

## Adrian Babbidge



Following an undergraduate degree in archaeology and postgraduate qualifications in museum studies, Adrian worked in the museums and heritage sector for almost fifty years. After running local authority and independent museums in Essex and South Wales he was, from 1989 to 2002, Director of the East Midlands Museums Service, a regional museum support organisation. In 2002, with Rosemary Ewles, he founded the *Egeria* consultancy to specialise in governance, strategy, management, financial and legal advice to heritage organisations. During the following years its client list came to include international agencies, national and local governments, and not-for-profits ranging in scale from large social enterprises to small, all-volunteer groups.

He was an adviser to the National Heritage Memorial Fund and Heritage Lottery Fund (1994 – 2018) and a member of the Mayor of London's Cultural Reference Group from 2009 to 2012. In 2015 he served as a member of the expert panel appointed by the Welsh culture minister to review local museum provision in Wales.

In 2019 he was appointed a Visiting Reader in the Department of the History of Art at Birkbeck, University of London, having previously been an Honorary Reader at University College, London's Institute of Archaeology. He was a faculty member of the Museum Leadership Programme at the University of East Anglia from 2001 until its conclusion in 2010. A former external examiner at Nottingham Trent University, he was a member of the Arts and Humanities Research Council's Peer Review Panel from 2006 to 2012.

He has an extensive record of publication, and a regular speaker at conferences and seminars throughout the UK, as well as presentations at conferences in Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Chile, Ireland, New Zealand and Russia.

His board experience is extensive across both not-for-profit and for-profit organisations, and includes six years as a non-executive director of a public limited company (plc), and three years as deputy chairman of an arts marketing company. He has held office in many of sector-wide museum organisations, and been a member of the Kelmscott Committee of the Society of Antiquaries of London, the Collections, Research, Learning and Access Committee of the National Museum of the Royal Navy. He is a former trustee of the Army Museums Ogilby Trust and of the Museums Association Pension Fund. In Ireland, he has been a member of the Heritage Council's Advisory Group for its Museum Standards Programme.

Adrian was elected as a Fellow of The Museums Association in 1982 and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts in 1995. In 2017 the Society of Antiquaries awarded him its Medal for outstanding service to the Society and its aims.