

ISAP NEWS

The newsletter of the International Society for Archaeological Prospection

Issue 10, February 2007

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Editor's Note

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Here is the slightly belated first helping of ISAP News for 2007. There has been a bit of a winter drought on the news of your recent surveying antics and discoveries, however, there are lots of conferences to look forward to over this coming year.

I do hope that in the course of the next few months you give this Newsletter a second thought when you get up to something interesting. It would be great to keep up the variety of 2006 in 2007.

If you would like to submit an article, advert or announcement for the next issue, please email content to me by 20th April 2007.

In the meantime – don't forget your subscription to ISAP for 2007 is now due! Renewing your membership is easy – just go to: <http://www.bradford.ac.uk/archsci/archprospection/renew.php> and fill out the form.

Day Meeting of the Environmental and Industrial Geophysics Group (EIGG) of the Geological Society of London, held at Burlington House, Piccadilly, on 19th December 2006.

This was the seventh in the succession of meetings held in London which, in every other year, conveniently slot in halfway between our biennial International Archaeological Prospection Conferences. It's an opportunity for researchers to present recent work and case studies, in prestigious but informal surroundings, to chat and view posters, and for commercial suppliers to display their wares. The meetings draw in colleagues from very far and wide and are proving increasingly popular, with an audience of over 100 on this occasion. It was also an opportunity for those who were interested to return the next day for a meeting on 'Geoscientists at Crime Scenes'.

The contributions on archaeological geophysics filled a packed day, starting with more remarkable magnetic discoveries from the Nile delta from Tomasz Herbich, and moving on to Pietro Cosentino and his colleagues' integrated geophysical research in support of the conservation of the marvellous mosaic pavements at the Villa del Casale in Sicily. Staying (just) within the Roman empire, and moving to cooler climes, Richard Jones reported on recent work to characterise Roman settlement on the Scottish Antonine Wall, evidently proving more of a challenge than has been the case on Hadrian's Wall. Louise Tizzard and Paul Baggaley drew attention in their presentations to the problems and very great potential of submarine, and sub-bottom geophysical exploration, and Alastair Ruffell followed on with an account of the use of GPR to locate features under fresh water. Once a technical hitch with the digital projector had been overcome, Dave Stewart returned us to dry land with a summary of his very productive labours on Hod Hill, Dorset, where the results challenge long-held interpretations. Volkmar Schultze then described the rapid and hyper-sensitive SQUID magnetometer system developed with his colleagues from Jena, and tested on sites in Peru, Germany and England. Any heads not left spinning

were then treated by Wolfgang Neubauer to a dazzling roller-coaster of virtual reality animations derived from surveys of central European Neolithic 'ritual' enclosures (KGAs), combining geophysical, cropmark and excavation evidence to validate astronomical alignments. After tea, and down to earth again in the UK, Armin Schmidt described the results of various detailed surveys that have helped locate and characterise parts of the Slack Roman fort, West Yorkshire, despite problems of varying magnetic noise. Such challenges were as nothing to those then described by Jack Walpole, with his UCL colleagues, bravely seeking a tunnel-opening buried under steep scree in the wilderness above Coniston, Cumbria with GPR and magnetometry. Jimmy Adcock then took us on a whistle-stop tour below the hallowed turves of three Royal palaces, as revealed by a Time Team campaign last summer; one of the more remarkable finds being the re-discovery of the site of Edward III's 'round table' at Windsor. James Lyall then rounded off the day in fine form by escorting us through the awesome concealed landscape of the Vale of Pickering, where entire settlements and burial sites, and their interconnections have been revealed in one prodigious 1000 hectare magnetic canvas.

If that were all not enough, further variety and interest was provided by a dozen posters on display in the Library. The ISAP Committee awarded the annual poster prize to Martin and Anne Roseveare for 'Intra-site magnetic susceptibility – survey of a Herefordshire enigma'. Other attractions were the commercial displays from amongst familiar suppliers, Geoscan, Stratascan, Geomatrix, Allied Associates, Bartington, and DWConsulting, including sight of a new multi-channel radar, and demonstrations of current software applications.

The day was concluded with the ISAP AGM, after which many of those with some stamina remaining gathered to quench their thirst in the cellar bar of Walkers of St James's.

