

A Living Landscape : Bronze Age settlement sites in the Dutch river area (c. 2000-800 BC)

Arnoldussen, S.

Citation

Arnoldussen, S. (2008, September 3). A Living Landscape: Bronze Age settlement sites in the Dutch river area (c. 2000-800 BC). Sidestone Press, Leiden. Retrieved from https://hdl.handle.net/1887/13070

Version: Corrected Publisher's Version

License: License agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the

Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden

Downloaded from: https://hdl.handle.net/1887/13070

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Acknowledgements

Completing this thesis was not an individual achievement, and numerous people have been — indirectly or directly — crucial to its completion. Starting at the beginning, I must thank my parents for the many wonderful childhood years in general, and although I cannot recall all of the countless trips to Danish and French castles, monasteries and open-air prehistory parks, I am convinced they laid the foundation for my later (pre)historic interests. Moreover, my parents tolerated me bringing into their house shoebox after shoebox of rubbish from the local fields as a child, and — in later years — have provided incessant support in general, and for my choice to study archaeology in particular.

During those years of studying, I have enjoyed many pleasant times, trips and excavations with my prehistory class-mates, particularly Alice Overmeer, Diane Habets, David Renes, Etienne Pronk, Evelyne van Gent and Judith van der Berg. Although I specialized in later prehistory, I must thank Frank Stevens, Iwan Kisjes, Martijn van den Bel, Olivier van Buren and particularly Tom Hamburg for inviting and introducing me to the delights of Caribbean archaeology in 1999. My years at the 'Turfmarkt 10' student house have resulted in valuable friendships, and make me look back on my study years as a very pleasant period (thank you Bram Venemans, Dennis Bruggink, Martijn Aalberts, Nathalie Kriek, Ramses Feenstra, Sander Galjaard and Thijs Houben, may there be many more *huisetens* and *huisweekeindes*).

After graduation, I have spent a few years working with the Leiden University in-house excavation unit 'Archol'. The atmosphere was very pleasant (spending weeks together crammed in old farmhouses at Oss, and undertaking various trips to 't Kaatje and the karting track) and I have benefited much from working with colleagues that were both knowledgeable and often prepared to go that extra mile to maximize scientific gain. With such colleagues, (field)work is no burden and I must thank them all (for brevity here collectively) for the pleasant cooperation and numerous things they have taught me.

From 2003 to 2007, I participated in the research project 'Living in a dynamic (cultural) landscape. The Bronze Age in the Dutch river area', that was housed at the Faculty of Archaeology of Leiden University and funded by the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO). In this project several archaeologists, a physicalgeographer and a palaeobotanist joined forces to study the essence of Bronze Age occupation in the Dutch river area. Liesbeth van Beurden and Wilko van Zijverden have tried their best to introduce me to the intricacies of palaeobotany and palaeogeography respectively, and I would like to thank them for their significant contribution to the project in general and my thesis in particular. Similarly, I would like to express my gratitude to David Fontiin, Harry Fokkens and Peter Jongste for the recurring informal discussions that helped me to present my arguments ever more clearly (frequently countering my stubbornness with solid argumentation), and which provided a valuable source of inspiration, and have as such also increased the quality of the present study. During the various informal PhD activities, such as playing pool (with Alistair Bright, Luc Amkreutz, Bleda Düring and Erik van Rossenberg), playing poker (with Alice Samson, Corné van Woerdekom, Karsten Wentink and Quentin Bourgeois) and frequent lunches (mostly with Arne Wossink, Ellis Grootveld, Erik van Rossenberg, Eva Kaptijn, Gerrit Dusseldorp, Luc Amkreutz and Welmoed Out), PhD pleasures and problems were shared and discussed, helping to maintain a proper perspective on the progress, relatedness and importance of our diverse research topics and trajectories. In addition to the resident PhD's, various other faculty members contributed to providing an inspiring research community (I have particularly enjoyed the fact that the doors to Alexander Verpoorte's, Corrie Bakels', David Fontijn's, Harry Fokkens', Leendert Pieter Louwe Kooijmans' and Richard Jansen's rooms were always open to discuss academic matters and they have provided valued comments on various of my arguments and articles), provided interesting case-studies or (anthropological; thank you Raymond Corbey) analogies, or pleasant distractions (particularly Olga Yates, Claudia Regoor, Eric Dullaart and Tjaco Mast, the latter two - together with Milco Wansleeben - were moreover always available to offer advice on computer-related matters).

