

NEWSLETTER



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Code of Practice for Seabed Developers

The new *Code of Practice for Seabed Developers* was officially launched by Viscount Astor, Under Secretary of State at the Department of National Heritage, on 23 January 1995. The code sets out recommended procedures for consultation between seabed developers and archaeologists.

The code was drawn up by the Joint Nautical Archaeology Policy Committee (JNAPC) in response to the growing threat to underwater archaeological remains posed by activities such as mineral extraction. Members of the British Marine Aggregates Producers Association have already agreed to co-operate with the JNAPC in its recommendations, which are backed by the Department of National Heritage, even though they do not have statutory force.

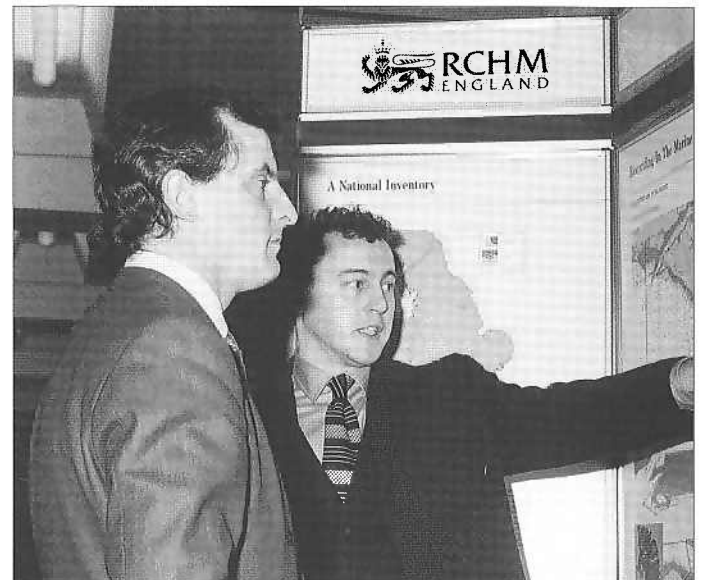
Recommendations

One key recommendation is that developers should report any discoveries they make which have a potential archaeological value. Another requires developers to

consult the appropriate National Monuments Record (for England, Wales or Scotland) to establish whether their work will affect known archaeological remains; if so, the developer and the licensing authority are encouraged to 'give due consideration to the Government's desire to see archaeological sites physically preserved and recorded'.

England's maritime inventory

The Commission began compiling England's national inventory of marine sites in the autumn of 1992 and the first phase of the marine record is nearing completion. A detailed



report on the work undertaken is due for publication by the Commission in October 1995, and the existing record is already available for consultation.

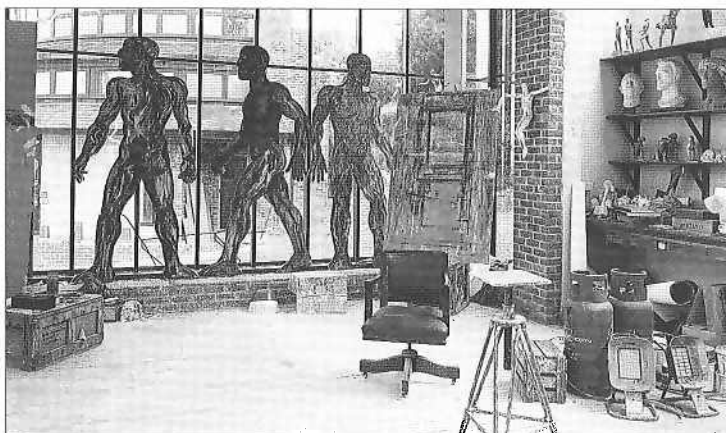
Ben Ferrari, who is responsible for the Maritime section of

Ben Ferrari, of the NMR Maritime section, explains the Royal Commission's work in compiling the national inventory of maritime sites to Viscount Astor, Under Secretary of State at the Department of National Heritage.

the National Monuments Record (NMR), warmly welcomed the new Code of Practice: 'The aim is to give underwater archaeology the same status and protection as terrestrial sites,' he said, 'and this code provides a framework within which the different needs of seabed developers and maritime archaeologists can be reconciled'.

