STONEHENGE WORLD HERITAGE SITE:

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH FRAMEWORK

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FOREWORD

From Sir Neil Cossons

Chairman of English Heritage

The best-known monuments are not necessarily the best understood. Our concern to care for them can sometimes inhibit imaginative research. So it is with particular pleasure that I welcome Stonehenge World Heritage Site: An Archaeological Research Framework to kick-start a new era of responsible management combined with important, query-driven investigation.

This publication complements the Archaeology Research Agenda for the Avebury World Heritage Site – published in 2001, the first of its kind for any World Heritage Site – and the regional and period-based research frameworks which English Heritage is currently helping to promote across the country. The production of the Stonehenge Research Framework, co-ordinated by English Heritage and Bournemouth University, has brought together a wide range of people with different interests in Stonehenge and its landscape to debate and argue about what we think we know, and would like to know, about this world-famous and often contentious monument. What are the questions we should ask about Stonehenge and how might we prioritise and tackle them? What information might still be locked within the archives of previous investigations, the collections of museums and the landscape itself? How shall we pursue these questions while caring properly for the World Heritage Site and passing it on to future generations in a better state than it was passed on to us? For we cannot be proud of Stonehenge's treatment in recent decades: ploughed and scoured, pincered between busy roads; it deserves better.

This document is not meant to strait-jacket research, which should be dynamic and responsive. On the contrary, I hope that it will further stimulate interest and proposals. Success will be measured in future years by the extent to which the questions posed here have been addressed, our understanding has improved, and people are able to enjoy Stonehenge both as an outstanding monument and as a place that not only puzzles and intrigues but constantly generates ideas and diverse opinions.

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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In preparing this Research Framework a number of conventions have been adopted. The chronology used is a backward projection of the modern Gregorian calendar expressed in years BC and AD. Dates BC are mainly based on calibrated radiocarbon ages. Where specific dates are cited they are expressed as a date-range calibrated from the original age determination at two standard deviations (σ 2) which broadly equates with the 95% confidence limits; the laboratory number and original uncalibrated age determination in years BP (Before Present) are also given. All radiocarbon age determinations have been calibrated using OxCal version 3.5.

Parish names are those prevailing at the time of researching the material and writing the initial document (2001). Where no explicit source reference is given for a site or finds the information has been derived from the English Heritage Stonehenge World Heritage Site GIS model, which itself incorporates information from the Wiltshire County Council Sites and Monuments Record.

The term 'Stonehenge Landscape' is used as a proper noun to refer to an explicitly defined block of land centred on Stonehenge, defined further in Section 1. References to the landscape in general are denoted by use of the common noun.

Some of the references cited relate to what is often called 'grey literature', that is printed reports and studies with a limited circulation that are not published in the traditional sense. Sometimes these are hard to track down, but the Society of Antiquaries of London has made a special effort to acquire copies of such reports and papers for their library. Any bona fide researcher without access to the Society's library wishing to consult these papers may contact the Librarian seeking permission to see them. The Archaeological Investigations Project records ongoing archaeological excavations and interventions, providing an annually up-dated on-line listing available at:

http://csweb.bournemouth.ac.uk/aip.htm

We would like to thank all those individuals and organizations listed in Appendix IV, and/or named in the text, for their contributions to the development of this Research Framework. In addition, we especially wish to thank the following for their encouragement, support, assistance in sorting out queries and questions, or providing information as the project unfolded: Pam Barton, David Batchelor, Laura Butler, Roy Canham, Jeff Chartrand, Andrew Crookston, Simon Crutchley, Andrew David, Sue Davies, Marianne Eve, Andrew Fitzpatrick, Lesley Freeke, Vince Gaffney, Tom Gaskar, Sarah Green, Lorna Haycock, Martyn Henderson, David Hinton, Jim Keyte, Andrew Lawson, David Miles, Robert Moody, Patricia Moore, Richard Osgood, Louise Pearson, Mike Pitts, Melanie Pomeroy-Kellinger, Paul Robinson, Bronwen Russell, Miles Russell, Chris Scull, Neville Stokes, Yvette Staelens, Dorothy Treasure, Geoff Wainwright, Gerry Waite, Katy Whitaker, Tim Williams and Martin Wright.

This volume was designed by Grant Campbell and Philip Silk; original photographs for the cover and section dividers are by Philip Rowley; Frances Brown copy-edited the manuscript and assisted with proofreading; Susan Vaughan prepared the index; and James Samson co-ordinated the production and printing.

The maps bound into this volume are derived from data held in the Stonehenge GIS maintained at English Heritage's Centre for Field Archaeology in Portsmouth, with additions. All the maps, together with the line drawings and plans in the text, were produced by Vanessa Constant from source material acknowledged in the relevant captions. Neville Stokes kindly assisted with digitizing the colour photographs. Grateful thanks are extended to the following institutions and individuals for generously allowing the use of pictures and photographs singly or as part of composite illustrations: Birmingham University Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity (100); Bodleian Library, Oxford (65); Jane Brayne (33); Timothy Darvill (9, 18, 19, 26A, 26B, 39A, 68, 71, 74, 76, 82, 84, 88, 89, 90, 92, 95, and 96); Devizes Museum/Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society (5, 7, and 42); English Heritage/RCHM Aerial Photographic Library (1, 10, 11, 24, 40, 41, 46, 52 (left), 63, 64, 70, 72 (bottom), 73, and 97); Express Newspapers (91); Gifford and Partners (52 (right)); Peter Goodhugh (45); Illustrated London News Picture Library (72 (top)); Ministry of Defence (8); Chis Musson (85); The National Trust, Wessex Region (66); Punch (72 (middle)); The Guardian Newspaper Group (17); Prehistoric Society (16); Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum (8, 75, and 99); Neville Stokes (67); Wessex Archaeology (13, 56, and 78); and Wiltshire County Building Record (66 and 94).

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AAHRG	Avebury Archaeological and Historical Research Group
BAR	British Archaeological Reports
CBA	Council for British Archaeology
DCMS	Department for Culture, Media and Sport
DLA	Defence Land Agent
DM	Devizes Museum
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DoE	Department of the Environment
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GIS	Geographical Information System
HBMCE	Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England
HMSO	Her Majesty's Stationery Office
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Sites
LH	Lords Hansard
Lidar	Light Detecting and Ranging
05	Ordnance Survey
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance
PRN	Primary Record Number
RAF	Royal Air Force
RCHM	Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (now part of English Heritage)
Revd	Reverend
SM	Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record
SPTA	Salisbury Plain Training Area