



The European Archaeologist

The newsletter of EAA members for EAA members

Issue 48 – Spring 2016

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Editorial

The Spring issue of *The European Archaeologist* continues the discussion of the role of archaeology, heritage and the public, with a Debate essay by Cheryl Benard concerning the recent public activism undertaken to preserve the underwater city of Pavlopetri, and the contributions of ARCH (Alliance for the Restoration of Cultural Heritage) in this effort.

This debate, which is of importance to archaeologists, heritage managers, and museums, and most likely critical to the continued public support for both archaeological research and the presentation and preservation of archaeological heritage, will continue at the upcoming DGUF conference *Archaeology and Power. Positionings for the future of researching the past*, which will be held from 5-8 May 2016 in Berlin and will be attended by EAA President Felipe Criado-Boada and others. In our opinion, archaeologists must not wait for an invitation to participate in discussions about at-risk heritage. We must act, either individually, or by pushing our national level organizations and, at the EU level, pushing the EAA, to take action. As Cheryl Benard clearly articulates, action by the public usually carries more political influence than do words by academics.

Viktória Kiss announces the launch of *From bones, bronzes and sites to society*, a new multi-year research project in the Institute for Archaeology of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

María de los Ángeles Utrero Agudo gives an update on the progress of the research project *Archaeology of the Hispanic churches of the 10th century*. This multi-year project, involving many researchers and institutions, seeks to combine the analysis of knowledge transmission with analysis of the media of transmission.

Tanja Romankiewicz reports on several workshops and conference sessions associated with the Leverhulme-funded project “*Building (Ancient) Lives*”: *new perspectives on the past for a sustainable future*, including the session “Moving the house posts” from the 2015 EAA conference in Glasgow. This essay also reports on the future prospects of this relatively young project.

This issue of the newsletter includes a calendar of EAA events and dates for the next few months, and several conference announcements. Finally, a reminder that the upcoming EAA conference in Vilnius is from 30 August – 4 September 2012. The call for papers is now closed – we had an excellent response, with 1498 abstracts submitted! Registration is open until 15 April 2016, and please remember to book your flights and hotel.

The deadline for the Summer Issue of TEA is the 15 May 2016. As always, please e-mail us at tea@e-a-a.org if you would like to get in touch.

Katharina Rebay-Salisbury and Roderick B. Salisbury

EAA Matters

Calendar for EAA members March – May 2016

31 March	Deadline for early-bird discount on EAA membership for 2016
15 April	Deadline for conference registration and membership renewal for presenters at EAA Vilnius conference
30 April	Deadline for early bird Vilnius conference registration
31 May	Final version of Vilnius conference academic programme available
1 June	Deadline for nominations for the European Heritage Prize (http://www.e-a-a.org/prizes_awards.htm#1.htm)
1 June	Deadline for Wenner-Gren grant applications (tentative)

The European Archaeological Heritage Prize 2016: call for nominations

The Nominations, with full citations, should be sent to the EAA Secretariat before 1 June 2016. For more information and submission form, please see http://www.e-a-a.org/prizes_awards.htm#1.htm.

The European Association of Archaeologists instituted the European Archaeological Heritage Prize in 1999. An independent committee awards the prize annually to an individual, institution, (local or regional) government or a (European or international) officer or body for an outstanding contribution to the protection and presentation of the European archaeological heritage. In principle, this can be any contribution that is outstanding and of European scope or importance, it does not have to be a scientific contribution. A set of nominations that, when seen together, reflect the full diversity in geography, age and gender as well as in institutions, operating within the heritage field, will be highly appreciated.

The Committee will discuss all serious proposals for the award. Nominations may be made by any of the following:

- Members of the Association (all membership categories)
- Professors and heads of departments of archaeology in European universities and institutes
- Directors of governmental heritage management organisations and agencies in European countries (members of the Council of Europe)
- Non-governmental archaeological, heritage, and professional organisations in European countries.

The prize for 2016 will be awarded during the Annual Meeting of the EAA in Vilnius on 31 August 2016.

New administration system

As Members have been informed EAA purchased a new membership management system in 2013. In Dec 2014 EAA had its ‘kick-off meeting with IBC, the company that has supplied the system. Training, however, did not commence until May 2015. Since then, training and preparation for data and systems transfer has been on-going.

The iMIS 20 is the Engagement Management System (EMS) that will allow the EAA to organise its members in a more efficient way and provide its members with a far greater range of communication and services, including social media-type functionality. iMIS is web-based and along with new functionality, new EAA web portal with new services and capabilities will be launched. In addition, it provides EAA with the capacity to consider running all or part of the organisation of its own conferences.

iMIS has two basic modules: membership management, and conference organisation. Module 1 - the membership management module is currently in the last stages of implementation and will shortly undergo thorough testing. We envisage it going ‘live’ in spring / summer 2016. All members will be alerted at the time that it goes ‘live’ and, when it does, all members can start engaging with the new facilities of the system.

What can you expect?

The iMIS membership management module is far more intuitive and interactive than the current system. In particular, it offers enhanced member self-service administration and extensive social engagement opportunities. On top of the existing facilities, members will be able to:

- manage their own profiles and provide as much personal and professional information about themselves as they wish to share with other EAA members;
- easily search for fellow members using filters based on the personal and professional information provided, and interact with them easily in one click;
- actively engage in the work of EAA committees and working parties through discussion fora, shared documents and networks;
- instantly communicate with the different EAA statutory boards and committees;
- browse current and past conference programmes and abstracts;
- view EAA membership statistics and reports;
- be alerted about events and links of your interest;
- personalise their EAA experience.

In short, transition to iMIS for members will be seamless, but it will make a big difference at the same time.

Implementation of the second iMIS module – conference organisation – is subject to tax and legal considerations; once these are resolved, your EAA experience will become compact, efficient and member/user-friendly, with just one registration process for both membership and conference attendance.

We look forward to taking this first step in its implementation and hope to report on progress towards the implementation of the second module prior to the Vilnius conference 2016, where members will also be able to provide feedback on their experience of the system.

Debate

Defending the Past – Archaeology and Activism. The Case of Pavlopetri

by Cheryl Benard (cheryl.benard@gmail.com)

Historic and archaeological sites face three principal sets of enemies: ideological adversaries, who want to eliminate a particular time period or regime or person from historic memory; economic adversaries, who want that particular piece of land to be used for a different contemporary purpose; and inattention, leading to a lack of resources, together making it impossible to preserve a site and instead condemning it to decay and destruction. While the current moment in history offers some particularly horrifying illustrations, and the destruction wrought by ISIS is especially egregious, in fact the above three factors have been in play throughout human history.

But those who value cultural heritage also have friends and allies in all three of these domains. National pride and cultural identity cause people to have strong feelings about their heritage and their past – which is precisely why historic sites make such resonant and emotional targets in a war. In regard to the second motivation, historic sites can also have significant economic value, supporting tourism industries that employ large sectors of a population and bring important revenue. The third point is the real challenge – how to direct the right kind of attention to a neglected site at the right time, to provide it with the resources, the defenses and the TLC it needs to survive into yet one more millennium.

In my experience, archaeologists tend to see their field as relatively esoteric. And no doubt it is, when you are discussing distant geological events and long-gone dynasties and the challenges of deciphering inscriptions in long-obsolete languages. What this overlooks is that there is an amateur archaeologist inside almost everyone. The past and its artifacts exert a strong fascination that for many of us, captures our imaginations when we are children and never entirely lets us go.

