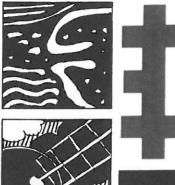


# REMNANTS







Journal of the English Heritage Education Service No. 15 Autumn 1991

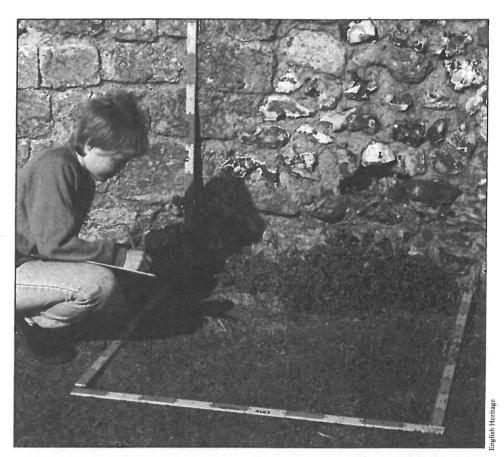
# Science and the historic environment

In this issue we launch a new series of features looking at how different National Curriculum subjects can be approached by using the resource of the historic environment.

Children love to explore, to investigate and to question. What better or more exciting vehicle for encouraging these activities than the historic environment, where all human development and progress are encapsulated in one form or another?

By the historic environment we do not mean only historic landscapes, sites and monuments - although, of course, these do constitute a very important part of the historic environment. It also includes objects found in museums and on-site exhibitions; clothes that were worn at various times in the past and that can be seen in contemporary portraits; recipes that allow us to get a feel and even taste of what the lives of people in the past were

All of these aspects of the historic environment readily lend themselves to scientific investigations that can link onsite or museum based work to detailed back at school investigation. Science relies on experience and experimentation, the manipulation of variables in a controlled environment. Archaeologists and historians can never describe the past with the objectivity of a scientist because of the



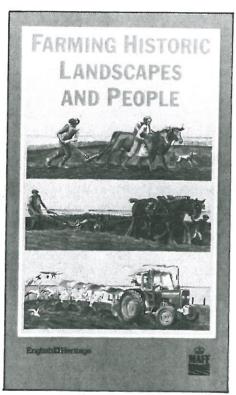
Accurate recording is essential in any scientific investigation.

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Resources update

English Heritage Young Historian Prize

Royal Historical Society Young Historian Scheme Prizes are for achievement in history. For the first time in 1992 English Heritage will be sponsoring an award. English Heritage Young Historian Prizes will be awarded for achievement and may be competed for by all schools and educational bodies by pupils aged from 5 to 16. Entries should take the form of group projects, one entry per institution. The use of an English Heritage property for the basis of the work is obligatory and it is important that the English Heritage Regional Education Officer be contacted prior to the visit. The work presented may relate to any National Curriculum subject or be cross-curricular. Each year there will be three prizes: an overall winner and two runners-up. The winning institutions will receive a trophy, a certificate and publications/videos from English Heritage. The Pupils will receive a certificate each. As part of the prize, expenses will be provided for representatives to attend the prize-giving ceremony. Entries should be submitted by 10 July 1992.

For application forms and further details of other Young Historian Prizes write to: Professor G. R. Batho, Young Historian Prizes, School of Education, University of Durham, Durham DH1 1TA.



Farming Historic Landscapes and People

This full colour 16 page booklet has been produced jointly by English Heritage and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. It describes how the countryside has changed and been shaped by human influence, especially agricultural practice; how to recognise archaeological sites; and shows why our historic landscape is so important to conserve. If you would like a free copy please write to our usual address.

#### **Dover Castle Education Centre**

This new Centre is now open for use free of charge by prebooked educational groups visiting Dover Castle. It consists of three rooms, themed under the headings 'Costume and Castle Life', 'Attack and Defence', and 'Building Dover Castle'. Each has been resourced with wellresearched models, replicas, archaeology, copies of historical maps and plans and a collection of early illustrations. In addition the rooms are equipped with tape recorders, polaroid cameras, measuring sticks, paper and pencils. There is also a small video area in the keep yard, a range of castle videos and a number of site specific slide sequences with accompanying text. To book use of any of the rooms in the Centre telephone the administrator on 0304-225229.

## English Heritage Academic Publications

A number of new titles are now available which may be of interest to readers. These include 'Flag Fen', 'Maiden Castle', 'Stonehenge' and 'Viking Age England' all co-published with Batsford. For full details and a copy of their list of new Autumn titles write to: English Heritage Academic Publications, Room 207, Keysign House, London W1R 2HD. Tel. 071-973 3702.



### Now Then

The second BBC series of Now Then has just begun aiming to bring archaeology alive for children. Different historic sites (including English Heritage sites) are visited each week, with contributions from the resident artist Paul Birkbeck, and featuring the lively participation of local children from all over England and Wales, ranging in age from 10 to 13.

Professional archaeological excavation is featured a little less than in the first series but this year there are scenes of children being shown the basic principles of archaeology in several of the programmes. Now Then is being broadcast each Tuesday starting on 22 October at 16.35pm on BBC-1.

### British Museum Video Loans

The British Museum Education Service offer a number of videos on two weeks' free loan to schools and colleges. Titles include 'The Art of Roman Glass'; 'Runnymede:Excavating the Bronze Age' and 'Flag Fen.the best of both worlds'. For a full list and booking details contact: British Museum Education Service, Video Bookings, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG. Tel 071-323 8511.



Goodbye to Gail

Gail Durbin has left English Heritage to become Head of the Schools Section at the Victoria and Albert Museum. Gail was one of the founding members of our Education Service in 1984. For three years she was seconded to the Department of the Environment as education officer for the Royal Palaces, and has latterly been our Regional Education Officer for the South East and the London Historic House Museums. She has been responsible for the production of many of our most popular publications and her influence will be strongly missed. Gail is joining the V&A at a time of expansion in its education department and is hugely optimistic about its developing educational role and its commitment to serve the needs of teachers looking for support in art, design, technology and history. Two well qualified teachers have also been appointed to the section and over the next year you can expect to hear a lot more about developments there.

English Heritage has over 350 monuments open to the public. Schools can make a free educational visit to any of our sites provided this is pre-booked through the relevant area office at least two weeks in advance. Teachers can also arrange a free exploratory visit beforehand to prepare ideas for the main visit later. The Education Service aims to provide teachers with as much help as possible. If you have any requests for further information please contact us at:

English Heritage Education Service Keysign House 429 Oxford Street London W1R 2HD 071-973 3442/3 Fax 071-973 3430

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