



## Ian A. Simpson

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Simpson is a geo-scientist, with a major focus on the properties of soils and sediments as historical and cultural narratives. From a foundation of field work experience in the North Atlantic region, Sahalian Africa and South Asia he has, with collaborators, developed innovative frameworks of landscape and new techniques in thin section micromorphology, soil biomarker analyses and modelling to define land resource utilisations by early societies together with their environmental consequences. In doing so, he gives historical depth to contemporary environmental issues, elucidates how humans have lived with environmental change, contributes to discussions on cultural and national identities as they relate to landscapes, and provides foundations for heritage resources management. Current research programmes include *Footprints on the Edge of Thule* (Leverhulme Trust), *The Anuradhapura Hinterland* (AHRC); *Modern Human Settlement in Tropical South Asia* (British Academy) and collaboration on *Human and Social Dynamics* (NSF) and *NABO - International Polar Year* (NSF).