PastScape: Audiences, usability and enhancement

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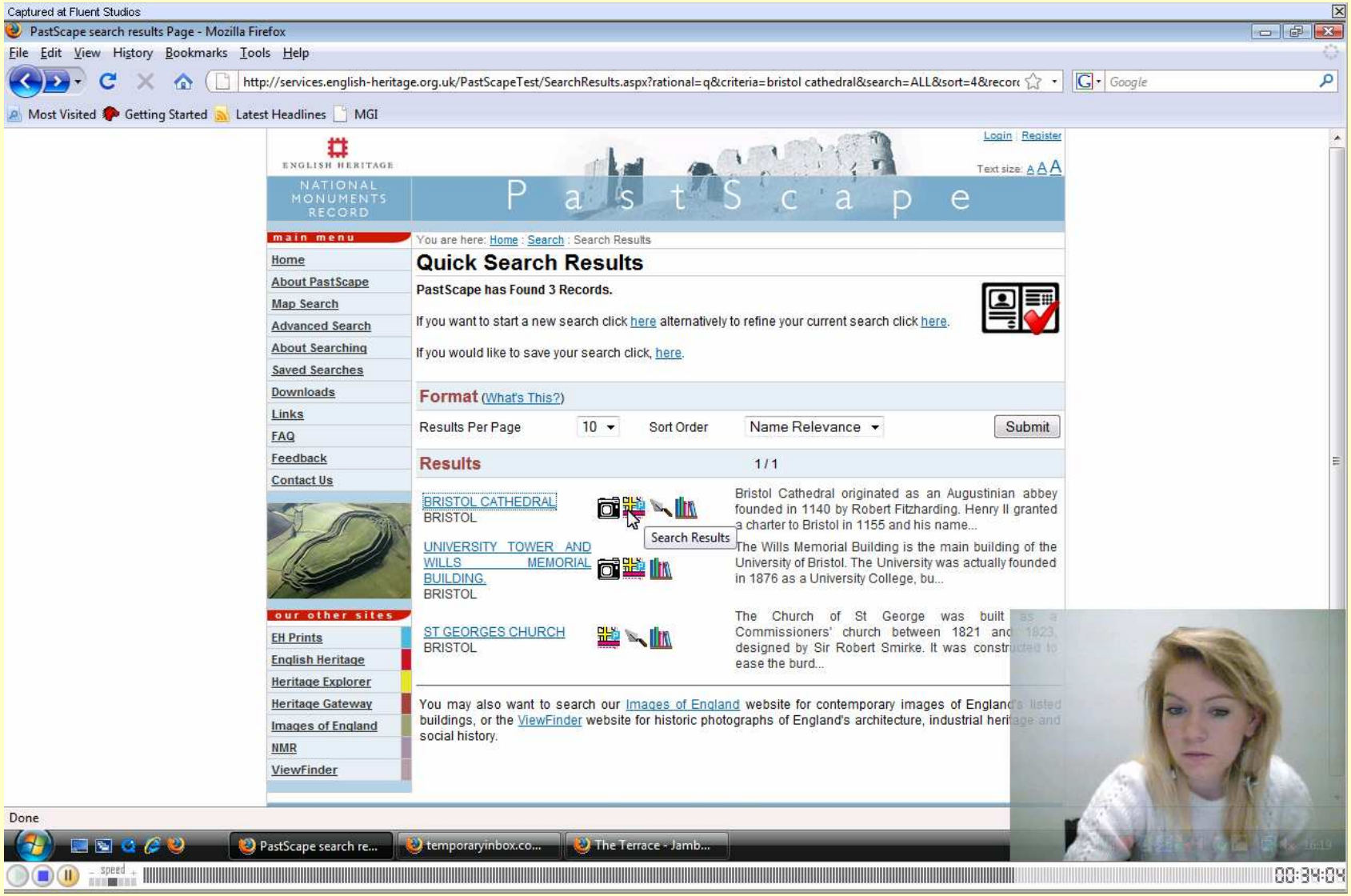
PastScape

- Released in 2003
- User survey 2007
- Revisions 2007
- Redesign/rebuild project 2007 till 2008
- Usability testing 2008
- Re-launch imminent!

Usability Testing



Usability Results – The Good!

