



THE GREATER THAMES ESTUARY HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH FRAMEWORK 2010 PART 2: STRATEGY TABLES

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THEME - THE DEVELOPMENT AND PALAEOENVIRONMENT OF THE THAMES ESTUARY

Part 1; Section 2.0

Framework Objective 1A

To increase understanding of the physical evolution of the Thames estuary during the Pleistocene and of the social and cultural strategies of early human populations in relation to changes in environment and climate.

1A.SO1	developing further the framework for, and our understanding of, environmental and climatic change during the Pleistocene.
1A.SO2	developing knowledge of the evolution of the Thames and Medway drainage systems in the Pleistocene
1A.SO3	identifying key areas where primary context sites might be preserved and where evidence relating to current research objectives might be located.
1A.SO4	Developing an appreciation of the contribution made by secondary context (reworked) material to understanding the range and distribution of Lower and Middle Palaeolithic activity.

*Initiatives that address or contribute to the Framework / Specific Objectives outlined above
In no particular order*

	Initiative Description:	Approach:	Contributes to:
	Developing a targeted programme of recording and sampling of geological exposures to improve knowledge of geological sequences and their environmental and chronological context	Methods / projects / sites that can be used, studied to further the initiative Take forward the recommendations for further investigation in the ancestral Medway valley	1A.SO1
	Utilising geotechnical borehole and associated data to improve knowledge of geological sequences and their environmental and chronological context	Collation of borehole records for modeling and interpretation e.g. of approach, Middle Thames Northern Tributaries, Medway Valley Palaeolithic Project and the Lea Valley Mapping Project	1A.SO2
	Collate available geotechnical borehole / test-pit data and mapping areas of extant superficial deposits (classified in terms of their likely temporal and spatial characteristics)	As above – incorporating BGS mapping e.g. of approach could also include the Greater Thames Mineral Extraction Sites Survey Priority is those areas where more recent (ie. Holocene) sequences are also present given the nature of development around the estuary	1A.SO1 1A.SO2 1A.SO3
	Compile environmental data in a systematic way, to provide palaeoenvironmental frameworks, to agreed standards provided by recent guidelines	Build upon the London region pollen database - expand geographically - expand range of data incorporated	1A.SO1

	Compile palaeogeographic maps illustrating the physical evolution of the study area	Follow on from the projects detailed above plus sea level studies	1A.SO2,1A.SO1
	Assessment of historic maps and antiquarian records relating to earlier quarrying to locate more accurately known artefact collections and assess the extent of significant geological deposits	Desk-based assessment in GIS environment for spatial analysis	1A.SO1 1A.SO4
	Developing effective assessment techniques for Pleistocene / Paleolithic deposits.	MVPP has suggested possibilities which could trialed and assessed	1A.SO2 1A.SO3
	Characterisation and mapping of the sea-bed resource	Extending Historic Seascape Characterisation of the estuary	1A.SO1 1A.SO2 1A.SO3

Framework Objective 1B

To develop a better understanding of the Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic around the estuary, which has been identified as a ‘gap’ in the record.

1B.SO1	Integration of existing databases
1B.SO2	To carry out field investigation of sites which previous studies have identified as having high potential
1B.SO3	To develop predictive techniques to identify key areas where sites may be found and good preservational contexts

Initiatives that address or contribute to the Framework / Specific Objectives outlined above (in no particular order)

	Initiative Description:	Approach: Methods / projects / sites that can be used, studied to further the initiative	Contributes to:
	Improve the integration of existing datasets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the data from the recently developed Jacobi and Wymer databases is incorporated into the relevant regional HER and the NMR. • Ensure that data from PPG16 investigations is incorporated into the relevant HER (possible enhancement project) • Ensure that data from PAS investigations is incorporated into the relevant HER (possible enhancement project) • Ensure that this data is accessible (e.g. via ADS) 	1B.SO1
	Carry out field investigations	Field investigations Fenn Creek (Mesolithic) Erith / Purfleet forests	1B.SO2
	Further develop predictive modeling	Follow on from the approach of modeling projects e.g. MVPP, Lea Valley Olympics work	1B.SO3

Framework Objective 1C

To increase understanding of the physical evolution of the Thames estuary and associated climatic and environmental change and their relationship with human activity during the Holocene.

