

Historic Environment Record News

The newsletter of the Historic Environment Records Forum

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A View from the Chair

Neil Lockett, Worcestershire County Council

Welcome to the summer edition of HER News. This edition comes to you soon after a very successful meeting at the Society of Antiquaries in London, which was well attended and provided a stimulating and informative day for all attendees.

Many of the articles within this edition provide a follow-up report of papers presented at the meeting, which had the title: *Changing Times, Current*

initiatives and Historic Environment Records.

The morning was devoted to a presentation by David Baker on the recent assessment of the steps necessary for SMRs and UADs to achieve Stage one of the HER benchmarks. David presented the results of the consultancy undertaken in conjunction with Gill Chitty and Rachel Edwards. There followed a discussion session with a panel comprised of David, Gill and Rachel, with Stewart Bryant and Nigel Clubb. The session was chaired by Martin Newman, who took questions from the

audience relating to the implications for HERs brought out by the consultation document. Questions were wide-ranging, but very positive about the assessment and recommendations.

The afternoon session focussed on current projects affecting HERs. Paul Gilman presented the current progress towards the publication of a 2nd edition of *Informing the future of the Past*. He explained why this second edition was necessary, and encouraged discussion about the scope and content with particular reference to the Benchmarks for HERs. Again, discussion was lively with a wide range of participants asking questions and offering suggestions for improvement.

A second offering for the afternoon session was a joint presentation by Edmund Lee and Jason Siddall, who spoke about the FISH Interoperability Toolkit. This initiative, designed to ease the transfer of HER data, both within the community, as well as to external clients and consultants, is based on Extensible Markup Language (XML). The body of the presentation devoted itself to explaining how this language is used. The session was particularly beneficial to many attendees as it offered a simple, structured introduction to this developing computer language. It was clear from the discussion after the presentation that the Toolkit is welcomed by the HER

community, and the session acted as both an introduction to the technology used, as well as the approach to data transfer adopted by the project.

The last two sessions of the day not only presented recent initiatives by other parts of English Heritage, but also offered a plea for more input by the HER community. Catherine Cavanagh presented the recent developments of the Historic Environment Local Management (HELM) project, which is intended to provide an introduction to the range of services and projects, offered by HERs, to non-Archaeologists. This resource is important to the wider dissemination of the relevance of HERs and, with case studies from the community, will give an excellent picture of the breadth of understanding and resources available to protect and manage the Historic Environment.



Society of Antiquaries providing stylish accommodation for the Forum

Finally Ben Cowell spoke about contributions to *Heritage Counts 2004*, the new name for the *State of the Historic Environment* report. Ben introduced the 2003 report and asked if HERs could offer information which could be

incorporated into the 2004 and future reports.

Overall the presentation and discussion throughout the day was excellent, and the venue provided a suitably learned environment for debate on the Historic Environment. The summer meeting will be a hard act to follow, but I encourage any HER, SMR or UAD to step forward to host future meetings of this important gathering of Historic Environment professionals.

HER Consultation: The Way Forward

Eve Trueman, DCMS

In December 2000 the Government published *The Historic Environment: A Force for our Future*¹, a wide-ranging policy statement setting out the Government's approach to managing the heritage of the UK with over 50 recommendations for action. One of these was to publish a consultation paper on the future of Historic Environment Records (HERs), previously known as Sites and Monuments Records (SMRs).

The *Historic Environment Records Consultation*² paper sought views on the future of HERs, and how we might move to developing and expanding Historic Environment Records across the country. A further aim was to engage with all sectors to develop workable solutions that would be flexible and

responsive to both current demands and those of the future, and to make these records available to professionals, schools, colleges and the wider public alike. Draft benchmark standards for good practice were published alongside the consultation paper and views sought on whether they represented an appropriate and sustainable way forward for HERs.

That consultation was published in July 2003, alongside a consultation paper seeking views on the proposals to improve the wider heritage protection system (*Protecting our historic environment: Making the system work better*³). The two consultation exercises were timed to coincide because the role of HERs would be key to the success of many of the new proposals, and the results of the HER consultation was fed into the Heritage Protection Review for consideration by Ministers.

The results of consultation were encouraging, and clearly demonstrated the high regard in which HERs are held, both by the range of professionals using them on a daily basis and the wider public. They provided much useful information for the future development of HERS, as well as strategic messages for the Review of Heritage Protection. For example:

- Consistency of standards, as set out in the

*Benchmarks for Good Practice*⁴, is essential for the improvement and sustainability of HERs; and

- It should be a statutory requirement of local authorities that they maintain a HER or have access to one.

The responses to the main Review as well as the HERs Review and results of the deliberations of some Working Groups reinforced the need to take on board these messages. There are clear links between the form of any unified national statutory list and its relationship with HERs, the enhancement of local lists, the introduction of sub-regional partnerships and the management of records of local designation and characterisation. There are also implications for the success of the DEFRA agri-environment schemes, especially the Higher Tier schemes, which will depend on information from HERs.

In its report setting out the next steps for achieving lasting change (*Review of Heritage Protection: The Way Forward*), the Government has announced that it plans to require local authorities to establish and maintain or have access to Historic Environment Records.

Plans to take this forward are at an early stage, and it is acknowledged that this measure has potentially serious resource implications for Government. Nevertheless,

ODPM and DCMS have agreed to work closely with other key and interested Government departments to take this measure forward to a successful outcome.

A fuller analysis of the results of both consultation exercises is published in *Review of Heritage Protection: The Way Forward*. This paper is available free of charge on the DCMS website at www.culture.gov.uk/global/publications/archive_2004/review_heritage_protection.htm or from enquiries@culture.gsi.gov.uk (0207 211 6200).

¹ DCMS, 2000, *The Historic Environment a Force For Our Future*

² DCMS Historic Environment Records Consultation

³ *Protecting Our Historic Environment: Making the System Work Better*

⁴ Chitty, 2002, *Historic Environment Records: Benchmarks for Good Practice*, English Heritage

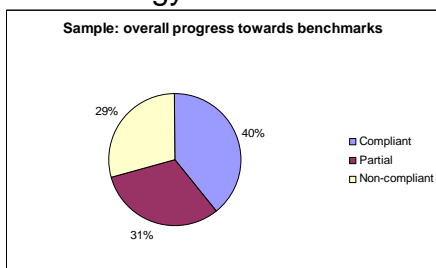
Meeting the First Stage Benchmarks for HERs

David Baker, Historic Environment Conservation

The publication of Benchmarks for Historic Environment Records¹ (HERs) in 2002 followed logically from earlier assessments of development progress in Sites and Monuments Records (SMRs) and Urban Archaeological Databases (UADs). The work needed for them to achieve the first stage benchmarks, together with the resources

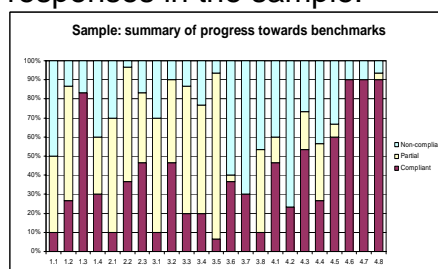
required to carry out that work, were assessed last winter in a project for English Heritage, and ALGAO. 'Team Benchmark' (David Baker, Gill Chitty and Rachel Edwards) presented the results to the June meeting of the Historic Environment Records Forum at the Society of Antiquaries in London.