In the Greek town of Neapolis, which will be the topic of this article, the newly established local museum was able to fill its exhibit rooms essentially by raiding the homes of the townspeople and reclaiming the statues, pillars and busts that had made their decorative way into the living rooms and gardens of scavenging householders. These people did not regard themselves as thieves or looters, and their acquisitions were on prominent display – after all, they had “found” them in “their” neighborhoods. The number of offenders was so large that an amnesty was declared – no fines for past “looting” – and a vast number of items were retrieved.

When manifested in stolen artifacts or in hordes of tourists trampling across an unsecured site, crushing pottery shards underfoot as they go, these amateur archaeologists are a pestilence. But they can also be an imperiled site’s first, very determined and very effective line of defense. Here’s what we have found: it’s the amateur archaeologists in their ranks that inspire a law firm to offer their services pro bono, drafting otherwise unaffordable complicated complaints against companies that are encroaching on a site. And it’s the ordinary folk of Neapolis who, because of that same sense of proprietorship that led them to carry home the Roman bust, will take up arms when ship owners threaten to destroy Pavlopetri, “their” underwater city.

Archaeologists need to be able to do their specific work. They don’t have the time, the connections, or – with all due respect – the knowledge and the skill sets, to also defend sites against greedy developers, ignorant or inactive local authorities, religious or political fanatics, looters, and other intentional and unintentional menaces. Local activists and the public, meanwhile, often have strong feelings about the value of preserving their history, and come up with amazingly creative ways to defend and represent it, and show inestimable personal courage in standing up to those who intend to destroy it – not seldom to the point of putting their lives on the line. But they can’t do it alone, and they are often beleaguered, lacking the legal or linguistic or technical or financial resources to stand a real chance. This is why we founded ARCH ([Alliance for the Restoration of Cultural Heritage](#)). We

created an alliance of historians, sociologists, lawyers, political scientists, regional experts and strategists, and of course archaeologists, to advocate for cultural heritage protection. It's a model that has shown promise, and we hope it grows. We have been able, for example, to forestall a copper mining project that would have destroyed a buried Buddhist city in Mes Aynak, Afghanistan. When we take on an acutely endangered site, we develop a plan of action that deploys the relevant skill sets depending on the circumstances, always in support of local civil society that has the lead.

In the spring of 2014, we were contacted by residents of Neapolis who had heard of our advocacy work. Their issue was that, directly offshore from their little town in the Peloponnese, lay the 5000-year-old underwater city of Pavlopetri. There are different theories on how it became submerged – through an earthquake most probably, or a series of earthquakes, or maybe just climate and geological change, the kind that leaves former historic port cities stranded several miles inland while dunking others into the sea. Pavlopetri's outermost perimeter, a row of crypt graves, still extended onto the beach. Pieces of its pottery littered the shore. You could swim or snorkel right over the remains of the ancient city, and see the walls of houses and the outlines of streets and gardens. It had been the subject of a BBC documentary, *City Beneath The Waves*, and the program had featured a virtual reconstruction of the town by the University of Sydney's Australian Center for Field Robotics, who took exhaustive measurements and then extrapolated an entire 3-D city on that basis. A team of archaeologists from the University of Nottingham had conducted explorations. There was talk of organized snorkeling tours or perhaps a glass-bottom boat; the most valuable excavated finds to date had been transported to the museum in nearby Sparta for future exhibition, but most of the work of exploring and excavating the site still remained to be done, an exciting prospect.

But there was a problem, a big problem. Ships were anchoring, illegally, in Vatika Bay, where the ruins were located. They did this to avoid the harbor fee that they would have had to pay in the nearby legal harbor. While there, they dumped their ballast and had the hulls cleaned, all of it strictly illegal because it releases toxins and alien plant species and "foreign" algae. That needs to be done under controlled conditions in a legal harbor – which makes it expensive. The anchors were agitating the water, and all of the released waste and chemicals were degrading the underwater structures. This was also, by the way, ruining the breeding ground of local turtles, among them the loggerhead sea turtle, destroying the protected *Poseidonia oceanica* "Neptune sea grasses", and the *Pinna nobilis* "noble pen shell," as well as endangering nearby local tourist attractions Lake Strongyli, and the Paleocastro at Aghia Paraskevi.

In any such situation, you begin with a tactical analysis. Who are your potential allies? What are your strong points and your assets? What are the vulnerabilities? Who are your adversaries, and what are they likely to do?

In Pavlopetri, there were a number of positives, compared to some of the other countries where we have ongoing projects or interventions. This was not Syria, an active war zone, or Afghanistan, a place where the law exists only in theory and the public is largely illiterate and preoccupied with issues of survival – though in both cases, people retain a deep love for their history and culture. This was Greece, with a well articulated body of laws, and a strong respect and indeed reverence for its rich and fabled past. The nearby town was reliant on tourism, and thus had economic motives for wanting to preserve this potential added draw. There was a local newspaper run by a respected, older political activist and his son, along with other interested media including an also activist radio station. Some of the local politicians were sympathetic to the cause. And the law and regulations were clear: Vatika Bay was banned to ships, who could only seek shelter there in a dire weather emergency but otherwise were required to proceed elsewhere to a designated port.

On the negative side, a handful of local dignitaries and businesses were aligned with the ship owners, who were paying them for supplies and services, including the illegal service of hull-cleaning. And Neapolis was far from Athens and from any parliamentarians or ministries to whom complaint might have been made. Then, too, Athens had a few other little things on its mind and its agenda just then – a massive finance crisis for example, thousands of refugees landing on its shores, and a contentious domestic political scene. There was not much inclination to worry about some ancient underwater ruins way down on the Peloponnese. Also to be taken into account were the cross-cutting and

damaging mini-agendas of various actors. The illegal hull-cleaners were small fry; there were far larger sums in play. Port fees are steep, and rumor had it that the ship owners were bribing the local Coast Guard to turn a blind eye to their illicit presence – not implausible, as by our calculation they were collectively saving costs of at least five million Euros per year by squatting in Vatika Bay instead of anchoring legally in nearby Kalamata.

What to do? The institutions, with all caveats, ought not to be written off. Even in Greece's strained circumstances, the ministry of tourism should still be concerned about this magnet destination, the ministry of culture ought to worry about a site that was listed by UNESCO as the world's presumably oldest submerged city and the ministry of the environment should care about the damage to its precious natural resources. More directly still, the ministry of finance might be interested to know that it was losing millions in badly needed revenue due to massive evasion of the port fees to which it was entitled. We reached out, and are continuing to reach out, to all of these.

Through our new network of allies, we were informed of two "plots" against Pavlopetri – one was an attempt to clandestinely, off the public radar, change the port regulation to allow anchoring of ships. Since we fortunately learned of it in time, we were able to mobilize legislators to block this attempt. The second plot involved a so-called opinion survey intended to establish that the local population supported the conversion of Vatika Bay into a legal harbor. The "polling", however, was to take place only in yacht clubs, where presumably, a ship-friendly audience would give it the thumbs up. Again, because our "sympathizers" informed us in time, we were able to send representatives to the yacht clubs to inform the attendees of the true circumstances and thus prevent them from being railroaded into unwittingly supporting something that would damage their heritage and the environment. The vote to open the bay to ships failed resoundingly.