1C.SO1	characterising key stratigraphic units and establishing the vertical sequence of buried landsurfaces and other deposits throughout the estuary
1C.SO2	developing understanding of coastline and sea level change in the estuary through time
1C.SO3	developing models for environmental change related to the evolution of the estuary's geometry
1C.SO4	developing appreciation of human interaction with this environment, particularly with regard to the exploitation and management of woodland and marshes
1C.SO5	exploring the potential of submerged woodland for dendrochronology, woodland structure, composition and exploitation, and evidence of environmental change

Initiatives that address or contribute to the Framework / Specific Objectives outlined above (no particular order)

	Initiative Description:	Approach: Methods / projects / sites that can be used, studied to further the initiative	Contributes to:
	Carry out collation and synthesis of existing environmental data (published and unpublished) across the Greater Thames	Build upon the London region database (Pollen) Synthesis of the above	1C.SO1 1C.SO5 1C.SO3
	Carry out compilation and analysis of existing borehole data to agreed standards	Collation of borehole records for modeling and interpretation e.g. of approach, Middle Thames Northern Tributaries, Medway Valley Palaeolithic Project and the Lea Valley Mapping Project. The priority is those areas where more recent (ie. Holocene) sequences are also present	1C.SO1
	Field investigation of woodland	Erith, Rainham and similar exposures of 'submerged forests' in the Crouch and Blackwater – the latter have not been not visited/ recorded in recent years	1C.SO5
	Produce palaeoenvironmental frameworks for the estuary	Develop project/s to address this	1C.SO1
	Detailed investigation of selected areas by means of paly-nological, soil micromorphological, molluscan and plant macrofossil analyses	Develop projects to take this forward; the RSPB reserves may provide areas where this could begin	1C.SO3 1C.SO4 1C.SO5
	Ensure that standards are developed an, as important, promoted		

THEME - MARITIME HERITAGE

Part 1; Section 3.0

Framework Objective 2A

To examine the role of the estuary in providing internal coherence through trading and other maritime contacts and as a major artery of communication between England and continental Europe

2A.SO1	Developing an understanding of the role of maritime activity in relation to settlement and land use around the estuary.
2A.SO2	Developing an understanding of the social and economic role of sea-borne trade and other maritime activity within and beyond the estuary.
2A.SO3	Researching documentary sources to increase knowledge of surviving and no longer extant sites and vessels and trade and communication patterns.
2A.SO4	Review and collation of existing wreck data to improve the available baseline information

Initiatives that address or contribute to the Framework / Specific Objectives outlined above (no particular order)

	Initiative Description:	Approach: Methods / projects / sites that can be used, studied to further the initiative	Contributes to:
	Locate and record the remains of vessels and associated structures within the sub-tidal and intertidal zone	Desk based and field survey around the Essex coast (geographical 'gap')	FO2.SO4
	Identify gaps in knowledge and develop a strategy for further work on other types of wrecks/hulks around the intertidal zone to	Synthesizing the results of the RCZAS surveys (desk and field survey) and Marine ALSF projects	2A
	Carry out systematic record enhancement; most wrecks are too inaccurately located for designation/conservation management purposes	Enhancing the record of the <i>London</i> with a particular focus on addressing the <i>London/King</i> dilemma Carry out preliminary desk based work to be followed by field survey in the Estuary building on existing datasets	2A
	Establish protocols for levels of recording of vessel remains in order to establish consistent and comparable inventories	Develop a project to address this (tie in to Maritime research framework) Assist in the development of the national maritime research framework	2A
	Selecting vessel remains for more detailed study and recording		2A
	Investigating the role of the estuary as a ship and boat-building area	Carrying out studies of ship/boat-building in towns around the estuary e.g. Faversham, Leigh on Sea, Tollesbury, Colne Estuary	2A

	Better understand the nature of cargoes and their movements in relation to local and more distant trade	Development of research projects on this subject	2A
	Better understand the extant datasets relating to Thames Barges	Synthesising the various data sets available for Thames Barges to develop a programme of further work	2A
	Maritime recording of aviation wrecks	Opportunistic recording within existing guidelines (may be war graves)	2A

THEME - INTERTIDAL AND RELATED ARCHAEOLOGY
Part 1; Section 4.0

Framework Objective 3A

To develop a full appreciation of the range and context of remains within the intertidal zone as evidence of environmental change and the exploitation and management of the intertidal resource.

