

The Archaeology of South West England



South **W**est **A**rchaeological **R**esearch **F**ramework
Research Strategy 2012 - 2017

Edited by Jan Grove and Bob Croft

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South West Archaeological Research Framework

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Compiled and edited by Jan Grove and Bob Croft

Somerset County Council
2012

Published by
Somerset Heritage Service
Somerset County Council, County Hall, Taunton, TA1 4DY

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Front Cover: Aerial view north-east across the Quantock Hills, with the Trendle in the foreground and Hinkley Point nuclear power station beyond. Photograph © English Heritage. NMR.

Typeset by CJW using L^AT_EX.

Contents

	Foreword	5
1	Introduction	7
2	Key Issues	7
	2.1 Collaboration	7
	2.2 Delivering the Research Agenda	7
	2.3 Synthesis for Periods and Subjects	7
	2.4 Unpublished Excavations and Grey Literature	7
	2.5 Local Societies and volunteers	7
	2.6 Scientific Techniques	8
	2.7 Public Awareness and Support	8
3	Resources	8
	3.1 People	8
	3.2 Funding	9
4	Strategic Themes	11
	4.1 Theme A: Settlement Sites and Landscapes	11
	4.2 Theme B: Artefacts and the Built Environment	12
	4.3 Theme C: Environment and Dating	13
	4.4 Theme D: Social Identity and Change	14
	4.5 Theme E: Economies and Subsistence	16
	4.6 Theme F: Widening Access and Interpretation	17
	4.7 Theme G: Funding and Resources	18
	4.8 Theme H: Methodologies	18
5	Delivery and Monitoring	18
6	Action Plan	19
	6.1 Theme A: Settlement Sites and Landscapes	19
	6.2 Theme B: Artefacts and the Built Environment	21
	6.3 Theme C: Environment and Dating	24
	6.4 Theme D: Social Identity and Change	31
	6.5 Theme E: Economies and Subsistence	35
	6.6 Theme F: Widening Access and Interpretation	36
	6.7 Theme G: Funding and Resources	38
	6.8 Theme H: Methodologies	38

List of Figures

1	Local authority areas in the South West Region	8
2	Test pit in Westbury sub Mendip	9
3	Princesshay redevelopment excavations, Exeter	10
4	The Somerset Wheel and Wagon Works, Bower Hinton	12
5	Divers taking a core sample off the Isles of Scilly	13
6	Taking a peat sample on St Martin's, Isles of Scilly	14
7	Early Christian memorial stone, Lundy	14
8	Westbury Beacon, Somerset, 1962	16
9	Lidar image of Playstreet, Bickenhall, Somerset	18

Foreword

The archaeological resource assessment and research agenda for South West England, edited by Chris Webster, was published in 2008 (Webster 2008). Since its publication it has proved to be a very valuable document summarising what is known about the region and identifying 64 research aims. It has been used in a wide range of research documents across the region and is widely accepted by English Heritage and local authorities to help to influence research priorities and the targeting of increasingly diminishing resources. One of the main objectives of the whole regional research project was to move towards establishing a Research Strategy to demonstrate how the Research Agenda would move forward. It has however taken several years and numerous meetings to formalise a Strategy and to edit this document together. What we have here is a point-in-time document that picks up some of the strategic directions agreed with a wide range of partners and consultees in the region and beyond.

This strategy has identified that delivery of the research agenda over the next five years will require extensive collaboration and partnership working with English Heritage, local authorities, universities, archaeological contractors, local groups and individuals across the region. There is an increasing need to ensure that all research is captured and made available to other researchers and the use of local and sub-regional conferences and meetings is seen as one of the key ways in which the strategy will be promoted and delivered by partners. The promotion of research into museum collections, unpublished excavations and grey literature reports will provide opportunities for increased use of scientific techniques to add to our understanding of sites and landscapes within the region.

In addition to the detailed research there is a continual need to raise public awareness and support for archaeology in the region as pressure grows to reduce government and local authority funding on heritage and cultural services. There is much to do and this report identifies some of the opportunities that are available for the sector to deliver over what will no doubt be a very challenging five-year period for research.

Bob Croft, chair of SWALGAO

Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to the steering group members and all who attended the workshop, as well as all those who contributed virtually/remotely throughout the strategy's progression. Particular thanks are due to Kathy Perrin and Vanessa Straker who supported and monitored this project for English Heritage. Thanks also to Helen Claydon and Chris Webster for the design and production of this report.

Abbreviations

AEA	Association of Environmental Archaeologists
AHOB	Ancient Human Occupation of Britain group
AHRC	Arts and Humanities Research Council
AI	Academic Institutions
AIA	Association of Industrial Archaeologists
ALGAO	Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers
ALSF	Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund
BA	Bronze Age
BGS	British Geological Society
CA	contracting archaeologists
CBA	Council for British Archaeology
CCT	Churches Conservation Trust
DAC	Diocesan Advisory Committee
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DC	development control
EA	Environment Agency
DNP	Dartmoor National Park
EH	English Heritage
EHRSP	English Heritage Research Strategy for Prehistory
ENP	Exmoor National Park
HELM	Historic Environment Local Management
HER	Historic Environment Record
HLC	Historic Landscape Characterisation
HLF	Heritage Lottery Fund
IA	Iron Age
LA	Local Authorities
MDO	Museum Documentation Officer
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
NADFAS	National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies
NE	Natural England
NHM	Natural History Museum
NMP	National Mapping Programme
NHPP	National Heritage Protection Plan
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NT	National Trust
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations
OSL	Optically Stimulated Luminescence
PAS	Portable Antiquities Scheme
PPS	Planning Policy Statement
RCZA	Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment
SANHS	Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society
SIAS	Somerset Industrial Archaeology Society
SWALGAO	South West Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers
U	University
VS	Voluntary sector
WHS	World Heritage Site
XRF	X-ray fluorescence

I Introduction

This archaeological Research Strategy for South West England is the final stage of the archaeological research frameworks following the publication of the first two stages of the South West Archaeological Research Framework (SWARF; Webster 2008). The first two stages covered the Resource Assessment (what we know) and the Research Agenda (what we would like to know). The Research Strategy (how we are going to find out) is the third element. There is ongoing research in all areas. The SWARF agenda and strategy are intended to inform applications for research funding from a wide variety of funding bodies as they identify priorities for the region and direct effort, time and study towards the most important issues.

Details of the rich archaeological resource, recorded and potential, are given in the SWARF Resource Assessment (Webster 2008). This assessment demonstrated that South West England is probably the most diverse of the English regions and contains some of its best-known archaeological sites. The caves of Mendip and Torbay contain some of the finest Palaeolithic remains in England whilst later in prehistory sites such as Avebury, Stonehenge and Maiden Castle are of international repute. The Roman period is famous for its spectacular mosaics from sites such as Chedworth and Cirencester which may have remained in contact with the empire into the 5th and 6th centuries AD. Glastonbury is famous for its Abbey and early Christian associations, and the region contains many fine churches and cathedrals, of which Salisbury and Wells are perhaps the best known. Parts of the region have been important for mining, a fact reflected in the recent successful bids for World Heritage Site status in Cornwall and Devon; and there are important urban deposits within the great Medieval and later port of Bristol and other cities and towns.

The quality of landscape and the built environment is high in economic value for the south west. A great deal of the important archaeology of the region lies within designated landscapes such as National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The Defence Estates and the National Trust, have aims to conserve, research, manage and to promote public access to the archaeological heritage of their landscapes. There is much archaeology outside these protected landscapes, which does not benefit from the higher level of protection as that within. Much of the region is dominated by its coast which has allowed extensive influence from bordering areas such as Wales, Ireland and Brittany but has also allowed the spread of people and ideas from the region to all corners of the world. The coasts, and the inland areas, present a wide variety of environments: from

the rocky cliffs of Cornwall, via the uplands of Bodmin, Exmoor and Dartmoor, the wide alluvial deposits of the Severn Estuary to the chalk downland of Dorset and Wiltshire and the limestone hills of Gloucestershire. This diversity of landscape provides a wealth of avenues for archaeological research.

2 Key Issues

A number of key issues have been repeated throughout the formulation of the strategy:

2.1 Collaboration

Collaboration is an economic necessity. Much of the funding stream for archaeology is through development. Most “research” is through universities and other bodies. Most public funding is to the voluntary sector. Communication between all relevant parties is essential.

There is currently only piecemeal communication between units and researchers. There needs to be a communication link set up between academia, local government and contracting archaeologists; there is already the willingness for this to exist and be acted on.

2.2 Delivering the Research Agenda

All archaeologists working in the region should give due regard to SWARF when planning and undertaking projects in the region.

2.3 Synthesis for Periods and Subjects

It was agreed that regional conferences and sub-regional conferences were needed. The Council for British Archaeology and universities are well placed to facilitate this.

2.4 Unpublished Excavations and Grey Literature

It was agreed that a regional committee should be set up to quantify and prioritise the publication of old-sites. Of relevance will be English Heritage’s backlog strategy expected in 2013. Some synthesis of grey literature is being addressed but a regional policy is needed.

2.5 Local Societies and volunteers

The key role of volunteers is recognised and should be directed according to skill base (or training). There are increasing numbers of community archaeology projects – leading to an expanding skill base, but there is need for direction of this resource, especially with regard to project designs, method statements and the publication of results.

