

Archaeology of Mountain Landscapes: Interdisciplinary Research Strategies of Agro-Pastoralism in Upland Regions

**The Tenth IEMA Visiting Scholar Conference
April 8-9, 2017**

Greiner Hall, Ground Level
North Campus, University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY 14261
iema.buffalo.edu/conference

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Agro-pastoral landscapes characterize not only upland plains or irrigated areas around water courses, but they also define most mountain landscapes, sometimes considered as “marginal lands” when the territories of urban centers are concerned. However, at least a fifth of the terrestrial surface could be defined as mountain areas, hosting a fifth of the human population and providing sustenance for a much larger percentage. Bearing this in mind it is not a surprise to know that mountain areas have been transited, inhabited, exploited and conceptualized by humans since the very beginning of the species.

Due to the multiple factors and relationships involved, landscape-shaping - not only in mountain areas - is an extremely complex subject. Landscape studies are part of a wide range of disciplines

such as History, Archaeology, Anthropology, Geography, Geology, Ecology, Economics, and Paleo-environmental Studies. In this research context, interdisciplinary and diachronic approaches have a great potential and they are a practical reality in nowadays research projects about mountain Landscapes.

Fieldwork developed during the last decades has changed our knowledge about the history of mountain environments. The 10th International Visiting Scholar Conference at the Institute for European and Mediterranean Archaeology (IEMA) at the University at Buffalo will gather researchers who in different geographical areas (in both Eurasia and the Americas) have made significant contributions about land-use in mountain areas and human activities in the shaping of mountain cultural landscapes.

10th Institute for European and Mediterranean Archaeology International Conference

Keynote:

Stairways to heaven: mountains as sacred topographies

Felipe Criado (Institute of Heritage Sciences, Spanish National Research Council)

Talks:

José A. Beltrán (Rovira i Virgili University):
Landscape-Shaping in The Andes: The Case Of
Cusco As Inka Capital

Robert Brunswig (University of Northern Colorado):
Exploring Seasonal Transhumance of Hunter-
Gatherers and Neolithic Pastoralists in Poland's
High Tatras and Foothill Lowlands: Applying
Landscape Archaeology Methodologies from the
Colorado Rockies to the Western Carpathians

Michael R. Coughlan (University of Georgia):
Holocene anthropization of mid-elevation
landscapes around Pic d'Orhy, Western Pyrenees

Michael L. Galaty (Mississippi State University):
Agro-Pastoralism in a Dispersed Village, Mountain
Economy: Results of the Shala Valley Project,
Northern Albania

Emilie Gauthier (French National Center for
Scientific Research, University of Franche-Comté):
Farmers in mountainous and subarctic areas: a
diachronic history of land use and adaptation to
environmental conditions

Mercourios Georgiadis (University of Nottingham):
Research at the Late Bronze Age peak sanctuary
on Mt Leska, Kythera (Greece)

Adriano La Regina (University of Roma La
Sapienza): Ancient pastoralism and settlements in
Central Italy mountains

Yannick Miras (French National Center
for Scientific Research, Blaise Pascal
University): Addressing the complexity of the
paleoenvironmental impact of Prehistoric
settlement and Protohistoric urbanism in the
Auvergne mountains (Massif Central, France)

Franco Nicolis (Archaeological Heritage Office,
Autonomous Province of Trento): Central Alpine
environments as Mountain Cultural Landscapes
from prehistory to contemporary present

Klaus Oegg (Botanical Institute, University of
Innsbruck): The onset of alpine pastoral systems in
the Eastern Alps

Héctor A. Orenco (McDonald Institute for
Archaeological Research, University of
Cambridge): Coastal Mediterranean Mountains: a
neglected archaeological register for the study of
the first complex societies

Josep M. Palet (Catalan Institute of Classical
Archaeology): Landscape Archaeology in
Eastern Pyrenees high mountain areas (Segre &
Ter valleys): human activities in the shaping of
Mountain Cultural Landscapes

Christopher Prescott (University of Oslo): Norway's
mountain landscapes: national romantic legends
and the political economy of agro-pastoralism

Sabine Reinhold (Eurasia Department of the
German Archaeological Institute): From mobile
pastoralism to combined mountain economy – the
Late Bronze Age in the North Caucasus

Phillips Stevens (University at Buffalo): The Sacred
Mount

Pawel Valde Novak (Jagiellonian University):
Agro- or pastoral thinking about Mid-Mountains
Neolithisation

Ralf Vandam (University of Leuven): Hate or love?
Exploring the relationship between the marginal
landscapes of the Western Taurus Mountains, SW
Anatolia, and past communities

Martjin Van Leusen (Groningen Institute of
Archaeology): Developing a systematic approach
to the archaeological study of mountain
landscapes: the Raganello Basin experience

Cecilia Dal Zovo (Institute of Heritage Sciences,
Spanish National Research Council): Archaeology
of a sacred mountain: *longue duree*, mobile
pastoralism, and monumental landscapes in
Eastern Eurasia

The conference is generously co-sponsored by UB's
Department of History and the Catalan Institute of
Classical Archaeology (ICAC)