If the Greek authorities were disinclined to act, there was also the option of bumping things upstairs to the European Union. For that we needed legal advice and assistance, which fortunately was available because law firms devote a percentage of their effort to pro bono work – and as already noted, some of them have a soft spot for archaeology.

Local civil society was the most important resource, and they were already in a state of agitation – after all, they could plainly see the big interloper ships in their bay every day and worse, they occasionally found tar balls and other signs of pollution scarring their formerly pristine beaches. They had undertaken some actions – young people had rowed out to the ships to secretly photograph the illegal hull cleaning, for example, and locals had organized a highly photogenic "human chain" protest extending from the shore all the way to neck-deep in the water to symbolize their solidarity with the ruins and "the chain of history". They had the guts, the creativity and the energy, they only needed a bit of streamlining, encouragement and broader awareness beyond their little corner of Greece.

For that, we decided to nominate the site to the World Monument Fund's prestigious Watch List. This is a list that is published every two years after an arduous vetting process. As with the Emmy Awards, it's a point of pride even to be nominated, and frankly that was the extent of our hopes. However, a combination of factual information provided by Nic Flemming, the archaeologist who originally discovered the site, professional endorsements including a strong letter from the EAA supporting our nomination, and the ongoing efforts and activities of the local population including community meetings, petitions, and supporting letters from several local politicians – resulted in Pavlopetri actually making the list. This has provided a huge boost in morale to the community. Among the ongoing activities inspired by this success, local teachers are organizing an essay competition for the school children ("Life in the Times of Pavlopetri"), writing a storybook, and designing a curriculum unit. Local business owners including hotels and bed and breakfasts are planning an information event focused at the large number of tourists who typically visit in August. A Watch Day will take place in early fall. A traveling photo exhibit is being assembled.

The effort also surfaced a new group of allies, as it highlighted the connection with environmental protection and nature conservancy. Several local and international groups from those domains have stepped forward as additional partners for lobbying and public outreach.

The struggle is far from over – and that is par for the course in nearly all of these situations. The competing economic interests, the pressures of development, and the ins and outs of local and national political rivalries are ongoing and unfortunately, inevitable. Our opponents have staying power and they don't give up, so neither can we. Our next goals include filing a complaint to the EU, holding an event in New York about the history of Pavlopetri sponsored by the World Monuments Fund, and more ambitiously, creating some physical protections of the site including a boardwalk to allow interested visitors to view the crypt tombs (and the Roman salt flats and the bird sanctuary) without trampling over the beach where these are located; a set of buoys to shield the site against smaller boats; and a meticulous daily documentation of the offending ships, which we will present to the Ministry of Finance, with the suggestion that it might like to receive the revenues due by enforcing the port regulations.

The work of heritage protection is exhausting. No victory is ever final; defeats are frequent and often irreversible; and usually, your adversary has far more clout and power and resources than you do. But, it is uniquely rewarding to connect with the sincere passion of so many people in so many places, all of whom viscerally understand the importance of protecting our shared human history, preserved in the beautiful and interesting and mysterious relics of the past.

And since we are discussing a seafaring culture in Greece, let's conclude with a quotation from the legendary Greek ship owner, Aristotle Onassis. No doubt intended for another context, it is equally perfect as the motto for the defenders of cultural heritage. "We must free ourselves of the hope that the sea will ever rest. We must learn to sail in high winds."



Fig. 1: Diver conducting measurements. Fig. 2: Artifacts found in Pavlopetri (© Flemming 1967).



Fig. 3: Archaeology at Pavlopetri (© Flemming 1967). Fig. 4: Illegally anchored ships at Vatika bay



Fig. 5: Human chain

Announcements

The Archaeology Channel Conference on Cultural Heritage Media

Eugene Hilton and Conference Center, Eugene, Oregon, USA

11-15 May 2016

The Archaeology Channel Conference on Cultural Heritage Media, organized by Archaeological Legacy Institute, invites interested parties to gather for the discussion of audiovisual media for the study, preservation and promotion of cultural heritage. We wish to focus on topics of interest to cultural heritage professionals, media professionals and all those interested in applications of cultural heritage media.

Our goal is to create an unparalleled worldwide networking opportunity for archaeologists and others interested in the making and uses of cultural heritage media, including cultural heritage filmmakers, indigenous groups, musicians, artists, tourism operators, journalists, educators, historic preservation organizations, and others.

TAC Conference activities will include symposia, presentations, an exhibit hall, a banquet, keynote speakers, social activities, and other events yet to be announced. TAC Conference is held as part of the thirteenth annual edition of The Archaeology Channel International Film and Video Festival, a juried competition in the cultural heritage film genre. Details at

<http://www.archaeologychannel.org/events-guide/tac-conference-on-cultural-heritage-media-2016>.

The abstract deadline is February 29, 2016. Applicable topics may include the uses of audiovisual media for archaeology, historic preservation, indigenous cultures, other purposes. Please join us!



2nd International Conference on Best Practices in World Heritage: People and Communities

by the *Organizing Committee* (Castillo Mena, Alicia; Querol, M^a Ángeles; Baíllo Vadell, M^a Nieves; Marqués Palliser, Cristóbal; Cerdó Gual, Joana; Gornés Torchholder, Simon; Salto-Weis, Isabel; and Almansa Sánchez, Jaime). Contact e-mail: buenaspracticasspm@gmail.com

We are pleased to share with you the proceedings of the II International Conference on Best Practices in World Heritage: People and Communities, with over 1.200 pages of content in Spanish and English, including a document of Best Practices that you might find interesting: <http://eprints.ucm.es/34899/>

Castillo Mena, Alicia R. (ed.) (2015) *Personas y comunidades: Actas del Segundo Congreso Internacional de Buenas Prácticas en Patrimonio Mundial*: (29 -30 de abril, 1 y 2 de mayo de 2015). Other. Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Servicio de Publicaciones, Madrid.



Conference participants © Ana Pastor

Landscape Archaeology Conference 2016

Registration for the 4th International Landscape Archaeology Conference is now open. [LAC 2016](#) brings together multi-disciplinary perspectives on past and present landscapes by inviting



archaeologists, anthropologists, human and physical geographers, earth scientists, and other social or environmental researchers interested in landscapes and historical ecology. The conference will be hosted by the Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, Uppsala University, Sweden from 23-25 August, 2016. The deadline for paper and poster proposals is 1st April 2016.

There will also be opportunities for excursions to prehistoric sites in Sweden, sites associated with the iron industry in northern Uppland, and Viking sites on the island of Gotland.

Check the LAC webpage for a list of panels, sessions and themes, and to register and submit a proposal.

http://www.arkeologi.uu.se/LAC_2016/

Important dates:

- 1st April 2016: Deadline for paper and poster proposals
- 15th April 2016: Notification of paper acceptance
- 15th June 2016: Deadline for early registration
- 1st August 2016: Deadline for registration

For questions regarding exhibitions, venues, excursions and for general information, please contact Professor Paul Lane at paul.lane@arkeologi.uu.se



SOPA16: 4th International Congress for Heritage Education and Socialisation in Rural Areas

Zalamea De La Serena, Spain, 3-8 October 2016

by Juanjo Pulido (SOPA Congress, sopacongress@gmail.com)

Having held three editions in Spain and Argentina, this year **SOPA Congress** crosses again the Atlantic to land one more time in Spain, specifically in the town of **Zalamea de la Serena** (Badajoz province).



