Call for papers and author instructions

Preliminary book title

Coastal archaeology in small islands: prehistoric lifeways, research perceptions, biases, methods and approaches

Publisher

Sidestone Press Leiden (open access, not peer-reviewed). Publication estimated for 2025

Book abstract

In many small islands, isles and islets prehistoric communities relied heavily on the exploitation of coastal resources, resulting in a coastal subsistence focus and a large number of coastal sites. This has several interesting implications.

One of the topics we will focus on, relates to prehistoric coastal communities facing effects of coastline changes. On small islands, these probably had a stronger impact on local communities when compared to people in larger land-masses. Wave action, rising sea levels and extreme weather events caused them to restructure their ways of living and maybe even to move inland or away. The publication welcomes reconstructions of prehistoric adaptations to these processes: what happened at the coastlines, did people move indeed, and how was their socio-economic organisation changed?

Two other topics of the volume are largely methods and approaches based. First, today, small islands are often perceived as remote, isolated locations. This has caused research biases favouring less 'remote' locations, as well as site functions erroneously being interpreted. The richness of the archaeological record in small island coastal settings, however, demonstrates that our current perceptions of what is remote, marginal, isolated or uninhabitable, do not mirror prehistoric perceptions. How far-reaching are these biases, and how can we challenge or combat them?

In addition, coastal processes, accelerated by climate change, also endanger site survival. Therefore, protection of exposed cultural heritage is needed, and mapping and rescue excavations are urgent, although often complicated by limited resources and limited accessibility of terrains. Another complication of this site survival issue is that we do not really know what prehistoric settlement locations and settlement patterns looked like. It is essential to establish what (and how much) information we miss when it comes to coastal prehistoric, occupation. How can we fill in the blanks?

This publication crosses disciplinary, chronological and geographical boundaries (not limited to Europe) to generate synergizing discussions on the above-mentioned particularities of investigating small island prehistoric coastal landscapes. We welcome contributions about practical archaeology research aspects relating to above-mentioned topics, as well as experiential, reflective presentations.

Keywords

Small islands; coastal archaeology; prehistory; coastal processes; remoteness; site survival

Editors:

- Dr. Maaike de Waal, Faculty of Archaeology, Leiden University
- Dr. Emily Gal, Archaeology Institute, University of the Highlands and Islands
- Dr. Rebecca Rennell, Archaeology Institute, University of the Highlands and Islands

Practical instructions for contributors (based on accepted abstracts)

When compiling your contributions, the following practical instructions should be followed:

- 6000 words max. (excl. abstract, references, figure captions, and tables)
- abstract (max. 150 words)
- keywords (max. 5)
- short author bio (max. 100 words).
- general structure: introduction, text body, synthesis/conclusions, acknowledgements, references
- no footnotes (or max. 5)
- no direct quotes (or minimize)
- APA referencing style (bibliography as well as in-text references)
- use one or max. two headings to structure your text (Title, heading 1, heading 2)
- font: Calibri 12 spacing before and after set to '0 pt')
- line spacing: 1.15
- paper size: A4
- margins: 2,5 cm (above, below, left and right)
- page numbers: centered below
- all contributions must be in American English. Make sure to submit a text that has been checked by a native speaker.

Figures

- max. 5 figures (full colour). If more figures are needed, please consult the editors
- please also provide separate list of figure captions and send your pictures separate from the text
- avoid long figure/table captions. Be clear and concise
- in case of pictures: landscape format is preferred

Deadlines

- December 1 2023: deadline abstracts
- July 1 2024: deadline first drafts
- October 1 2024: deadline revised drafts
- February 1 2025: deadline final versions

When interested in participating, please send your abstract (max. 300 words) to Maaike de Waal, (m.s.de.waal@arch.leidenuniv.nl), no later than December 1 2023.