

5 locations for Camera Testing

Film exposure at night

After sunset (and a little beyond), the light levels on public buildings will be very constant, and allow repeat visits on subsequent nights. The challenge is to obtain the correct exposure.

The following recommendations commence with camera equipment and finish with the light measuring tools.

- 1. A steady tripod, appropriate to the camera. Since long exposures (several seconds to minutes) are likely, the camera needs a bulb setting and an appropriate cable release.
- 2. Films can be both negative and positive (slide) and colour and Black and White.
- 3. Cameras should be under manual control for focus, aperture and shutter speed.
- 4. Exposure on the night can be based on:
 - Spot-metering,
 - Average metering,
 - Incident metering,
 - Digital camera pre-estimate,
 - Experience. Metering will be discussed and demonstrated on the night.
- 5. To ensure the decisions you make contribute to your long term photography, it is useful to bring a notebook, pen and small torch (the torch can have many uses in night photography, particularly when using film cameras without bell and whistles).