis in multimedia formats. The project will explore the relationships between archaeological illustration and the construction of knowledge. On the practical front it will assess the role of archaeological illustration in light of developing digital technologies, and disseminate the results including examples of best practice on the [project website](#).

In January 2010 English Heritage agreed funding for a project investigating the **Reconstruction of Coastal Morphology** by means of multispectral satellite data. This project will test multispectral data as a means of mapping prehistoric coastal sites and coastal morphological features in the inter-tidal zone. It is being undertaken by University College London and will complete in late 2010.

Continuing ALSF funding for the **Seabed in Prehistory** project, was the result of the widely reported discovery of 75 Palaeolithic hand axes in stockpiles of gravel recovered from a site eight miles offshore from Great Yarmouth, within aggregate dredging Area 240. Wessex Archaeology was commissioned to establish the location of the site or sites from which the flints were recovered, in order that we might better understand their provenance. In doing so the project also investigated the use and cost effectiveness of various site evaluation techniques. Historical geophysical and geotechnical data was assessed and a marine geophysical survey carried out. This survey used a range of different sub-bottom profilers to refine the geophysical techniques used for evaluating submerged prehistoric sites. These results were then used to target ground-truthing in the project area. During the period of this review ALSF funding was also agreed for the **Assessing the Impact of Water Draw-down on Archaeology in Aggregate Areas** project, undertaken by Archaeo-Environmental Consulting Ltd, which will advance the understanding and application of mitigation measures associated with the dewatering of current and future aggregate producing areas.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT INNOVATION

Large public housing schemes of the post-1945 period are dominant elements of many inner-city and suburban landscapes. Tower blocks are,



© Dr Miles Glendinning

however, vulnerable through refurbishment and demolition. A large body of information, collected during the 1980s and 1990s, could be made available to assist the planning of change, and a pilot project has been established to assess the technical, methodological and resource issues involved in producing a database from different sorts of archive material. The **Tower Blocks Database** pilot project involved collaboration between the National Monuments Record, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland and Edinburgh College of Art.

One of the many tower blocks documented as part of the towerblocks database project

As part of English Heritage's commitment to developing new approaches which improve understanding and management of the historic environment, funding was agreed in early 2010 for



The new [Guides to Good Practice](#) website. The ADS is using wiki technology in order to revise and expand its set of archiving guidelines

the **FISH Interoperability Toolkit Revision and Extension** project. Within the context of the objectives of FISH (Forum on Information Standards in Heritage) as a group, i.e. "to develop, maintain and promote standards for the recording of heritage information", this project aims to maintain and promote the Toolkit's support for the MIDAS Heritage data standard and to develop and enhance the Toolkit in line with feedback from the historic environment community. It is being undertaken by the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) and is due to complete in mid 2011.

It has increasingly been recognised that archaeological projects are producing big and complex digital data sets, and that there needs to be guidance to ensure that this information can be used in the future. The ALSF funded project **Guide to Good Practice in Data Archiving for Underwater and Remote Survey Methods in Archaeology**, also run by the Archaeological Data Service at York University, is building on the **Big Data** project, using the ALSF project **Predictive Modelling at a River Confluence** datasets as a case study. It will look at data handling and storage for aerial photography, aerial remote sensing and geophysics and will produce draft guidance early in 2011 for these areas.

Summer 2009 saw the commissioning of the **Archaeology of Aggregate Landscapes: Surveys, Interpretation, Dissemination and Interrogation** project being undertaken by the Landscape Research Centre. Over the years this unit has been engaged in a number of remote

sensing projects, funded from the ALSF and concerned with mapping the archaeology on the sands and gravels on the margins of the Vale of Pickering. The results of these surveys have, in the past, been presented through vast paper printouts which defy conventional publication and have required detailed explanation when presented to archaeologists, planners or the general public. Whilst the delivery of the interpreted data-set to the local HER is a primary objective of the project, for wider dissemination a more innovative approach is being adopted; the generation of a dynamic and interactive resource which can be viewed on the internet using Google Earth. This allows the results to be seen in 3D, in a more visual and scale independent form draped over the Google Earth air photographic map base. The project is due to be complete by March 2011.

In order to keep the English Heritage NMRC up to date ALSF funding has also been allocated to the **Enhancing the National Monument Record - Our Marine Environment** project. This project examined perceived discrepancies between the NMR and UKHO datasets and, where applicable, suggested how these discrepancies might be overcome. It was undertaken by Maritime Archaeology Ltd and completed in mid 2010. A second stage of work is now being considered.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH APPROACHES TO THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT: CHALLENGES AND BENEFITS

As part of English Heritage's commitment to develop new approaches which improve understanding and management of the historic environment, funding from the Historic Environment Enabling Programme was allocated to research into **early medieval monasteries** which will support the **Wearmouth-Jarrow Candidate World Heritage Site** bid. The main body of this work is due to be completed in February 2011.

IDENTIFYING UNKNOWN ARCHAEOLOGY

Understanding Place: New historic assets discovered and confirmed by remote sensing surveys.

English Heritage priorities for this funding period as set out in SHAPE (Strategic Framework for Historic Environment Activities and Programmes) note the need for projects which establish new evidence for historic assets through a wide variety of remote sensing techniques. The funding of a network of local fliers is an important element in the English Heritage aerial reconnaissance strategy. Four teams of local fliers in **Cornwall, Essex, Herefordshire** and **Shropshire**

funded by the Historic Environment Enabling Programme complement the English Heritage reconnaissance teams in Swindon and York. These local fliers take advantage of access to suitable aircraft and archaeological knowledge of their counties to fly over parts of the country that English Heritage in-house teams find difficult to cover.

All the local flier projects have a number of objectives including the discovery of previously unrecorded sites, monitoring of protected monuments, recording change in the landscape, training of new staff and developing new methodologies. Each project has identified areas for potential new discoveries in arable landscapes, but the summer of 2008 proved to be even wetter than 2007, so the opportunities for new cropmark discoveries were limited. The built-in flexibility of the project designs for these projects allowed priorities to switch from cropmark reconnaissance to other tasks such as monitoring scheduled monuments. In Cornwall new photographs were used to refine the methodology for reporting on monument condition, and in Herefordshire images were distributed to the counties Nature and Woodland Trust's to demonstrate the value of recent clearance of bracken and conifers on a number of Iron Age sites. In Shropshire a number of new earthwork sites were recorded during the winter months.

All these projects have included a training element, with three new staff in Cornwall and Shropshire being trained in aerial photography and reconnaissance, and two others in Herefordshire and Essex consolidating the training they received during previously funded projects. The training has included a steep learning curve for all in the use of digital cameras and the adoption of new digital workflows in to local IT systems.

a) This Iron Age square enclosure is one of a number of features recorded on Garway Hill Common through aerial and ground survey

b) Caer-din Ring, near Clun in Shropshire under a light snow fall in January 2009. With the aid of funding from English Heritage, Shropshire Council is using aerial photography to monitor the condition of Scheduled Monuments in the county

c) Possible round barrows and pillow mounds at Credacott near Week St Mary in North Cornwall

d) Aerial photograph of a new cropmark site at Stanford Le Hope, Thurrock, Essex



EXPLORING OUR MARINE HERITAGE

New Frontiers: Mapping our marine heritage.

In 2007 the results of the North Sea Palaeolandscape Project (NSPP) were published providing information upon the extent and nature of the submerged mesolithic landscape contained within the Southern North Sea. The results of this project and the associated data audit variation, identified several other areas within the UK where sufficient data, although often in the form of older 2D survey, could support similar a similar study. The west coast of Britain was identified one area where any information gleaned on the existing palaeolandscapes might contribute significantly to our understanding of the development of the Mesolithic and, potentially, Palaeolithic periods in both England and Wales, Ireland, Scotland and the Isle of Man. This project was commissioned to undertake a small pilot project within the west coast region (see figure 1) and to provide a methodology to support the heritage management objectives of this region with respect to aggregates extraction.

English Heritage is committed to projects which develop the fundamental evidence base for our off-shore and intertidal zone historic environment, through sub-surface remote-sensing surveys, offshore and intertidal field surveys, aerial or satellite surveys, and synthesis and modelling of hydrological survey data.

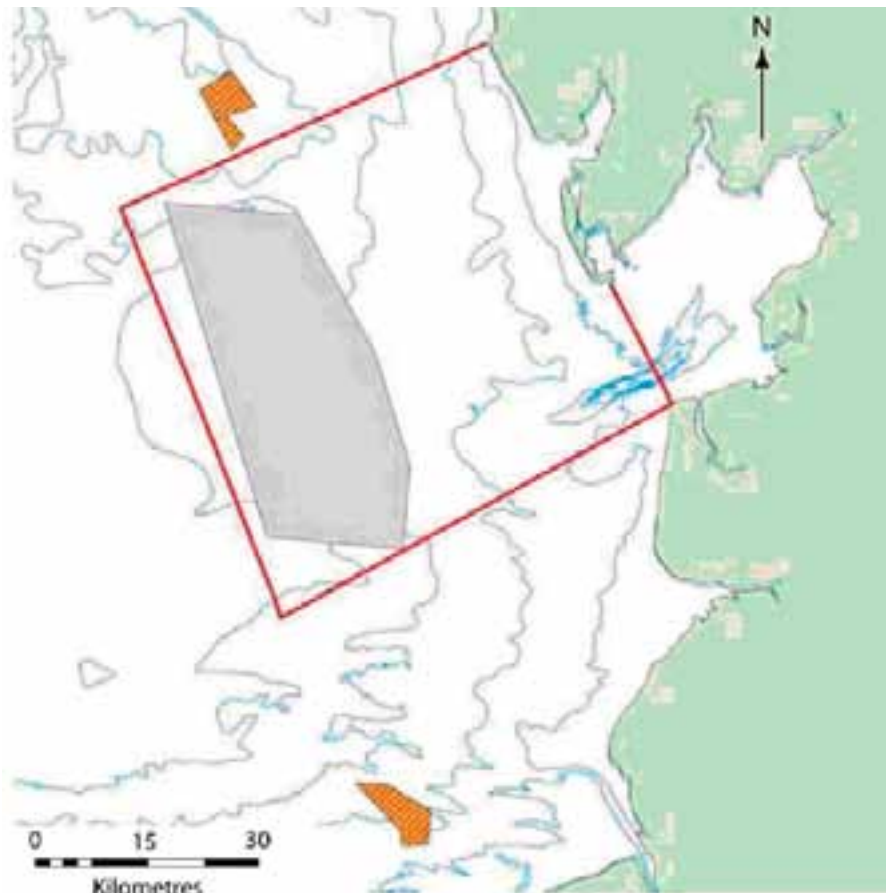
The **West Coast Palaeolandscapes** project, which is being funded by the English Heritage and Welsh ALSF budgets, is investigating the potential for submerged landscapes below the Irish Sea and Bristol Channel. The work is being undertaken by the University of Birmingham in partnership with Dyfed Archaeological Trust and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales. The aim of the project is to develop a methodology which will use existing 2D seismic and related data to improve the understanding of the submerged prehistoric resource, and to refine the existing methodology for 3D datasets to suit the local prevailing area. These datasets will then be utilised to investigate and explore

the Late Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Landscape within the pilot study area, and where possible map these landscape features to inform heritage management strategies with respect to marine aggregate extraction and development.

The **'Mystery Wreck'** was first located in 2003, and is the only wooden historic wreck so far located within a licensed aggregate dredging area. The Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology (HWTMA) were invited to investigate the site, and discovered the substantial remains of a wooden shipwreck lying exposed just off the south eastern edge of Horsetail Sands. Over subsequent years, the HWTMA have been working to establish a pre-disturbance survey of the site. Although the remains are relatively flat to the seabed, they include two sections of wooden hull which each measure over 20 metres in length, and are separated by a gap of around 15 metres. Between the two pieces of structure lie a range of ships fittings. Diving investigation undertaken to date has involved a professional dive team working alongside a student and volunteer dive team. This fulfils educational and learning objectives in terms of enabling hands-on involvement with underwater sites and developing capacity, knowledge and appreciation of the marine environment and survey skills.

In more recent years HWTMA secured ALSF funding in order to use the project as a case study which will assist industry in the management of the aggregate extraction area. It will also help develop practical new techniques to locate, identify, and protect marine historic environment assets, building on the earlier **Modelling Exclusion Zones for Marine Aggregate Dredging** project. The investigation, which involved a desk based assessment, analysis of already recovered material and geophysical survey data, diver survey and recording, a significance assessment, and the development of suitable management and monitoring approaches, has also identified the wreck as mostly likely being the **Flowers of Ugie**, which was lost 1852 when it was abandoned and sank in a force 10 gale.

Other maritime projects funded in this period from the ALSF and dedicated to exploring and mapping our marine heritage included the **Refining Areas of Maritime Archaeological Potential** or AMAP2 project aimed at enhancing wreck data in English waters.



© David Cranstone

BUILDING UNDERSTANDING OF SPECIFIC SITES, LOCALES AND AREAS

Analysis of specific historic assets and locales.

A number of projects were commissioned over the period of this review, which will provide integrated critical and practical assessments of specific regions and sites based on their unique historic characteristics.

On a landscape scale, the aim of the **Herefordshire Rivers** project was to raise awareness of the diverse and rich environmental heritage of the rivers and their environs, and to improve conservation and environmental interpretation through a series of community-linked projects. Within this overall project, which received both Defra and European funding, the Frome Valley Archaeology, Landscape Change and Conservation project investigated the current and former landscape of the area, and identified how landscape change and management, particularly associated with changing farming practices and the increase in tourism, has influenced the survival of historical features. It also sought to enhance and interpret the historic environment, and actively involve the local community in practical conservation measures such as the survey and investigation of the historic environment, thus encourage a sense of guardianship for historical features.

The work at the nationally important **Ecton copper/lead mines** in Staffordshire (SM28883) considered a more limited geographical area. The mines are exceptional for their state of preservation and their range of features in terms of scale, function and date, particularly the postulated (and recently confirmed by radio-carbon dating undertaken as part of this project) Bronze Age date for copper mining, only the second such site in England. In the 18th century, the mines were amongst the richest in Post-Medieval Britain and incomparable underground workings exist, some with relatively easy access. On going work on this site is aiming to improve understanding of copper production in Britain from prehistoric to post-medieval times, and develop and promote new recording methodologies. This information will be used to identify and inform long-term conservation priorities and present the site to the public. On the east coast, **Cudmore Grove** is the site of a scheduled Tudor blockhouse situated

on the saltmarsh overlooking the River Colne, and famously occupied by Parliamentary forces during the Siege of Colchester. Survey and excavation carried out in 2002-03 investigated a number of wooden structures in the area that were being exposed by coastal erosion. This work identified the remains of a timber quay frontage likely to be associated with the blockhouse, a small fish trap and some pre-modern coastal defence. The current phase of work comprises additional desk-based research and analysis of both the individual monuments, which are of intrinsic interest in themselves, and the study of coastal erosion and environmental change and its effects on the historic environment. It is this second strand of work which will be particularly pertinent to current debate, and will be used to facilitate good management of the site in the face of its continuing erosion, and assist in the development of research priorities for the vulnerable coastal zone. The work will be published in Essex Archaeology and History.

