

## **NAS Part III Recording Module**

### **Timber Recording**

#### **Aims:**

This course will provide an introduction to the recording and analysis of ship, boat and other timbers. The course is aimed at individuals undertaking the NAS Training programme, as well as professional archaeologists wanting to develop skills in the recording and analysis of waterlogged wood whether from ship structures or other maritime contexts. A range of approaches are explored from high-tech digital recording to procedures suitable for *in situ* documentation of underwater and intertidal timbers.

#### **Course Outline:**

- Introductory tour of the Newport Ship Centre, using available material to focus on recording issues
- Theoretical introduction to ancient waterlogged wood – what can this material tell us and how can this information be recorded, documented and analysed?
- Practical session based at the Newport Ship Centre using a range of digital recording techniques including 3D recording arms, laser scanning, and digital photography
- Field visit to inland or intertidal site (dependent on tides and weather) to consider on site timber recording approaches
- Practical session using traditional recording techniques such as timber record sheets and hand-drawn scale drawings

#### **Teaching Outcomes:**

Upon completion of this course participants will have been introduced to the archaeological potential of wood and timber with particular reference to maritime and nautical archaeology. Through classroom presentations and practical sessions participants will have seen how to record timbers, whether *in situ* as parts of surviving hull structure or as recovered items and how to handle and package/store this material. Participants will also have been introduced to the use of databases and other computer software in the description, management, analysis and publication of archaeological timbers.

#### **NAS Part III point allocation:**

Recording module: 12 points maximum

#### **National Occupational Standards for Archaeology Units:**

Unit 5 (AC3) Contribute to non-intrusive investigations

#### **Suggested Reading:**

*Waterlogged wood - guidelines on the recording, sampling, conservation, and curation of waterlogged wood.* English Heritage, London.

*Museum of London Archaeology Service Archaeological Site Manual.*

[http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/laarc/guidelines/ASM\\_3edn\\_1994.pdf](http://www.museumoflondon.org.uk/laarc/guidelines/ASM_3edn_1994.pdf)