3A.SO1	Completion of baseline survey to provide a framework for defining further research priorities in the intertidal zone, with the North Kent Coast identified as a priority
3A.SO2	Increasing understanding of remains associated with fishing, saltworking etc. and their function in relation to the intertidal zone
3A.SO3	Integrating the specialised sites and structures within the intertidal zone into wider patterns of interpretation and explanation. Some progress has been made towards this in both Kent and Essex but it remains relevant
3A.SO4	Selecting sites for further examination where the preservation of organic materials will contribute to archaeological understanding beyond the wetland zone through a process of analysis and synthesis
3A.SO5	Publication / dissemination of the results of surveys and the promotion of intertidal archaeology in general
3A.SO6	Developing a robust understanding of the effects / impacts of the coastal management options on the historic environment resource

Initiatives that address or contribute to the Framework / Specific Objectives outlined above (in no particular order)

	Initiative Description:	Approach: Methods / projects / sites that can be used, studied to further the initiative	Contributes to:
	Collating information derived from existing collections of aerial photographs and commissioning new surveys as appropriate	NMP complete for Kent and Essex and specialist work has been carried out. Project/s to review the results – with a particular view to interpretation and synthesis and relation to other GIS datasets 'Ground truthing' of non-field based project results	3A
	Exploring the possibilities that other datasets have to contribute to the framework objectives and the development of the strategy (e.g. LiDAR)	Lidar to be incorporated into studies where opportunities arise (e.g. publication of the Essex fishtraps monitoring) Continuing communication / collaboration with bodies outside the Heritage sector through bodies such as TEP	3A
	Carry out monitoring surveys in areas of potential/threat	Identify areas of potential and threat Carry out long-term monitoring survey	3A
	Review and analysis of the results of the variety of baseline surveys	Ensure that the material from around the estuary is in the relevant HER and accessible (e.g. through ADS) Develop thematic reviews of the surveys	3A

	Assess the accuracy of the rapid identification of sites/monuments made during RCZAS	'ground truthing' to test the rapid initial identifications made in the field	3A
	Carry out pilot fieldwork on salterns /red hills in order to better understand these monuments and to develop methodologies for their investigation	Programme of field investigation to be developed.	3A
	Enhancing therecord of known extant sites/monuments	Opportunistic recording of sites	
	Investigation and analysis of the Hullbridge, Essex palaeochannel at Fenn Creeek	Field investigation at Fenn Creek	

Framework Objective 3B

To develop a holistic approach to the study of sea walls and flood defences in the estuary landscape as evidence of climatic change, and reclamation, management and exploitation of the marshland resource.

Initiatives that address or contribute to the Framework / Specific Objectives outlined above (no particular order)

3B.SO1	Developing an overview of the evolution of sea defences in relation to sea level and climatic change
3B.SO2	Developing an understanding of the construction methods of sea walls and their water control mechanisms.
3B.SO3	Developing an understanding of the historical context of sea defences in terms of secular and ecclesiastical land ownership and exploitation

	Initiative Description:	Approach: Methods / projects / sites that can be used, studied to further the initiative	Contributes to:
	Developing our understanding of seawall as one of the most extensive monuments around the estuary	Identifying sites of extant of former sea walls / counterwalls through desk-based assessment /analysis of existing studies (e.g. various Essex grazing marsh surveys) Develop a programme of field investigation (in consultation with nature conservation bodies where appropriate) to establish good practice methodologies	3B.SO1 3B.SO2
	Establishing a chronological framework for the development of sea defences	Desk-based project supported by field survey – extend scope of Gramolt	3B.SO2
	Documentary research into the evolution of sea defences	Desk-based project supported by field survey – extend scope of Gramolt	3B.SO1-3

Framework Objective 3C

To continue develop a holistic approach to the study of the extant grazing marsh and former wetlands around the estuary to understand the physical survival of historic monuments and landscapes; to consider this as evidence of climatic, social and economic development around the estuary through the centuries.

