

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE:	EPPIC scheme placement: Aerial Survey and Investigation
LOCATION:	NMRC, Swindon
DIVISION:	Conservation and Protection (formerly Research and Standards)
DEPARTMENT:	Aerial Survey and Investigation
STATUS:	Placement
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Helen Winton

OVERALL PURPOSE OF THE POST:

The placement offers a training opportunity, to develop skills within this specialist area of archaeology.

This specialism involves recognition, interpretation, and analysis of archaeological monuments and landscapes using aerial photographs as a main source. Working in this specialist area involves production of digital archaeological maps and monument descriptions through analysis of aerial photographs, supported by data from other published and unpublished written and cartographic sources. This includes interpretation of sites and landscapes visible as cropmarks, earthworks, and structures, with a date range from the Neolithic period to the twentieth century. Aerial Survey and Investigation projects also include an overview or analysis of the archaeological landscape. This synthesis of information is usually a report, publication, or website, and includes an assessment of the character, diversity, association and distribution of archaeological sites and landscapes within a project area. This comprehensive synthesis of archaeological information assists national and regional research and therefore informs planning decisions and protection of the historic environment.

Aerial reconnaissance, to photograph archaeological and architectural sites and landscapes, plays a key role in this specialism. Therefore the role includes familiarisation with the capture and applications of new aerial photographs.

MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

During the course of this placement the post-holder will be offered the opportunity to acquire skills in the following areas of expertise:

- Recognising and interpreting archaeological remains visible on aerial photographs as structures, earthworks, cropmarks and soilmarks.
- Undertaking project work, through to report creation, for a specific site or landscape;
- Using specialist software to rectify aerial photographs, interpret, and map archaeological remains for use in GIS systems.
- Gaining a working knowledge of the recording systems used for the National Mapping Programme, the National Monuments Record and related local Heritage Environment, or Sites and Monuments, Records;
- Familiarisation with aerial reconnaissance and there may be some opportunity for basic training in aerial photography for those with the aptitude and desire to do such work;
- Carrying out some training and outreach activities.

The post holder will be encouraged to attend relevant training courses, seminars and conferences, as time and resources allow.

The training will be delivered on a mentoring/tutoring basis. Learning outcomes and skill levels will be defined for the activities above. The placement will provide evidence towards a Level 3 National Vocational Qualification (NVQ). The successful candidate will be registered for the Qualification as part of the placement.

SALARY

£16,049 per annum

PENSION

An employers' pension contribution of 6% of salary will be paid to the post holder. The post-holder will be eligible to join the IfA stakeholder pension scheme or may elect to have the contribution paid into a stakeholder pension of their choice.

HOLIDAY ENTITLEMENT

The post holder will receive 25 days holiday per year. In addition there are 8 public holidays. 3 days holiday must be taken over the Christmas period when the offices will be closed

SELECTION PROCEDURE

The candidates who appear from their applications to have the qualifications, experience and abilities which best match those we are looking for will be invited to a field test and interview. It is therefore essential for your application to give a full and concise description of the nature, extent and level of the experience that you have had and any posts or responsibilities you have held.

The Selection Board will select the candidate most suitable for appointment. Their decision will be final.

All applicants should read the information in the letter to candidates *carefully* before making their application.

PERSON SPECIFICATION Professional Placement in Aerial Survey and Investigation	
ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
TRAINING, EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS	
Stereoscopic vision	<p>A degree in archaeology or related subject</p> <p>Experience of air photo interpretation or reconnaissance</p> <p>Experience of digital mapping techniques and databases</p> <p>Membership of the IfA at Practitioner level</p>
KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS	
<p>A sound knowledge of British archaeology of all periods</p> <p>Good verbal and written communication skills</p>	<p>Familiarity with the types of primary and secondary source material related to the archaeology of England</p> <p>Knowledge of the principal uses of aerial photographs in a range of environments</p> <p>Windows-based word processing experience</p> <p>Knowledge or experience of the applications of geographical information systems for archaeological research</p>
INTERPERSONAL SKILLS	
<p>Excellent interpersonal skills</p> <p>An enthusiastic and positive manner</p> <p>Ability to work in a team</p> <p>Ability to work with limited supervision</p>	<p>Ability to communicate at a variety of levels to explain the results and value of archaeological survey work.</p>
PARTICULAR REQUIREMENTS OF THE POST	
<p>The work is mainly desk-based and requires a significant degree of concentration and critical visual analysis.</p> <p>The team will be involved with a number of projects that will bring them into contact with people from Universities, EH Senior Management and amateur archaeologists.</p>	