

# Post Medieval Archaeology Congress 2025

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Museu Nacional Arqueologia | Museu de Marinha

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

Chocolate in Europe: A View from Poland and Estonia  
Katie Sampeck | Joanna Dąbal | Monika Reppo

When did chocolate come to Europe? Who consumed it, and how? Scholars have investigated these questions largely focusing on western Europe and the United Kingdom. This study focuses instead on north-central Europe, specifically Poland and Estonia, to investigate chocolate consumption trends from the late 17th to early 20th centuries. Documentary evidence includes founding chocolate-related businesses, purchases, and reports of consuming chocolate. The timing of chocolate, tea, and coffee consumption in Poland and Estonia is the inverse of places such as England and Spain, where chocolate was first, paving the way for coffee, then tea. We will discuss chocolate material culture, particularly the vessels for serving and drinking, which will call attention to the importance of glass, ceramic, and metal serving wares.

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The Material Culture of University Students in sixteenth-century Europe  
Annemarieke Willemsen

Around 1600, there were over 100 universities in Europe, including Coimbra and Évora in Portugal. They housed an international student body, who came for famous professors or innovative teaching, but were also attracted by student life as such. They stayed in colleges or pensions, needed clothes, food, stationary and above all text books. They also drank, sang, gambled, and got into fights. Their presence shaped towns into university cities, often still recognizable.

The early-modern university is well documented, but not bottom-up. My forthcoming book *Back in College* concentrates on the daily life of university students between 1200 and 1600, crossing the traditional border between medieval and post-medieval. It takes a multidisciplinary view, in which archaeological finds are combined with works of art, literature and a soundscape. This paper will focus on excavations of sixteenth-century colleges and student houses across Europe and the objects that are characteristic for student life.

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The dark component of the *embrechados* of the Convento de Santa Cruz do Bussaco, Portugal  
Tim Young | Sofia Pereira

*Embrechados* (rustic mosaics) are a distinctive decorative element of the 17<sup>th</sup> century structures (the main building, shrines, hermitages, springs and gateways) of the 'deserto' of the Convento de Santa Cruz do Bussaco of the Discalced Carmelites. After the suppression of the male orders in 1834, the *embrechados* continued to be restored and new ones created on structures associated with Palace Hotel (c1887-1908) and elsewhere. The Bussaco National Forest thus contains *embrechados* constructed over almost three centuries. The identification of the dark element within the *embrechados* has long been problematic. This study demonstrates that the 17<sup>th</sup> century examples employed bloomery tapslags for this purpose. Chemical profiling of these slags suggests derivation from local smelting sites, probably mostly of Roman age. 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century repairs and new examples show some limited continued use of bloomery tapslag, probably recycled from earlier panels, but the dominant use of clinker from contemporary blacksmithing waste.

Fragile and fancy. Ice glass as a phenomenon of Venetian glassmaking in Europe in the 16th-17th centuries.

Magdalena Bis

Ice glass is distinguished by its specific surface. It is a cracked and uneven texture, reminiscent of frozen ice. This unusual feature is complemented by other decorations. As a result, glass vessels have become striking and valuable objects for use and display. Ice glass originated as the masterwork of Venetian glassblowers in the 16th century. In the 17th century, it was imitated by glassworks operating in various countries north of the Alps. It is part of the phenomenon of the evolution and expansion of Venetian glassmaking in Europe at the time.

Today, relatively few specimens of ice glass are preserved in museum collections. They are also rare archaeological finds. Based on these objects, the production of glass and its stylistic diversity will be discussed. The distribution of glassware and its frequency in archaeological material also will be analysed.

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The incongruous evidence for falconry in Post-Medieval England & Wales on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database

Ian Richardson

Vervels (hawking rings, usually in silver) are probably the most recognisable and well-studied falconry-specific artefacts found by members of the public and recorded by the PAS. The majority of these are dated by their inscriptions or other features to the Post-Medieval period, with some outliers ascribed a Medieval date. This coincides with the common view that the early Post-Medieval period was the high-point of falconry as a popular pursuit, its precipitous decline by the late 17<sup>th</sup>-century aligns with the fact that virtually no vervels are recorded from a later period. There are, however, other artefact types where certain examples are suggested as being possibly (even probably) falconry-related, including swivel strap-fittings, whistles, and bells, and which are often dated either earlier, or later than the Post-Medieval period. This paper represents a first attempt at understanding whether this seeming discrepancy in the artefactual record is genuine, the reasons behind it, and whether it can in fact advance the understanding of falconry in the Post-Medieval period.

