Summer Fieldwork

2012
Primary value of fieldwork

• To teach field techniques and specific methods:
  – General skills such as excavation, recording, drawing, photography, surveying, finds processing. Very varied.
  – Special methods such as geophysics, topographic survey, and environmental sampling. Even more varied.

• To ensure you are familiar with the archaeological context of a fieldwork project

• To teach you about research strategy and the process of running the project

• To discuss the results, their significance, and their impact upon future research
Other value of fieldwork

• **Teamwork**
  – Working in small, dedicated teams
  – With a diverse range of participants

• **Responsibility**
  – For safety and good practice
  – To the archaeological resource

• **Self-awareness**
  – Reflect on your own contribution
  – Personal development
Degree Requirement

• You must participate in 3 weeks of fieldwork, usually in the Summer of your first year:
  – This is a minimum, not a maximum
  – It must be participation in an approved research project
  – These are very diverse: we use a broad definition of ‘fieldwork’
  – We do not run ‘field schools’ or ‘training excavations’
  – You cannot ‘count’ other fieldwork against this requirement
  – **It is your responsibility to ensure that you fulfil this requirement**

• Although it is a degree requirement, we do not assess fieldwork participation in the sense of giving marks for it

• A nominated fieldwork coordinator must ‘sign off’ that you have participated to a satisfactory standard
Required contribution to cost

• Fieldwork is heavily subsidised, although most projects will require a contribution towards:
  – Travel (coach or air tickets etc.)
  – Accommodation (campsite hire, lodgings etc.)
  – Living expenses (food, catering etc.)

• The level of required contribution varies because:
  – We try and ensure that the department makes a similar contribution to all students’ fieldwork
  – Some projects don’t provide these things (e.g. non-residential projects)
Procedure

• The procedure is as follows:

1. ‘Signup’ stage: You tell us which projects you want to participate in and we try to place you on a project that is closest to your interests

2. Participation: You participate in a project, which may include pre-summer meetings, the season itself and even post-fieldwork activities

3. Critical reflection: Both you and the project director reflect critically on what you have learned from and contributed to the project
Stage 1: the sign-up process

- Applying for places on field projects:
  1. Read the project descriptions on the WWW site and, if necessary, discuss the projects with the project directors.
  2. Choose three projects: at least one must be based in mainland UK.
  3. Complete the fieldwork signup form, indicating why you would like to participate in these projects, and telling us about your skills and needs. **Deadline: Friday 27th April 2012. Please hand forms into the School Office by 4pm on this date.**

- Assigning you a placement on a project:
  - We match participants to projects as best we can but **there is no guarantee that you will be allocated to any of your choices.**
  - Your crew allocation is posted on the noticeboard and website during the first few weeks of the Summer term.
Stage 2: Participation

- Summer term:
  1. One or more orientation meetings and documents to tell you about project arrangements, research goals and safety issues.
  2. Information on meetings etc. will be sent by email so you must check your email regularly.
  3. Being assigned to a project does not guarantee that you will attend.

- In the field:
  1. Field techniques are typically taught through supervised practice, small-group lessons, and informally during work
  2. If possible, crews include advanced students both to further their education and also help in small-group learning
  3. Project leaders may also run site tours and discussions, visits to nearby archaeological sites, local museums, and/or evening lectures during the field season
  4. At the end of the season, project leaders are encouraged to discuss results
Stage 3: critical reflection

- You are encouraged to reflect on what you have learned through completing a fieldwork evaluation sheet.
- This sheet must be returned to the office as a record that you have completed your 3 week requirement.
- The sheet has space for:
  - You to indicate what skills you have learned.
  - You to reflect on what you have gained from participating.
  - The project director to reflect on your participation.
Safety

- Ensure that you know what each project involves before you sign up for a project.
- You must declare any relevant information about your needs, health risks (e.g. dietary requirements, allergies, chronic health problems) on the form.
- Each project carries out a risk assessment to ensure all necessary precautions are taken.
- You will have a safety briefing at the orientation meeting (where you will be told, for example, what protective clothing to bring) and again upon arrival at the site, where specific hazards are pointed out.
- Project leaders will know about local hospitals and clinics, and about the University's insurance policy covering field crews.
Other Issues

• We recognise that scheduling fieldwork into summer break can cause problems
• We try to ensure that all students can be accommodated on the appropriate fieldwork
• Reasonable reasons for having problems with fieldwork (e.g. summer jobs; weddings; major illness in family; serious accident; major illness of self).
• Unreasonable reasons for having problems with fieldwork (family holidays; minor illness; sick pets etc.).

