

UNDERSTANDING ANCIENT LANDSCAPES IN EUROPE

Training and access

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Background and objective

Aerial archaeology and landscape studies have a long history in the United Kingdom. English Heritage is a leading institution in the fields of archaeological air survey, landscape recording, air photo-interpretation and mapping, archive-management and public presentation. The organisation's role is as project leader, providing administrative and financial support for the project as a whole. It also provides skilled tutors for training events, workshops and conferences within or associated with the project. The specific responsibilities of English Heritage as project-leader are as follows.

- To provide administrative and financial support in the receipt and expenditure of funds and in reporting to the Culture 2000 office in Brussels.
- To administer the project's 'central' funds so as to support meetings, exchange visits and TV/video/website activities.
- To share expertise by arranging speakers and tutors for training events, workshops and conferences organised by Culture 2000 co-partners.
- To organise an aerial survey Training School in England and to act as co-organiser of a GIS Workshop in Italy, the latter in partnership with the University of Siena.
- To promote TV and video presentations so as to publicise aerial archaeology, landscape studies and the contribution made to them by the Culture 2000 project.
- To create and oversee a central website and 'virtual exhibition' for the project.
- To organise a final workshop and 'book of the project'.

Progress to the end of 2005

Good progress has been achieved with all of these objectives, though the TV/video and website work has taken longer than expected. The project's Management Committee have been held and the Interim Report has been prepared and submitted to Brussels.

Administrative and financial support the use of 'central' funds

The financial management of the project, involving seventeen co-partner organisations, has been greatly assisted by the standard Culture 2000 invoice spreadsheet. Significant difficulties have been encountered in only one case (Italy, Lecce) where bureaucratic problems (now hopefully resolved) prevented any progress in 2005. 'Central' funds have helped students and tutors to attend events in Finland, Germany, Italy, Lithuania and Romania, and have supported work on the project's central website.

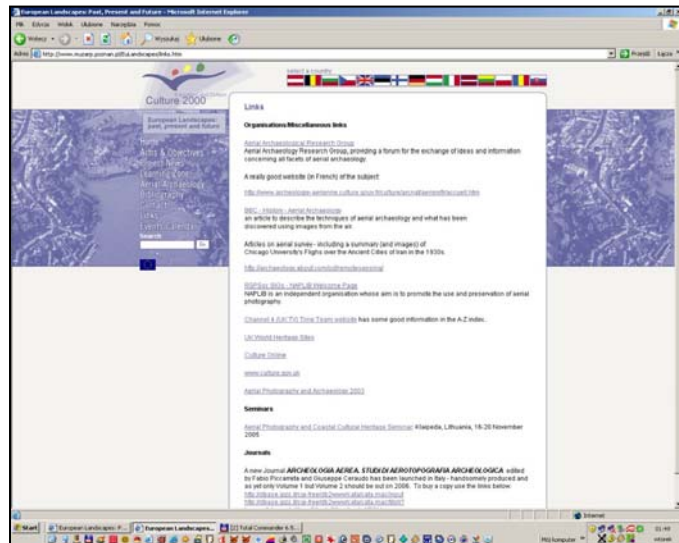
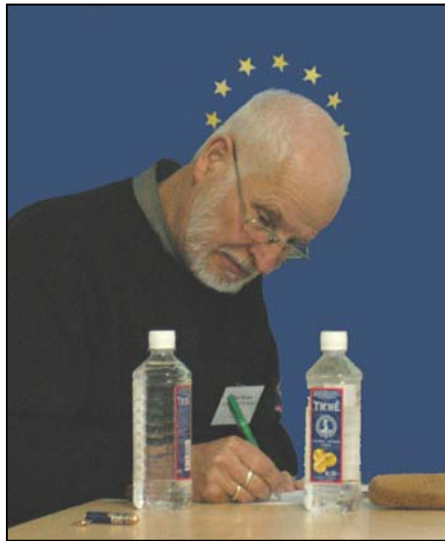
Sharing expertise

English Heritage has arranged for or provided speakers, tutors and pilot-instructors for eight events or actions in five different countries between September 2004 and the end of 2005. Similar support will continue throughout the project.

Aerial Archaeology Training Schools and GIS Workshop

Following discussions with co-partners in Italy the sequence of Training Schools was re-arranged. The school at Grosseto in Tuscany took place in May-June 2005, with the UK school moving to July 2006 and the second Italian school, at Foggia, to May 2007. There is thus a major school in each year of the project. The GIS Workshop, to be organised in partnership with the University of Siena, is now programmed for the final year of the project. In the meantime English Heritage and the Culture 2000 project will contribute to the Siena University's XVth International Summer School, to be held at Grosseto, S Tuscany, in July

2006. The subject, *Geophysics for Landscape Archaeology*, is so close to the Culture 2000 objectives that it was felt better to support the School in a small way and to postpone the GIS workshop until 2007.



Left: *Subtle advertising for the European Union and Culture 2000 at Klaiapeda in Lithuania.*

Right: *Advertising of a different kind – a page from the project’s central website.*

TV, video, website and ‘virtual exhibition’

The production of TV and video packages has been explored with two TV companies in the UK. One is now developing a proposal for circulation through European broadcasting networks on the concept of *European Landscapes* as TV programmes, CDs and web-based teaching facilities.

The project’s central website proved more difficult to arrange than originally anticipated but its format has now been established and it was launched in a development form in November 2005 (at www.muzarp.poznan.pl/EuLandscapes) with links to and from a number of related websites. The plan is for the site to be populated and material loaded up in the first three months of 2006. All co-partners will develop their own ‘national’ or ‘institutional’ pages while text and illustrations on the more generic subjects (aerial survey, the background to the project, links, news etc) will be organised by English Heritage staff and volunteers from within the project. The website was created by a UK company called ‘nu-breed’ and is now being managed and maintained by the Poznań Archaeological Museum in Poland. All co-partners are collecting material for the ‘virtual exhibition’ which will be assembled in its final form towards the end of the project.

Meetings

Staff from English Heritage attended Culture 2000 meetings at Munich in September 2004, Helsinki and Rome in October and November 2004, Romania in May 2005, Grosseto (Italy) in May-June 2005 and Leuven (Belgium) in September 2005.

Final workshop and ‘book of the project’

The British Academy has agreed (in principle) to host and assist in the organisation of the final workshop, if the project’s Management Committee decide that London is the most appropriate venue. The Academy has also expressed an interest in publishing the results of the workshop and the project’s results.