

Landscape  
Research  
Extra 84  
November  
2018

landscape  
research  
group

Hal Moggridge  
Steven Shuttleworth  
Kenneth Olwig  
Peter Howard  
Nigel Young  
Graham Fairclough  
Roger Dalton  
Brian Goodey  
Bud Young

Copy deadline for LRE  
No one seems to read this!

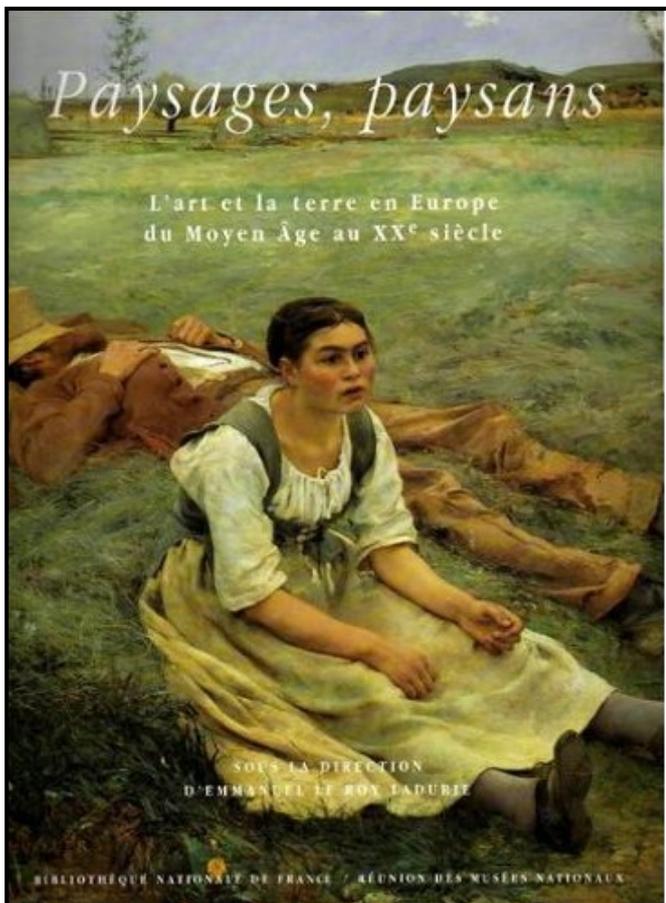


## **Paysages, paysans. L'art et la terre en Europe du Moyen Age au XXe siecle.**

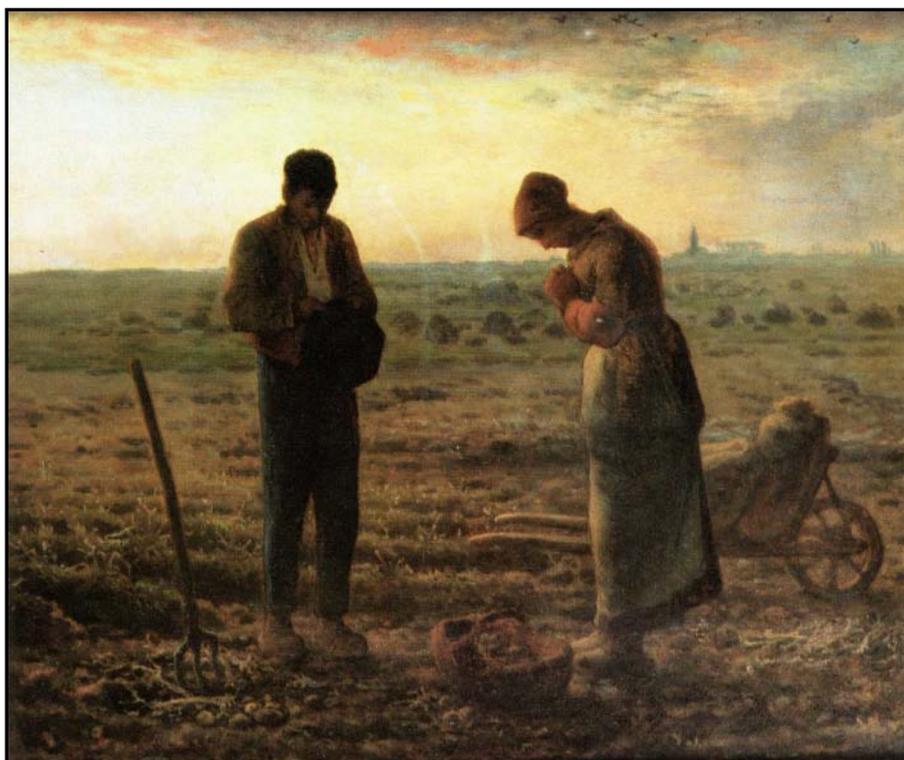
Astonishing what one may chance upon in a charity shop and at £2.00\* a total snip! 287 pages in large format hugely illustrated with 254 described works of art. OK it's in French but hey are we not all Europeans!

It was assembled 'Sous la direction D'Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie' and is published by the Biblioteque National de France/Reunion des Musees National 1994. \*ABE books prices range up to 100 Euros. Enough of my purchasing triumph.

In amongst the many early paintings some are non figurative by which I mean that they are not fables of the age, embellished with castles and pinnacles or the romantic gentrified emblems of the 1700 - 1800's but represent normal rural landscapes which one has



no difficulty relating to in the present age. Nor are they biblical allegories or angelic visions seen by shepherds. One chapter *Le Realism de 1848 et le Développement du Naturalisme* is particularly striking but there are others such as Image No 15 *Les quatre temps de l'an* by Jean Poyet (see front page image) a panel of 4 images of different landscapes each depicting a separate season which



echo rural views of the present day yet with subtle differences. Painted in about 1490 it gives pause for thought. And as the text points out there is an absence of people.

There again, it is people working fields in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century pictures or praying (as a church bell tones in the far distant town) *L'Angelus* by Jean Francois Millet) or *Des Glaneuses* by the same artist that we may find touching, entrancing, lovely. So many works.

