UNDERSTANDING THE PAST: A MATTER OF SURFACE-AREA

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Resulting from one of the EAA 2007 sessions ‘Large scale territorial development and connected archaeological investigations: methodology and scientific outcome’, this volume of papers focuses on the ways in which the study of large surface areas determines our perception of the past. Contents: 1) Large ‘surface-area’ archaeological operations in North Western Europe. A historical overview through Eastern France examples (Jan Vanmoerkerke); 2) The methodology of rescue excavations on large area and linear construction projects in Moravia (Jaroslav Peška and Vendula Vránová); 3) Large-Scale Archaeology Projects in Saxony, Germany (Harald Stäuble, Christophe Steinmann and Patricia de Vries); 4) The pattern of agricultural activities in the Norman countryside (2500-30 BC) as seen through preventive excavations on the south side of Caen (Benjamin Van den Bossche and Cyril Marcigny); 5) Beware of the known. Methodological issues in the detection of low density rural occupation in large-surface archaeological landscape-assessment in Northern-Flanders (Belgium) (Wim De Clercq, Machteld Bats, Pieter Laloo, Jooris Sergant and Philippe Crombé); 6) Archaeological interventions on linear and extensive earth-moving works: what scientific value? A close look at the second Iron Age (François Malrain and Geertrui Blancquaert); 7) Rescue archaeology initiated by research – a contradiction in terms? (Håkon Glørstad and Karl Kallhovd); 8) An extensive surface project at Aube Logistics Park (France): the methods and initial scientific results (Vincent Riquier and Julien Grisard); 9) Organizing archaeological research during major roadworks: the issues, constraints and principal results of the A85 and A19 motorway excavations (in the Centre Region of France) and the example of an extensive excavation on the Sublaines (Thibaud Guiot and Eric Frénéée).

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