

SERF Research Agenda conference discussion points for the Historic Landscapes theme

- Development of a 'hidden HLC' for SE using the results of excavations, palaeo-environmental research etc. as a way of modelling past landscapes especially in prehistory
- Development of a 'modern HLC' to look at how modern land use practices have shaped the landscape character also the history of landscape conservation and its influence
- Spread of urbanisation into the rural landscape, the emergence and effect of Greater London, the gentrification of the landscape
- Settlement pattern and tenure both of farmsteads and villages, using research from the built environment, farmstead characterisation and other vernacular studies integrated with landscape research
- Impact of industry on the historic landscape of SE, influence on routeways, settlement, woodland etc.
- Improving on delivering the historic landscape setting and context for site specific archaeological investigations
- To what extent and in what ways have environmental factors (e.g. geology, soils and climate) influenced historic landscape development?
- To what extent and in what ways have developments in agricultural technology and demand influenced historic landscape development?
- To what extent and in what ways have economic and social factors influenced historic landscape development?
- To what extent and in what ways can past landscapes and their components (prehistoric onwards) be understood in the present landscape?
- To what extent and in what ways have settlements and communication networks influenced historic landscape development?
- To what extent and in what ways have ideas from the continent influenced historic landscape development?
- To what extent and in what ways has the ownership of land (e.g. tied estates) influenced historic landscape development?
- To what extent and in what ways have wider cultural influences (e.g. aesthetics and recreation) influenced historic landscape development?

Methods

- How to integrate work of landscape archaeologists and traditional archaeologists (site specific). Making use of the grey reports
- Develop a Regional Historic Landscape Database as part of HERs (area based GIS layer)
- How to establish stronger links and dialogue between landscape archaeologists, traditional archaeologists, palaeo-archaeologists and also ecologists