88 of the 101 records identified by Martin Newman² in 2002 were sampled, excluding national databases, copy records, records that had subsequently ceased to exist, and incomplete UADs. The sample selected was 30 records (34%), generally representative of region, record type, local authority type and urban / rural balance. They included a pilot group for testing the project methodology.



Globally, the study found 40% compliance, 31% partial compliance and 29% non-compliance. The four best benchmarks were 'Appropriate internal management arrangements', 'Availability of technical advice on IT and archive / records etc', 'Staff training and development programme' (each 27 / 30 records compliant) and 'Research into user profiles' (25). The four worst were 'Formal agreement with

partners / service providers' (23 non-compliant), 'Data validation and currency' (21), 'Information audit on quinquennial basis' (18), and 'Information services policy' (15). By local authority type, the ranking order of compliance was county, joint-service, unitary and district authority. Estimates of work required for compliance or the costs of actual compliance were given in 84% of all responses in the sample.



Estimates of time needed for benchmark achievement were converted into costs using a day-rate of £120. This gave a total requirement of £8,280,063 for all 88 records, made up of three elements. Attainment of all benchmarks, except professional staffing and four considered to be the responsibility of the host authority, was £4,845,663. The staffing benchmark was calculated as the cost to an external sponsor of a 3-year tapering funding agreement, or £2,534,400. Getting all programmed UADs to the database stage was calculated as £900,000, using a standard figure.

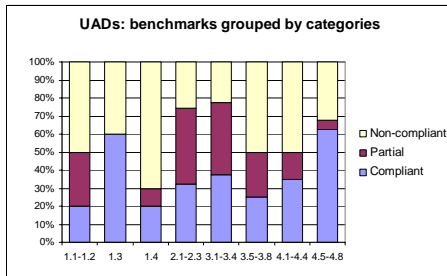
Five benchmarks constituted 80% of the £4.8m general requirement. These were 'Information coverage and content' (£1,99m),

'Computerised database to national data standards' (£0.75m), 'Development of outreach programme' (£0.56m), 'Data security' (£0.32m), and 'GIS linked to record database and manual' (£0.27m).

The global figure of £8.28m should never be quoted in isolation and without qualifications. Some factors could make it larger: eliminating backlogs of data inputting was estimated as the cost of quantifying the task rather than actually doing it; some records clearly need more than the single professional post identified in the staffing benchmark. Other factors could reduce the global figure, such as the existing availability of core funding for a programmed approach to achieving the benchmarks, and a tighter prioritising of existing resources. Economies might also be achieved by developing UAD within existing SMRs / HERs, and through cooperative arrangements for achieving benchmarks within a region or between smaller records.

In a section of the report discussing UADs, the stand-alone variety was found to be less compliant with the benchmarks than either stand-alone SMRs or SMRs incorporating a UAD. It was recommended that existing UADs should either be adequately resourced by their authorities to provide the full range of SMR functions, or should be merged with the

relevant SMR, as has happened for example with Newcastle and the Tyne and Wear Joint Service. Each administrative area should be covered by one record system, subject to a doctrine of 'no exclusivity without interoperability' regulating the relationships of adjacent UADs and SMRs.



Several next actions were suggested. A review of the benchmarks should concentrate particularly upon cataloguing / security copying and data indexing / retrievability. It should also look carefully at the wide range of backlogs reported, and consider whether any other benchmarks should be deemed as normal public service provision. The benchmarking of GIS functionality also needs review. Guidance policies and templates should be provided to help achieve certain benchmarks. Benchmark validation should be linked to a suitably revised form of repeat HER audits. Finally, a system should be devised for an externally validated registration of records' benchmark achievement, tied into the suite of local Government key Best Value Performance Indicators.

HER benchmarks for 2005-06 BVPIs ?

The consultation set of Best Value Performance Indicators³ for 2005-06 was issued by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in early July. The new BVPIs include three based on the study of local authority performance indicators completed earlier this year by Gill Chitty and David Baker for a consortium headed by English Heritage. The three cover the care of local authority heritage assets, progress with Conservation Area appraisals, and one of particular interest for readers of *HER News*. This is **BV (X25) – Percentage increase since the previous financial year of the number of historic environment records benchmark measures in place.** This completes a timely trio of advances for HERs, following the completion of the first stage benchmarks resources assessment and the Government announcement about statutory requirements. The full consultation report is at www.odpm.gov.uk > Local Government > Consultation Papers > Current.

The ODPM has signalled a clear intention to reduce the final number of indicators following the consultation. It also invites authorities to volunteer to pilot the new indicators. Obviously the chances of keeping the HER indicator in will be strengthened if there is a reasonable number of volunteers to demonstrate that it is usable and useful. If your authority volunteers to pilot

BV(X25), please keep the Forum in touch with developments.

The full report on meeting the first stage HER benchmark can be downloaded from www.jiscmail.ac.uk/files/HERF-ORUM/SMRRA-Main-RepAppndx.pdf

¹ Chitty, 2002, *Historic Environment Records: Benchmarks for Good Practice*, English Heritage

² Newman, 2002, *SMR Content and Computing Survey 2002*, English Heritage

³ ODPM, 2004, *Best Value Performance Indicators 2005/06: Consultation Paper*, ODPM

Future Perfect: Planning and Associated Issues

Ken Smith, Chair, ALGAO

This is an edited version of the paper given at the IFA conference in April which included contributions from Stewart Bryant and Jan Wills, Vice Chairs, ALGAO.

The changes within the land-use planning system are part of the development of regional governance and the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act which received Royal Assent in June. Implementation of the Act is embodied in the recent consultation on the draft PPS 12: Local Development Frameworks¹.

Local Development Frameworks (LDF)

These comprise a portfolio of local development documents, collectively delivering the

spatial planning strategy for the local planning authority's area. Local development documents will comprise:

Development plan documents

– spatial planning documents including:

- Core strategy - the core elements of the planning framework for the area
- Site-specific allocations and policies
- Area action plans - for key areas of change or conservation
- Generic development control policies – criteria-based policies to ensure that development meets the contents of the core strategy.
- Proposals maps – which identify areas of protection and illustrate locations and define sites for particular land-use and development proposals included in development plan documents.

Supplementary planning documents – policy guidance on a wide range of issues, both thematic and site-specific.

Statement of community involvement – standards by which the plan-making authority intends to involve the community in preparing, altering and continuously reviewing all the local development documents.

Strategic environment assessment (SEA)

European SEA Directive² requires formal environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes, and includes

land-use and planning. The objective is “to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development”. Environmental reports include assessment of the likely significant effects on cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage.

