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EAST DEVON

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



Lunch will be provided. Please confirm your dietary preference

Vegetarian Vegan Gluten-free Lactose Free

Detach and return to:

Heritage Conference 2020
East Devon AONB Partnership
Kennaway House
Coburg Road
Sidmouth
EX10 0QN

Religion and the historic environment

East Devon AONB
Heritage Conference

Saturday 18 April 2020
Norman Lockyer Observatory
Sidmouth



Loughwood Baptist Meeting House (c) David Hangood

What have religion and belief to do with the historic landscape? Simply put, the historic environment is the result of human action, which is always conditioned by beliefs. This applies in particular of course to ritual and religious sites, monuments and buildings, but extends to the manifestations of beliefs and superstitions in everyday life and things.

The Bronze Age ritual landscape on Farway common that we see today is the result of a belief system, no doubt with ritual as well as territorial and socio-political dimensions. In succeeding historical periods, religious belief continued to be linked to territorial concerns. Our familiar parish system for many centuries concerned not only the cure of souls but also local administration, the care of the poor and the sick, and education.

Our landscape features not only churches but has also includes crosses and chapels, and until the reformation, abbeys and monasteries, together with the quarries that produced the stone. Until the 19th century church income depended on control of an agricultural surplus, from church lands and tithes. Whilst Catholic or Anglican churches dominated the parish for many centuries, 'nonconformist' chapels subsequently became a familiar part of town and village landscapes, and popular superstitions have never quite disappeared.

- 09.30 - 10.00 Registration**
- 10.00 - 10.15 Opening remarks and welcome** - Chris Woodruff (East Devon AONB Manager)
- 10.15 - 11.00 Prehistoric religious expression in East Devon** - examining Hembury, the Farway barrows and the Holcombe mirror. Henrietta Quinnell (University of Exeter).
- 11.00 - 11.30 Coffee**
- 11.30 - 12.00 The church in the landscape: the siting of Sidmouth and its Church.**
Brian Golding (Sidmouth History Society).
- 12.00 -12.30 The parish as a mental landscape in the 19th century.**
The Rev. Dr. Andrew Jones (Chairman Devon History Society).
- 12.30 - 13.00 Place-based folk beliefs and customs.**
Prof Patrick Dillon (Emeritus Professor, University of Exeter).
- 13.00 - 14.00 Lunch**
- 14.00 - 14.30 Religion & the historic environment in Branscombe.** Barbara Farquharson (Prof. Barbara Bender) & John Torrance (Emeritus Fellow, Hertford Coll, Oxford).
- 14.30 - 15.00 Religion in 19th century Sidmouth.** Nigel Hyman (Sidmouth Museum).
- 15.00 - 15.15 Short break**
- 15.15 - 15.45 A tent for my people, Chapels in the Landscape.** Jeremy Lake (ex-Historic England).
- 15.45 - 16.15 Shining a light on the gravestones of Ottery St Mary church.**
Sue Dymond (Ottery St Mary Heritage Society)
- 16.15 - 16.30 Closing remarks.**



Booking Form and payment NOTE EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT

Please enclose a cheque made payable to **East Devon District Council** for the early bird sum of **£18 if received by 28 Feb.** Fee £20 thereafter

Name

Address/postcode

Email

Please contact us if you have any special access needs
Please note booking fee is **NON RETURNABLE**

Overleaf >> dietary choices