

# SHETLAND'S LOCAL PLACE PLANS

## Leaflet 10 - A Heritage, Culture and Archaeology Perspective

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### Why should we think about heritage, culture and archaeology?

Heritage and culture shape community identity, pride, and continuity. Planning decisions about land and buildings can protect historic sites, support cultural activity, and celebrate local traditions and stories.

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### How does heritage, culture and archaeology affect land use and buildings?

- Historic buildings and sites may need protection or sensitive reuse
  - Cultural spaces support community life and creative expression
  - Archaeological remains can influence where and how development happens
  - Local traditions and stories can inspire placemaking and design
  - Shetland's yesterday attracts visitors today
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### Key concepts:

**Built Heritage:** Historic buildings, structures, and settlements

**Cultural Spaces:** Places for music, art, storytelling, and community events

**Archaeological Sensitivity:** Areas with known or potential buried remains

**Intangible Heritage:** Traditions, dialect, crafts, and folklore

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### What does this look like in Shetland?

- **Brochs, Norse sites, and wartime remains** are part of Shetland's layered history
  - **Traditional buildings** use local materials and reflect Shetland's climate
  - **Community halls and festivals** celebrate local culture and identity
  - **Archaeological sites** may be unrecorded but locally known
  - **Place names and dialect** reflect deep cultural roots
  - **Heritage trails and interpretation** support tourism and education
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### Things to think about when planning land and buildings:

- Are historic buildings being reused or maintained sensitively?
  - Is development avoiding or respecting archaeological sites?
  - Are there spaces for cultural activity and storytelling?
  - Can local materials or design traditions be used?
  - Is heritage being celebrated in signage, trails, or public art?
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## Examples:

- Reuse historic buildings for housing, community use, or enterprise
  - Include interpretation panels or trails to share local stories
  - Check local knowledge about archaeological sensitivity before building
  - Use traditional materials like stone, timber, or lime render
  - Support festivals, music, and crafts through flexible community spaces
  - Protect and promote Shetland dialect and place names
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## For information and support:

- [Shetland Museum & Archives | Home](#)
- [Archaeology | Shetland Amenity Trust](#)
- [Historic Environment Scotland](#)
- [Voluntary Action Shetland](#)
- [Community Land Scotland – Community Land Scotland represents Scotland’s new generation of community land owners](#)