

Common Pastures in England, c.400-1600

Date	30 June 2018	Time	10 a.m. – 16.45 p.m.
Venue	Madingley Hall Madingley Cambridge		
Tutor	Dr Susan Oosthuizen	Course code	1718NDX028

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 history of greens and commons, and recognising them in the landscape
11:15	Coffee
11:45 – 13:00	Common rights: their rationale, structure, social importance and origins
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:15	The practical work involved in common rights – in particular, the evidence of bylaws and disputes
15:15	Tea
15:30 – 16:45	Inferences about land management from the existence of rights of common.
16:45	Day school ends

Course syllabus

Aims:

The course aims

- To introduce students to the general scholarship concerning the origins and development of common pastures in England from c400-1600;
- To offer a broad introduction to the principal sources and methods for identifying the origins and development of common pastures in that period;
- To encourage students to begin to evaluate documentary, archaeological and physical evidence in order to begin to identify commons in the landscape.

Content:

Communities whose living depended in whole or in part on grazing flocks and herds can be neglected in discussions of the early medieval and medieval landscape. This day school attempts to redress that balance by focusing on pasture, and its management under rights of common. It discusses how such areas might be recognised, the origins of rights of common, and their implications for the management of areas of upland and wetland grazing.

The first session explores the landscapes of greens and commons, and their recognition even when most traces of their existence have now disappeared. The second session discusses common rights, their rationale structure, social importance, and their origins. The third session focuses on the practical aspects of common rights and the work they demanded from commoners. It uses, among other sources, common bylaws and the records of legal and other disputes. The fourth session explores the implications of rights of common for the management of areas for which there is little other documentary evidence, focusing on the case study of the peat wetlands of the East Anglian fen basin.

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 an outline knowledge of the general scholarship concerning the origins and development of common pastures in England from c400-1600;
- To demonstrate a broad understanding of the principal sources and methods for identifying the origins and development of common pastures in that period;
- To begin to evaluate documentary, archaeological and physical evidence in order in order to begin to
- identify commons in the landscape.

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 reading

Author	Title	Publisher and date
Aston, Mick	<i>Interpreting the Landscape</i>	
Beresford, Maurice and St Joseph, J. K.	<i>The Medieval Village</i>	Cambridge University Press, 1979
Herring, Peter & Rose, Peter	<i>Bodmin Moor's Archaeological Heritage, Volume 1</i> [downloadable from http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/eh_monographs_2014/contents.cfm?mono=1089012]	English Heritage 2001
Oosthuizen, Susan	<i>The Anglo-Saxon Fenland</i>	Windgather, 2017
Rackham, Oliver	<i>History of the Countryside</i>	Dent, 1987
Ravensdale, Jack	<i>Liable to Flood</i>	Cambridge University Press, 1974
Roberts, B. K. and Wrathmell, S.	<i>Region and Place</i> (downloadable from http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/eh_monographs_2014/contents.cfm?mono=1089068)	English Heritage, 2002
Spufford, Margaret	<i>Contrasting Communities</i>	Cambridge University Press, 1974
*Taylor, Christopher	<i>Village and Farmstead</i>	George Philip, 1983
Winchester, Angus	<i>The Harvest of the Hills: Rural Life in Northern England and the Scottish Borders, 1400-1700</i>	Keele University Press, 2000

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