



Preparing to dive in the lee of Mingary Castle, Scotland and marinas, oil and gas, and aggregates.

The challenge

The shores of our island nation and the waters surrounding it play host to a rich variety of often well-preserved archaeological and cultural heritage remains deposited over millennia. This extensive cultural resource ranges from the more obvious - shipwrecks, ports and harbours, coastal defences (both natural and military), and fish traps, to the less intuitive - submerged prehistoric landscapes, and aviation losses.

Identifying and managing the potential impacts of coastal and offshore developments upon coastal and marine cultural heritage has become a standard requirement within the UK over the past 20 years. In response to this, Cotswold Archaeology has developed its marine department to sit alongside its long-standing consultancy service.

We are multi-skilled professionals

Our experienced team provides the full range of marine heritage services to clients, curators and government, with in-house expertise in most offshore development and heritage sectors, including renewables, interconnector cables and pipelines, ports

We are flexible

Cotswold Archaeology currently operates from four offices, offering a wide range of both offshore and onshore archaeological services to the commercial sector. Our marine service is equipped to undertake a wide variety of projects throughout the UK and beyond.

We are responsive and pragmatic

Cotswold Archaeology's range of services has been developed to directly support our clients' ever-increasing need to deliver progressive and innovative developments. We appreciate the need to support the client fully, providing professional yet practical solutions to ease the progress of marine developments, by completing tasks on time and on budget. Cotswold has one of the largest consultancy teams in the UK, with staff working on marine surveys, excavations and post-excavation projects. We also regularly use a range of external specialists as required.

Header image: a pair of callipers recovered from the wreck of the London (1665)



A pulley block recovered from the wreck of the London (1665)





Diver inspecting a cannon on an unknown wreck

Consultancy

- Scoping and strategic appraisal studies
- Desk-based Assessment
- Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI)
- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
- Strategic (SEA) and Regional (REA) Environmental Assessments
- Cultural Heritage chapters for Environmental Statements
- Mitigation plans and Written Schemes of Investigation

Data Analysis

- Archaeological analysis and interpretation of marine and foreshore geophysical data
- Marine and foreshore geotechnical analysis and deposit modelling

Research

- Strategic research and guidance
- Thematic studies
- Wreck research

Marine geophysical survey in progress

Fieldwork

- Foreshore and offshore watching briefs
- Archaeological diving services including tracked diver survey, inspection and excavation
- Marine and foreshore geophysical surveys
- Foreshore and inter-tidal walkover surveys



Post-Excavation

- Environmental assessment and analysis
- Finds assessment and analysis
- Publication