Fig. 1: Archaeological site of Cancho Roano, Zalamea de la Serena, Badajoz, Spain. © Instituto de Arqueología de Mérida (IAM-CSIC)

SOPA Congress aims to be a forum for both agents of the cultural sector and other areas that coordinate their actions with heritage (teachers, municipal employees and non-governmental institutions, citizens in general), a place of conversation, theoretical and methodological experimentation, where propose and explore joint action mechanisms. This will facilitate awareness about cultural heritage linked to rural areas and their different forms of management, emphasizing those that include citizen participation in their development. At the same time, developed projects around the world will be exhibited, leading to the knowledge of new ways of working in rural areas that could fit in any country.



Fig. 2: Participative workshop. SOPA15, Benito Juárez, Argentina. © Anajulia Bellocchio, SOPA Congress.

The congress will be in Spanish, although you can submit proposals in English or Portuguese. Formats accepted for presentations include oral, recorded or poster.

Sessions:

- Extremadura
- Seminar: Heritage of the Conflict
- Rural Readings and Narratives
- Theoretical
- Projects

Important dates:

- Submissions of proposals until June 1, 2016
- Acceptance of proposals between 1 and June 15, 2016
- Formal registration between June 1 and July 15, 2016
- Paper submissions to the Congress Acts-book between October 15 and November 15, 2016

For more information, visit the conference website:

<http://sopa16zalamea.blogspot.com.es/p/english.html>

You can contact us at: sopacongress@gmail.com,

or follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SOPACONGRESO>



21st Conference on Cultural Heritage and New Technologies: Urban Archaeology and Data

The call for papers, posters and Apps (new!) for the 21st international conference on [Cultural Heritage and New Technologies](#) has been posted. CHNT 2016 will be held in Vienna, Austria from 16-18 November 2016. Ever increasing technological sophistication, and related increases in the quantity and quality of digital data, bring the challenge of higher standards for data recording, analyses and storage. The 21st CHNT conference will examine ways of meeting these challenges, with case study presentations, posters, and applications.

Check the CHNT webpage for a list of sessions and round tables, guidelines, and to register and submit a proposal. <http://www.chnt.at/>

Important dates:

- 12th June 2016: Deadline for paper, poster, and app proposals
- 5th July 2016: Notification of acceptance
- 16th September 2016: Deadline for payment for speakers and presenters

For questions regarding exhibitions, forum, and for general information, please contact Wolfgang H. Börner at wolfgang.boerner@stadtarchaeologie.at

in partnership with:



Enclosing Worlds conference

Papers now being accepted for the [Enclosing Worlds conference](#), to be held in Reguengos de Monsaraz, Portugal from 12-14 October, 2016.

This conference focuses on the emergence and development of European prehistoric enclosures as a large-scale social practice of enclosing, expressed by architecture, landscapes and forms of territorial management. A comparative approach is emphasized, to contextualize the diversity of the European phenomena between the Neolithic and the Bronze Age with other prehistorical and historical processes of enclosure in different parts of the world, and to discuss the social implications and the social roles of enclosures and strategies of spatial organization. Case studies are invited from Western and Eastern Europe, North and South America, and Central and Southern Africa. Abstracts will be displayed progressively on the conference website as they are accepted.



The conference venue will be the Municipal Auditorium of Reguengos de Monsaraz, in the city of Reguengos de Monsaraz, located 30km from Évora, in Central Alentejo, South Portugal.

The conference is organized in partnership by the Archeological Research Unit (NIA) of ERA Arqueologia S.A., the Interdisciplinary Center for Archaeology and Evolution of Human Behavior (ICArEB - University of Algarve), the Global Archaeological Research Program of Perdigoes (INARP) and the Municipality of Reguengos de Monsaraz.

Check the Enclosing Worlds website for a list of panels, sessions and themes, and to register and submit a proposal. <http://enclosingworlds.blogspot.pt/>

Important dates:

- 31st May 2016: Deadline for paper and poster proposals
- 12th October 2016: Deadline for registration
- 12-14 October 2016: Conference

For questions regarding the conference, please contact António Carlos Valera at antoniovalera@era-arqueologia.pt

New short courses at the University of Sheffield

The Department of Archaeology, University of Sheffield is organising new short courses that will take place in September 2016.

The **Understanding Zooarchaeology I** short course will run for the eleventh time. Animal bones and teeth are among the most common remains found on archaeological sites, and this three-day course will provide participants with an understanding of the basic methods that zooarchaeologists use to understand animal bone evidence.



Fig. 1. Skulls of different mammal species (© Umberto Albarella)

This introductory course will be followed by a new course, **Human and animal remains: a comparative approach**, run for the first time this year. This course will focus on a comparison between human and other animal bones from archaeological context. By using both macroscopic and microscopic analyses, along with an insight into biomolecular investigations, the course will illustrate some basic tools used in distinguishing human remains from those of other animals. Different methodologies and research approaches that characterise the different disciplines of human osteoarchaeology, zooarchaeology and forensic science will be discussed.



Fig. 2. Mixed bone assemblage (© Ornella Prato)

Both **Understanding Zooarchaeology I** and **Human and animal remains: a comparative approach** courses are directed to students, professionals and enthusiasts and do not require any previous knowledge of the discipline. The teaching in both courses will be delivered through short lectures, hands-on practical activities and case studies.

Here some details:

Understanding Zooarchaeology I: 12th-14th September 2016

Human and animal remains: a comparative approach: 15th-16th September 2016

Cost:

£180/£120 (student/unwaged) each course

£220/£330 (student/unwaged) for both courses

For further information visit our website

(<http://www.shef.ac.uk/archaeology/research/zooarchaeology-lab/short-course>)

You can contact us at: zooarch-shortcourse@sheffield.ac.uk

Follow us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sheffield-Zooarchaeology-Short-Course/100619023380021?ref=hl>

2nd International Meeting of Young Researchers in Archaeology and Antiquity Sciences (EINIACA)

by the Organising Committee of EINIACA16 (Miguel Carrero Pazos, Rebeca Cordeiro Macenlle, Mikel Díaz Rodríguez, Alba Antía Rodríguez Nóvoa, Alia Vázquez Martínez, Benito Vilas Estévez)

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The Cultural Association of Archaeology and Sciences of Antiquity (ARCIAN) and the Organising Committee of EINIACA16 are pleased to announce the celebration of its second International Meeting of Young Researchers in Archaeology and Antiquity Sciences, to be held at Geography and History college of the University of Santiago de Compostela (Galicia, Spain), on 20, 21 and 22nd July 2016.

The activity will be divided into several sessions spanning from Prehistory to Late Antiquity. Each day, it will proceed to the presentation of communications and posters. All researchers who meet the following requirements are invited to participate in the congress:

- Students enrolled into MA studies related to the theme of the congress.
- Predoctoral students stage.
- Doctors who have not read their PhD prior to 2013.

Proposals of those researchers who have completed a Bachelor or Master Degree but are not enrolled in a doctoral program or do not belong to an academic institution.

Due to the limited available spots, all proposals will be subjected to a rigorous selection process conducted by our Scientific Committee, which is composed of experienced and highly respected researchers into the academic community.