Remember fieldwork is a requirement of the archaeology degree.
Fieldwork Costs - Summer 2012

- **Projects**
- Hungary – £500
- Croatia – £500
- Greece – £520
- Jersey – £550
- Rome/Portus – £500
- Kingsclere – Nil
- Bodiam/Scotney Castle – £250
- Burford/Clatford – £250
- Hengistbury – Nil

- **Payments should be made to the Income Office, Building 37, Highfield Campus**
Fieldwork Do’s and Don’ts

• **Do**
  • Tell us about any health problems you may have – *this is critically important*
  • Tell us about any dietary requirements you may have
  • Tell us intellectual reasons why you want to go on fieldwork (i.e. interest in particular time period)
  • Tell us scheduling reasons for doing particular fieldwork project (jobs, other reasons)
  • Take all necessary health and safety precautions while working on site (and listen to site directors instructions)
  • Enjoy yourself on fieldwork project – *this is also very important*

• **Don’t**
  • Sign up to a fieldwork project you are unable to attend for financial reasons
  • Sign up to a fieldwork project you are unable to attend for scheduling reason
Százhalombatta, Hungary
1st-21st July 2012
Százhalombatta Bronze Age tell
• Fly to Budapest. Travel arranged to site
• Stay in hostel (shared rooms (2 in room). A washing machine!
• Self-catering / group cooking
• Hot (hat, sunscreen, water bottle and insect repellent)
• Local facilities: swimming pool, Tesco, shops, cafes, bars... power station, oil refinery
• 40mins by bus to Budapest
• Internationally important site
• Outstanding archaeology
• Range of experience: excavation, post-ex, museum, archaeological park (heritage management, experimental archaeology)
• International environment
• Close to Budapest


Project location is Slavonija in Croatia. You will fly into Zagreb and then travel by bus/train to Županja. Here you will be met and travel onto Vrbanja village.
Exploring Late Bronze Age / Early Iron Age Cemeteries initially discovered in the Vrbanja Forest in 2007

Our GPS / Topographic surveys show a total of 107 burial mounds (tumuli) in cemetery 1 – only one is damaged. It is an unparalleled situation in the region. In 2010 local people started to tell us of potentially another 11 cemeteries running south-east toward the borders of Croatia, Serbia and Bosnia. This year we shall continue investigating all these claims and carry out GPS survey of the entire area...
Excavation:

What we know:

- There are no obvious internal structures – although the possibility of postholes exists
- There are no ditches
- The tumuli are created through social events that include depositing fine-ware pottery, cremated bone, and burning episodes – creating ‘layers’ of varied colours
- At least 3 distinct horizons of activity can be detected
- 9 people including – children, young adults and adults have been identified
- Pottery recovered and RC dates suggest a date of LBA / EIA for the site.
- Cemetery 1 does not conform to stereotypes for the area
Community:

• Annual ‘bean’ feast
• Exhibitions
• Open days and open site access
• News Letter
• Outreach to schools – school projects
• Experimental archaeology

Left: Tunja and Ivitsa on an early trip to the Vrbanja site
Details:

- Dates: 6th – 31st August
- There are 7 places
- Accommodation is in the village school
- You will work in a forest and do all the things expected during a fieldwork project – excavation, survey, illustration, photography, flotation etc...
- Expect to work hard and play hard – there are plenty of places to relax after work
- It is very pretty and very exciting - but it may be hot and there will be “forestry” things. Please think about this!!!
- Student contribution of £500.00
- For more information contact Sandy: S.A.Budden@soton.ac.uk or go to www.szap.wordpress.com
Koutroulou Magoula Project
Archaeology and Archaeological Ethnography
at Neo Monastiri, Central Greece:
From the Neolithic to the Present

Prof. Yannis Hamilakis (University of Southampton) and Dr Nina Kyparissi (Cave Eforeia of Southern Greece)
The broad aims of this project are:

- To understand the material and social life of a Middle Neolithic community (the tell site of *Koutroulou*) through the recovery and detailed study of artefacts and objects, animal and plant remains, soil, sediments and other geo-archaeological data.

- To study the embodied and sensory ways through which this community produced material memory, time and temporality, in other words its corporeal mode of social production and reproduction.
• To situate this community in the broader social and physical landscape, and compare its mode of material engagement with the world with other communities nearby, such as with the settlement at Imvrou Pigadi.

