

Simple monuments

Try and capture all planes of each object (all the sides, any under-hangs or over-hangs, any details in the texture of the surface, as well as the planes on the top of a monument)

For relatively tall structures or monuments (i.e. taller than the photographer), it is necessary to find some means to record from above.

Used oblique photographs and transects of perpendicular images with very tall features. To avoid vertical distortion on tall objects take photography from the 'corners' of objects that record the vertical planes at oblique angles.





Complex multi-element monuments

In sites with multiple elements, 'positioning' or 'contextual' images allow the program to relate elements each to the other.

A combination of wide-angle contextual photographs that take in more than one monument, and a series of linking photographs where the photographer shoots a sequence of images moving between two monuments can usefully be used in conjunction.

In the cases of monuments which include several elements, it is advisable to vary between portrait and landscape photographs in order to maximise both monument and background coverage.

Consider varying the detail of survey: use fewer wider area photographs for simple structural or general topographic recording, with more detailed close-up shots used in complex areas

Confined spaces

Combining photographs taken at oblique angles to the target surface, with photographs which are produced perpendicular to the plane of the target surface (i.e. looking straight at the flat surface).

Earth works and grassed areas

Consider using unique targets. Include unique points in the landscape such as gateways, field boundaries, to locate earthworks. Use height (safely) if possible!

Research value

Even a single survey can produce valuable archaeological data on important or unrecorded sites. Even a relatively few photos can make a significant difference to archaeological understandings.



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