- Clear search functionality and good advanced search
- Good level of detail and breadth on the monument descriptions page
- Map search function is considered very useful
- Good text resize option

Usability Results – The Bad (medium priority)

- Limited use of images - too ‘texty’
- Basic search box did not stand out
- No ‘back’ or ‘back to top’ buttons on the results page
- Order of full description information confusing and Important information does not stand out in text
- Icons used are not clickable
- Information is not clearly expandable within the full description

Usability Results – The Ugly (high priority)

- Initial search parameters were not clear
- Unclear and unexplained icons
- Map search is not linked from within the advanced search
- Not easy to identify specific results from within the results list
- Text searching is intolerant/inflexible
- Most appropriate search results are not listed first in the list

So what have we done about it?

- Corrected all the easily resolved issues – quick wins
- Addressed as many of the more complex issues that resources, time and scope would allow
- Added explanatory information to manage expectations
- Informed future development for when the Public GIS Toolkit is available

PastScape

PastScape - information on England's archaeology and architecture - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by Eng...

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Welcome to PastScape

Discover England's archaeological and architectural heritage.

PastScape is a quick and easy way to search nearly 400,000 records held in our national historic environment database. You'll find information on archaeological, architectural and maritime sites.

Features include:
Descriptions of sites or buildings and the sources of information used to compile them, pictures (where available), basic details of investigations into the heritage, such as surveys or excavations and links to maps, satellite images and other websites which we think might interest you.

(Quick Search?)

For simple key word searches use the quick search below.

Search

any order exact any words

Advanced Search

For more complicated searches, especially to help with detailed amateur or professional research, use the advanced search to build queries or to search on record numbering schemes.

Location Search

To search using a map or to make searches by post codes, National Grid References or for maritime sites latitude-longitude, use the Location Search.

Register now for your **Heritage Passport** giving you **bonus features** such as **downloads** of screensavers, wallpapers and e-postcards. You'll also be able to **save your searches**. It's free and easy to complete.

Click here to register.

The information used in our search results was last updated on 25th March 2008.

what's new?

The Gentlemen's Clubs of London more...

Seaside Heritage more...

Sporting Heritage: Played in Britain more...