Initiatives that address or contribute to the Framework / Specific Objectives outlined above (no particular order)

	Initiative Description:	Approach: Methods / projects / sites that can be used, studied to further the initiative	Contributes to:
	Study of grazing marsh	Completing grazing marsh surveys (desk-based and walkover) of the extant and former marsh around the estuary	3C
	Understanding the physical survival of historic monuments and landscapes	Plotting the extent of earthworks and cropmark sites and relating them to cartographic and documentary evidence Long term monitoring of known sites/monuments	3C
	Identification and dating of the historic monuments and landscapes	Basic identification and dating of earthworks through field investigation – including excavation	3C

Framework Objective 3D

To continue to develop methodologies for the investigation of the intertidal zone.

Initiatives that address or contribute to the Framework / Specific Objectives outlined above (no particular order)

	Initiative Description:	Approach: Methods / projects / sites that can be used, studied to further the initiative	Contributes to:
	Continue to develop techniques for recording in the intertidal zone	Building fieldwork programmes on the results of desk-based surveys Monitoring and other surveys in differing physical/topographical environments	3D
	Consider the potential for providing condensed word lists for use in RCZAS / identifying gaps in available lists	Seminar/discussion between practioners and HER officers	3D
	Develop experimental research protocols related to marine inundation of archaeological soils and sites	e.g. Macphails's study at Wallasea Island.	3D
	Investigating sites specifically related to exploitation of the coast, such as fish processing, landing places etc	Fish traps, oyster farming complexes (e.g. Paglesham area)	3D

THEME - LAND-USE AND OCCUPATION

Part 1; Section 5.0

Framework Objective 4A

To further understanding of the evolution of settlement and other land-use patterns around the estuary in terms of their social, economic and political development.

4A.SO1	analysing the adaptation and evolution of settlement patterns in response to coastal change
4A.SO2	developing interpretation and explanation of sites along the coast of the estuary which integrate such sites with data from the intertidal zone and buried landscapes
4A.SO3	developing an understanding of early agriculture and land use on terrace gravels and brickearth
4A.SO4	examining the impact of the Roman Conquest on settlement patterns and the social, economic and political articulations of the landscape
4A.SO5	examining the chronology of the Anglo-Saxon migrations into the areas surrounding the Thames Estuary and the impact on existing settlement and material culture
4A.SO6	examining the development in the Anglo-Saxon period of new organisational and administrative frameworks based on secular and ecclesiastical estates and "territories"
4A.SO7	examining the impact of the Norman Conquest on settlement patterns and estate organisation
4A.SO8	examining the role of the town from the Roman period onwards
4A.SO9	analysing the pattern of settlements of all types through time as evidence of the social, economic and political evolution of the study area
4A.SO10	examining the impact of the church on the historic landscape in medieval times.

Initiatives that address or contribute to the Framework / Specific Objectives outlined above (no particular order)

	Initiative Description:	Approach: Methods / projects / sites that can be used, studied to further the initiative	Contributes to:
	synthesis of the results of projects which have been carried out around the hinterland of the estuary (both published and 'grey' literature) and considering how their results relate to the broad research objectives outlined above.	This could perhaps be best carried out by developing a series of thematic projects.	3A.SO1
	Understanding the development of below ground deposits / alluvial sequences	Collation and analysis of borehole and palaeoenvironmental records	
	Understanding of the role of the estuary through time	selecting sites for further examination and investigation which specifically contribute to this e.g. landing places, salterns (relates this theme with those of the intertidal and marine)	
	Developing programmes to better our understanding of the Mesolithic Period Around the Estuary		
	Better understanding the chronology of the prehistoric period around the estuary	Developing radiocarbon dating programmes for prehistoric periods in general. This applies to already archived projects as well as to current and future ones	
	Testing current hypotheses concerning the characterisation of medieval rural settlement in relation to sub-provinces and local regions and exploring social, economic and political evolution against this framework		
	Identification of the sites of 'lost' and extant farms, considering them in relation to agricultural developments / economy, and their relationship to the estuary	Desk based research supported by field survey similar to the process used for the development of industrial gazetteers	
	To consider if there are regional/landscape variations in settlement location, density or type		
	Study of field systems and bio- archaeological evidence from associated wells/watering holes and settlement features	London Gateway results could inform this	
	Development and role of the towns, changes in their internal layouts and housing densities, role as centres of supply and demand in relation to maritime trade	Review, update and revision of existing EUS Detailed research into selected towns	
	Considering relative settlement distribution and cultural links	Analysis of the distribution of artefacts recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme or recovered by archaeological fieldwork	
	Creating models of the interrelationships that can be tested by further research and investigation		