People who wish to attend should send their proposal related to the following topics: Prehistory, Protohistory, Greek and Oriental World, Rome and Archaeology (from Prehistory to Late Antiquity). Two are the types of active enrolment: oral presentation (15 minutes) and poster presentation (5 minutes). These proposals can be written in Galician, Spanish or English; they must be original and unpublished. Active participants must fill out and submit the electronic form (deadline March 15th, 2016). The admission list will be published on June 10th 2016, and the final programme of the conference on July 1st 2016, both at www.arcian.org.

Everybody is also encouraged to participate as a listener (sitting in), regardless of their education background. However, in order to receive a certificate of attendance, the applicant must attend at least to the 80% of the activities. In any case it is necessary to formalize the electronic enrolment, with deadline on 15th July, 2016.

If you are interested in attending this event please, fill the electronic forms:

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Research projects

From bones, bronzes and sites to society: Multidisciplinary analysis of human mobility and social changes in Bronze Age Hungary (2500–1500 BC)

by Viktória Kiss, Institute of Archaeology, Research Centre for the Humanities, Hungarian Academy of Sciences (kiss.viktoria@btk.mta.hu)

Due to its geographical location and to climatic factors, the Carpathian Basin played a central role in prehistoric Europe for millennia. It was a borderland between important regions, and connected other areas of the continent via important geographic information corridors like the Danube. The Bronze Age – following the initial spread of farming in the Neolithic and the great innovations of the Copper Age – was of crucial significance in the shaping of the current cultural make-up of the region. Due to the exchange of the eponymous material, bronze, distant regions linked up with each other.

In a five-year-long (2015–2020) multidisciplinary research project, launched this year in the Institute of Archaeology, Research Centre for the Humanities of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and supported by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences Momentum research programme, “[From bones, bronzes and sites to society](#)” will study the first thousand years of the Bronze Age (2500–1500 BC). Previously, changes during this period, like the spread of knowledge about bronze metallurgy or the large-scale appearance of ceramic styles, vessel forms or burial types throughout Europe, were usually explained by the arrival of a new population, that is by smaller or greater migrations. This approach has changed recently: new social theories in international research have demonstrated the error of making a simple equation between finds and ethnic groups, or between archaeology and history of events. Due to the archaeological application of increasingly refined scientific methods – scientific dating, palaeopathology, genetics, isotope chemistry and geophysics – we have witnessed a fundamental paradigm change in prehistoric research (Kristiansen 2014; Fischl et al. 2015). However, migration is indeed an important social strategy, often used both individually and by communities to resolve internal conflict and better their situation. A basic question in archaeology is: “who (or what) moved: people, objects or ideas?” Our project sets out to leverage the increasing record of success in archaeogenetics and recent developments in archaeometallurgy to address these questions.

Cooperation of the institutes of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences (Research Centre for the Humanities, Centre for Energy Research, Wigner Research Centre for Physics, and Institute for Nuclear Research), complemented by wide-ranging collaboration of other institutions, enable the joint work of generations of archaeologists, physical anthropologists, and specialists of natural and life sciences. In the first year of the project we have begun the non-destructive analysis of Bell Beaker (2500–2200 BC) tanged daggers and a halberd using neutron-based methods (prompt-gamma activation analysis and time-of-flight neutron diffraction; for an earlier study with the same methods see Kiss et al. 2015), and a pilot study of Middle Bronze Age (2000–1500 BC) gold finds. We are also conducting a complex re-analysis of a Bronze Age burial assemblage from Balatonakali, near Lake Balaton in western Hungary, with radiocarbon dating and bioarchaeological study of the human remains, completed by the analysis of the metal finds (**Fig. 1**).



Fig. 1. Metal grave goods from the Bronze Age burial at Balatonakali (western Hungary). © Hámori 2015)

As part of the comparative settlement research, we will analyze the regional characteristics of settlement networks and their changes through time in four micro-regions, in the first year with field surveys in the Benta Valley and in the Kakucs region (see Earle et al. 2013-2014; Kulcsár et al. 2014).

The palaeopathological examination of the general health status and lifestyle of the period's population, including the traces of Bronze Age warfare and violence, as well as diseases, is also an important element of the project. Our aim is to compare the genetic profile of skeletons found in special pits ("mass graves", e.g. from Érd: **Fig. 2**) in settlements and in "traditional" burials within cemeteries in order to establish possible kinship ties and reconstruct their unique histories.

Our expected results will complement the results of similar studies in Europe that target other geographic areas (e.g., Allentoft et al. 2015; Stockhammer et al. 2015), and will contribute significantly to a better understanding of the development of the Bronze Age in Central Europe. Other regional projects are likewise complementary, for example, [BAKOTA](#), [BORBAS](#), and the [Social Status of Motherhood in Bronze Age Europe](#). Ultimately, we envision contributing to broader understandings of human mobility and cross-cultural interactions.

Research team

Archaeology: András Czene, Marietta Csányi, János Dani, Anna Endrődi, Szilvia Fábíán, Klára P. Fischl, Gábor Ilon, Viktória Kiss, Gabriella Kulcsár, Eszter Melis, Marcella Nagy, Judit Pásztókai-Szeőke, Róbert Patay, Annamária Priskin, Gábor Serlegi, Ágnes Somogyvári, Géza Szabó, Ildikó Szathmári, Vajk Szeverényi

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Fig. 2. Bronze Age “mass grave” pit burial from Érd, Site 4 (central Hungary. © Ottományi 2008)

Cooperating institutions

Institute of Archaeology, Research Centre for the Humanities of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences
Wigner Research Centre for Physics, Centre for Energy Research, and Institute for Nuclear Research
of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Department of Anthropology of the Hungarian Natural History Museum

Department of Biological Anthropology of the Eötvös Loránd University

Department of Biological Anthropology of the University of Szeged

University of Miskolc

Budapest Historical Museum

Hungarian National Museum

Gyula Forster National Centre for Cultural Heritage Management

Ferenczy Museum

Wosinsky Mór Museum

Damjanich János Museum

Katona József Museum

Déri Museum

Móra Ferenc Museum

Savaria Museum

Quinnipiac University (Hamden, CT, USA)

Freie Universität Berlin

To learn more about participating scientists and institutions, see the project home page:

<http://ri.btk.mta.hu/en/english-submenu-06>

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Archaeology of the Hispanic churches of the 10th century: the circulation of architectural and decorative models

by María de los Ángeles Utrero Agudo, *Institute of History – IH, Spanish National Research Council – CSIC, Spain*, (mariaangeles.utrero@cchs.csic.es)

This research project (*Reference HAR2012-35222*) was granted in 2012 by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (MINECO), developed between 2013 and 2015 and led by the author of this report. During this period, our main goal has been to study the circulation of architectural and decorative models, its introduction, maintenance, alteration or imitation in the architecture of the Iberian Peninsula attributed to the late 9th and early 10th centuries, this one commonly known as “Mozarabic” within traditional research (Gómez-Moreno 1919, updated in Sastre and Utrero 2015). According to our understanding, transmission of architectural and decorative models depends on the architectural knowledge, both theory and practice (technology), on one side, and on those media of transmission (patrons, artisans and documents) which make it possible, on the other. It is for this reason that study of both aspects (knowledge and media) was proposed, in order to approach the circulation of models.