One of the smallest projects undertaken during this period followed a programme of recording, restoration and reconstruction of a section of **Malmesbury Town Wall** by North Wiltshire District Council. This work revealed the existence of complex deposits which demonstrated the

Recovering part of the timber frontage of a former quay at Cudmore Grove, Essex, for specialist wood technology assessment



© Essex County Council, Field Archaeology Unit



medieval town wall, of which little survived of the original fabric, had been built along the line of the upper prehistoric wall, reusing it as foundations. In May 2006, English Heritage funding enabled the excavation of a trench outside the restored wall which aimed to elucidate the chronology and phasing of the Iron Age to post-medieval defences, and establish the form, function, character and status of the activity on the site. The results will be published as an article in the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine.

Funding from the Historic Environment Enabling Programme (HEEP) was also allocated to the Jane Austen Society of the United Kingdom for a project at the site of **The Rectory**, in Steventon Hampshire. This work aimed to use geophysical survey to determine the position and extent of The Rectory once inhabited by Jane Austen, in order to allow archaeological interpretation and visual representation and dissemination. This work was completed in 2009.

ASSESSING HISTORIC AREAS

HEEP funded survey work on urban areas falls into a number of categories: intensive urban surveys (leading to the production of **Urban Archaeological Databases** and **Assessments**) of major historic urban centres; **Extensive Urban Surveys** which consider the historic environment and character of smaller

towns; and a 'metropolitan' version of **Historic Landscape Characterisation** which cover major industrial conurbations.

All these projects are carried out in partnership with local authorities, with the results being held as part of the relevant Historic Environment Record (HER). Solid progress has continued on both the Intensive and Extensive Urban Surveys in the period covered by this report.

Work has been in progress on Urban Archaeological Databases (UADs) for **Carlisle, Hereford, Lancaster** and **Nottingham**. This is resulting in the production of detailed GIS-based records of the archaeology of these major cities, providing a much improved evidence for planning, development control and other purposes. Innovative technology is making new things possible in this area: for example, the Lancaster UAD has made good use of LiDAR coverage for detecting and recording some of the nuances of the topography of the city. Work has continued on monograph-length Urban Archaeological Assessments for a number of places, including **Bath, Colchester, Newcastle, Shrewsbury** and **Winchester**.

The Extensive Urban Survey programme has continued, with the modification that projects within it now take account of the full chronological development of the towns studied,

and use characterisation-based approaches for elucidating the historical origins of the present-day townscape (earlier projects focussed on buried archaeological remains and the earlier periods). Projects for a number of counties have been funded: examples include **Buckinghamshire, Dorset, Staffordshire** and **Sussex**. A wide range of different types of town are covered by the projects, from small rural market towns, to the commuter towns of Buckinghamshire's 'Metroland', with the characterisation-based approach allowing the distinctiveness of different places to be drawn out. A detailed individual report is produced on each town, and these are made available on-line, often through the Archaeology Data Service. Good progress has been made in getting all the reports from [earlier projects online](#), and nearly 500 reports are now available.

Site specific surveys, including the **Research Survey and GIS for Peterborough Cathedral Precincts**, which was undertaken by The Chapter of Peterborough Cathedral, are also funded under this objective, and ALSF funding was allocated to Worcestershire County Council for the **Evaluating and Enhancing the Geoarchaeological Resource in the Lower Severn Valley** project. The main aim of the Severn work is evaluation and enhancement of the geoarchaeological and environmental data

from the Lower Severn Valley. This project is due to complete early 2011.

SURVEY OF LONDON

During the period of this review work has continued on the HEEP funded sections of the Survey of London with Patricia Croot undertaking and completing the **Survey of London: Battersea Research project**. Its purpose was to research and write an essay giving an overview of the topography and settlement of Battersea up to 1550. More information can be found at [English Heritage's Survey of London webpages](#).

PROTECTED LANDSCAPE RESEARCH

The **Miner-Farmer Landscapes of the North Pennines AONB**, an innovative, multi-disciplinary, 5-year project, is being conducted by English Heritage working in conjunction with the North Pennines AONB Partnership, the North Pennines Heritage Trust, Durham County Council, the Peatscapes Project, the Environment Agency and Natural England. The project integrates new research into the archaeological understanding of multi-period lead-mining and agricultural landscapes, the identification of threat and erosion issues specific to these types of landscapes, and



View across Durham City from Old Shire Hall

development and testing of new methodologies for their recording and analysis. It aims to develop standards and guidelines for recording of similar landscapes elsewhere in Britain and Europe.

Key to the research, is the need to understand the relationship between the 'artificial' historic environment fabric of large, lead-mining landscapes and the natural environment within which they reside, and the impact that each may have on the other. These impacts include such things as historical, present and planned land-use, erosion, peat management, and the catchment and dispersal of water along both artificial and natural fluvial networks. This project will identify and record the variety and scale of such impacts and threats, and engender a better understanding of the historic environment, which will ensure that evidence-based data is factored into the long-term management, conservation and preservation of the historic resource.

The project area covers c 300 square kilometres, within which a smaller, core research area of c 50 square kilometres will be the subject of systematic field survey, and act as a control sample for the validation of remote-sensing methodology and data. The overall project combines a mix of traditional and innovative survey approaches. These include ground-based archaeological, building, geophysical, environment, erosion, vegetation, aerial, and borehole surveys, with comparative analysis against remotely-gathered

data from specially commissioned aerial imagery including digital orthophotography, LiDAR, and high-resolution hyperspectral bandwidth photography (jointly funded by HEEP and the Peatscapes project), as well as satellite imagery. The remote-sensing analysis and environmental surveys were undertaken by the Visual Spatial and Technology Centre at Birmingham University (and funded through HEEP). The results of all the surveys will be brought together within a comprehensive GIS for the core research area.

The project partners also worked on establishing collaborative objectives and methodologies, and preparation of the detailed specifications for the acquisition of the remotely-sensed datasets which will underpin the research. The first phase of fieldwork has commenced at **Whitley Castle Roman Fort** where 20 hectares of geophysical survey work has been undertaken by Durham University Archaeological Services (funded by HEEP) in collaboration with an analytical survey of the earthworks and surrounding landscape by the English Heritage Research Department. This geophysical survey has clarified the extent of extra-mural settlement associated with the fort.

Outside of the Miner Farmer projects funding has been allocated under this objective to Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs AONB for the production of an **Historic Environment Action Plan** developing from the HLC which is due to be completed in early 2011.



Excavating wooden structures on the foreshore at Cudmore Grove, Essex. Works were carried out around the tides as the site was submerged at high water

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL THEMATIC SURVEYS

Assessing regional historic environment components.

Rock art is a fascinating component of the Neolithic landscapes of northern England, not least because archaeologists have until recently not really known how to approach it. In the absence of professional engagement, a vibrant amateur tradition of rock art recording and interpretation sprang up. Then in the 1990s, as rock art studies grew in stature worldwide and academic interest increased, English Heritage funded the Rock Art Pilot Project which defined the main research and conservation issues. The major outcome was the **Northumberland & Durham Rock Art Pilot Project**, which ran from 2004 to 2008 with the aim of developing a regional database of rock art that could form the basis of a national inventory. Undertaken largely by trained volunteers, as reported in previous issues of IMPACT, its most visible product is the England's Rock Art website, hosted by ADS (<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/era/>), which provides an invaluable resource for researchers, managers and the public. Other outcomes include a Rock Art Code for visitors, a suite of conservation and access recommendations, and an important legacy of local expertise and interest in rock art.

As part of the HEEP commitment to projects which research key aspects of the biological, medical and demographic archaeology of our ancestors, a suit of projects relating to places of worship has been commissioned.

Many pressures face a range of faith groups in maintaining and supporting their historic buildings. Some also need to reconcile the relationship between the location of their buildings, constructed to serve particular communities, and the current size, and disposition of their congregation.

Driven by these factors, there has been an increase in strategic pastoral reorganisation, notably by the Roman Catholics and the Church of England. In some cases this is driven by a desire to develop pastoral tools for evangelising, mission and worship purposes; in others it is driven by a need to rationalise in order to meet pastoral needs in an effective way in line with diocesan or local

resources. Both approaches can have a significant impact on church buildings, most notably through interior reorganisation to enable buildings to serve wider community functions, or through closure and the potential knock-on effects of re-use or demolition. Decisions made at the end of this process are often without adequate understanding of historic buildings' issues and implications. It is to bridge this gap that the research programme **'Taking Stock'** was initiated.

The intention is to provide information to enable the dioceses to be fully informed of both the opportunities presented, and possible constraints involved, when looking for alternative uses for buildings or sites which may not be required for worship in the future. Support from the Roman Catholic Patrimony Committee throughout the programme has contributed significantly to its success to date. So far jointly funded projects have helped six Roman Catholic dioceses to complete their evaluation, and the Architectural History Practice is currently reviewing 103 buildings in its **Architectural and Historical Review of Churches in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Plymouth**.

Interior of Methodist Central Hall, Longton, Staffordshire (1841-42)



© James Davies



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Left: External view of the RC church of the Sacred Heart, Tunstall (J.S. Brocklesby, 1927)

Right: The 19th-century tower of the Anglican church of St Giles juxtaposed with the Old Meeting House (1717), Newcastle-under-Lyme



© English Heritage and Anglican Diocese of Lichfield

The **North Staffordshire Churches** project is adopting the same principles, but being carried out using a pioneering inter-denominational approach. This will consider the City of Stoke-on-Trent and the urban area of Newcastle-under-Lyme and Kidsgrove, aiming to assist denominations in informed decision making, and advise statutory bodies of the nature of the problem in relation to urban areas suffering from economic and demographic changes.

Two Anglican dioceses have also initiated projects within the Taking Stock programme to assess particular deaneries within the **Diocese of Gloucester** and the **Diocese of Salisbury**, both of which will be important as part of

diocesan evaluations of pastoral provision, and in particular making best use of existing resources for mission purposes.

Funding from the Historic Environment Enabling Programme was also allocated during the period of review for the research and writing by Malavan Media of **Played in London**, a publication which will be released by English Heritage in advance of the London Olympics in 2012.

Sport offers a useful gateway to the past for those sectors of the community that might otherwise not engage with the historic environment, particularly young people. Greater knowledge and awareness of sport's place in



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Right: Church of St Mary, Cheltenham. Listed at Grade I, the church retains fabric dating back to the 12th century

Far right: Christ Church, Cheltenham. Built in 1837-9 by leading developer architects of the early 19th century Robert William and Charles Jearrad, its striking Perpendicular-style tower is a prominent local landmark



© CgM's Ltd



Far left: The Robert Cain Brewery in Toxteth, Liverpool, completed in 1902, formed part of the Brewery History Society's Brewing Industry Survey. By 2009 it was Merseyside's sole pre-1980 operating brewery

left: John Smith's Brewery in Tadcaster, North Yorkshire, was designed by architects Scamell & Colyer of London and built in 1882-3. The attractive sandstone buildings, still a working brewing site, formed part of the Brewery History Society's Brewing Industry Survey

culminate with a conference to consider the outcomes in the spring of 2011.

Funding from HEEP has also been allocated to a **Scoping Survey of Post Offices** to be undertaken by Alan Baxter & Associates, and a comprehensive survey of Islamic buildings in the UK.

The Post Offices project will produce a scoping document that will identify strategies for proceeding with a proposed rapid survey of purpose-built post offices erected in the period c.1840-2000. **The British Mosque** project undertaken by Makespace Architects will identify the key development stages of Islamic architecture in Britain. The core analysis, will focus on the way in which the requirements of the mosque as a new cultural form have been fitted into the existing urban and architectural fabric of Britain, how they then change that urban landscape, and what this means socially, culturally and architecturally.

The former Cliff Quay Brewery in Ipswich, which ceased brewing in 2003, formed part of the Brewery History Society's Brewing Industry Survey. Cliff Quay House, which stands in front of the brewery, was converted to become the brewery tap (or pub) in 1992

history and society, is also useful to historians and professionals actively engaged in urban and cultural studies, and education and planning matters. The book will provide the first systematic and comprehensive architectural and historical survey of London's sporting heritage. It is hoped that this will inform and educate policymakers, public bodies and sporting organisations as well as increase public awareness of the value of London's sporting heritage.

ASSESSING THE NATIONAL RESOURCE

As part of researching and synthesising our current understanding of the national stock of particular asset classes, the **Brewing Industry Survey** was commissioned in 2007. The Brewery History Society was founded in 1972 to promote research into all aspects of the brewing industry, the historic fabric of which is currently under great threat as witnessed by the recent closures such as Young's Ram Brewery in Wandsworth, and Gale's Brewery, Horndean, Hampshire.

The members of the society are therefore undertaking this survey with the aims of a) compiling a comprehensive list and summary history of operating breweries and historic brewing buildings, and any plant of particular interest, b) exploring avenues which might provide a secure future for archives of the industry, and c) undertaking a national assessment on the industry, in the format of a Strategy for the Historic Industrial Environment report. The project will



CHARACTERISING OUR HISTORIC LANDSCAPES AND SEASCAPES

Historic Landscape Characterisation.

Historic Environment Enabling Programme funding makes a fundamental contribution to the work of English Heritage's Characterisation Team, in promoting and developing the concept and use of characterisation across and beyond the historic environment sector. Historic Characterisation is a constructive tool for managing change to the historic environment. It usually works in terms of landscape, contributing therefore to England's implementation of the European Landscape Convention, which came into force during the period covered by this report. Characterisation operates within contexts such as spatial planning, master-planning or agri-environmental management, and thus goes beyond the traditional, separate statutory protective schemes, designed to look after listed, scheduled or registered sites and areas.

Some aspects of the characterisation team's work stand outside the HEEP programme, for example, joint work with partners such as the Homes and Community Agency or the Highways Agency, both of whom, with our help have recently published guidance on historic character. Other work most usually done in-house is promotional and educative, or as with most of our farmsteads

landscape work, developmental and undertaken in collaboration with other parts of English Heritage, although funding for the **Shropshire Historic Farmsteads** project undertaken by Shropshire County Council was provided by HEEP.

The most central plank of the team's activity, has however always been the various projects funded by HEEP and its predecessor since the 1990s, that are designed to provide an overall national coverage of historic landscape character in town, country, and most recently at (and under) the sea. The emerging national coverage is a key English Heritage objective, having formed part of our high level 'Funding Agreement' with DCSM and CLG.

