



Bradley Garrett

Bradley Garrett describes himself as a 'professional trespasser' who has been exploring many hidden places and spaces 'where we are not supposed to be'. When he agreed to an interview I wondered whether I would be blindfolded, bundled in a car and taken to a remote destination. It wasn't quite like that, although we did travel by car to the outer edges of Southampton, and then walked amongst motorways to reach a country route that took us to the River Test, in full flood. Whether you judge him as a hero or a villain, there's no way of escaping his infectious enthusiasm for going into places that you or I might think twice about visiting.

Bradley Garrett is a social geographer at the University of Southampton and author, with an interest in lost, forgotten and off-limits places. He holds a Masters degree in archeology and worked as an archeologist for the US Federal government, he has subsequently completed a PhD looking at 'alternative archeologies' as local people try to get control of their own community histories.

Notes from the podcast interview by **Andrew Stuck**: Recorded on a walk in the peri-urban motorway strewn region north of Southampton in January 2015 and published in June 2015 on <http://www.talkingwalking.net>

Bradley Garrett's website: <http://www.bradleygarrett.com/>

- *Explore Everything: Place-Hacking the City* (Verso Books 2013), is an account of his adventures trespassing into ruins, tunnels and skyscrapers in eight different countries and has been translated into Korean and Japanese. <http://www.versobooks.com/authors/1820-bradley-l-garrett>
- *Subterranean London: Cracking the Capital* (Prestel Publishing 2014), is a photographic dissection of what lies underneath the streets of London, layer by layer.
- *London Rising* (Prestel Publishing 2016), documents the social, infrastructural and corporate 'verticalities' of the city.

The Shard, abandoned underground stations, a redundant post office railway and many other buildings have become exploratory targets for Brad and fellow Urban Explorers <http://www.urbanexplorers.net/>

Place hacking - 'recreational trespassing' - if its paid for by the public purse shouldn't it be accessible to the public? <http://www.placehacking.co.uk/>

An extreme end of Will Self https://en.wikipedia.org/?title=Will_Self & Iain Sinclair https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iain_Sinclair and their psycho-geographic walks

Brad walked around Oxford with Patrick Keiller https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_Keiller

Ordnance Survey <http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/> and the politics of what gets on the map

Burlington, an underground city beneath Corsham in Wiltshire <http://www.burlingtonbunker.co.uk/>

The Mae prison - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HM_Prison_Maze Bobby Sands hunger striker https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bobby_Sands

Walks recommended by Bradley Garrett

Take an early train to Broxbourne and follow the riverbank of the River Lea, south towards London, stopping for breakfast at the towpath cafe, and continuing on to Finsbury Park - Brad suggests trying to guess where the line is that one crosses from rural to urban. <https://www.visitleevalley.org.uk/en/content/cms/outdoors/walks-walking/walking-routes/ware-to-waltham-abbey/river-lee-trail/>