THEME – HISTORIC BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Part 1; Section 6.0

Framework Objective 5A

To develop an understanding of the built heritage around the estuary

5A.SO1	Identifying important themes and/or areas around the estuary for research and recording
5A.SO2	Developing inventories of the built heritage around the estuary to provide a platform for comparative studies / characterisation

Initiatives that address or contribute to the Framework / Specific Objectives outlined above (no particular order)

	Initiative Description:	Approach: Methods / projects / sites that can be used, studied to further the initiative	Contributes to:
	Considering the importance of key groups of the post-1840s building stock, which is largely unlisted,	Identifying and inventorying for research and recording	5A.SO1
	Considering the key building types associated with the estuary	Identifying and inventorying key building types (e.g. sail lofts, warehouses/dockyard buildings, public houses, seamen's missions)	5A.SO2
	Synthesis and analysis of data uncovered by building recording projects (building types associated with the estuary)	Data collation project bring together the material from the disparate sources	5A.SO2
	Establishing the distribution of extant and lost farmsteads	Programme of documentary research, creating an inventory of sites followed by rapid field survey	5A.SO2
	Syntheses of the significance, economic and social importance of classes of historic buildings (associated with the estuary)		

Framework Objective 5B

To further the understanding of the evolution of the historic built environment along the estuary with special reference to structural form and function, the aspirations of the associated individuals and communities and the use of local building materials.

5B.SO1	considering the growth of seaside towns and resorts along the Thames
5B.SO2	considering the growth of industrial communities
5B.SO3	examining the impact of London on settlement character and form
5B.SO4	considering the growth of suburbs

Initiatives that address or contribute to the Framework / Specific Objectives outlined above (no particular order)

Initiative Description:	Approach:	Contributes to:
Patterns of development of seaside towns	Methods / projects / sites that can be used, studied to further the initiative	
The extent and nature of 'plotland' communities on both sides of the Thames during the inter-war period	Undertaking a further programme of documentary research, supported by field survey – including the completion of the Essex Seaside Heritage Project	
assess the evidence of standing structures for understanding urban growth and the development of industrial communities	Programme of documentary research followed by rapid field assessment of selected areas	
assessing the effect of urban and industrial development on rural sites		
Considering the origin, development and character of suburbs	Characterisation / area appraisal of suburban areas around the estuary	
Considering the range of building types, their function and the clues they contain for cultural and ideological associations		
Considering the form, character and chronology of individual properties (estuary specific)		
the meanings and values of domestic and public gardens		
Expanding our knowledge of public buildings –		
Considering the impact of private and public enterprise (government initiatives, army and naval authorities, etc) in urban and infrastructure development		

THEME - HISTORIC DEFENCES AND OTHER MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

Part 1; Section 7.0

Framework Objective 6A

To develop an understanding of defensive systems around the estuary and their role in relation to the estuary, London and south-east England.

6A.SO1	examining the impact of changes in military technology and tactical and strategic approaches on individual defence sites and defence systems
6A.SO2	developing understanding of the evolution of the estuary's defences in relation to political change
6A.SO3	developing interpretations of these defences integrated with wider patterns of settlement, commerce and landscape.

