



IfA Workplace Learning Bursaries Case Studies – Graphics for Archaeology

- (1) Name? Frances Taylor
- (2) Placement? Workplace Learning Bursary in Graphics for Archaeology
- (3) Education/ previous roles? I have a Degree in Archaeology from Cardiff University. Prior to being accepted onto this placement I worked for the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust.
- (4) Hobbies? In my free time I enjoy going to the cinema, seeing friends and family and going to the gym. I also love getting out to the country and down to the coast.
- (5) Favourite archaeological person, book, site or object? The illustrations by early C20th artist Heywood Sumner. I love all the quirky little detail he added to his site drawings.
- (6) Where did you see the placement advertised and what inspired you to apply? I saw the placement advertised on BAJR. It was only two days before the deadline that I noticed it. It was exactly what I was looking for so I applied straight away.
- (7) How did you feel when you were offered the post? I was offered the post at 9am on the dot the next morning and it was a brilliant surprise!
- (8) Best/worst thing about the placement? I have enjoyed so much of this placement; getting to produce lots of illustrations for Richard Bradleys new book, producing a brochure on experimental archaeology for the Archaeology department, getting the chance to draw artefacts for the Ure museum, spending time with the university print and typography departments and much more that I have too little space to list! And the worst things? I can't think of any.
- (9) Biggest achievement/biggest challenge? I went out to the Silchester excavation each week and taught small classes about drawing artefacts. Public speaking has always scared me but it was great to overcome this and actually start to enjoy it!
- (10) What have you learnt so far? I have learnt so much more than I thought I would. I am now really familiar with graphics software such as Illustrator, Photoshop and InDesign. During my placement I have learnt everything from how to scan images and draw curves in Illustrator to the processes involved in printing my illustrations. I have also gained more experience of artefact illustration.
- (11) Future plans/future ambitions? I plan to continue to work in archaeological graphics and hopefully get a job working for a unit.
- (12) What advice would you give to other people wanting to apply for a training placement? Go for it! There are so few opportunities like this. It is so great to be able to learn new skills, gain valuable work experience and also get paid.
- Any other comments? Look out for the IFA leaflet on bursaries; I designed it during my placement!