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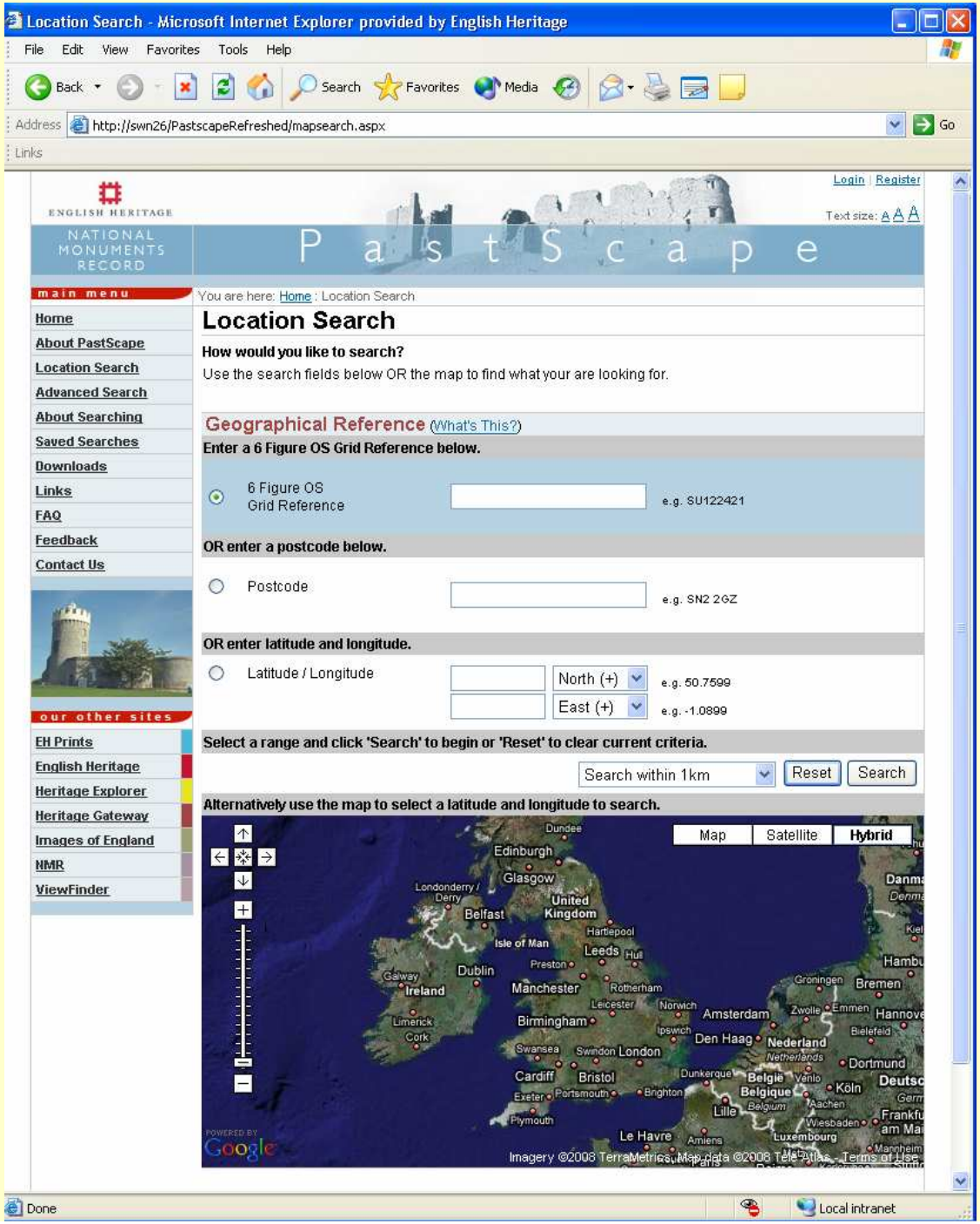
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OR enter a postcode below.
Postcode
e.g. SN2 2GZ
OR enter latitude and longitude.
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North (+)
e.g. 50.7599
East (+)
e.g. -1.0899
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Reset
Search
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Glasgow
United Kingdom
Belfast
Londonderry / Derry
Isle of Man
Hartlepool
Leeds
Hull
Preston
Dublin
Galway
Ireland
Manchester
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Norwich
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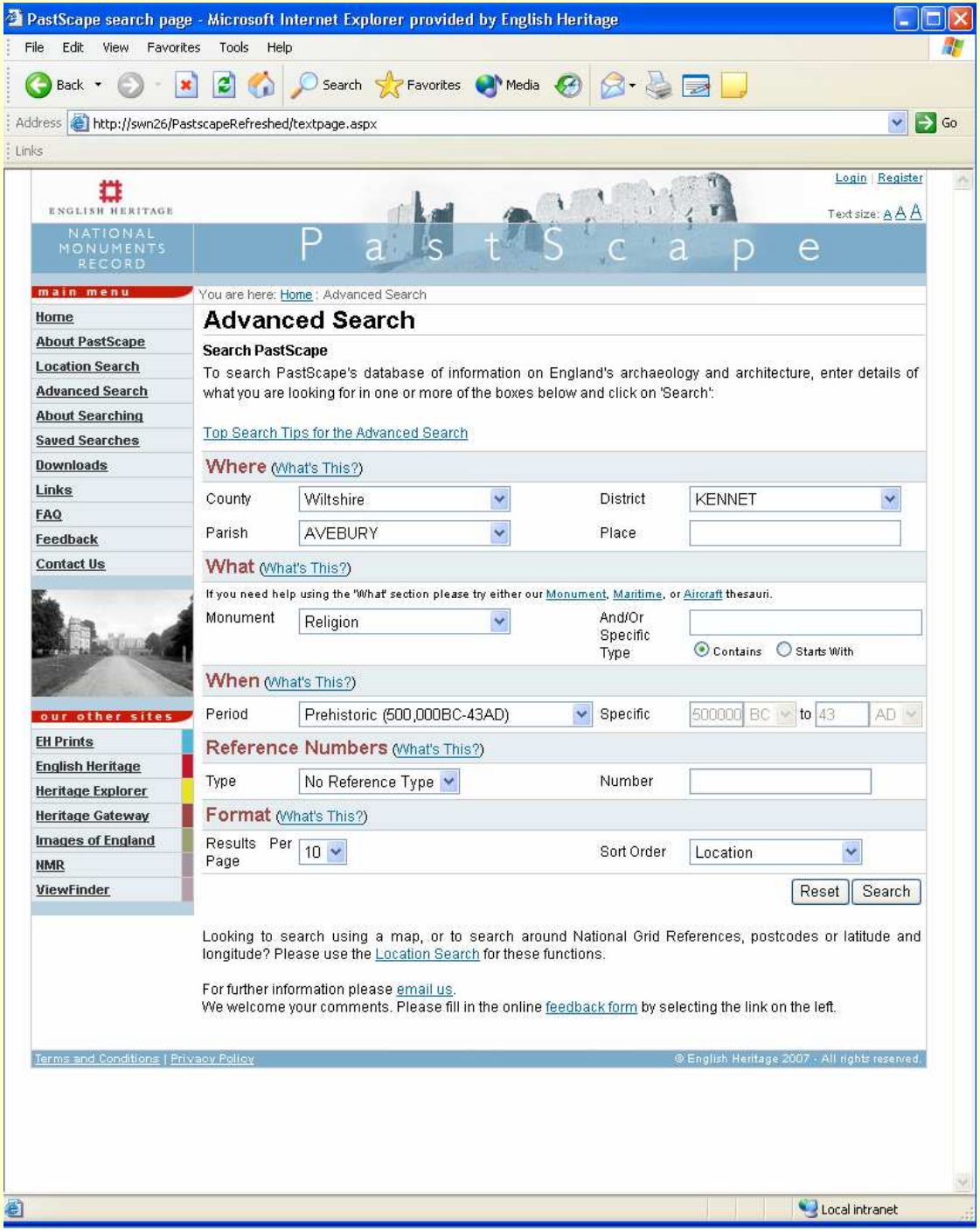
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Place
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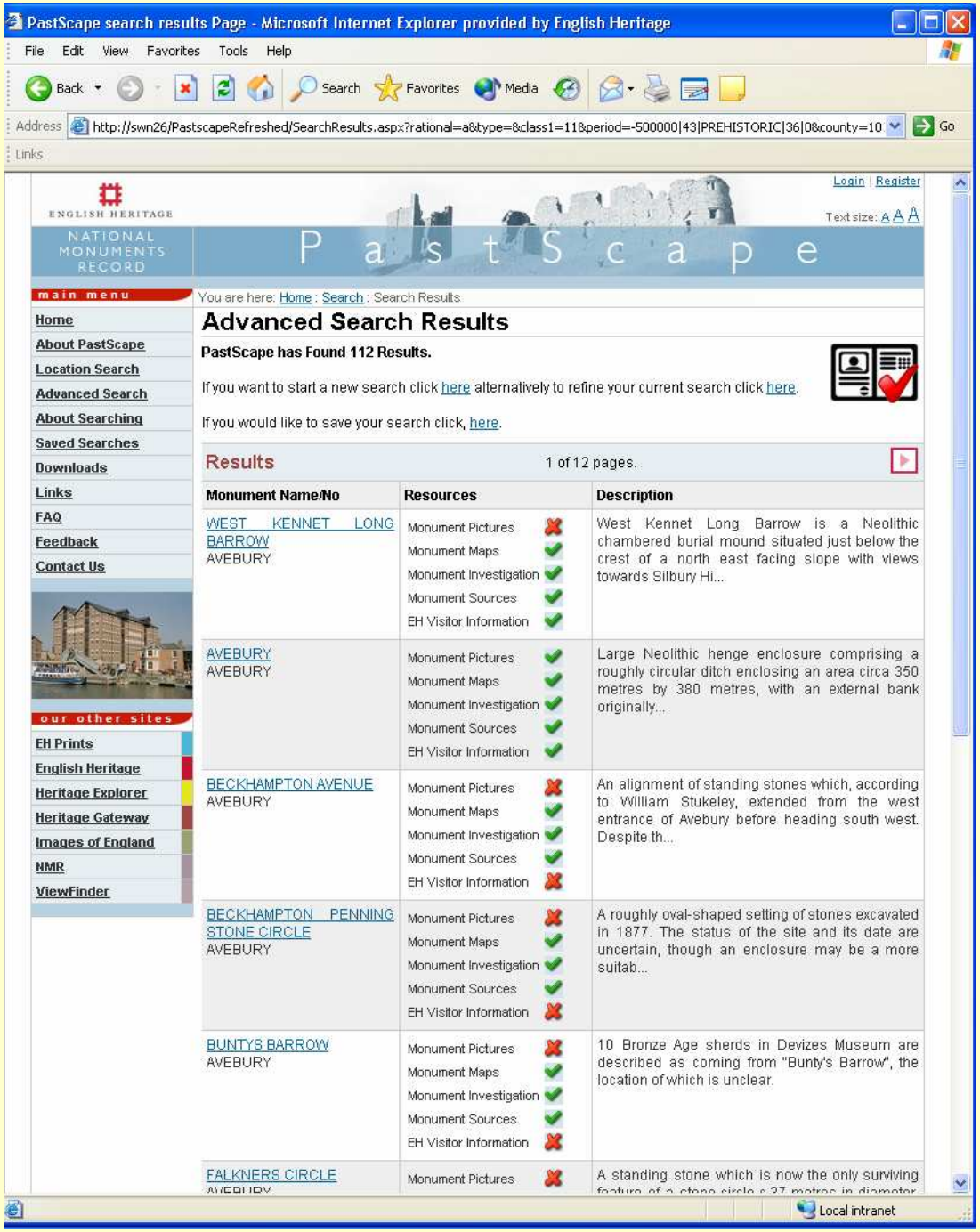
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If you would like to save your search click, here.
Results
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Monument Name/No
Resources
Description
WEST KENNET LONG BARROW
AVEBURY
Monument Pictures