**Editor**

### **Church Glass showing Landscape: Letter from Hal Moggridge**

Dear Editor, I am responding to Colin Price's delightful article in LRE 83 on British landscape in Cathedral Stained Glass. Here I illustrate two small panels from St. Mary's Church Fairford in Gloucestershire, the only complete set of medieval glass in a parish church in England. The church was rebuilt in the late 1400s by John Thame, an exceedingly wealthy wool merchant and the glass installed 1497 - 1515, largely supervised by his son Edmund following his father's death in 1500. The glass was saved from destruction by visiting roundheads by William Idysworth who, as they approached, had the windows dismantled and concealed before they arrived. The glazing was directed by Henry VII's Flemish glazier, Barnard Flower, also responsible for glass at Kings College Chapel and Westminster Abbey. The whole is a scheme with episodes from the life of Christ, prophets, apostles, heaven, hell etc.

The two small panels illustrated are surely derived from local landscapes, as for example the river.

That said, John Mason Neale's 1846 schedule of the windows in the church has become the accepted interpretation; the landscapes are small elements above the subjects described: in the following way-

*"Then there is Josuah that succeed-*



ed Moses, and the Angel that guided him to War. There is Gideon's Fleece under Josuah".

This rather sudden insertion of Joshua into a single panel of the first window could equally be interpreted as the donor John Thame at prayer in his local landscape. **HM**

**Editor's note,** I sought further information regarding the two different towers seen in the background and the vaguely portrayed but intriguing faces within the glass, but nothing is recorded or known about these. Any ideas Colin?



## Letter from Steven Shuttleworth

Hello Bud

Catharina [Nynke] Schulp and other colleagues on the Hercules project - have just published a paper which I think is likely to be of interest to many LRG members. So I thought it would be good if you could include a short note in the next LRE. The paper is currently in press and Nynke is not yet sure when it will appear in the print version of the journal, but it is available now online. She will update you directly if she has a clear paper copy publication date.

## Mapping and modelling past and future land use change in Europe's cultural landscapes.

LRG Members will be aware of the recent EU-funded HERCULES Project, in which LRG was a research consortium partner - see updates in previous issues of *LRExtra* and the special issue of *Landscape Research* Vol 42(8). A paper by HERCULES colleagues Catharina Schulp, Christian Levers, Tobias Kummuerle, Koen Tieskens and Peter Verburg is currently 'in press' for the journal *Land Use Policy*, which should be of interest to those who are involved in landscape policy and landscape management practice.

The paper is entitled *Mapping and modelling past and future land use change in Europe's cultural landscapes*. Pending publication in print it is available online at the following doi reference:

[10.1016/j.landusepol.2018.04.030](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2018.04.030).

### **The abstract reads:**

Cultural landscapes are valued for their landscape character and cultural heritage. Yet, these often low-intensity, multifunctional landscapes are at risk of disappearance. Understanding how cultural landscapes might change under alternative futures is important for identifying where to target actions towards persistence of cultural landscapes. This

study therefore aims to identify past and future land use changes in the (EU's) cultural landscapes. To do so, we overlay past and plausible projections of land change trajectories with the spatial distribution of cultural landscapes in the EU. Our results highlight a clear co-occurrence of specific land change trajectories and cultural landscape types. Past and future urbanization and agricultural abandonment are the land use change processes most strongly affecting small-scale, low-intensity agricultural landscapes that are valued by society. De-intensification is over represented in landscapes with a low management intensity. Past intensification was over represented in small-scale landscapes with a high value to society, while future intensification might concentrate on landscapes with a low intensity.

Typical cultural landscapes show a strong variation of changes under different scenario conditions in terms of future landscape change. Scenario analysis revealed that some of the threats to cultural landscapes are related to agricultural policies, nature policies and other spatial restrictions. At the same time, these policies may also alleviate these threats when properly designed and targeted by accounting for the impacts they may have on cultural landscapes.

Considering cultural landscapes more directly in decisions to be made for the post-2020 Common Agricultural Policy period is needed, and could be achieved by a focus on landscape quality beyond the current focus on specific greening measures.

**Steven Shuttleworth and Nynke Schulp**

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## The PECSRL 2018 Landscape Conference: 3-9 September 2018

By Kenneth Olwig

PECSRL stands for *Permanent European Conference for the Study of the Rural Landscape*, but the bi-annual PECSRL conference has long since ceased to be limited to either European or rural landscapes, and has become generally concerned with all landscapes as experienced by researchers, practitioners and laypeople. It is a somewhat unique conference because it is not sponsored by a particular disciplinary or professional organization, but is rather a kind of self-generating assembly on landscape that reconstitutes itself at each bi-annual meeting, where the board is elected and the site for the next conference is announced. Rather like the Olympics, it moves every two years to a different location in differing parts of Europe under the sponsorship of a local organization, or nexus of organizations, that wishes to undertake the task. The sponsors chose the theme of the conference together with the LRG board and they also, in accordance with the theme and the landscapes of the conference location, likewise chose the keynote speakers and plan the conference field trips and locations. In recent years, in order to present a diversity of regional landscapes each conference has had two different regional venues, with field trips in-between, in order to engage the conference fully in the variety of rural and urban landscapes in the region where the conference is being held. It is thus not just a conference about landscape, it is a conference in and with landscape.

PECSRL has a somewhat symbiotic relationship to the LRG because like the LRG, PECSRL is not affiliated with any professional body, and like the LRG it supports a broad interdisciplinary view that ranges from professions such as planning and landscape architecture, to more natural science approaches such as landscape ecology, to the social sciences such as social geography and to humanities such as history, anthropology, archaeology, the arts and humanistic geography. This is why many people affiliated with LRG, or who contribute to its journal *Landscape Research*, often attend the PECSRL conference. PECSRL, like the LRG, does not represent a particular approach to landscape

covered by a specific discipline, but rather a meeting place where people otherwise tied to varying disciplines and engagements, can meet on a kind of neutral ground in order to cultivate a broader interest in landscape as both a concept and a phenomenon. For this reason both the optional post conference field trip and especially the field trips, that take place when the conference moves from its first venue to its second venue, are of particular importance, both because they provide a way to learn about the local landscape under expert guidance, but also because the conference participants get to know each other, and their landscape interests, better on a field trip.

