

National

Visit to the National Monuments Record Office- 21st June

We visited the records office at Swindon arriving at 10.30am, on a hot, but windy day. The bus was driven by Jeff Adams.

We had arranged for photographs to be on display for us, particularly areas around our excavation at Stratton-on -the-Fosse and Corston.

Any area is available if there are records and the Office has advanced notice of your requirements.

We were given a tour of the archives and we found lots of people looking at stored maps and photos. Then we were given a talk on the information that is kept at the office and how it is accessed.

The NMR is England's national archive of heritage information, covering archaeology, buildings, air photographs, and maritime sites. The NMR is funded by the Department of National Heritage and run by the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England.

The archive is available to anyone free of charge, however if you need material copied, there is a charge.

There is a large collection of photographs. The earliest date from the 1850's -the first days of photography. A range of subject matter from prehistoric and Roman monuments, churches, country homes, cinemas, windmills, industrial sites and railway stations.

The reference library contains over 32000 books and periodicals. The archaeological section covers national and county journals and excavation reports.

As we were going to Wayland's Smithy in the afternoon some material on that had been laid out for us.

Sue Langdon