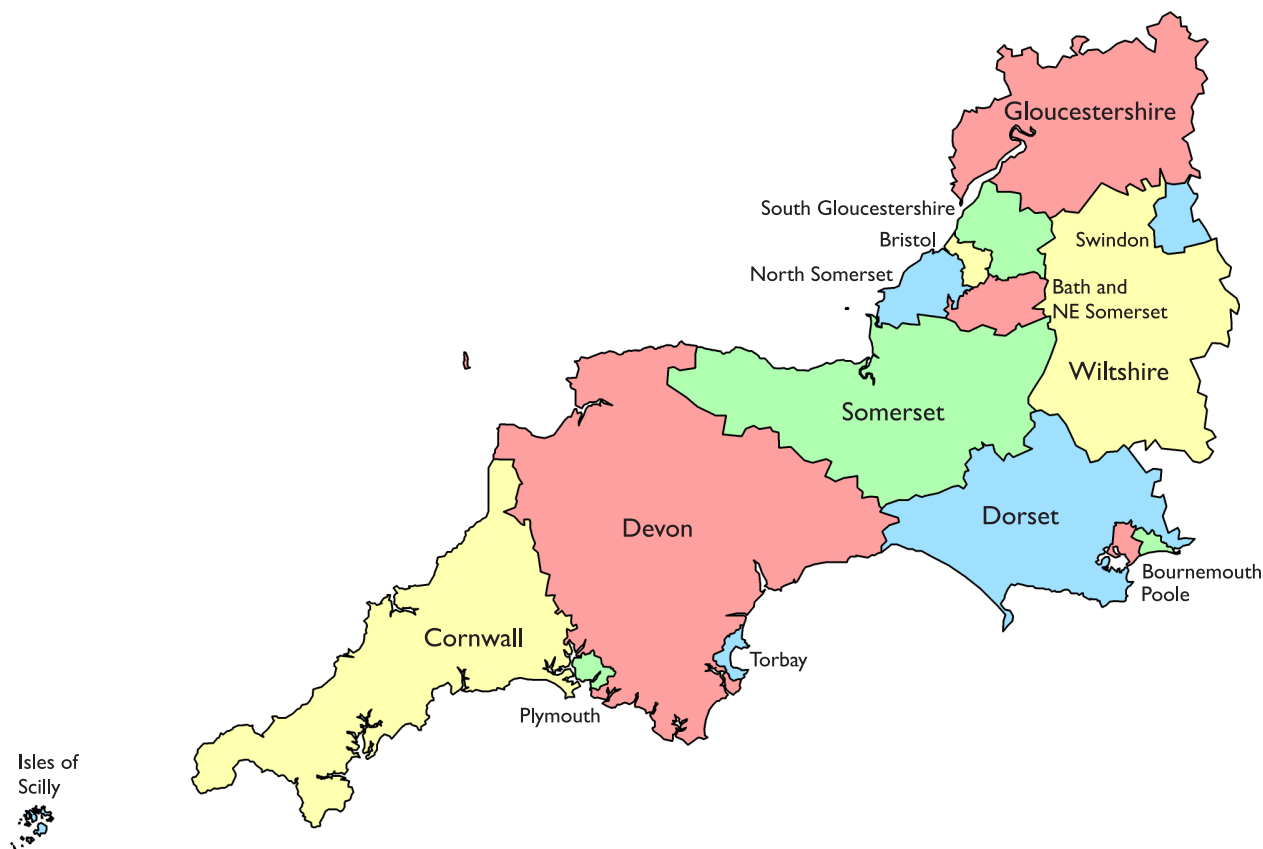


Figure 1: Local authority areas in the South West Region

2.6 Scientific Techniques

There is a need for the greater use of scientific techniques to address research questions, aims and objectives across the region. This includes scientific dating, geophysics environmental archaeology, ancient technology (eg metal and glass) and applied techniques (eg lipids, proteins, DNA and isotopes).

2.7 Public Awareness and Support

There is a need to raise public awareness and support for archaeology at the local, county and regional level.

3 Resources

The archaeologists and specialists working in the commercial, university, voluntary and government sector are clearly the major resource in the region. Better partnership working between all these groups will be required to deliver the Research Agenda and use limited resources most effectively. No one resource sector is able to lead on all or even most of the research strands. Most funding bodies now make partnership working an essential condition of their support. These aims also are best developed by working through teams from several bodies. Establishing links between national, regional and local

bodies, organisations and individuals will be essential to encourage and facilitate research activity.

3.1 People

The voluntary sector is clearly the largest sector with an interest in archaeology; a recent survey of the region identified almost 9000 members of societies and community groups (CBA Community Archaeology in the UK 2010).

Universities and Colleges, both in the South West and beyond, constitute the academic sector. Those professionally involved are a relatively small number but there are also large numbers of students who could carry out research. Archaeology is taught at Exeter, Plymouth, Bristol and Bournemouth universities, and to A level at numerous colleges in the region. The development of schools outreach programmes, including handling artefacts, cross curricular studies and structured visits to museums and excavations is a strategy that looks to the future.

Commercial archaeology is undertaken by numerous organisations, both large and small, employing a significant number of professional archaeologists. It channels the largest amount of money into archaeology of any of the sectors. As well as developer funded projects, professional archaeologists



Figure 2: Westbury Society members opening up their first test pit in Westbury-sub-Mendip. Photo: Barry Lane 2009.

undertake research and survey for English Heritage, Natural England, local authorities and others.

Local authority staff and other publicly funded historic environment curators includes all those with a responsibility for the curation of the historic environment, including National Park and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty personnel; other local authority staff are also employed in museums (below). They also have a direct influence on the role and performance of commercial units and are also responsible for the maintenance of Historic Environment Records. Other private or public organisations which own or manage historic buildings or landscapes may also exercise a curatorial role, such as diocesan archaeological advisers, the National Trust and Defence Estates.

The principal national organisation is English Heritage, which is the Government's adviser for the Historic Environment and also owns or curates many monuments on behalf of the nation. Historic Environment staff in other organisations, such as the Heritage Lottery Fund and DEFRA, also influence archaeological research through funding of projects or management.

The region contains numerous museums, although not all of these have archaeological collections, and not all that do have specialist staff to curate them. However, the museums provide a crucial role in access for research and can direct the energies and interests

of their volunteers. Most Portable Antiquities Scheme Finds Liaison Officers are based in museums.

3.2 Funding

Financial resources underpin many of the human resources identified above. The changing economic climate will no doubt have an impact upon research in the region.

English Heritage is the primary channel by which national government funds the conservation of the historic environment. It has for many years been the major source of funds for non-academic archaeological research. The National Heritage Protection Plan (NHPP) identifies its objectives as follows:

- encouraging communities and individuals to take more responsibility for the management of their local historic environment
- encouraging closer working between EH, its partners and the wider public
- focusing EH's resources to address the most threatened parts of the historic environment

English Heritage hopes that delivery of the NHPP will:

- build a consensus about the priorities for protecting England's historic environment



Figure 3: Princesshay redevelopment excavations, Exeter, 2005. Photo: Exeter Archaeology/Exeter City Council.

- lead to more efficient and effective protection through better coordination of activity and joint working, which is particularly important in times of considerable reductions in public spending
- facilitate greater engagement in the protection of historic environment by local communities

Setting the region’s research priorities against these themes will be essential for securing future funding.

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) “enables communities to celebrate, look after and learn more about our diverse heritage” and funds “the entire spread of heritage including buildings, museums, natural heritage and the heritage of cultural traditions and language”. Local groups should be encouraged to seek funding for projects that include significant research elements. Examples within the South West include the employment of a Community Heritage Officer for three years within the Neroche scheme, visitor improvements at Chedworth Roman villa and development of the Tinnens’ Way in Cornwall.

The majority of funding for archaeological fieldwork now comes from the requirement for developers to carry out assessments and mitigation related to their projects. Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS5), published in March 2010, replaced PPGs 15 and 16 and set out policies and principles of consideration of the

historic environment with the planning process and other heritage-related consent regimes. Most of this has been carried forward to the NPPF which replaced PPS5 in 2012 and which reinforces the historic environment as a material consideration within the planning process and advocates an evidence based approach to decision making. It focuses on understanding the effect of a proposal on the significance of a heritage asset (archaeological site, historic building, historic parkland etc) including the asset’s research potential.

The principles within the NPPF enshrine the concept of conservation and the recording of any loss of significance to a heritage asset in order to enhance understanding of the asset. Therefore, the NPPF represents an opportunity to ensure archaeological sites and historic buildings/areas are understood if they are to be impacted by development. Sites excavated as part of the planning process offer research potential to address a range of questions in all subject areas in all chronological periods.

The nature of developer-led investigations means that the availability of sites is dictated by factors other than research questions; an opportunistic approach must be adopted that enables the rapid recognition of a site’s potential in terms of research priorities.

Universities and colleges have access to funds of their own and are also able to attract grants from

education funding bodies, principally the Arts and Humanities Research Council, and specific funding may be available from one of the science funding councils.

Many local authorities, national parks and AONBs have small budgets for archaeological work and may be able to tap into or direct larger funds as part of other projects. Most of the larger archaeological societies are charities with a requirement to use their funds for archaeological purposes but which can make a significant contribution with modest financing. There are also larger charitable bodies (for example, the Leverhulme Trust) that make awards for archaeological projects.

The Arts Council is now responsible for funding museum collections and future research bids may well require collaboration working across the region.

There are other, occasional or temporary sources of funding, that can bring benefits and challenges. For example, the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund which injected significant amounts of money into archaeological projects between 2002 and March 2011. Because of the origins of the fund, the money has had to be used within narrow terms of reference; some projects have made a significant contribution to archaeological research in the region.

4 Strategic Themes

4.1 Theme A: Settlement Sites and Landscapes – Urban, Rural, Maritime and Prehistoric

The interaction between settlement and landscape is one of the key research areas highlighted by the research framework. The South West has always been predominantly rural and the changing patterns of land use and settlement form a key component of any study of the past. In particular the transition between periods should be addressed by emphasis during excavation on rigorous dating strategies from appropriate contexts: collection of geomorphological data from Neolithic natural features, OSL dating on Early Medieval linear monuments, archaeomagnetic dating on later Roman deposits. An understanding and awareness of the issues is one of the responsibilities of local authority staff and contractors, so that relevant sites can be treated appropriately.

The use of geophysical survey on non-villa Roman settlements would reap rewards, especially in relation to cropmark enclosures. Both English Heritage and local authorities should consider targeting aerial survey and fieldwork to improve understanding of this area.

For the Early Medieval period, there is a need for liaison between the Archaeological advisers to the Diocesan Advisory Committees (DACs), Cathedral

Theme A: The Beaker isotope project

The project covers mobility, migration and diet in the British Early Bronze Age and is an AHRC-funded collaborative project with Andrew Chamberlain, University of Sheffield; Mike Parker Pearson, University of Sheffield; Mike Richards, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology, Leipzig, Germany. Research Associates: Dr Patrick Mahoney (Sheffield), Dr Mandy Jay (Durham/Leipzig).