### The 2018 PECSRL Program

This year the 28th session of the PECSRL biennial international conference – “European landscapes and quality of life” – was held at two locations in France: Clermont-Ferrand, the modern urban home of a major university and the headquarters of the Michelin company, and Mende, an ancient provincial town, with a regional university branch, that is dominated by its Medieval core and its cathedral. The general theme encompassed the interactions between the quality of landscapes, the quality of food and the quality of life (an appropriate theme given the presence of Michelin!). It was hosted by the research group “Territoires,” an interdisciplinary unit that gathers geographers, economists, agronomists and social and political scientists from five institutions (Agro Paris Tech, Clermont Auvergne University, INRA, IRSTEA, VetAgro Sup). The conference brought together geographers, landscape architects, historians, ethnographers, archaeologists, ecologists, rural planners, landscape managers, as well as various other interested parties, including authors and landscape activists. For a full presentation of the 2018 conference see: <https://pecsrl2018.sciencesconf.org>

This year the seven different ‘between-venue’ field trips on offer, covered a variety of topics, two examples from the conference program will be carried in the next issue of LRE and give a good flavour of what they encompass.

**KO**

### The Routledge Companion to Landscape Studies,

The Second Edition of this major work edited by Peter Howard (Bournemouth), Ian Thompson (Newcastle), Emma Waterton (Western Sydney) and Mick Atha (CUHK, Hong Kong), is now published. It is a weighty tome, quite literally, with 618pp and nearly 1.3 kg in weight, with 47 chapters many new, and most fully revised. Price £170 ! Also available on line of course together with a reading Guide to the main works in Landscape in all the many disciplines involved.

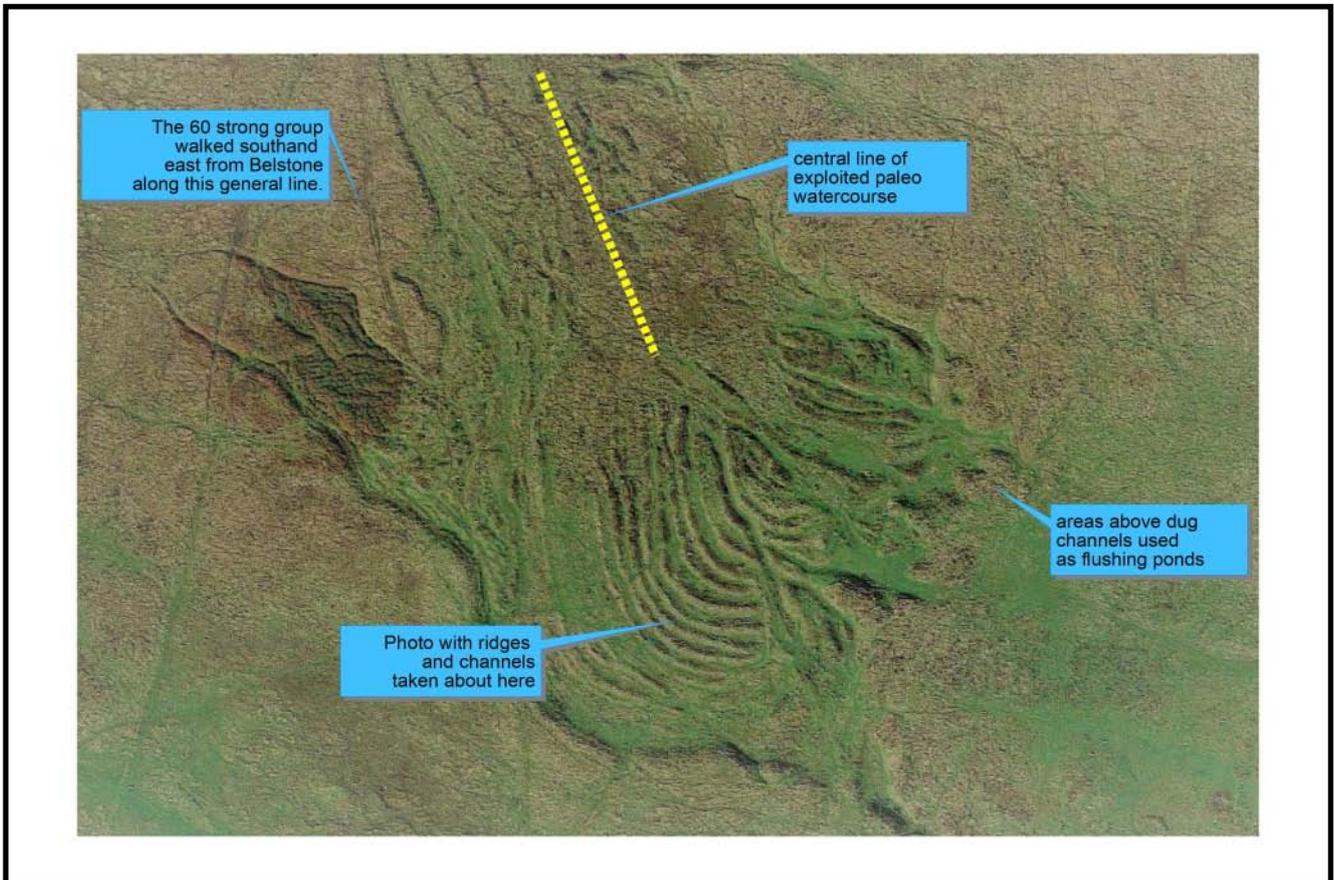
### Dartmoor Tinworks, Lauda Water, Cosdon Hill.

By Nigel Young

Dartmoor is known for its tin - well it used to be - and around the Moor are towns designated as Stannary towns where all those who prospected for and recovered tin minerals (cassiterite) were obliged to come and register their production for taxation. Much of this was stream tin while other material was recovered from shallow mining into the vein material. Breaking out from my normal isolation I attended a packed talk by Tom Greeves who is the expert on the history of the matter. A hundred people packed into Belstone Parish Hall [SX 620 935]. An appropriate venue once central to North Dartmoor tin recovery. Greeves examined records back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century and out of that came a host of locally remembered (family) names, and what they were taxed.

We then visited (by we, there were at least 60 in the party) a notable tin streaming area which I illustrate from Google maps and ground shots. At the age of 78 among people of middle age, I found the steep descent to the river and the long climb arduous and made the best of it by encouraging the last two walkers who then moved on ahead of me. Bigger. Dartmoor has a particular and distinctive profile: its hills are usually convex until one arrives at the protruding rocks or tors. Long convex slopes are wearisome.

