CONTENTS

Contributors ix
Figures xv
Tables xvii

Introduction 1
Archaeology, if you like 2
People, landscapes and lifeways 3

A biographical sketch of Charly French, geoarchaeologist 5
Some memories from Helen Lewis 6
A gift to archaeology, by Federica Sulas 8
Through the looking glass, by Manuel Arroyo-Kalin 10
Publications and reports by Charly French 15

Personal accounts 27
Picking my way along the catena path with Charly (Kasia Gdaniec) 27
Canadian connections: Charly’s early days digging in the East Anglian Fens (Francis Pryor) 30
Developing geoarchaeology: contextual analyses and the urgency of the sustainability agenda (Wendy Matthews) 32
An archaeology of the Anthropocene: uncovering lost landscapes with Charly French (Nicole Boivin) 37
Firmly on the ground: science and a three-dimensional past (Martin Jones) 41
Geoarchaeology: reflections on progress and prospects (Martin Bell) 43

Part I   Archaeology, if you like 51

Chapter 1   Practising geoarchaeology: on land, underwater, online 53
Fraser Sturt
Geoarchaeology? 53
Practising geoarchaeology: fieldwork 58
Narrative and knowledge 59
Practising geoarchaeology: teaching, learning and supporting 59
Conclusions 60

Chapter 2   Why do we see what we see where we see it? Geomorphological controls on archaeological narratives across space and time 61
Robyn H. Inglis
Shaping the surface record 62
Shaping deep sequences 68
Conclusions 71

Chapter 3   Landscapes of scale or scales of landscape: patterns of land use and landscape 73
Michael J. Allen
Land-use patterns (a proxy for human activity) 74
Patterns of land use 78
All change: a new geoarchaeology and palaeo-environment to consider 84
Conclusions: concepts and communicating patterns of land use 86
Postscript 87
Chapter 4  Geoarchaeology in fluvial landscapes  
**Andrea L. Balbo**  
Four hundred feet under. The flooded Raša-Boljunsčica River system and the spread of anatomically modern humans to Mediterranean Europe 89  
After the ice. Northern incursions along the Rena River at the beginning of the Holocene following the melting of the Scandinavian Ice Sheet 91  
Down the river. Agriculture and trade in the dynamic floodplain of Basses Terres, Rhône River during late antiquity 92  
Streamlined water networks. Spring capture, irrigation and terracing in the Valley of Ricote, al-Andalus, Spain 92  
Boom and burst. Terraced agriculture in Minorca through the Medieval Climatic Anomaly and the Little Ice Age 94  
What’s next? Trends and potential for geoarchaeology in fluvial landscapes, and beyond 94  

Chapter 5  Challenges of geoarchaeology in wetland environments  
**Cristiano Nicosia**  
Wetland sediments 98  
Wetland sediments in archaeological contexts 100  
Conclusions 105  

Chapter 6  Soil pollen analysis: a waning science?  
**Rob Scaife**  
Introduction: a background to soil pollen analysis 107  
Taphonomy of pollen in soil 108  
The pollen method 111  
Research archaeological and experimental studies 113  
Conclusion 114  

Chapter 7  Making thin sections for geoarchaeology  
**Tonko Rajkovaca**  
Soils and micromorphology in archaeology 118  
Sampling soils and sediments 118  
Thin section making 120  
Sawing of samples 123  

Part II  Peoples, landscapes and lifeways  

Chapter 8  Modelling, mimicking and fighting waters: Lower River Great Ouse and Ouse Washlands investigations  
**Christopher Evans**  
Tracing waters (and islands) – fathoming lands 129  
Bringing the Fens to Cambridge – the Ouse Tidal Model 134  
The ’Big Straight’ and the Hovertrain 137  
Flat earths – engineering and follies 140  
Multiple strands and reclamations 141  

Chapter 9  Speculations on farming development during the early Iron Age of southern Norway (500 bc–AD 550), focusing on the Dobbeltspor Dilling Project  
**Richard I. Macphail, Johan Linderholm & Lars Erik Gjerpe**  
Archaeological context of settlement and farming in Norway, with special attention to Iron Age southern Norway 146  
The Dilling site 147  
Methods 149  
Results 149  
Discussion and conclusions 153
Chapter 10  A geoarchaeological agenda for Tyrrhenian central Italy  
*Simon Stoddart & Caroline Malone*

- The state of geoarchaeology in central Tyrrhenian Italy 160
- Studies of urban centres 163
- A model for Tyrrhenian central Italy 163
- Testing the model 163
- Conclusions 164

Chapter 11  Landscape sequences and Iron Age settlement in southern Africa: managing soils and water in the Greater Mapungubwe landscape  
*Federica Sulas, Bongumenzi Nxumalo & Innocent Pikirayi*

- Mapungubwe landscapes, ecologies, and cultures 169
- Geoarchaeological work 170
- Characterizing the Mapungubwe landscapes through time 172
- Building local landscape sequences for Mapungubwe 179
- Discussion and conclusions 180

Chapter 12  Tracking down the house: the contribution of micro-geo-ethnoarchaeology to the study of degraded houses in arid, temperate and humid tropical environments  
*David E. Friesem*

- Micro-geo-ethnoarchaeology 183
- Case study 1 – arid environment 184
- Case study 2 – temperate environment 186
- Case study 3 – humid tropical environment 188
- Discussion 190

Chapter 13  Soil micromorphological observations of construction techniques at Százhalombatta-Földvár Bronze Age tell settlement, Hungary  
*Gabriella Kovács & Magdolna Vicze*

- Methods 195
- Results and discussion 195
- Conclusions 206

Chapter 14  Cursus complexity: results of geophysical survey on the Dorset Cursus, Cranborne Chase, Dorset  
*Martin Green, Michael Gill & Roy Loveday*

- Back to the field – 2018 onwards 209
- The geophysical survey in Cursus and Fir Tree Fields 211
- Discussion (Roy Loveday) 213
- Implications (Roy Loveday) 216

Chapter 15  Three wettings and a funeral: monument construction, land use history, and preservation at Skelhøj and Tobøl I round barrows, Denmark  
*Helen Lewis & Ann-Maria Hart*

- Methods and sites 221
- Results 222
- Comparing preservation environments 228
- Discussion 231
- Conclusions 234

References 235

Appendix to Chapter 11 271

Appendix to Chapter 15 275