

OCR HISTORY AROUND US

Site Proposal Form Example from English Heritage

The Criteria

The study of the selected site must focus on the relationship between the site, other historical sources and the aspects listed in a) to n) below. It is therefore essential that centres choose a site that allows learners to use its physical features, together with other historical sources as appropriate, to understand all of the following:

- a) The reasons for the location of the site within its surroundings
- b) When and why people first created the site
- c) The ways in which the site has changed over time
- d) How the site has been used throughout its history
- e) The diversity of activities and people associated with the site
- f) The reasons for changes to the site and to the way it was used
- g) Significant times in the site's past: peak activity, major developments, turning points
- h) The significance of specific features in the physical remains at the site
- i) The importance of the whole site either locally or nationally, as appropriate
- j) The typicality of the site based on a comparison with other similar sites
- k) What the site reveals about everyday life, attitudes and values in particular periods of history
- l) How the physical remains may prompt questions about the past and how historians frame these as valid historical enquiries
- m) How the physical remains can inform artistic reconstructions and other interpretations of the site
- n) The challenges and benefits of studying the historic environment

Site name: STONEHENGE

Created by: ENGLISH HERITAGE LEARNING TEAM

Please provide an explanation of how your site meets each of the following points and include the most appropriate visual images of your site. Refer to your images to justify your explanation of how the site meets the criteria.

Criteria	Specifics about the site in relation to this criteria	Sources that can be used with this criteria
<p>a) The reasons for the location of the site within its surroundings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The reason for choosing the specific site of Stonehenge is unknown, but it was built in a landscape that was already significant. - The area around Stonehenge was already the location of several earlier monuments, dating from the Early Neolithic period (4000–3000 BC). These included two cursus monuments (long rectangular earthwork enclosures), a causewayed enclosure (a circular earthwork enclosure) and several long barrows, used for burials. - The area might have become a focus for monument building because, unlike the rest of southern England which was covered in dense forest, this was a relatively open landscape with very little woodland around, providing a place for people to gather and build monuments. 	<p>Darvill, T, <i>Stonehenge: Biography of a Landscape</i> (2006)</p> <p>Richards, J, <i>Stonehenge</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2013), p.17 www.english-heritageshop.org.uk/books-media/guidebook-stonehenge</p> <p>Interactive maps of the Stonehenge landscape www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/history-and-stories/stonehenge-landscape</p>
<p>b) When and why people first created the site</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The first evidence of people using the landscape was during the Mesolithic period (9000–4000 BC). Holes for Mesolithic posts have been found very close to Stonehenge and a settlement site is known at Blick Mead close to the River Avon. - Early Neolithic monuments include two cursus monuments (long rectangular earthwork enclosures), a causewayed enclosure (a circular earthwork enclosure) and several long barrows, used for burials. All of these were built in about 3600–3400 BC. The presence of these monuments probably influenced the later 	<p>Richards, J, <i>Stonehenge</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2013), pp.4–7 www.english-heritageshop.org.uk/books-media/guidebook-stonehenge</p> <p>Richards, J, <i>Stonehenge: The Story So Far</i>, revised edn, English Heritage (2013)</p> <p>Interactive maps of the Stonehenge landscape</p>

	<p>location of Stonehenge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stonehenge itself was begun in about 3000 BC, when a large circular enclosure was created by building a bank and ditch. This first phase of Stonehenge was used as a cremation cemetery, where people buried their dead. - Later, in about 2500 BC, the stone circle was built to align with the movements of the sun. It is a prehistoric temple that was built to align with the midsummer sunrise and midwinter sunset, and was a place where rituals and ceremonies were carried out. 	<p>www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/history-and-stories/stonehenge-landscape</p>
<p>c) The ways in which the site has changed over time</p>	<p>Stonehenge Phase I (c.3000 BC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The earliest known major event was the construction of a circular ditch with an inner and outer bank, built in about 3000 BC. - This enclosed an area about 100 metres in diameter, and had two entrances. It was an early form of henge monument. - Within the bank and ditch were possibly some timber structures and set just inside the bank were 56 pits, known as the ‘Aubrey holes’. These pits held timber posts or small standing stones. - Within and around the Aubrey holes, and also in the ditch, people buried cremations. - About 64 cremations have been found, and perhaps as many as 150 individuals were originally buried at Stonehenge, making it the largest Late Neolithic cemetery in the British Isles. The people buried there were perhaps important leaders or members of one family. <p>Stonehenge Phase II (c.2500 BC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In about 2500 BC, the stones were set up in the centre of the monument. - Two types of stone were used to build Stonehenge – the larger sarsens and the smaller bluestones. Sarsen is a hard type of sandstone that is found in several areas of southern England but particularly in the area around Avebury, 19 miles to the north. 	<p>Stonehenge visitor centre</p> <p>Richards, J, <i>Stonehenge</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2013), p.32 www.english-heritageshop.org.uk/books-media/guidebook-stonehenge</p> <p>Stonehenge history website www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/history-and-stories</p> <p>Stonehenge phased site plan www.english-heritage.org.uk/siteassets/home/visit/places-to-visit/stonehenge/history/stonehenge-phased-plan-1.pdf</p>

