

# DETECTING AND UNDERSTANDING HISTORIC LANDSCAPES

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EDITORS



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# FOREWORD

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The origins of this book lay in the international summerschool “Detecting and interpreting landscape transformations” held in the inspiring setting of the Euganean Hills south of Padua, Italy in September 2013. The summer school was organised by the medieval archaeology group at the University of Padua thanks to a special funding granted by the international service of the University (Summer-Winter School call 2013).

The school was a great success with some 50 participants from eight different countries, including lecturers and students. The variety of methods, techniques, themes and topics covered during the summerschool fairly reflected the current state of play in the field of landscape archaeology as broadly defined. As a result the publishing of this book was conceived to provide a practical guide to studying the archaeology of historic landscapes covering the different approaches and methods that we as a group generally employ in our projects. As frequently happens, a few of the participants for one reason or another were unable to submit their papers for publication. We also realised during and after the event that certain subjects had not been duly considered and we therefore approached a number of other international specialists to broaden the content of the book in the hope that it can serve as work of reference for archaeologist, academics and other professionals interested in the understanding of historic landscapes.

The book is composed of 16 chapters. Special care has been taken in assuring the homogeneity of the different texts, which include separate illustrative case studies, box features and suggested further reading on the various topics in order to provide a useful tool for the teaching of landscape archaeology in colleges and universities. Many authors have also contributed to this homogeneity by reading and commenting on the papers of others, while each contribution has benefitted from the comments of two external referees. Francesca Benetti and Paolo Vedovetto worked tirelessly to assure the best possible edition. To them we pass on our grateful thanks.

Alexandra Chavarria Arnau  
Andrew Reynolds