This research problem is older than the discipline of archaeology itself. Were the “Beaker people” immigrants or indigenous to prehistoric Britain? Nineteenth-century antiquarian barrow-diggers observed that the wide-headed (brachycephalic) skulls of Beaker burials were distinguishable from the narrow (dolichocephalic) skulls within Neolithic long barrows, and attributed these to different populations. Since then, theories of a migrant “Beaker folk” have been contested by alternative theories which interpret the distinctive Beaker pots and associated material culture as part of a Europe-wide “Beaker package” or cultural pattern adopted by local communities. Pilot isotopic studies in Germany and Britain have indicated that certain people who used Beakers were highly mobile, in one case even crossing Europe to settle in Britain. The aim of this project is to resolve the “immigration versus local development” Beaker problem in Britain and, in doing so, transform our understanding of economy and society at the time of Stonehenge by studying mobility, diet and health. The objectives of the project are:

1. To systematically sample a large proportion of the surviving, well-preserved skeletal remains of the Beaker period for a comprehensive range of isotopes relating to the reconstruction of individual’s diet and mobility
2. To systematically record and/or reassess these individuals’ dentition (through studies of microwear and macrowear) and skeletal remains which will shed light on diet, health, trauma, physical stress and funerary manipulation
3. To improve knowledge of these individuals’ social and temporal context through systematic study of their burial contexts, circumstances of discovery and chronology.

archaeologists and Local Authority archaeologists over buildings, monuments and their landscape; a reassessment of source material often generates results. Villages often see piecemeal and small scale development which goes below the planning radar; to widen understanding of the origins of villages an assessment of the effectiveness of development monitoring by EH would be beneficial. Villages lend themselves to volunteer involvement through parish survey, community archaeology, co-ordination, and training. The Shapwick Project is a good example of how this can be done (Gerrard and Aston 2007).

A strategy for publication of important early Roman urban excavations, together with an assessment of all unpublished material relating to excavation on major sites. The need for a synthesis of theoretical and field evidence is very apparent for the Neolithic and Roman periods.

4.2 Theme B: Artefacts and the Built Environment – Technologies, Resources, Links to Trade (also Research Aims 2, 5, 6, 43 and 47)

The Bronze and Iron Ages are the obvious starting point for artefact-based technologies and research, with again a need for a synthesis of work and collaboration between interested parties. For the study of early Medieval technologies, museum collections need reassessment in collaboration with HER content such as the Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment is providing for fish weirs.

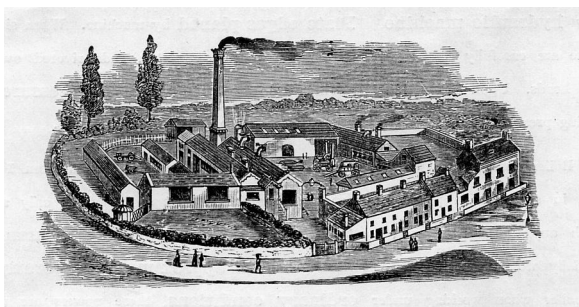


Figure 4: The former Somerset Wheel and Wagon Works, Bower Hinton near Martock, Somerset This bird's eye view from a billhead shows the layout of William Sparrow's agricultural engineering and millwrighting business established in 1867. Photo: SIAS Archive

There is a growing awareness of the importance of the archaeology of the recent past. The powers of the NPPF have allayed somewhat the concern for undesignated built assets, but the local authorities/conservation officers need a coordination of effort. The late nineteenth and twentieth centuries are seen as a priority, prompted by the realisation of a disappearing and unrecorded asset. There is

Theme B: Treasures from the Earth

The touring exhibition Treasures from the Earth brought together museums, historic environment services, finds liaison officers, universities, local societies and metal detectorists to celebrate the archaeology of the South West and to encourage people to become involved in their local archaeological scene.



Devised by curators at the Royal Cornwall Museum, Plymouth City Museum and the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, with a budget of just under £70,000 from the HLF and Renaissance in the Regions, the exhibition toured 13 museums and was visited by over 25,000 people between 2009 and 2012. Volunteers contributed over 170 days to raising the profile of archaeology.

The exhibition celebrated new research: Wells and Mendip Museum expanded its core display with exhibits from the work of archaeological groups on Mendip and at South Molton the Exmoor Iron finds were showcased.

The exhibition facilitated the return on loan of finds to their place of discovery, notably the Penwith gold lunula from the British Museum to Penlee House and the 13th-century enamelled glass Launceston beaker from the V&A to Lawrence House Museum. Items were also loaned from regional museums, site archives from universities and commercial units, and the private collection of a group of metal detectorists.

Eleven venues held finds identification days. Volunteers participated in training sessions on pottery processing, care of archaeological material and using archaeology in the curriculum. Public activities included handling sessions, lectures, family activity days, a treasure hunt, a murder mystery and a flint knapping workshop.

Evaluation shows that the exhibition was a success - visitors were inspired to find out more, volunteers learnt new skills, societies and museums had the opportunity to showcase their research and display stored finds. It demonstrated the vibrancy and variety of archaeological activity taking place in the South West, the willingness of organisations and individuals to work together and the tremendous enthusiasm there is to explore and share the region's rich heritage.

an English Heritage role here, in partnership with local authorities, to support and encourage appropriate community/volunteer involvement in this area. There is still a need for links between museums and academics, meetings of peer groups for collaboration, and forums, with development control archaeologists seen as the link between researchers and museums.

The South West's historic urban centres (such as Bristol, Exeter, Truro, Cirencester, Gloucester, Bath, Plymouth, Dorchester), the development of towns, the progression of industry and trade, are all important areas for research, following on from English Heritage's draft urban research strategy. There are international research implications for the slave trade, cargoes, and the colonial past, with research links established for American and West Indies universities.

Mineral acquisition and processing needs its own strategy linking to local mining history associations, geological societies and historians. English Heritage has recently made a start on this review but further work is needed in the South West.

4.3 Theme C: Environment and Dating – Landscape Change and Methodologies

The South West region is fortunate to contain a wide range of contexts which provide excellent preservation of environmental data, from caves deposits, to extensive lowland and upland waterlogged peats. Some of the analysis is carried out by specialists based in Universities or national institutions but commercial archaeology provides by far the greatest amount of sites, data and financial resources. Archives in Museums also represent a resource that holds significant potential for further research in scientific dating and analysis.

Numerous scientific dates are generated through commercial archaeology every year. The curators and contractors should ensure that project designs include appropriate dating strategies and prioritise key research topics to build on existing research projects (eg Ancient Human Occupation of Britain group (AHOB), Axe valley Palaeolithic, SANHS/Aston Somerset in the Ages of Arthur and Alfred, Whittle and Bayliss Neolithic Monuments). The regional tree-ring chronology requires strengthening by taking appropriate opportunities from standing buildings and archaeological sites.

More work is required to quantify and date peat deposits and assess the risk of wastage. Tufa, soils and colluvial/alluvial sequences have been shown to contain significant information and require incorporation into mainstream development control projects. High resolution dating and analysis of environmental deposits is also required. The MIRE project (Exmoor

Theme C: The Greylake Mesolithic cemetery

Various archaeological discoveries had been made in the small sand quarry at Greylake in the Somerset Levels, including a beaker burial in the 1930s and a large collection of Mesolithic flint tools in the 1950s. Five human skulls and various long bones had been uncovered in 1928 but were never dated. Only two skulls still exist, in the Admiral Blake Museum, Bridgwater. Somerset County Council recently dated these skulls as part of a project examining the archaeology of the islands of hard geology in the floodplain. This showed that both skulls dated to around 8300 cal BC, suggesting that the site represents the only known open-air Mesolithic cemetery in the UK. The association of human bones and a large artefact collection is also unique and underlines the international importance of a hitherto overlooked site.



Figure 5: CISMAS (Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Maritime Archaeological Society) Divers Innes McCartney and Luke Randall taking a core sample from an extensive submerged peat deposit in St Mary's Roads, Isles of Scilly for the EH-funded Lyonesse Project. Photo: Kevin Camidge.



Figure 6: Dan Charman (Exeter University) assisted by Rhiannon Philp (Cardiff University) taking a peat sample at Par Beach, St Martin's, Isles of Scilly, with Steve Mills (Cardiff University) recording the location for the EH-funded Lyonesse Project. Photo: Cornwall Council.

and Dartmoor) and coastal developments (eg Steart realignment and Hinkley Point power station and associated developments in Somerset) should help to deliver some research priorities in the next five years.

Further analysis is needed on human and animal bone to identify key changes in human diet and the domestication of wild animals. This should include isotope analysis and DNA studies in combination with works of synthesis on existing archive collections. There are several key research topics connected to plant macrofossils, such as understanding the change from growth of hulled to free-threshing wheat.

An improved understanding of the wild and farmed landscape is needed for virtually all periods. The existing research (eg Pleistocene cave deposits, Mesolithic coastal landscapes, Medieval Exmoor and Blackdowns) all require further work as do other topics and periods (eg Early Medieval and upper Palaeolithic landscapes).

Understanding Holocene climate and sea level change are research priorities as the evidence is fragile and vulnerable to erosion and drying out. Some research has been carried out in the Isles of Scilly (Figure 5 and Figure 6), the Severn Estuary, Poole harbour and the Taw estuary. More work will be undertaken as part of major coastal developments but a better proxy-climate model using analysis of a suite of evidence is needed to further understanding of early settlement and land use.

As well as the research agenda, the environmental sections of most of the resource assessment chapters have recommendations for future work and identification of gaps in knowledge

4.4 Theme D: Social Identity and Change – Transition, Identity, Territories, Religion, Conflict and Death

English Heritage's research themes and priorities for prehistory are set out in its draft research strategy. Priorities which are immediately applicable to the SW strategy include developing integrated approaches to prehistoric landscapes; improving understanding of the spatial, typological and chronological context of prehistoric sites and monuments; and raising awareness of the significance of "sites without structures" through improved understanding of ephemeral sites, especially lithic scatters.