Tuesday 19th December 2006, held at Burlington House, Piccadilly, London

A total of 26 members attended the AGM, which was held immediately after the EIGG meeting on 'Recent Work in Archaeological Geophysics'.

The Chairman of ISAP, Armin Schmidt, led the meeting. The minutes will be posted on the web site very soon, but for those who were unable to attend (and can't wait to find out what was said!), the report from the Management Committee covered the following areas:

- Membership: 230 paid up members
- GPR: Letter to CEPT Committee expressing concern of the user community about licensing issues for GPR.
- Sponsorship: EIGG conference supported through student bursaries (conference fee) and poster prize (£50)
- Sponsorship: GPR2008 (June, Birmingham) through one student. The value is to be determined in consultation with conference organisers.
- Sponsorship: 7th International Conference on Archaeological Prospection 2007 (September, Nitra) through student bursaries, which should cover conference fee. Number of bursaries to be determined based on conference fee, so negotiations will be required with the conference organisers.
- Access Grid Seminar Series: the seminars on 'Remote Sensing and Visualisation' is funded by AHRC and endorsed by ISAP. Information about this series will be

circulated in the Newsletter and on the email forum.

- 8th International Conference on Archaeological Prospection: announcement that this conference will be in Paris.
 - Archaeological Prospection: The publishers are keen to have a more formal link to ISAP. The Management Committee suggested that we formally consider this link at the next AGM.
 - Subscription payments: still taking up too much of time. Those who do not pay the society's subscriptions will be denied access to the members-only part of the website, membership benefits and the society's newsletter.
 - Research: some funds will be made available into how the citation database generated by Joerg Fassbinder and hosted by AARG could be successfully used by our membership. The Chairman would organise this via the email forum.
 - ISAP Newsletter: has been very successful and informative in the last year. The Editor, Louise Martin, was thanked for her hard work.
 - Email Forum: as a trial, the 'moderation' would be switched off for the isap-all email list to generate faster and greater exchange of messages.
 - Financial Statement: the current balance was £3,352.28 and €588.20
- Next AGM: Nitra, September, 2007

Announcement

John Gater, GSB Prospection Ltd, UK

jag@gsbprospection.com

After 18 years with GSB, Chris Gaffney has resigned as a Director of GSB Prospection Ltd. Chris has decided to investigate avenues of non-commercial archaeo-geophysics, though he will remain as a Consultant with the Company. John Gater is now the sole Director and GSB will continue to operate as normal with all the existing

staff. John has been with GSB since its start in 1986 and the Company will be celebrating its 21st Birthday in the summer of 2007. Anyone wishing to contact John should email him at jag@gsbprospection.com or gsb@gsbprospection.com.

Bringing Air and Water Together – Training School in Aerial Archaeology

Barth, Germany, 30th April - 4th May 2007



Bringing Air and Water Together
– Training School in Aerial Archaeology –
30th April–4th May 2007

How to reach Barth

Barth is situated near the coast of the Baltic Sea in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, about 50 km north-east of Rostock and 35 km west of Stralsund. You can travel there

By Car

Coming from the West (Hamburg, Rostock)
Take Motorway A 20, take exit Bad Sülze/Barth. Follow signposted route to Barth.

Coming from the South (Berlin)
Take Motorway A24 as far as intersection Wittstock. Change to A19, leave A19 at exit Rostock-Ost. Take the B105 via Ribnitz-Damgarten as far as Loebnitz. Then follow signposted route to Barth.

In both cases, you reach Barth from the south. First you will see a signpost to the airfield – don't follow – remain on the main road. Then quite soon signs to the Pommernhotel follow. You will see the hotel as soon as you leave the main road.

By Train

There is a railway station in Barth. Trains reach/leave Barth from/to Stralsund, Pasewalk and Velgast every two hours. We will organise a „Pick-up Service“ at the station on Sunday.

Nearest *airports* are Rostock-Laage, Berlin Airports Tegel, Tempelhof and Schoeneberg, Hamburg-Fuhlsbuettel, Luebeck Airport (Ryan Air). Nearest *ports* are Rostock, Luebeck-Travemuende and Sassnitz.

Accommodation in Barth

The Hotel „*Pommernhotel*“ which is situated very conveniently only a few minutes away from the airfield (but 20 minutes walk from the centre of the small town) will be our „base“ where the Ground School will be held and meetings in the evenings take place.

