The Cultural Landscape -
Past, Present and Future
The Cultural Landscape - Past, Present and Future

Edited by

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Foreword

This book is a permanent record of the international symposium held during the field excursion entitled The Cultural Landscape - Past, Present and Future, which was held in July 1986 in western Norway. It was primarily a celebration of the 100 year anniversary of the Botanical Institute of the University of Bergen, which was founded as The Botanical Museum in 1886.

After leaving Bergen, the excursion visited the west Norwegian coastal heath landscape and saw demonstrations of how heathland was formerly maintained and utilized. It continued to the forested fjord area along Sognefjord and saw examples and demonstrations of lowland farms and the utilization of trees. It concluded in the mountains in the region of the summer farms, thus completing the three major cultural landscapes of western Norway.

At Sogndal, the symposium was held during two days, with lectures and poster sessions. The chapters of this book are contributions from these lectures and posters, and the abstracts summarize other contributions given at the symposium. The principal symposium and excursion organizers were H. J. B. Birks, P. E. Kaland, M. Kvanme and D. Moe, and they received help from many other individuals, in particular, I. Austad. The symposium and the excursion were assisted financially by Clara Lachmans Fond, INQUA - EuroSiberian Subcommission for the Study of the Holocene, Letterstedtska föreningen, Olaf Grolle Ohens Legat, Unesco-IUGS and University of Bergen.

They were also a part of the International Geological Correlation Programme Project 158b. This book is a contribution to this project. The production of the book has been supported financially by Olaf Grolle Ohens Legat.

As editors of this book we want to thank many people. It would not have been possible without the contributors, and we thank them for their contributions and their patience during the editing process. The following have reviewed one or more manuscripts: B. Aaby, B. Ammann, S. Th. Andersen, K.-E. Behre, H. H. Birks, H. J. B. Birks, K. J. Edwards, D. R. Foster, B. Fredskild, K. Fægri, S. P. Hicks, B. Huntley, U. Miller, D. Moe, P. D. Moore, M. O'Connell, B. Odgaard, G. Régnell, D. Robinson, T. Taylor, B. van Geel, W. van Zeist.

This book has been produced as a camera-ready copy at the Botanical Institute. It has been produced with the NORTEXT typesetting program by Norsk Data A/S, and we wish to thank Norsk Data A/S for their cooperation. The typesetting has been done by Gerhard Datasats A/S, and we express our gratitude to Leif Rødder for all his advice and practical assistance.
Foreword

The whole book has been typed in to the Norsk Data word processing program by Annechen Ree. She has undertaken this massive task skilfully and cheerfully in a language which is not her mother tongue. The preparation of the diagrams has been done by Siri Herland, who has calmly and efficiently coped with some rather difficult material. She has also had the delicate job of laying out the pages and arranging the text and figures. To them both we express our most grateful thanks.

In addition to the normal scientific editing of a book of this type, the copy editing, text production, and the printing of the camera-ready original of a book of this size have presented many unforeseen problems for the editors. We attempted to overcome them by dividing the responsibility for different tasks: HJBB and HHB have been responsible for the scientific and copy editing and linguistic revisions, HJBB for the index and the bibliography, PEK and HHB for the text production, PEK for the printing, and DM for the diagrams.

HHB, HJBB, PEK, DM

We wish to acknowledge the special contribution of Peter Emil Kaland, who has undertaken the difficult and arduous task of producing and printing the text as a camera-ready copy. He has devoted several months to mastering the intricacies of computerized type-setting and throughout he has remained cheerful and enthusiastic. The appearance of this volume owes much to his labours.

HHB, HJBB, DM
Bergen, May 1988