Garden Survey Record Sheet

The aim is to get as much information as possible from the surface of the gardens.

Equipment: Clipboard with garden plan and grid overlay: Notebook: Finds bags and sharpies: Camera: Geo-resistivity surveying equipment.

1. **Take a good general look around the garden** and map the layout onto the garden outline. Measure and label important dimensions but do not try to draw it to scale in the field.

>   Show as different shading:

>>   Paved areas (note materials and thickness, if possible).
>>   Lawned areas.
>>   Trees and shrubs.
>>   Exposed soil (flowerbeds etc).
>>   Structures (greenhouses, compost bins, former lavatories, coal sheds etc).
>>   Any other features - ask the owners if there are any known pet burials, for example.

>   *Don't forget to add a key*

2. Lawned areas: Do a Geo-resistivity survey.

3. Exposed soil: We need to be able to locate a find within the garden without having to plot in the exact position of every find. The following procedure should give a reasonable compromise.

Use the permatrace overlay to create a grid for your garden. Then do a fingertip search of exposed soil areas, putting finds from the area inside a particular grid square into one bag. Label the bag with the grid square coordinates. You do *not* have to say whether the soil area takes up all of the grid square or just part of it, as we can re-create the grid back at base.

4. Walls: Examine any walls carefully, and do a careful initial description. This should include:
>>   Materials used - any signs of re-use?
>>   Sizes of typical bricks / masonry etc.
>>   Height of wall.
>>   Presence of any gateways or other features.
>>   Any dating suggestions with evidence.
>>   Recommendation as to whether the wall needs more recording (i.e. historic).

5. Surveying: The usual problems arise with this - i.e. Setting up a Temporary Bench Mark (TBM) in an enclosed and sometimes difficult to access place. We will go back and do these later.

6. Finally (and throughout) **collect the memories** of the householders about things they have noticed about their garden or done to it (e.g. terracing, infill, digging soakaway, building extension etc).

Put your initials and the date on your records.