Further information available at:

Pommernhotel, Divitzer Weg 2, 18356 Barth, Germany

Phone +49-38 231 / 455 80, Fax +49-38 231 / 452 22

E-Mail: info@pommernhotel.de, Internet: www.pommernhotel.de

In Barth there are several more hotels, some holiday apartments and a youth hostel.

Information may also be found on the official Barth website (also English)

www.stadt-barth.de/tourismus/unterkuenfte.html

Tourist Information Office in Barth:

Phone/Fax from abroad: +49-38231 / 2464 – E-Mail: info@stadt-barth.de

The youth hostel (about 40 min. walk from the Pommernhotel) has a website:

www.jugendherbergen-mv.de/jugendherberge-2.html

also available in English:

www.jugendherberge.de/international/html/01-hostels/extended_jh.jsp?IDJH=166

National Park Service's 2007 Archaeological Prospection Workshop.

HAMMER Training Center, Richland, Washington, 14th – 18th May 2007

The National Park Service's 2007 workshop on archaeological prospection techniques entitled Current Archaeological Prospection Advances for Non-Destructive Investigations in the 21st Century will be held May 14-18, 2007, at the HAMMER Training Center, Richland, Washington. Lodging will be at the Guest House on the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory campus, Richland, Washington. This will be the seventeenth year of the workshop dedicated to the use of geophysical, aerial photography, and other remote sensing methods as they apply to the identification, evaluation, conservation, and protection of archaeological resources across this Nation. The workshop this year will focus on the theory of operation, methodology, processing, interpretation, and on-hands use of the equipment in the field. There is a tuition charge of \$475.00. Application forms are available on the Midwest Archeological Center's web page at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/mwac/>.

For further information, please contact Steven L. DeVore, Archeologist, National Park Service, Midwest Archeological Center, Federal Building, Room 474, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3873: tel: (402) 437-5392, ext. 141; fax: (402) 437-5098; email: steve_de_vore@nps.gov

Archaeological Geophysics Session, AGU Joint Assembly

Acapulco, Mexico, 21st – 25th May 2007

JOINT ASSEMBLY
Acapulco, Mexico
21-25 May, 2007



Dear all,

We inform you that the American Geophysical Union (AGU) has accepted our session proposal on Archaeological Geophysics within the 2007 Joint Assembly, to be held in Acapulco (Mexico) from May 22 to 25, 2007.

NS07: Archaeological geophysics: Recent developments.

Coveners: Luis Barba (UNAM Mexico), Cornelius Meyer (eastern atlas, Berlin)

Email addresses: barba@servidor.unam.mx, cornelius@eastern-atlas.com

Recent developments in instrumentation and methods have opened new avenues for innovative geophysical studies in archaeological investigations, with increased spatial resolution. New approaches in archaeological research focusing more on the social, cultural and economic roles of archaeological landscapes and settlement areas may be effectively supported by high resolution geophysical techniques and remote sensing methods including new airborne applications. We seek contributions that highlight the relationship between archaeological objectives, geophysical prospection techniques and the final archaeological interpretation. Geophysical investigations of archaeological sites in urban areas are particularly encouraged.

We cordially invite you to submit your papers to make this session successful.

Deadline is the 1 March, 2007, 23:59 UT

Please, see conference's website: <http://www.agu.org/meetings/ja07>

Thank you and best regards

Luis Barba and Cornelius Meyer

AARG 2007

The National Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark, 25th - 27th September 2007

CALL FOR PAPERS for the international Aerial Archaeology Research Group conference 2007, to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Proposals for sessions, papers and posters are invited:

Tuesday September 25th. Conference Day 1 - *Provisional sessions*:

Aerial Archaeology in Denmark; Baltic Archaeology; Education (DEBATE SESSION)

Wednesday September 26th. Conference Day 2 - *Provisional sessions*

New Projects & Postgraduate research; Taking Aerial archaeology forward; Digital photography (workshop); C2000 Projects

Thursday September 27th . Conference Day 3

Field Trip

Note: session titles are provisional and offers of other papers are welcomed.

Oral papers should usually be 20 minutes duration, and equal weighting is given to poster presentations. It is hoped that the format of the session on Education will be on the model of the AARG DEBATE at Bath 2006 (see Chairman's Piece *AARGnews* 32).

