

## SIEF – THE PLACE WISDOM WORKING GROUP

The Group aims to establish a repository of multi-media, ethnographically-influenced records relating to understandings of place that contest conventional divisions between culture and nature. Members of 'Place Wisdom' have been working on themes "Waterscapes", "Scales of Home in Today's Europe", "Sacred Places/Routes", and "Forestscape".

The research agenda of the working group is situated at the interface of human ecology, geography, anthropology, art, archaeology, performance studies, literature, linguistics, futures research and philosophy.

## MEMBERS AND BACKGROUND

Currently the Place Wisdom Working Group has 50 members who comes from multiple universities from different parts of Europe.

The Place Wisdom Working Group was founded in 2008 by colleagues associated with the Academy for Irish Cultural Heritages (University of Ulster), the Ethnological Research Unit (UWE Bristol), and the Centre for Human Ecology (University of Strathclyde).

### "FORESTSCAPES"

Forestscapes is a research network for researchers working with Human-Forest Relationship in different contexts. One central theme for the network is to work with and understand different forms of cultural sustainability and the role of cultural heritage in relation to it.



Dieter Reibich / Wikimedia Commons / Dulmen, Naturschutzgebiet - Am Enneborf - 2014 - 0202 / CC BY-SA 4.0

### "WATERSCAPES"

A defining characteristic of a 'waterscape' – in contrast to a 'landscape' – perspective is the absence of any firm, stable vantage point for the narrative. The aim is better to understand fluctuating developments by looking at them quasi "from the inside" through a range of local lenses.

### EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS (SELECTION)

- SIEF 2021: Panel and Round Table "New rules for the engagement with nature: human ecology and emerging heritage futures" (Stream: Environment)
- Forestscape Research Project: "Dynamic Museum and Heritage Futures Workshop as instruments for ecological reconstruction", led by WG member Adj. Prof. Katriina Siivonen (University of Turku), WG member Adj. Prof. Pauliina Latvala-Harvilahti is one of the researchers. See: <https://sites.utu.fi/dynamo/en/>
- Forestscape Research Project: "Mire Trend", led by WG member Adj. Prof. Kirsi Laurén (University of Eastern Finland), WG member Adj. Prof. Pauliina Latvala-Harvilahti is one of the researchers. See: <https://uefconnect.uef.fi/en/group/mire-trend-research-project/>
- Research bid for a network and programme of activities around land-based learning, bringing together indigenous and non-indigenous participants, WG member Prof. Ullrich Kockel (Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh) together with the Alliance for Intergenerational Resilience
- Research project "New Connections Across the Northern Isles". Led by WG member Cait McGullagh, co-curating community heritages and the development of the Virtual Museum (<https://irc.hw.ac.uk/new-connections.html>)
- Research Initiative in Scotland: Creative Ethnology (with 'Place Wisdom' as one of its key foci)

Chairs: Katriina Siivonen, [katriina.siivonen@utu.fi](mailto:katriina.siivonen@utu.fi) and Stella Butter, [butter@uni-landau.de](mailto:butter@uni-landau.de)

# SIEF WORKING GROUP ON PLACE WISDOM



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### "SCALES OF HOME IN TODAY'S EUROPE"

This research project concentrates on how scales of home have been imagined and socially constructed in Europe since the 1990s.

For further information, please visit our website:

[www.scalesofhome.eu](http://www.scalesofhome.eu)

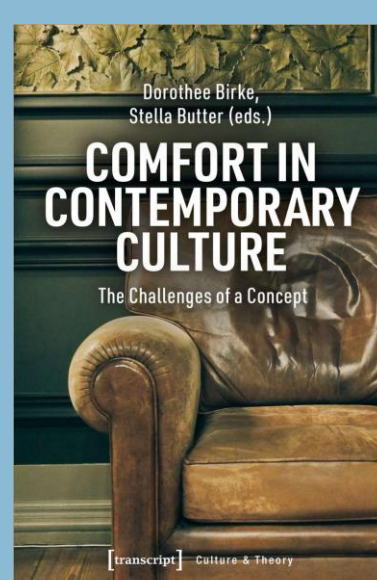


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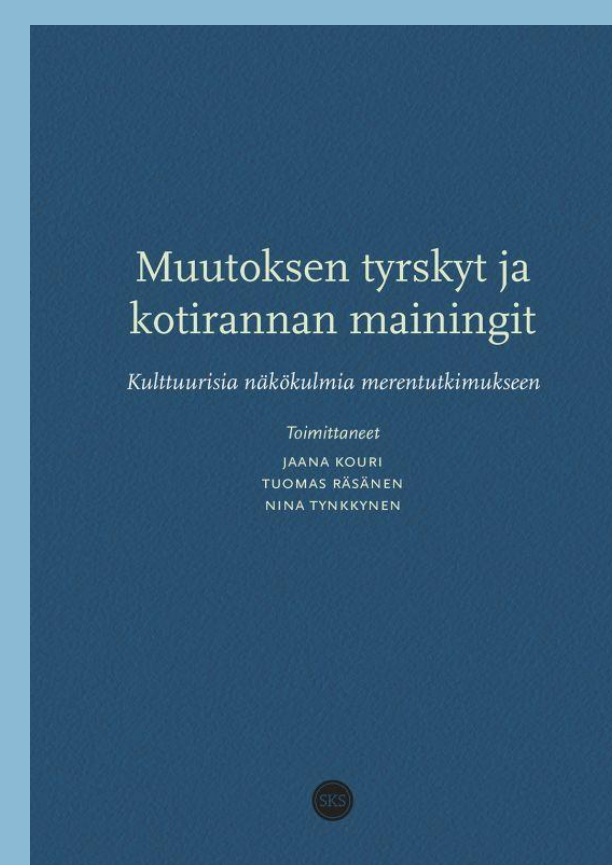
### PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

We are very keen for this Working Group to develop an active research programme, and to engage with research users outside academia. To this end we encourage collaborative international research projects with the potential to attract significant financial support, and have already initiated a number of bids to different research funding bodies.

### PUBLICATIONS (SELECTION)



Bielefeld, 2020; edited volume with contributions by the WG members S. Butter (co-editor), Z. Bulat-Silva (article) and N. Melcer-Padon (article)



*The storms of change and the rollers of the home shore. Cultural perspectives on maritime research.* Helsinki, 2020. Volume of essays with contributions by the WG members J. Kouri (co-editor, co-authored article), K. Siivonen (co-authored article), and P. Latvala-Harvilahti (article).