Designations Review

A far-reaching and potentially significant review which is likely to see the introduction of a single designation system, the delegation of designation responsibility from DCMS to EH and of consent and casework issues from EH to local authorities. It may also see the resolution of the status of local authority HERs, which were themselves the subject of another review.

HER Review

Another significant review, of HERs, a key component of HERs, exploring ways in which they are currently used and how their use and customer base might be extended, but also importantly, examining the case for statutory status of within LAs. The Ministers statement on the 28th June resolves that Government should require local authorities to establish and maintain or have access to HERs.

Review of PPGs 15 & 16

The review of PPGs 15 & 16 and the drafting of their

replacement, PPS 15 has been delayed until summer 2005. It is likely, it will take the form of a very short PPS with a suite of guidance documents attached, somewhat in the style of the Technical Advice Notes used in the Welsh version of PPG 16.

Unification of Consents

This appears also to have been delayed, until after the Review of Designations.

Implications/Future

Regional bodies will need advice and guidance on historic environment issues. Local authority curators (both ALGAO & IHBC members), with EH, need to play a much greater role in influencing the development of regional policies in order to be able to influence policies within the LDF. Without that initial inclusion in the RSS, I believe it will be more difficult to get appropriate historic environment policies into the lower tiers of the LDF.

There will be a need for a greater focus on strategic planning at the regional level. The LDF is the local implementation vehicle for the RSS. There will be a key role for local authorities but importantly, EH needs to develop a greater strategic role particularly at regional level, influencing and advising on policy development, working in partnership with ALGAO and IHBC, POS and others to develop generic historic environment policies that can be included in RSS and LDF. This kind of input will be crucial

if we are to take this potential opportunity, firstly, to ensure that appropriate historic environment policies are in place and secondly, to ensure that some sort of uniformity of approach to the management of the historic environment across England is achieved. My concern is whether EH has the capacity and capability to engage in this way. While the changes to be wrought by the Review of Designations and the current round of in-house modernisation initiatives might help, it is not currently over-endowed with land-use planning policy experts.

There may be a need to consider ways in which planning and agri-environment schemes might be integrated more closely, given the impact agriculture has had on the landscape. As support moves away from production to sustainable environmental management then the opportunity might arise to develop closer links with land-use planning, to address wider landscape issues. There is a need for analyses such as Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) and Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) to be achieved right across England.

It is likely that there will be an increased role for local authorities in the planning system, and a reduced one for EH. There is every likelihood that this will devolve onto local non-county planning authorities. There are concerns that such authorities are

unlikely to be able to accommodate increased historic environment workloads, particularly those of the scale and complexity currently handled by EH.

A significant change in the relationship between counties and non-county local authorities appears to be imminent, with counties effectively losing their strategic planning role. The role, function and location of historic environment services are likely to come under considerable scrutiny. While the Review of Designations raised the issues of regional or sub-regional teams, at present it remains unclear what provision, based where, might provide the necessary critical mass and be sufficiently local to engage positively with communities.

The role of HERs is likely to increase in importance. As the role and importance of the historic environment is increasingly recognised in government initiatives, developed databases, incorporating or enabling access to HLC, LB and EUS information will become increasingly important, not just in development control but in areas such as community involvement, education and outreach and should have an increasingly influential role to play at regional as well as local authority level. We, the sector, need to look to ways of enabling greater access to these developed datasets as well as ensuring that there is interoperability between HERs

within and beyond regions. There are already initiatives developing to investigate the creation of portals to enable greater access, though the scale of the resources needed for the necessary mediation of datasets must not be underestimated.

There is the possibility of more-structured planning gain from the system proposed to replace Sec. 106 agreements. Proposals currently being considered – which may include some sort of local tax – could provide greater and more-effective opportunities for access to information, for interpretation, outreach and education and other community benefits.

The increasing emphasis by Government on community involvement is likely to result in a more fluid or dynamic system for local plans. Community involvement in preparation/review of plans and their up-dating could result in more rapid change as well as greater diversity between local authorities with differing communities. It will be interesting to see how community is defined and precisely what role(s) they will play. General reference only is made to this concept in the Draft PPS 1: Creating Sustainable Communities³. Proper community engagement, input, analysis and progress can be a time-consuming and expensive process. The historic environment sector needs to consider the development of

generic policies, to ensure that where appropriate, there is a consistency to the treatment of the historic environment across the country, that its treatment is not based on the whim or whimsy of a particularly vocal group – but this does require clear and consistent communication about the importance of the historic environment and the need for its sustainable management within frameworks designed to meet the needs and aspirations of the community.

In terms of Future Perfect, I hope that there is a future, it will without doubt be less than perfect, but the degree of imperfection will rest entirely on our ability to influence the content of RSS and LDF and the ways in which they recognise and treat the historic environment.

¹ ODPM, 2003, *Draft Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks*, ODPM

² *Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment*

³ ODPM, 2004, *Draft Consultation Paper on Planning Policy 1: Creating Sustainable Communities*, ODPM

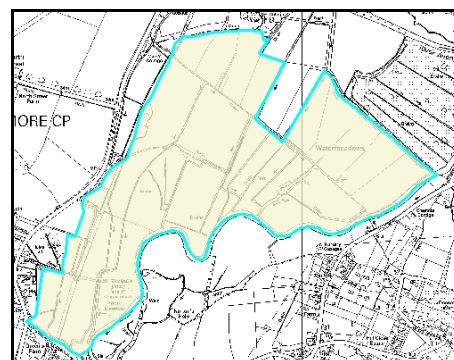
ELS in Hampshire

David Hopkins, Hampshire County Council

In December 2002 the curators in the Entry Level Scheme (ELS) pilot areas were asked to supply archaeological data for suitable non scheduled sites. ELS is an agri environment scheme, where

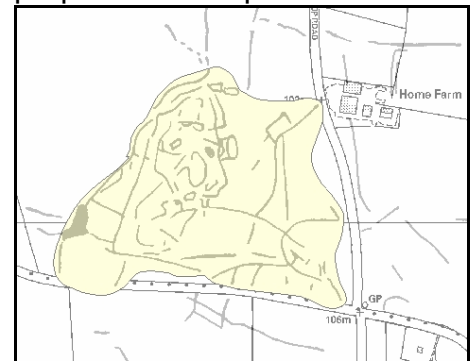
simple map based data and straight forward management options would allow farmers to pick basic environmental objectives across their holding in return for a holding payment. The conservation of archaeological sites was secured within several of the options, and therefore for any sites to be considered they had to be represented on the map supplied to farmers.

Curators were asked to identify substantive non scheduled archaeological sites whose importance merited the potential investment implied within the scheme, and which had an extent that could be defined. Reviewing the available information within the Hampshire pilot area and identifying candidate sites took about a day. In order to inform future rollout of ELS across Hampshire, a further day was spent identifying sites in an area where there was a more representative density of archaeological records and a complexity of cropmarks.



Water meadow at Breamore which has been identified as in "good condition" Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey map with the permission of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright 2004 HCC 076651.

