

# Learning from the Past

## A Course for Teachers Organised by English Heritage

Educational Use of Museums, Ancient Monuments and Historic Buildings  
Monday 18 March — Saturday 23 March 1991, at Newcastle-upon-Tyne Polytechnic

The central theme of LEARNING FROM THE PAST will be the investigation of the educational and interpretative aspects of visits to historical monuments, sites and buildings together with collections in museums, galleries and archives.

It is planned mainly as a practical course. It will employ discussion, practice with a range of skills and materials, and the exploration of resources provided by particular sites. Course members will relate some of their

work to specific targets in National Curriculum programmes of study. The educational methods developed during the course are intended to have wider applications than simply to the individual sites studied so that course members can put into practice what they have learned, using their own local resources, whatever their discipline or the age group with which they work.

Evening sessions including workshops will cover subjects of more general interest in developing a variety of

approaches to the use of museums, monuments and buildings. Optional sessions give the opportunity to preview a wide selection of films, video and tape-slide resources available from English Heritage and other institutions.

The course will be limited to 80 members who will be asked to choose one of the following fieldwork groups in which they will be encouraged to develop an in-depth investigation.

### Roman life in the frontier zone

Two outstanding sites displaying town and military life on Hadrian's Wall have been chosen for the group to study. Housesteads Fort dominates the dramatic central section of the frontier wall and contains well-preserved evidence of military organisation and domestic arrangements inside and outside the fort. Corbridge Roman town and its new museum offers extensive evidence of everyday life and religion in a bustling frontier market town. Group members will be encouraged to develop their skills in exploring on-site and museum evidence and become familiar with some documentary and literary evidence.

### The Medieval Abbey: Tynemouth

Tynemouth Priory will be used to explore and discover the learning potential of abbey sites. Tynemouth has a long and rich history as a religious site, beginning in the seventh century and ending when the nave ceased to be used as a parish church in the seventeenth century. However, Tynemouth is not only a monastic site. The headland was fortified in the fourteenth century. Physical and documentary evidence will be used to devise cross-curricular strategies for course members to adapt for use in their own locality and teaching situations. A visit will be made to the Bede Monastery Museum and St. Paul's Monastery in Jarrow.

### Villages in the landscape

Why settlements grow up — and decline — is a central question in understanding the contemporary landscape. This group will study the deserted villages of Bywell and Welton, both close to Newcastle, and will offer the opportunity for comparison with the modern settlement and use of the area. The group will study a wide range of archaeological, architectural, documentary and landscape evidence, in an effort to understand past, present (and possibly future?) use of the environment. Members of the group will be able to explore the cross-curricular potential of landscape and environment.

### The Medieval Cathedral: Durham

The site of Durham Cathedral is truly spectacular, standing on rocky land almost entirely surrounded by the River Wear. The site was chosen by Benedictine monks from Lindisfarne as the resting place of St. Cuthbert and for their community. The present cathedral, begun in AD 1093 has been altered and enlarged many times over the centuries but remains one of the finest examples of a great medieval cathedral as well as a monastic church. Studying a cathedral is a field where cross-curricular approaches can flourish, for example creative and expressive work in art and language.

### Castle and fortified house — defending the medieval border

Aydon and Prudhoe Castles complement each other well in providing the raw material for course members to explore the potential of military remains for use in the curriculum. Aydon, a fortified house, remains largely as it was built at the beginning of the fourteenth century; Prudhoe, controlling passage along the Tyne Valley, has probably the oldest keep in Northumbria, a splendid gatehouse and a Georgian house within the bailey. Group members will have the opportunity to explore the extensive cross-curricular possibilities using both monuments and the relevant documentary sources to discover and contrast medieval life and its supporting environment.

### The historic house: Belsay Hall

Belsay Hall is a nineteenth century house set in spectacular gardens. It is not displayed as a conventional country house and has been left bare of furniture. The group will tackle the question of how to deal with what might appear to be an unpromising building by looking at it in its setting, at aspects of change and development and how initial observation can lead to productive lines of enquiry. The emphasis for the week will be on transferable teaching skills rather than on studying the history of the house in depth. After considering a number of strategies

and sharing expertise, course members will work on individual projects.