But then once to the higher area we are in moorgrass (*Molinia*) bleached close to white by the winter. It was visually thrilling. Fairly level for a mile, often wet underfoot, tussocky and with a stream or two to cross. Lauda Water may have been one



The ridges were of soil and rock of no value and the ore a small percentage recognised by sight had been removed. The channels had allowed flushing away of dross using floods of water from created ponds on the upside periphery. All this work and then to be taxed by the King's Stannary



of those. The off views were 'continental' by which I mean vast, we might have been in Texas. The photos here show that — and the high land at the edge to the west. The second image shows the long curved ridges and channels created by miners centuries back. I asked how many people might have worked on site at any time — and had to supply my own answers. Had they traipsed here daily (what a slog!) or dosed down on site — no explanation. Were there gang masters and family groups? Additional unknowns and lots of room for speculation.

agents sitting on their arses! In Chagford, or Ashburton.

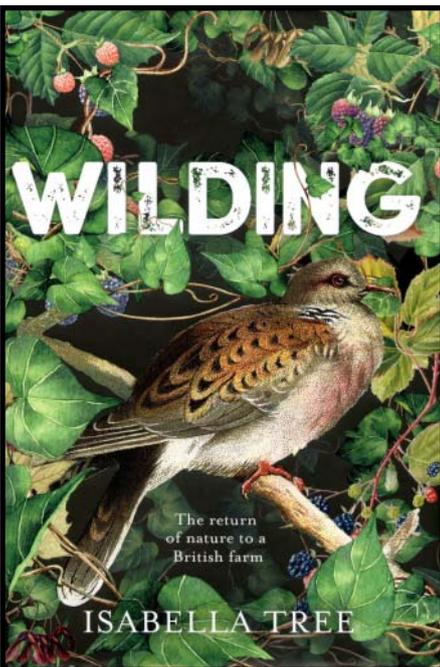
A long walk out, a painful walk back, steep and rubbly. A worthwhile day — perhaps most exciting for the brightness of great expanses of whitened

moorgrass while in better drained disturbed areas heather colonises and the land (as in the first image) looks darker. Dartmoor as it can be seen off track.

**NY**

## 'Letting farmland go' - Increasing species diversity. Isabella Tree.

This book is creating quite a stir and has been featured on Radio 4's breakfast programme 'Today'. My wife was sent a copy by a financier broadcaster business woman (my twin sister) who I had thought had no interest in such matters. What are these matters?



go' eliminating fences, creating rangeline conditions, importing Tamworth pigs, hardy longhorn cattle, Exmoor ponies and red deer and enjoying the commercial benefits offered in the tourism market. It is said that it was costly on the taxpayer. Proper farmers (no irony) have criticised it for not feeding the nation (as they do). But it has attracted huge interest and brought together a great deal of conservation expertise. Its species counts, whether of butterflies, moths or birds have soared and the Turtle Dove has become their emblem of



success. Isabella, the very competent author frequently references as a model East Africa for which she and her husband have a love.

In LRE we have carried a number of articles and conference reports on rewilding but this one is not about otters and long river valleys or wolves or the Highlands. Well worth a read is my opinion.

I see that the story of the Knepp Estate has been publicised in the Guardian, the Daily Mail, Open Country (Radio 4), Countryfile (Ch1) and numerous other outlets. A sign of the popularity of the conservation idea or of good PR?

**Editor** [Image almost like a Constable! accredited to Isabella Tree].

## Remembering David Lowenthal

The Board of Directors of Landscape Research Group Ltd is greatly saddened to announce the recent death on 15 September 2018 of Prof David Lowenthal.

David was born in 1923 on April 26 and died in 2018 on September 15, growing up in Brooklyn, New York City. He married Mary Alice Lamberty, another Brooklynite, in 1970, who was a colleague of his at the Association of American Geographers in New York City, where he was a research associate and she was an editor. They had one child, Eleanor, named for David's mother. David was at the AGS from 1956 to 1972, when David and Mary Alice moved to London, where Mary Alice contin-

ued working as an academic journal editor and David took a professorship at University College's Department of Geography, "retiring" in 1986. David, however, never actually retired, since he continued to travel the world as an invited lecturer, and he continued to write important books, journal, magazine and newspaper articles until he died in his sleep at age 95. He was then looking forward to reading the proofs of his latest book, *Quest for the Unity of Knowledge*, planned to be published posthumously in November by Routledge.



David joined LRG in the early 1970s, becoming a member of the Executive Committee of the original unincorporated association in 1978. He was one of the five founding subscribers to the Memorandum of Association which set up LRG as a limited company and charity in 1983, and as such was one of the founding Directors of LRG Ltd, then serving on the Board until 1993. During this 16 years' service as a Committee Member / Director, David was LRG's Vice-Chair from 1979 to 1983 and then Chair from 1984 to 1988. In addition, David was a longstanding member of the Landscape Research International Editorial Advisory Board.

As a United States citizen, David had the distinction of being the first non-UK national to be on the Executive Committee and Board, and to be an Officer, of LRG. As such, his early involvement in the Group's management (as opposed to simply being one of its members) represents an important first step in transforming LRG from an essentially UK-oriented body in its founding years to one that now has an avowedly international outlook.

David was an eminent academic in the landscape field who was known for his multiple interests as a kind of modern Renaissance man, who was active in helping to found a number of areas of study in which landscape was a common denominator. These ranged from heritage studies, Caribbean

Studies and island studies, to landscape perception and the history of environmental conservation. One of his close colleagues at UCL was Prof Jackie Burgess, who was later a Chair of LRG; and he worked closely with Prof Jay Appleton on LRG matters, their co-terminous periods as Chairs and Vice Chairs meaning that they formed a sort of front-men double-act during ten-year the period 1979 to 1988, a period when both of them were very influential academically.

As part of these academic activities, David contributed greatly to LRG's wider activities as well as to its management. He should be remembered particularly for his role in setting up and helping to lead LRG's Nature-Experience Research Programme [NERP] (1984 to 1987) and the follow-up People, Nature and Landscape Research Review [PNLRR] (1986 to 1989). He worked closely with Jay Appleton to establish the relationship with the US charity The Bloedel Foundation to secure the funding for and help deliver NERP. He then played a major role in organising the founding conference and workshop *Meanings and Values in Landscape* [held 1984], and co-edited with Prof Edmund Penning-Rowsell the subsequent book of the same title (published 1986). More details about NERP and PNLRR can be found in the recently published paper marking LRG's fiftieth anniversary.