In December 2003 English Heritage approached Hampshire County Council to set up a county wide ELS data rollout project for Hampshire with English Heritage funding. This it was decided would be let to an external contractor. The project was to provide the contractor with a specified level of data, to task a specified level of review of that data, and to elicit a specified data product -polygons of substantive non scheduled sites with a known extent that might benefit from one of the proposed ELS options.



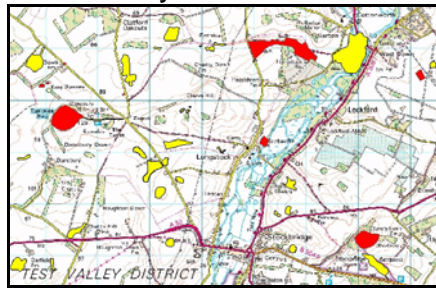
Complex of Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman features showing as cropmarks, Grately. Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey map with the permission of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright 2004 HCC 076651.

There were 14,000 monument records but it was clear that many of them would not be eligible at basic level so it was decided to try and remove them from the task. All modern records (1,000) and undated monuments (4,000) were removed, as were all monuments that were scheduled monuments or within scheduled monuments (1,000). The thesaurus of terms was reviewed to remove monument types that were not

suitable for any of the ELS options, this removed a further 400. It appeared at the time that only sites that were in arable or pasture would find ELS options to benefit them, so the phase one habitat data was used to select only monuments in those land classes (removing a further 4,500). This reduced the total to 3,187 sites to be supplied to the contractor, Oxford Archaeology. Also supplied were the map and AP plot layer, polygons of intact water meadows and polygons of the Scheduled Monuments in order that the ELS polygons did not duplicate them.

Oxford Archaeology carried out the project and created a draft set of polygons. Review of this draft data highlighted some issues. Some of the 'undated' cropmark sites, by definition excluded from the project, appeared to merit inclusion. This arose from overly conservative descriptions. Some monuments, for instance some linear monuments, had been excluded because their NGR was within an ineligible land type but had an extent that fell into eligible land classes. Some of the polygons were more extensive than had been anticipated. This appeared to result in part from ambiguity in the project design, and although the contractor resolved all the problems, it did indicate that the project design needed reviewing. All in all the problems that arose suggested the need for the local curator to review the draft data, using local knowledge to adjust the

results. In this case that took about a day.



Scheduled Monuments (red) and ELS Polygons (yellow) in the Danebury area, Test Valley. Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey map with the permission of the controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright 2004 HCC 076651.

The pilot has identified a methodology that is both rapid and largely effective, although it errs on the cautious side and has successfully provided an ELS data layer for Hampshire.

ALGAO will be circulating a document that gives advice/timetables/basic information specifications for HERs, relating to ELS and HLS. The document will be circulated in the next two weeks (by the end of July).

HERs On-Line: A Critique

John Schofield, Visiting lecturer in Archaeology, University of Southampton

Background

Students reading archaeology at Southampton have the option to take 'Heritage Management' in their final year. It's largely a vocational course, though with a strong theoretical base. Students finish the course knowing who

does what and why, both in the UK and abroad; they understand characterisation, management plans, threats to sites (monuments, buildings, landscape), and know the resources available, notably HERs and the NMR. There is no exam, the students have three practical assignments which follow a logical progression from resources, to characterisation, to writing a management plan for a heritage place that matters to them. In academic year 2003-4, thirty-six students took the course.

The first assignment concerns Historic Environment Records. The assignment brief states that,

"This exercise aims to familiarise you with HERs, held by local authorities and the basis of all archaeology and historic environmental advice within the planning system. The exercise will give an impression of how these records work, as well as how useful and usable they are. It also requires you to write concisely, condensing information into summary form. Archaeologists working in planning authorities often have to write briefings for planners and committees. These are generally non-specialists who require reports that are short, clear and to the point.

At least six of these records are available on-line in the UK, being:

- Aberdeenshire
- Durham/Northumberland
- Essex

Herefordshire
Highland
Somerset.”

The Assignment

Students are asked to select three of these and spend time looking at each. Then:

1 Write a short (400 word) critique of the three selected HERs, noting which are good and which are less good, giving reasons. Factors might include user-friendliness, the ease of comparing HER data with other sources of information held on-line by the county (e.g. information on historic buildings, and natural environment records), the availability of aerial photographs allowing the reader to view monuments in landscape context, and the basic quantity and quality of information about individual sites and monuments. How could even the better of these HERs be improved?

2 Look at just one of the three HERs you have selected. Choose a single class of monument within it (e.g. hillforts, monasteries, Roman roads) and:

- a) Write a short (400 word) review describing its distribution within the county, the state of preservation, diversity of form etc. as well as any limitations in the data: what information did the HER not provide; and
- b) Outline very briefly (200 words) how useful HERs are for archaeological

research. Do you think they are useful as the basis for undergraduate dissertations for example?

Results

The first point to make is that the students enjoyed this assignment, and performed well at it. Some of the submissions were excellent. A few students misunderstood aspects of the task or failed to submit. It's not possible to go into details here, though for the next three years the archive (being all thirty-six submissions) will be retained by the Department of Archaeology and could be consulted there. (Note though that this would have to be by prior arrangement, and that individual students would have to give their consent.)

In Part 1, the HERs were reviewed by thirty-three students in the following numbers (number in brackets refers to the number of students who used that particular HER for their 'Part 2' case study – thirty-four students completed this part of the exercise):

Aberdeenshire	17 (1)
Durham	17 (11)
Essex	12 (3)
Highland	18 (3)
Herefordshire	16 (7)
Somerset	19 (10)

Some comments reflect their views.

Students felt that the Aberdeenshire HER was aimed more at tourism than

serving research and planning needs. There was recognition that it catered for children, and positive comments were made about the heritage trails it contains. Students didn't like the photographs being in a separate gallery. Probably for these reasons only one student used this HER as a case study, looking at stone circles.

Some students found the Durham HER quite difficult to navigate, though the majority found it accessible and on the whole user-friendly. Students here commented upon the interaction between site-based information, maps and other data, recognising for example the value of layering aerial photographs over earlier maps to assess the impact of development. Eleven students used the Durham HER for their case studies, their subjects ranging from henges, hillforts and monastic sites to Bronze Age hoards.

The Essex HER frustrated those that tried to use it. They commented on the laborious search process, which some felt was confusing and time-consuming, and the fact that many of the visual media were unavailable. Some noted however that once site information had been located, records were well-presented, clear and concise. Only three case studies were produced based on the Essex HER, covering castles, barrows and coast batteries.

Highland attracted mixed comments. Some noted the

lack of maps and images, and that prompts for images were distracting, though good in terms of community 'ownership' of the record. Other students found this a good record to work with, noting for example that it, 'excels in the professional combination of depth of knowledge and accessibility', and that it, 'offers operator ease, requiring little information and revealing extensive contextualised results'. The three case studies here covered barrows, hillforts and wreck sites.