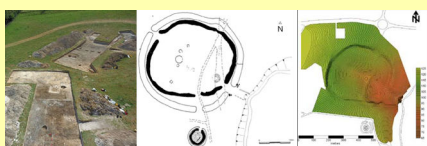


Figure 7: Early Christian memorial stone, Lundy. Photo: Chris Webster

The South West contains a wealth and diversity of Neolithic and Early Bronze Age archaeology, much of it of national and international significance. The Stonehenge Research Framework is currently being updated to produce a unified research framework for the entire World Heritage Site. Away from Stonehenge, projects such as those at Maiden Castle, Stanton Drew, Priddy Circles and South Cadbury are addressing research questions for this time period, with scientific support for research into pottery studies, isotope analysis and stone axe petrology. Ann Woodward is looking at graves in Dorset and the Marden henge ceremonial landscape is being investigated by English Heritage.

Theme D: The Stonehenge Riverside Project

The project began in 2003, directed by Mike Parker Pearson with co-directors Josh Pollard, Colin Richards, Julian Thomas, Chris Tilley and Kate Welham. Fieldwork was carried out until 2009 and the project's results are due for full publication as a monograph series by 2015. Funding was provided by an AHRC grant, together with other smaller grants.



The project aims to find out about the people who built Stonehenge – where they came from, how they lived and how they were organised – as well as the reasons why Stonehenge was built. Not only has the project discovered a large settlement of many houses, thought to be for Stonehenge's builders, at the nearby henge enclosure of Durrington Walls but it has also re-assessed the sequence at Stonehenge, dating its first stage to 3000–2920 cal BC and its second stage (sarsen circle and trilithons, and bluestone double arc) to 2620–2480 cal BC. The latter date correlates with the occupation at Durrington Walls. Investigation of its surrounding monuments and sites, many of which were hitherto undated and unknown, has included the dating of the Greater Cursus, the lesser Cursus and the Amesbury 41 long barrow to c.3600–3300 BC. Discoveries along the River Avon include Bluestonehenge at the end of the Stonehenge Avenue, a new avenue leading to the river at Durrington Walls, and recovery of a complete Holocene pollen sequence from the river bed.

The Universities of Sheffield, Manchester, Bournemouth, Bristol, Birmingham, Central Lancashire, Cardiff, Leicester and many others collaborated in providing funding, staff, students and equipment. Wessex Archaeology also provided field equipment. English Heritage provided grant aid for outreach, with teams of students and National Trust volunteers managed by Pat Shelley. A large team of specialists was drawn from universities and the commercial sector. Further post-excavation reporting and scientific analysis are funded by the AHRC as part of the “Feeding Stonehenge” project.

The project has garnered many awards, has been the subject of various world wide television documentaries; there are over 30 publications on the project's results, as well as a children's book *If Stones Could Speak*, published by the National Geographic Society.

Conflict within the prehistoric period would best be addressed by analysis of museum collections of weapons and skeletal remains. A programme of research and analysis is planned for the Ham Hill archive as part of the current research project led by Niall Sharples and Chris Evans.

- Roman – there is a lack of data with regard to the impact of the Roman army on local communities which could be addressed through support for local groups with a research interest on 1st-century forts for example CHERT (Charterhouse Environs Research Team) in Somerset has the potential to deliver new evidence but there is a need for scientific/environmental techniques and funding to support and back up basic fieldwork.

There is much scope for better understanding of later Roman religion and burial. In the commercial sector, this should be addressed by ensuring that project designs and resources identify the specialist skills and consequent funding needed for scientific dating/DNA/XRF; this work may also require collaboration with and advice from universities and English Heritage.

- Early Medieval – Following on from the great success and academic recognition of the Shapwick project, a further project is in preparation, entitled “Somerset in the Ages of Arthur and Alfred”. This is a county-based focus to a research theme looking at scientific analysis of pottery linked to an extensive programme of radiocarbon dating.

Development control opportunities to examine Early Medieval conflict sites are rare but they could be targeted to link with management plans and conservation of monuments – a coordination of resources should produce results.

- Medieval burial is an area where a programme of academic field research and research into existing collections has high potential for a regional perspective on population. This needs the coordination of the Local Authorities, the Diocesan Advisory Committees and English Heritage in setting standards; a series of seminars at regional and county level would help to set base-line standards. The recording of churches presents opportunities for directing the voluntary sector through DACs, Cathedral archaeologists, the Churches Conservation Trust and EH. A regional conference and subsequent synthesis is seen as essential for the better understanding of Medieval burial practice in the region.

- There are many researchers working on Post Medieval and modern defence and warfare – from



Figure 8: An English Electric Canberra flies low over experimental radar equipments at Westbury Beacon, Somerset, in 1962. Photo: Barry Lane.

local societies and individuals to academics and metal detectorists. There are key links to the industrial archaeology sector. A priority should be considered to map and record the less popular areas of 20th-century defensive activity, including infrastructure, landscape and temporary features. Regional/local seminars would provide direction and/or training.

4.5 Theme E: Economies and Subsistence – Trade, Agriculture, Transport and Communication

Prehistoric people's relationship to plants and animals is best addressed through development control archaeology, unless there is an academic programme of research, with a focus on the collection of data from sites with anoxic/water-logged preservation.

English Heritage's Roman research strategy is available. The impact of the empire on farming is an under researched topic which could benefit greatly from using existing resources, notably museum collections, previous excavation reports and grey literature. Research into Roman ports is ongoing and opportunistic, the RCZA project is providing new data, and the maritime research strategy by English Heritage is in preparation.

Medieval water meadows and water management structures, such as Medieval weirs and mills, are already a focus for an NHPP water management project through English Heritage/Natural England, integrating plant macrofossil and insect evidence and documentary sources.

English Heritage's urban research strategy is particularly relevant for the Post Medieval period, with regional emphasis on structures relating to food production – although this can be addressed through

Theme E: Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment (RCZA)

The Archaeology Service of Gloucestershire County Council was commissioned by English Heritage to carry out the Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey of the English part of the Severn Estuary.

The archaeological resource within the estuary is under threat from natural processes such as coastal erosion, exacerbated by the high tidal range and strong tidal currents, and from threats such as development, marine aggregates extraction and new coastal defences as well as proposed major infrastructure projects. There is an urgent need to understand more clearly the extent and nature of the archaeological and palaeo-environmental resource in order to identify the impact of these varied threats and to inform the second stage of the Shoreline Management Plans (SMP2) and Flood Risk Management Strategies (FRMS) being produced for the Environment Agency, which will determine the future management of coastal areas.



Phase I included an assessment of surviving remains within the inter-tidal zone and the immediate (1km) hinterland. An overview of coastal change from the Late Upper Palaeolithic to the present day was included to understand where potential archaeological sites and monuments might be located. Erosion processes currently taking place were assessed and the degree and nature of threat considered. Aerial photographic interpretation was undertaken as part of the English Heritage National Mapping Programme (NMP). Allied to this was the analysis of two sample areas of lidar data to assess the usefulness of this data to Rapid Coastal Zone Survey.

A fieldwork phase has been completed involving a walkover survey of the inter-tidal area, recording the position and character of archaeological features along the coast. The majority of these were stone or wooden fishing structures. Dating of the wooden structures showed their development from the 7th century AD.

the NPPF, there is high potential for integration with the local and voluntary sector and local Industrial archaeological societies and historic farmstead groups. There is considerable scope for greater involvement of local authority conservation officers and planners to help to record and better understand the importance of archaeological methods to record historic buildings.

A national overview by English Heritage is needed for Post Medieval and modern transport and communications links, particularly early road, rail, inland and coastal transport. Regionally a survey of associated structures is ideal for voluntary sector and local group projects eg tram and bus depots, civilian airfields, manufacturing sites. Telecommunications is a rapidly changing field and a review of the subject is needed. The Brunel Institute, Bristol, is a major research resource for maritime studies – towns and ports, links to colonialism/immigration/emigration or lateral studies eg social history.

4.6 Theme F: Widening Access and Interpretation

Ours is a sector where the discipline is blessed with high numbers of volunteers, through societies and individuals doing their own research to museum volunteers and National Trust members supporting the heritage sector. Increasing numbers are involved in community history/archaeology projects through HLF support, or projects such as Hinkley Point power station, where outreach is part of the package of development control. Training can be provided at many levels, but enthusing and enabling local people to deliver projects is the way forward.

The provision of works of synthesis is a recurring theme at both a local and regional level. Two examples of good practice are the volunteer led Sea Mills project, Bristol, and the West Penwith project, Cornwall. The establishing of regional and sub regional seminars, for the dissemination of information and collection for subject synthesis, is one suggested solution – the CBA is in an ideal position for coordination across the region.

The Portable Antiquities Scheme has been the source of much positive work, but data exchange needs to be consolidated, along with appropriate resourcing of archaeological responses to PAS. Although there are many museum collection studies taking place within the region, there is scope to improve knowledge by the study of under utilised museum collections; volunteer training especially should be encouraged, along with specialist collaboration and cross-disciplinary work.

Unpublished reports are an acknowledged concern across the region and one that is being addressed – for example 90% of Bristol's grey literature is being put on-line. While the professional sector is organ-

Theme F: The West Penwith Survey Project

The landscape of West Penwith, the westernmost peninsula in Cornwall, has a demonstrably rich archaeological resource, with well-preserved prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval landscapes of settlement, farming, cultural and industrial activity.



Since the early 1980s over 270 historic environment projects have been carried out in West Penwith. Over 4000 ha of wild moorland, coastal arable and grassland, sheltered valleys and rugged clifflands, has been recorded or surveyed. These projects have been commissioned by English Heritage, The National Trust, Penwith District Council, Cornwall Wildlife Trust, Cornwall Heritage Trust, and the Tregothnan estate. Collectively they represent an active history of survey, interpretation and practical engagement by a community of archaeologists within a particular landscape. The main impetus has been conservation and management to help large and small landowners understand the scope, extent, survival and condition of many sites on their land. The results comprise a significant archive and a unique educational resource – but they have not been fully published. This project will make the archive accessible, ensure its long-term preservation and publish the results of 30 years work.

