

HER Terminology Sheet

Form	Use for
Building	Roofed structure
Buried Feature	Use for below ground features, known only from excavation, geophysical survey or exposed in cliff faces etc.
Cropmark	Features visible from aerial photographs (usually), where below ground archaeological features are visible in crops, grass or soil
Documents	Use for sites known only from documentary sources
Earthwork	Earth mounds or linear features, such as field banks, indicating archaeological features below
Finds	Where an artefact is recovered indicating
Landform	Where natural features have been used for past activities
Other Structure	Use for built structures that are not buildings e.g. bridges, lime kilns
Place-name	e.g. field names or road names indicating previous land use or activities
Topography	A topographic feature or location may be considered to indicate a high potential for earlier archaeological activity

Period	Approximate date	
Palaeolithic –	c. 450,000 – 10,000 BC	Prehistoric
Mesolithic –	c. 10,000 – 4400 BC	
Neolithic –	c. 4400 – 2300 BC	
Bronze Age –	c. 2300 – 700 BC	
Iron Age –	c. 700 BC – AD 43	
Roman (Romano-British) Period –	AD 43 – c. AD 410	Historic
Post-Roman / Early Medieval / Dark Age -	c. AD 410 – AD 1066	
Medieval Period –	1066 – 1485	
Post-Medieval Period –	1486 – 1750	
Industrial Period -	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20th century onwards	

Condition	Use for
Near intact	E.g. a roofless building surviving to gable height
Damaged	E.g. a feature surviving as low earthworks
Destroyed	Use only for features that have been fully excavated or quarried away i.e. where excavation would find no trace
Near destroyed	E.g. a building shown on an historic map that is no longer visible on the ground
Restored	Where a site or building has undergone a program of restoration
Intact	Where a site or structure can be seen to be in very good state of preservation
Moved	Usually where a feature such as a gatepost, cannon has been moved from its original location. Worth stating how you know it has been moved.
Not known	Use for sites identified from maps/photographs where the condition has not been verified from a site visit
Various	Use for complexes and linear features, farmsteads, leats etc.
Converted	Where a structure has been altered for a different usage
Not Applicable	Use for findspots

Threats

Adaptive Re-use
Afforestation
Agricultural Re-use
Agriculture
Animal Burrowing
Building

Caving
Clearance
Coastal Erosion
Collapse
Development
Dredging
Dumping
Electricity Pole
Erosion
Extractive Industry
Fire
Flooding
Footpath
Forestry
Industry
Landscaping
Metal Detecting
Military activity
Natural decay
Nil
Not Applicable
Other
Peat Desiccation
Ploughing
Recreational Use
Redevelopment
Re-use
Road
Root Action
Scrub growth
Sea Defences
Static Fisheries
Stock Trampling
Stone Robbing
Tourism
Tree Felling
Tree Growth
Tree Throw/Roots
Vandalism
Vegetation
Vehicle Erosion
Visitor Damage
Visitor Erosion
Water Drainage
Woodland