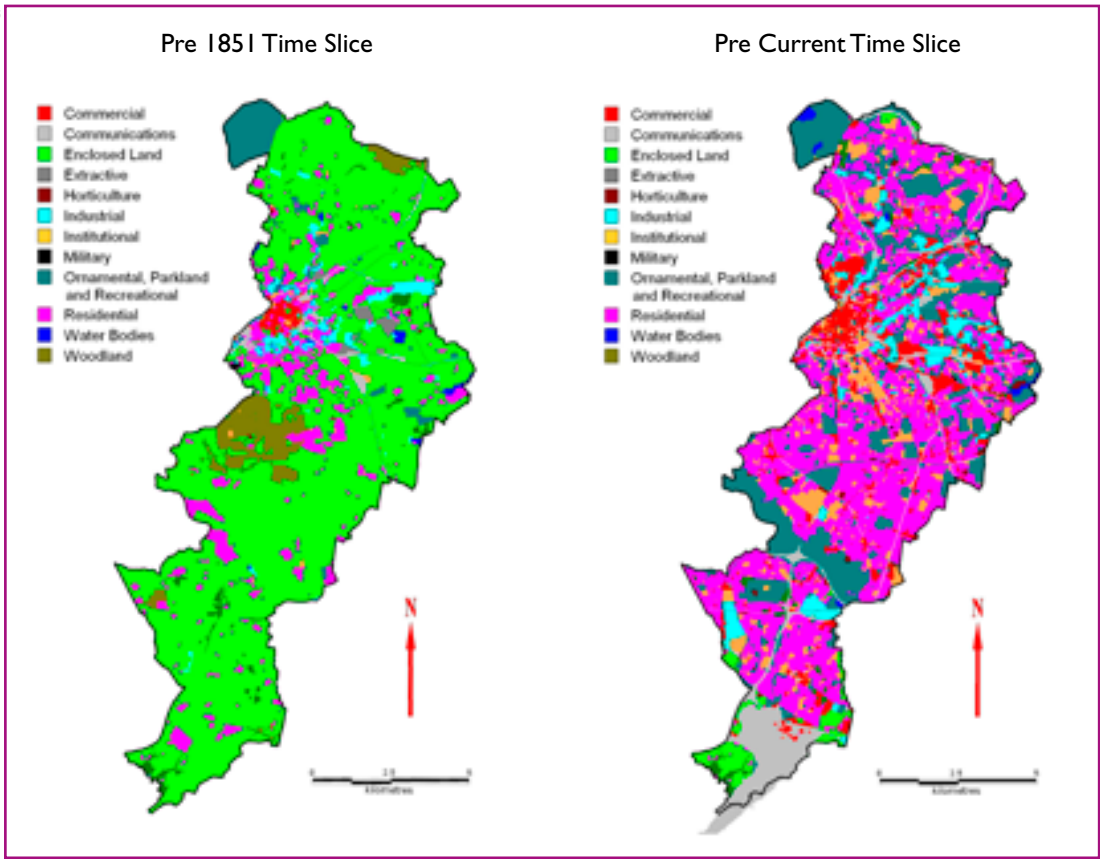
Carried out mainly at county or AONB level, with local authority partners through the HERs, these projects have been multi-purpose. They provide new understanding by creating new types of evidence bases, and also act as HER enhancement and capacity building tools. They are also awareness raising instruments, highlighting to new audiences both the historic environment itself, and the historic dimension of landscape as a whole. These projects have therefore contributed almost as much to the Valuing, Caring and Enjoying objectives of the HEEP programme as they do to the Understanding objective.

The characterisation programmes include all types of landscape, and an overall picture of HEEP's contribution to this needs to take into account work described in other sections of this issue of IMPACT, notably projects with a principally urban focus, the Historic Seascape projects (see below), and developmental and innovative projects such as the **Lincoln Townscape Assessment**. Described here is the Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) programme, both in 'shire counties' where the prime emphasis is on landscape in rural areas (although towns and cities are not overlooked) and the old 'metropolitan counties', where the focus is on the distinctive historic character of England's major conurbations and agglomerations.

In the 'shire counties', the 2007-09 period saw the completion of HLC mapping in **Cumbria**,

Historic Settlement Core at Thurlaston, Rugby





Comparison of Manchester City time slices from pre 1851 and pre current

Leicestershire and **Warwickshire**, while projects in **County Durham, Lincolnshire** (with the two Unitary Authorities of North and North East Lincolnshire) and **Worcestershire** either continued or started. It is anticipated that HLCs for **Wiltshire** and **East Yorkshire with Hull** will be commissioned from HEEP in the coming years.

In metropolitan areas, this period has seen the completion, and successful establishment on the web, of an innovative HLC for the **South Yorkshire** metropolitan region; whilst the equivalent project for the **Black Country** has moved into a number of targeted follow-up projects, partly supported by English Heritage regional funds, which are ensuring that the HLC starts to make a difference in heritage management. The **Merseyside** metropolitan HLC will be completed in 2011 but is already embedded in use in the Merseyside planning authorities, whilst the HLC for **Greater Manchester** is partially completed, and also already in use. It is hoped to begin work on the remaining metropolitan areas of **West Yorkshire, Tyne and Wear** and **East Berkshire** in the near future. At present Greater London only has a rapid high-level HLC (carried out in-house by the characterisation team and the GLSMR), therefore an HLC project was commissioned for Barking and Dagenham Borough at the very end of the 2009 financial year. This is being seen as a pilot study which we hope will advance work in the rest of the London area.

HISTORIC SEASCAPE CHARACTERISATION

At a time when the Marine and Coastal Access Act, brings radical change to the frameworks governing our activities in the marine environment, the need for an informed understanding of the cultural factors shaping any given area is as vital for sustainable future management in a marine context as it is on land.

Castlefield, Manchester



Flyer from ALSF-funded HSC Demonstration Project covering England's north east coast and seas



© SeaZone/HWTMA/English Heritage

activities, being accompanied by concern and public debate about negative impacts such as pollution from sewage and litter.

Responding to this fast-developing context, in March 2008 the **England's Historic Seascapes** programme finalised a nationally applicable method for Historic Seascape Characterisation (HSC), extending to our coasts and seas the principles of Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) already extensively applied across England's land area. Using GIS, with linked texts to map the dominant cultural processes that have shaped our present coastal and marine zones, HSC development was undertaken using ALSF funding, specifically to enable better contextualised responses to marine aggregates extraction. Maintaining that theme among its other potential applications, SeaZone Solutions Ltd and Maritime Archaeology Ltd, were commissioned to provide an effective practical demonstration of the method's operation and capabilities, by implementing the HSC methodology across a substantial area of England's north-east coast, seas and adjacent UK Controlled Waters.

Rapidly expanding industrial-scale development pressures, in which aggregate extraction plays a significant part, are occurring against increasing evidence for degradation of the marine environment, both from specific activities and wider global impacts. Our coasts and seas also play a major role in shaping our identity at many levels; positive aspects such as its use for leisure

Blyth Harbour, Northumberland: a historic seascape embracing cultural change to renewable energy to power its needs

The **HSC Demonstration Project** will help ensure clarity and consistency in the future implementation of the HSC method. It also provided discussion and scenario case studies demonstrating the approach's relevance across a range of its anticipated applications, thereby promoting and optimising the use of the method by others to inform their needs. Besides detailing its relevance to marine aggregates extraction licensing and Regional Environmental Characterisations, the project's consideration of HSC applications includes its roles in informing coastal and marine planning, landscape/seascape management, and outreach and education. This project shows clearly how HSC will be an effective tool in informing future debates at all levels, with an understanding of the historical and cultural processes which have shaped our present seas' characteristics.

During the period of review funding was allocated to a suite of projects undertaking Historic Seascape Characterisation covering the **Bristol Channel and Severn Estuary, Hastings to Purbeck and Adjacent Waters, Newport to Clacton and Adjacent Waters** and the **Irish Sea**.



© Dave Hooley

UNDERSTANDING MATERIAL CULTURE

Understanding ancient environments and ecologies.

As part of our commitment to ensuring that our research addresses the most important and urgent needs of the historic environment, English Heritage allocates funding to projects that analyse the material evidence for past environments and exploitation of those environments, including agricultural regimes and subsistence strategies, and eco-systems affecting and affected by humans.

Under this objective the **Palaeo-hydrology of the Kennet, Swallowhead Springs and the siting of Silbury Hill** project was commissioned to assess the Palaeo-hydrology of the Silbury Hill area and determine the flow rates, groundwater levels and hydrological conditions in 4500BP. The project was undertaken by Water Resource Associates using hydrogeological mapping and modelling techniques, making use of outputs from the historical runs of a Global Circulation Model to recreate past flows and groundwater levels in the Upper Kennet at Silbury. The project completed in 2009.

UNDERSTANDING ARTEFACTS AND MATERIAL CULTURE

Projects that research and synthesise our understanding of the development of poorly understood classes or traditions of portable objects, the technologies used in their production, and their currency and interdependence are also supported by the Historic Environment Enabling Programme. Grants under this SHAPE heading, provide commercial and research organisations with the correct tools to ensure efficient use of resources, and support the synthesis of work undertaken as a result of individual investigations.

The **Midlands Purple and Cistercian wares** project undertaken by Bordesley Abbey project, aims to be a characterisation of the main centres of early production of Midlands Purple and Cistercian wares in the west midlands. The **Prehistoric Pottery Production in Charnwood Forest, Leicestershire** project by Trent and Peak Archaeology, will test, by means of electron microprobe and isotope analysis, ceramic production and distribution in Charnwood Forest.

With assistance from HEEP, Newcastle City Council has embarked on a sub-regional research review of **Medieval Pottery from Northumberland and Tyne & Wear**, which will assess 61 medieval ceramic assemblages from Northumberland. The main objective of the project is to identify which groups of pottery from the county may be used in a subsequent study developing a coherent and widely accessible type-series for the whole of Northumberland and Tyne & Wear. This will be used as a solid foundation upon which a range of thematic and synthetic studies could be developed. The researchers hope to establish the level of quantification already achieved, along with a broad quantification of the major fabric types present in each assemblage. They will then compare the main fabric types present, in order to establish a broad appreciation of the correlation between different fabric classifications. They also intend to identify those assemblages which contain closely dated groups of pottery, which can act as foundations for the understanding of larger groups from the surrounding region.

During the period of this review the **Lincoln: Roman Pottery Corpus** project undertaken by Lincoln City Council began the process of editing in preparation for publication by Oxbow Books.

Medieval strip fields associated with the settlements of Tregoss (foreground) and Belowda (background), the impact of the new A30 Goss Moor bypass and a new gas pipeline on Belowda field systems is clearly visible



© Cornwall County Council

REFINING KEY CHRONOLOGIES

Clarifying poorly understood chronologies.

Chronology provides a fundamental structure for our understanding of the past. Timing reveals the sequence of past events and the tempo of change, and provides a window on human temporality. Scientific dating allows us to provide increasingly refined chronological frameworks for the historic environment, enhancing understanding and appreciation of value and significance, informing conservation, and enthusing the public about their heritage. The routine provision of such dating has the ability to revolutionise our knowledge of the past, opening up entirely new questions. The understanding that follows will help drive approaches to the preservation, management, and interpretation of historic assets.

Two HEEP funded projects not only seek to clarify poorly understood chronologies, but to also address the shortage of skilled practitioners in chronological modelling. The **Wor Barrow** project, a training programme for Dr Mike Allen (Allen Environmental Archaeology) aims to define the chronology of the monument within the early

Neolithic context of Cranborne Chase, Wiltshire and relate this chronology to the recent ground breaking HEEP funded research on long barrows and causewayed enclosures. Wor Barrow has iconic status within the classic Wessex landscape of Cranborne Chase, and provides an excellent training opportunity, not least because although excavated in 1893-4 the excavation record and archive generated by General Pitt Rivers is exemplary, with precise locations of artefacts recorded.

The primary aim of the training being given by the English Heritage Scientific Dating Team to Dr Frances Healy involves providing a precise chronology for the date of flint extraction and working at **Grimes Graves**. In particular the project will help in elucidating the development of extraction across the site, and relate its exploitation to the settlement of the surrounding area. Grimes Graves is the only Neolithic flint mine open to the public in Britain and an English Heritage property.



© M.J. Allen 2009

Mike Allen with some of the carefully selected bones for Bayesian modelling of radiocarbon results from the iconic long barrow at Wor Barrow excavated by Pitt Rivers in 1893-4; Mike is standing in front of the display of Wor Barrow in Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum, from where the bones have been borrowed

MAKING THE MOST OF PAST INVESTMENT

Realising the research dividend from past unpublished historic environment investigations.

Many millions of pounds are invested each year by individuals and private and public bodies researching our human past, with the results being made accessible through publication. However, each year a small percentage of projects stall before completion. The reasons for this are numerous, ranging from poor results where publication rightly turns out not to be merited, to examples where a project has stalled due to lack of funds, researcher illness, or developer bankruptcy etc. Once stalled, projects are usually hard to restart and are classified as a backlog.

Although the moratorium on funding new backlog projects using HEEP resources has remained in place, English Heritage has started quantifying backlog projects arising from aggregate extraction using funds from the ALSF. The methodology followed is that developed during the earlier pilot project, **Quantifying Past Rescue Excavations on Aggregate Sites**, which covered the counties of Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Oxfordshire. Between 2007 and 2010 further backlog projects were commissioned covering the areas of **Cheshire, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, and Merseyside, and Cambridgeshire, Hampshire, Surrey, East Sussex, West Sussex and Greater London**. These projects, together with backlog quantification elements in Aggregate Resource Assessment projects in the **South Gloucestershire** and the **Isle of Wight**, are starting to build up a substantial database of interventions, and have identified a number of stalled projects. One notable result has been the identification of a number of long running sand and gravel quarries where archaeological work has been carried out over the last 10 to 20 years where analysis is yet to begin because excavation is still continuing.

As well as quantifying this legacy English Heritage has been funding some of the more important aggregate backlog projects. At **Springfield Lyons**, excavated between 1979 and 1989, funding has been agreed to bring the final element of this monument type site, the late

Bronze Age enclosure, to publication. This will include the largest collection of clay bronze casting moulds from Britain. ALSF money is also being used to fund the **Dunbridge** project, an assessment of the important collection of Palaeolithic artefacts retrieved from the sand and gravel quarries at Kimbridge Farm, Hampshire during a watching brief from 1991 to 2007; and in Derbyshire the **Church Wilne** project has been commissioned to archive, assess and analyse the material from a Deserted Medieval Village excavated in the mid 1970's prior to quarrying.

Already agreed in principal at the time of the moratorium, the **Stratton Deserted Medieval Village Synthesis** project will study the evolution of a rural settlement from its creation in the middle Saxon period, to its disappearance as a result of emparkment in the post medieval period. It will do this by looking at the documentary evidence for the area and analysing the results of a series of open area excavations carried out by Albion Archaeology between 1990 and 2003 on the rural settlement.



Late Saxon copper alloy strap end from Church Wilne, Derbyshire (length 35mm)

Aerial view of the Bronze Age Enclosure at Springfield Lyons, the scale of the Enclosure ditch which is about 60m in diameter is clearly apparent as are the numerous causeways. The rectangular buildings which can be seen mainly in the top half of the image belong to a later Saxon settlement



© Essex County Council

St Mary's, Barnes, London was a medieval church extensively damaged by fire in 1978. Its restoration provided a rare opportunity to investigate an urban Surrey church

questions relating to relationships between grave goods, status, sex of burial, and chronology of the cemetery to be fully explored.

In conclusion, these years have seen great progress made in addressing the issues of the backlog project.