David was also a contributor to the famous conference *on Landscapes in A New Europe: policies for managing the diversity of European regional landscape identities* which was organised by Prof Peter Howard for LRG with Paysage & Amenagement of France, held in Blois in October 1992. This event had a significant role in promoting the concept of and support for what became the ELC, David contributing one of the opening keynote papers.

Following his retirement, David remained a stalwart supporter of the Group, although increasing infirmity inevitably restricted his active involvement. However, the Board was absolutely delighted when he accepted its invitation to present the inaugural LRG Annual Lecture, which was held in London in December 2011, on the topic *Eden to Earth Day: Landscape Restoration as Mission and Metaphor*, which David subsequently expanded and for publication in *Landscape Research*.

LRG's Chair Chris Dalglish has formally passed on our condolences to David's wife Mary Alice and to his family. Kenneth Olwig, and LRG director, is or

ganising a short memorial in the form of a presentation of David's newest book to be held at LRG's forthcoming conference on the theme of *Language and Landscape Governance*, to be held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 [at: The Gallery, 77 Cowcross Street, London EC1 6EL, 13.30 - 18.00]. It is also intended that a further celebration of David's achievements will be published in a future issue of *Landscape Research*.

### Steven Shuttleworth with Kenneth Olwig

#### Notes

1 David's most influential publication, for which he received the British Academy Medal in 2016 is *The Past is a Foreign Country – Revisited*. (Cambridge, Cambridge University Press: 2015). A special section dedicated to David, entitled *The Lowenthal Papers*, was published by the *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* (vol. 93, nr. 4 December 2003, pp. 851 – 885) with contributions by Denis Cosgrove, Yi-Fu Tuan, Edmund V. Bunkse, Kenneth Olwig and David himself.

## Waterside

By Peter Howard

I have just returned from the Port of Messina in Sicily, a place much visited by cruise ships. I took this photo of one of them. I have always loved ships; no doubt a childhood facing Spithead is partly responsible for that. My favourite day out was to buy an access ticket from the Dock Office in Canute Road, Southampton, and spend all day wandering the docks, sitting on a bollard to eat my sandwiches while watching the Royal Mail load for South America; or the lavender-hulled Union Castle ships for Cape Town. Today this would surely be impossible, for reasons of both safety, security, and economic efficiency. As a rule our docksidings, so often the most interesting busy landscape of so many cities has been taken from public view and hidden away.

Even so, many small harbours remain. For example there is now a television series devoted to Tenby

Harbour strenuously making the point that the harbour is the very heart of the town for locals and visitors alike. But like so many others it is no more than a picturesque survival; it does not play host to the 'real ships' of the globalisation revolution. It hosts yachts, a few small uneconomic fishing boats and the lifeboat station. At least here is a little reminder that the sea is not picturesque but dangerous.

First the oil terminals left the port. The new terminals and refineries (Milford Haven down from Tenby and Fawley adjacent to Southampton) are certainly not open to the public - one cannot wander and photograph the great VLCCs (Very Large Crude Carriers). Then in the 1970s came the 'box' and almost all foreign freight went to the new Container Terminals, upstream, out of the way, located on previous marshland, much to the discomfiture of the wildlife. The giant Boxers (container ships) have now grown to >20,000 TEU (more than twenty thousand Equivalent Units – the number of boxes they can carry) and rival the tankers. At some ports, such as Bristol, there are similarly vast areas devoted to the Vehicle Carrier Ships, some with



more than 3000 on board lane metres, and of course their onshore car parks.

Even watching cross channel ferries has been taken from us, even though we use them. We drive into a chainlink fenced area from which we might glimpse our ship and the one next door - no

chance of a bit of fishing! - before we drive into the hold. If you are not the traveller you do not even see this much.

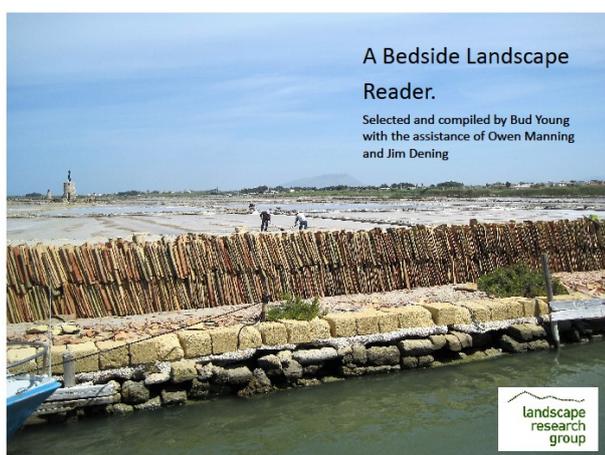
All that is now left are the open quays, jetties and docks, but the cruise ships have moved in on them. Cruise ships - there are now 104 cruise ships larger than the great liner Queen Elizabeth - often prefer to anchor off, as it is cheaper, but are being pushed to the quayside by pressure to use land-based power, as well as for the convenience of passengers. Once alongside they need to take over the entire quay both to manage their passengers, and control safety and security. All quite understandable, but the most interesting part of the city is now lost, as here at Messina.

Just occasionally at my local harbour, Bideford, a real ship comes in to load timber or offload cattle feed. Crowds assemble to stare and this clearly underlines that it is not only we ship-anoraks who can find time to stop and watch.

Globalisation of trade has a landscape cost that I have not seen discussed elsewhere.....but perhaps one of your readers can offer further information.

PH

## A Landscape Book for Christmas? Presents for your friends?



Hopefully - that is if all goes to plan, the Group will be publishing an attractive collection of articles culled from the 84 issues of LRExtra since 1988. This has been assembled by Bud Young with Owen Manning, one time academic at Sheffield University. He too is a member of the Group. It is currently

being prepared for the printer by an LRG member from Ledbury, Jim Denning, one time owner of a publishing house. What does it contain? Well more than 100 essays by 43 authors, most members, set out within about 250 pages. It covers a wide scope of landscape topics in 10 chapters prefaced by LRG members. Each chapter is supported by illustrations.

I (of course) find it tremendously interesting and we have had good internal 'reviews' by Paul Selman, David Coleman, Steven Shuttleworth, and others who like the quality, the variety and the scope of the articles. I am calling it *A Bedside Landscape Reader* but if any one reading this far has an attractive alternative title I am very open to suggestion.

