

Looking for Pattern: the comparison, classification and synthesis of air photographic evidence.

Programme

Monday 7th January

- 10.30 Assemble at the Mond Building for COFFEE
- 11.00 INTRODUCTION (Rowan Whimster)
- 11.00 REGIONAL STUDIES (PART ONE)
- 11.15 The Solway Plain (Bob Bewley)
- 11.40 The Cumbrian Region (Adrian Olivier and Val Turner)
- 12.05 Dartmoor (Grahame Soffe and Frances Griffith)
- 12.30 Discussion
- 12.45 LUNCH
- REGIONAL STUDIES --(PART TWO)
- 2.00 The Upper Severn Valley (Jill Collens)
- 2.30 Early settlement in Ireland (Gillian Barrett)
- 3.00 The Welsh Marches and Trent Valley (Rowan Whimster)
- 3.30 Discussion
- 3.45 TEA
- THEMATIC COMPARATIVE STUDIES
- 4.15 Cursuses, long barrows and mortuary enclosures (Roy Loveday)
- 4.45 Henges (Graham Lee)
- 5.15 Roman military sites in Britain (David Wilson)
- 5.45 Discussion
- 7.30 DINNER in Churchill College
- 8.45 AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE: RECENT RESULTS (Bevin Room, Churchill)

Tuesday 8th January

- NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ARCHIVES: THE PRESENT SITUATION
- 9.00 CUCAP (Rowan Whimster)
- 9.15 NMR Air Photographs Unit of RCHM(England) (John Hampton)
- 9.30 Berkshire SMR (Paul Chadwick)
- ~~9.45 Northamptonshire SMR (Glenn Foard)~~
- 10.00 Devon SMR (Frances Griffith)
- 10.15 North Yorkshire SMR (Graham Lee)
- 10.30 Discussion
- 10.45 COFFEE
- 11.15 THE FUTURE OF AIR PHOTOGRAPHIC CLASSIFICATION: A DEBATE
- Five viewpoints from:
- Gordon Maxwell
- Ian Shepherd
- Bob Bewley
- Chris Musson
- David Miles
- 1.00 LUNCH
- 2.15 THE CLASSIFICATION OF LANDSCAPES: AN OPEN DISCUSSION
- 3.10 COMPUTER MAPPING AT BRADFORD AND EDINBURGH: REPORTS ON PROGRESS (John Haigh and Gordon Maxwell)
- 3.30 FUTURE MEETINGS AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS
- 3.45 TEA AND CLOSE OF MEETING

Tuesday

9.00 - 10.45 NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ARCHIVES: THE PRESENT SITUATION

The second days proceedings will be devoted to the procedures that will allow air photographic information to be effectively incorporated into different levels of archaeological record. As an introduction, several members of the group will be asked to define the approaches that are currently followed within the CUCAP collection, the NMRS and a number of different SMRS.

10.45 - 11.15 COFFEE

11.15 - 12.45 THE FUTURE OF AIR PHOTOGRAPHIC CLASSIFICATION: A DEBATE

The need for systems of classification for air photographic archaeological information is not disputed. There is nevertheless profound uncertainty about the classificatory principles that will allow the greatest flexibility and provide the best framework for the development of archaeological understanding. The most articulate contributions to this debate have recently come from Scotland, where attention has been focussed strongly on the need for a compromise between the twin options of rigorous morphological classification, and categorisation based on a more general assessment of cultural/historical/functional character (Scottish Archaeological Review, 2, 1983. Papers and comment by G.S.Maxwell; I.B.M.Ralston and I.A.G.Shepherd; L.MacInnes; P.Hill; D.W.Harding). In this important session the Scottish debate will be reviewed and members of the group will be invited to extend the discussion to a wider British context.

12.45 - 2.00 LUNCH

2.00 - 3.45 THE CLASSIFICATION OF LANDSCAPES

In the previous session, attention will have been devoted mainly to the classification of individual sites and features. In certain regions, the development of extensive agricultural and settlement systems presents special problems. In this concluding session a member of the group will be asked to lead a discussion on the ways in which we may be able to move on from the classification of separate features to the comparison and assessment of the organic systems of which they are components.

3.45 - 4.15 TEA AND CLOSE OF MEETING

Postscript

One of the main purposes of the AARG is to allow members a regular forum for the discussion of recent work, new ideas and practical problems arising from post-reconnaissance work in different parts of the country. Please remember that this informal but vital aspect of our meetings (sandwiched between the main working sessions of the formal programme) will work only as long as people are prepared to bring appropriate photographs, maps and plans with them. They are the raw material for effective communication and we all need the opportunity to see and hear what others are attempting to do.