Further information:
Ben Ferrari, tel 01793 414713.
Copies of the code are available free from the NMR, National Monuments Record Centre, Kemble Drive, Swindon SN2 2GZ.

Artists' studios are the subject of a new exhibition of work by one of the RCHME's field photographers, which can be seen at Leighton House Art Gallery and Museum, in London, from 21 March to 11 April 1995 (see inside for full details). This picture shows the Dorset studio of the late Dame Elisabeth Frink (1930-94), renowned for her bronze sculptures of horses and riders, and of male nudes.



BB94/8875

Space to Create – contemporary artists' studios



Ken Howard's studio in Kensington and Chelsea shows the mirror that the artist uses for working out complex perspectives.

Leighton House, the exotic home of the Victorian painter and sculptor, Frederic Leighton, is the venue for a new RCHME photographic exhibition featuring the studios of twenty well-known contemporary artists, including Howard Hodgkin, Bridget Riley and Eduardo Paolozzi. The photographs are intended as a factual record of the artists' working environment, showing what kind of space they have chosen as the context for their creativity, and how they use that space in the course of their work. Photographer Terry Buchanan describes them as 'fly on the wall pictures, with nothing posed or rearranged to create photographic "art" – a visual inventory which should be of value to art historians now, and in the future'.

Further information: Terry Buchanan, tel 01793 414100.

Space to Create is at Leighton House Art Gallery and Museum, 12 Holland Park Road, London W14 8LZ, from 21 March to 11 April 1995. Open: Monday to Saturday, 11.00 am to 5.30 pm; admission free.

Allen Jones's loft-style studio occupies a converted hat factory near Smithfield in the City of London.



Port Sunlight

Photographs of Port Sunlight, taken by Bedford Lemere from the late 1880s onwards and showing the model village in its newly built state, can now be compared with photographs taken by a Commission survey team earlier this year, documenting the changes that have taken place over the last 100 years.

Port Sunlight was built by the first Lord

Leverhulme (1851–1925) around a series of tidal inlets on the Wirral Peninsula with greenery, curving roads and tree-filled landscapes as an integral part of the plan. Leverhulme imposed a rigid aesthetic on the community, even dictating the design of the tenants' front gardens to ensure a uniform appearance. The Commission's study has concentrated on housing outside the core conservation area, identifying housing that once belonged to the Leverhulme estate, and tracking down architects and building dates.

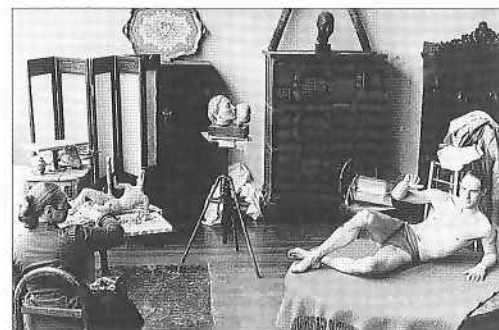
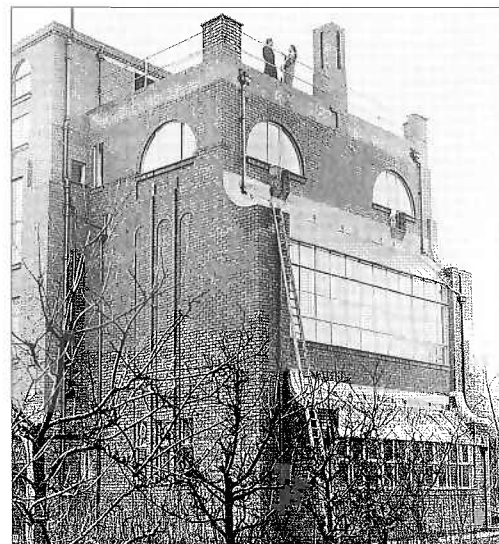


