

Archaeology and Heritage

<http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/archaeology>

Oxfordshire County Council's role:

We protect and conserve Oxfordshire's archaeological resources by advising on planning applications and policies as well as providing detailed archaeological advice and information to other departments within Oxfordshire County Council, as well as to district councils, property owners and other national and regional bodies and utility companies.

The Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER) - formerly the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) - is an index of all known archaeological and historical sites in the county, which includes the four districts for which the County Archaeological Service has the planning responsibility: Cherwell, South Oxfordshire, Vale of White Horse and West Oxfordshire. The HER now also includes data from the Oxford City Urban Archaeological Database (UAD), creating a unified county database in the HER. We use the HER when we're asked for advice on planning applications and policies. Members of the public also use it to answer educational, research-based and general interest queries.

Oxford City Council is responsible for heritage planning issues within Oxford City.

How does this role relate to Neighbourhood Development Plans?

We suggest that in the first instance, neighbourhood planning groups should use the Heritage Gateway (linked [below](#)) to identify heritage assets in their local area.

Oxfordshire County Archaeological Services can then help inform the production of Neighbourhood Development Plans by providing specialist advice on a range of heritage-related subjects. Depending on the nature of the query, a charge may be incurred; please contact the Archaeological Service for more information.

If you need information on a listed building or on conservation areas as part of your plan preparation, please contact your local district council, which will be able to identify the location and grading of local heritage assets in your area.

Neighbourhood planning groups within Oxford City should contact Oxford City Council's Archaeologist for information and advice on their local areas.

Archaeology and Heritage resources:

- Heritage Gateway, managed by English Heritage, is an online database providing access to details of archaeological and heritage sites, including those listed in Oxfordshire's HER: [Heritage Gateway](#). Neighbourhood planning groups should use the Heritage Gateway as their first point of call in identifying any heritage assets in their plan area.

- The Oxfordshire Historic Environment Record (HER): [Information on the Oxfordshire HER.](#)
- Further Oxfordshire County Council planning guidance: [OCC archaeological planning guidance](#)
- Oxford City Council's Archaeology and Planning policy and guidance: [Information from Oxford City Council](#)

Oxfordshire County Council contact:

To contact the Archaeological Service, please email:

archaeology@oxfordshire.gov.uk

To contact the Oxford City Council Archaeologist, please email:

heritage@oxford.gov.uk