© Surrey County Council

A Late Bronze Age axe from Shepperton. A bronze tip was fitted to a larger wooden blade, which in turn was attached to the wooden haft. The bronze element has in the past been regarded as the whole axehead, but this find shows the true potential of an essential tool in clearing the land and building new settlements

which revealed wall paintings and an earlier than expected origin. HEEP funding is enabling the final publication of this work. Also in progress is the **Surrey Prehistoric Sites** project, where HEEP has provided funding to edit the reports on three important prehistoric sites in the Thames Valley which will shortly be published as a single Surrey Archaeological Society monograph.

MEASURING THE IMPACT OF RESEARCH ON UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

As part of the English Heritage commitment to projects which research the strategic impact of research projects and programmes developed within and beyond English Heritage, funding from the ALSF has been allocated to the **ALSF Marine International Context Report**. This report compares the marine element of the UK Aggregate Levy Sustainability Fund historic environment programme, with other international management policies relating to heritage assets, in the context of the international marine aggregate industry.

In Stafford, the **Stafford Anglo-Saxon online project** is being funded to make 12 volumes of field reports available digitally via the ADS, to support a traditionally published synthetic monograph. The volumes cover the excavation from 1975 to 1985 of what is still the best explored Saxon Burgh in England. The **Early Anglo Saxon Cemetery at Spong Hill** has also received funding to complete the final and long planned volume of the series covering the excavation of the largest Anglo Saxon cemetery in Britain. It was excavated between 1972 and 1981, and uncovered 2,384 cremations and 57 inhumations, with the full extent of the cemetery revealed. This significant synthetic volume will bring together all previously published information, and will enable the exploration of

The report identifies, by comparison with international heritage management policy and practice, the 'added value' not initially anticipated in the preliminary planning of historic environment involvement in the ALSF. This includes the development of long-term partnerships between industry and archaeologists, with all partners being integrated into project development and design, data sharing and collection and/or processing, and the targeted development of research projects with immediate functionality/use to industry. These projects include modeling locations of sites, responding to currently pressing needs in industry to identify and help mitigate risks.

Roman pottery found in the well recorded at Beddington, Sutton, during a series of archaeological investigations in advance of gravel extraction



© MOLA

In addition, the report identifies alternative forms of heritage management policy or practice currently applied in other nations that might be usefully and successfully applied in the UK in relation to heritage sites impacted by aggregate extraction.

Issues addressed by ALSF projects, also have the potential for delivering 'added value' for other



View of south-east corner of the Iron Age enclosure ditch and the Roman ditch recorded at Beddington, Sutton, during a series of archaeological investigations in advance of gravel extraction

areas of marine planning and development, such as the placement of, and mitigation strategies for wind farms, and promoting the international leadership role of the UK in the innovative and cost-effective management of heritage sites impacted by aggregate extraction. The review of the international context of the marine historic environment component of the ALSF also fits into broader strategic initiatives in this zone by English Heritage, such as the ongoing maritime and marine historic environment research framework.

SUPPORTING SYNTHESIS OF KEY COMMERCIAL PROJECT RESEARCH

As outlined in SHAPE, English Heritage supports projects which provide synergistic support for unlocking the wider research value of key groups or themes of commercially-funded, site-based research activities, where private funding has delivered discrete projects, but where oversight of value is beneficial. The **Assessing Grey Literature in the Study of Roman England** project, assessed the research contribution that developer funded investigations make to the study of Roman England, and identified the ways in which they changed the picture presented in conventional syntheses which have largely ignored this evidence. The project had a particular

emphasis on unpublished grey literature. It was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology and completed in 2009.



Bronze Age deposit of aurochs recorded in 1987 as part of a long running watching brief conducted on a gravel quarry site at Holloway Lane, in the south of the London Borough of Hillingdon, to the north of Heathrow Airport

VALUING THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Establishing the value and condition of the historic environment.

Funds from the Programme are used to commission research directly on the socio-economic value of the sector and we encourage engagement between key stakeholders, individuals and groups, to increase the value placed on the historic environment. This highlights its significance in cultural and economic sectors and underscores the interlinked relationship between the two. Further research funded by English Heritage is aimed at optimising the link between the survival of the historic environment, its careful curation and direct economic worth.

View of re-landscaped memorial garden visited as part of the Symposium on Recent Excavations of Post-medieval Burial Grounds in London



UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SECTOR, ITS VALUES AND ITS NEEDS

Socio-economic values of the historic environment.

English Heritage support for projects, which develop the evidence base for the real values which can be ascribed to the historic environment, is via the Historic Environment Enabling Programme. Outcomes of research are expected to inform initiatives such as Heritage Counts. **The Socio-economic benefits of Heritage in the National Parks** project, was a scoping study which reviewed the literature and research base in relation to the socio-economic benefits of heritage in English and Welsh National Parks and was commissioned in partnership with CADW. The final report was submitted in November 2008.

RESEARCHING PERCEPTIONS OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Projects researching the impact of the historic environment on society are also funded through the Historic Environment Enabling Programme. The **Assessing the Importance and Value of Historic Buildings to Young People** project was commissioned late in the 2009 financial year. The study, being undertaken by the University of Newcastle, will assess the attitudes of 800+ young people attending state maintained schools and pupil referral units in different parts of England towards the built historic environment. By asking pupils to take photographs of buildings which are important to them, and delving into the reasons for their choices, it aims to further our understanding of the relationships between young people's sense of place and belonging, and their local environment.

SECTOR BEHAVIOUR RESEARCH

Projects and publications establishing the composition, disposition, integration and strategic position of organisations working throughout the sector are also funded through HEEP.

Labour Market Intelligence: Profiling the Profession 2007-08, was undertaken by the Institute for Archaeologists and published in 2008. It forms part of a wider project supported by the Leonardo da Vinci II fund, [Discovering the](#)

[Archaeologists of Europe](#), which is collecting data on archaeological employment in ten European countries. The wider project will contrast employment in the different countries, and examine the opportunities for; and obstacles to, individual archaeologists' employment in countries other than their own.

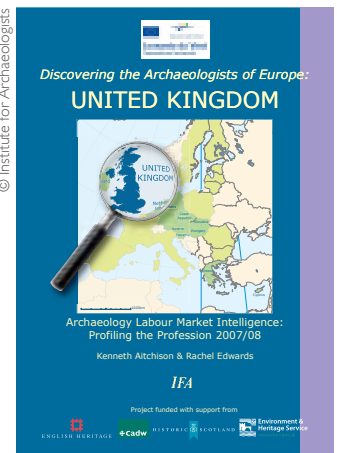
The Future of Preserved Industrial Sites in England is a project designed to examine the current state of these sites in terms of their governance, management and operation, funding, conservation standards, accessibility to the public and prospects for the future.

During the period covered by this review, the **Identifying Activity and Skills needs in Buildings History** was also completed. English Heritage, supported by Historic Scotland, and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), commissioned Atkins PLC and the Conservation Studio, to undertake research on activity relating to the understanding and recording of historic buildings and areas in order to establish the level of existing activity in the sector; the current state of training provision, and the likely growth in the sector resulting from proposed reforms to heritage protection legislation and the planning system in England and Wales.

Reacting to the precarious nature of the global economic situation during the period of this review English Heritage also commissioned the **Recession – Information and Archives Management** project by Duncan Brown.

This project examined the impact of the 2009 recession in the context of commercial archives. It delivered guidance, shortly to be published by English Heritage, on the courses of action to be taken as preventative measures to secure both archive and essential business information in the current economic climate. It also provided guidance on the best courses of action to take in a worst case scenario where a contractor or developer ceases trading.

© Institute for Archaeologists



Cover of UK *Discovering the Archaeologists of Europe* report, UK research part-funded by English Heritage. Cover design by Conor McDermott

SUPPORTING THE AGENDAS OF OTHERS WHO CARE FOR THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Historic Environment Partnerships.

HEEP also contributes to formal partnership projects with defined action plans, goals or outcomes (as opposed to standing committees, programme boards etc) such as the **Wetland Vision for England** project. A collaborative project involving English Heritage, the Environment Agency, Natural England, the RSPB and the Wildlife Trust, its aim is to produce a Wetland Vision for England, in consultation with other parties active in the field of large-scale wetland restoration. English Heritage was invited to join the partnership in order to integrate the historic environment within the existing project, to draw on the vast knowledge of wetland archaeology, and ensure that areas of new or restored wetlands fit in with the general character of both current and historic wetlands.

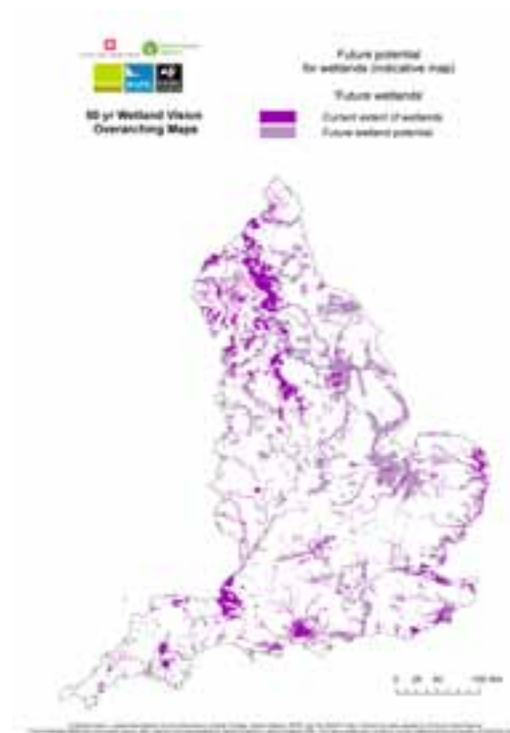
A grant was also awarded to **Culture 2007 – European Landscape Partnership**. The ‘Eucaland Project’ is the first formal European Union funded action of the Eucaland Network <http://www.eucalandnetwork.eu/> and is co-ordinated by the University of Cambridge with three co-organising partners in Spain, Italy and Austria, and a further 10 associated

funding partners, including English Heritage. The Eucaland project aims to consolidate a large European network of institutions, with interdisciplinary and intercultural vision, for long-term cooperation on European Agricultural Landscapes. English Heritage was involved in the landscape classification and landscape history work packages. Historic Environment Enabling Programme funding was used as match funding and contributed towards the co-ordinator costs based at the University of Cambridge, expert fees and the final project conference.

The **Selected Heritage Inventory for Natural England Co-ordinator** (or SHINE) grant funds a co-ordinator, working with local authority Historic Environment Records, to facilitate the production and provision to Natural England of a dataset on key undesignated historic environment features, suitable for management under Entry Level Environmental Stewardship. The data will be collated, reviewed and checked, and then delivered to Natural England as a fully polygonised dataset. It aims to increase and enhance the opportunities for farmers to choose historic environment options under the scheme.

Right: Our Vision is to restore wetlands for the benefit of society through the conservation of their biodiversity, the preservation of the historic environment and other benefits such as flood mitigation and carbon sequestration

Far right: Wetlands are important and require specific management strategies for heritage purposes because waterlogged environments offer incredible preservation of archaeological remains and palaeoenvironmental data. This fragile resource cannot be recreated but wetland enhancement and recreation can help to preserve it. These areas highlighted on the map have a high potential for archaeology and palaeoenvironmental deposits buried beneath later sediments



© WetlandVision



© WetlandVision



Left: Delegates from European antiquarian societies as far apart as Finland and Greece gathered in London for a two-day seminar, supported by English Heritage, to discuss common interests and opportunities for research collaboration. The event, held on 15 and 16 May 2008, was hosted by the Society of Antiquaries of London as part of its 300th anniversary celebrations. Papers from the seminar have been posted on the Society's website (<http://www.sal.org.uk/newsandevents/antiquariesineurope/>)

CONFERENCES AND PLATFORMS FOR ENGAGEMENT

To celebrate its Tercentenary in 2007, the Society of Antiquaries with support from English Heritage hosted eight public lectures in venues across the UK and Ireland (**Society of Antiquaries Tercentenary Conference**). The speakers included some of the most distinguished scholars working in the cultural heritage sector today. The topics ranged from the beginnings of antiquarian study, to the cutting-edge technologies that will underpin our future study of the past.

The **Symposium on post-medieval burial grounds** took place in June 2008 at the Institute of Archaeology, UCL, London. It was attended by commercial archaeologists and archaeological monitors from across the country. The symposium was held in response to the large number of recent investigations of post-medieval burial grounds in Greater London, and continuing developmental pressure which will impact such sites in the future. Its aim was to assess our current understanding of burial grounds and consider future actions. The Historic Environment Enabling Programme provided funding to underpin the costs of the symposium.

With the support of the Historic Environment Enabling Programme a two-day **York Minster Gothic** symposium took place in September 2008; providing an opportunity for a group of 50 experts from across the world to peer review the work on the analysis, interpretation and presentation of innovative research on the 11th and 12th Century phases of York Minster.

Funding from HEEP was also allocated to the **Resorting to the Coast – Tourism, Heritage and Cultures of the Seaside** conference organised by Leeds Metropolitan University in June 2009 and promoting dialogue across disciplinary boundaries on a global stage. The conference drew upon ideas, cases and best practice from international scholars,

and will help to develop a new understanding of the relationship between tourism, heritage and the coast and how these might better inform the conservation and regeneration of seaside resorts.

Funds were also allocated to **World Wetland Day 2010**. This conference brought together the UK wetland community, to explore the 2010 Ramsar theme of looking at wetlands and biodiversity in the context of climate change. Speakers considered coastal, lowland and upland wetlands and the links, or lack thereof, between policy, research and practice. This conference was organised by The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (**CIWEM**) and took place in early 2010.

Finally the Historic Environment Enabling Programme sponsored three sessions, Meeting the Climate Change Challenge, Managing Archaeology and IFA Workplace Training, at the **Institute for Archaeology Conference, Swansea** in March 2008. Funding was also awarded for the 2009 conference in Torquay.



© London Diocesan Fund/Brian Cuthbertson

Above: Memorial to Charles Wesley

Below: 2009 IFA Conference delegates enjoying one of the many sessions

© Sarah Cole photography



CARING FOR THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Helping local communities to care for their historic environment.

The Programme supports and enables others, professional and non-professional, to better understand the fabric of the historic environment and, in response, devise sympathetic strategies for improved curation. The projects funded within this category are generated entirely out of the priorities raised through the gathering of sector intelligence and the engagement with key stakeholders, especially those in local and regional authorities, and in skills fora.

Standing stone on Fylingdales Moor, taken November 2006 showing the successful growth of rye grass, planted as a nurse crop to assist the regeneration of the moorland vegetation



HERITAGE PROTECTION RESEARCH

Strategic Designation Research.

The **Assessing Boats and Ships** project, funded from the Aggregate Levy Sustainability Fund (ALSF), involves desk-based study on three classes of historic asset commonly encountered in the course of marine aggregate licensing; vessels from the periods 1860-1913; 1914-1938; and 1939-1950. As relatively little archaeological research and synthesis has been carried out on the national stock of vessels from these periods, strategic work is required in order to develop supplementary guidance on the key themes and interests represented by such wrecks. This guidance will inform decisions about importance, mitigation, and designation. The work will comprise a combination of research into NMR records of known wrecks, and a review of historical thematic studies.

