



## When is an archaeological survey required?

Evaluating an area deemed to be archaeologically sensitive usually requires a combination of techniques appropriate to the type of landform and potential archaeology that may be encountered. The most commonly used techniques are:

- **Desk-based assessment** – the identification of known or potential historic environment sites through examining existing records.
- **Prospective survey** – survey undertaken to locate and define upstanding historic environment sites. Surveys can take a variety of forms: the targeted inspection and definition of known sites; the prospective survey of ground of high potential to locate previously unidentified sites; and the comprehensive inspection of all ground covered by a proposal.
- **Protective and detailed survey** - survey undertaken to support agreed design solutions such as: a final walkover survey to mark out significant archaeological remains within the proposal and fully check the area identified for planting; or a detailed measured survey to record the landscape prior to planting.

Archaeological survey is not required in every case - the tables below are intended as a rough guide to archaeological survey requirements to meet UKFS *Forests and Historic Environment* guidelines.

<p><b>Establishment:</b> consideration of the historic environment must precede any new planting on an area of ground previously unplanted with trees. However, there are levels of response appropriate to different conditions.</p>	
<p>In lowland areas previously under an improved agricultural regime (i.e. intensively ploughed), any relevant important archaeology that is likely to have survived will usually comprise previously recorded upstanding monuments: <b>a desk based assessment using Pastmap / LAAS Historic Environment Record and walk over survey by the applicant may suffice.</b></p> <p>Archaeological features are often found preserved in the corners of fields or contained within banks and boundaries, where the pressure of agricultural improvement has been less. Care should be taken during assessment.</p>	<p>In unimproved upland areas (and areas with a high density of archaeological features previously recorded), <b>a professional archaeological survey may be required.</b> It is likely that a <i>comprehensive prospective archaeological survey</i> will be required in open moorland or previously unimproved areas, where more unrecorded archaeology may be expected to have survived.</p>

<p><b>Felling and Restocking:</b> felling, thinning, ploughing, mounding, restocking and stump harvesting will all have a potentially damaging effect upon surviving important archaeological features. Consideration of the historic environment must precede any harvesting and restocking operations. However, there are levels of response appropriate to different conditions.</p>	
<p>In lowland areas previously under an improved agricultural regime (i.e. intensively ploughed), any relevant important archaeology that is likely to have survived will usually comprise previously recorded upstanding monuments: <b>a desk based assessment using Pastmap / LAAS Historic Environment Record and walk over survey by the applicant may suffice.</b></p>	<p>In previously unimproved areas such as moorland and pasture, ancient and semi-natural woodland and areas with a high density of archaeological features previously recorded, <b>a professional archaeological survey may be considered appropriate in some cases,</b> as the likelihood of surviving archaeological structures is much higher. <i>Predictive prospective archaeological survey</i> could be used in afforested areas (and previously afforested areas), concentrating upon those areas within which archaeological features are known or considered likely.</p>