

NAS Part III Advanced Certificate in Foreshore and Underwater Archaeology

Part III Ancient Technology Module

Ropes and Cordage

Day 1

09:00 Arrive, coffee, introductions, receive handouts.

09:30 Lecture: *The ties that bind*. Examples of information to be gained from ropes and cordage in underwater archaeology.

10:15 Practical: What keeps a rope together? Problem solving tasks, using Small Leaved Lime Bast, Willow, Hemp, Flax Yarn, Bramble and Yew.

10:45 Lecture: *Withies to wickerwork*. Houses, fishtraps, hurdles, baskets, woven and stitched boats. Some points about recording.

11:45 Practical: (awareness raising) Some basic withy work, stitching boat planks. Examining the "Timber Circle" honeysuckle rope. Quick look at some basket and hurdle weaves.

12:30 LUNCH.

13:00 Practical: Spinning hemp yarn.

13:45 Lecture: *Ancient to Post medieval rope manufacture*

14:15 Practical: Ropemaking using replica eighteenth century equipment, and 20th Century spinning jack for making small stuff.

14:45 TEA

15:00 Practical: Ropemaking continued. Time also to have some basic ropework and knot tying tuition

16:30 Informal session, dealing with questions arising as a result of the day, repeating practicals.

Day 2

09:00 Lecture: *Analysis of ropework and recording techniques*.

09:30 Multiple practical tasks. Recording chafing gear and other forms of ropework. Rope sample recording, dissection and drawing, assisted by practising some of the techniques: introduction to Ropework, Paunch, sword matting, sennit, splicing.

10:30 Continue practical with Tea on the run...

12:00 Lecture, *It stinks, its in the way, too fragile to excavate and doesn't conserve*. An introduction to rigging on wrecks, some suggestions for excavation techniques.

12:30 LUNCH

13:00 Practical: Principles of the block and tackle.

13:30 Examination of blocks from the wreck of *Invincible* (1759).

14:00 Recording of blocks, their strops and associated cordage.

15:00 TEA. A look at some of the literature, plenary and feedback, rope making / sample making as desired to take away.

16:00 DEPART