The project started in February 2010 when the maps and plans were brought together, catalogued and scanned, securing an ordered and accessible archive in digital form. The digital plans are currently being geo-referenced to the OS base map in order to create a composite mosaic layer in GIS, which will be used to guide an assessment and appraisal of all the information within the archives so that key datasets can be identified and proposed for further analyses leading to publication. As part of this a pilot study using the detailed field survey data from Bosigran will be transcribed and digitised, allowing the relative stratigraphy and interpretation to be manipulated, tested and presented. A website, a landscape history volume, guidance notes for landowners and managers, a popular publication and remote media for wider educational uses are proposed.

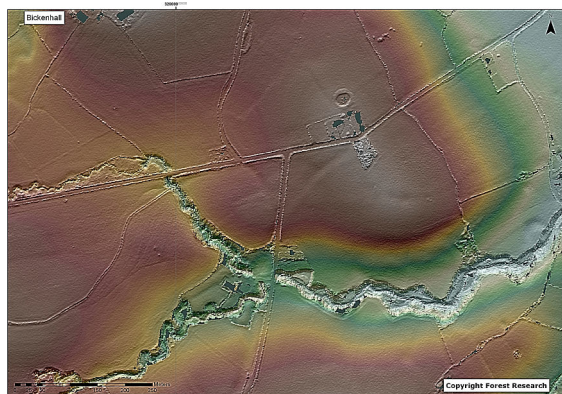


Figure 9: A lidar image of Playstreet, Bickenhall, Somerset (SCC and Forest Research, 2005). Lidar survey was commissioned as part of the Neroche Landscape Partnership HLF scheme and used within various Community Archaeology projects as well as other strands of the scheme.

used now by the HER/DC officers, the scope and location of grey literature produced by the university and voluntary sectors now needs to be addressed. The OASIS project has over 8000 grey literature reports online.

Across the region there are key unpublished excavations – HERs should identify unpublished fieldwork undertaken by universities, local societies, contractors etc. This might best be undertaken collaboratively across the region. Funding should be sourced for publication of key sites. The problem is increasing as some contracting units and developers cease trading – Local Authority archaeologists are aware of this and need to continue acting to mitigate the problem.

4.7 Theme G: Funding and Resources

Fundamental and cross cutting, this theme is relevant at all levels, from volunteer expenses to extensive survey. It is not a subject that can be addressed through a strategy as each project has individual requirements. Grants access can be signposted but can be on a very local level up to access to national budgets and Heritage Lottery funding. Commercial works are different again as negotiation of budgets and allocation of spend are specific to each application. Increased pressures on resources will impact on research projects over the next five years.

4.8 Theme H: Methodologies – Building Blocks for Research, developing new Approaches and Techniques

Specialist subject groups have key roles within this theme. Where research methodologies are allied with research priorities, these opportunities need to be

supported with regard to areas such as caves and early prehistoric sites, Pleistocene and quaternary deposits, aerial survey and pottery.

Addressing the gaps in knowledge for the Palaeolithic, Neolithic/Bronze Age/Iron Age, mobility, agriculture, Roman villas and temples should be priorities for funding in academia; local authority archaeologists can influence the scope of works required as part of the planning system.

Standards for records need to be agreed across the region, from accessioning and retention for museums and archives to systematic agreed data recording for HERs across the region. Policies for recording the built environment during developments are covered within the NPPF and should be allied to the English Heritage draft urban strategy. The Arts Council and local museums have a key role to play, especially in regard to exhibition and interpretation programmes and as a focus point for outreach.

Research into artefact scatters needs to include assessment of museum grey collections, which could be combined with the training and use of volunteers. There are also opportunities to link in with the information recorded as part of the PAS.

5 Delivery and Monitoring

This strategy will require a regular review of progress, perhaps on an annual or biannual basis, in order to celebrate successes and to consider what revisions might be required.

This overarching SWARF strategy will be revisited and debated by SWALGAO and the heritage sector in a seminar to be held in 2013 and a further seminar in 2016 to consider what has been achieved and propose suggestions for the next five year period 2016–2021. The Council for British Archaeology, groups 12 and 13, will be integral to the process.

Local and regional seminars will be encouraged to look at the strategic themes identified in this Strategy. Seminars can be co-ordinated by local groups, local authorities, national organisations or specialist groups. Officers from SWALGAO will be encouraged to ensure that a research based seminar will be held in their respective areas during the life of this document. Seminars will involve partnership working and collaboration across the sector.

References

- Gerrard, C and Aston, M. 2007. *The Shapwick Project, Somerset: A Rural Landscape Explored*. Monograph 25. Society for Medieval Archaeology.
- Webster, C J (ed). 2008. *The Archaeology of South West England: A Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*. Taunton: Somerset County Council.

6 Action Plan

The SWARF Action Plan identifies how the agreed Research Aims have been addressed to date. The final column suggests future research topics and organisations who will deliver these initiatives. The information in this Action Plan was compiled from workshops and feedback to the draft report.

6.1 Theme A: Settlement Sites and Landscapes – urban, rural, prehistoric

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
10: Address lack of understanding of key transitional periods.	AI LA CA PAS Mus VS EH	Academic institutions to research into the identified topics. Routine Scientific dating on sites with potential for transitional contexts.	EH Prehistoric draft strategy. Beaker people isotope project. Stonehenge Riverside Project Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	Artefact studies from securely dated contextual sequences, in particular indicative lithic assemblages, Post Deverel-Rimbury Pottery. Roman context which span the 2nd–3rd century, Late Roman to Post-Roman. Review of current museum lithic collections and call for flint collections to be catalogued.
28: Improve understanding of Neolithic settlements and landscapes.	AI LA CA VS	Synthesis of theoretical and field evidence – Universities to lead but include all interested parties Raise awareness amongst local authority archaeologists and others of the potential research needs.	EH prehistoric draft strategy. Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	Field Survey – volunteers. More geomorphological data collection from “natural features”. Targeting of wet sites for investigation.
29: Improve understanding of non-villa Roman rural settlement.	AI CBA VS EH	English Heritage and local authorities to consider targeting aerial survey and fieldwork towards these specific research aims. Synthesis needed.		Wider landscape survey/geophysics/excavation. transition from Iron Age to Roman iron production.
35: Improve understanding of early Roman urban settlement.	EH LA CA AI	Universities and their funding bodies to support research into theoretical models of urban development. Scientific dating on Roman urban sites with late deposits Prepare and implement a strategy for the publication of important earlier excavations.		Target features suitable for archaeo-magnetic dating.

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Theme A

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
30: Develop and test methodologies to identify Early Medieval rural settlement.	AI LA	Researchers to make LA aware of locations that have high potential for remains of this period so that development monitoring can be enhanced.		Support innovative field research.
31: Address the long-running debates about Early Medieval landscapes and territories.	AI CBA VS	Encourage fieldwork on linear monuments Synthesis of evidence/historic sources		OSL dating on linear earthworks within targeted excavation projects Parish surveys – Shapwick style projects and village studies such as Winscombe.
32: Investigate and identify the locations of Early Medieval religious buildings, monuments and landscapes.	AI LA DAC VS	LA archaeologists, and archaeologists on diocesan advisory committees, to be aware of sites with high potential for enhanced monitoring.		Support innovative and field research into this area. 32e documentary reassessment of source material/date revision.
33: Widen understanding of the origins of villages	EH AI LA VS	EH to consider a research programme to assess the effectiveness of development monitoring in villages or whether the mixed picture that we see at the moment is real.	Dispersed settlement in Devon (Steve Rippon, Exeter University) Mendip – East Harptree, Westbury, Winscombe.	Community surveys including “garden surveys”, documents, buildings and test pitting. The Winscombe project led by Mick Aston has excavated over 100 test pits in one parish.
34: Develop understanding of Early Medieval urban settlement.	AI EH LA CA HLF	Prepare and implement an assessment of all unpublished major site excavations.	MPRG	Theoretical models of urban development.
36: Improve understanding of Medieval and later urbanism.	EH LA HLF	Prepare and implement a strategy for the publication of important earlier excavations. Support the completion of the EUS and UADs across the region. Conference to produce synthesis publication.	EH Urban strategy MPRG research strategy	Documentary/historical/finds surveys. Develop links between local authority conservation officers and their appraisals of Conservation Areas to archaeological information.
37: Increase our knowledge of maritime archaeological sites.	EH MMO PAS LA	Enhance the maritime components of HERs. Encourage reporting by divers of wreck and other sea-bed material. ASLF finishing – NHPP addressing maritime archaeology.	RCZA. EH maritime research strategy. Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	Data collection from sources such as Hydrographic Office.

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6.2 Theme B: Artefacts and the Built Environment – technologies, resources, links to trade

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
14: Widen our understanding of Later Bronze Age and Iron Age material culture.	AI LA	LA archaeologists and contractors to be made aware of the need for increased recording of sites producing evidence of this date via a question led approach. Work of research and synthesis, making relevant to the general public. Peer group meetings to encourage collaboration. Establish better links between museums and academics.	Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	Artefact-based research topics. Analysis of slag at Fort Cumberland – metalworking research.
38: Widen understanding of mineral acquisition and processing.	EH LA VS	Prepare a more detailed research agenda and strategy for implementation including specialist research frameworks. Build on regional projects with local projects.	Coastal salt production – Bournemouth University. Bristol University – economic history PhD. Minerals Programme (P Claughton, Exeter University)	Local societies survey work. Collaboration between archaeologists, historians and geologists.
44: Develop an understanding and identification of Early Medieval technologies.	AI Mus LA EH VS	Raise awareness amongst museums and researchers so that additional material might be identified in existing collections. Harness expertise in local societies, for example wind and watermill group. Build on RCZA findings especially dating and implications of climate change.	RCZA. Exeter University MPRG research strategy	Museum collections work placements/MDOs Medieval water power and iron mills.

