

Landscapes of the Dead: exploring Bronze Age Barrowscapes

Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London

Saturday 16 March 2019



Round barrows and cairns were paramount to Early Bronze Age societies and rightly command much attention from those trying to understand the period. They have been researched in many ways over past decades and centuries. The original antiquarian preoccupation with burials and their accompaniments gradually gave way to a greater interest in structure and sequence, the latter at the scale of both individual monument and cemetery. Other influential themes to emerge from the study of barrows and their contents have been concerned with labour investment, territoriality, sacred landscapes, social hierarchies, land-use background, inter-visibility & viewsheds, cemetery/settlement relationships, ancestral reckoning, and the more ‘tactile’ properties of these monuments, such as colour. Common to almost all angles of approach, however, is the importance of fathoming the rationale for the spatial disposition of monuments and burials at all scales of analysis – this is to be the focus of the day.

- 09.30 Registration
 10.00 Coffee & Tea
 10.30 *Welcome & introduction*, Stuart Needham
 10.45 *Barrowscapes for the dead or the living? A view from the South West*, Andy Jones, Cornwall Archaeological Unit
 11.15 *Making places in the Stonehenge landscape: the case of Barrow Clump*, Jonathan Last, Historic England
 11.45 *The ancestral guardianship of the land: barrowscapes at the apex of the Weald*, Stuart Needham
 12.15 Discussion
 12.40 Lunch (available locally)
 13.45 *A barrowscape with a past and a future on Holy Island, Anglesey*, Jane Kenney, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust
 14.15 *Burials, barrows and place in northeast England, c. 2500–1500 BC*, Chris Fowler, Newcastle University
 14.45 *A kingdom for a stage: the spatial configuration and development of linear barrow groups*, Paul Garwood, University of Birmingham
 15.15 *Raising the ground, building a mound*, Catriona Gibson, University of Reading
 15.45 *The Overstory: Food Vessel burial in ‘complex’ cemetery-barrows and barrow-cemeteries in Northern Britain (c. 2200–1800 BC)*, Neil Wilkin, The British Museum
 16.15 Discussion & closing remarks
 16.45 Close

Please book me _____ £40 places and _____ £20 student places (tea/coffee included, lunch available locally)

Total amount listed on cheque _____ made payable to the Prehistoric Society. Please return with remittance to:
 Dr Tessa Machling, Prehistoric Society, c/o Institute of Archaeology, 31–34 Gordon Sq, London, WC1H 0PY

Name _____ Email* _____ Phone _____

Address _____