Ancient Effigy Mound Landscapes of Upper Midwestern North America
By Robert A. Birmingham

Key Features:
· First comprehensive overview of the effigy mound phenomenon of the Upper Midwest of North America c 700–1100 CE
· Documents the nature of effigy mound landscapes, describing the use of topography and natural features to create ceremonial landscapes
· Examines the interpretative that effigy mounds represent living landscapes in which ancestral animals and supernatural beings were ritually brought back to life

Between c. AD 700 and 1100 Late Woodland people of the Upper Midwest used the topography and other features of the natural landscape to create vast ceremonial landscapes consisting of thousands of earthen mounds sculpted into animals and animal spirits that mirrored their belief and clan based social structure and that served an important role in mortuary ritual. In so doing, the Late Woodland people created quite visible three dimensional maps of ancient cosmology and social structures that are similar to the beliefs and social systems of more recent Indian people.

Ancient Effigy Mound Landscapes will provide an overview of the effigy mound phenomenon of the Upper Midwest centered on southern Wisconsin. It documents the nature of these unique landscapes, describing the use of topography and natural features to create the ceremonial landscapes, and provides the interpretation that these were living landscapes in which ancestral animals and supernatural beings were ritually brought back to life at places where the spirits are best evoked in a continuous cycle of death and rebirth of the earth and its people. These monuments can often only be fully appreciated by modern observers from the air and Robert Birmingham includes both high quality historical and modern maps, aerial photographs and the results of the very latest LIDAR imagery to reveal detail of the stunning complexity and ordered layouts of these mysterious spiritual landscapes.
Twice-crossed River
Prehistoric and Palaeoenvironmental Investigations at Barleycroft Farm/Over, Cambridgeshire

By Christopher Evans, Jonathan Tabor and Mark Vander Linden

This is the first volume charting the CAU's on-going Barleycroft Farm/Over investigations, which now encompasses almost twenty years of fieldwork across both banks of the River Great Ouse at its junction with the Fen. Amongst the project's main directives is the status of a major river in prehistory – when a communication corridor and when a divide? Accordingly, a key component throughout has been the documentation of the lower Ouse's complex palaeoenvironmental history, and a delta-like wet landscape dotted with mid-stream islands has been mapped.

This book is specifically concerned with the length of The Over Narrows, whose naming alludes to an extraordinary series of mid-channel 'river race' ridges. With their excavation generating vast artefact sets and unique palaeo-economic data, these ridges saw intense settlement sequences, ranging from Mesolithic camps, Grooved Ware, Beaker and Collared Urn pit clusters (plus field plots) to Middle Bronze fieldsystems and their attendant settlements, a massive Late Bronze Age midden complex and, finally, an Iron Age shrine. The latter involved extensive human bone or body-part deposition and bird sacrifice. Four upstanding turf barrows and two accompanying waterlogged pond barrows feature among the main excavations reported here. With more than 40 cremations (including in situ pyres), the resultant detailing of Early Bronze Age mortuary practices and the insights into the period's monument construction are ground-breaking.

This is an important book, for the scale of The Narrows' excavations and palaeoenvironmental studies, its comprehensive dating programmes and, particularly, the innovative methodologies and analyses undertaken. Indeed, a commitment to experiment has lain at the project's core.

About the Author:
Christopher Evans is executive Director of the Cambridge Archaeological unit based in the Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge. He has worked in British Archaeology at a senior level for more than twenty-five years, specialising in British prehistory, and archaeological theory with extensive experience in he management of complex excavation and post-excavation programmes.
Along Prehistoric Lines
Neolithic, Iron Age and Romano-British activity at the former MOD Headquarters, Durrington, Wiltshire
By Steve Thompson and Andrew Powell

Key Features:
- Late Neolithic activity includes post alignment, pit digging and deposition, and the use (and modification) of natural features for mortuary activity and flint knapping. This activity is examined within the context of the wider monumental landscape around Stonehenge

An excavation in 2010–12 on the site of the former Ministry of Defence (MoD) Headquarters in Durrington, Wiltshire, revealed evidence spanning the post-glacial to the post-medieval periods. It lies immediately north-east of the Stonehenge part of the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites World Heritage Site. The significant discoveries made during the excavation include a relatively deeply buried Late Glacial Allerød soil, and a zone of Late Neolithic activity centred on a number of natural solution hollows, posthole alignments and pit groups. The Late Iron Age defences, probably constructed in the immediate pre-Conquest period and decommissioned soon after, influenced the layout of early Romano-British fields and settlement activity.