

Session Proposal

European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) 12th Annual Meeting
Krakow, Poland
19th to 24th September 2006

Organizer: A. G. Brown

Theme:

Archaeology and Material Culture: Interpreting the Archaeological Record

Session Title:

The Archaeology and Archaeoprospection of Large Rivers and River Confluences

Abstract:

Major river valleys have provided routes through both the European continent and across peripheral areas throughout prehistory. This factor along with their preservation potential associated with terraces and floodplains, and their attractiveness for modern development has generated a rich and threatened archaeological legacy. This session will explore the archaeology of large valleys and floodplains from the Palaeolithic to later prehistory and the technological advances which have been crucial in locating, recording and analysing their archaeological record. Additionally valley confluences have been far larger in the past than they are today (due to Postglacial incision) and have frequently been noted to have particularly rich archaeological remains from all periods. The ultimate goal of valley and alluvial studies must be to advance our understanding of major archaeological themes such as hominin migration, subsistence strategies, early farming and the environmental management.

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