Initiatives that address or contribute to the Framework / Specific Objectives outlined above (no particular order)

	Initiative Description:	Approach: Methods / projects / sites that can be used, studied to further the initiative	Contributes to:
	Establishing a basic inventory of defence sites related to changing defensive systems within the estuary integrated into the region's SMRs / HERs	Fill in the 'gaps' in existing inventories – for example World War I and the Cold War period	6A.SO1-3
	Review and synthesis of existing inventories to identify sites for further work (considering the objectives above)	Desk-based studies leading to a programme of dissemination and publication	6A.SO1-3
	detailed study of selected sites which illustrate technological development or are key to the understanding of defensive systems	Field survey supported by documentary research	6A.SO1
	analyzing variations between fortifications as planned and as built.	Field survey supported by documentary research	6A.SO1
	Identification and survey / more detailed investigation of vulnerable historic defence / military sites	e.g. East Mersea Blockhouse	6A.SO1-3
	Considering the development of naval dockyards and their relationship with other military/defence sites and their environs	Naval dockyards at Chatham, Sheerness etc.	6A.SO1-3
	Identifying structures which had a key role in technological developments	e.g. the Boat Store at Sheerness dockyard	6A.SO1-3

	Considering the links between defence sites / military installations and their infrastructure and support framework (e.g. barracks, camps, manufacturing, shipping)	e.g. Chatham Lines	6A.SO1-3
	Technological developments in dockyard construction	e.g. Sheerness Dockyard	6A.SO1
	Considering the strategic and organizational links – as a relationship between fortifications, armies and fleets.		6A.SO1-3
	Considering the changes to the coastline of the estuary and the extent to which this influenced the location etc. of defence sites		6A.SO1-3
	Study strategies for promoting the beneficial reuse of former defence sites	eg Woolwich, Chatham, Shoeburyness housing, etc	6A.SO1-3
	Development of links with the public / local groups.	Oral history has the potential to make a significant contribution to this theme – link to local record offices	6A.SO1-3

THEME – INDUSTRY AND TRANSPORT
Part 1; Section 8.0

Framework Objective 7A

To develop an understanding of the estuary’s industrial archaeology remains and their relationship to the history of industrialisation in the estuary.

7A.SO1	Continuing the systematic approach to the study of industrial archaeology and relating it to existing historical studies
7A.SO2	identifying important sectors of industrial activity for research and recording. e.g. the pharmaceutical industries, refineries, industrial/factory estates
7A.SO3	identifying important or representative sites for research and recording through synthesis of the results of the various inventory projects
7A.SO4	Identifying important or representative sites which are vulnerable (e.g. disused and decaying) in order to develop programmes for research and recording
7A.SO5	developing a strategy for the beneficial reuse and/or interpretation of selected sites (see military sections for examples of regeneration at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich) ERIH
7A.SO6	Publishing of the results of important individual sites (e.g. the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich) and groups of sites (e.g. the various closely inter-related sites around Chatham)
7A.SO7	Research into the wider effects of industrialization and transport changes (e.g. the development of industrial communities, the effects of migration of groups to industrial centres, middle class migration to suburbia/ countryside)
7A.SO8	Research into the effects of de-industrialisation / changes in the types of industries to be found around the estuary

Initiatives that address or contribute to the Framework / Specific Objectives outlined above (no particular order)

	Initiative Description:	Approach: Methods / projects / sites that can be used, studied to further the initiative	Contributes to:
	Establishing, as a sub-set of the region’s HER / SMRs, an inventory of industrial sites and monuments related to the estuary (baseline research to provide a platform for further research within and beyond the estuary)	thematic inventories in London Thematic inventories for those industries not yet studied (e.g. petro-chemical)	7A.SO1
	Developing synthetic studies of the industrial heritage resource using the results of the baseline studies	Thematic / regional studies for dissemination/ publication	7A.SO2-4
	Studies of late 20 th century industries and places of work and changes of work patterns.	This might include the electronics industry, the impact of the internal combustion engine, consumerism and leisure	7A.SO1
	Considering how the growth and decline of mid to late 20 th century industry has effected the landscape, economy and social character of the estuary	Desk based studies supported by field survey	7A.SO7

