

Paul Garwood BA, MSc

Senior Lecturer in Prehistory

[Classics, Ancient History and Archaeology \(/schools/historycultures/departments/caha/index.aspx\)](/schools/historycultures/departments/caha/index.aspx)

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About

I use archaeological and anthropological perspectives to explore prehistoric social life and cultural expression, focussing on the Neolithic and Bronze Age of Britain and north-west Europe. My main areas of interest are funerary practices, ritual, monumental architecture, material culture, personhood and landscape, with a strong commitment to fieldwork as a means to investigate prehistoric cultural worlds, including current work on the Medway megalithic monuments and in the Stonehenge landscape.

Qualifications

- BA Archaeology
- MSc Social Anthropology
- PG Cert Learning & Teaching in Higher Education

Biography

I gained my BA at the Institute of Archaeology in London, and my MSc in Social Anthropology at University College London. My early career was in professional archaeology, with fieldwork, post-excavation and publication posts in Sussex, Lincolnshire, London, Oxford, and with the Central Excavation Unit. I started doctoral research at the University of Oxford in 1987 and continued with this episodically while working as a field archaeologist, before securing academic posts first as College Lecturer at Keble College and at Hertford College, Oxford (from 1994) and later as University Lecturer at Oxford University (teaching both archaeology and anthropology). I was appointed Lecturer in Prehistory at the University of Birmingham in 1999.

My research focuses on Neolithic and Bronze Age funerary practices, ritual, material culture, monumental architecture and cosmography in Britain and north-west Europe. A pervasive feature of my work is the use of anthropological perspectives to explore the 'lived' nature and diversity of past cultural worlds and social agency at several different scales. I have recently completed a series of regional interpretative syntheses of the evidence from the West Midlands, the Upper and Middle Thames Valley, Wessex and South-East England, including the Channel Tunnel Rail Link. I have also recently published studies of Early Bronze Age burials, monuments, children in funerary ritual, and archaeological approaches to the study of rites of passage. I'm currently engaged in research projects on funerary dress, Wessex 'rich graves', the Stonehenge landscape, and Beaker graves in Britain and north-west Europe. Fieldwork continues to be an especially productive and rewarding aspect of my research, including direction of the Wolvey prehistoric landscapes project, participation in the Stonehenge Riverside Project (the Palisade Field excavations, with Josh Pollard) and I'm currently engaged in landscape research projects in the Medway Valley and around Stonehenge

Teaching

I teach undergraduate and postgraduate courses on British and European prehistory, field archaeology, material culture, landscape archaeology, death and burial, complex societies, and ritual and religion, and I run field training courses for undergraduates and postgraduates.

Postgraduate supervision

I welcome research proposals relating to any of my areas of research interest, especially funerary archaeology, ritual, landscape, and material culture, and I'm happy to discuss potential topics at any time. My recent postgraduate supervision includes:

- *Prehistoric landscapes of the South Pennines* (PhD, completion due 2015)
- *Food Vessels in Early Bronze Age Britain* (AHRC-funded; PhD, completion due 2012)
- *Lithic technologies in the Neolithic of northern Italy* (PhD, completion due 2012)
- *Space and architecture in the British Neolithic* (PhD, completion due 2011)
- *Grooved Ware in the Thames Valley landscape* (M Phil, completion due 2011)
- *Prehistoric settlement in the Welsh Marches* (PhD, completion due 2011)
- *Neolithic tor enclosures in south-west Britain* (AHRC-funded; PhD, awarded 2010)
- *Regional narratives of the Early Bronze Age* (AHRC-funded; M Phil, awarded 2009)
- *Round barrows in the Wyltye valley, Wiltshire* (M Phil, awarded 2009)
- *Animal remains from early Neolithic mortuary sites* (M Phil, awarded 2008)
- *Timber halls of the British Early Neolithic* (M Phil, awarded 2006)
- *Middle Bronze Age 'houses' in Britain and Ireland* (M Phil, awarded 2005)

Research

My principal areas of research, focussed on north-west European and British prehistory, are:

- The archaeology and anthropology of funerary practices
- The archaeology and anthropology of ritual
- Landscape, monumental architecture and cosmography
- Chronology and cultural and social change
- Temporal and spatial structuring of prehistoric social life
- Identity and personhood
- Time and history in prehistory

In recent years, much of my research has been concerned with large-scale fieldwork and regional publication projects in Britain, including:

Current field projects

Medway Valley Prehistoric Landscapes Project. Project director of five-year field project (2008-2012) exploring the Medway megalithic monuments and other Neolithic and Bronze Age sites in their landscape context.