The analysis of the acquisition, loss or survival of architectural knowledge has been based on archaeological analysis, but also on the decorative, documental, geological and structural studies of three ecclesiastical constructions, the monastic basilicas of San Miguel de Escalada (Leon; Fig. 1) and San Cebrián de Mazote (Valladolid), in the Northern Iberian plateau, and the half rock-cut church of Las Mesas de Villaverde (Malaga; Fig. 2), in the southern area. These are similar and, a priori, coetaneous (late 9th-early 10th centuries), and thus selected as a coherent “analytical laboratory”. The latter example, Las Mesas de Villaverde, has been mainly identified with the settlement of Bobastro mentioned in the written records and thought to have been funded by ‘Umar Ibn Ḥaḥṣūn at the end of the 9th century (Acién 1994).



Fig. 1. San Miguel de Escalada, southwestern view (© M.^a Á. Utrero)

The analysis of the media of transmission of the models (patrons, artisans and documents, after Grabar 1975) is based both on the results obtained from the previously mentioned analyses and on the study of the related written documents (textual and epigraphic sources, both Arabic and Latin), which contain references about them. This documental repertoire is highly rich in these three churches, compared to other coetaneous examples, which justifies its selection to be objects of study.



Fig. 2. Basilica of Las Mesas de Villaverde, northwestern view (© M.^a Á. Utrero)

Archaeological, decorative, documental, geological and structural analyses have been carried out by different specialists (archaeologists, historians, art historians, geologists and architects), who compose a multidisciplinary and international scientific team (see below). The archaeology, however, has been the main disciplinary frame of this project, by applying the methodology of the so called Archaeology of Architecture to the above mentioned standing constructions (Caballero and Escribano 1996). Based on a previous detailed photogrammetric survey of each building, undertaken by the company Urbe pro Orbe in Las Mesas de Villaverde and in Mazote (this one funded by the regional government of Castilla y León, JCyL), this method has revealed the stratigraphic sequences of these churches. The typological approach of the fabrics, of the architectural elements and of the sculpture used and reused in the current structures, but also housed in several museums and collections (such as the Archaeological Museums of Leon, Palencia and Valladolid, among others), together with the stratigraphic study and the structural examination of the structures (specifically in Escalada), provides a new understanding of the building projects and processes, apart from the discussion of chronological data. Technology, defined as the practical knowledge encompassing artefacts, materials and techniques used by artisans (Mannoni 2007), have been thus materially traced. Besides this, the petrological characterization of building and decorative materials, and the geological fieldwork undertaken to identify possible quarries exploited to obtain them, help to improve our understanding of the building plans. Moreover, this opens new venues of research for an unexplored topic, namely the early medieval Hispanic quarries. Furthermore, the revision of Arabic and Latin documentary accounts recording, for instance, donations for the building of (monastic) churches, migrations of artisans and commissions coming from different patrons (abbots, kings,...), on one hand, and the contextualization of this architecture, on the other, have helped to convert the stratigraphic sequences into historical narratives, and the constructions into material culture, going beyond the boundaries of its traditional conception as mere monuments.

All in all, identifying and understanding models have made it possible to consider traditional methodologies and hypothesis. Firstly, preliminary results allow revising and questioning the traditional comparative method which tends to establish formal relationships, both shown as influences and parallels, between the mentioned constructions and others, like those belonging to Umayyad culture, namely that one from al-Andalus. This method had not hitherto explored the media of transmission, which we have taken as essential in order to know and understand those relationships (Utrero 2015). In others words, making visible the commissioners and the artisans and their roles within the demand and production of construction are a key to better understand early medieval architectural culture, both western and eastern. Secondly, this project has made it possible to approach the ways that social and economic context determines the circulation of models, by understanding

demand and patronage through the technological, constructive and productive characterization of these buildings. These outputs will hopefully enable the long-term renewal of the conceptualization and interpretation of ecclesiastical architecture dated to the Early Medieval period in Western Europe.

Research team

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Further information & publications in <http://csic.academia.edu/MariadelosÁngelesUtreroAgudo>

Conference and Workshop Reports

“Building (Ancient) Lives”: new perspectives on the past for a sustainable future

by Tanja Romankiewicz, *Leverhulme Early Career Fellow in Archaeology, University of Edinburgh, UK* (T.Romankiewicz@ed.ac.uk)

Studying the past to inform the future is highly relevant, given the need to reduce modern reliance on non-renewable resources and cut carbon output. The research project “Building (Ancient) Lives”, funded since May 2015 by The Leverhulme Trust as an Early Career Fellowship in Archaeology at the University of Edinburgh (UK) wishes to address this for the built environment. The project sets out to advance understanding of ancient constructions and materials by a new, architecturally-led analysis of early architectures across different European landscapes. The study will not only investigate how people built in the past, but also produce results relevant to current issues of sustainable building. In collaboration with architects and engineers the outcomes aim to inspire modern sustainable construction and architectural design, and inform the development of low-carbon materials. The project is particularly interested in houses, the homes of the past, present and future. Working with artists and communities will explore a less technical, more emotionally involved dialogue with past and future architectures in the context of designing homes responding to the needs of community resilience.

The explicitly architectural and ecological aspects of this project will include and reach beyond conventional archaeological studies. The aim is not to find direct parallels between prehistoric and modern architecture, but to explore constants in material and constructional performance and resourcing as a first step to inspire a sustainably built future. In return, the dialogue with architects, engineers and artists will enhance reconstructions of the prehistoric built environment.

Research questions

Archaeological research into northern European or British prehistoric buildings focuses on social or cultural interpretations. Analyses of plan and form conclude how spatial organisation and house design reflect traditions and identity (Bradley 2013; Sharples 2010). Studies that consider construction method and materials are rarer (but see Pope *forthcoming*; Romankiewicz 2009, 2011, 2016), perhaps because this also concerns environmental conditions and agricultural strategies (Pope 2015), and require broader, interdisciplinary approaches. Key concerns in this context are sustainability, mobility and resilience:

- How sustainable was prehistoric building, i.e. which building materials were used and how does their sourcing relate to prehistoric economies and landscape management strategies?
- How mobile were prehistoric societies and was mobility actively practised or passively accepted as an unavoidable consequence? Did this render communities resilient to change or resilient to negative impacts because of their ability to change and adapt?
- In what way can resourcing, building and performance of prehistoric buildings inform modern development of low-carbon materials and structural systems?

These three questions have become central to the “Building (Ancient) Lives” project. Case studies concentrate on prehistoric houses predating the first large-scale global networks and mass goods exchange of the Roman period. Scotland presents an excellent example as its wet and windy climate challenges constructions of locally-sourced materials. To explore the research questions in a wider geographical, chronological and interdisciplinary context a series of events were organised asking how archaeology and architecture can address these aims.

Workshop: “Sustainable Past – Sustainable Future?”

The first phase of events in 2014 comprised an international workshop and an international public colloquium, both in Edinburgh (UK), sponsored by the University of Edinburgh Challenge Investment Fund. This grant was jointly held by the author and Professor James Crow (University of Edinburgh, UK).