Roger Dalton's image of Lo Stagnone has been selected as the book's outer cover.

**Bud Young, Editor LRExtra**

## Another Biennial Landscape Conference. Two notes from Graham Fairclough — first note:

Can anyone keep tabs on all the many landscape conferences that take place in the world, or even for that matter merely in Britain. But here is a note about one that has recently taken place in Britain, and a very early notification of its successor, in Spain.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Landscape Archaeology Conference - LAC2018 – took place in September North East England, organised by the



McCord Centre for Landscape at Newcastle University and Durham University's department of Archaeology. LAC2018 was part of a biennial series of conferences which began in Amsterdam in 2010 as a relatively small gathering of (mainly) archaeologists and physical geographers, and which has travelled through Berlin, Rome and Uppsala in order to reach Newcastle and Durham in 2018. In recent years the casual group behind the conferences has been formalised into the International Association of Landscape Archaeology (<https://iala-lac.org/>)

In its eight-year life, LAC has grown very fast and at the 2018 edition there were over 330 registered delegates from 40 different countries, not all European. So big has the programme of presentations become (265 oral and 37 poster presentations in 35 distinct sessions) that the programme had to be run in nine parallel starts over three days (leaving time of course for excursions into the Pennines, Hadrian's Wall and Tyneside). These numbers are unprecedented in the young LAC's history

The 35 sessions at LAC2018 exhibited a true integration of methodologies, a commitment to inter-disciplinarity (not all participants are now historians, archaeologist or geographers) and an ever-growing maturity in the discussion in landscape archaeology. Sessions ranged in topic from geo-archaeological themes and the archaeology of water to historical perspectives on foodscapes, and from symbolism and myth in landscape to digital approaches. Several sessions focussed on mobility and movement, others on climate change and the planning of future agriculture. The majority of sessions indeed were focussed on present day problems and future sustainability as much as on understanding the past - archaeologists thus contributing to the wider landscape approach that LRG has been championing for several years. To pick out a single theme or topic is beyond me – but the abstracts for every session, paper and poster can be downloaded here -

[https://www.ncl.ac.uk/media/wwwnclacuk/mccordcentre/files/LAC2018\\_ConferenceBooklet.pdf](https://www.ncl.ac.uk/media/wwwnclacuk/mccordcentre/files/LAC2018_ConferenceBooklet.pdf)

LAC2020 will be in Madrid – so pencil in Spain early June 2020 into your diaries and schedules. Details and links will be on <https://iala-lac.org/> in due course.

## Note 2: Another landscape-infused EU project — another acronym

Readers of LRE and followers of LRG activities will recall Hercules, the EU Horizon 2020 project in which LRG was a partner (<http://www.hercules-landscapes.eu/>). Some may also have come across CHeriScape, which the present writer co-ordinated as a Cultural Heritage Joint Planning Initiative project (<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/mccordcentre/research/projects/projects/cheriscapculturalheritageinlandscape.html> and <http://www.cheriscape.ugent.eu>). Next (the UK squeezing in before Brexit falls) will come HERI-



LAND, a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network within the H2020 programme. The grant agreement was signed a few weeks ago and the project will begin in April 2019.

**HERILAND** stands for 'Cultural Heritage and the planning of European Landscapes', a training network established in the context of recently and still-emerging new approaches to heritage and landscape. The project is led by Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and has a 21-member consortium that includes local stakeholders and partners as

The views and opinions in this publication are those of the contributing authors and the senior editor individually and do not necessarily agree with those of the Group. It is prepared by Bud and Rosemary Young for the Landscape Research Group and distributed four times a year to members world wide. It is also to be found on the Group's website [www.landscaperesearch.org](http://www.landscaperesearch.org) under 'publications'. It forms a companion to LRG's refereed journal Landscape Research. Editorial enquiries for LRExtra contact [young@airphotointerpretation.com](mailto:young@airphotointerpretation.com). For the refereed journal Landscape Research Contact Editor Dr Anna Jorgensen [a.jorgensen@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:a.jorgensen@sheffield.ac.uk)

well as the Universities of Newcastle, Gothenburg, Technical University Delft, Roma Tre, the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design in Jerusalem and GRID Warsaw. Over its four years, 15 doctoral students will be recruited and trained in advanced, up to date and new approaches to using landscape and heritage to help with spatial and territorial planning, rural management and in general with the overall governance of landscape and related environmental matters – and beyond, concerning cultural sustainability and challenges such as migration and climate change. More broadly, HERILAND intends to establish a new pan-European interdisciplinary and trans-sectoral practice in the landscape and heritage field, which will be codified within a HERILAND Handbook for Heritage Planning and instrumentalised through an ongoing HERILAND College of Heritage Planning. All this of course sits comfortably within LRG's landscape approach that the LRG promotes.

**GF**

## Pico Island Azores – Basalt and Micro Vineyards

By Roger Dalton

The Azores, with a population of about 250,000, form an archipelago of nine islands set in the Atlantic some 1,400 km west of Portugal. In May much of the landscape is green with lush tree growth and fields bounded by hydrangea hedges. The fields are grazed by

black and white cows, the basis of a thriving dairy industry. The physical landscape is totally volcanic consequent upon plate margin seismic activity in which basaltic lavas dominate. On the centrally located island of Pico, the volcano Montanha do Pico at 2,350m, is the highest feature in the island chain. Its lower slopes against the Atlantic carry a farming landscape which is unique in so much as to be recognised by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site in 2004.

A lot of people visit there and I see that the website offers some very good views. But for each individual the landscape has its own special impact.

My photographs here were taken in the western municipality of Madalena. One reads that the area in question was first settled by the Portuguese in the fifteenth century when clergy established the first vineyards for communion wine. Historical fable or fact? These were expanded particularly from the seventeenth century to be-



come a main feature of Pico agriculture and economy. However the area under vines was much reduced in the mid nineteenth century consequent upon *phylloxera* and mildew and this led to invasion by scrub.

There are interesting comparisons in many stony lands – stone walls in Yorkshire attributed to Cistercians, a means of clearing lands for pasturing or ploughing; similarly in Dartmoor or the Bahamas where slave supported cotton was cultivated on hopelessly rocky ground. But in Pico the volume of surface rock exceeds any of these examples. A huge labour as you can see from the photos here.