Also commissioned under this objective was the **Heritage Protection: Thematic Survey of Rural Schools – Norfolk case study**. This project is being undertaken by the University of East Anglia in partnership with the Norfolk Historic Buildings Group, who have recruited 'volunteer recorders' who will take on the majority of the field work. The survey aims to record as many as possible of the 400-plus rural primary schools and former primary schools in the county, some of which no longer provide a suitable learning environment and may be facing reorganisation. The results will be made available to planners and heritage managers as well as the general public. The intention is that the final publication will be produced as a volume of the Journal of the Norfolk Historic Buildings Group. It will contain a summary history of elementary rural education in Norfolk, an analysis of the findings of the project, and a gazetteer of schools visited. It will therefore constitute a significant contribution to academic research in the field of rural and social history, and the history of education.

HERITAGE PROTECTION RESEARCH

As part of its Heritage Protection programme, English Heritage, through the Historic Environment Enabling Programme, is supporting projects at both a national and local level that will develop and deliver effective mechanisms of reform. The **Business Process Mapping of Local Authority Historic Environment**

Information Management Systems project, seeks to provide a national assessment of the likely impact of the new legislation within local authorities. Working in partnership with local authorities, the intended outcome will be clear sectoral guidance on the value of Heritage Protection Reform.

The role of Heritage Protection Reform at a local level is being explored at Sutton Park, on the northern fringes of Birmingham. The park has long been recognised as an area of significant archaeological potential, and the primary aim of the **Sutton Park LiDAR, Ground Surveys and Palaeoenvironmental Assessment** project is to define the character of the visible fabric of the historic environment, as well as assess the potential for buried deposits. The park is an increasingly valuable recreational and educational resource, and the most significant outcome from the work will be a *Heritage Partnership Agreement*. The innovative new Sutton Park management plan, integrates the needs of the historic and the natural environment, and will significantly raise awareness and enhance enjoyment of this fragile green space.

Historically, hulks were old ships converted for some use which did not require them to move, such as floating storehouses, temporary homes

Boundary of medieval deer park subdivision at Bracebridge



© Mike Hodder, Birmingham City Council



© Mike Williams, English Heritage

*Church Farm at Hethel in Norfolk is one of a number of farmsteads that were assessed as a whole during thematic work. It is an exceptionally rare surviving example of a pre-improvement farm of the East Anglian claylands, and was upgraded to II**

for seamen awaiting draft and prisons. More recently the term has also come to mean an old ship stripped of fittings and permanently moored. In 1998, the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England published the results of the rapid recording of a now-destroyed collection of abandoned vessels at Whitewall Creek on the River Medway, Kent. This work highlighted the importance of recording such vessels, as well as promoting their study to establish patterns of regional, local and chronological significance. In recent years English Heritage's Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey programme, complemented by other projects, has enabled the identification of other collections of hulked vessels around England's coast. The **Heritage Protection: Thematic Survey of Hulk Assemblages** will be a strategic thematic review that will fully quantify hulk assemblages (as opposed to individual vessels) in England, identify opportunities for local 'ownership' and future management.

MEASURING THE IMPACT OF HERITAGE PROTECTION SYSTEMS

The **Heritage Protection: Review of Thematic Programmes** project, an audit of thematic Heritage Protection programmes including the Monument Protection Programme and other designation-based thematic surveys, was undertaken by Keystone Historic Building Consultants during 2007 and 2008. The aims of this work was to assess the state of understanding of the particular asset type in each of the projects, and determine if the conclusions are still relevant, in order to inform English Heritage's national strategic designation programme, and the unified designation approach of the proposed new system.

Also commissioned under this objective was the **Staffordshire Historic Schools: Appraisal of English Heritages' model brief**, which involved the investigation of 79 pre-1920 schools in Staffordshire, with a view to assessing the merits of the model brief for assessing significance. The impetus for this project was a requirement to inform the planning of change associated with the government and local authority initiated Building Schools for the Future programme.

From the ALSF, funding was allocated to the **Quarrying, Caves and Mines: A review of evaluation and mitigation techniques** project. This project aims to review existing planning-led approaches to subterranean archaeology in hard rock aggregate quarries, and to produce agreed guidance on future approaches to archaeology.

Saddlescombe Farm north of Brighton is a distinct type of downland farmstead that recent mapping of farmsteads has found is an exceptionally rare surviving example, with a range of barns, a granary, shelter sheds for draught oxen as well as cows, a smithy and a donkey wheel for pulling water from the well. It is sited next to a Premonstratensian grange whose earthworks are clearly visible



© Bob Edwards

MONITORING AND RECORDING THE CONDITION OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Heritage at Risk: Monitoring surveys.

As part of English Heritage's commitment to ensuring the condition of the most significant parts of the historic environment are recorded and monitored, in order to enable their better protection, CGMS Consulting was commissioned to undertake the **Places of Worship in Need: Sample Assessment** project. The project, which will act as a pilot for future assessment of places of worship for inclusion in the Heritage at Risk Register; surveyed 809 buildings (5% of all listed places of worship in England). The results were submitted to English Heritage in late 2008.

Concurrently English Heritage commissioned Scott Wilson to undertake the **Heritage at Risk: Places of worship at risk in the North East** project, a survey of all listed places of worship in the North East region, and a sample of former places of worship converted to other uses. The results will be used to help strategic thinking about issues facing these buildings.

Three years of continuous funding was also agreed for the **Heritage at Risk: Designated**

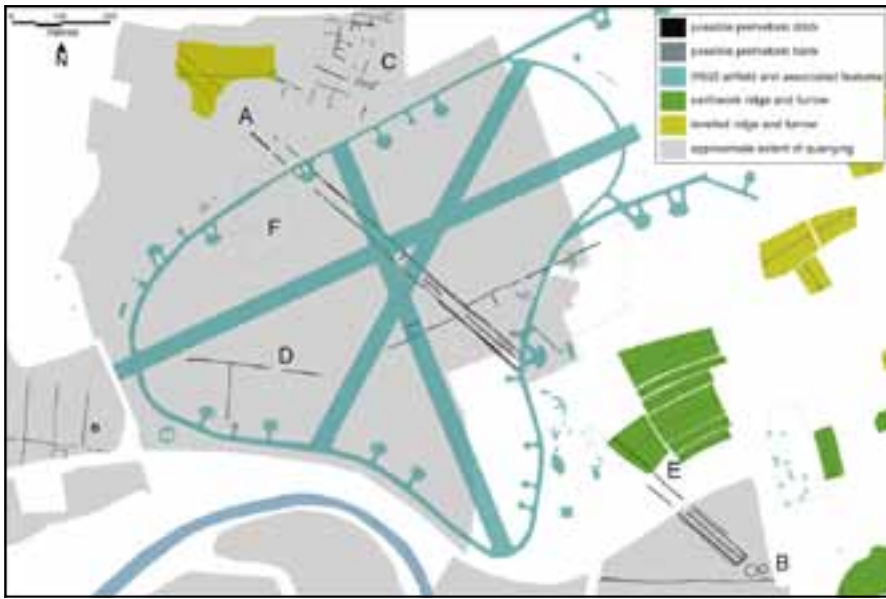


Church of St Thomas a Becket, Great Wheltenham Darnsden, Suffolk

Wrecks (Dive Contract) work. This contract was awarded to Wessex Archaeology following an open tender process, and covers diving reconnaissance on designated wrecks to monitor their condition. Funds from the maritime budget were also allocated to Historic Environment Service Cornwall County Council for a Marine environmental assessment of the Royal Anne galley a protected wreck lying in about 5 metres of seawater off the Lizard Point.



Church of St Cuthbert, Bensham Road, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, interior nave looking northwest



A thematic extract from the Yorkshire Henges and the Environs Air Photo Mapping project. It shows the impact of gravel extraction (shaded grey) on the Neolithic cursus at Scorton (labelled A) and surrounding monuments including prehistoric barrows (B), possible Iron Age or Roman field systems (C), undated field boundaries (D), medieval and post medieval ridge and furrow (E) and the Second World War airfield (shaded blue)

NATIONAL MAPPING PROGRAMME: RECORDING AND MAPPING ARCHAEOLOGICAL LANDSCAPES USING AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Archaeological landscape surveys, part of English Heritage's National Mapping Programme (NMP), continue to support strategic heritage protection, and work in protected landscapes. NMP projects use aerial photographs to produce high quality

maps and interpretations of archaeological sites and landscapes. These enable consistent value judgements on the nature and extent of the archaeological resource, and assist research, planning, and protection.

The **Yorkshire Henges and Environs Project** began in 2009 and will provide important new and contextual information on the nationally significant prehistoric landscapes of north Yorkshire. The project encompasses the Neolithic complex at Catterick, and links with the landscapes of the Thornborough, Newton Kyme and Ferrybridge henges.

Ongoing NMP work on the **South Dorset Ridgeway**, within the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, will inform conservation but has a particular focus on enhancing the presentation of the historic environment for public access and enjoyment.

The main phase of **Exmoor National Park NMP** was completed in 2009. The NMP results will contribute to protection through agri-environment schemes such as Higher Level Stewardship. A publication is planned for 2011 exploring the archaeology of reclamation and improvement, with particular focus on the 19th century, the greatest episode of landscape change on Exmoor since the Bronze Age.



Long Bredy Neolithic bank barrow in its wider landscape setting. The barrow is aligned NE to SW and surrounded by nine Bronze Age round barrows



RECORDING UNKNOWN AND NATIONALLY HISTORIC SITES, BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS UNDER IMMINENT THREAT

As part of English Heritages' Heritage at Risk programme, ongoing work to identify the extent of waterlogging and organic remains in **Nantwich** southern Cheshire was undertaken by Cheshire County Council, which culminated in a management strategy document submitted to English Heritage in the 2008 financial year. Further analysis, and a monitoring programme stretching to 2014 were recently agreed.

Coastal monitoring work was funded in Essex where the County Council undertook the **Blackwater Estuary Fish Traps monitoring survey** which provided enhanced and updated plans of these nationally significant monuments, identifying both new features and areas of loss. This work will provide a sound basis for management and research.

Left: Winterbourne Abbas landscape, part of the South Dorset Ridgeway National Mapping project

Below: Archaeological monitoring survey taking place in the Blackwater Estuary, Essex in August 2008. The timber alignments are the remains of part of a fish weir, which is likely to be Saxon in date. Six fish weir sites have been identified in the Blackwater Estuary through the work of local archaeologists (including Ron Hall, shown here) and aerial reconnaissance. These are large, often complex monuments, comprising numerous wooden posts in various alignments, as well as wattlework and basketry. They are located close to low water (and are only accessible a few days each year) and are vulnerable to general erosion and damage by boats. Assessment and UPD have recently been completed



IDENTIFYING AND RESPONDING TO SPECIFIC THREATS

Identifying threats arising directly from Climate Change and developing responses.



© Andrew Riche, Rothamsted Research

Above: Fields of miscanthus growing in the west country

Far right: Tractor ploughing using a mould board plough to 0.20-0.25m

In some areas farmers are now growing biofuel crops as a source of renewable energy. These crops are very different to the traditional crops planted in England; in particular they are perennial and have an economic lifetime of 15-30 years, there is evidence that they may have a higher water use during the growing season, and they are deeper rooting than conventional crops. In part due to these characteristics, and in part due to their end use, the mechanical operations involved in managing the crops can also be different from those of more common crops. The impact of biofuel crops on buried archaeology is unclear; thus the aims of the **Miscanthus** (woody grasses from Asia) and **Short-rotation Coppice (SRC)** project were to provide a better understanding of these crops and their likely impacts on the historic environment, and to identify areas of uncertainty so that English Heritage can consider research needs and priorities.

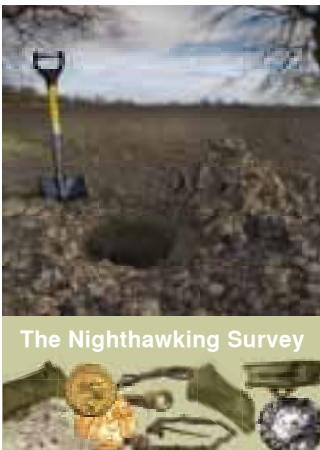


© English Heritage/Oxford Archaeology

the good-stewardship of those who own, farm and live in our varied and changing countryside. Changes in farming practices, and even the continuance of what has gone before, can put that survival of buried sites at risk. Investigation into this risk by Oxford Archaeology is being jointly funded by English Heritage and Defra. The **Conservation of Scheduled Monuments in Cultivation (COSMIC)** project is developing a robust and integrated risk assessment and mitigation model for archaeological sites in arable cultivation, using sites in the East Midlands region. The original COSMIC also provided an opportunity to test the methodology, while the present **COSMIC Implementation** project extends the coverage to the remainder of cultivated scheduled monuments in the region which have been shown to be at either high or medium risk from cultivation.

Also commissioned under this objective was the **Hydrological assessment of Star Carr catchment, Yorkshire**. Star Carr, one of Europe's most important Mesolithic sites, is currently threatened by recent changes in hydrology and geochemistry. At present, it is unclear whether this is primarily related to changes in precipitation regime (notably the frequency of drought), changes in groundwater abstraction, recent agricultural drainage, or a combination of these factors. The project undertaken through a partnership between the Universities of Southampton and Birmingham will collate and assess the hydrology, groundwater and surface-water catchments of the site and its environs, in order to inform future management decisions.

Front Cover of the Nighthawk Report (2009)



© English Heritage/Oxford Archaeology

IDENTIFYING THREATS (OTHER THAN CLIMATE CHANGE) AND DEVELOPING RESPONSES

The survival of most field monuments, and much of the buried archaeological resource, is down to

The **Nighthawks Survey** addressed a different type of threat – the deliberate looting of designated and non-designated sites by thieves – the antithesis of responsible metal-detecting, that adds substantially to our understanding of the past through recording finds and thereby adding to our collective knowledge pool. The resulting report, produced despite formidable obstacles in obtaining data on illegal activity, provided a series of seven recommendations for consideration by the Historic Environment sector, and forms the basis for a developing action plan involving English Heritage, but firmly based on partnership across the sector, including organisations representing the metal-detecting community.

SUPPORTING REPAIR AND CONSERVATION OF THREATENED SITES, BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS

Supporting preservation, repair and maintenance of historic assets.

The repair and conservation of monuments has been supported under the **Quarries theme of the ALSF: Conservation and repair of vulnerable historic assets directly impacted by aggregates extraction**. Three projects were supported during the current round of funding, two on Portland, Dorset and one in Derbyshire.

Portland is internationally famous for its creamy white stone used for many important buildings across Britain such as the British Museum. **Lano's Tunnel** and **Lano's Gulley** will conserve features from the stone industry on Portland and help Weymouth and Portland District Council improve access to the hidden industrial landscape of the island in time for the 2012 Olympic Games. Both sites are located within the largely 19th century Tout Quarry in the north of the island. The Gulley, currently in a state of collapse, was probably in existence prior to 1840, and was used to transport waste material from quarry to the cliff top tips. In 1854 a fine and locally iconic bridge (Grade II listed) was constructed over it by Jonathan Lano to carry a waste tramway over the gully. The tunnel (currently blocked) was built in 1862 by Lano to extend a branch of the 'Merchants' Railway into the quarry to facilitate the removal of stone to the quays in the harbour below.