• To study and understand the role and the meaning of the material archaeological past and of archaeological activities and practices, amongst the modern communities of the area (which are refugees from Thrace), through an in-depth and detailed archaeological ethnography project.
Time frame for the Neolithic of Greece:

Aceramic: 6800-6500 BC
Early Neolithic: 6500-5800 BC
Middle Neolithic: 5800-5300 BC
Late Neolithic-Final Neolithic: 5300-3200 BC
- Magnetometry Results
Practicalities:

Four weeks in September
Five-day week
Work schedule: 7.30 am to 2.30 pm, and 5-5.30 pm to 7.30 or 8 pm
Travel expenses, accommodation (rented houses on a shared basis), and subsistence provided
Excursions during weekends
Some reading:


Quaternary Archaeology & Environments of Jersey

Matt Pope, Chantal Conneller, Beccy Scott, Andy Shaw, Martin Bates, Geoff Smith, James Cole, Rebecca Wragg-Sykes, Elinor Croxall, Dave Underhill and Karen Rubens
Thanks to:

Société Jersiaise
Jersey Heritage
The States of Jersey

UCL, Manchester,
Southampton Students

John McNabb
Clive Gamble
Chris Stringer
Anne Best

Jean-Luc Schwenninger
Kate Scott
Margaret Callow
Ruth Charles
Tim Reynolds
John Renouf
John Nettles

Jersey Digimap
The Liberation Brewery
Fieldwork: NERC Funded
Landscape Survey of the Isola Sacra, Italy

3rd – 25th September 2012
The Study Area
Rectified Air Photos 1943 – Isola Sacra
Geophysical Survey Portus 1998-2006
Geophysical Survey Portus 1998-2006
Geophysical Survey Portus 1998-2006
Isola Sacra Survey 2008 - 2012
Wind-blown dune deposits overlying tombs at Isola Sacra, and the alluvial floodplain to the south of the Fiumicino
Figure 5: Greyscale image of the processed magnetometry results from 2008 and 2009, shown in relation to the present topography.
Alluvial and wind blown deposits

Channels or small canals 4-5m across

Field systems on line different to Via Flavia and Bonifica – possible pastoral and/or saline usage
Canal in magnetometry

Eastern edge of stagno/canal

Turn in line of canal

2011 Soprintendenza excavation of ships
Useful information

Project Dates: 3\textsuperscript{rd} – 25\textsuperscript{th} September 2012 (three weeks)
Accommodation: Fiumicino, some 10 minutes from the site
Number of Students: Around 4 from Southampton, plus students from University of Cambridge

Food: Provided. Packed lunches, bar breakfast, self-catering evening meal

Project Directors: Kris Strutt, Simon Keay, Martin Millett

Number of supervisors: Three

All students will be required to partake in all different components of the survey, including gridding out, magnetometry, GPR
Excavation and Survey at Tidgrove Warren Farm, Hampshire

28th August – 25th September 2012
Location of Tidgrove Warren Farm, Hampshire
The landscape at Tidgrove Warren includes:

- Bronze Age Barrows
- Iron Age field systems
- Iron Age and Romano-British Settlement
- Medieval house site (12th century)

The image on the left shows the general study area and some of the extensive cropmarks planned from air photographic records. Work in 2008 will focus on the Medieval house site in the centre of the map, and the Romano-British settlement.

Excavation in 2004 and 2005 uncovered a number of features, mainly of late Iron Age and Roman date...
Profile of Enclosure ditch

Linear slot within the Romano-British enclosure

Enclosure ditch

Pit from within the enclosure
The house site was first discovered through fieldwalking and low-level aerial photography in 2002 (see left), and appears to consist of a ditched enclosure surrounding a complex of buildings and other features, as represented in the geophysical survey plot of the site (see bottom left).

Excavation work in 2005 and 2006 uncovered some of the substantial ditch and building remains of the site...
The enclosure interior

The post-pits and second structure

The aisled building

Ashlar facing and stairs to the cellar
Excavation of ditch and platform

Excavation of Romano-British ditch

Finds processing

Resistivity survey

Magnetometer Survey

Tidgrove Warren Farm 2011
In 2012 work will focus on the Romano-British settlement and the surrounding area, extending our knowledge of the extent and type of features associated with the settlement, and the basic chronology and phasing of the site, which presently appears to date from 1\textsuperscript{st} century BC to 4\textsuperscript{th} century AD.

Work will be based on the continued excavation of the site with some small scale non-destructive work as follows:

• Geophysics and hand auguring

• Excavation
• Possible test pits
• Finds recording
• Planning, and drawing of sections
• Finds washing and processing
Useful information

Project Dates: 28th August – 25th September 2012 (four weeks)
Accommodation: The team will travel out from Southampton and back each day
Number of Students: Around 20

Food: Students must provide their own packed lunches

Project Directors: Kris Strutt, Dominic Barker, Rachel Sharland, Paul Johnson

Number of supervisors: Four

All students will be required to partake in all different parts of the excavation, including excavating, finds washing, surveying, recording etc.
Scotney Castle (Kent) & Bodiam Castle (East Sussex)