The surviving vineyards and access tracks are bounded by rough stone walls made of blocks of basalt. The fields are tiny, room sized. Field walls tend to run at right angles and parallel to the shoreline creating a clear rectilinear lattice indicative of planning from the time of their inception. It's an organised landscape. The walls serve to protect vines from salt laden winds off the ocean and to raise temperatures. As the fields are tiny, the number of vines per field is limited but this is compensated by the quality and hence profitability of the wine. Maintenance is hard work but surely relatively modest compared with the physical labour involved in the original creation of the fields from an area comprising little more than lava flows. The wonder is that it was worth the huge effort and that below the lava cover enough soil had evolved to permit viticulture or the growth of anything.

A visit to the Azores is well worth while as a diversity of physical and human landscapes is revealed but nothing quite matches the micro vineyards of Pico.

**RD**

## A Landscape of Excess

By Brian Goodey

Both before and after the rapid growth of packaged holidays to the Costas and beyond, many Britons had their seaside

experience in a stretch defined by travel, rail and bus access and word of mouth recommendation. So, in those early days, I ended up on day trips to Southend, Clacton and Walton, and weeks in Cromer and Aldeburgh. These patterns seem still to apply, so my knowledge of our resorts still relies overmuch on rumour.

Rumours of Blackpool suggested something best avoided by an Essex man, but 'the illuminations' at last gained family attention so we have just had a coach ride and front hotel package. An impressive contrast to the Harz Mountains and half-timbered towns of Lower Saxony of the previous week, although both landscapes have long developed to meet the expectations of their long-established markets.

'Blackpool' and 'landscape' do not sit easily together. Yes, there's the grey Irish Sea view, but at the front even the traditional values of 'townscape' seem absent. Blackpool marches to a different drum, where Nairn's 'Subtopia' is alive and well and where movement, lights and sound create the context. Because of its 19<sup>th</sup> century, railway age origins Blackpool has a wealth of buildings that in a more sedate town would provide the visitor focus — we enjoyed a poorly attended performance at the Grand Theatre of 1894.

For the majority, as seen over three weekend nights in October, Blackpool is a landscape of excess. The context a bare stage upon which



every visitor (though far fewer residents) can aspire to at least a slightly out of body experience.

The landmark Tower is annually refreshed by the peak viewing arrival of 'Strictly' and further south the historic Pleasure Beach is now appropriately marked by the new ICON Roller Coaster, the death-defying cars of which begin their opening-time journey regardless of customers.

These vertical features of an industrial age are set within a serpentine promenade of walls, slopes and punctuations carefully designed to



combat sea flooding and pedestrian over-use, and to allow the cost-efficient cleansing required. Early morning walks reminded me of Rio where on a similar walk, in rather different climate, I would jostle with a thousand joggers (here only two). But Brazil also provided a precise concrete image of what Blackpool has created and what Oscar Niemeyer designed for Sao Paulo — Memorial da America Latina— a concrete city park with iconic buildings and performance spaces dedicated to Latin America.

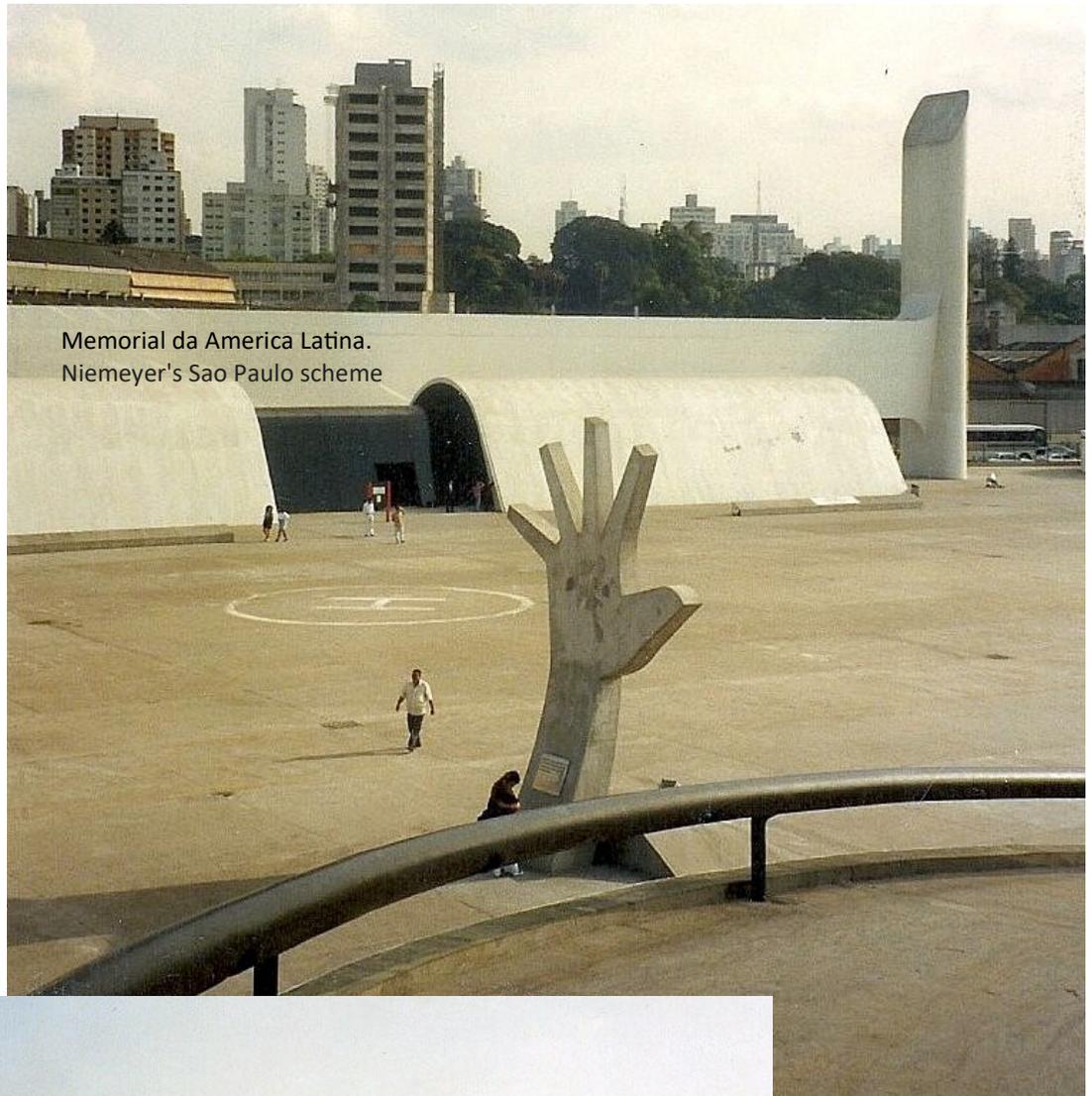
Niemeyer's buildings and spaces are intended for both high and folk culture, whereas Blackpool's are the clean

surface upon which any visitor can create his/her own activity. And there are hints elsewhere. Take the tram, a persistent movement from south Blackpool to Fleetwood, which a terminus helps conserve; at night historic trams reinforce the need to take a day trip.

