Eureka! A children's magazine
Published by The Museums Association
Price 99p

The thinking behind this magazine for children is "to arouse their interest and involvement in finding out for themselves" from contents that are "an interactive blend of education and entertainment presented in a totally relevant way for children to enjoy." The totally relevant way is a combination of comic strip, facts, features, jokes and letters, all rather self-conscious but mercifully unperturbing. The comic strips are truly awful, and are peppered by a tediously bright little girl called Archie, "the boy who thrives for knowledge," and his dog Herbie the Collectible along with other such luminaries as Doctor Watts-Wat and the robot Watt, and, heaven help us, Eco-man and Manny. But then I hated Denis the Menace, too.

It is certainly a well produced magazine, in full colour and with no wasted space on its 32 pages. It's a bold move by the Museums Association and is a step in the right direction towards debunking the myth that museums are only for those tired of life. I hope it succeeds. For a less world-weary view I got the heavy gang to read it, and here is what they say. Robert, aged 13, "There's a lot of life and action in it, and I liked the factual bits. It would be better with more puzzles and things to make and do. Needs more jokes. It's good but I wouldn't pay 99p for it, perhaps about 60p." Hannah aged 10, "It's alright. It could do with less comic strips and more things like crosswords and things to make. There should be a recommended age on the cover because it looks babyish but inside it a little person would never be able to understand it. 99p! How much??" Liz Hollinshead, Regional Education Officer, Midlands, English Heritage.

Eureka! Parts of it I found very interesting and parts of it I did not. I like Hector. He is funny. I would like it if there were more History stories about people because I am not very interested in telephones and cars. But it might make other people go to the museums. My mum would like to go to Greenwich to see the Mutiny on the Bounty exhibition.

by Eleanor Ferguson
Age 8

Dr Watts-Watt & Little Watsit

Dr Watts-Watt is a little boy. He has a pet pig called Watsit. He is in the magazine every week. He is very clever and helps Dr Watts-Watt.

I think that the most important thing about 'Eureka' is that it's attractive, eye catching and fun to read and at the same time, people are learning things.

As a lot of it is in comic form it's good for younger people who don't want to read straight facts. Also, competitions and offers are interesting which adds to the magazine a lot.

The magazine also has an advantage in the way that the facts and information are written. When different museums are talked about, they are made to sound interesting, and it gets people's interest up and they want to go there.

Another thing I like about 'Eureka' is Archie and his dog. They act as a guide through the magazine and by the end of it you feel that you know them quite well!

Caroline Foster
Age 14

The magazine was quite good. The stories in the magazine were very good. I don't like history very much but this magazine made it seem very interesting.

Laura Cork
Age 9

English Heritage
Educational Resources

CATALOGUE

UPDATE AUTUMN 1989

HANDBOOKS

Cleeve and Muchelney Abbeys
A Handbook for Teachers
Sue Watling
These Somerset abbeys, Cistercian Cleeve and Benedictine Muchelney, are two of the country's most beautiful monasteries. This handbook has been specially prepared to help teachers make the most of educational visits, containing ideas for preparation, on-site and follow up work. It contains material aimed mainly at the 9-13 age range and applicable across the whole curriculum. The information sheets, with integrating drawings based on contemporary sources, are written directly for the pupils and include lively documentary evidence. The Activity Sheets are designed for site use. A further section is full of practical suggestions for classwork.

48 pages, card covers, A4 size, 1989
ISBN 1 85074 238 3
Price £3.50

Tilbury Fort
A Handbook for Teachers
Frankie Dale
Tilbury Fort is the best preserved and in many ways the finest surviving example of late seventeenth century military architecture in England. This handbook is intended as an aid to teachers bringing groups of children to Tilbury Fort. It is aimed at the upper junior and lower secondary age range although with some adaptation, the information and ideas may be used by other age groups including pupils undertaking GCSE. Seven activity sheets for on-site work are included in this handbook.

36 pages, card covers, A4 size
Price £2.20 ISBN 1 85074 216 2

EDUCATION ON SITE

Cleeve and Muchelney Abbeys

A Teacher's Guide to Using Portraits
Susan Morris
Portraits are the gossip columns, newshawks, party political broadcasts and family albums of the past. They are found in every country house and museum and this book aims to help teachers decode some of the messages they contain. As well as aiding general understanding, the book contains ideas and practical exercises that can be used from infant to examination level and in a wide range of curriculum subjects as diverse as history and science.

48 pages, card covers, A4 size, 1989
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A Discovery Pack for Families
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This second title in our series is based on Audley End in Essex, a palatial Jacobean house and one of our most popular sites. The pack contains a series of practical activities and a wallchart which form a useful basis for detective observation as part of site study.