Closing date for abstracts is 31st May 2007.

Address for conference correspondence:

Dave Cowley

RCAHMS

16 Bernard Terrace

Edinburgh, EH8 9NX

Scotland

Email dave.cowley@rcahms.gov.uk

STUDENT BURSARIES FOR AARG 2007

These are aimed at supporting bona fide students who are interested in aerial archaeology and wish to attend the conference. Anyone wishing to apply should contact Dave Cowley (by letter or email) with information about their interests in archaeology and aerial archaeology, as well as their place of study.

Closing date for applications is 31st May 2007 (note change in date).

Aerial Archaeology Research Group website: <http://aarg.univie.ac.at/>

STEFANO CAMPANA

LANDSCAPE ARCHAEOLOGY

UNIVERSITY OF SIENA

Email: campana@unisi.it

WEB SITES: <http://www.lapetlab.it> and <http://www.space2place.org>

Mobile: ++3479193050

LANDSCAPE ARCHAEOLOGY & REMOTE SENSING LABORATORY

SIENA LAB

Convento dei Servi, via Roma 56, 53100 Siena - Italy
Phone/Fax ++(0)577-234733/234601

GROSSETO LAB

Convento Clarisse, via Vinzaglio 28, 58100 Grosseto - Italy
Phone/Fax ++(0)564-441212/13

Ground Probing Radar 2008 Conference.

Birmingham, UK, June 2008

Birmingham University has great pleasure in announcing that it has been selected to host the GPR 2008 conference and exhibition in June 2008.

This will be the 12th GPR conference and first time this biannual event has been hosted by a UK venue, which since its conception in 1986 has travelled to every continent. The UK is a very strong player on the world stage, with active GPR research at many universities and other institutes. The meeting is co-chaired by Professor Chris Rogers of the Civil Engineering department of the University of Birmingham and Dr Richard Chignell, founder and technical director of Pipehawk plc, which will ensure that both academic and industrial sectors will have an active involvement in the meeting.

As the UK has a very strong commercial sector, day 3 of the meeting will be focused on industrial applications to encourage attendance from both GPR practitioners and end users of the technique.

GPR is a relatively new geophysical discipline with emerging strong applications in high resolution archaeological Prospection, Geological investigations, and forensic science.

Further details for submission of oral and poster presentations and the associated technical exhibition can be found at www.gpr2008.org.uk.

Journal Notifications

Archaeological Prospection

The first issue of the year is about to go to press. The articles lined up for publication include:

The use of microgravity, magnetometry and resistivity surveys for the characterization and preservation of an archaeological site at Umm er-Rasas, Jordan

A. Batayneh, J. Khataibeh, H. Alrshdan, U. Tobasi, N. Al-Jahed

Ground-penetrating radar investigations into the construction techniques of the Concordia Temple (Agrigento, Sicily, Italy)

P. M. Barone, F. Graziano, E. Pettinelli, R. Ginanni Corradini

Tepe Ghabristan: a Chalcolithic tell buried in alluvium

Armin Schmidt, Hassan Fazeli

Resistivity imaging survey of the Roman barrows at Bartlow, Cambridgeshire, UK

Timothy Astin, Hella Eckardt, Sophie Hay

Geological and geophysical investigations in the Roman cemetery at Kenchreai (Korinthia), Greece

A. Sarris, R. K. Dunn, J. L. Rife, N. Papadopoulos, E. Kokkinou, C. Mundigler

Later in the year there will be an issue containing a selection from the ISAP meeting at Rome.

ISAP members still get a great deal from Wileys – to get details please go to the members only section of the ISAP website.

Chris Gaffney

Commercial Advertisements

Geophysical Equipment for hire from

Geomatrix *Earth Science Ltd*

- Bartington, Grad 601-2 dual fluxgate gradiometer
- Geometrics, Caesium Vapour magnetometers and gradiometers
- Geometrics G-882 marine magnetometer
- Geometrics Seismographs
- Geometrics Ohmmapper
- Geonics EM conductivity meters
- IRIS Instruments, Electrical resistivity tomography systems
- Malå Geoscience, Ground Probing Radar

Short and long term hire rates available

We arrange shipping by courier service, U.K. or European

For rates and availability contact Maggie on

+44 (0)1525 383438

sales@geomatrix.co.uk

www.geomatrix.co.uk