

Unit AC3 Contribute to non-intrusive investigations

Elements

AC3.1 Prepare for operations

AC3.2 Observe and record measurements

AC3.3 Prepare records and schedules

Unit Commentary:

This unit involves making contributions to non-intrusive archaeological field investigations (primarily various types of surveys). The unit is for junior field archaeologists working under the direction of a more senior archaeologist who will be responsible for carrying out the field investigation. This unit deals with the contributions to preparation for an investigation, the fieldwork and the analysis and presentation of the data.

AC3 Contribute to non-intrusive investigations

AC3.1 Prepare for operations

Performance Required

This will involve:

- a) understanding the **investigation** method statement and your role in the investigation prior to commencement
- b) understanding the nature of the **site**, the **investigation methods** and **safety arrangements**
- c) bringing suitable **equipment**, clothing and materials to site and making safe and secure

Occupational Context

1 Type of investigation:

- building survey
- topographical survey
- geophysical survey
- geochemical survey
- landscape survey
- aerial survey

2 Investigation methods:

- visual
- approximate measured
- detailed measurement of all specified features
- graphic / photographic
- instrumental

3 Type of site:

- landscape
- earthworks
- sub-surface deposits
- structures
- terrestrial
- intertidal
- underwater

4 Survey, measuring and recording equipment:

- mechanical
- optical
- electronic
- digital

5 Safety arrangements:

- personal safety and safety of others
- equipment and clothing
- safe use of access equipment
- health and safety practice and regulations
- codes of practice
- special constraints applying to site including protection of features

Knowledge Requirements

You need to know and understand how to:

- Select and secure suitable equipment and spares
- Check safety arrangements and working practices

You need to know about:

- Types and modes of investigation
- Types of equipment which may be required
- Types of and sources of information on safety arrangements and safe working practices, legislation and regulations which may be required

AC3 Contribute to non-intrusive investigations

AC3.1 Prepare for operations

Required Skills

You should demonstrate:

- The safe use of equipment used for investigation

Evidence Required

You should provide evidence that you can prepare for operations

The candidate should be questioned, based upon the documentation provided, to explore the following

- goals of the project
- investigation methods
- candidate's own role in the project
- equipment safety and security
- arrangements for safety checks

Evidence Rules

- The candidate should have been involved in at least 2 substantive projects.

AC3 Contribute to non-intrusive investigations

AC3.2 Observe and record measurements

Performance Required

This will involve:

- a) contributing to the **investigation** efficiently and systematically and in accordance with the method statement
- b) adapting work procedures and practices if instructed to allow for different **circumstances and conditions**
- c) maintaining the integrity of the site, observing **safe working practices** and ensuring disruption to other activities on the site is kept to a minimum
- d) making observations and measurements that are accurate and fully meet specified data requirements
- e) consulting with senior manager when uncertain about any aspect of the investigation or own responsibilities for action
- f) recording **investigation** data clearly and accurately and storing them securely for later analysis
- g) maintaining equipment in operational order and storing it securely

Occupational Context

1 Type of investigation:

- building survey
- topographical survey
- geophysical survey
- geochemical survey
- landscape survey
- aerial survey

2 Mode of investigation:

- visual
- approximate measured
- detailed measurement of all specified features
- graphic/ photographic
- instrumental

3 Safe working practices (cover):

- personal safety
- safety of others
- equipment and clothing
- safe use of access equipment
- health and safety practice and regulations
- codes of best practice
- special constraints applying to survey site including protection of features

4 Circumstances and conditions:

- structural stability
- cultural and historical significance of site and site features
- current use of site
- geotechnical factors
- weather conditions
- fragility of features and materials
- ecology
- emergency circumstances

Knowledge Requirements

You need to know and understand how to:

- Conduct investigations
- Identify and follow safe working practices
- Observe and measure accurately
- Adapt investigation procedures and practices to suit different conditions
- Record and store investigation data
- Maintain equipment
- Use personal protection clothing & equipment

You need to know about:

- Types and modes of investigation
- Safe working practices which apply to the conduct of investigation
- Circumstances and conditions which can affect investigation operations
- Data protocols used in different investigation methods
- Types of recording format and data storage systems used

AC3 Contribute to non-intrusive investigations

AC3.2 Observe and record measurements

Required Skills

You should demonstrate:

- The safe and appropriate use, care and calibration of equipment
- The safe use of access equipment
- Lifting and handling techniques
- Techniques applicable to non-intrusive archaeological investigations
- The application of data recording protocols

Evidence Required

You should provide evidence that you can observe and record measurements

The candidate should be questioned, based upon the documentation provided, to explore the following:

- investigation data recorded and stored
- equipment in operational order and stored
- candidate's own role in the project

Evidence Rules

- The candidate should have been involved in at least 2 substantive projects.

AC3 Contribute to non-intrusive investigations

AC3.3 Prepare records and schedules

Performance Required

This will involve:

- a) checking and verifying **investigation data** for accuracy and integrity
- b) processing **investigation data** accurately and presenting it in a format that will assist in making a balanced interpretation

Occupational Context

1 Investigation data:

- visual
- approximate measured
- detailed measurement of all specified features
- graphic / photographic
- instrumental

2 Data outputs:

- measurement data
- visual records

Knowledge Requirements

You need to know and understand how to:

- Apply valid methods to verify investigation data
- Process, format and present investigation data suitable for end use

You need to know about:

- Types of investigation data
- Types of data analysis
- Data presentation formats

AC3 Contribute to non-intrusive investigations

AC3.3 Prepare records and schedules

Required Skills

You should demonstrate:

- How to present investigation data, data analysis

Evidence Required

You should provide evidence that you can prepare records and schedules

The candidate should be questioned, based upon the documentation provided, to explore the following

- investigation data selected, collated, checked and verified
- investigation data processed and presented

Evidence Rules

- The candidate should have been involved in at least 2 substantive projects.