Managing agricultural productivity in the fen wetlands, c.400-c.1300

Date 17 November 2018  Time 10:00 – 16:45
Venue Madingley Hall
Madingley
Cambridge

Academic Director Professor Susan Oosthuizen  Course code 1819NDX012
Director of Programmes Sarah Ormrod

For further information on this course, please contact Head of Academic Centre Administration, Zara Kuckelhaus
zara.kuckelhaus@ice.cam.ac.uk or 01223 746204

To book See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

Tutor biography

Dr Susan Oosthuizen is Professor of Medieval Archaeology at the University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education and a member of the University’s Department of Archaeology. She is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London, of the Royal Historical Society, and of Wolfson College, Cambridge. Her research is currently focused on the development of early medieval and medieval agricultural landscapes and settlements, and on the origins of Anglo-Saxon England. Her most recent publications are The Anglo-Saxon Fenland (Windgather, 2017) and The Emergence of the English (Arc Humanities Press, forthcoming 2018).
Day school content:

The East Anglian fens were the largest wetlands in England until their drainage in the 17th century. The day school explores the largely pastoral economy that they supported, the degree to which both land and water were managed across the period between c.400 and 1300, the respective influences of large abbeys and peasant communities in that management, and the importance of rights of common in their exploitation.

Programme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:30</td>
<td>Terrace bar open for pre-course tea/ coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 11:15</td>
<td>The East Anglian fenland – historical overview c.400-1300</td>
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<td>11:15</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
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<td>11:45 – 13:00</td>
<td>Managing the pastoral landscape for agricultural productivity</td>
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<td>13:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>14:00 – 15:15</td>
<td>Managing water for agricultural productivity</td>
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<td>15:15</td>
<td>Tea</td>
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<td>15:30 – 16:45</td>
<td>The commercial impetus</td>
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<td>16:45</td>
<td>Day school ends</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher and date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Darby, H. C.</td>
<td>The Medieval Fenland</td>
<td>David and Charles, 1974</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Miller, E.  
*The Abbey and Bishopric of Ely*  
Cambridge UP, 1951

Oosthuizen, S.  
Rural settlement and commerce in the medieval peat fen, c.900-1300'. In P. Stamper and N. Christie, eds., *Rural Medieval Britain and Ireland, AD 800-1600: Settlements, Landscapes and Regions*, 206-224.

Oosthuizen, S.  
*The Anglo-Saxon Fenland*  
Windgacher, 2012

Ravensdale, J. R.  
*A Domesday Inheritance*  
Cambridge UP, 1986

Royal Commission on Historic Monuments  
*North-East Cambridgeshire*  
HMSO, 1972

Taylor, C. C.  
*The Cambridgeshire Landscape*  
Hodder, 1973

Spufford, M.  
*Contrasting Communities*  
Cambridge UP, 1974

Stone, D.  
*Decision-Making in Medieval Agriculture*  
Oxford UP, 2005

Thirsk, J.  
*Fenland Farming in the Sixteenth Century*  
Leicester UP, 1973

Willmoth, F. and Oosthuizen, S., eds.  
*The Ely Coucher Book 1249-50. The Bishop of Ely’s Manors in the Cambridgeshire Fenland*  
Cambridgeshire Record Society, 2015

Website addresses


Great Fen Project  
[www.greatfen.org.uk](http://www.greatfen.org.uk)

Wicken Fen Nature Reserve  

[http://www.snh.gov.uk/docs/B823264.pdf](http://www.snh.gov.uk/docs/B823264.pdf)

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](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 please inform our Admissions Team on [ice.admissions@ice.cam.ac.uk](mailto:ice.admissions@ice.cam.ac.uk) or +44 (0)1223 746262 if you have not already advised us of your requirements.
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: 08 October 2018