	<p>The bluestones were brought from the Preseli Hills in south-west Wales, a distance of over 150 miles! They were probably brought by boat around the coast and up the rivers, and then dragged over land.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The sarsens were erected in two concentric arrangements – an inner horseshoe and an outer circle – and the bluestones were set up between them in a double arc. - The sarsens and bluestones were carefully shaped using hammerstones to create interlocking joints and to have smooth and straight sides. The stones were aligned with the midwinter and midsummer solstices. <p>Stonehenge Phase III (c.2300 BC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In about 2300 BC, the central bluestones were rearranged to form a circle and inner oval. - The earthwork Avenue was also built at this time, connecting Stonehenge with the River Avon. - At this time a man, known as the ‘Stonehenge Archer’, was buried in the ditch. He had been killed as there were several flint arrowheads embedded in his spine. - One of the last prehistoric activities at Stonehenge was the digging around the stone settings of two rings of concentric pits, the so-called ‘Y’ and ‘Z’ holes, radiocarbon dated by antlers within them to between 1800 and 1500 BC. They may have been intended for a rearrangement of the stones that was never completed. 	
<p>d) How the site has been used throughout its history</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction activities at Stonehenge took place in several episodes between 3000 BC and 2300 BC. There is ongoing debate as to why it was built and how it was used. - In its earliest phase before the great stones were raised, cremated human remains were buried there. - When the stones were erected, the site was probably used for ceremonies and rituals associated with the midwinter and 	<p>Richards, J, <i>Stonehenge</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2013), pp.42–3 www.english-heritageshop.org.uk/books-media/guidebook-stonehenge</p> <p>English Heritage YouTube Channel, <i>A Mini Guide to Prehistoric Monuments</i> (2017)</p>

	<p>midsummer solstices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - During the Roman period, people visited the stones and may have used the site as a shrine – some deep shafts were dug and objects such as coins and brooches were left there. - The first written descriptions and drawings of Stonehenge date from the medieval period. These often referred to myths about how it was built, by giants or by magic! - 17th- to 19th-century antiquarians researched how and why Stonehenge was built. Some thought it was a Roman temple, others that it was built by the Danes, and for a long time people thought that the Druids built the monument. Only in the early 20th century was it generally accepted that prehistoric Britons built Stonehenge. - On New Year’s Eve in 1900, one of the sarsen stones fell over and the owner of Stonehenge, Sir Edmund Antrobus, was obliged to carry out a survey and to prop up some of the stones with wooden poles. One large leaning stone was put upright in 1901. From this time, the monument was fenced off and people had to buy tickets to enter. - In 1915, the owner of Stonehenge put it up for sale and it was bought by a local man, Cecil Chubb. Three years later, he gave it to the nation. - From 1919, a major programme of restoration and archaeological excavation took place at Stonehenge, with further work in the late 1950s and 1960s. All the stones that had fallen since 1740 (the date of the first accurate plan) were restored and many set in concrete. - The most recent excavations took place in 2008, when a small area in the centre was excavated to find out more about an early setting of bluestones and one of the Aubrey holes was re-excavated to retrieve cremations from the earliest phase of the site. 	<p>www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBnWxKaxLIU</p>
e) The diversity of activities and	Activities	Richards, J, <i>Stonehenge</i> , English Heritage