In Derbyshire the Christ Church, Kings Sterndale restoration project is carrying out works to stabilise the walls of the chancel and bell tower. This Grade II listed church, built by the Pickfords haulage family in 1847 in the grounds of their country house, is one of the few historic structures where there is reasonable evidence to indicate that historic blasting in the local quarry may have damaged the walls of the building.

In Northumberland, variation funding was awarded to the Corbridge Roman Bridge project in order to complete the post-excavation and display of the remains of a Roman bridge, following work to save the remains of the bridge from destruction by river erosion. In a twist of

fate it was the severe floods during June 2004 and January 2005 which delayed the rescue works and caused the shortfall in post-excavation funds.

© Simon Marrow



View of Christ Church, Kings Sterndale, Derbyshire taken from South West

© Simon Marrow



Flower display from Christ Church's porch from church heritage day in September 2009

© Tyne and Wear archives and museums



Excavation of the partly collapsed wall of the road ramp

FUNDING OF LAST RESORT FOR RECORDING THREATENED SITES, MONUMENTS OR BUILDINGS

Recording historic sites, buildings and monuments under imminent threat outside the planning process.

Every year, unexpected examples of nationally and regionally important archaeological discoveries are made as a result of development activities that lie beyond the obligations placed on them by the planning system. Often these are associated with long-lived, pre-PPG16, licences or permissions with little or no provision for the historic environment, for example aggregate extraction and grave digging. English Heritage can in these circumstances provide funding of 'last resort'. The years 2007 and 2010 saw the continuation of funding for the **Yarnton Oxfordshire** analysis work on data and material from excavations carried out prior to quarrying between 1989 and 1999. The second of the three proposed volumes, Iron Age and Roman Settlement, will be published shortly. The reports for the ALSF funded projects at **Coln Gravel Gloucestershire**, and **Wasperton Anglo-Saxon Cemetery** in Warwickshire, were edited for publication during 2009. ALSF support also enabled the completion of the assessment of the 1999-2002 excavations at **Home Farm** which uncovered part of the nationally important prehistoric landscapes around Heathrow airport.

Excavation along the pathways within Calstock parish cemetery revealed the extent of archaeological features within the Roman fort that have been lost to successive phases of historic and modern burial



© Exeter Archaeology

Historic Environment Enabling Programme funding for **Calstock Roman Fort** in Cornwall, enabled the excavation of remains being progressively destroyed by grave digging licensed in 1937. The fort, lying mostly under St Andrew's church and its graveyards, was only recently discovered during a Leverhulme Trust supported research project into the medieval silver industry. In West Sussex the **Beedings** project has evaluated and assessed fissures in the underlying bed rock, known from excavations in the early 20th century to contain early Upper Palaeolithic artefacts, prior to the laying out of vineyards. The project has identified the need for a guidance document on dealing with the identification and subsequent mitigation of archaeology within these fissures.

Also commissioned under this objective, were the **survey and sample excavation** of an unusual and enigmatic linear feature thought to be of anthropogenic origin, at Rotherwas Ribbon, Herefordshire; and using ALSF funding, emergency investigation assistance of dispersed middle Iron Age and nucleated Roman settlement at **Gill Mill Quarry, Ducklington**.

RECORDING UNKNOWN AND NATIONALLY HISTORIC SITES, BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS UNDER IMMINENT THREAT REVEALED AS PART OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

Since the advent PPG16, the historic environment has become increasingly embedded within the planning process, with evaluation and archaeological mitigation standard features of development in England. However, even when a site is fully evaluated, it is still the case that unexpected national and regionally important discoveries can be made during development. Where these require archaeological mitigation beyond the conditions within the planning permission English Heritage

can grant-aid the project to realise the potential of these discoveries.

The ALSF has supported the editing of draft reports on the field work carried out during previous funding rounds at **Town Quarry**, Devon and **Valdoe Quarry**, Sussex. At Town Quarry an important collection of Iron Age water features, Bronze Age burnt mounds, and an extremely rare Iron Age shoe were found in an area previously thought to be devoid of features. At Valdoe, middle Pleistocene flints and ground surfaces related to the famous finds at Boxgrove were investigated. At **Over Quarry**, Cambridgeshire the ALSF assisted with the excavation and assessment of the O'Connell Ridge. This area of the quarry was thought, after evaluation, to have few features. In the event it contained dispersed settlement remains and boundaries from the middle to late Bronze Age as well as Neolithic grooved ware pits, effectively filling many of the chronological gaps in the excavated landscape of the quarry.

Money from the Historic Environment Enabling Programme has supported the editing of the draft text from **Huntsman Quarry**, Worcestershire where a key regional, unenclosed late Bronze Age settlement was excavated. A grant to **Newington**, Oxfordshire has enabled the

completion of work on medieval settlement remains uncovered during the digging of a wildlife pond. Support for the **Twyford** project has allowed the excavation of a small 5th to 8th century cemetery and other features discovered during the construction of classrooms and a new car park at Twyford School, Winchester. In Pontefract, with the **Simpson's Malt** project, funding has supported the assessment of a 9th to 12th century Stanford Ware pottery kiln discovered during housing development, in an area thought to contain little of archaeological importance. The kiln is particularly important as it proves that Stanford Ware was produced over a much wider geographic area than previously thought.

Funding was also allocated to Heritage Lincolnshire to undertake post excavation analyses of the site at **Clamptgate Road**, Fishtoft, Lincolnshire; and to Warwickshire County Council to facilitate a programme of recording and analysis of bog oaks and a post alignment, visible at the RSPB Middleton Lakes Nature Reserve prior to the flooding of the area.

Without English Heritage support, the potential of the above sites is unlikely to have been realised, and results of these nationally important discoveries would have at best, been hidden from public view, and at worst destroyed without record.



© Institute of Archaeology, UCL
Square-headed sixth-century brooch; b) Garnet brooch; c) Frankish brooch; d) bird brooch, all from the Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Buckland, Dover



© Wessex Archaeology
Local news crew filming Archaeologist Neil Fitzpatrick excavating the remains of a 7th to 8th century adult female burial

ENCOURAGING OTHERS TO CARE FOR THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

STRATEGIC CAPACITY-BUILDING WITHIN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Developing local authority capacity.

Below left: A group of conservation volunteers repairing the earthworks of the hillfort on The Wrekin, near Telford in Shropshire. As a result of the funding that English Heritage has provided for a Historic Environment Countryside Advisor post, Shropshire Council has provided advice and support to the Raby Estate and Shropshire Wildlife Trust as they undertake a programme of repairs to the hillfort funded through an English Heritage Management Agreement

Below right: Currently Baston Fen is the only remaining area of traditional fen in Lincolnshire. The South Lincolnshire Fenland project is working to restore some of the Lincolnshire Fenland landscape

Projects funded under this SHAPE programme, support critical capacity building work in local authorities. Taper-funding is provided for posts for three years, with the expectation that the local authorities in question will continue to support the posts into the future. Recent funding has been put towards the **Lincolnshire Countryside Archaeological Advisor** post, and a **Shropshire Historic Environment Countryside Adviser**. It is hoped these posts will provide a framework for engaging with future policy such as Heritage Protection Reform. Funding was also agreed during the period of review for Historic Environment Records Officers (HERO's) in **Dartmoor** and **Exmoor**.

As mentioned in previous reports another key initiative is that of provision of support to the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers: UK (ALGAO UK). During the period of this review funding began for the **ALGAO Implementation Plan**. The main aims of this work are to ensure that local government is able

to provide measurable achievements that can make Heritage Protection Reform and the planning system more efficient and effective; and to contribute to the national and local government cultural agendas for improving accessibility of information and promoting the benefits of the historic environment for education and local quality of life.

The organisation has outlined multiple objectives to help achieve these aims. These include the production of Standards and Guidance for local government curatorial services, partnership working with English Heritage to ensure the participation of local authority HER's in the Heritage Gateway website, provision of good practice case studies, and the production of an ALGAO education and outreach strategy.

English Heritage will continue to support capacity-building to ensure that in areas of genuine need, and resource limitation, appropriate capability and capacity exists to develop vital strategic responses to the needs of the historic environment.



© Shropshire County Council



© Lincolnshire County Council

HELPING LOCAL AUTHORITIES DEVELOP INFORMED MINERALS EXTRACTION POLICIES

Aggregates Landscapes Resource Assessments: The historic environment in local mineral plans.

By supporting Aggregate Resource Assessments (ARAs) since 2002 the ALSF has helped local authorities develop informed policies for future aggregate extraction. The first ARA (**Gloucestershire Assessment of Archaeological Resources in Aggregate Areas**) was a straightforward Archaeological Research Framework. However, since then we have looked to develop a suite of add-ons to the basic project that can respond to the needs of specific areas.

The incorporation of aerial photographic plotting of aggregate landscapes to National Mapping Programme standards has been particularly beneficial, and in the case of the recently completed **Hampshire ARA** has led to the recognition of more than 1000 new historic assets, and the commissioning of the subsequent **Hampshire ARA: Aerial Photography enhancement** project to cover the eastern New Forest area.

ARA's have increasingly utilised Historic Landscape Characterisation to help interpret the aggregate landscapes of a county and their underlying buried archaeology. Unique to the **Derbyshire and Peak District ARA** is the idea of using Landform Elements, geologically derived divisions of the landscape first developed as part of the **Till-Tweed Catchment** project.

The **Durham ARA** is an example of where these projects can provide a peer reviewed synthesis of the archaeology of a county for the first time. The **Warwickshire ARA** was the first to look at the success of archaeological mitigation strategies during aggregates development, with **South Gloucestershire** and the **Isle of Wight** following this lead. These two projects have also added a backlogs element to their work based on the ARCUS project **Quantifying Past Rescue Excavations on Aggregate Sites**. This involves identifying the archaeological interventions arising from aggregates extraction, and identifying those that are incomplete with

regard to analysis and/or reporting. This will help counties develop a strategy for dealing with their incomplete projects, as well as contributing to the English Heritage objective of quantifying outstanding archaeological backlogs nationally. During the period of review, ARA's were also commissioned in **Nottingham** and **Bedfordshire**.

*Calshot Flying Boat Station
in use during the war*

© English Heritage (NMR) RAF Photography: RAF S260/H6 78 (27-JUN-1941)



HELPING LOCAL AUTHORITIES DEVELOP INFORMED COASTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Rapid Coastal Zone Assessments: The historic environment in Shoreline Management Plans.

Heritage assets on the coast are vulnerable to the effects of natural coastal change (which will accelerate in the 21st century due to climate change), and the impacts of coastal risk management schemes. Coasts are also under development pressure from ports, the landfalls of gas pipelines and cables from offshore windfarms, recreational developments and, potentially, from tidal barrage and offshore airport construction. The English Heritage Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Surveys were initiated to inform the review of the Defra-led Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs), and to ensure adequate consideration of the historic environment in shoreline planning. SMPs are strategic high-level plans that set the long-term policy for coastal management. Defra has defined four possible options for coastal Policy Units:

- 'Hold the existing defence line'
- 'Advance the existing defence line'
- 'Managed realignment'
- 'No active intervention'

The latter two options have obvious impacts on the historic environment. 'Managed realignment' involves breaching sea defences and construction works for new sea-walls and/or drainage systems which may cut through buried archaeological sites. This work can also have an impact on buried archaeological deposits through the re-wetting of previously drained areas. 'No active intervention' permits continued erosion, which may have obvious impacts on historic buildings, sites and landscapes. The first two options may also have some effects: defence improvements frequently

Below left: A group of conservation volunteers Cliff Farm, Ulrome – 19th-century farm buildings, now abandoned, on severely eroded cliff

Below right: Observation tower, Ringbrough, Aldbrough – part of a coastal artillery battery opened in 1941, with a dual role as a counter-bombardment and close defence battery. Recent coastal erosion has left this building teetering on the cliff edge; it probably only has a few months left before it falls to the beach



© Humber Field Archaeology 2009



© Humber Field Archaeology 2009



involve contractor excavations to obtain material for raising sea-walls, whilst land-claim results in burial and compaction of foreshore sites.

The RCZAS have two main phases. Phase 1 (Desk-based Assessment) draws on data from aerial photographs, LiDAR, historic maps, the local authority Historic Environment Records, the National Monuments Record, and other sources. Phase 2 (Field Assessment) comprises a rapid walk-over survey, designed to verify records from Phase 1, locate and characterise site types not visible from the air, and assess significance and vulnerability. The outputs, initially, enhance local authority Historic Environment Records and the National Monuments Record. Survey reports are available on the [website](#).

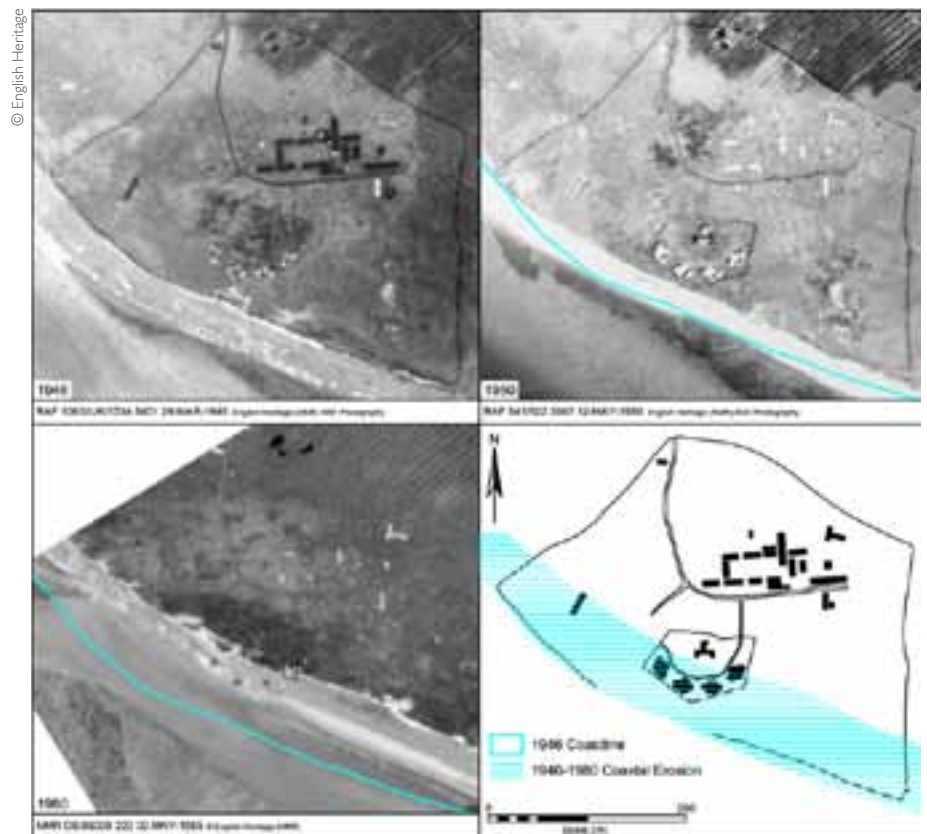
Surveys have now been completed, or are under way, along the entire east and south coasts, from Berwick to Hampshire, in **North-West England** between the Dee and Solway, and in the **Severn** estuary. Survey on the south-west peninsula will be initiated as funding permits. The current round of SMP review is now close to completion, but we are already thinking ahead: specifically English Heritage has contributed to the Defra 'Coastal Change Strategy' and other government initiatives. The key point is that coastal 'defence' will rarely be an option in future, but instead adaptation will be required. The data from the RCZAS give us the evidence base to respond appropriately.