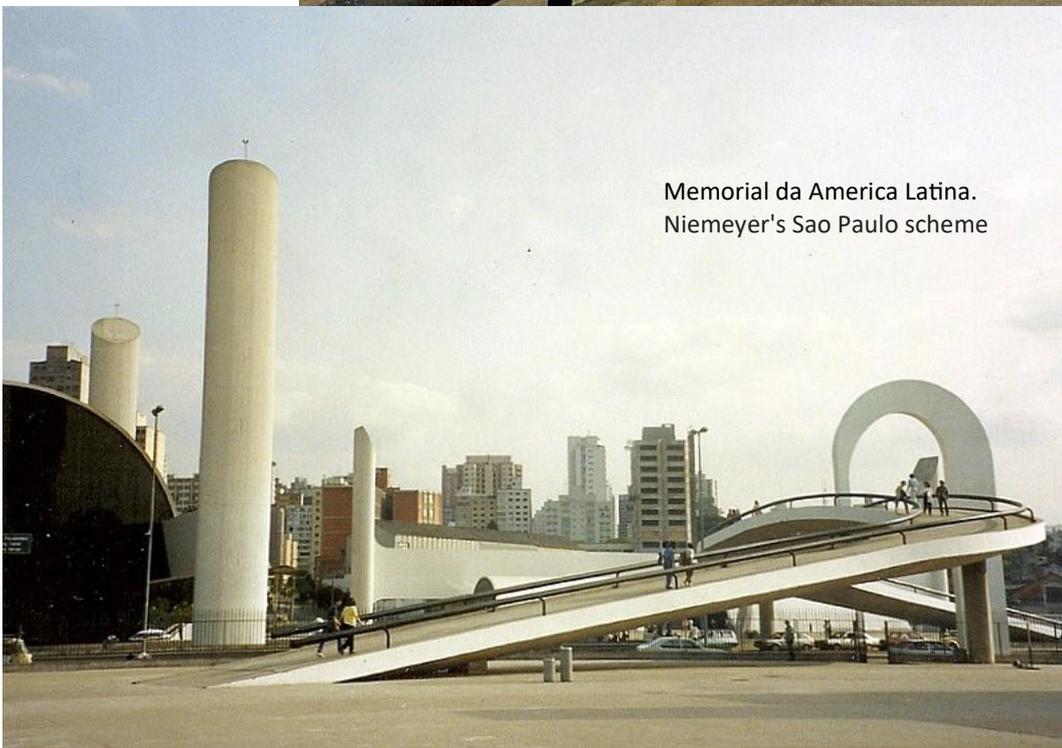
The array of sheer tackiness available en route astounds. In one group of outlets : *We print any Hood* ; *Your wife said it's OK to buy a gun today*; *Sweet Dummies & Rock Novelties*; and *Greasy Joe's Burger Bar Est.40 Years*. On the road frontage of the Pleasure Beach, a board-thick façade promotes a 'Pleasure Beach Education Academy', landscaping is represented by the least likely trailing of plastic ivy, and an on-street theatre façade frames together images of 'The Stig' Kermit and Franz Hals 'The Laughing Cavalier', the two former having switched on the lights in the past.



What brings these barren spaces and a presumed, but often neglected, British landscape taste together, is the 66 nights of a six mile journey through the Illuminations. We did the trip by coach, and again by tram, the images offer a history of cartoon and popular culture in a variety of styles. It is a streetscape that lasts longer and surprises more than any illuminations I have seen, though now Sun-



Memorial da America Latina.  
Niemeyer's Sao Paulo scheme



Memorial da America Latina.  
Niemeyer's Sao Paulo scheme

derland and Matlock Bath are on my agenda (Walsall is no longer available). But will they offer illumination tours by historic tram, piebald-pulled Cinderella coach or private hire breakdown trucks?

Summer season families, stag and hen parties will

keep much of the front alive until the next Illumination season and bright colours and excessive claims will continue to punctuate fading facades. 101 lounge singers and unreformed comedians will entertain, and not a few recent stars will be added to the pavement of fame. The town centre may struggle and green-space will remain on

the periphery but Blackpool's stereotype will continue — reliant on the expectations of visitors, the fine tuning of local commerce and the acceptance that relatively harmless excess sustains a unique place.

**BG**

## A British Wargrave Cemetery east of Avesnes les Aubert, Northern France near the Belgian Border.

We have a friend, just down the road but originally from New Zealand and she with her husband who is an enthusiastic explorer of train routes in France (and elsewhere) have just returned from a complex multipart train excursion in France. A small but important part of that expedition was to visit her Grandfather's grave in a British Wargrave Cemetery. He was a New Zealander aged 29 who died at the battle of the River Selle near the better known location of Cambrai. On Google maps aerial photograph, the cemetery is a tiny point within a huge agricultural landscape — so small as not to register until one gets in close. It's near the centre of the airphoto just east of the road junction. Streetview allowed us to 'be there' and I was deeply moved by the isolated fieldscape 'loneness' of the one acre site. Granddaughter Christine showed us the precise gravestone. I did a quick count and there are perhaps 300 who died. The official record gives 391 identified persons. It is not elaborate and its simplicity and lonely isolation has a kind of shock value.

Bud Young

### Post script

*Grandfather Henry Alfred Armstrong served as a gunner In the NZ Field Artillery. He was known as Joe and was killed in action on the 21st of October 1918. One hundred years precisely from my writing this piece. **Battle of the Selle** (17–25 October 1918).*

