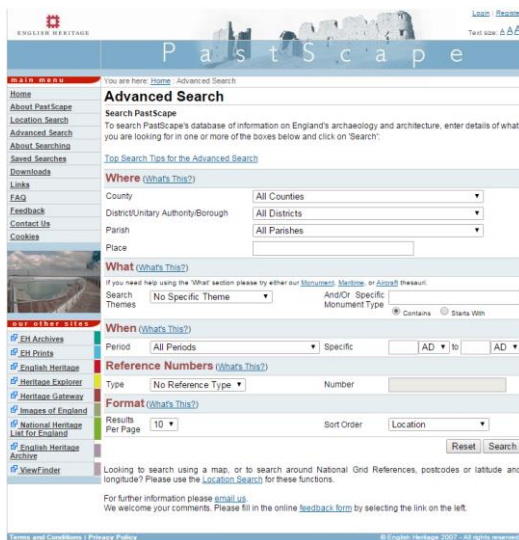
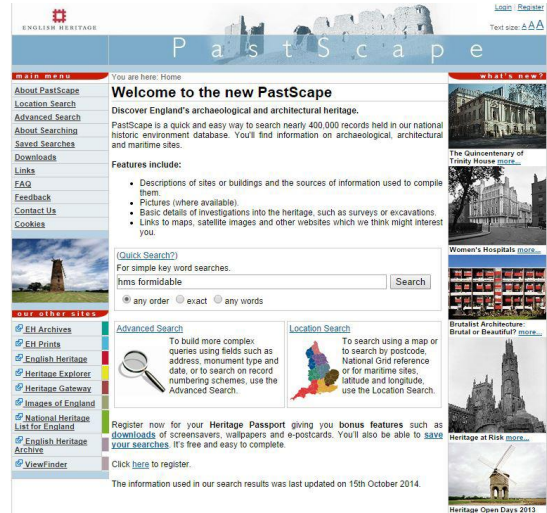


## Pastscape

[www.pastscape.org.uk](http://www.pastscape.org.uk)

Pastscape is an English Heritage website that contains the National Record of the Historic Environment (NMR), a record of heritage features around the country. This includes architectural features as well as archaeological heritage across England, such as scheduled as well as unscheduled monuments, both on land and at sea.

There are approximately 400,000 records of archaeological sites and buildings. Some contain a great deal of information, others may only record brief facts. Information is usually gleaned from a wide range of sources, most of which tend to be listed with the record.

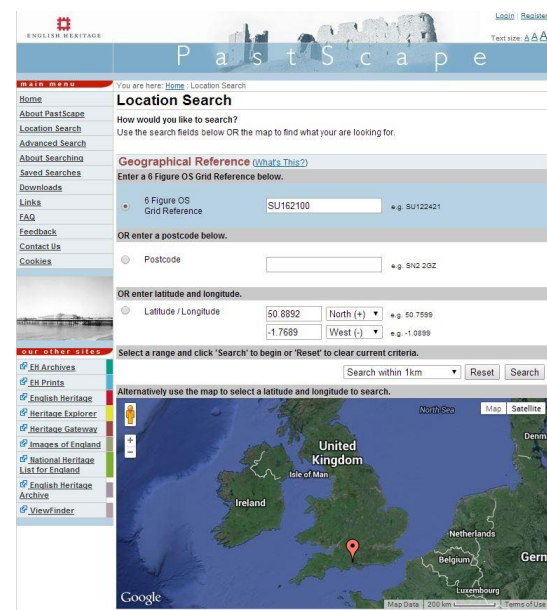


The simplest way to search Pastscape is to use the **Quick Search** function on the main page. Try entering a name or keyword associated with the site you are looking for. If you are searching for a wreck, try entering the ship's name. If you are looking for a building, its name or address may work. The site type, such as Anti-Aircraft and a place name may also work.

Alternatively, you can use the **Advanced Search** tab. This lets you specify locations, periods and type of site. Additionally, if you happen to know reference numbers for the site you're interested in, they can be searched for from here.