Monument Maps
Monument Investigation
Monument Sources
EH Visitor Information
West Kennet Long Barrow is a Neolithic chambered burial mound situated just below the crest of a north east facing slope with views towards Silbury Hi...
AVEBURY
AVEBURY
Monument Pictures
Monument Maps
Monument Investigation
Monument Sources
EH Visitor Information
Large Neolithic henge enclosure comprising a roughly circular ditch enclosing an area circa 350 metres by 380 metres, with an external bank originally...
BECKHAMPTON AVENUE
AVEBURY
Monument Pictures
Monument Maps
Monument Investigation
Monument Sources
EH Visitor Information
An alignment of standing stones which, according to William Stukeley, extended from the west entrance of Avebury before heading south west. Despite th...
BECKHAMPTON PENNING STONE CIRCLE
AVEBURY
Monument Pictures
Monument Maps
Monument Investigation
Monument Sources
EH Visitor Information
A roughly oval-shaped setting of stones excavated in 1877. The status of the site and its date are uncertain, though an enclosure may be a more suitab...
BUNTYS BARROW
AVEBURY
Monument Pictures
Monument Maps
Monument Investigation
Monument Sources
EH Visitor Information
10 Bronze Age sherds in Devizes Museum are described as coming from "Bunty's Barrow", the location of which is unclear.
FALKNERS CIRCLE
Monument Pictures
A standing stone which is now the only surviving
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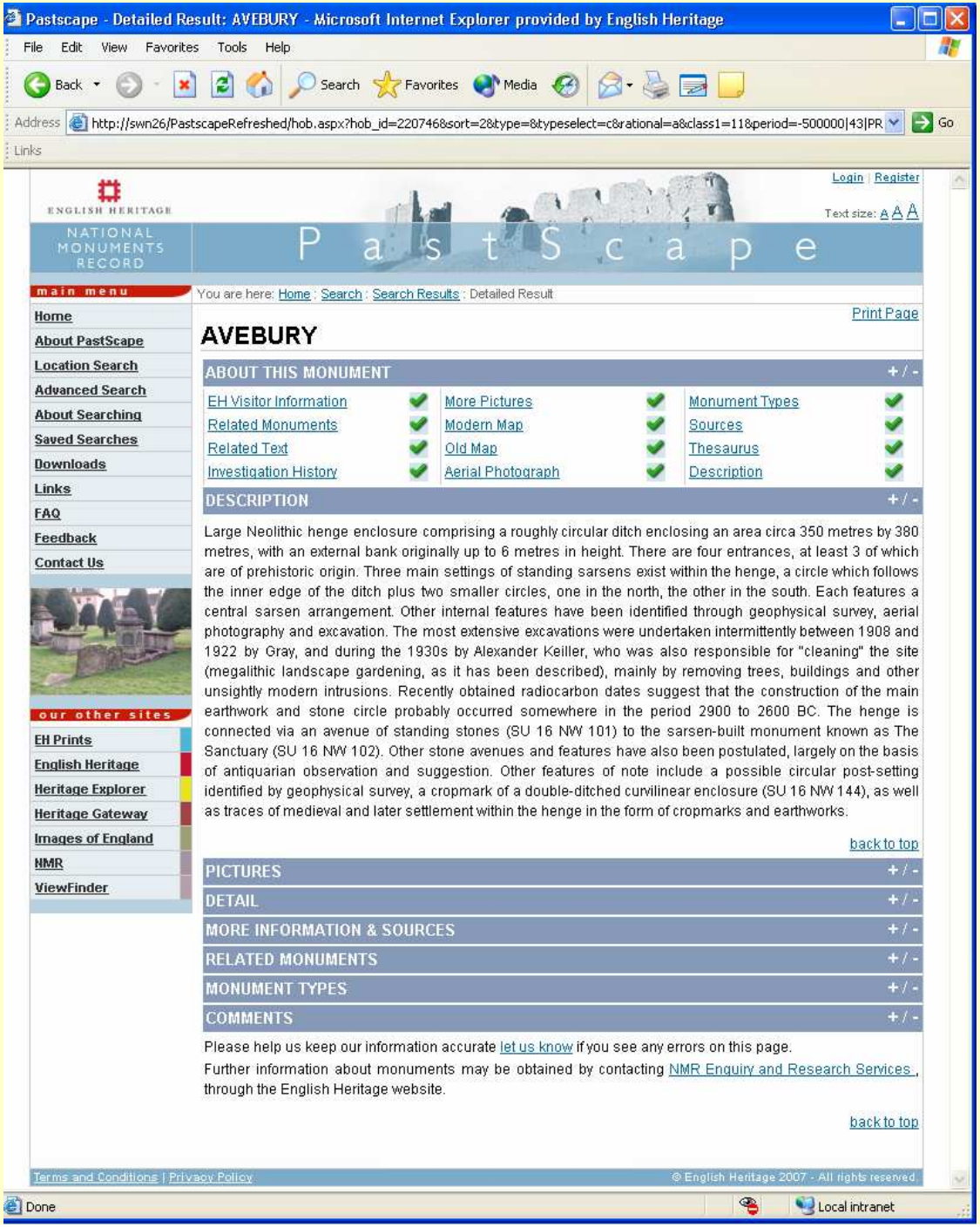
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DESCRIPTION +/-
Large Neolithic henge enclosure comprising a roughly circular ditch enclosing an area circa 350 metres by 380 metres, with an external bank originally up to 6 metres in height. There are four entrances, at least 3 of which are of prehistoric origin. Three main settings of standing sarsens exist within the henge, a circle which follows the inner edge of the ditch plus two smaller circles, one in the north, the other in the south. Each features a central sarsen arrangement. Other internal features have been identified through geophysical survey, aerial photography and excavation. The most extensive excavations were undertaken intermittently between 1908 and 1922 by Gray, and during the 1930s by Alexander Keiller, who