



Michael Dawson Director

FSA MCIfA

Michael has a 30 year career in heritage and archaeology. Working throughout the UK and Eastern Europe he has wide experience of the historic environment with clients in the commercial, regulatory and third sector. His professional range includes: urban regeneration, rural development, World Heritage designation, advice and consultancy in relation to development, representing client interest in the courts, at public inquiry and in negotiations with planning authorities. Michael has been Chairman of the Institute for Archaeologists and published widely on heritage issues. He is editor of the Journal Historic Environment Policy and Practice and manages CgMs' Midlands office

Experience

Michael's career includes senior roles in the private and commercial sector and local government. He has a detailed knowledge of heritage in the English Planning system and his expertise extends from heritage management planning to archaeological project design, from expert witness statements to environmental assessment and evaluation. Joining CgMs in 2002 Michael has dealt with heritage issues for a series of high profile projects in areas such as infrastructure, volume house building, rural regeneration, leisure and recreation, renewable energy, minerals and waste reprocessing.

On projects as diverse as the Cambridge A1-M1 link, Housing Market Renewal (HMR) in the Northwest and Midlands or urban growth at Stanton Cross, Wellingborough, Michael has worked with multidisciplinary teams, successfully addressing issues of mitigation, setting, signficance and preservation. Working within the planning system Michael has written Heritage Management Plans, Environmental Impact Assessments and a range of assessment and evaluations related to both below-ground archaeology and the built environment.

Recently Michael has undertaken, amongst others, large scale projects within the setting of Stonehenge (World Heritage Site), contributed to tall building assessments in the development of Reading, and managed the archaeology and heritage in relation to quarrying near Peterborough within the setting of a Scheduled Ancient Monument. To these projects and many others Michael has contributed a deep knowledge of archaeology and the historic environment, writing in support of planning applications and working to discharge planning consent conditions. Such projects have involved often detailed technical negotiations on behalf of clients with Historic England, local planning authorities and landowners.

Whilst any profile such as this, perhaps inevitably, emphasises the larger scale projects Michael also has an extensive record of bespoke projects on behalf of clients including architects, homeowners and land agents whose interests include landed estates, farm and residential conversions, riverside development, canal property and industrial re-development. In many of these projects discretion and judgement have been key factors in development proposals related to heritage

Key Projects

Wellingborough East Production of EIA Cultural Heritage & Archaeology, mitigation design implementation of archaeological strategy for development of 2875 houses.

Melton South

Assessment & evaluation of complex archaeology & setting of Scheduled Ancient Monument for urban extension (54ha) south of Melton Mowbray.

Littleworth Road Benson

Management of extensive archaeological excavation including Romano-British & Neolithic activity in advance of large scale residential development.

Chelveston Renewable
Energy Extensive renewable
energy development of former
involving archaeological
assessment, evaluation,
analysis & mitigation over
former RAF & USAF airfield.

Willow Hall Quarry

Gravel quarry, requiring EIA specialist chapter involving, desk based assessment, aerial photograph, geophysical survey & trial trench evaluation prior to the design & implementation of