The workshop on 25-26 March 2014 juxtaposed research into sustainable modern architecture with archaeological research into settlement patterns, agricultural strategies and house analysis. New approaches in pedology, micromorphology, palynology and experimental work were introduced. Following an outline of the Building (Ancient) Lives objectives building on existing research by Dr Tanja Romankiewicz, architects Lisa Moffit and Prof Remo Pedreschi (all University of Edinburgh, UK) reflected on resourceful architectures from ethnographic and modern contexts. Their case studies illustrated the use of living materials in a periodic renewal of architectural fabric and opened analogies for past architectures. The potential of environmental archaeology in researching household mobility in the context of landscape management were addressed by Patrycja Kupiec (then University of Aberdeen, UK), Dr Markus Dotterweich (then University of Cologne, D) and Dr Richard Tipping (University of Stirling, UK). Kupiec’s micromorphology work into seasonally used shielings from Viking to early modern times demonstrated the valuable information to be gained from micro-evidence. Her research subsequently won the EAA student award at Glasgow [[http://e-a-a.org/prizes awards](http://e-a-a.org/prizes_awards)]. Dotterweich reconstructed upland farming by its erosive impact and resulting hillwash. Tipping stressed the inherent problems of palynological analyses in detecting farming practices when relying on individual cores that only return localised signals. Such issues were reflected in a summary of the status quo of upland settlement in Scotland by Stratford Halliday (University of Edinburgh, UK). Daniël Postma (University of Groningen, NL) presented the challenges and conclusions from his built reconstructions of an early medieval farmhouse in Friesland. Traditional reconstruction proposals failed to address the particular issues raised by the marshy environment. Postma’s inspiration from Scottish vernacular buildings may provide an answer, demonstrating the value of ethnographic analogies within similar environments.

Discussion concluded that scientific analyses of proxy data from phytoliths, macroplants, but also archaeozoological analyses seem most profitable for approaching seasonality, mobility and resource management. Aspects of the discussion led by Roger Curtis of Historic Environment Scotland (UK) placed emphasis on understanding prehistoric house design for building resilient, sustainable communities. Such architectural analysis approaches not only economic but also social issues. This was reflected in the presentations by architects Jenny Humphreys of Simpson & Brown (Edinburgh, UK), and Tom Morton of Arc Architects (Cupar, UK). Both presented modern sustainable building projects guided by the difficulties of sourcing natural materials locally, and the conceptual ideas behind such designs, in particular the emotional “investments” of clients in building their sustainable dream home. Dr Daniel Maskell (University of Bath, UK) presented solutions to some of these aspects from his research into low carbon building materials, and the piloting of innovative housing schemes by the BRE Centre for Innovative Construction Materials.

The final discussion resulted in a very productive, open dialogue between the 20 participants, consisting of archaeologists, architects, and environmental scientists, but also local authority archaeologists, policy advisers, and commercial practitioners. The debate assessed the methodologies in order to frame their limits realistically in researching prehistoric resource management and construction, use and abandonment to dwelling places. More interdisciplinary work is needed and the Building (Ancient) Lives project was recommended to extend its scope to include technological but also artistic-creative approaches. A field trip the following day assessed sites around Edinburgh for their potential of environmental research (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1: Workshop participants on the field trip near Edinburgh, 27 March 2014. © Markus Dotterweich

Colloquium: “Building (Ancient) Lives: Sustain-able then and now?”

The workshop themes were followed-up in a colloquium on 6 November 2014 with a wider audience of more than 60 attendees comprising architects, engineers and archaeologists from academic, commercial, government and heritage management sector, but also students and interested members of the public. The first project outcomes were presented by Romankiewicz and the research focus of the Leverhulme project outlined. Questions relating to mobility and resource management were addressed in the morning by Dr Daniela Hofmann (University of Hamburg, D) presenting on continental Linear Band Keramik houses in comparison with later Neolithic lake dwellings. Her talk illustrated how a detailed study of architecture and settlement structure in combination with finds and environmental analyses can inform about the formation of communities and their resource exploitation of different habitats. Dr Stijn Arnoldussen (University of Groningen, NL) posed the statement “I am not leaving this mud” in the context of Bronze Age settlement in the Dutch river area. He concluded that mobility was counterproductive to nutrient investment strategies. Even in adverse environmental conditions, communities developed resilience to maintain their resource investments. This resonated with the findings from the Building (Ancient) Lives project regarding Middle Bronze Age evidence from northeast Scotland.

A different picture emerged for stone architectures in upland or marginal areas. Keynote speakers Prof Ian Armit (University of Bradford, UK) and Dr Sabine Reinhold (German Archaeological Institute, D) painted a scene of close-knit, conservative communities in Atlantic Scotland and the Caucasus respectively (Figs 2 and 3). Relying on pastoral economies in the worsening Caucasian environment of the Late Bronze Age seems to have challenged the highly-structured, closely-bonded settlements. Reinhold’s work suggested that despite manuring strategies and architectural compounds which suggest a level of social cohesion this lifestyle became eventually unsustainable. Armit introduced the Scottish broch as seemingly opposed to sustainable resource management. Traditional reconstructions depict these tall circular drystone towers with upper floors to consume large amounts of timbers in treeless landscapes. He interpreted their external, windowless elevation as reflecting indifference if not hostility against challenging environmental conditions on the exposed coastlines of Atlantic Scotland.

These talks were complemented by presentations on the potential of fuel analysis via micromorphological analysis by Dr Lisa-Marie Shillito (then University of Edinburgh, UK) and the potential of radiocarbon dating. Dr Tony Krus (Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre, UK) introduced the collaboration with the “Building (Ancient) Lives” project, applying Bayesian statistics and new radiocarbon dates from existing excavation archives to the Scottish timber roundhouse evidence. To broaden the prehistoric perspective Dr Peter Hill (UK) presented the scale of Roman building projects and material resourcing in the context of Hadrian’s Wall. An example of how the study of the past can help to shape modern lives by raising awareness of different landscape use was introduced by Dr Sam Harrison (An Àirigh/The Shielling Project, UK). This education and outreach initiative builds on Harrison’s engagement with teachers and school children to teach about the once widespread tradition of transhumance in the Scottish Highlands.

The colloquium discussion had a stronger archaeological focus, but the examples of unsustainable resource management in particular triggered critical reflection on modern building practice, town planning and the necessities to address such aspects in a holistic approach similar to the methods of studying prehistoric architectures.



Fig. 2: Keynote speaker Prof Ian Armit at the Edinburgh colloquium, 6 November 2014. © Roderick McCullagh

Guest lecturers in Edinburgh: Architectural innovations in ancient and traditional communities

With the start of the Leverhulme funding, project research concentrated on archaeological aspects. A guest lecture by Prof Richard Bradley (University of Reading, UK), on 23 April 2015, highlighted his recent findings on architectural design in the Early Bronze Age. Using the northeast Scottish Recumbent Stone Circles as examples, he demonstrated the design complexities planned already from the outset which guided several separate phases of construction. A lecture and Masterclass by Prof Pete Walker (University of Bath, UK) on 9 November 2015 raised similar aspects in ethnographic examples. Both sounded a warning not to underestimate the insight of ancient and traditional builders into structural design.