Above left: At Low Hauxley, Northumberland, an eroding coastline of soft sediments is experiencing the disappearance of peat shelves such as this, some of which have been dated to the Neolithic period.

Above right: Archaeological Research Services Ltd staff uncovering part of a Bronze Age ceramic vessel accompanying one of the cremation burials at Low Hauxley

Below left: Royal Ordnance Factory at Sellafield which laid the foundations for the future Nuclear Plant

Below right: Coastal erosion of Barrow H5 Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery on Walney Island



HELPING LANDOWNERS CARE FOR THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Conservation guidance for landowners.

The **COSMIC Farmer Information Pack** project was developed to satisfy a demand on the part of the farmers involved in the **Conservation of Scheduled Monuments in Cultivation (COSMIC)** project (see above) for more information on the character, importance and management options for the sites in their care. The COSMIC project itself had sought to develop, test and deliver a robust and integrated risk assessment and mitigation model for archaeological sites in arable cultivation. This further project has four key objectives: thanking in a tangible way the farmers involved for their time and contribution to the study by providing information about the sites which they own; making them more aware of the significance and importance of archaeological remains on their land; providing information on the options for more positive management of these features; and thereby maintaining their goodwill. Management issues of very different type were addressed by the **Fylingdales: Lessons of the fire** project. This project attempted to extract

both academic and management returns from the devastating wildfire that removed vegetation cover from 2.5 square km of moorland, exposing previously unknown archaeological features and making them vulnerable to erosion, removal and other damage over and above the impact of the fire. Academic outcomes of the project will include the publication of investigations of the early Bronze Age Stoupe Brow monument with its late Neolithic decorated stone. Management related outputs will include a report on lessons learnt, counter disaster proposals and identified research themes, as well as guidance on the management of the moorland historic environment, all of which should inform the sector regarding other sites and areas. The wider public interest in the archaeological discoveries resulting from the fire have been addressed through Whitby Museum's HLF-funded 'Fire over Fylingdales' exhibition and an associated booklet *Fylingdales: Wildfire and Archaeology*, incorporating a self-guided walk, as well as public events including sculpture, poetry and writing.



Mist rising over Stoupe Brow, part of the burnt area of Fylingdales Moor

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH PUBLICATION

Strategic sectoral support.

Strategic sectoral support, is offered in order to provide support and guidance to other organisations engaged in the care, study and promotion of the historic environment. This assistance is offered through the funding of key strategic professional posts ensuring that both English Heritage and the wider public gain access to major programme outcomes, whilst also ensuring that previous investment outcomes are fully realised. During this period funding continued for the **CBA Publications Management Contract** for the Publications Manager who coordinates the publication of projects supported through English Heritage. Similar support is provided via the **East Anglia Archaeology Managing Editor Post** and the **Greater London Managing Editor** at the Museum of London Archaeology. Additional funding was also provided to the CBA to support **BIAB online**. A free service hosted on the CBA servers and maintained and enhanced by CBA staff www.biab.ac.uk it provides a one-stop-shop for those who need to discover what research has been conducted in any particular facet of British or Irish archaeology.

The need to gather together digital material such as grey literature and other research materials into a single secure location was recognised by English Heritage in the early days of the ALSF. Since then the Archaeological Data Service (ADS) at York University have run the **ALSF Information on the web** and **ALSF Archiving** projects. This

has created a [web mounted library](#) that will be maintained in perpetuity well beyond the life of the ALSF. It is searchable, structured by project, and includes a summary on the home page of each project. By 2009 the library held reports, digital project archives, and outreach materials from over 100 projects, with new material being mounted each week.

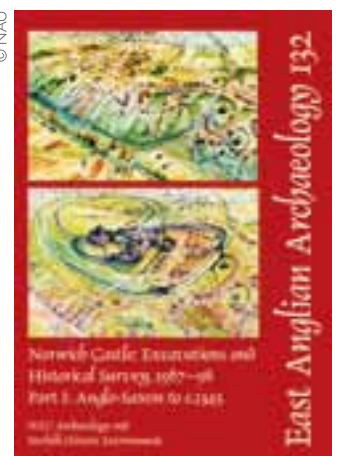
© Cambridge Archaeological Unit



Below left: Silver gilt keystone garnet disc brooch from Bloodmoor Hill, Grave 23

Below: EAA report cover

© NAU



Finally, in order to provide "best value" for the dating required in support of the current ALSF programme, funding was provided to **Chronological Modelling in support of ALSF**, a project which provided expert chronological modelling and training in Bayesian modelling to less experienced practitioners.

Below: The 'ALSF on the web' advanced search interface is seen on the left, and the digital archive pages for the PROSWEB project is seen on the right



© Archaeology Data Service

© Archaeology Data Service

HELPING TO DEVELOP LOCAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Supporting community archives.

One application of our commissioned research and development budgets is their use to fund the development of written guidelines and standards. These documents identify and record the good practice and the expertise of the sector, and communicate it effectively to influence decision makers, and improve working practices in the sector.

An example is the long-term care of the archives created by archaeological excavations. Previous work had identified and produced a guide to best practice for the creation, compilation, transfer and curation of these essential assets, now adopted by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) as binding on their membership. However research by the English Heritage Research Department ascertained that resources for the sustained storage of these archives, after transfer to the relevant local authority, are very limited.

To address this, and working in partnership with the IfA, the Museums Libraries and Archives Council, and the Archaeological Archives Forum we funded **Development of Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Resource Centres**. Our funding enabled archives specialist Duncan Brown to consult with local authority museum and archive services, to identify both the success stories and problems, and to prepare

and consult on guidance. The guidance sets out recommended procedures that should be followed in developing an Archaeological Resource Centre (ARC). Case studies include the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre, DIG at York, the Museum Resource and Learning Centre, Hereford, the Great North Museum Resource Centre, Tyne and Wear and plans for development of an ARC in Kent.

It is our hope that the availability of this clear statement from the profession on the role of an ARC, and the work needed to develop these facilities, will encourage other local authorities to seek funding and initiate projects in their own areas and regions, as part of the infrastructure for effective management of the local historic environment.

It is a sad fact that English Heritage is called up from time to time to provide funding to secure the archive materials of certain significant historic environment professionals in the event of their death. During the period of this review funding was allocated from the HEEP budget to secure two valuable archives the **Alan Vince Archaeological Consultancy Archive** and the **D Simpson Excavation Archive**.

Below: Archaeological Resource Centres improve access to collections, as seen here at the Museum Resource and Learning Centre, Hereford

Below right: Group tour around the Museum Resource and Learning Centre, Hereford, one of the case studies included in recent guidance on Archaeological Resource Centres



© Herefordshire County Council



© Herefordshire County Council

TRAINING AND GUIDANCE FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE PRACTITIONERS

English Heritage scholarship and studentship support.

This heading covers projects which assist strategically important research by supporting scholarships and studentships. Initiatives can include direct scholarship support using English Heritage staff expertise to encourage applicants in key skill-shortage areas, studentships co-supervised by English Heritage staff, and English Heritage partnership teaching projects.

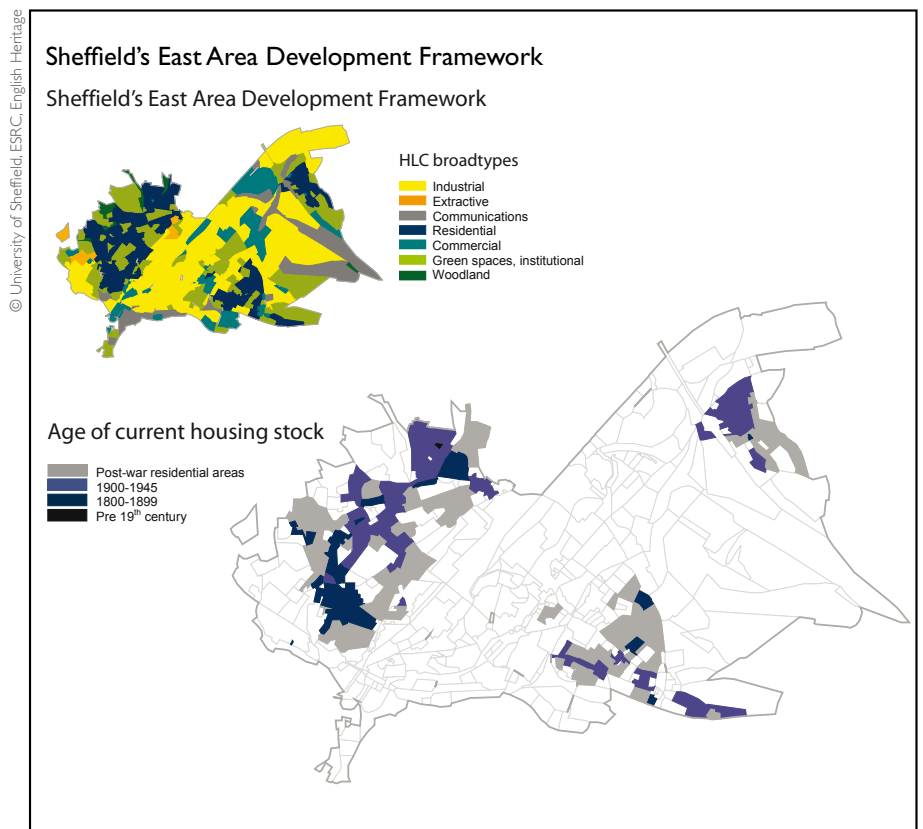
During the period covered by this report English Heritage, Royal Holloway College, and Archaeoscape provided support to a scholarship in the **Distinction and use of Human-produced Archaeological Charcoal**. This project aimed to use quantified reflectance values, to determine temperature and processes of formation, for human produced archaeological charcoal. The relationship between increasing temperature of formation, and increasing mean random reflectance value of charcoals, obtained by reflectance microscopy of polished blocks under oil is well-established. This research will ask if the reflectance curve of an assemblage of charcoal can be used to determine a) if a charcoal assemblage was anthropogenic or natural wildfire in origin, b) the operating conditions of an anthropogenic process including distinction of high-temperature industrial processes, and c) the fuel type used.

At the University of Sheffield the Historic Environment Enabling Programme supported the **CASE ESRC Studentship: Evaluating HLC as a Decision Making Tool**. This research aims to review and reassess the development of Historic Landscape Characterisation methods and theory over the past 10 years, in terms of its current and potential ability to adequately reflect landscape's subjective and perceptual aspect. In addition, it will identify ways to unlock HLC's potential to incorporate subjective understandings of landscape into GIS-based characterisation methodologies, and to disseminate these findings to the HLC community in the United Kingdom and Europe.

The aim of the **CASE AHRC Studentship: Dating the introduction of the Neolithic** at Cardiff University, was to apply Bayesian statistical modelling to the radiocarbon chronology of the later fifth and earlier fourth millennia cal BC, in order to provide rigorous modelling of sequences and the duration of phenomena across the transition in Britain.

Other CASE Studentships funded during this period include the **CASE AHRC Studentship: Refining chronology for the Iron Age in the North East** at Leicester University, the **CASE NERC Studentship in High Resolution Geomagnetic Master Curve** at the University of Liverpool, and the **CASE AHRC Studentship: Grimes Graves Environs Survey** at the University of York.

HLC explores many attributes of landscape character for the Sheffield east ADF Green and Open Space Strategy





© The Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology

The speed networking event is modern and interesting way to promote your ideas to as many as possible in a short amount of time

TRAINING EXPERT PRACTITIONERS

English Heritage is committed to projects which deliver professional training and knowledge transfer to increase expert capacity across the professional sector; through such projects as the **Professional Training Courses in the Historic Environment (Oxford)**. Funding was also allocated to the Institute of Historic Building Conservation for their 2008 and 2009 **Annual Summer Schools** and the Medieval Pottery Research Group for **Training Courses for Ceramic Archaeologists**.

On the maritime front, ALSF funding was awarded to the **Maritime Archaeology Access & Learning ALSF Workshops: Continuation and Speed Dating** project, which promoted

educational initiatives and activities related to maritime archaeology and marine aggregates. The project capitalises on the success of previous educational workshops, and promotes long term communication and exchange of ideas and experiences through workshops, one-day 'speed dating' type event for educators, and a presence at the Birmingham Education Show.

ENGLISH HERITAGE PROFESSIONAL PLACEMENTS IN CONSERVATION (EPPIC)

Another key initiative to address skill shortages in the sector is the **English Heritage Professional Placements in Conservation (EPPIC) scheme** undertaken in partnership with the Institute of Archaeologists.

The aim of these projects is to provide up to five year-long workplace training bursaries, in order to increase the number of skilled practitioners in the sector; and provide models for the development of skilled historic environment professionals. The placements are based at a wide range of offices and are hosted within the **Archaeological and Architectural Investigation**, and **Aerial Survey and Investigation** teams. The placements are designed for those with some experience of historic environment practice, but who have not had the opportunity to develop more specialist skills and competencies.

The growing dependence on archaeological geophysics in the application for, and monitoring of, marine aggregate licences, provided the impetus for the ALSF funding of an **EPPIC in Coastal and Marine Geophysics** placement at Wessex Archaeology. This will build capacity in this specialist field, and offer realistic experience of current practice in marine geophysical processing and interpretation; it was supported by the purchase of a Coda GeoSurvey suite of software and Coda hardware.



© English Heritage

GUIDANCE FOR PROFESSIONAL STUDY OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

As part of English Heritages continuing commitment to delivering guidance on recording and analysis techniques, the **Heritage 3D Communication** project is producing an ongoing source of reference on three-dimensional recording techniques within cultural heritage conservation.

Building Survey Week run at Oxford University Department for Continuing Education, 25-29 May 2009



Patrick Dresch – Wessex Archaeology's EPPIC placement in Marine Geophysics working with Sidescan Sonar data

In order to assist the marine industry during the licensing process, ALSF funding was awarded to the **Marine Geophysics Data Acquisition and Exclusion Zones Guidance** project which will deliver a set of Guidance Notes which will shortly be published under the English Heritage banner. As well as general standards for survey planning, this document will provide information on the most commonly used geophysical techniques in surveying, and guidance on the acquisition, processing and interpretation of geophysical data for the assessment of the archaeological potential in the marine environment. It is aimed at archaeologists, geophysicists/surveyors, and developers and planners, and thus encompasses the wide range of people working in industry, government, academia and the heritage sector.

GUIDANCE FOR INDUSTRY

As part of our commitment to providing support and guidance to other organisations engaged in the care, study and promotion of the historic environment, English Heritage commissions projects specifically tailored to produce guidance to industries which have a particular impact on the historic environment. Two ALSF projects were commissioned under this objective, the **BMAPA /EH Protocol for Reporting Finds of Archaeological Interest 2008-II**, and the **Mineral Extraction and Archaeology Practice Guide Workshops**.