Stonehenge Hidden Landscapes Project. I am one of the principal investigators contributing to the Stonehenge Hidden Landscapes project led by the IAA and the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute, Vienna. This involves a four-year large-scale geophysical and remote sensing survey (2010-2013) of the Stonehenge environs and reinterpretation of the monuments and landscapes of the World Heritage Site.

Current major publication projects

Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL) Section 1: Early prehistory: Author of the earlier prehistory chapter of the project monograph, synthesizing and interpreting the evidence from the single largest archaeological fieldwork project undertaken in the UK. Publication in 2011/12.

South-East Regional Framework: Neolithic and Early Bronze Age. Author of the resource assessment and research agenda chapter for south-east England. Publication in 2012.

Other activities

- Ancient History, Classics and Archaeology Postgraduate Admissions Officer
- AHC Manager of Postgraduate Programmes in Archaeology
- External examiner for the University of Bradford
- Reviewer for various journals, such as the *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society*
- Member of the Rothewas Ribbon Advisory Panel

Publications

Books

- Garwood, P (ed, 2007): *The Undiscovered Country: the earlier prehistory of the West Midlands*. Oxford: Oxbow Books
- Garwood, P, Jennings, D, Skeates, R, and Toms (eds. 1991): *Sacred and Profane. Proceedings of a conference on archaeology, ritual and religion*. Oxford: Oxford Univ Comm Archaeol Monograph 32

Recent articles and chapters

- Garwood, P (in press: 2011): The present dead: the making of past and future landscapes in the British Chalcolithic, in *Is there a British Chalcolithic? People, place and polity in the later 3rd millennium* (eds. M J Allen, J Gardiner & A Sheridan). Oxford: Prehistoric Society Monograph Series 4
- Garwood, P (in press: 2011): Rites of passage, in *The Oxford Handbook of the Archaeology of Ritual and Religion* (ed. T Insoll). Oxford: Oxford University Press
- Garwood, P, with G Hey & A Barclay (2011): Ritual, ceremony and cosmology, in *The Thames Through Time: volume 1, section 2; earlier prehistory* (G Hey, P Garwood, M Robinson, A Barclay and P Bradley), 331-82. Oxford: Oxbow Books
- Garwood, P, with contrib A Barclay (2011): Making the dead, in *The Thames Through Time: volume 1, section 2; earlier prehistory* (G Hey, P Garwood, M Robinson, A Barclay and P Bradley), 383-432. Oxford: Oxbow Books
- Garwood, P (2011): The earlier prehistory of the west midlands, in *The West Midlands: archaeological resource assessment and research agenda* (ed. S Watt), 9-98. Oxford: Oxbow Books
- Garwood, P (2007): Before the hills in order stood: chronology, time and history in the interpretation of early Bronze Age round barrows, in *Beyond the Grave: new perspectives on round barrows* (ed J Last), 30-52. Oxford: Oxbow Books
- Garwood, P (2007): Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age funerary monuments and burial traditions in the West Midlands, in *The Undiscovered Country: the earlier prehistory of the West Midlands* (ed P Garwood), 134-65. Oxford: Oxbow Books
- Garwood, P (2007): Regions, cultural identity and social change, 4500-1500 BC: the West Midlands in context, in *The Undiscovered Country: the earlier prehistory of the West Midlands* (ed P Garwood), 194-215. Oxford: Oxbow Books
- Garwood, P (2007): Vital resources, ideal images and virtual lives: children in Early Bronze Age funerary ritual, in *Children and Social Identity in the Ancient World* (eds S E E Crawford and G B Shepherd), 63-82. Oxford, Archaeopress; Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity Interdisciplinary Series 1
- Garwood, P (2003): Round barrows and funerary traditions in Late Neolithic and Bronze Age Sussex, in *The Archaeology of Sussex to AD 2000* (ed Rudling, D), 47-68, Great Dunham: Heritage Marketing & Publications
- Garwood, P (1999): Grooved Ware in southern Britain: chronology and interpretation, in (eds *Grooved Ware* (eds R Cleal A MacSween), Neolithic Stud Grp Sem Papers 3, 145-76. Oxford: Oxbow Books
- Garwood, P (1999): The chronology of depositional contexts and monuments (with contributions by A Barclay), in *Excavations at Barrow Hills, Radley, Oxfordshire, Vol I: The Neolithic and Bronze Age monument complex* (eds A Barclay and C Halpin), 275-93. Oxford: Oxford Archaeological Unit; Thames Valley Landscapes 11
- Garwood, P (1999): Radiocarbon dating and the chronology of the monument complex, in *Excavations at Barrow Hills, Radley, Oxfordshire, Vol I: The Neolithic and Bronze Age monument complex* (eds A Barclay and C Halpin), 293-309. Oxford: Oxford Archaeological Unit; Thames Valley Landscapes 11

