

Part.1: Welcome

This handout accompanies the Home Front Legacy App: Part.1: Welcome Youtube training video



The Home Front Legacy project is a UK-wide partnership project co-ordinated by the Council for British Archaeology with funding from Historic England, Historic Scotland and Cadw. The project runs from 2014-18 and aims to record the physical legacy of the First World War in the UK.

Home Front Legacy enables individuals and local communities to identify and map their local First World War sites; ensuring their long term preservation through recording.

The First World War had a greater impact on the UK than you might think. Local buildings were often requisitioned to act as recruitment offices or billets for soldiers, stately homes were turned into hospitals to treat the wounded, and local industries turned over to war production to produce shells, bullets and uniforms. Sites associated with major events such as naval bombardments, bombing raids and strikes have often been forgotten and remain to be re-discovered; the memories attached to these sites and events also remain to be recorded.

The on-line toolkit gives you all the resources and tools you need to research and conduct your own field recording of local First World War remains. Recorded sites are presented on our 'Map of Sites' allowing us to see how the war affected the home front. The data collected is also recorded in the UK's national and local archaeological records, which will safeguard First World War remains for future generations.

Everyone can record the physical remains of the First World War with the Home Front Legacy recording app and you don't need to be an archaeologist, or have any prior archaeological experience, to do so.

What is field recording?

Field recording is the process of investigating a site or structure 'on the ground' to determine its exact location, function, and current condition. Field recording can also be used to identify any threats to a site's long term survival.

Field recording involves creating a record of the site or structure you are investigating. A record can be as simple as a grid reference tied in with a written description, accompanied by photographs of the site, through to more detailed methods of recording including creating a full measured survey of a site, a scaled drawing of a building, and a detailed record of a site's remaining structures.

Why is field recording important?

Your record may shed light on previously unrecorded sites and structures, or provide new information about a known site. From this information we can ensure the long term survival and preservation of significant and important sites for future generations.

Once your record is added to the Home Front Legacy 'Map of Sites' the information is available to the local Historic Environment Service. The record can then be included in the local Historic Environment Record (HER), or Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), where it can be used to safeguard remains of the First World War for future generations.

Your record will highlight the impact of the First World War on the home front and help preserve the personal memories, firsthand accounts, and stories attached to remaining sites.

What is the Home Front Legacy recording app?

The Home Front Legacy app gives you all the resources you need to start recording local sites and structures from the First World War. The Home Front Legacy recording app is an on-line recording form that can be used on a desktop PC (Supported browsers include Internet Explorer 8+, Chrome, Firefox Safari, and Opera), laptop computer, smart phone or tablet device.

The app can be used in the comfort of your own home using a desktop or laptop computer, or while on-site using a smart phone or tablet. The app is easy to set up, simple to use, and provides you with everything you need to record the physical legacy of the First World War.

You can quickly and accurately record a site's National Grid Reference with the in-built mapping layers and aerial photographs. The Ordnance Survey mapping layer can be downloaded to a smart phone or tablet device, and used if you lose mobile internet coverage. The app recording form is easy to use, and each section has its own set of dedicated help notes.

All you have to do is register at www.homefrontlegacy.org.uk to access the Home Front Legacy recording app.

Disclaimer

Before carrying out any field work landowner consent must be obtained. You can find out more in the website 'Site Safety' section. Finally, the CBA and project partners are not responsible for any issues that may arise when using the HFL recording app.