Dorich House, Kingston Vale

The executors of Dora Gordine (1906–91) have donated a collection of photographs to the NMR showing the unusual home and studio of the Russian-born sculptress, whose works include the RIBA's bust of H S Goodhart Rendel, the bronze relief of working men made for the Esso refinery at Milford Haven and the *Mother and Child* group at the Royal Marsden Hospital in Surrey. Largely self-taught, Gordine also designed and built her own house in the 1930s in an orchard on the fringes of Richmond Park. Gordine described the house as having 'high rooms, colour-washed apricot yellow, with windows tall and vaulted like a church'. Kingston University has now acquired the house, with its sculpture collection, and plans to open it to the public, as well as using the studio for educational purposes. Apart from Gordine's own pictures, the Commission has also made a full photographic survey of the house and its contents.

Further information: Ian Leith, tel 01793 414730.

The exterior of Dorich House, with Dora Gordine and her husband Richard Hare on the flat roof; the apsidal-ended living room, used as a gallery for Gordine's sculpture; and the adjacent studio with Dora Gordine at work.





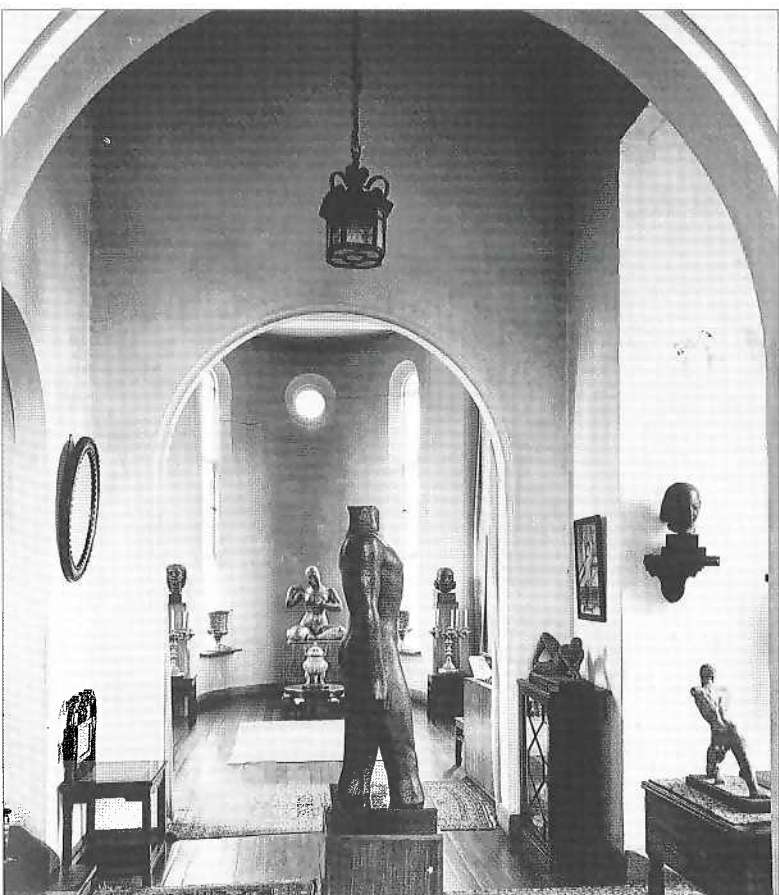
For those interested in workers' housing, the NMR now has a comprehensive collection of records covering all types of accommodation, from lowly back-to-back terraces built for miners and railway workers to de luxe garden-suburb developments, such as Port Sunlight.