'Cluttered and confusing' was one fairly typical comment on the Herefordshire front page, noting that it was also 'not attractive. Slow with some dead links.' Nevertheless seven students used this as the basis for case studies, covering such things as castles, standing stones, priories and Roman roads.

Comments on the Somerset HER suggest this was a clear favourite. It was user-friendly with a diversity of options for setting data in the context of old and modern maps, as well as Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) – though there was no key to decipher the polygons. Students noted that this presented HER data in an holistic way; that it was a, 'very concise, easily manouverable site', with 'the greatest degree of accuracy and thoroughness'. The ten case studies covered such things as barrows, ice houses and markets.

There were some general remarks too: the desire to see more aerial and other photographs, and the comment that HERs should be more self-reflexive, viewing landscape as a social construct, taking a more holistic approach, and recognising all places as bearing meaning; moving beyond the idea of special places in other words (and more into the domain of HLC, which they covered later in the course, noting that it formed a backdrop to the HER in counties where work was completed). Most students felt HERs provided a valuable starting point for undergraduate dissertations and other project work, a point that could perhaps be taken up by those HERs that have closer university connections.

Conclusion

In understanding the results of this survey, it should be recalled that students are on the whole objective viewers and users, with no preconceptions. Their views are those of informed amateurs in a sense, though some no doubt will be working with the records in a professional capacity in the very near future, and some had already used HERs for their dissertations. It is hoped that these results provide food for thought as other HERs go on-line.

The value of HERs was clearly understood by the students. The following quotation sums up a general view:

'HERs open the field of interpretation outside the academic into public space. The visual re-placement of landscape and location (and sites within them) in a database format illustrates the more active mediating roles of heritage at different levels ... This is important for archaeological research as it fosters a more critical, inclusive and anthropological outlook, relating not only to the remains themselves, but also to the contemporary people who give them significance, a fundamental consideration in the context of managing *heritage*.'

I propose to include this same assignment in the course for next year. If there are comments on how the assignment could be improved, or how the results can be communicated to staff closely involved with HERs, the author would welcome ideas.

Acknowledgement

The ideas and views expressed in this paper originate with students taking the ARCH3004 Heritage Management course at the University of Southampton, 2003-4.

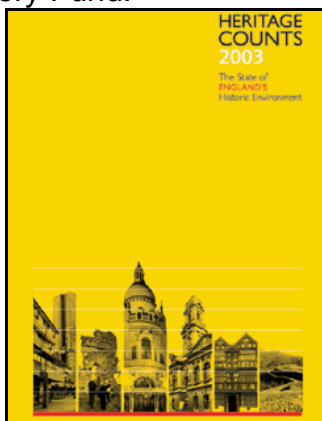
Heritage Counts 2004

Ben Cowell, English Heritage

Heritage Counts is the annual state of the historic environment report, produced

by English Heritage on behalf of the wider heritage sector. Since its first appearance in 2002 (as the original State of the Historic Environment Report) *Heritage Counts* has developed into a regular annual survey of the extent and conditions of England's historic assets, the threats they are under and the benefits they bring.

Heritage Counts 2004 is now in production, for publication in November of this year. The theme of the report will be 'the value of heritage investment', a theme that has been chosen to coincide with the 10th anniversary of the Heritage Lottery Fund.



Printed version of last years *Heritage Counts*

A key feature of *Heritage Counts 2004* will be analysis of a set of key indicator data. These data have been chosen as a result of consultation following last year's report, and will form the basis of future years' reports. The idea is that by using the same framework of indicators each year, the report will build up into an invaluable time series of data of the key trends affecting the historic environment.

Indicator data for this year's *Heritage Counts* will be recorded under three main headings:

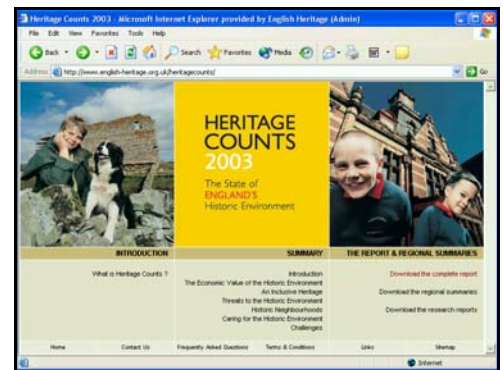
- Understanding the assets
- Caring and sharing
- Using and benefiting

These three headings usefully demonstrate the need for a broad and representative spread of data, covering the **resource** itself (e.g. historic assets), the **process** involved in looking after the resource (caring and sharing), and the **outcomes** (using and benefiting).

One of the key pieces of indicator data would be the number of items stored on HERs across England. By attempting to measure this figure each year, we will have a regular annual record of how HERs are developing across the country.

Martin Newman has kindly agreed to coordinate the collation of data on HERs for *Heritage Counts 2004*. The quality of the data depends on getting as many HER officers as possible to respond to Martin's survey. We are very grateful to all those who have taken the time to respond so far. Please contact Martin direct if you would like to offer further contributions to the survey and have yet to do so.

More information on Heritage Counts can be viewed at www.heritagecounts.org.uk.



Heritage Counts 2003 as it appears on the web

Please feel free to pass any comments, questions or views ben.cowell@english-heritage.org.uk or phone 020 7973 3730.

HELM: Historic Environment - Local Management

Catherine Cavanagh, English Heritage

What are we trying to achieve?

The HELM training programme aims to explain why the historic environment is important to local authority members and professional officers who do not have a heritage background. English Heritage wishes to reach decision-makers within local authorities and government agencies, in particular elected members and officers such as planners, highways engineers and land managers.

We need to ensure that local authorities support their HERs, providing them with adequate resources and information, and make full use of HER data to

undertake characterisation studies and inform decisions.

How are we doing it?

The HELM website was launched at the end of March this year with a range of guidance and policy relating to the historic environment. HERs are an integral part of the 'Understanding and Recording' section of the site, with information posted under 'Accessible Records'.

The site acts as a portal for the non-specialist user, but we hope that the 'Guidance Library' will provide useful reference for heritage specialists such as yourselves. We will continue to update the site with new guidance and information.

A CD based on the website will soon be mailed out to all local authority councillors to raise awareness of historic environment issues. Preview copies were recently distributed at the Local Government Association conference in Bournemouth.

HELM has been developed with the support of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and the Department for Food and Rural Affairs. We are also working closely with ALGAO, CABE and LGA amongst others.

A programme of regional training is in development and events are due to start in Autumn 2004. Topics covered will range from general historic environment principles to

specific issues such as streetscapes. Recent meetings with the Commission for Architecture & the Built Environment (CABE) are likely to lead to a joint programme of training for both Design and Historic Environment Champions.

Please get involved!

A database of case studies from all over England has been included on the website to show the benefits of effective historic environment management. We need more case studies to inspire good practice and provide a useful resource for people researching a topic and putting together presentations.

Are you able to provide any case studies relating to your own HER projects? These may include:

- **Funding bids:** examples of successful applications for funding HER projects
- **Outreach initiatives:** e.g. web access to HER, participation in National Archaeology Days, use by general public
- **Characterisation:** contribution of HER.
- **Enhancement projects:** e.g. themed studies based on HER data that, in turn, make the HER more accessible.