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A Teacher's Guide to Using Portraits
Susan Morris
Portraits are the gossip columns, newshawks, party political broadcasts and family albums of the past. They are found in every country house and museum and this book aims to help teachers decode some of the messages they contain. As well as aiding general understanding, the book contains ideas and practical exercises that can be used from infant to examination level and in a wide range of curriculum subjects as diverse as history and science.

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36 pages, card covers, A4 size
Price £2.20 ISBN 1 85074 216 2

CASTLES OF NORTHUMBRIA

All over England castles were developed on similar lines to those in Northumbria which is particularly rich in examples. So the video will be useful everywhere throughout the country. Sections look at the siting of a castle and the different reasons they were built: 'Elements of a Castle'; 'Defending a Castle'; 'Looking at a Wall'; and 'A Place to live in'. The video contains much helpful aerial photography, giving extra interpretative information to complement normal site visits.

Suitability: 9-13; 24 minutes; 1989.

Chapels - The Buildings of Nonconformity

The second title in our series on churches investigates the many forms of nonconformist worship since the passing of the Act of Toleration in 1689. The video compares the archaeology of remaining buildings of different denominations, asks what these tell us about the way they worshipped and how the chapel is related to the human and industrial landscape of villages and towns. Baptist and Unitarian chapels are compared with contemporary C of E chapels of Essex and Quaker Meeting Houses. Early primitive Methodist houses in which the 'Ranters' preached are contrasted with the gothic grandeur of Victorian methodist churches built in major industrial towns like York.

Suitability: GCSE, 6th form general studies; teacher training 18 minutes, 1989

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Education on Site: Your School as a Resource
Sallie Purks is collecting material for a teachers’ guide in the English Heritage series Education on Site. She would be pleased to hear from teachers who have already done some work on the history of their school or its surroundings or who are planning an anniversary or other celebration in 1990. She would be interested to see any material in the following categories:

- Booklets written as a result of investigations into the history of your school.
- Examples of work which has made use of the school building or its immediate environment.
- Accounts of projects which have involved former pupils or teachers at the school.

If you are planning work in this area for 1990 and would be prepared to be interviewed or photographed while the project is in progress, please write to us. All contributions will be fully acknowledged.

Sallie Purks
Education on Site - Schools
English Heritage
c/o Room 113
25 Savile Row
London W1X 2BT

The Quest for the Past: Archaeologists at Work
Teachers’ Resources Pack
This pack is both for archaeologists and teachers investigate the past. It provides a variety of source materials, slides, plans, maps, drawings, documents which can be used in a wide range of topics and subject areas. It gives pupils the opportunity to look at a wide range of evidence, ask questions of it and draw conclusions, just as the archaeologists do.

All examples are ‘real’ and are drawn from the current research in the Romans area, in Northamptonshire, but it is not necessary to have visited the sites mentioned as the pack is self-sufficient. No prior knowledge is assumed so don’t need to be a researched archaeologist. The pack, which is to be used by Primary or Secondary teachers, is intended for use by a wide range of ages and abilities.

The pack includes background notes, a glossary and suggestions for classroom use. A free postcard accompanies the main pack.

Sallie Purks
Education on Site - Schools
English Heritage
c/o Room 113
25 Savile Row
London W1X 2BT

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Please return your completed order, with full payment, if applicable, to:

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Please send your request for further information about:

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Keysing House, 429 Oxford Street,
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01 973 3462/3

Footnotes
Historic Royal Palaces
The Historic Royal Palaces Education Services have produced an information pack for teachers about the beacons. The pack contains a wealth of information, including:
- Hampton Court Palace: Kew Palace; Kensington Palace; the Banqueting House and the Tower of London. The pack includes practical information for teachers wanting to visit and gives contact details for on-site tuition and suggests curriculum-based learning opportunities. The pack may be obtained free of charge from Historic Royal Palaces Education Services, Apartment 45, Hampton Court Palace, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 9AU. Tel: 01 877 7222.

Discovering Devon’s Past
This year’s new publication from Devon County Council is full of interesting news and information on what is happening in archaeology and history in the county. Issue 3 includes a look at the excavations being conducted in advance of the building of the Roadford Reservoir (a research programme soon to be the focus of a new educational video from English Heritage), a thought provoking article on “What future for our heritage?” and, what is to be a regular feature, “Schools report”. Subscriptions (and back numbers): From: The Publishing Secretary, Devon Books, Henock Road, Exeter EX2 8RP (tel 0392 74211, £1.00 per issue plus 50p postage and packing. Royal Commission Newsletter
Teachers may be interested in this new newsletter by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England which contains useful details of their activities and publications. The newsletter will be published annually in the year and is obtainable free of charge from: RCHME, Forthill House, 23 Savile Row, London W1J 2JQ

SLIDE PACK
Using Portraits
Susan Morris
This set of 12 slides complements our book, A Teacher’s Guide to Using Portraits. The slides have been chosen to illustrate the range of material...