

Exploring the Medieval English village, 1086-1450

Date	22 April 2018	Time	10 a.m. – 16.45 p.m.
Venue	Madingley Hall Madingley Cambridge		
Tutor	Dr Susan Oosthuizen	Course code	1718NDX027

Director of Programmes Emma Jennings

For further information on this course, please contact Clare Kerr, Public Programmes Coordinator
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To book See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

Tutor biography

Dr Susan Oosthuizen is Reader in Medieval Archaeology at the University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education and is a member of the University of Cambridge Department of Archaeology. She has been involved in university lifelong learning since 1985. Her undergraduate degree in Archaeology and History was taken at the University of Southampton; she holds an MA from SOAS (University of London), and a PGCE and a PhD from the University of Cambridge, where her research on Anglo-Saxon landscapes bridged archaeology, history and historical geography. She is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London, the Royal Historical Society, and of Wolfson College, Cambridge. She is a former President of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society.

Dr Oosthuizen has a strong interest in community engagement in higher education. She was Vice-Chair of the Universities Association for Lifelong Learning (UALL) from 2007-2012, and is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. Her work has included numerous externally funded outreach projects, and the direction of a programme of community education and outreach courses for the Institute. She received a National Award for excellence in History Teaching in Higher Education in 2003 from the Historical Association, the History at the Universities Defence Group, the Royal Historical Society, and the LTSN for History, Archaeology and Classics'. She delivered the 2012 Hoskins Lecture on 'Medieval Open Fields and Their Origins'.

Programme:

09:30	Terrace bar open for pre-course tea/ coffee
10:00 – 11:15	The origins of the nucleated medieval village
11:15	Coffee
11:45 – 13:00	Reconstructing medieval nucleated village plans from modern maps
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:15	Documentary evidence in reconstructing the history of medieval village plans
15:15	Tea
15:30 – 16:45	Physical evidence in reconstructing the history of medieval village plans.
16:45	Day school ends

Course syllabus

Aims:

The course aims

- To introduce students to the general scholarship on the origins and development of medieval nucleated settlement in England;
- To offer a broad introduction to the principal sources and methods for identifying the origins and development of medieval nucleated village plans;
- To encourage students to begin to evaluate documentary, morphological and physical evidence in order to begin to develop interpretations of the origins and development of the plans of medieval nucleated villages

Content:

Focusing largely on readily-available sources and evidence visible in the modern landscape, the day school explores the reconstruction of the origins and development of medieval villages. It focuses in particular on those that are called 'nucleated' – that is, where most people in a parish or township live in a single settlement. It combines attention to geography and geology, with settlement plans, medieval and later buildings, earthworks and other features, and readily available documentary evidence. All are set in the context of current scholarly debates and narratives.

The first session discusses the debates around the origins of nucleated settlements – are they seventh or eighth century in date? Or do they lie between the 9th and 12th centuries? Or are they instead features of a post-1066 landscape? It discusses, too, the distribution of nucleation and dispersal (settlement in scattered farms and hamlets), and the influence of geography and geology on settlement location.

The second session introduces the reconstruction of medieval village plans from later maps, building on the work of archaeologists like Christopher Taylor and geographers like Brian Roberts. It discusses the evolution of such plans in response to status, economy and other influences.

The third session uses case studies to explore the utility of documentary evidence from primary evidence like Domesday Book and manorial extents, to the secondary evidence of the Victoria County histories to reconstruct the plans of medieval settlements.

And the fourth session looks at physical evidence in modern villages – including (among others) the age and distribution of buildings, moats and other earthworks, hedgerows and rights of way.

Presentation of the course:

The course will be presented through lectures and whole-group discussion.

As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate some knowledge of the general scholarship on the origins and development of medieval nucleated settlement in England;
- Demonstrate a broad understanding of the processes through which medieval nucleation occurred and developed;
- To begin to evaluate documentary, morphological and physical evidence in order to begin to develop interpretations of the origins and development of the plans of medieval nucleated villages.
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Reading and resources list

Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course. * Indicates the most important

Author	Title	Publisher and date
Aston, Mick	<i>Interpreting the Landscape</i>	Batsford, 1985
Aston, Mick and Gerrard, Chris	<i>Interpreting the English Village: Landscape and Community at Shapwick</i>	Windgather, 2013
Beresford, Maurice	<i>The Lost Villages of England</i>	Sutton, 1998 (and other printings)
Beresford, Maurice and St Joseph, J. K.	<i>The Medieval Village</i>	Cambridge University Press, 1979
Morris, Richard	<i>Churches in the Landscape</i>	Dent, 1989
Rackham, Oliver	<i>History of the Countryside</i>	Dent, 1987
Roberts, B. K. & Wrathmell, S.	<i>Region and Place</i> (available online)	English Heritage, 2002
Rowley, Trevor	<i>Villages in the Landscape</i>	Dent, 1978
Rowley, Trevor & Wood, John	<i>Deserted Villages</i>	Shire, 2000
Taylor, Christopher	<i>Fieldwork in Medieval Archaeology</i>	Dent, 1974
*Taylor, Christopher	<i>Village and Farmstead</i>	George Philip, 1983

Additional information

Venue

Details of how to find Madingley Hall can be found on our website:

<http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/who-we-are/how-to-find-the-institute>

Refreshments

Tea and coffee and a light sandwich lunch will be provided. If you have any specific dietary requirements or allergies and have not already advised us, please inform our Admissions Team on ice.admissions@ice.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 746262.

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 04 September 2017