was also responsible for "cleaning" the site (megalithic landscape gardening, as it has been described), mainly by removing trees, buildings and other unsightly modern intrusions. Recently obtained radiocarbon dates suggest that the construction of the main earthwork and stone circle probably occurred somewhere in the period 2900 to 2600 BC. The henge is connected via an avenue of standing stones (SU 16 NW 101) to the sarsen-built monument known as The Sanctuary (SU 16 NW 102). Other stone avenues and features have also been postulated, largely on the basis of antiquarian observation and suggestion. Other features of note include a possible circular post-setting identified by geophysical survey, a cropmark of a double-ditched curvilinear enclosure (SU 16 NW 144), as well as traces of medieval and later settlement within the henge in the form of cropmarks and earthworks.
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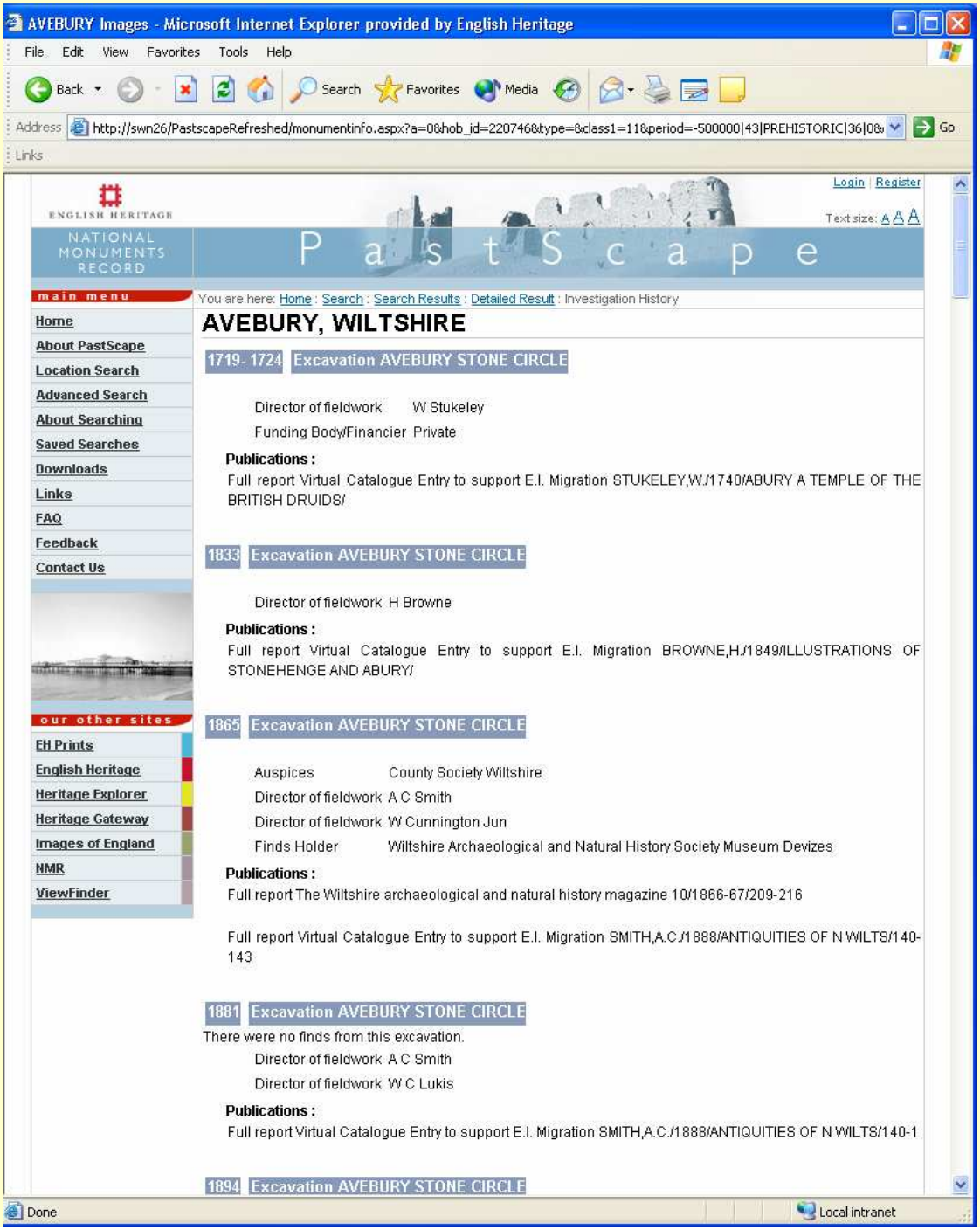
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1719- 1724 Excavation AVEBURY STONE CIRCLE
Director of fieldwork W Stukeley
Funding Body/Financier Private
Publications :
Full report Virtual Catalogue Entry to support E.I. Migration STUKELEY,W./1740/ABURY A TEMPLE OF THE BRITISH DRUIDS/
1833 Excavation AVEBURY STONE CIRCLE
Director of fieldwork H Browne
Publications :
Full report Virtual Catalogue Entry to support E.I. Migration BROWNE,H./1849/ILLUSTRATIONS OF STONEHENGE AND ABURY/
1865 Excavation AVEBURY STONE CIRCLE
Auspices County Society Wiltshire
Director of fieldwork A C Smith
Director of fieldwork W Cunnington Jun
Finds Holder Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society Museum Devizes
Publications :
Full report The Wiltshire archaeological and natural history magazine 10/1866-67/209-216
Full report Virtual Catalogue Entry to support E.I. Migration SMITH,A.C./1888/ANTIQUITIES OF N WILTS/140-143
1881 Excavation AVEBURY STONE CIRCLE
There were no finds from this excavation.
Director of fieldwork A C Smith
Director of fieldwork W C Lukis
Publications :
Full report Virtual Catalogue Entry to support E.I. Migration SMITH,A.C./1888/ANTIQUITIES OF N WILTS/140-1
1894 Excavation AVEBURY STONE CIRCLE
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