### The developing townscape: Newcastle — quayside to city

From its beginnings on the quayside with its Guildhall and fine examples of sixteenth and seventeenth century timber houses to the great commercial and industrial centre of the nineteenth century, Newcastle retains good examples of a wide range of public and private buildings which express the city's corporate prosperity and developing pride through the centuries. Using the environment as evidence linked with documentary and literary sources members of the group will be encouraged to develop relevant cross-curricular skills which can be readily transferred to their own local needs.

The course has been designed primarily for teachers from schools and museums, lecturers and advisers. Applications are also welcome from English Heritage staff, museum staff, owners, administrators and guides of historic buildings, members of the National Trust, the Historic Houses Association and other comparable organisations and institutions. Overseas teachers and lecturers are also invited to apply.

There will be no charge for tuition. The cost for residents will be £125 & VAT. A limited number of non-residents whose homes are within reasonable travelling distance of Newcastle will be accepted. The cost for non-residents will be £65 & VAT, which will include provision of meals throughout the course.

Those requiring financial assistance with the expenses involved in attending the course should apply to their local education authority or Head Teacher.

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Please complete all the sections of this form. It will help us in processing your application. Completed forms should reach English Heritage by 31 January 1991.

<b>1</b> FIRST NAME		Your age	FOR OFFICIAL USE:
SURNAME			FEE PAYABLE:
<b>2</b> QUALIFICATIONS — give particulars including the name of the institution and dates			Dates:
Initial Qualification:		Degree:	
		Training:	
		Certificate:	
One Year or One Term Supplementary Course:			
Any other specialist qualifications:			
<b>3</b> EXPERIENCE (additional to 4 below)			Number of years
Types of educational service with number of years in each (e.g. Primary, Comprehensive, Adult, Youth, Advisory, Administration, College of Education etc)			
<b>4</b> PRESENT POST			Number of years
Name of Institution			
Address			
Telephone No			
Age range of pupils/students			
Type of establishment (e.g. Primary School, Comprehensive School, College of Technology, etc)			
Maintained or Independent			
If maintained, name of Local Education Authority			
Position on Staff (e.g. Head, Head of Department, Assistant, Lecturer etc)			
Full-time or Part-time (if latter give number of hours per week)			Number of hours, if part-time
<b>5</b> State names and dates of the courses run by the Department of Education and Science and English Heritage which you			Dates
a. have attended previously.			
b. have applied for but have not been accepted.			
c. are applying for this year in addition to this course.			



<p><b>6 CHOICE OF FIELDWORK GROUPS</b> Please specify your first and second choice of fieldwork groups. It may not be possible for you to have your first choice as numbers in each group are limited.</p>	<p>FIRST CHOICE:  SECOND CHOICE:</p>
<p><b>7</b> Please indicate if you wish to be resident or non resident.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Tick</p> <p>I wish to be resident <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I wish to be non-resident <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>8</b> If selected for admission I shall be prepared to attend throughout the course and comply with any conditions laid down by the Course Director.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOME ADDRESS (for use of the Course Director)</p>	<p>Signature of applicant _____</p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Home Telephone Number: _____</p>
<p><b>9 APPROVAL</b></p> <p><b>A. LEA SCHOOLS</b> If you work for a LEA school please pass this form to your Director of Education or Head Teacher to sign if the authority agrees that you should attend. Please ensure that arrangements for supply cover are taken into account.</p> <p><b>B. NON-LEA SCHOOLS / FHE</b> Pass this form to your 'employer' who will sign it if he can agree that you should attend. You should negotiate financial arrangements as a separate issue. This form should be countersigned by the head teacher, principal or other designated officer.</p>	<p>A. Countersigned by officer of LEA and official stamp.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>B. Signed by "Employer".</p> <p>_____</p> <p>and countersigned by Head teacher, principal or other designated officer.</p> <p>Date: _____</p>
<p><b>10 Method of Payment</b></p> <p>COURSE FEES: Residential £143.75 (including VAT) Non Residential £74.75 (including VAT)</p> <p>Establishments may be able to claim the VAT back</p> <p>I enclose a cheque/postal order, payable to English Heritage for £143.75 <input type="checkbox"/> £74.75 <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Please invoice (establishments only) <input type="checkbox"/> Please tick as applicable</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Invoice address _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Postcode _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Full payment should be enclosed with this application or if invoiced, payment must reach English Heritage no later than 28 February 1991.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Any cancellations notified after this date will be subject to a cancellation fee of £50.</p>	