The picture to the left shows a group of houses at Lower Road, Port Sunlight, designed around 1906 by Sir Charles Reilly. They take the form of a shallow crescent, fronted by a veranda, with a steep

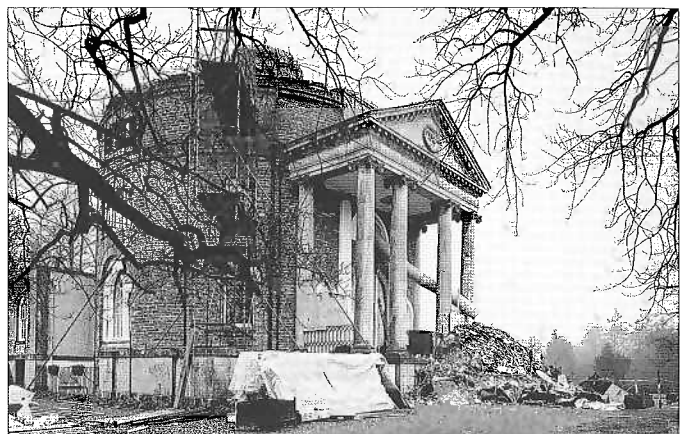
roof pierced by round-headed dormer windows.

The photograph above comes from the NMR's Bedford Lemere collection and was taken in 1896. It shows the now-demolished Shakespeare Cottages at Port Sunlight, designed by Edmund Kirby as a reproduction of Shakespeare's birthplace.

Further information:
James Darwin,
tel 01904 784411.



Belle Isle to be restored



AA94/5586

Wordsworth described it as 'a vulgar pepperpot', but Belle Isle, the 1774 mansion designed by John Plaw that sits on an island in the middle of Windermere, is now seen as an outstanding monument to late 18th-century picturesque taste. After fire destroyed the roof and much of the interior woodwork and plasterwork on Christmas Eve 1994, the Lake District National Park authorities asked the Commission to record the surviving structure and the remains of its decorative scheme. Now the building, which has

been open to the public in recent years, will be the subject of an extensive restoration scheme. As with similar fires at Uppark, Hampton Court and Windsor Castle, records compiled by the Commission, supplemented by *Country Life* photographs taken in the 1940s (now in the National Monuments Record) will be used as a primary source for restoring the building to its original appearance.

Further information:
Adam Menuge,
tel 01904 784411.

Liverpool Royal Institution



BB90/3641

Working in collaboration with the Georgian Group, the Commission is making a detailed record of one of the best surviving merchant houses in Liverpool. The palatial house in Colquitt Street was built around 1790 for Thomas Parr with offices in the side wings and warehousing to the rear. In 1817 it was converted to provide premises for the Royal Institution, established to promote literature, science and the arts. The Grade II listed building, which is currently the

subject of conversion proposals, was given neo-Grecian plasterwork and fireplaces around 1830 when it was altered to house casts of the Elgin Marbles, presented by George IV. The survey team has been greatly assisted in its work by the Georgian Group's northern case worker, Jane Harding, who is currently involved in an architectural survey of the whole of Georgian Liverpool.

Further information: James Darwin, tel 01904 784411.

Salisbury Plain Training Area



NMRC, 15084/71

Some of England's best-preserved early landscapes lie within the Salisbury Plain Training Area where, by contrast with the intensively cultivated fields all around, the chalk grassland has not been ploughed for hundreds of years. A new programme of mapping work, begun by the Commission in November 1994 and planned for completion in June 1995, is using air photography to plot the area's archaeological features so that appropriate management strategies can be developed. The survey will take in army practice trenches and military installations, some of which date back to 1897, as well as

The Commission's aerial survey of Thornham Down, in the training area north of Salisbury, has resulted in a more detailed understanding of this well-preserved prehistoric and Romano-British farming complex.

prehistoric and Romano-British sites. Already about 20 per cent more information about these archaeological landscapes is being added to the maps and records already available within the National Monuments Record.

Further information: Bob Bewley (APU), tel 01793 414757, or Mark Corney (field archaeology), tel 01793 414846.