To promote your project and expand the site, please email adina.gleeson@english-heritage.org.uk for a case studies form.



Please visit the accessible website at www.helm.org.uk and send us your ideas and feedback.

Historic Environment Exchange Protocol

Edmund Lee, English Heritage

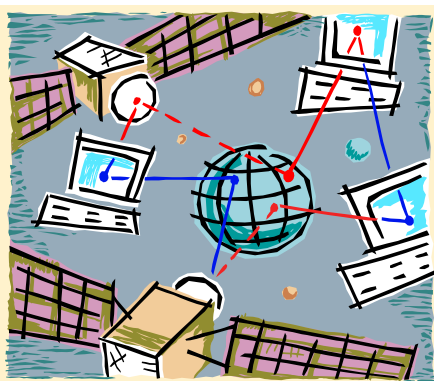
As described in previous articles in *HER News*, FISH, (the Forum on Information Standards in Heritage www.fish-forum.info) is developing a 'toolkit' of protocols, standards and agreements to support 'interoperability' – easy re-use and sharing – of data from HERs and elsewhere in the heritage sector.



How fish was packed at the turn of the century, very different from how FISH will pack your data now. Photograph EH NMR reference no BB98/05780

The most innovative tool in the box is the Historic Environment Exchange Protocol (HEEP).

This will provide a key technical specification for those who want to create new data services or portals to provide access to their data. This is particularly relevant to dynamic and developing services such as HERs because it means that they will be able to provide continuously up to date information. This approach is in contrast to the process, generally in use, of copying and distributing data for others to load into their databases. Inevitably these copies become out of date, and it is labour-intensive to maintain currency, and to concord existing data with new versions. The process of manual copying will still remain relevant for many years to come – for example it will be the most suitable route for distributing or archiving the finished results of a limited duration project – but the future lies with direct communication of data between machines on demand.



So here's the science bit. The HEEP will provide a specification for IT developers to use in developing internet enabled versions of datasets ('data servers' in the jargon). It is a specification for a 'Web Service' which is a widely used

IT industry standard for creating online access to data. HEEP aims to standardise the manner in which historic information resources can be queried remotely, and the format in which the requested data is delivered to 'clients' (i.e. those machines requesting the data). It will also standardise how HEEP-enabled servers report their capabilities and permissions required for access, and the format in which exceptions (problems) are reported. The HEEP is being developed using the http protocol and XML as the format in which data will be sent. This route has been chosen in preference to the use of the existing Z39.50 Information Retrieval service standard. Z39.50 has previously been used in demonstrator systems (those with long memories may recall the AQUARELLE project from the mid 1990s) but the http and XML approach has proved to be more flexible and easier for developers to work with. The FISHXML formats, concurrently being developed by the Interoperability Toolkit project, will be used to deliver information requested using the HEEP protocol. Between them they support the communication of the full range of data covered by the MIDAS data standard.

The protocol will not include anything which dictates the manner, format or technical platform in which the data is stored and managed. Neither will it take away from the HER

control over what data is provided or to whom. HEEP will simply act as a means of creating a 'connector' between heritage datasets.

The HEEP will be released in September 2004 as part of the first release of technical 'tools' in the FISH Interoperability Toolkit. Questions about it can be addressed to the FISH Interoperability Toolkit Project Manger, Edmund Lee, Data Standards Supervisor at edmund.lee@english-heritage.org.uk.

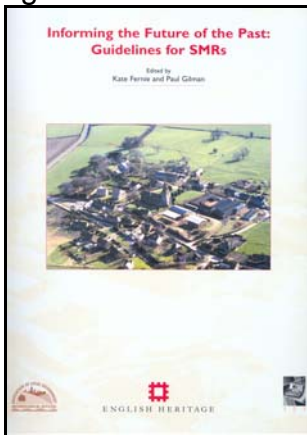


Re-Informing the Future of the Past

Paul Gilman, Essex County Council

How time flies! It is already four years since Informing the Future of the Past¹ (IFP) was first published, back in the year 2000. It was originally envisaged that IFP would be kept up to date with the ever-changing developments in the SMR but for various reasons that hasn't happened. So it is high time that a new version is prepared, especially with the transition of SMRs to HERs, and the long-awaited Government statement and the prospect of statutory status. The aim this time is to prepare a web publication, that can much more easily be kept current, to ensure that IFP

remains relevant to HER officers and users of HERs. The new IFP will also have a broader remit, covering Scotland and Wales as well as England. The aim is also to have a publication that is more oriented towards, and will therefore be more appealing to, the users of HERs. This wider remit is reflected in the partners who are working on the new IFP, including English Heritage as overall sponsors, RCAHMW, RCAHMS, ALGAO and ARIA. Essex County Council are acting as co-ordinators on behalf of English Heritage.



Cover of the 1st edition of *Informing the Future of the Past*

The new publication will be revised to take into account changes in legislation, Government guidance. It will also help guide the development of SMRs into HERs, in particular by assisting them to implement the benchmarks². Recent developments, e.g. in GIS, Historic Landscapes, Portable Antiquities, and OASIS, will also be covered.

The process of revision began some time ago with consultation about the current

edition of IFP via the HER Forum, organised by Martin Newman. A Steering Group has been formed, chaired by Dave Barrett. Essex County Council were appointed as co-ordinators and a project plan has been prepared. Potential contributors are now being approached and issued with guidelines. A meeting for contributors will be arranged soon, as we are working to a tight schedule. The aim is to have the first drafts ready by the end of September, and second drafts by the end of November. The complete document should go to peer review by the end of December, with a final document ready for publication to go to English Heritage by the end of February 2005.

If you would like to find out more please either contact Martin Newman at English Heritage, or the Co-ordinators at Essex County Council, Alison Bennett or Paul Gilman³. To keep you in touch progress reports will be issued via the HER Forum email discussion list and at HER Forum meetings. However, why not also discuss IFP at your regional meetings and let us know the results? Moreover, if you would be interested in contributing please let us know!

¹ Fernie and Gilman, 2000, *Informing the Future of the Past: Guidelines for SMRs*, English Heritage

² Chitty, 2002, *Historic Environment Records: Benchmarks for Good Practice*, English Heritage

³ alison.bennett@essexcc.gov.uk & paul.gilman@essexcc.gov.uk

EH/ALGAO GIS Consultancy and Survey

Matthew Stiff, English Heritage and Tyler Bell, Oxford ArchDigital

English Heritage and the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO) have commissioned Oxford ArchDigital to undertake a consultancy on the issues relating to Geographic Information (GI) standards and working practices of those holding data relating to the historic environment. In particular, it will focus on English Heritage, the English Historic Environment Records (HERs), Urban Archaeological Databases and other organisations relevant to our sector, including DEFRA and English Nature.