**After Countersignature this form should be sent to:  
English Heritage Education Service, Keysign House, 429 Oxford Street, London W1R 2HD.  
CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATION IS 31 JANUARY 1991.**

## Reviews



**The Story of Roman Castleford**  
Philip Abramson  
West Yorkshire Archaeology Service,  
1990.  
ISBN 1-870453-09-3  
£1.50 + 40p p&p

It is always good to see a professional archaeology service deliberately setting out to inform the public about its work. This 34 page colour booklet, written by working archaeologist Philip Abramson, is written with the intention of achieving this aim.

The booklet is about the archaeological work carried out in Castleford and tells the story of the Roman forts and the town which grew up there. It is well designed and beautifully illustrated with colour photographs, drawings and cartoons.

Teachers may rely on the accuracy of the reconstruction drawings to help their project work. I particularly liked the



timeline called 'The Roman road to Castleford'.

You don't have to live or teach in Castleford to enjoy and use this book. It will be an ideal sourcebook for History Study Unit 17 'The Roman Empire' and will provide some of the sources needed for Attainment Targets 2 and 3.

Order it now!

From: West Yorkshire  
Archaeology Service  
14 St John's North  
Wakefield WF1 3QA

Cheques payable to 'Wakefield MDC'.

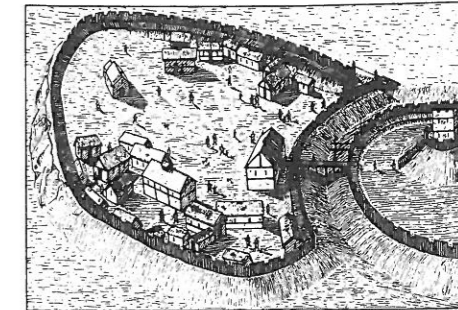


### Pontefract Castle

Ian Roberts  
West Yorkshire Archaeology Service,  
1990.  
ISBN 1-870-453-11-5  
£3.00 + 85p p&p

Pontefract Castle is one of those splendid ruins which are so much more alive than some of the tatty 'reconstructed' castles and forts which pretend to be real. The site's guardians, Wakefield Metropolitan District Council, together with English Heritage, have conserved the fabric of the castle and the excavated objects for the public to enjoy.

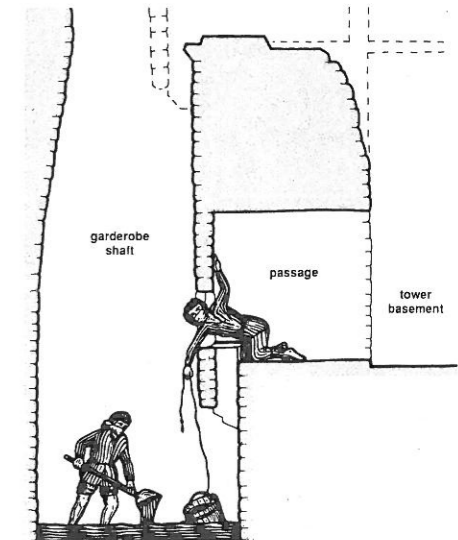
This 76 page book is in many ways a model 'guide'. It tells you what to look out for and what each part means. There are excellent reconstruction drawings with masses of other illustrations from



manuscripts - all properly referenced too (a rarity in a guidebook). But Ian Robert's book is more than a guide. It gives the general reader and the teacher a real insight into what castles were for.

You can buy this book from the same address as above.

Mike Corbishley  
Head of Education,  
English Heritage



If you would like free copies of our **Information for Teachers** booklet and **Resources** catalogue, please complete and return the slip below.

**Information for Teachers** contains full details on how to book a free group visit, together with practical ideas for preparatory, on-site and follow up work, and up-to-date listings of all English Heritage sites.

**Resources** contains full details of all our publications, videos, posters etc and free information available for teachers.

Please return this slip to:

English Heritage Education Service, Keysign House, 429 Oxford Street, London W1R 2HD



Please send me copies of the 1990 **Information for Teachers** and **Resources** :

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

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