Fig. 3: Keynote speaker Dr Sabine Reinhold (left) at the Edinburgh colloquium, 6 November 2014, introduced by Dr Tanja Romankiewicz (right). © Roderick McCullagh

EAA Session, Glasgow (UK) 2015: “Moving the house posts”

A session at last year’s EAA in Glasgow (UK), jointly organised by Romankiewicz, Hofmann and Dr Roz Gillis (Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, F) returned the focus to mobility in dwelling, farming and resource management. Architectural examples from different chronological and geographical contexts provided the starting points for investigations. The aim was to define (im)permanence in settlement systems more precisely – on wet or dry land – and investigate the full range of mobility practices regarding people, animals and plants and their relations. The different session contributions traced changes over time and highlighted that to identify the causes of such changes requires interdisciplinary collaboration with archaeozoological, pedological, palynological, macroplant and stable isotopic methods, and integration of house studies within wider landscape management analyses.

Dr Luc Armkrechtz from the Rijksmuseum van Oudheden, Leiden, NL, presented his research on Neolithic wetland sites. In comparison to Hofmann’s introduction on Linear Band Keramik houses this questioned how transferable wetland evidence is to dryland sites, or whether communities adjusted to different environments with different responses. Dr Niels Møller’s (Sydvestjyskemuseer, Ribe, DK) excavations demonstrated the sensitivity required to detect seasonally occupied structures and their associated infrastructures. These can be very ephemeral in the field, which also highlighted the necessity of investigating large areas. Gillis introduced archaeozoological methods of identifying seasonality, and explored the potential of isotope analysis. She also stressed the benefit of assembling modern data for comparison and assessing ethnographic evidence, in particular for parts of Scotland where bone survival on archaeological sites can be limited.

Scottish case studies explored how various economic strategies related to investments in architectures that were not necessarily permanent. Examples from Middle Bronze Age (Romankiewicz) and Norse contexts (Prof Niall Sharples, University of Cardiff, UK) demonstrated the existence of less permanent architectures, where dwelling was “tethered” to a place rather than a building. The relationship between instable architectures and the social consequences of impermanence in place-making were explored by Dr Lars Erik Gjerpe (Kulturhistorisk Museum, N) on the example of the later prehistoric Norwegian three-aisled house. Similar aspects of “wandering settlements” and the growing influence of regional power structures were discussed by Dr Rainer Schreg (Römisch-

Germanisches Zentralmuseum, Mainz, D) using evidence from early medieval Germany. A poster by Irina Khrustaleva (The State Hermitage museum, Saint-Petersburg, RUS) complemented the topic by look at the transition from Mesolithic to Neolithic dwelling and architectural practices in Siberia.

The final discussion identified many common themes and interrelated conclusions that allow attempts to understand issues of subsistence, surplus and sustainability beyond focusing on individual sites. It is planned to publish the session, not as a proceedings monograph, but in an academic paper. Each contribution will summarise its relevance to the session topic and be bracketed by a synergetic introduction and conclusion. The paper will combine the evidence from the various case studies and reflect on the recurrent theme of place-making without permanent architectures.

Project outlook

The “Building (Ancient) Lives” project has just begun to explore the complexities of prehistoric architectures in the context of design, resource management and resilience strategies, and to investigate different concepts of architecture. However, the results to be gained from interdisciplinary approaches were already intimated in the events presented above. Making archaeological research relevant for today and tomorrow by working on past and present built environments relies on an innovative dialogue between archaeological research and architectural application. It is hoped to continue this dialogue in further events until the project’s completion in April 2018.

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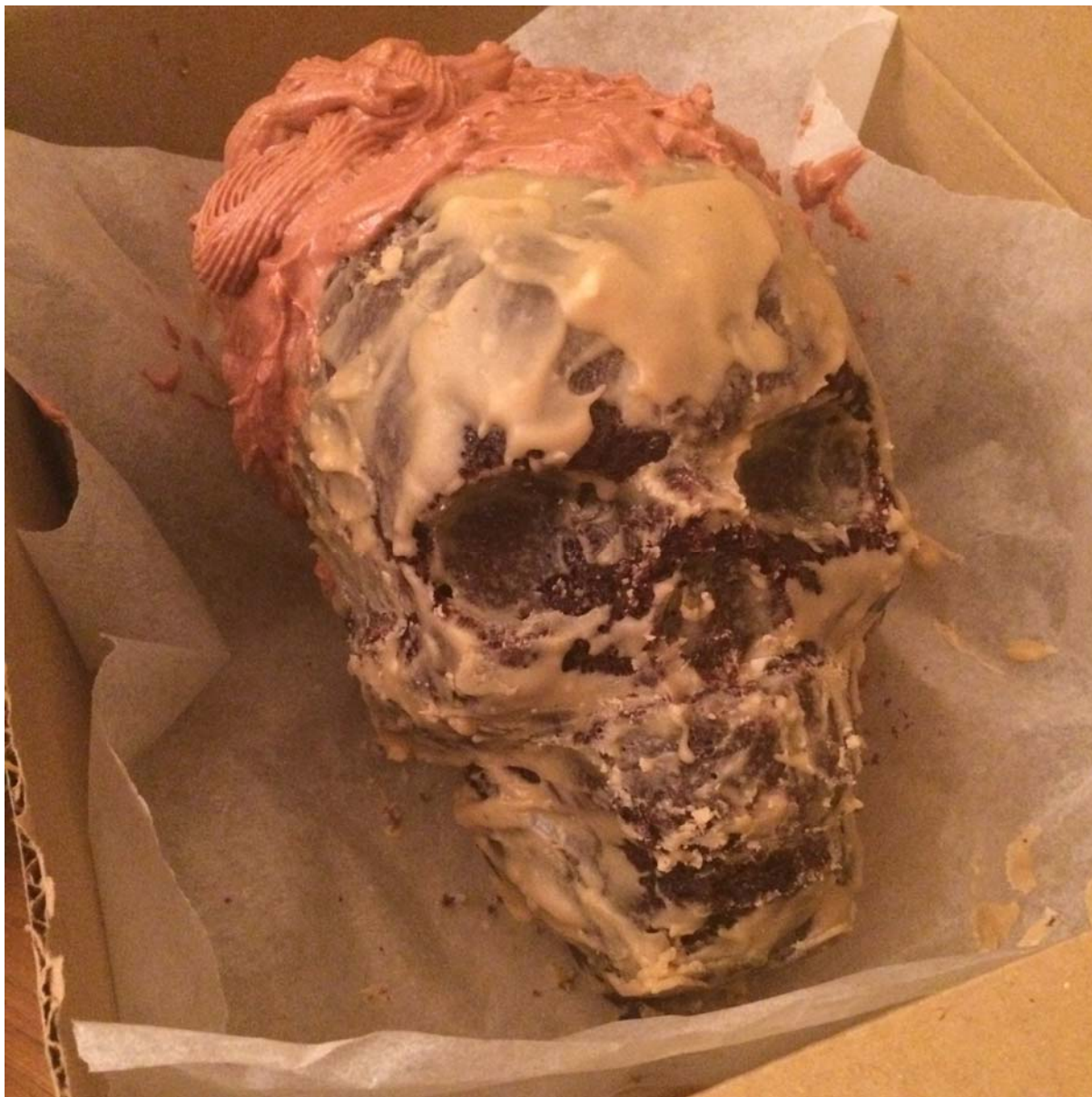
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ArchaeoCakes



Bog Body cake baked by Sam Garwood, PhD Candidate at the University of Sheffield, for Tracy O'Donnell, who studied the Osterby Man for her Masters. Apparently, skull-shaped cake tins are available online... google it! Thank you, Sam, for sending it in.

We are looking for submissions of ArchaeoCakes! Please e-mail us at tea@e-a-a.org.