The Landscape Archaeologist, Gould’s Male Nipple, and the Planck–Mach Debate

Tuesday, March 8th, 2016
4:30–6:00 p.m.
Performing Arts and Humanities Building,
Drescher Center Conference Room
(PAHB 216), UMBC
my.umbc.edu/groups/ancientstudies

It is commonly believed that landscape archaeology, like archaeology in general, exists to help society improve its future development, or at least to understand itself better. Prof. John Bintliff sides rather with Leopold van Ranke, who argued that history is carried out purely to discover “What has actually happened.” In this lecture he offers a very different interpretation for the fascination archaeologists find in historical and prehistorical landscape reconstruction.

John Bintliff was born in London, England in 1949, and studied Archaeology and Anthropology at Cambridge University, where he also completed his Ph.D. in 1977 on the history and prehistory of human settlement in Greece. He became Lecturer then Senior Lecturer in Archaeology at Bradford University, where he taught from 1977, then moved to Durham University as Reader in Archaeology in 1990, where he taught till moving to Leiden in 1999. In 1988 he was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. Since 1978 he has been co-director of the Boeotia Project, an interdisciplinary landscape program investigating the evolution of settlement in Central Greece, with the archaeological surface survey of town and country as its central approach. His research interests include the Archaeology of Greece from Prehistory to Postmedieval times, Landscape Archaeology and Archaeological Theory.