



ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRAINING EXCAVATION

Isle of Man

15 June - 13 July 2013

Ballacagen Settlement Sites

Students will take part in excavation and environmental sampling at a pair of multi-period enclosed settlement sites at Ballacagen, dating to the Iron Age and the equivalent of the Roman period (the Romans did not conquer the Isle of Man). These important sites were excavated by the famous archaeologist Gerhard Bersu whilst he was interned on the island during the Second World War, and we will investigate his work and untouched portions of the sites to reinterpret the remains and collect dating and environmental samples. As the water table remains high there may be excellent preservation in some areas. There will also be visits to museums and sites of all periods from the Neolithic to historic.

Students will learn to use a range of hand tools, and site recording methods including drawn plans and sections, written context records, and photography. There will be sampling for environmental analysis and radiocarbon dating, and finds processing. Training will be given in surface survey using an EDM theodolite, and students may take part in geophysical survey using gradiometer and resistivity meter, and in historic graveyard recording as part of an ongoing extensive archaeological research project.

This training excavation is based in the Isle of Man, which lies between Ireland and Britain. The island can be easily reached by fast ferry from Liverpool, and low cost flights may be booked from many regional airports across the UK.

Cost for UK participants: £165 per week; ***minimum 2 weeks***. This includes tuition, fees, camp site, local travel and all meals, with rotas for some camp site chores. Tents may be available to rent. The camp site is close to the small urban centre of Castletown.

For further details, contact: Archaeological Training Excavation Administrator, Centre for Manx Studies, University of Liverpool, The Stable Building, The University Centre, Old Castletown Road, Douglas, Isle of Man IM2 1QB, UK

And see the web site:

http://www.liv.ac.uk/manxstudies/archaeology_field_school/Training_Excavation.htm

or Google: Isle of Man training excavation to find the link

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