Web publications

- Garwood, P (ed 2008): *South East Research Framework: Neolithic and Early Bronze Age seminar papers* http://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure_and_culture/heritage/south_east_research_framework/serf_seminar_papers.aspx (http://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure_and_culture/heritage/south_east_research_framework/serf_seminar_papers.aspx)
- Garwood, P (2008): Landscapes, monuments and social practices in the late 4th and 3rd millennia BC: a survey (web publication; in *South East Research Framework, Neolithic and Early Bronze Age seminar papers* (ed P Garwood)

- Garwood, P (ed 2003): West Midlands Regional Research Framework for Archaeology, Seminar 1. Earlier Prehistory: the Palaeolithic to the Early Bronze Age <http://www.iaa.bham.ac.uk/research/projects/wmrrfa/seminars/index.shtml> (<http://www.iaa.bham.ac.uk/research/projects/wmrrfa/seminars/index.shtml>)

Reviews

- Garwood, P (2010): Thomas, J, 2008 *Monument, Memory, and Myth. Use and re-use of three Bronze Age round barrows at Cossington, Leicestershire*. Leicester: Leicester Archaeology Monographs 14. *Prehistoric Society Book Reviews*, January 2010; <http://www.prehistoricsociety.org/> (<http://www.prehistoricsociety.org/>)
- Garwood, P (2008): Harding, A, 2007 *Warriors and Weapons in Bronze Age Europe*. Budapest: Archaeolingua Series Minor 25. *Prehistoric Society Book Reviews*, September 2008; <http://www.prehistoricsociety.org/> (<http://www.prehistoricsociety.org/>)

Recent conference papers

- 2010: 'Elite' funerals, monuments and landscapes in the 2nd millennium BC: Wessex graves in long-term perspective (Prehistoric Society conference: *Wessex Culture: 'revolution or late Beaker 'evolution'?* Bournemouth).
- 2009: The end of history: memory, myth and power in the lands of the dead (*Transformations or Continuities? Understanding Britain, 1600-1400 BC*. British Museum, London)
- 2009: Beaker graves in the Upper Thames valley (Prehistoric Society conference: *The Neolithic of the Thames Valley: exploring regional diversity*, London)
- 2008: The veiled dead: the construction of gendered identities in Bronze Age Britain (*Bronze Age Forum conference*, Sheffield)
- 2008: The Neolithic and Early Bronze Age in south-east England: resource assessment and research agenda (*South-East Research Framework Research Agenda Conference*, Chatham)
- 2008: The present dead: the making of past and future landscapes in the British Chalcolithic Prehistoric Society conference: *Is There a British Chalcolithic? People, place and polity in the later 3rd millennium BC*. Bournemouth)

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