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Theme B

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
63: Deepen understanding of Medieval and later defence and conflict sites.	AI EH LA CBA	A programme of research fieldwork in castle baileys and urban defences. C20 features especially vulnerable – CBA/EH to prepare guidance notes for types of buildings, structures and features.	Bristol urban archaeological assessment. Prayerbook Rebellion research (Devon County Council/Leeds University). Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework. Oliver Creighton research Exeter University.	Training and funding for VS (spread experience sideways between local societies). Lidar for small rural medieval earthwork castles.
45: Broaden understanding of Post-Medieval to Modern technology and production.	AI LA VS EH	Industrial archaeologists to consider research of neglected industries and the “second industrial revolution”. Rolling out programme to look at water management systems and mills, examining quality of info available, identifying significant sites, looking at designation – EH.	Regional study of disposal of artefactual material relating to C19/20 industry, no space for this type of material – South West Federation of Museums and Galleries. Proposed EH pilot in Herefordshire. Quarry Faces HLF. EH Urban strategy. Historical Metallurgy Group Research agenda. Development of mine engine houses (Truro and Penwith colleges). Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	Late C19/20 area priority for example roller mills. Standing buildings. Modern industrial sites – car industry, trading estates.
53: Increase knowledge of the effects of colonialism on the region and the wider world.	AI VS	Regional approach – not just Bristol and North Devon – also links to American/West Indies universities; Barnstaple, Plymouth, Exeter as ports and trade and relationships with other parts of the world.	N Devon ceramics industry University of the West of England – Madge Dresser and links with new Museum of Bristol, Roger Leech at Southampton University - PhDs.	Post-Roman ceramics. Links with family history – local societies and volunteers. Study impact of grain and fertiliser imports.

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Theme B

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
I5: Use innovative techniques and methodologies to ask sophisticated questions of Post-Medieval to Modern artefacts and buildings.	AI LA EH	LA/CU to be made aware of the need for increased recording of sites. Strengthen links between DC archaeologists and conservation officers. Develop policies for local lists and characterisation of undesignated assets.	HER 21. EH urban strategy. Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	Development briefs to ensure buildings are understood when they are substantially altered or demolished. High potential for local community involvement artefact-based research topics for universities.

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6.3 Theme C: Environment and Dating – landscape change and methodologies

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
I6a: Dating Palaeolithic sites	AI EH	Dating of material already excavated from cave deposits (mainly in the Mendip Hills). EHRSP priority.	Significant reassessment and dating has already taken place on some Museum collections. AHOB (3) project continuing. AHOB 1 and 2 completed. RCFBP 2008 (Research and Conservation Framework for the British Palaeolithic. Chard Junction Quarry – Tony Brown, Southampton University.	New dating of remains from Banwell Bone Cave and Ebbor Gorge. AHOB phase 3, module 3 will include work at Gough's Cave and Kent's Cavern.
I6b: Dating Palaeolithic deposits.	AI	Dating in situ gravel and terrace deposits using new scientific techniques. EHRSP priority.	Axe valley laboratory comparison for the Palaeolithic ended in 2011.	Trial dating of isotope analysis and cosmogenic nuclides in Devon river gravels and terraces by PhD students.
I6c: Radiocarbon dating the Mesolithic.	AI	More scientific dates are required for the Mesolithic as too heavy a reliance on typological dating.	Some recent dating from Mendip caves but very few other examples (Exmoor?). Dating submerged Mesolithic forest deposits in Scilly (the EH-funded Lyonesse Project). Greylake Quarry skulls (Somerset County Council).	Sites for scientific dating need to be identified for University post-graduate study.
I6d: Radiocarbon dating the early Neolithic.	EH LA VS	Scientific dating required to determine when Neolithic monuments were being created.	Whittle, Healey and Bayliss project Gathering Time has dated many causewayed enclosures and long barrows. The Lyonesse Project is dating Neolithic peat deposits in Scilly.	Further dating of such monuments and any other early Neolithic structures (eg wooden trackways), monuments or settlements will help add to this work. This could be done on a local basis with dating advice from EH. ¹⁴ C dating and strontium analysis of the calf's tooth found peat deposits dated to c. 4000 BC in the Isles of Scilly is potentially very significant.
I6e: Radiocarbon dating museum collections for other key periods (especially the Early Medieval.)	AI LA VS	Scientific dating is key to the identification of Early Medieval/Post-Roman sites in the region. Much can be achieved by RC dating material that has been previously excavated.	Mick Aston has been collating the scientific dates for Somerset and obtaining new ones.	Aston project "Arthur to Alfred" is continuing in Somerset. Local Societies and LA could carry out similar work across the region.

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Theme C

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
I6f: Scientific dating for the Iron Age.	EH LA AI	Improved scientific dating is required for the Iron Age as existing dating is reliant on pottery typologies. Combining different scientific techniques may prove fruitful.	The Lyonesse Project is dating Iron Age peat deposits in Scilly. Very little archaeomagnetic dating has been carried out and very little Bayesian analysis of multiple ¹⁴ C dates.	LA curators should implement the use of a suite of scientific dating methods at suitable Iron Age DC sites. EH can provide advice. Combinations of scientific dating methods should be tried at suitable sites (for example archaeomagnetic, ¹⁴ C and dendrochronology at Glastonbury Lake Village).
I6g: Dendrochronological dating of Medieval buildings.	EH NT LA VS	More dendrochronological dating is required to understand the development of Medieval building in the region and to make the Medieval regional chronology more robust.	EH and the NT have been undertaking much work. Some local societies (eg Somerset Vernacular Building Group) have also commissioned several projects. Some dating of church bench ends has been carried out (in Cornwall). Devon dendrochronology project – farmhouse roofs.	EH should continue to prioritise dendrochronological dating on Listed Building consultations. NT to continue to carry out dating on their properties. Local Societies to continue to do dendrochronology as part of building recording projects (possibly as part of HLF funded projects). Pilot project to dendrochronologically date bench-ends in Somerset churches is planned. LA to ensure that dendrochronological assessment and analysis occurs in DC work on suitable listed and unlisted buildings.
I6h: Scientific dating in development control projects.	CA LA EH	Commercial archaeology provides the vast majority of scientific dating opportunities in the region. The need to answer research questions is now central to planning legislation in the NPPF.	Much scientific dating is already carried out. More is needed for key periods (eg Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and early Neolithic, Early Medieval).	LA curators need to ensure that new techniques are used (eg OSL, archaeomagnetic) where appropriate and to ensure that key research opportunities related to scientific dating (OSL being tried at Steart and Walpole sites in Somerset). EH to continue to offer dating training seminars. LA curators to determine if there is a method for collating scientific dating in the region undertaken through DC work.
I6i: Pottery dating by rehydroxylation and dating lipids.	EH AI	Pottery is the most ubiquitous dating material for most periods. Continue to support development of new scientific techniques to date the firing of the pottery by rehydroxylation, and dating of lipids contained within the fabric.	Dating of lipids has already been carried out on sites in the region (eg Sweet Track). More research is required on the dating of lipids in pottery and on the reliability of the new technique of dating ceramics by rehydroxylation.	Samples of pottery from the Sweet Track are being dated as part of a trial of the new rehydroxylation technique.

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Theme C

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
16j: Regional dendrochronology enhancement.	EH LA VS	More data is required to enhance the national prehistoric tree-ring chronology and the regional chronology. Other periods in the early Medieval and parts of the Roman period are also poorly represented.	EH and LA curators should ensure that all possible opportunities for analysing samples from these periods are taken up. Somerset Vernacular Building Research Group.	LA to ensure that dendrochronological assessment and analysis is carried out on all suitable sites. EH dendro team to be involved on suitable research projects. LA, EH and dendrochronology laboratories to determine how to monitor where analysis is taking place.
17: Improving standards and techniques of environmental data.	EH AEA	There is considerable variability in the quality and quantity of environmental data. There is also a suggestion that environmental work in DC projects too often stops at assessment level and full analysis is not carried out when it would be justified.	EH offer periodic training events. EH guidelines exist for many techniques.	EH to continue to offer periodic training events. EH and AEA to produce guidelines and standards where these are required. LA to ensure that full analysis takes place where justified and that work does not automatically stop at assessment level. EH, LA and AEA to determine if it is possible to produce an annual regional collation of environmental analysis reports.
18a: High resolution environmental analysis and dating for key periods.	AI LA	Very few high-resolution studies have been carried out for key periods (for example the Mesolithic–Neolithic or Post-Roman–Early Medieval transitions). Most periods would benefit from such work.	Very few high resolution projects have been carried out (eg Sweet Track southern terminal). The Lyonesse Project is carrying out high-res environmental analysis and scientific dating of Mesolithic to Early Medieval peat and sand deposits in Scilly.	MIRE project on Exmoor and Dartmoor may provide the opportunity for a high resolution study. Sweet Track work to be published.
18b: Exploration of the value of tufa deposits for environmental research.	AI EH LA	Tufa deposits exist in many places and can provide environmental data where other deposits (such as peat) are lacking.	Several studies have been carried out on Mendip by Paul Davies (Bath Spa University).	LA to promote assessment and analysis where suitable tufa deposits occur in DC work. EH and AI to provide advice.

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Theme C

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
I8c: Quantifying and dating peat deposits, and assessing peat wastage rates.	AI LA NE EH BGS	Wastage of peat deposits is significant for both archaeological and climate change reasons. More work is required to understand the extent and date of peat deposits and the rates of peat wastage.	Some work on peat wastage rates has been carried out on the Somerset lowland moors. The extent of peat deposits is moderately well known across the region but significant areas of ignorance exist. The Lyonesse Project has verified peat deposits in the EH peat data base for Scilly and is carrying out a programme of scientific dating.	The MIRE project for Exmoor and Dartmoor should be able to enhance knowledge on these issues in those two areas. Further research is planned on the lowland peat moors in Somerset (especially in the Axe valley and upper Parrett in Somerset).
I8d: Analysis of colluvial and alluvial sequences.	LA AI EH	Comparatively limited environmental work has been carried out on these types of deposit compared to peats. Need to link in with geologists and earth scientists.	Some DC projects have undertaken such work, especially around the Severn Estuary.	LA to ensure appropriate analysis occurs on suitable DC sites (such as Steart and Walpole in Somerset).
I8e: Analysis of soils.	EH LA	Varied techniques (such as geochemical and DNA analysis) are now available to study soils, but are rarely used in commercial archaeology.	RDA project at Gwithian in Cornwall.	EH to ensure that the possibilities for analysis are included in periodic training events. LA and CA to use the techniques in DC projects.
I9a: Early prehistoric bone analysis using new techniques.	EH AI	Stable isotope analysis and laser ablation could be used on early prehistoric human and animal bone assemblages from early prehistoric sites.	Little analysis in the region to date.	Stable isotope analysis and laser ablation from bone from Kent's cavern, Badger Hole and Gough's Cave. Use new techniques on the calf's tooth found in peat deposits dated to c. 4000 BC in the Isles of Scilly.
I9b: Identifying changes in Medieval fishing.	LA EH Mus AI	Analysis of fish bone collections could be carried out to determine the changing character of fishing in the Medieval period and when a change to deep sea fishing occurred.	Existing work has been carried out on a national basis but few suitable assemblages from the SW have been identified	LA and EH and Mus to try and identify existing fish bone collections from the region that could be used.

