

## GLENN BOWMAN

Glenn Bowman came to anthropology out of a literature background, but one which had always focused on the social context of representation and symbolisation. He did a BA degree in English Literature at the College of William and Mary in Virginia, a Folklore and Folklife MA at University of Pennsylvania, a Comparative Literature MA at SUNY at Buffalo (where he worked with René Girard), before finally ending up where that trajectory was aiming at the Institute of Social Anthropology at Oxford.

He did his DPhil fieldwork on Jerusalem pilgrimage, spending one of the most intense periods of his life living in Jerusalem's Old City (1983-85) and travelling throughout the 'Holy Land' with various national and denominational groups of pilgrims. Some of the results of this work have been published in John Eade and Michael Sallnow's influential *Contesting the Sacred: the Anthropology of Christian Pilgrimage*.

Bowman returned to the UK to teach at UCL (Anthropology) and Kent (Theology) but was drawn back to the West Bank by the first Palestinian intifada. He has continued to work there until the current day on a longitudinal study of the mixed Christian-Muslim town of Beit Sahour but has additionally worked in now 'Former' Yugoslavia on nationalist mobilisation within a federated state (1991-1995), oppositional art in nationalist Serbia (1994-1997), and the sharing of religious sites in Macedonia (2005-present). He has recently branched out to work in Cyprus on walling (linked to correlate work in Israel/Palestine) and mixed shrines.

Bowman recently published "In Dubious Battle on the Plains of Heaven" in *History and Anthropology* which addresses the issue of 'sharing' space in the Holy Sepulchre or *Anastasis*.

At present he is Head of the School of Anthropology and Conservation at the University of Kent in Canterbury, U.K.