<p>people associated with the site</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was used as a temple aligned on the movements of the sun. - In its earliest phase before the great stones were raised, cremated human remains were buried there. - There is ongoing debate as to why it was built. - The stones were carefully aligned and shaped to highlight the longest and shortest days of the year (summer and winter solstices). - Durrington Walls is 3 km away from Stonehenge. Recent excavations have revealed evidence of people gathering there for enormous feasts at the time the sarsen stones were raised at Stonehenge. The feasting probably occurred in the winter, which suggests Stonehenge had ritual significance at the winter solstice. - During the Early Bronze Age, in about 1800 BC, images of metal daggers and axes were carved onto many of the stones. - During the same period, people built about 300 round barrows in the landscape surrounding Stonehenge. These burial mounds contained the graves of important people, accompanied by spectacular objects made of gold, bronze and amber. <p>People The following people are all archaeologists who have carried out excavations at Stonehenge or in the surrounding landscape:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - William Stukeley (1687–1765) - William Cunnington (1754–1810) - Professor William Gowland (1842–1922) - Colonel William Hawley (1851–1941) - Maud Cunnington (1869–1951) - Professor Richard Atkinson (1920–94) - Professor Mike Parker Pearson - Professor Timothy Darvill 	<p>Guidebooks (2013), pp.43–8 www.english-heritageshop.org.uk/books-media/guidebook-stonehenge</p> <p>Salisbury Museum</p> <p>Wiltshire Museum, Devizes</p> <p>Parker Pearson, M, <i>Stonehenge: Exploring the Greatest Stone Age Mystery</i> (2012)</p> <p>Stonehenge object collection www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/history-and-stories/history/collection-highlights</p>
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<p>f) The reasons for changes to the site and to the way it was used</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is still not clear why the Stonehenge landscape was first chosen for monument building, but it is possible that the unusually open landscape around Stonehenge is why it became the site of an Early Neolithic monument complex. - The presence of these monuments probably influenced the later location of Stonehenge. - We do not know exactly how Stonehenge was used, why people brought stones from so far away, and why people decided to alter the arrangement of the bluestones. It may have been that the process of building and rearranging the monument was more important than the 'finished' site. The burial of many people at the site and the alignment with the movements of the sun suggest that it was a temple associated with the ancestors and with celestial bodies. 	<p>Richards, J, <i>Stonehenge</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2013), pp.8–11 www.english-heritageshop.org.uk/books-media/guidebook-stonehenge</p>
<p>g) Significant times in the site's past: peak activity, major developments, turning points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 8000 BC: Mesolithic post holes. - 4000 BC: start of the Neolithic period, with the arrival of the first domestic animals and first pottery in Britain. - 3500 BC: long barrows built in the Stonehenge landscape. - 3500 BC: two cursus monuments were built. - 3000 BC: the first phase of Stonehenge was built – the bank and ditch. - 2700 BC: grooved ware pottery was used in the Stonehenge landscape for the first time. - 2500 BC: the second phase of Stonehenge was built, the sarsen and bluestone stone circle was erected, Woodhenge and other timber monuments were built and the settlement at Durrington Walls was occupied. - 2400 BC: the earliest metalwork (gold and copper) and the first Beaker pottery were brought to the Stonehenge area. - 2300 BC: the Avenue was built to link Stonehenge to the River Avon. - 2300 BC: the bluestones were rearranged at the monument. - 2300–1700 BC: Early Bronze Age barrows were built in the 	<p>Richards, J, <i>Stonehenge</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2013), pp.8–11 www.english-heritageshop.org.uk/books-media/guidebook-stonehenge</p> <p>Stonehenge visitor centre</p> <p>Stonehenge website www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge</p>

	<p>landscape.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1800 BC: Bronze Age carvings on the stone circle. - AD 1130: first written description about Stonehenge. - 1655: first detailed study of Stonehenge published by Inigo Jones. - 1666: plan of the monument by John Aubrey, who noted the Aubrey holes for the first time. - 1719–24: William Stukeley spent most summers in the Stonehenge landscape drawing and observing monuments, noting the summer solstice alignment at Stonehenge and discovering the Stonehenge cursus. - 1740: first accurate plan of the monument was drawn by John Wood. - 1901: charges were first introduced for visitors to Stonehenge. - 1914–18 (First World War): area used for military training. - 1918: Stonehenge was given to the nation by Cecil Cubb. - 1919: first major restoration works were carried out on Stonehenge. - 1986: Stonehenge, Avebury and their associated landscapes were designated as a 'World Heritage Site'. - 2008: most recent excavation work carried out at Stonehenge. - 2013: A344 road adjacent to Stonehenge was closed. - 2014: new Stonehenge visitor centre opened – Stonehenge receives 1.3 million visitors a year. 	
<p>h) The significance of specific features in the physical remains at the site</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stonehenge is a unique prehistoric monument, and an extraordinary source for the study of prehistory. - It holds a pivotal place in the development of archaeology. - In 2016, Stonehenge celebrated its 30th year as a World Heritage Site – in 1986, together with Avebury, it was one of the first sites in the UK to be included on the UNESCO World Heritage List. - Stonehenge is the most architecturally sophisticated and only surviving lintelled (upright stones with horizontal stones bridging 	<p>Stonehenge virtual tour www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/history-and-stories/stonehenge360</p> <p>Richards, J, <i>Stonehenge</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2013), pp.6, 18, 24 www.english-heritageshop.org.uk/books-media/guidebook-stonehenge</p>