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Theme C

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
19c: The domestication of wild species.	AEA EH AI	Analysis of the large body of data derived from DC projects is needed to help answer key research questions about the date and character of the domestication of wild animals in the region and how their character changed over time (such as the changing size of cattle and red deer).	Very few works of synthesis have been carried out. Very little use of new techniques such as isotopic studies (eg Wessex iron Age hillfort project and horses). Review of Animal Remains from the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age of Southern Britain (Dale Serjeantson).	Works of synthesis are required on bone collections from the region, ideally associated with isotope and DNA studies. ¹⁴ C dating and strontium, analysis of the calf's tooth found peat deposits dated to c. 4000 BC in the Isles of Scilly is potentially very important.
20: Improve understanding of wild and cultivated plants.		Partially referred to in aims 21 and 27.		
21a: Development of field systems and intensification of agriculture in the Bronze and Iron Ages.	AI CA LA	There is some evidence for the development of field systems in the Bronze Age but information is very patchy.	Much evidence exists in grey literature but has not been collated.	Collation of all the regional data on the development of field systems and identification of sites for further dating. (Post-graduate?) study comparing differing data for changing agriculture in later prehistory (such as pollen, plant macrofossils, animal bone, evidence of fields etc). LA to include the environmental evidence for intensification of agriculture in later prehistory in DC work on suitable sites.
21b: Medieval and Post-Medieval agriculture.	AI LA	Very little environmental evidence for Medieval and later agriculture has been studied. Documentary evidence suggests significant changes over these periods. Many extensive marginal areas (floodplains, saltmarshes, uplands) were brought into cultivation.	Some limited pollen work on late peat deposits on the Blackdown Hills and Exmoor. Historic landscape characterisation has mapped the extent of Medieval and later agriculture (such as reclamations, former open fields etc) but has seldom been linked to environmental evidence.	LA to identify the need for such research on suitable DC work sites. MIRE project on Exmoor may include some analysis on Medieval deposits. Combine environmental, landscape character and documentary data in case studies of Medieval agriculture such as wetland reclamation, distribution and date of ridge and furrow across the region.
22: Insect studies	LA	Research priorities have been established for insect studies but analysis has been very patchy in the South West.	Some analysis from peat deposits (for example the Somerset moors) and a few from urban areas.	LA need to emphasise the research potential of insects wherever they survive on archaeological sites and include assessment in NPPF work.

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Theme C

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
23a: Sea level change	AI EH LA EA NE CBA	The region is known to have experienced dramatic changes to its coastline during the Holocene that had very significant effects on human populations. There are still numerous gaps in knowledge. Considerable work has taken place in the Scilly Isles and in other isolated spots. EHRSP priority.	RCZA has summarised present information for the Severn. Martin Bell's work on submerged forests is ongoing. Roland Gehrel is working on Holocene changes including some South-West information. Glenn Haveloc PhD on Taw estuary. Some ongoing studies in Somerset by Tony Brown and Keith Wilkinson. The Lyonesse Project in Scilly. Winchester University, Devon County Council, East Devon District Council and NE geoarchaeological work in lower Axe Valley.	New data should be generated by large development projects on the coastline. South West region seminar/conference on Holocene coastal change (possibly with commercial sponsorship). Community coastal monitoring project in the Isles of Scilly.
23b: Holocene climate change.	AI LA NE EH	Various things can be studied as proxy climate records (such as chironomidae) – the South West has no such record and this needs further work.	Some isolated work on chironomids and insects exists in the region. The Lyonesse Project in Scilly.	MIRE project on Exmoor may support work on establishing a proxy climate record using varied analysis of peat deposits. Curators should be aware of importance of climate change as a research topic in DC work.
24: Improve understanding of Pleistocene vertebrate fauna.	AI	Known assemblages exist in caves on Mendip and in Devon and in isolated deposits such as Burtle Beds and require further study.	Some reassessment of the Mendip evidence has taken place. Kent's cavern excavation (Durham and Sheffield universities).	Reanalysis and publication of the Honiton (Ipswichian) site. Analysis and dating of extant Burtle bed deposits (post-graduate study?). Possible excavations at Worth's Bone cave, Plymouth. Prioritisation of samples for dating species extinctions (A Currant, Natural History Museum).
25a: Improve understanding of Late Upper Palaeolithic (LUP) landscape.	AI EH	LUP material in the South West is commonly just single artefact finds. LUP open air sites (as known on the Continent) need to be identified. EHRSP priority.	Limited work in quarries.	Reassessment of most significant LUP sites (such as Doniford).

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Theme C

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
25b: Improve understanding of Mesolithic landscape.	AI Mus VS EH	How was the Mesolithic landscape altered by natural and anthropogenic factors. How was the landscape changed during the later Meso/early Neolithic period. EHRSP priority.	Martin Bell is continuing to study the coastal Mesolithic landscape. Sheffield University have dated early charred grain (nationally). The Lyonesse Project in Scilly.	¹⁴ C dating of charred domesticated grain and domesticated animals in existing museum collections thought to be of early Neolithic date.
26: Post-Roman to Early Medieval landscape changes.	AI LA	Pollen studies could be used to suggest if significant landscape changes took place in the period, for example if there was significant woodland regeneration. Some coastal reclamation is known to have taken place and that process requires more study.	Very few high-resolution pollen studies have been carried out on suitable deposits.	MIRE project may provide a high resolution pollen study from this period. Steart realignment, Somerset, may provide an opportunity to study Early Medieval coastal reclamation.
27: Origin of free-threshing wheat (AD 350–1000).	LA CA AEA EH	Establish the date of change from hulled to free-threshing wheat.	Little from the key period.	LA and CA to be aware of the importance of any grain deposits from this period in DC work. An assessment of possible suitable deposits from previous excavations could be done to prioritise ones for dating.

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6.4 Theme D: Social Identity and Change – transition, identity, territories, conflict, religion and death

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
49a: Improve knowledge of Neolithic and Early Bronze Age social life.	AI EH NT VS	Large scale landscape projects, especially Dorset. Projects such as Maiden Castle. Stanton Drew, Avebury and Priddy Circles need further work and scientific support. Targeted work on petrology of axes and revision of axe chronology.	Stonehenge Riverside Project. Stonehenge environs. Stonehenge Visitor Centre. South Somerset Archaeological Research Group. Mendip (Jodie Lewis, Worcester University). Mardon Henge (EH). EH Prehistoric draft strategy.	Pottery studies and isotope analysis. Landscape projects to be encouraged. Local groups to be supported to publish.
49b: Early Bronze-Age graves.	AI LA	Multiple graves	BUFAU – Ann Woodward museum based – Leverhume. Graves research project. Islands in a Common Sea Project ¹⁴ C dating of cremated bone from entrance graves and cists in the Isles of Scilly (Jacqui Mulville, Cardiff University and Katharine Sawyer).	
54a, 54b: Widen understanding of monumentality in the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age.	AI EH	Dating and mapping of prehistoric landscapes such as Exmoor stone rows and Salisbury Plain. EHRSP priority.	Leicester University research on “miniliths”. EH Prehistoric draft strategy.	OSL dating.
54c: Single monument categories	AI NT EH	Use improved scientific dating techniques alongside modern field survey – GPS, laser, remote sensing for accurate survey of monuments. EHRSP priority.	EH – redating early Neolithic causewayed enclosures; Cardiff University, A Whittle enclosures. Keyhole excavation and ground scanning technology. T Darvill, Bournemouth University Carn Brea.	Bayesian statistics.

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Theme D

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
57a: Widen understanding of Neolithic and Early Bronze Age mortuary practice.	LA AI Mus	LA to be aware of the need for dating to assist with landscape scale research. New skeletal studies required. Review of regional chronology.	EH Prehistoric draft strategy. Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework. Islands in a Common Sea Project ¹⁴ C dating of cremated bone from entrance graves and cists in the Isles of Scilly (Jacqui Mulville, Cardiff University and Katharine Sawyer). Cornwall and Devon prehistoric ceramic sequence (Henrietta Quinnell).	Reanalysis of museum collections from some of key sites; use of graduate and forensic students for training and research. Assess regional collections and target for further analysis. Isotope analysis –a targeted programme of research where good bone samples survive.
57d	LA CA Mus	Provision for ¹⁴ C dating in DC excavations. Training for volunteers and students.	Cornwall Archaeological Society “bone days”.	¹⁴ C dating. Analysis of redeposited cremated bone.
61: Address the lack of knowledge of Neolithic and Early Bronze Age conflict.	AI EH LA	Research on museum collections and archives for weapons, daggers, skeletal remains can be coordinated and provide important overview of what we already know. Key hillfort sites to be examined when DC opportunities arise such as at Ham Hill, Somerset.	EH Prehistoric draft strategy.	Analysis of skeletal remains. Dating/isotopes/DNA. Wear on weapons, metalwork on hillforts. Palaeopathology reports.
50: Improve understanding of the effects of the Roman army on the local population.	AI VS	Revision of distribution map of 1st-century forts. Evidence such as plant remains and environmental evidence is needed to help to define the impact of Roman army on local Iron-Age settlements.	Hod Hill – D Stewart (E Dorset, Bournemouth University). CHERT Calstock Fort, Cornwall (Exeter University, Community, AONB)	Scientific back up for local groups.
55 (59): Improve understanding of late-Roman religion.	NT AI LA	Focus needed on improved scientific techniques and co-ordination. Remapping of known sites in the region.	NT is land-mapping sites and linking research opportunities with sampling work. Poundbury/Tolpuddle. Roman cemetery Chedworth study, Mike Fulford (NT)	Isotope analysis and moisture, rain, oxygen. DNA. XRF.