English Heritage and ALGAO committed to promoting the co-ordinated adoption of GIS within the heritage community and to establishing clear GI standards. GI standards govern the storage and exchange of spatial data and facilitate easy and transparent access to (often disparate) sources of information. They encourage the development of inter-operable GIS components and have been the subject of a wide range of recent national, European and international initiatives, both within the heritage community and beyond. This work will build upon existing research, guidelines and standards

including the ADS guidelines on best practice in GIS¹ and other work arising from projects such as the Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC)².

A key part of this exercise will be a survey to which all HERs are encouraged to contribute. It is intended to identify successes and problems associated with the current uptake of GIS in the English archaeological record community and to develop standards-based guidelines for best practice. A summary report of the results will be made publicly available on the EH website later this year. The report will cover five main areas:

- General information about responding projects and institutions
- The GIS and computing infrastructure available to HERs
- The digital data managed by HERs
- Exchange of data between projects and institutions
- Sectoral familiarity with GI and GI metadata standards.

The survey will be available to complete on-line, although it will also be possible to supply paper-based returns.

It is hoped that all HERs will take advantage of this opportunity to shape the development and uptake of GI in the historic environment sector.

¹ Gillings and Wise, 1998, *GIS Guide to Good Practice*, ADS, <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/goodguides/gis>
² www.magic.gov.uk

HBSMR v3 – New Modules and Functionality

Lucie Dingwall, exeGesIS SDM Ltd

The new release of HBSMR was launched at the User Group meeting in Stafford on 10th June, with demonstrations of the major new features. exeGesIS have been working on the new version over the past year, in consultation with the User Group and English Heritage, incorporating all requests from users and building new modules designed to transform HBSMR into a full Historic Environment Record (HER) system. The following areas of functionality will be of particular interest to the HER/SMR community.



Launch of HBSMR v3 with Martin Newman (EH), Sarah Poppy (User Group Chair) and Crispin Flower (exeGesIS SDM)

New thesaurus browser and upload facility, to ensure the latest national terminology is in use

Procedures for submitting candidate terms to English

Heritage, and updating the thesaurus version, have been greatly improved to make the implementation of standards as easy as possible. HBSMR Users can update their thesauri to the latest version whenever they want, and have much greater control over how data is re-coded. HBSMR Users do not necessarily have to use the EH/mda thesauri, and could actually use any compatible thesauri. In addition, there is a new facility for automatic global re-coding of data using thesaurus terms, and this can be used to identify and rectify incorrectly coded data. Submission of candidate terms to English Heritage (or other thesaurus maintainer) is fully automated, and now requires 'justification' data to be entered, to help the thesaurus maintainer evaluate new terms.

Historic Landscape Character module

This module allows the HLC data to be created and maintained in full integration with other HBSMR data. It provides the tools to prepare and capture HLC data for new and on-going HLC projects, and can also be used to integrate existing data from finished HLC projects. The module can be customised to allow for different terminologies and classifications for any HLC project, and includes rule-based type determination in line with the recent methodology guidelines from English Heritage. It allows automated cross-referencing of HLC data with Monuments using GIS spatial intersection,

thus enabling powerful interrogation and analysis at a landscape level.

Designations Module/Listed Buildings Data Import

This module allows users to record and manage legal designations in their own right, cross-referencing them to monuments and sources, and linking them to mapped features in separate GIS layers. This is a great improvement on the previous data model, where legal status was held only as an attribute of monuments/buildings. In addition, the new module has a facility for importing Listed Building data supplied by English Heritage in XML format.

MORPH module

The MORPH module, commissioned and specified by English Heritage Aerial Survey Unit, allows the detailed recording of archaeological cropmark features within HBSMR. The system also allows one-off import of records created by previous National Mapping Programme (NMP) projects, due to be supplied by English Heritage in the future, and English Heritage will also be providing a recording manual for use with the module. MORPH data created within HBSMR can then be exported to English Heritage in XML format.

Seamless linkage with ArcGIS as well as MapInfo

New 'MapLink' modules have been released for both ArcGIS and MapInfo. In addition to

seamless integration of textual and map data, both MapLinks allow multi-user editing, copying and merging features from other layers into the HBSMR layers, and automated spatial joins between layers.



Screens from the new version of HBSMR including the new thesaurus browser.

Global update utilities

New facilities for implementing data standards include a utility for making global updates to any data that uses a look-up table (a standardised pick-list). This facility can re-code using existing look-up table values, and/or import values from a new look-up table, and can identify incorrectly coded records. This will make the adoption of national standard reference data a much less daunting task.

Export to XML/HTML

HBSMR V3 allows users to export data as xml, and as formatted web pages (html). The system is shipped with standard exports for Monument data and MORPH data, but users can also configure their own schemas and stylesheets/transforms as required. This will be useful for a wide range of purposes, such as:

- providing full relational data to users such as

researchers or contracting units, in a form where it can be simply imported into another database;

- providing a simple digital export that can be viewed in any web browser – in effect a digital report;
- archiving snapshots of the SMR/HER in a non-proprietary format;
- data exchange with other record maintainers, either directly or via the new FISH xml schema.

Integration with LibraryLink multi-media document management system

SMRs/HERs are increasingly creating and receiving information in digital form (pictures, reports etc.), and so it has become essential that HBSMR can properly catalogue these resources and integrate them with the record. The HBSMR V3 text database and the new MapLink modules are fully integrated with a new product called 'LibraryLink'. This allows a vast range of digital document types (including camera/scanned images, sound and video clips, word-processed files etc.) to be catalogued, associated with, and viewed/edited from the HBSMR database and GIS interfaces. It also provides sophisticated image processing facilities.

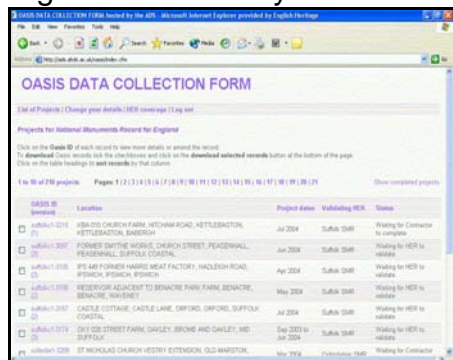
For further information contact info@esdm.co.uk or see www.esdm.co.uk



OASIS Update

Mark Barratt, English Heritage

In the three months since the OASIS Online Form went 'live' some 200 records have been submitted for validation, with 25 HERs and 38 units having registered on the system.



Some of the projects recorded on OASIS since the system went live.

Training has now passed from the ADS to the NMR and anyone requiring such should contact oasis@english-heritage.org.uk. One further group training day has been arranged for October 21st at Cranfield University near Milton Keynes; invites to this will shortly be sent to those HERs and units unable to attend the original regional training days (numbers will be limited so an early response is strongly recommended!).

Any HERs not yet registered might consider doing so now, further information is available in the Training Manuals¹ sent out in April (additional copies available). Any questions should be sent directly to oasis@english-heritage.org.uk.

