

# Pathways to Europe's Landscape



European Pathways  
to the Cultural  
Landscape  
2000 - 2003



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# Foreword

## Pathways to a European Union

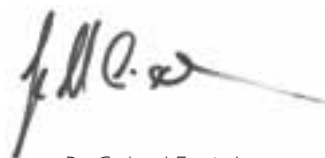
It is with very great pleasure that we introduce this book. It has been produced at the conclusion of a project called 'European Pathways to the Cultural Landscape,' that was carried out by twelve partners in the years 2000 to 2003 under the supportive and visionary guidance of the municipality of Albersdorf in Dithmarschen County (Schleswig-Holstein) and managed by the Archaeological Spessart-Project in Aschaffenburg and Lohr (Bavaria). The project was generously funded by the EU Culture 2000 programme, and supported by grants and other contributions from the national governments, regions or local municipalities, and from many of the universities and charities, of the twelve partner project areas. We are also very grateful to Lancashire County Council for preparing the original English language master copy of this book, with substantial funding from English Heritage.

Pathways to Europe's Landscape draws together a few of the many experiences of Europe's cultural landscape that we have found and shared during the three years of our work. Our wish in writing this book is to share with a much wider audience the increased understanding of landscape that we have built up during our work and meetings. We hope too that it will encourage other people to look at their own landscapes with new eyes and in new ways.

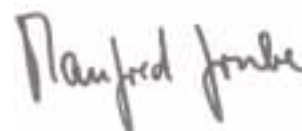
Furthermore, in keeping with the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe and the European Spatial Planning Perspective of the EU Council of Ministers, whose principles our project has adopted, we believe that landscape is a central part of the European common heritage and culture, and that it 'belongs' in a very real sense to all citizens of Europe. In some small way, therefore, we hope that this book will contribute to the aims of the Convention by helping to guide people along their own personal pathways to the cultural landscape, and by underlining the economic as well as the social value of a sustainably-managed landscape.

Our book is the product of collaborative working between more than seventy archaeologists and other landscape scientists in twelve regions of Europe. Our regions are all very different: from mountain to marsh, from the Atlantic to the Baltic, from forest to farmland. Yet we have found that this variety (and the even richer diversity of our cultures, languages and food, or 'taste-scape') is matched by an equally rich common heritage that unites our landscapes and makes them very recognisably and distinctively European. We discovered that this combination of diversity and unity was a powerful force for increased mutual understanding, respect and friendship, just as too was our exchange of experience and expertise. We firmly believe that the landscape can be a strong and vital part of European unity, and we think that our project – and this book – is a symbol of European partnership and shared culture.

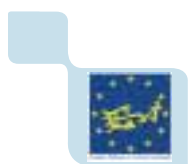
This book should not mark the end of the EPCL network of European archaeologists. EPCL itself was the successor to a smaller, but equally successful two-year project called European Cultural Paths, and the two projects have together shown the great value of pan-European, inter-regional partnership. Our network still has much useful work to achieve, and we are planning several future projects that will continue and expand our network and its important work for the European idea.



*Dr. Gerhard Ermischer*  
Chair of EPCL



*Manfred Trube*  
Mayor of Albersdorf

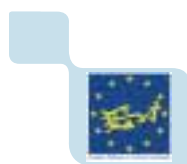


October 2003















# Contents

<b>PART I: Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Chapter 4 - Imagination and Explanation:</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>PART II: Stories about our landscape</b>	<b>13</b>	Landscapes of the Mind	
<b>Chapter 1 - Places and Traces: Their Meaning in Landscape</b>	<b>13</b>	People and landscape	
The meaning of things		Landscape – what does it mean?	
The passage of time		Explanations from the past	
Evidence of change		Giants and gnomes – tales of the supernatural	
Interpretations of landscape		Historical tales	
Constructed nature		The riddle of the wolf pit	
Uncertainties and interpretations		<b>Chapter 5 - Reading and Understanding: Landscape as Information</b>	<b>83</b>
Scale and magnitude		Learning to understand the past	
Conclusion		Archaeology's origins	
<b>Chapter 2 - Interacting With Nature: Creating Landscapes</b>	<b>31</b>	Archaeology today	
The emerging cultural landscape		Written records	
Natural Forces and Landscape Character		Public conversations	
Adapting nature		Reconstructing landscape	
Changing with nature		Conclusion	
Overcoming nature		<b>PART III: Conclusions</b>	<b>103</b>
Exploiting nature's resources		Acknowledgements	<b>113</b>
Shifting balances - nature returns?			
Conclusion			
<b>Chapter 3 - People and Communities: Social Landscapes</b>	<b>47</b>		
Landscape and interaction			
Sustenance and nourishment			
Spiritual perceptions and manifestations			
Status and power			
Economy and exploitation			
Cultural connections			
Conclusion			



Locations of the twelve projects  
brought together by the  
EPCL initiative



-  Du Dowris
-  Ar Arfon
-  Bo Bowland
-  Un Untamala
-  Ka Kaali
-  Bj Bjäre
-  Ha Halland
-  Fu Funen
-  Al Albersdorf
-  Sp Spessart
-  Pr Prácheňsko
-  Pa Paneveggio