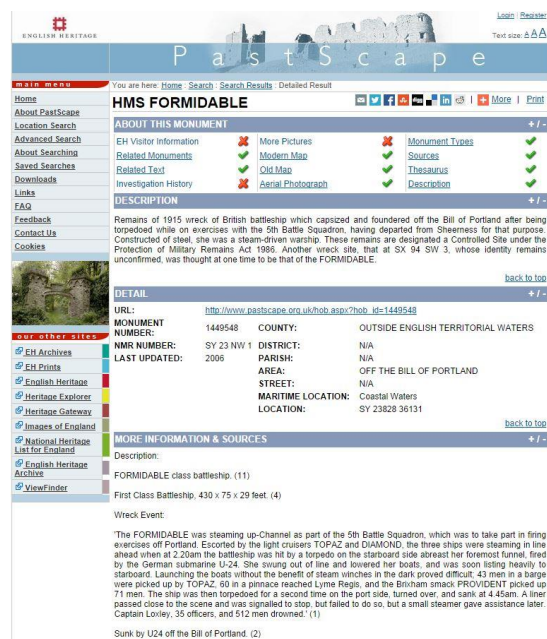
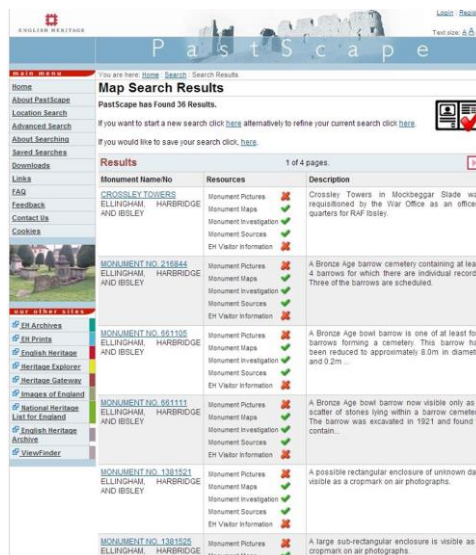
Another useful search tool is the **Location Search** option. Using this option you can search for all the records within a specific geographical area, be that a grid reference or postcode. You can also use the inbuilt Google maps browser to select a spot in England and search within a specific distance of that point: anything from 100 metres to 10 kilometres.

Whilst the location search function is very useful for identifying the sites within a specific area, it does have one limitation. All the sites within that area will be presented in a list format, in much the same way as the Quick and Advanced Search results are presented. It isn't possible to view them all on a single map at once (although when you view individual records you can choose to see their location on a map).



When you have made your search, the returned results will be presented in a list. For a Quick Search these will be the closest matches to the term you have searched for; for Advanced and Location Searches, they will be the sites within the specific parameters you have used (e.g. county, monument type, area). These are usually presented 10 to a page, and there may be several pages. If there are a large number of results it may be worth refining your search.

Look through the records listed to see if any match the site you're researching. You may see all manner of other sites, monuments or archaeological features with a similar name, but the short descriptions will hopefully make identifying the specific site easier.



Once you've found the site you're interested in, click on its entry and look at the information available. There are a number of fields in each record, although not every one is necessarily complete (generally the more notable the site, the more information contained in each field). The fields can all be opened or closed by clicking on the +/- sign on the right side.

Basic information is displayed in the **Description** field near the top of the entry. Beneath that, specific information regarding its location and monument number is contained in the **Detail** field. Beneath this is **More Information & Sources** (sometimes, if there is no more information this is simply called Sources, or is omitted altogether). Specific facts and details gathered from a range of sources appear in this field. Usually it is presented as a list of facts and the source they have been obtained from, although sometimes it may have been written into lengthier prose.

Beneath this field, there may be others for **Related Monuments** (sites within a similar area or of a similar purpose), **Monument Types** (specific terms to describe the site based on an English Heritage Thesaurus) and **Comments**.

The contents of the Comments field usually tends to be the same for each record and is worth noting. It mentions that you may see errors on the page and that you can help correct them. Although Pastscape represents English Heritage's archive, it is not necessarily complete or correct. Many facts may be absent from specific records; the information that you see in the record is not necessarily all that is known about the site. Some of the information presented may be inaccurate – indeed you may see several facts that directly contradict one another in the **More Information & Sources** field. As with all sources of information, keep an open mind and consider the quality of the sources that are being used in the record.