4th – 23rd August (inclusive)
Location: South-East England
Previous Work: Easter 2010 & 2011

• Topographical (contour) survey
• Resistivity
• Magnetic susceptibility
• Magnetometry
• Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR)
• Electrical Resistance Tomography (ERT)
• Standing building survey

• All to continue in the summer of 2012...
Problems with the Castle Studies ‘debate’

- Concentrating only on castles as defensive structures...
- Has outpaced research at the sites (articles in preparation).
- Has failed to engage with local archaeology/stakeholders (the A21 syndrome).
- Untestable (what was going on inside Dalingrygge’s head?).
- Not anthropological or processual.
An Alternative Agenda (pioneered by Professor Matthew Johnson)

- Regional/local context (Weald landscape, maritime links etc.).
- Size, materiality, performance.
- Structure and agency – inherited landscapes and social strategies.
- Site biography (Bodiam is a multi-period site, from prehistory to Curzon).
- Look at other sites in the area e.g., Scotney and Ightham Mote.
Bodiam Castle
Bodiam Castle: Continuing Work

• Continue/finish standing building survey of the castle.

• Finish/continue the geophysical survey, particularly in Dokes field (to the North).

• Carry out augering (using power auger) if permission forthcoming from the National Trust & English Heritage.
Scotney Castle
Scotney Castle: Continuing Work

- Continue topographic and resistivity survey in the Scotney Estate.

- Consider use of other geophysical techniques...
Accommodation: EA Howard Basecamp

• National Trust hostel on the Scotney Estate (renovated this year).
  – Space for camping if you want to.

• All food provided by the project.
  – Have a cook for evening meals.
  – Rota of student helpers to assist with food preparation and washing up.
An Anglo-American Project

- Started by Professor Matthew Johnson, formerly of the University of Southampton, now at Northwestern University (Chicago).

- Southampton staff: Timothy Sly, Dominic Barker, Kris Strutt, Penny Copeland + various PhD students.

- Six students from Northwestern University.

- Placements for six students from the University of Southampton.
  - Student contribution is £250.

- Dates are 4th – 23rd August (inclusive).

- Five day working week (Sunday to Thursday), with one day for site visits & one day off.
Burford/Clatford

A Neolithic miscellany – three weeks, three monuments!
Part 1: Burford Neolithic enclosure and henge complex

Andy Jones and Josh Pollard
A tale of two Neolithics and the place where they meet.
While the monuments of the Thames Valley have seen fairly sustained research, the same is not true of those on the Thames tributaries bisecting the Cotswolds
Aims of the work

• To better understand the role of monuments in the creation, reproduction and negotiation of identities that stem from mytho-historical narratives of origins (here going back to the beginning of the Neolithic in Britain)

• To explore this through investigation of early and late Neolithic monumental constructions of the Upper Thames/Cotswold region (here focussing on the Windrush valley)

• The first phase involves non-invasive investigation of the Burford causewayed enclosure and Westwell henge monument
Early Neolithic enclosure

Henge

Westwell
Burford causewayed enclosure
Westwell henge
2012

• First stage fieldwork to better characterise the sites, involving:
  – Gridded surface collection of artefacts from the ploughsoil over these sites
  – Topographic and geophysical survey

• Nice accommodation in a nice area!
• Dates – end of August
Burford
Part 2. Clatford (near Avebury) and the Stones of Stonehenge: 
a megalithic mystery!
What was the source of the Stonehenge sarsens?
William Stukeley’s drawing
This is the second season of the Wiltshire component of the Stones of Stonehenge Project.

The Project is directed by Mark Gillings, Mike Parker Pearson, Josh Pollard and Kate Welham.

This year, the intention is to examine through further geophysical survey, excavation and test pitting the sites of a possible henge monument and prehistoric river crossing, near Marlborough, Wiltshire. Both are adjacent to an area recorded by antiquaries as the former location of a number of roughly dressed sarsen stones which we believe may have been destined for the incomplete outer circle at Stonehenge. Geophysical survey undertaken last year identified the possible henge monument. This is sited next to the Manton barrow (Preshute G1), the site of an important Wessex 1 burial that has its closest links with the Wilsford G7 and G16 graves on Normanton Down overlooking Stonehenge.
What and when

• You will be involved in excavation, augering and geophysical survey.
• The work will run from 12th-25th August, with one day off per week.
• Accommodation will be in caravans at a fine campsite near the cosmopolitan centre of Devizes.

Devizes, 2011
Hengistbury Head Survey Project
2012

James Cole, Will Davies, Dom Barker
Erosion a huge problem:

The cliff has retreated

80-70m from the south side

70-35m from the east

between 1885 and 2011