	Considering the inter-relationships between different industries (e.g. the chemical industry and explosives manufacture)	Desk based studies supported by field survey	7A.SO6
	Considering the links between the natural resources of the estuary and industry		7A.SO6 /8
	Studying the development (and decline) of industrial communities		7A.SO7
	Studying the effects of industrialisation around the estuary on its surroundings.	Queenborough and Rushenden / England's Past for Everyone	7A.SO7
	Studying transient populations		7A.SO7

THEME - METHODOLOGY, MANAGEMENT AND PROMOTION
Part 1; Section 9.0

Framework Objective 8A

To exploit the potential of the Thames estuary as a study area for methodological innovation pertinent to the detection, recording, monitoring and management of estuarine sediments and sites

Specific objectives include:

Data standards

8A.SO1	Promotion of data standards for all kinds of archaeological investigation within the region; xamples of data standards are now available e.g. through the ADS (ads.ahds.ac.uk/standards)
8A.SO2	Consider the compatibility of our existing datasets around the region
8A.SO3	consider means of managing the web-based historic environment resource

Stratigraphic studies

8A.SO4	extending the use of geotechnical/geophysical techniques to supplement conventional borehole/test pit data.
8A.SO5	developing the use of GIS and other software to model palaeosurfaces in three dimensions
8A.SO6	refining techniques for recognizing buried landsurfaces and understanding their palaeoenvironmental context
8A.SO7	promoting techniques to refine understanding of depositional environments and stratigraphic sequences (e.g. using X-radiography to examine bedding structures and discontinuities)
8A.SO8	establish what other non-archaeological data sets may be available and if / how they could contribute to research around the estuary (e.g Lidar)

Site prospection

8A.SO9	developing a continuing systematic programme of aerial photography
8A.SO10	establishing an agreed data standard for ground-based survey of the intertidal zone. There has been a review of RCZAS methodology which discusses data standards in consultation with field workers
8A.SO11	testing the relevance of magnetic susceptibility, microcharcoal density and phosphate concentrations from core samples as indicators of nearby human activity.
8A.SO12	Developing regional / local geoarchaeological models

Site recording and interpretation

8A.SO13	developing techniques permitting rapid recording within low-tide 'windows'. There are likely to be continuing technological improvements in both hardware and software in coming years.
8A.SO14	studying the taphonomy and composition of assemblages of macrofossils and microfossils in modern estuarine situations to aid interpretation of sub-fossil assemblages
8A.SO15	assessing the value of three-dimensional sampling of 'submerged forests' and associated peats for dividing data on vegetation structure, composition and change
8A.SO16	Considering the use of GIS /databases as an interpretive tool

Site monitoring and management

8A.SO17	monitoring erosion rates of exposed palaeosurfaces in the intertidal zone at several contrasting locations and other types of site found in the intertidal zone
8A.SO18	monitoring the effects of desiccation at low tide, microbial activity and physical erosion on intertidal wooden structures
8A.SO19	assessing the efficacy of sand-bagging and other physical barriers on erosion rates at critical intertidal sites
8A.SO20	monitoring the effects of re-watering on de-watered sites following Managed Realignment
8A.SO21	Developing techniques for carrying out monitoring on former wetland areas (e.g. work at Vourne-Putten and Broekpolder www.planarch.org/nar27broekpolderuk)
8A.SO22	Assessing impacts of flood management options through a review of the existing information and testing hypothesis

Framework Objective 8B

To promote understanding of the archaeology of the Greater Thames and utilize the resource for general educational purposes and informed tourism, alongside academic study, primary and secondary level education so as to broaden understanding and appreciation of the region's past.

Specific objectives include:

8B.SO1	Developing links between the historic environment of the Greater Thames to a range of National Curriculum subjects
8B.SO2	involving museums, which play a key role within the region, in efforts to promote understanding and appreciation of the region's past
8B.SO3	enhancing the use of HER / SMRs for educational purposes
8B.SO4	creating education packs dealing with various aspects of the region's past
8B.SO5	continuing to develop interpretative publications, heritage trails and displays to increase use and appreciation of the archaeological resource in the Greater Thames