• New Publications • New Publications •

Thesaurus of Monument Types

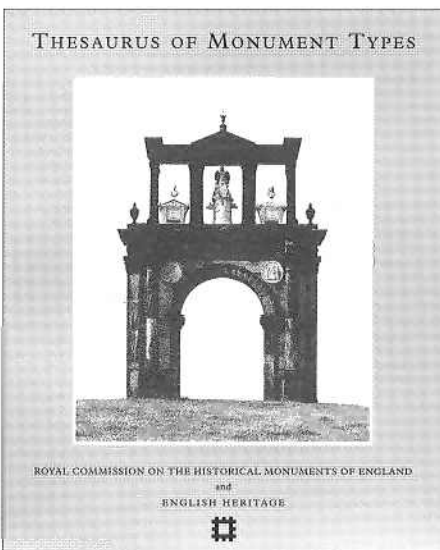
The Commission and English Heritage have just published their new *Thesaurus of Monument Types*, which, for the first time, combines archaeological and architectural terms in one volume, presenting a standard terminology for describing monument types. The compilation of the Thesaurus has been directed by a working party made up of representatives from English Heritage, the Association of County Archaeological Officers and the British Archaeological Bibliography, as well as the RCHME.

Retrieval and exchange

The authors of the Thesaurus emphasise that this is not a definitive document, but an evolving one. Even so, the purpose of the work is to encourage consistency of terminology amongst the compilers of national and local monuments records, so that it is easier to search for, retrieve and exchange information between different record systems.

The need for national (as well as international) standards has intensified with the onset of large computerised databases, potentially offering new ways of sorting and analysing data. With this in mind, the Thesaurus, which is currently available only in book form, is now being developed as a software package for computer users.

Further information:
Neil Beagrie, tel 01793 414739 or
Diana Hale, tel 01793 414648.



**Thesaurus of Monument Types:
A Standard for Use in Archaeological
and Architectural Records •
ISBN 1 873592 20 5 • £20 •
published 23 March 1995 • 360pp •
updatable pages supplied in an A4
loose-leaf ring binder • published by
the RCHME and English Heritage**

Available from RCHME Publications,
NMRC, Kemble Drive, Swindon
SN2 2GZ; tel 01793 414618,
fax 01793 414769.

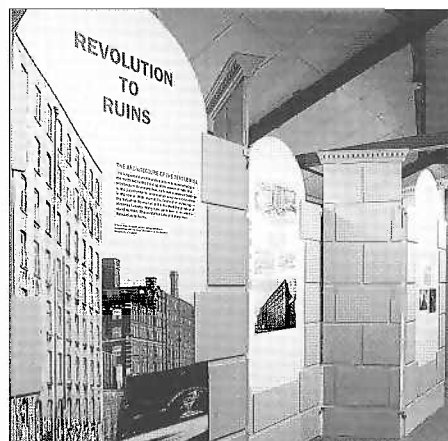
• Exhibition Diary •

Several exhibitions featuring the work of the Commission are currently on tour and may be on show at a venue near you.

The British Bronze Age, a contribution to the Council of Europe's 'European Plan for Archaeology', summarises current thinking and recent research and is at the National Museum of Wales, Cathays Park, Cardiff, until 31 May 1995; it then moves to the Sheffield City Museum, Weston Park, from 1 June to 15 October 1995.

Images of Industry: Coal, featuring the history and buildings of the English coal industry, is on display at the Salford Mining Museum, Buile Hill Park, Salford, between 1 May and 30 June 1995. From 14 September to 13 November 1995 it will be at the Museum and Art Gallery, The Strand, Derby.

The Royal Gunpowder Factory, Waltham Abbey, one of the country's most remarkable industrial and defence heritage sites, is the subject of a display at the Thurrock Local History Museum, Central Complex, Orsett Road, East Tilbury, Essex, from mid May to mid July 1995.



AA94/5618

Revolution to Ruins, tracing the architecture of English textile mills, is to be seen at Helmshore Textile Museums, Holcombe Road, Helmshore, Rossendale, Lancs (29 March–18 May 1995), and Queen Street Mill Museum, Harle Syke, Burnley, Lancs (19 May–3 July 1995). If you are interested in hiring this exhibition, please contact Alan Robinson at North West Museums Service (tel 01254 670211).

To order copies of the photographs featured in the *Newsletter* please contact Diane Kendall on 01793 414636, quoting the reference number printed alongside each picture.

The *Newsletter* is distributed three times a year, free of charge. Enquiries should be addressed to Kate Owen, RCHME Publications, NMRC, Kemble Drive, Swindon SN2 2GZ.

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