



ENGLISH HERITAGE

## **Wroxeter Roman City Geophysical Survey Volunteer Role Description**

### **Why does English Heritage need my support?**

An exciting new study of the Roman city of Wroxeter, the fourth largest in the Roman province of Britannia, is about to take place. English Heritage is working in partnership with the German Archaeological Institute to conduct a new geophysical survey of the site using the latest state of the art equipment.

An extensive survey took place in the 1990s revealing a detailed plan of the buried city. Since then, technology has advanced, and the German Archaeological Institute's equipment promises to reveal much finer detail. It is also very fast, making it possible to scan a vast area in a short space of time, while connecting to satellite GPS to provide an instant digital map. We will be surveying areas not previously investigated and are expecting to reveal new finds and evidence. Would you like us to help reveal more Roman stories of this rich site?

Join us for the project duration and share your interest in archaeology, you're practical and enthusiasm.

### **Where will I be based?**

Wroxeter Roman City, Wroxeter, Shropshire, SY5 6PH but you also will be surveying land on the National Trust's estate at Attingham Park and privately owned land surrounding Wroxeter Roman City.

### **What will I be doing?**

As a Geophysical Survey Volunteer you will:

- Take turns to drive a gator (a small utility vehicle, or equivalent) which will be pulling the surveying equipment around the fields. This will be in two-hour sessions.
- When you aren't driving, you'll be part of the small logistics team, helping to open gates, plan the route ahead, coordinate with the other gator driver and ensuring smooth access to each field. This might include some lifting and we will provide training on how to safely lift the equipment.
- At the end of each day there will be opportunity to review the results and get a first glance at the findings. You could be the first to see Roman archaeology in centuries!

### **How much time will I be expected to give?**

This project will run from 30<sup>th</sup> August (starting with an induction session at Attingham Park, time TBC) -until 9<sup>th</sup> September inclusively and we are asking you to take part each day for 6 hours, due to the nature of the training required and the intensity of the project.

Sessions will run from either 8.00am – 14.00pm or 14.00pm – 20:00pm with rest and comfort breaks. We will discuss your session preference with you at the informal interview.

### **What skills, qualities and experience do I need?**

You need to be:

- Fit and healthy and able to commit to the physical and mental demands of this role
- Willing to be work outside, regardless of the weather
- Confident and adaptable; the majority of whom need to drive and guide the gator across fields and through gateways



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- A focus well organised and team player
- Experience of driving and working with archaeological machinery is desirable but not essential
- Safety conscious; you'll need to adhere to all health and safety, risk assessment protocols and wear PPE as trained.
- Be sensitive and trustworthy – the results of the survey must stay confidential until published.

### **What support and training will I receive?**

We will provide you with training at Attingham Park the day before the project starts. We will ensure you know how to use the machinery safely. To keep you safe, you must attend this to enable you to take part in the Geophysical surveying. Any PPE required for this role will be supplied but if you have your own high-vis jacket that would be helpful.

### **What will English Heritage expect from me?**

- To only take on this role if you feel physically able.
- To be reliable in attendance and dependable.
- Maintain good working relationships with staff, contractors, other volunteers and members of the public.
- Attend appropriate training and learn about the work of English Heritage.
- Observe organisational policy and procedures.
- Safeguard confidential information about English Heritage and let us know about anything relating to your role or the work of English Heritage that you think might be controversial.
- Any documentary or other material (including any copyright applying thereto) you are provided with or which is created by you in respect of your volunteering will be the property and copyright of English Heritage (unless otherwise agreed in writing).

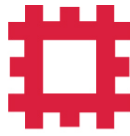
### **What can I expect from English Heritage?**

- A welcoming and enjoyable experience; this is your chance to be part of an exciting and exclusive project.
- To be treated fairly and with respect.
- Recognition and appreciation for your contribution.
- A full induction and training programme with on-going support.
- Reimbursement of reasonable travel costs between home and volunteering location within agreed limits (40-mile round trip per session). We are not able to offer accommodation costs.
- A certificate to demonstrate work carried out for English Heritage is available on request to show future employers or further education providers.
- You will be covered by English Heritage's own indemnity arrangements in respect of all liabilities that may result from your appointment as a volunteer.

### **Additional Information on the Surveying**

The new survey will cover the city and the surrounding land within a two-kilometre radius. Most of the area of the Roman city is owned by English Heritage, but the wider area is owned mostly by the National Trust and the Raby Estate.

The survey will be more complex than previous surveys and will take time to interpret. It will provide a palimpsest of outlines from different periods. We may see more detail of the Roman fortress that underlies the city, and perhaps more of the Iron Age settlements that preceded the Roman occupation. The forum, the main basilica, temples, the elite town houses with their



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courtyards, the dwellings of the less important townspeople, industrial areas and much more will be revealed within the defences of the city. And we hope, too, to understand the surrounding 2km much better - the distribution of farms and industrial areas - perhaps even a Roman amphitheatre. We hope to share some of the key findings in the spring of 2023 to coincide with launch of our new exhibition and interpretation of the site.

### **Technical Details**

We are using the latest state of the art equipment the main part of the proposed survey will use two 16-Channel magnetometers (Förster-Typ) built by Sensorik & Systemtechnologie GmbH. The 16 sensors are spaced at intervals of 0.25m on a single frame that will be towed behind a Gator. Georeferencing within the UK System is provided by a DGPS unit fitted to the sensor frame and the data is recorded as linear grids. Data is recorded as a series of separate tracks/traverses, 16 measurements on one track with a width of 4m. The tracks are fitted together by the Sensys software DLMDGPS or within a GIS-software using conventional raster tools.