

Planning for the Future

As landscape development frequently involves medium and long term strategic planning it is important that the consequences of developing any given site are assessed and appreciated from an early stage in the process. The information contained in this booklet and the accompanying digital maps provide baseline data and a set of explicit responses that are appropriate for a wide range of circumstances and on different landforms.

When making strategic decisions it is important that resources are targeted to promote conservation, but if intrusive works are required then it is also important to recognise the opportunity offered by such works to progress research goals and maximize the opportunity for training, informing the public and enriching the cultural life of the region. It is timely that the key regional research agenda for the historic environment (the North-East Regional Research Framework) has just been completed: www.durham.gov.uk/research



Archaeologists and quarry operators working together to record a large Neolithic settlement site close to the River Till.

Dovetailing landscape development with the objectives of this framework will help direct planners to the key questions important to furthering understanding of the past. In future, this should mean that there is a clear purpose behind archaeological and palaeoenvironmental recording as it is more than just a case of recording remains for posterity.

There is immense public interest in the archaeology and historic past of this country and this is no more apparent than in the viewing figures for television documentaries that deal with the subject. The contribution that ‘development archaeology’ makes is significant and accounts for the majority of excavation and recording that takes place in this country today. The challenge facing historic environment managers and developers is primarily one of finding the right balance between conservation goals and development goals and weighing up the potential loss against the potential gain resulting from excavation work. It is hoped that this guidance will encourage dialogue amongst all stakeholders and assist in providing a coherent, transparent and informative guide that sets out a clear method for managing developments that affect the historic environment of the area.



Putting words into practice and building effective working partnerships is the key to successful landscape management and sustainable development.

Useful web sites

Archaeological Research Services Ltd

www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com

Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO)

www.algao.org.uk/

Berwick District Council

www.berwickonline.org.uk

British Aggregates Association

www.british-aggregates.com

English Heritage www.english-heritage.org.uk

English Heritage Historic Environment Advice Pages www.helm.org.uk

Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA)

www.archaeologists.net/

Mineral Industry Research Organisation www.goodquarry.com

Northumberland County Council

www.northumberland.gov.uk

Past Perfect—Sites and Monuments Information for Northumberland

www.pastperfect.info

Quarry Products Association (QPA)

www.qpa.org.uk/

Till-Tweed Project www.ncl.ac.uk/till-tweed/

Further Reading

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