

James Meek

Key Experience

Senior Archaeological Consultant with over 35 years' experience in the commercial archaeological sector. Obtained a Degree in Archaeology in 1990 and has worked in the commercial archaeological sector since 1988. Jim is a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIfA) and has been the responsible postholder for a number of CfA Registered Organisations.

Jim has worked extensively with all types of archaeological remains including scheduled monuments, rural and deeply stratified urban sites, burial grounds, large area landscape assessments, highland/lowland zones, coastal / intertidal and terrestrial sites.

His experience has includes the preparation of archaeological assessments and statements, advice on the agreement of scheduled monument consents, archaeological impact assessments and environmental statement chapters. He has worked on a number of renewables project sites across England and Wales, from small single wind turbines to DNS sized schemes. His experience includes building recording and topographic surveys. He has worked on a number of castle sites in Wales (Pembroke, Manorbier, Carew, Roch and Cardigan Castles).

Between 2020 – 2026, Jim led the Archaeology team of HCUK Group, providing consultancy advice and mentoring and developing the team following the departure of Joe Abrams. The role involved the preparation of archaeological assessments, design of archaeological fieldwork, procurement of fees and the implementation and management of the fieldwork and reporting phases of these projects. Jim provided advice direct to clients and the various archaeological curators, national bodies (Historic England / Cadw) and other stakeholders, including other departments within HCUK (Heritage, Landscape , Ecology and Planning).

In his role with Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Jim ran a number of grant funded volunteer projects on important archaeological sites within Wales, including the discovery of the Roman Fort at Wiston, Pembrokeshire (the first Roman fort confirmed in the county). Jim has written articles for archaeological journals and magazine articles. He has provided numerous talks and seminars to peers, clients, local history groups and students of ages. Jim has run numerous field projects from project design, on-site management to reporting and publication

Qualifications

BA (Hons) Archaeology
(Southampton University)

Professional Affiliations

Professional Member of the
Chartered Institute for
Archaeologists (MCIfA)

Specialisation

Management of Teams
Project Management and
Communication within teams
Budget Management

Position

Senior Archaeological Consultant

Year of Joining

2026

Contact

07926 683697

james@abramsarchaeology.co.uk

Relevant Employment History

2026 - present	Abrams Archaeology Senior Archaeological Consultant
2019 – 2026	HCUK Group Ltd Technical Director (Archaeology)
2009 - 2019	Dyfed Archaeological Trust Head of DAT Archaeological Services
2006 - 2009	WSP Environmental Senior to Principal Archaeological Consultant
1996 – 2006	University of Leicester Archaeological Services Field Officer to Project Manager
1995 – 1996	Warwickshire Archaeological Field Unit Archaeologist
1991 – 1995	Leicestershire Archaeological Unit Archaeologist to Field Officer
1988 – 1991	Winchester Archaeological Unit / Test Valley Archaeological Unit / Bedfordshire Archaeological Unit Field Archaeologist

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Experience Record (Selected Projects)

Bypass Solar Farm, Foston, Lincolnshire: Preparation of initial desk-based assessment for large solar farm which was granted planning permission. Preparation of written scheme of investigation for evaluation of the site and implementation of trial trench evaluation for SSE.

Brooksby, Leicestershire: Preparation of initial desk-based assessment for new educational buildings at the agricultural college, followed by implementation of geophysical survey and trial trench evaluation across a Romano-British enclosure. Design and implementation of archaeological excavation of part of the site to address planning conditions, which revealed Iron Age roundhouse and pit alignment for Tilbury Douglas

Castell Henllys Iron Age Fort: Pembrokeshire: Preparation of a Roundhouse Reconstruction Study, in conjunction with Prof H Mytum of University of Liverpool. Directed excavations of the reconstructed Cook's House and Earthwatch House, both built in the 1980s, in conjunction with students and volunteers. Reports have been co-prepared with Prof Mytum in a number of journals. Work undertaken for Pembrokeshire County Council.

Chatham Interface: Design and management of archaeological fieldwork programmes for major development area adjacent to the Naval Dockyard and the River Medway. The site included geoarchaeological investigations.

Chatham Waterfront site: Design and management of ongoing fieldwork programmes for development area adjacent to the River Medway. The site contains deposits dating from the 18th and 19th centuries, as well as earlier remains.

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Cwmystwyth Mines, Ceredigion: Preparation of the Cwmystwyth Mines and Management and Protection Plan for the Cambrian Mines Trust. The site is a scheduled lead mine within a glacial valley in Ceredigion. It includes surface remains and extensive subterranean workings dating from the Bronze Age to modern periods. The site lies in a SSSI, SAC and SPA

Lutterworth East Development: Preparation of Scheme of Archaeological Resource Management / Archaeological Management Plan for a large residential /commercial development in Leicestershire. Preparation of written schemes of investigation for fieldwork.

National Botanic Garden of Wales, Carmarthenshire: Large scale archaeological project associated with the reinstating of the 18th and 19th century Picturesque Garden Landscape. Preparation of assessments, project design and management of fieldwork including topographic and geophysical survey, evaluation, excavation and community involvement.

Pembroke Castle: In conjunction with castle expert Neil Ludlow, research grant aided project looking at the site of a large Tudor mansion (and potential birthplace of Henry VII) within the Outer Ward of the castle which received national press coverage. Continues to work with the Castle on various other development projects whilst at HCUK.

Upper Ogmere Wind Farm: Preparation of historic environment desk-based assessments, ES chapter and ASIDOHL for wind farm application in South East Wales. Preparation of Monument Management Plan for scheduled monuments in and around the scheme and a written scheme of investigation for trial trench evaluation.