In addition to faculty colleagues, numerous others have supplied me with advice, comments, data sets, discussions or support. It is impossible to specify or emphasize here the different ways in which they have helped

¹ E. Ball, R. van Beek, M. van den Bel, M. Duurland, T. Hamburg, E. Heirbaut, M. Hemminga, L. van Hoof, R. Jansen, P. Jongste, S. Knippenberg, W. Laan, C. Leeflang, R. de Leeuwe, M. Limpens, C. van der Linde, L. Meurkens, Y. Taverne, I. van Wijk.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

me, so I will confine myself to listing their names and expressing my gratitude to each of them.² However, I must at this place single out a few people that I have burdened with reading – and commenting on – parts, or even the entirety, of my thesis. For this, my thanks go out to Alice Samson, Bram Jansen, Claartje Schamp, David Fontijn, Harry Fokkens, Jean Bourgeois, Joanne Mol, Liesbeth Theunissen, Nathalie Kriek, Peter Jongste and Tjalling Waterbolk, whose comments have been most helpful. The 'J.E. Jurriaanse Stichting', 'Stichting Nederlands Museum voor Anthropologie en Praehistorie' and the Faculty of Archaeology at Leiden University provided financial support for the final publication, for which I am most grateful.

Without downplaying the important roles played by many of the people already referred to above, one person deserves a very special mentioning. From the initial letter of application to the final published books, I have been supported in every imaginable way by my girlfriend Claartje Schamp. She has for years endured my absence on so many evenings and weekends with so much understanding, good spirit and endless words of support, that I no longer know what words could fully bring across my thankfulness, nor can imagine ways of repaying her, except for saying that I love her with all my heart.

² J. Aalberts-Bakker, E. Altena, R. Annaert, N. Arts, M. Artursson, A. van As, E. Ball, K. Becker, R. van Beek, I. Benjamins, J. Bennik, H. Berendsen †, R. Berkvens, M. Bink, S. Bloo, Y. Boonstra, J. Bourgeois, I. Bourgeois, J. Bouwmeester, R. Bradley, P. van den Broeke, F. Brounen, J. Brück, E. Bulten, P. Crombé, S. Deiters, P. Della Casa, S. Diependaele, J. van Doesburg, M. Dorst, E. Drenth, M. Dütting, E. Eimermann, P. Floore, F. Gerritsen, T. Goossens, E. Graafstal, J. van den Hazelkamp, S. Heeren, J. Hendriks, W. Hessing, E. Heunks, H. Hiddink, J. Hielkema, A. van Hilst, A. de Hingh, S. Hoffmann, M. Høgestøl, M. Holst, J. Hoorne, J. Huis in 't Veld, C. Huth, W. Jong, J. de Jong, A. van Kampen, R. Kelm, J. van Kerckhove, E. Koeneman, M. Kok, R. Kok, J. Kolen, P. Kooi, K. Koot, J.-W. de Kort, M. Kosian, K. Kristiansen, C. Kruidhof, Y. Lammers-Keijzers, J. Lanting, K. Leijnse, O. Lemercier, E. Lohof, B. Makaske, B. Meijlink, S. Mooren, J. Moree, G. de Mulder, A. Müller, D. Mullin, S. Needham, A. Numan, D. Ollauson, R. van Oosten, L. Petit, H. van der Plicht, P. Ploegaert, R. Pope, J. Precht, A. Prins, D. Raemaekers, B. Ridderhof, P. van Rijn, B.van Rijswijk, A. Robeerst, B. Roberts, S. van Roode, P. Sarnäs, J.-A. Schenk, J. Schoneveld, M. Schurmans, A. Sheridan, P. Skoglund, B. Smit, S. Snijders, E. Stouthamer, C. Sueur, L. Theunissen, G. Tichelman, A. Tol, M. van Trierum, A. Ufkes, P. Verhagen, L. Verhart, E. Verhelst, A. Verlinde, S. Vrins, M. de Waal, A. Waasdorp, A. ter Wal, M. Wanders, T. Waterbolk, K. Wendt and C. Wilson.

Curriculum vitae

Stijn Arnoldussen was born in 1977 in the city of Nijmegen. Many childhood summer evenings were spent collecting rubbish (and rarely anything archaeological) from the fields around his parents house in Deest. Between 1989 and 1995 he attended secondary education at the 'Pax Christi College' in Druten, where initial interest in archaeology was sparked. Between 1995 and 2000 he studied 'Prehistoric Archaeology of north-western Europe' at Leiden University and participated in fieldwork at Vlaardingen, Oss, Postholt and Guadeloupe. He wrote his Ma thesis on the Late Neolithic and Bronze Age occupation of the central Dutch river area in 2000 (for which he was awarded the 'W.A. van Es-prijs', which is a biannual award for the best Dutch archaeological MA thesis). Between 2000 and 2003 he was employed by 'Archol bv', the Leiden University excavation unit. He participated in, and reported on, various archaeological fieldwork campaigns, among which the excavation of an Early- and High Mediaeval settlement at Bakel - Achter de Molen (2002) and a campaign of test-trenches at the Bronze Age settlement site at Zijderveld (2003). From 2003 to 2007 he participated as a PhD student in the NWO-funded project 'Living in a dynamic (cultural) landscape. The Bronze Age in the Dutch river area' at Leiden University, which resulted in the present dissertation. He is currently employed with the National Service for Archaeology, Cultural Landscape and Built Heritage (RACM) as a senior researcher specializing in the Later Prehistory of the Holocene parts of The Netherlands. From December 2008 he will be employed as a lecturer in Later Prehistory at the University of Groningen.