

MEDIEVAL SETTLEMENT RESEARCH

The Journal of the Medieval Settlement Research Group



No. 37
2022

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EDITORIAL

‘We are in a COVID decade: the social, economic and cultural effects of the pandemic will cast a long shadow into the future – perhaps longer than a decade’ (British Academy 2021, 6).

We may hope that medieval settlement studies will have recovered from COVID-related disruptions well before a decade has elapsed, but for now the knock-on effects remain apparent in the pages of this journal. For instance, elements of the CARE project in 2021 – such as test pitting in the Netherlands – were once again hampered, though the project still presents an array of valuable findings in this volume (see Lewis *et al.*). Perhaps the most obvious manifestation of the pandemic’s long shadow, however, is the relative shortness of this volume: largely a consequence of long-expected submissions being delayed by lockdowns and related repercussions. We likewise find ourselves without a Bibliography again this year, for similar reasons; but we are finally able to acknowledge, in print, our debt to the late David Hall: Bill Franklin’s evocative obituary reminds us how much English landscape archaeology owes to David’s devotion, energy and prolific work.

The research content of this volume, though shorter than usual, continues to advance and shape our discipline. The final instalment of Stuart Wrathmell’s trilogy, ‘Sharing out the land of the Northumbrians’, sheds light on further case studies in eastern Yorkshire, and draws out crucial themes concerning the chronology of settlement, the role of the Church, intentions, actors and implementation. Tudur Davies presents a foundational new review of pollen evidence for later medieval Wales, and its implications for our understanding of wider developments in the landscape – thus working to address the lack of palaeoenvironmental studies of late medieval Wales which Paul Belford identified in his review of development-driven archaeology in last year’s volume. Development-driven archaeology features in this volume too, in Mick Boyle’s report on excavations at Great Ellingham, Norfolk; while Carenza Lewis and colleagues present the continuing impact of community research in currently-occupied rural settlements across four countries.

Finally, this volume heralds a new partnership between the Medieval Settlement Research Group and Archaeopress, an Oxford-based publisher which is run by archaeologists and specialises in archaeology-related books and journals. Besides the continued publication of *Medieval Settlement Research* in hard copy for members and subscribing institutions, we will also be working with Archaeopress to develop a digital platform for the journal, to provide subscribers with immediate online access to new volumes. We will retain our current open access policy, of course: papers will become free to download from the Archaeology Data Service after a two-year embargo period. I would like to thank Letty ten Harkel, Susan Kilby and Rebecca Gregory for their invaluable contributions to this new agreement, and David Davison and Patrick Harris at Archaeopress for their continuing advice and support; and I look forward to progressing in this new chapter for *Medieval Settlement Research*.

The Editor

British Academy. 2021. *The COVID decade: Understanding the long-term societal impacts of COVID-19*. London: The British Academy. DOI: doi.org/10.5871/bac19stf/9780856726583.001

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The MSRG AGM 2022 and Events

The MSRG Winter Seminar will take place on 10 December 2022. In honour of David Hall and Christopher Taylor, papers will be presented on the theme of 'New Thinking on Medieval Fields'. Although we plan to hold the event at Lucy Cavendish College, University of Cambridge this year, we will once again monitor the situation regarding the pandemic. The latest information regarding the hosting of the Winter Seminar, including details of how to register, will be found on our website: <http://medieval-settlement.com/events>. Additional information will be issued with the journal, so please do read all of the additional paperwork carefully. With this in mind, we hope to hold the 2022 AGM in person on the morning of the Winter Seminar. Should this need to be reconsidered, members will be invited to participate virtually, as they were over the last two years. If we need to use the virtual method once again, members can either complete the online form that will be circulated by email in November, or the enclosed form, which must be returned to the Secretary by the deadline indicated.

The next Spring Conference will be held in Cardiff on 15–16 April 2023, on the theme of medieval rural settlement in Wales and South West England.

Research Grants

The MSRG can make grants for the support of research by members of the Group within its field of interest. A maximum of £5,000 is available annually until 2023, and applications for sums *up to* this amount or smaller requests are invited. Grants can cover fieldwork and associated analysis, documentary research, and other appropriate forms of assistance towards eventual publication. A summary report of the work will be required upon completion of the work and, subject to editorial consideration, may be published in *Medieval Settlement Research*. The deadline for applications each year is 31 January. Prospective applicants can find more information and download an application form from <https://medieval-settlement.com/grants-awards/research-grants/>.

MEMORIAL PRIZES AND BURSARIES

John Hurst Memorial Prize

The Medieval Settlement Research Group is dedicated to enhancing our understanding of the rural landscape and its settlement in the period *c.* AD 400–1600. The late John Hurst was a major figure in the development of the Group and in his honour, and to encourage new and young scholars, an annual prize of £200 is offered for the best postgraduate student paper on any theme in the field of medieval settlement and landscape exploitation in Britain and Ireland. The winning applicant may also be invited to submit their paper for publication in *Medieval Settlement Research*. Full details, including an application form, can be found at <https://medieval-settlement.com/grants-awards/dissertation-award>.

Maurice Beresford Memorial Bursaries

In accordance with its aims and in memory of Maurice Beresford, pioneer in medieval settlement studies and a founder member, the Group awards as many as four student bursaries annually up to the value of £100 to help to defray the expenses of attending a conference within the field of the Group's interests. Applicants must be registered as full-time or part-time students. Applications, including full details of the venue, topic and costs of the conference and its relevance to the applicant's interests, together with the name of a referee, should be submitted in writing to the MSRG Secretary by 1 June or 1 December. A panel appointed by the Committee of the Group will decide on the awards. Successful applicants should note that cheques will be sent only after attendance at the conference and after verification of the costs involved.

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Next year's journal will once again include refereed research articles and reports on fieldwork, excavation and other recent work. Submissions should be focused on topics relevant to the core interests of the MSRG, which are primarily medieval settlement and landscape in Britain and Ireland from the fifth to sixteenth centuries AD. Articles and reports focusing on landscapes and settlements from other parts of Europe are also welcomed, especially where they can be demonstrated to be of relevance to British and Irish research in terms of methodology and/or subject matter.

Please submit all copy to the Editor by **1 April 2023**. Please note:

- **Research Articles** should be 4,000–10,000 words in length, with as many illustrations as are deemed necessary to support the argument. As the journal is printed in full colour, there is no limit on the amount of colour illustrations. All submissions to this section are fully peer-reviewed by *at least* two reviewers.
- Short items for **Reports** summarising fieldwork or projects should be kept concise, in the range of 1,500–4,000 words plus one or two illustrations (unless the work is of a scale that necessitates a longer article – for example, reports on major projects). Shorter items, such as project announcements or reports under 1,500 words, can be included in the MSRG digital newsletter.
- Submissions should adhere to the **journal's guidelines**, which can be downloaded from <https://medieval-settlement.com/publications/journal/>.
- Please do not hesitate to contact the Editor on medieval.settlement.research@gmail.com at an early stage for advice on your potential submission.