Building on previous success, the current BMAPA project seeks to ensure that the protocol continues to have a high profile through seminars, publications, collaboration with other institutions and through visits to industry staff.

In May 2008 the Minerals and Historic Environment Forum, which brings together the minerals industry, planners and archaeologists, published a Practice Guide, the aim of which is to ensure archaeological evaluation and mitigation of mineral development is undertaken in a reasonable, proportionate and cost-effective way. Promotion of this Guide through four regional training workshops was funded from the ALSF and carried out by the Mineral Industry Research Organisation (MIRO).



The Heritage 3D project being run by Newcastle University aims to provide general news and independent information about all forms of 3D survey and recording, in-depth guidance and discussion on specific applications and techniques, and to provide access to a network of relevant organisations and individuals that could provide information and advice

ENJOYING THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

Communicating the excitement to people.

Built into all of the projects we support is a drive for public involvement and a requirement that the results of the work are easily accessible, physically and intellectually. In doing so, we raise awareness of the importance of the historic environment and thus underscore the value of the research undertaken and widen its sphere of influence. This is particularly valuable as these are powerful methods by which we engage with wider and more diverse audiences. The results of our research are focused on maximising the information potential and encouraging enjoyment, in ways that are inclusive – the products of archaeological research made accessible, exciting and energising.

National Trust archaeologist explaining about the historic photographic archive we have for Chedworth Roman Villa



INCREASING PARTICIPATION AND ENJOYMENT IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Community involvement and awareness projects.

As part of the English Heritage commitment to funding projects which raise community awareness of the historic environment through direct communication, engagement, and participation, funding continued during 2007 and 2008 for **National Archaeology Week** (NAW). An annual event which takes place throughout the UK, it is coordinated by the Council for British Archaeology (CBA). The aim of the week is to encourage young people and their families to visit museums and sites of archaeological interest. The events proved to be very successful, with an estimated total number of participating visitors of over 160,000, and many new institutions holding NAW events for the first time. In fact activities were so popular that in 2009 the event extended over two weeks to meet rising demand and interest. The new extended and rebranded event is now known as the **Festival of British Archaeology**.

The **Weald Forest Ridge Historic Environment Awareness Project** was agreed in the 2008 financial year and will

continue until 2012. The project is allowing local communities to contribute to, and become enriched by, the development of a new and more detailed understanding of the archaeology and history of the Weald Forest Ridge historic landscape, and the tools needed to reach that understanding. This project forms part of a larger Heritage Lottery Fund project called the Weald Forest Ridge Landscape Partnership Scheme, and provides an important opportunity for professional archaeologists and local communities to work together and explore innovative methods of working, through initiatives such as the development of community-tested toolkits and guidance on identifying historic features, the methods and standards used for their recording, and approaches to accessing and contributing to HER information.

The **Samson Flats Inter-tidal Field Survey** also agreed during 2008, ran until 2010. The 'Hedges and Ruins' on Samson Flats in the Isles of Scilly were first noted by Dr William Borlase in the mid-eighteenth century, when the location of

Below left: Dorset County Council Marine SMR officer explaining about finds from shipwrecks, at Corfe Castle FoBA days

Below right: A volunteer conservation group called the Horsham Green Gym visiting the Weald Forest Ridge. Included amongst their number are people with mental health issues, long term unemployed, retired etc



© Festival events/CBA



© East Sussex County Council



© Darkwight Archaeology

A volunteer recording stone features on the Samson Flats inter-tidal zone

these features within the inter-tidal zone, was taken as evidence that they were part of an inundated landscape and possibly prehistoric in date. More recently this interpretation of their function and date has sometimes been questioned. The project produced an accurate survey of the features and the topography, and demonstrated that the extent and complexity of the linear stone features is greater than originally envisaged, with at least two different construction techniques used, possibly of different date and function. The project also engaged the local community through site open days, local presentations, and volunteer involvement in the fieldwork.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROJECTS

From 2007 to 2010 Historic Environment Enabling Programme funding was also directed towards projects which widened understanding for non-professional local community members about the nature, importance and value of their historic environment. At **Skipton-in-Craven, North Yorkshire** the Skipton-in-Craven Civic Society coordinated local volunteers who established the date of the majority of the buildings within the natural boundary of the old town, and produced a photographic record of these buildings. In doing so they have improved understanding of Skipton's heritage, enabling it to be a positive influence on future change. During the period under review an educational



© Tom Holmes

Above: Knowledge of Skipton's heritage is improved by the efforts of the Skipton-in-Craven Civic Society, seen here with English Heritage Chief Executive Simon Thurley

handbook on the broad scope of the marine historic environment and archaeology was commissioned by Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology. The **CBA Marine Handbook** will be published in 2011.

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY AWARDS IN THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

During the period covered by this review English Heritage also directed funding to programmes which celebrate and incentivise communities to engage in the historic environment. A good example of this is the continued support for the **Challenge Funding Programme** administered by the Council for British Archaeology. A grants scheme established in 1997, with financial support from English Heritage, Historic Scotland and the Council for Scottish Archaeology (now Archaeology Scotland), Challenge Funding encourages independent, voluntary effort and original contributions to the study and care of Britain's historic environment.

Groups, societies, and individuals are challenged to put forward proposals for innovative projects which will reveal something new about the history of their local surroundings and thus inform their future care. Proposals are judged on their intrinsic quality, and evidence of capacity to see them through successfully. Grants of up to £750 are awarded to each applicant.



© Susan Wrathmell

Right: The Cock and Bottle interior photographed and recorded by volunteers from the Skipton-in-Craven Civic Society

ENHANCING VISITOR EXPERIENCES TO OUR SITES

Research for interpretation and presentation of English Heritage properties and collections.

English Heritage undertakes research on its own sites for a variety of reasons; to improve visitor facilities, to inform new presentation schemes or displays, or as part of repair programmes. Much of the information gained from such work feeds into improved site presentation, but we also have a responsibility to ensure that the results are made more widely available, in publications such as the recent monograph **Hill Hall: A Singular House Devised by a Tudor Intellectual** (Drury and Simpson 2009).

Work has also been taking place on the **Wigmore Castle** archive. This large Herefordshire castle associated with the Mortimer family was one of the most important in the Marches, but it has been one of the least-studied. The ruins have long been covered in vegetation, and the preservation of the site's rich ecosystem was one of the aims of a major conservation project planned when the site was taken into guardianship. The masonry was in very poor condition, and recording and analysis of the structures took place in tandem with their consolidation. Two areas were also identified where excavation was needed to investigate the causes of structural instability – the south curtain wall, which had partially collapsed, and the south-east tower which was in imminent danger of collapse. These excavations were carried out in 1996 and 1998 by Marches Archaeology, but no further work was carried out until 2008, when Barbican Research Associates were commissioned to undertake an assessment of the results.

The excavations had found deep, well-stratified sequences of occupation within the castle walls, providing evidence for high-status buildings within the bailey. The assessment demonstrated the high potential of the archive for investigation into the changing status of Wigmore, which had become a prison by the 16th century before being abandoned in the 17th, and of changing patterns of food supply and consumption.

Following the assessment, a programme of analysis was agreed which has recently resulted in the production of a draft monograph text.

Funding was also awarded to Barbican Research Associates to complete the academic editing needed to address the referee's comments on the excavation report, **St Peter, Barton-upon-Humber: A Parish Church and its Community** which will be published by Oxbow in 2011.

Wigmore Castle, 1996 Excavations: showing depth of excavations, looking south



© Marches Archaeology

SUPPORTING POPULAR PUBLICATIONS AND ONLINE RESOURCES

Informed Conservation Books

As part of the English Heritage commitment to enhance public understanding and appreciation of the historic environment and its conservation through education and training two titles in the informed conservation series were commissioned during the period this review.

Introducing English Garden Cities and Suburbs (Miller 2010) was produced to raise awareness of the interest and importance of the theory and practice of the Garden City movement, and also of the issues related to their practical conservation and physical regeneration. **Plymouth: Vision of a Modern City** (Gould 2011) was produced through a partnership comprising English Heritage, the University of Plymouth, and Plymouth City Council. The book explores the post-war reconstruction of the city, which saw urban planners casting off the constraints imposed by historic infrastructure to produce a new vision of urban living, expressed in rationally designed city centres, suburban precincts, and modern integrated transport systems. The significance of what was achieved in Plymouth is assessed in an international context, and will contribute to current debate about the formulation of policy relating to the buildings and landscapes of the post-war era.



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Above: A postcard produced for the launch of the Survey of London's website in 2006 (via British History Online)

Right: The Institute of Historical Research's British History Online website



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COMMUNITY RESOURCES ON-LINE

Projects funded under this SHAPE theme make available searchable resources in library/museum/catalogue format.

British History Online is a digital library containing some of the core printed sources for the medieval and modern history of the British Isles. It supports academic and personal users around the world in their learning, teaching and research, by providing a wide range of priceless resources, cross-searchable, in one place and free of charge. The 45 Survey of London parish volumes contain a wealth of historical and architectural information, illustrated with archive and contemporary photographs, maps, plans, and measured drawings. English Heritage funding has made it possible for these volumes to be placed online <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/surveyoflondon>.

In September 2006 European Commission, Culture 2000 funding was announced for a multi-annual, trans-national programme, **Landscapes of War**, following an application by Regione Calabria (Italy). The project is generating and promoting a publicly accessible online inventory of military sites and landscapes, documenting conservation policies, approaches and attitudes to this recent military heritage, and establishing a pan-European research framework for recent military heritage. English Heritage match funding covered the cost of updating and improving data for twentieth-century military sites through PastScape and Heritage Gateway.

POPULAR AND ACCESSIBLE PUBLICATIONS

Aimed at presenting the excitement of discovery and research to a wider public the driver for popular publications is communication and accessibility.

Publication of the **Buildings of England City Guides** continued in 2008 with two books



produced as Pevsner Architectural Guides. Elaine Harwood's book is a practical guide to the buildings of Nottingham, from its medieval beginnings to the innovative architecture of the 21st century. Grace McCombie's book on Newcastle and Gateshead explores both urban centres including the Georgian re-planning of Newcastle, the famous Tyne bridges, and excursions to Anglo-Saxon Jarrow and the Angel of the North.

The Peak District is a historic upland landscape, with a rich palimpsest of features which invoke the many generations of people who have inhabited the area. The great **Estate of Chatsworth** reflects the Peak in microcosm. Its landscapes are diverse and contain many exceptional features including archaeological earthworks of medieval open fields and later enclosures in the park, and prehistoric stone circles, barrows, fields and settlements on the Estate moorlands. **The Archaeology of a Great Estate: Chatsworth and Beyond** (Barnatt and Bannister 2009) tells the story of the historic landscape concentrating on visible archaeology and what it can tell us about the past.

Two further books to be published in 2011 concern religious houses but on very different scales.

Sempringham Priory in Lincolnshire was the founding house of the Gilbertine Order, the only English monastic congregation, and as such it is of exceptional importance to monastic studies. The site is however under arable cultivation, and although partly scheduled some areas including the former church, northern cloister and post-suppression house have no statutory protection. Plotting of aerial photographs, geophysical survey, and detailed field walking was undertaken 2004-05 in order to inform ongoing management

discussions. A popular book reporting of these surveys and a synthesis of earlier work will be produced in the Heritage Lincolnshire series.

A large body of English Heritage funded work on London's major religious houses (the **Religion in London** project) has been undertaken during the last twenty years, much of it now nearing publication in the Museum of London monograph series. **The City, the Cross and the Star** will pull this work together in an illustration-led popular format that considers the incredibly rich material culture associated with religion that has been uncovered by archaeologists working in the capital. The book will describe how Christianity and Judaism was practised in London from the point of view of the lost buildings of worship, their rich decorations and the huge variety of beautiful and mysterious finds associated with them. It will consider the trappings of parish life, monasticism, pilgrimage, charity, death and burial, the London Jews, and the huge changes wrought by the Reformation - it will emphatically not be an explanation of the history or beliefs of the two religions.

During the period of this review, work began on the compilation of all material relating to the site at **Grove Priory** (La Grava), Bedfordshire into a popular publication containing thematic and chronological essays explaining the history and archaeology of a royal manor and alien priory of Fontevrault many years after its excavation. This will be published by the CBA in 2011.

Aggregate Levy Sustainability Fund money has also been put towards popular publication.

Europe's Lost World, the Rediscovery of Doggerland (Gaffney, Fitch, and Smith 2009) is an award winning title which presents the results of the **3D Seismics for Mitigation Mapping**

Above left: Final LOW project event, Valencia, Spain, 30 May 2009

Above right: La Grava has great potential for popular and educational presentation. Here, a ready-made stone coffin has to be widened to take an obese corpse

Near right: The Leman and Ower point and its fions spot. Found in 1931 and the object that sparked the hunt for Doggerland. Original photograph and drawing by H Muir Evan

Far Right: Europe's Lost world
The landscape of Doggerland



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of the Southern North Sea project which used ground-breaking oil industry technology and 3D seismic reflection data to scan the seabed. This information was then used to reconstruct the coastlines, rivers, marshlands and hills which made up the Mesolithic land surface, which for thousand of years connected the hunter-gatherers of Britain to North Western Europe.

ACCESS FOR ALL: INVOLVING EXCLUDED GROUPS THROUGH DIRECT PARTICIPATION

As part of English Heritage's commitment to broaden access to the historic environment and engage with diverse communities, funding was agreed for the **Young Archaeologist Club Magazine 2009/10 to 2011/12**. The Young Archaeologists Club (YAC) UK is the only UK-wide archaeology club for young people aged 8 to 16. It also has a YAC Supporter category for those under the age of 8 as well as overseas members. The club's aims are to involve young people in archaeology and open their eyes to their historical surroundings and heritage. The **Young Archaeologist** magazine is a twenty page full colour quarterly magazine which serves the membership and volunteers of YAC. It is posted to all members and club branches and includes educational material in terms of news, features, activities and competitions. Items from the magazine are also posted onto the YAC UK website and are thereby accessible to all.

PRESENTATION OF DESIGNATED WRECKS

Projects bringing access to Designated Wreck sites to new audiences and visitor groups including the non-diving public and non-vocational leisure divers were also funded through the Historic Environment Enabling Programme.

Teign Heritage received support for conservation of the **Church Rocks** wreck assemblage in 2009. The conservation work to the Church Rocks wreck material is ensuring the long-term stability of the Swivel Gun and the accompanying (mainly iron) items. The conservation will also allow significant parts of the collection to be displayed and interpreted to engage a wide audience and broaden people's understanding of the wreck, its importance and the nature of underwater archaeology.

Finally, Kevin Camidge at Darkwright received funding for the **HMS Colossus Dive Trail**. This trail comprises a number of seabed observation stations around the wreck, and an underwater information booklet which guides divers around the site. The guide booklet explains the exposed remains and gives details of the background to the loss of HMS *Colossus*. A web page has also been installed for the dive trail on the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Maritime Archaeology Society website where accounts and photographs from visiting divers will be posted.

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