¹ ADS& EH, 2003, OASIS: Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigations User Guide, available

to download as 3 pdf files from <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/downloads.cfm>

News in Brief

Martin Newman, English Heritage



News

Kent SMR has been awarded a grant of £177k for an outreach, education and website programme by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Two new consultations have been issued by the DCMS of interest to HERs and those involved in planning:

- *Marine Historic Environment*, deadline for comment 30th July
- *Culture at the Heart of Regeneration*, deadline for comment 15th October.

Further details are available from the DCMS website www.culture.gov.uk/global/consultations

Two new web enabled databases have gone on line:

- Coflein the National Monuments Record of Wales www.rcahmw.gov.uk/coflein
- Moray SMR, users of the Aberdeenshire SMR can use the same username and password to access the Moray SMR as well at www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/archaeology/smr/smr_login.asp

The HER Audit database has been upgraded to MS Access XP. As well as being available for new audits, any HER that has previously undertaken an audit and would like a copy to load their existing audit data into should email martin.newman@english-heritage.org.uk to request a new version, with instructions. The Access 97 remains available.



Publications

DCMS, *Review of Heritage Protection: The Way Forward* available on the DCMS website www.culture.gov.uk/global/publications/archive_2004/review_heritage_protection.htm

Baker Chitty and Edwards, *Recourse Needs for SMRs & UADs to Achieve the First Stage Benchmarks for Historic Environment Records* Available to download from the HER Forum page at Jiscmail www.jiscmail.ac.uk/files/HERFORUM/SMRRA-Main-RepAppndx.pdf

Clark, Darlington & Fairclough, *Using Historic Landscape Characterisation*, English Heritage & Lancashire CC. Copies available by emailing liz.page@english-heritage.org.uk.

English Heritage, *Planning and Development in the Historic Environment: A Charter for English Heritage Services*, Insert in Conservation Bulletin, No 45.

Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE): Audit of Conflicts of Interest, available to download from the DCMS website at www.culture.gov.uk/global/publications/archive_2004/cabe_audit_june2004.htm

Tessa Jowell, Government and the Value of Culture, a personal essay by the Culture Secretary available from the DCMS website at www.culture.gov.uk/global/publications/archive_2004/Government_Value_of_Culture.htm



People

Jill Collens is the new County Archaeologist for Cheshire, she replaces Adrian Tindall who has left to take up the post of County Archaeologist for Cambridgeshire.

Debbie Langley has left Hampshire County Council to join Wolverhampton Council as the Black Country Historic Landscape Characterisation Project Officer.

Andrew Puls and Magnus Alexander have joined Hampshire County Council as Assistant Archaeologists.

Dave Buckley has retired from his post as County Archaeologist after 30 years service with Essex County Council.

Richard Osgood the Archaeology Promotions Officer for South Gloucestershire has joined the MOD archaeology team on Salisbury Plain.

Sylvina Tilbury, has left her post as Development Control Assistant at Humber SMR to take up the post of Assistant Archaeologist (Development Control) within the Heritage Section of North Yorkshire County Council.

Chris Wardle has left his post as HER Officer (Archaeology) at Staffordshire County Council after 16 years which has included computerising the SMR and more recently DC work. Chris has been appointed as the new Leicester City Archaeologist.

Philip Carlisle will be returning to the Data Standards Unit on the 9th August following completion of his secondment to University of London Computing Centre.

Mike Heyworth has been appointed as the new Director of the Council for British Archaeology (CBA), Ownership of the BRITARCH email list has transferred to Jonathan Bateman.

Diana Murray has been appointed as the new Secretary of the Royal

Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS).

At English Heritage the new territory and regional directors have been announced, these are:

Territory Directors

South: Philip Davies

North: Malcolm Cooper

West: Humphrey Welfare

East: yet to be appointed,

Richard Halsey (acting)

Regional Directors

North East: Carol Pyrah

North West: Henry Owen-John

Yorkshire: David Fraser

West Midlands: Chris Smith

East Midlands: Anthony

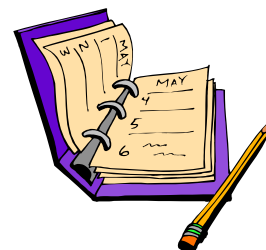
Streeten

East: Greg Luton

South West: Bob Bewley

South East: Andy Brown

London: yet to be appointed



Diary

4th September

Archaeological Research Framework for Wales Seminar, Aberystwyth. For details see www.cpat.org.uk/research.

5th-8th September

Digital Resources for the Humanities conference, University of Newcastle upon Tyne. For more information see <http://drh2004.ncl.ac.uk>

8th-12th September 2004

European Association of Archaeologists (EAA)

conference. At the Institut d'Administration des Entreprises de l'Université Jean Moulin in Lyon. See www.eaa-lyon-2004.org for further details.



10th-13th September
Heritage Open Days
For more information see www.heritageopendays.org.uk

22nd-24th September 2004
mda Conference, Collingwood College, Durham, with pre-conference workshops taking place on 21 September. For more information see www.mda.org.uk/conference2004

3rd November
FISH Meeting, Manchester
21st October
OASIS Training, Cranfield University, near Milton Keynes. For those HERs and Units unable to attend the regional training sessions.

3rd-5th November
Workshop on Archaeology and Computers, Viena City Hall, For more information see www.magwien.gv.at/english/archaeology.

December
HER Forum Meeting
Venue required, if possibly able to assist please contact martin.newman@english-heritage.org.uk

21st-24th March 2005
CAA conference, The World is in Your Eyes, Polytechnic Institute of Tomar, Portugal. For more information see www.caa2005.ipt.pt

Jobs

Staffordshire County Council
Historic Environment Officer (Archaeology), Development Services Department, Riverway, Stafford

Salary £21,282 - £24,726 per annum, pay award pending

If you would like to discuss details of the post please telephone Ian Wykes, Principal Historic Environment Officer on 01785 277295.

Application forms and further details may be obtained from Shared Service Centre, Development Services, Unit C, Dyson Court (Gillette Close), Staffordshire Technology Park, Beaconside, Stafford, ST18 0LQ or telephone 01785 276530 (24hr answerphone) quoting reference RDP003/HG. If you wish to apply for this vacancy on-line please see www.staffordshire.gov.uk/cgi-bin/jobs/email.asp?who=dsd1jb. Closing date for applications is 6th August 2004. Interviews are due to be held 24th August 2004.

Isle of Wight Council
Isle of Wight County Archaeology Service Planning Archaeologist - Ref: R187941

This permanent post is a career graded post and is offered within a local authority

scale range between LG Scale 4 (£14817- £16515) and LG Scale SO1 (£21282 - £22889) which is commensurate with previous experience and training required.

For an informal discussion, please telephone Ruth Waller, County Archaeologist on (01983) 823810.

Application forms can be obtained by emailing emma.brown@iow.gov.uk with your name and address or by calling our 24 hour job line on (01983) 823703.

Closing date for all applications - 6th August 2004.
Interviews will be held on Wednesday 8th September 2004

Historic Environment Record News is published twice yearly (January and July) by English Heritage. If you wish to contribute to future editions or to be added to the distribution list please contact the editor.

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