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Theme D

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
58 (55): Widen our understanding of Roman burial traditions.	LA EH AI	Improved and focused scientific research, especially dating on targeted sites and on chance finds from developer led projects. Collaboration and dissemination of site evidence. Research using new techniques on existing collections.	Harlyn Bay – Iron-Age burials sand dune site 1905 dig project.	Isotope analysis. DNA
51: Utilise the high-quality evidence from the region to investigate Early Medieval ethnicities and identities.	NT AI LA	Artefactual and scientific techniques. Cist burials in Devon and Cornwall. Regional/local variations.	SANHS/Aston “Somerset in the Ages of Arthur and Alfred”. Hadown Hill – coast site being looked at by the NT. MPRG research strategy.	Geophysical survey. Isotope analysis.
51b: Petrology and pottery studies	AI VS	Cornish sites, Medieval pottery, Cornish pasties.	EH – Andy Payne Ham Hill. Niall Sharples – Ham Hill	
62: Examine the evidence for Early Medieval defence and conflict sites across the region.	AI EH NT LA	A programme of fieldwork to assess hillfort re-occupation. Link to management plans and conservation of monuments – co-ordination of organisations. Increased use of scientific dating techniques.		Bodies in ditches. Dating from hillforts.
59: Utilise the potential for good evidence from Early Medieval burials to address research questions.	AI EH	Instigate programme of field investigation of sites that have past records of bone survival in otherwise poor-preservation areas. Research on existing collections.		

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Theme D

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
60: Use the excavation of Medieval burials to study wider population and social issues.	AI EH LA DAC Mus	Co-ordinate/map piecemeal work across region. Research on existing collections. National standards and guidance. Seminar to address dealing with discoveries brought about by the redevelopment of historic cemetery sites.	EH guidance.	Routine analysis of bone assemblages. Isotope analysis.
52: Use archaeological evidence to better understand identities, such as Cornish, through time.	AI VS	Identity and link to the Atlantic. Documentary work – medieval celts and the west. Assessment of relevant museum collections.	Oliver Padel – C6–8 kingdom. Henrietta Quinnell – Cornish Bronze-Age pottery.	Linguistics megaliths and western seaboard. DNA. Pottery studies.
56: Utilise surviving buildings and records to understand liturgical and social change in Post-Medieval to Modern places of worship and cemeteries.	HLF VS AI DAC CCT	There is huge potential for local recording of churches, chapels and graveyards to established methodologies to allow synthesis of this information. Local Heritage Projects. Training for local groups.	HER 21. NADFAS. EH urban strategy.	Church interiors. Documentary research
64: Improve understanding of the less-researched areas of Post-Medieval to Modern defence and warfare.	AI VS PAS AIA LA NT EH	Voluntary sector well placed to identify and research the less popular areas of 20th-century and earlier defensive activity.	HER 21. EH urban strategy.	Metal detector surveys. Data collection such as the Defence of Britain project. Local Lists and recording information. Links to history/oral history. Survival and condition surveys. Documentary research.

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6.5 Theme E: Economies and Subsistence – trade, subsistence, agriculture, transport and communication

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
39: Understand better the relationships of Neolithic and Bronze Age people to plants.	EH AI LA	Raise awareness amongst LA archaeologists and others of research needs. Academic institutions to establish research programme.	EH Prehistoric draft strategy. Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	Scientific dating and environmental analysis.
40: Improve understanding of agricultural intensification and diversification in later prehistory.	EH AI LA	Raise awareness amongst LA archaeologists and others of research needs. Academic institutions to establish research programme.	EH Prehistoric draft strategy. Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	Scientific dating and environmental analysis.
41: Assess the impact of the Roman empire on farming.	EH LA VS	Analyse existing resources, including previous excavations, museum collections, unpublished reports.	EH Roman research strategy.	Scientific dating and environmental analysis.
46: Assess the information for Roman ports.	EH AI LA	Extend the programme of coastal zone assessments to complete the region and ensure that potential, more inland, locations are covered.	RCZA.	Climate change. Dissertation study.
47: Assess the archaeological potential for studying Medieval economy, trade, technology and production.	AI VS	Regional or local works of synthesis. Museum collections.	Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework	Dissertation
42: Improve understanding of medieval farming.	VS LA EH NE	Focus on water meadows and water management.	NHPP – water management	Medieval weirs and mills.
43: Address the lack of knowledge of Post-Medieval to Modern food production.	LA VS	NPPF building recording. Encourage research by all sectors into this topic.	EH urban research strategy. Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	Historic farmsteads. C20 food production.
48 (53): Widen understanding of Post-Medieval and Modern transport and communications.	AI LA AIA VS EH	Survey of associated structures on local/regional basis. National overview by EH.	Brunel Institute – research facilities for maritime studies. EH urban strategy. Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	Support local groups – eg for tram and bus depots, regional study of civilian airfields and manufacturing sites.

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6.6 Theme F: Widening Access and Interpretation – engaging the public, accessing resources.

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
2: Encourage works of synthesis within and across periods, settlements, monuments and areas.	AI VS EH CBA NT	Academic Institutions to give a higher priority to research based on synthesis and ensure that the results are published and/or deposited with HER. Encourage collaboration between LAs and AIs. Support voluntary sector to produce works of synthesis by reference to models.	Sea Mills project. West Penwith project (EH/NT). Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	
4: Encourage wide involvement in archaeological research and present modern accounts of the past to the public.	Mus EH VS AI LA	Publication and dissemination through all available media. Encourage networks to involve the public, such as “friends” organisations or community archaeology groups. Museums to ensure that recent developments are incorporated, particularly in museums without archaeological specialists	HER 21. Hillsboro hillfort, Ilfracombe, geophysics. 25 local volunteers HLF bid to AONB and North Devon District Council. Community archaeology groups in the Isles of Scilly and on the Lizard peninsula, Cornwall.	Local training opportunities. Community history projects. Key into local government programmes and cross curricular school activities. Updated web pages.
6: Accurate reporting and identification of metal-detected items in ways that benefit archaeological research.	EH PAS Mus LA VS	A review of the archaeological benefits of the PAS. Appropriate resourcing of archaeological responses to PAS finds.	PAS	Data exchange between museums, HERs and PAS.

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Theme F

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
I1: Improve knowledge and study of under-utilised museum collections.	Mus EH VS	Improved training for museum staff and volunteers in archaeological materials. Digitisation – improving access to collections via internet. Prepare and implement a programme for the study and publication of the North Devon pottery industry.	Inter-university lipid analysis – Cornwall, Bristol, Cardiff. Devon virtual museum – HLF bid. Exeter PhD on Post-Medieval pottery resources in local museums.	
I2: Improve access to, and synthesis of, “Grey Literature”.	LA EH AI CA VS NT	All archaeological fieldwork reported to HER and written reports deposited in an accessible form. Address issue of university grey literature – regional procedural review.	90% of Bristol's grey literature should be online within five years.	Support works of synthesis.
I3: Identify and bring to publication key unpublished excavations,	EH HLF Mus LA NT	HERs to identify unpublished fieldwork and the location of archives should be established and assessed for their potential to answer research questions. Funding should be made available for publication of key sites.	Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	Make universities aware of opportunities for project work/PhD topics.
37: Increase our knowledge of maritime archaeological sites.	EH MMO PAS LA	Enhance the maritime components of HERs. Encourage reporting by divers of wreck and other sea-bed material. ALSF finishing – what next?	RCZA EH Maritime research strategy. The Lyonesse Project. Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	Data collection from sources such as Hydrographic office.
Establish regional seminar and sub regional seminars	LA CBA	Maintain impetus of strategy via website and regional bodies organising annual seminars.	CBA regional conference on Mesolithic.	

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6.7 Theme G: Funding and Resources

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
Applicable to all.				

6.8 Theme H: Methodologies – developing new approaches and techniques

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
I: Extend the use of proven methodologies for site location and interpretation, and encourage the development of new techniques.	AI EH LA VS HLF	Academic institutions should consider the research aims when developing projects. HERs together with the NMR should agree standards for what should be recorded in a HER. HERs that do not meet these standards should be funded to achieve them. Local societies should consider the potential for detailed investigation of particular areas that could lead to “Shapwick”-style projects across the region.	Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	
3: Address apparent “gaps” in our knowledge and assess whether they are meaningful or simply biases in current knowledge.	AI LA VS	Academic institutions to give a higher priority to research to assess the nature and “reality” of these gaps. LA to influence the scope required of developer-funded archaeology. Support for voluntary sector grants.	Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	
5: Study of artefact scatters using innovative methodologies both in the field and on previous collections.	AI VS Mus EH PAS	Encourage a new phase of research into artefact scatter methodologies. Well-trained volunteers to identify and reassess old and new collections. Assess museum grey collections – quantity and quality.	PAS A project is currently being developed (Clive Bond), to enable this resource to be better understood and integrated into existing heritage protection systems. Part of the project design is a regional pilot study in the South-West region.	Training of volunteers.

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Theme H

Research Aim	Who	Research Direction	Current Research Examples	Suggested Delivery Examples
7: Increase and develop the recording of the built environment and improve the recording of archaeological collections and other information sources. 8: Utilise the survival of Medieval and later artefacts and buildings to their full extent. 9: Prioritise a recording strategy for buildings related to Post-Medieval to Modern social provision.	EH LA Mus VS	Develop policies for the recording of buildings during development that will help to address identified research topics (NPPF). English Heritage to review and develop techniques of landscape and townscape characterisation – to feed into local development frameworks. Museums, archives and HERs to adopt best-practice recording methods. CBA regional conference for Medieval and Post-Medieval artefacts and buildings.	EH Urban research strategy. Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	HLC guidance for local societies (EH).
Increase communication between academic sector and local authority archaeologists.	AI LA	Set up and encourage knowledge-transfer projects between Universities and Local Authorities.	OASIS. The Lyonesse Project. Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Research Framework.	

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