	<p>them) stone circle in the world.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The earliest stage of the monument is one of the largest cremation cemeteries known in Neolithic Britain. - The stones were brought from very long distances – the bluestones from the Preseli Hills, over 150 miles away, and the sarsens probably from the Marlborough Downs, 19 miles to the north. - The stones were dressed using sophisticated techniques and erected using precisely interlocking joints, unseen at any other prehistoric monument. - Stonehenge does not stand in isolation, but forms part of a unique ancient landscape of Early Neolithic, Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age monuments. - Containing more than 350 burial mounds and major prehistoric monuments such as the Stonehenge Avenue, the Cursus, Woodhenge and Durrington Walls, this landscape is a vast source of information about the ceremonial and funerary practices of Neolithic and Bronze Age people. 	<p>Stonehenge phased site plan www.english-heritage.org.uk/siteassets/home/visit/places-to-visit/stonehenge/history/stonehenge-phased-plan-1.pdf</p>
<p>i) The importance of the whole site either locally or nationally, as appropriate</p>	<p>Locally</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A key feature in the Wiltshire landscape and a huge driver of tourism to the county. - A source of pride and identity for people living nearby – many local businesses are named after the monument and many thrive on the tourists who come to the site. <p>Nationally/Internationally</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site; it is the only stone circle in the world with lintels. - Visited by 1.3 million people each year from across the world. 	<p>UNESCO World Heritage Site website whc.unesco.org/en/list/373</p>
<p>j) The typicality of the site based on a comparison with other similar</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avebury, Wiltshire – like Stonehenge, Avebury stone circle is in Wiltshire, has two avenues approaching the stone circle, and is 	<p>English Heritage YouTube Channel, <i>A Mini Guide to Prehistoric Monuments</i> (2017)</p>

sites	<p>built using sarsen stones. The two monuments were probably built around the same date and both sit within a much larger complex of Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stonehenge is the only lintelled (upright stones with horizontal stones bridging them) stone circle in the world. - Stonehenge is the only stone circle containing both sarsen stones and bluestones. - Other prehistoric stone circles in England include: Stanton Drew, Somerset; Twelve Apostles, West Yorkshire; Brisworthy, Devon; Long Meg and Her Daughters, Cumbria; Castlerigg, Cumbria. - Significant prehistoric sites in the UK of a similar age also include Skara Brae in Orkney and Newgrange in Ireland. 	<p>www.youtube.com/watch?v=DBnWxKaxLIU</p> <p>Prehistory online article www.english-heritage.org.uk/learn/story-of-england/prehistory</p> <p>UNESCO World Heritage Site website whc.unesco.org/en/list/373</p>
k) What the site reveals about everyday life, attitudes and values in particular periods of history	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Neolithic and Bronze Age: reveals how important the site must have been to prehistoric people, how they lived, their religious beliefs and what they valued. - Roman and medieval: different perceptions about who might have built the monuments – stories and myths; not knowing what the monument is or who built it. - 17th–19th centuries: the introduction of early archaeology and how history was researched. Visitors quite willing to ‘vandalise’ the stone circle, illustration of changing attitudes towards conservation. - 20th century: land used for military training to support the war effort. - 20th and 21st centuries: the importance of conserving the monument, which is 5,500 years old. Also reveals changing attitudes towards heritage tourism. 	<p>Richards, J, <i>Stonehenge</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2013), pp.31, 42–7 www.english-heritageshop.org.uk/books-media/guidebook-stonehenge</p>
l) How the physical remains may prompt questions about the past and how historians frame these as valid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is it? What changes has it seen? What was it used for? What stories does it tell about the past? What do we still want to know? What can it tell us about people at this period of 	<p>Visit to Stonehenge</p>

<p>historical enquiries</p>	<p>prehistory?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where was it built? Where did the stones come from? Where did the people come from to build it? - Who built it? Who changed it? Who used it? - When was it built? When was it changed? When was it used? When did people first live here? When did it stop being used? - Why was it built? Why was it changed? Why was it used? Why was this location chosen? Why should we protect it? - How was it built? How was it changed? How was it used? How did the stones get there? How can it tell us about the past? 	
<p>m) How the physical remains can inform artistic reconstructions and other interpretations of the site</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As we do not know for certain why it was built, many different ideas and theories have been projected onto Stonehenge, from early written documentation in the medieval period to Victorian souvenirs. - You can explore reconstructions of Stonehenge and the surrounding landscape through the images created by artist Peter Lorimer. 	<p>Turner, JMW, <i>Stonehenge</i> (c.1827–8) www.salisburymuseum.org.uk/collections/art-collection/stonehenge</p> <p>Stonehenge reconstructions www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/history-and-stories/stonehenge-reconstructed</p> <p>Visit to the reconstructed Neolithic houses</p>
<p>n) The challenges and benefits of studying the historic environment</p>	<p>Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is one of the most iconic sites in Britain. - Enhances our connection to our ancestors in the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods. - Stimulates different interpretations of how and why it was built. <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Difficult to interpret due to lack of sources and surviving evidence. - Ongoing speculation and debate around the reason why it was built. 	<p>Visit to Stonehenge</p> <p>Building Stonehenge website www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stonehenge/history-and-stories/building-stonehenge</p>