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Medieval and post-medieval ceramics from the excavations of Piazza Duomo in Oristano: an archaeological investigation in the Arborense capital

Eleonora Fadda | Emanuele Mura

The study of archaeological materials from the excavation of Piazza Duomo in Oristano, conducted between April and July 1987 by the Soprintendenza Archeologia, Belle Arti e Paesaggio, under the scientific direction of archaeologist Salvatore Sebis, has returned evidence of a long continuity of settlement. The investigations carried out in the area where the Cathedral dedicated to St. Mary of the Assumption stands have made it possible to document the life of *Aristanis* from the Vandal and Byzantine periods to the medieval and modern ages in its Judicial and Aragonese phases. The article presents medieval and postmedieval ceramic productions with special attention to local classes and their relations with imported material. The *Ruga Mercatorum*, the street where merchants met to exchange goods and ideas, was an important commercial hub for Oristano, and its location along the Piazza Duomo made it a strategic point for cultural and economic interactions.

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Insights into European literacy provided by 17th-century lead-alloy toy hornbooks

Michael Lewis

'Hornbooks', usually made of organic materials (wood, bone, vellum etc), were used from the Middle Ages as primers for study – helping children learn the alphabet or some other facet of their education. Found through metal-detecting in England and recorded through the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) - a project to record archaeological finds made by the public - are small metal versions, usually made of lead and usually date to the 17th century. These, like hornbooks 'proper', usually have the alphabet on them but have some peculiar characteristics that suggest their use is not quite the same. This paper will explore the miniature hornbooks recorded with the PAS in a European context to understand exactly what they are and how they were used, and also provide insights into European literacy.

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Missing legs – the ritual relevance of miniature bronze cauldrons

Vincent T. van Vilsteren

The Portable Antiquities Scheme records no fewer than 90 miniature bronze cauldrons. They are consistently referred to as 'toys'. Excluding the legs, the majority are no higher than two to three centimetres. They are very robust, but nevertheless one, two or even all three legs are in many cases missing. Interestingly, in 13 examples the 'toy' consists of multiple cauldrons, which are connected vertically via the belly. Such bronze 'toys', and certainly the multiple examples, are only known from England.

The distribution of the 'toys' shows a remarkable pattern. Together with the absence of many legs, this gives reason not to interpret them as 'toys'. Research on the continent has made much clear about the secondary use of bronze cauldrons. There is every reason to regard the English miniature cauldrons as items of ritual depositions rather than discarded 'toys'.

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Clay toys in early modern Turku (Finland)

Maija Helamaa

This paper presents a collection of small clay animals, human figurines and bird-shaped whistles and studies their manufacture, use and meaning in an early modern town. These objects, recovered from a recent large-scale excavation, are interpreted as toys. Their distribution in the neighbourhood is studied and the results are combined with the detailed data from the census lists of the study area.

This study shows a significant growth of the locally produced small clay animals and figurines during the late 18th and early 19th Century and explores the reasons for their appearance among different households. The paper is part of an ongoing PhD study on the importance and the users of pottery in an early modern urban society of the Nordics.

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The 16th-century tableware from the context of the former San Luca Hospital in Lucca (Italy)

Camilla Cortina

In 2006, research has been conducted on structures related to the former San Luca Hospital in Lucca. The Hospital was founded by the Court of Merchants in 1262 and was expanded several times throughout the 15th century and beyond. Excavations in two basement rooms, which according to written sources were intended to house the male care ward, uncovered a substantial quantity of ceramic fragments dating to the 16th century. The analysis of fragments in primary deposition revealed a varied set of tableware. Among the local productions, ingobbiate and graffita ceramics are particularly well documented. Additionally, ceramics imported from other Tuscan production centers emerged. The analysis of the tableware also highlighted a great variety of morphological forms and decorations, including geometric, vegetal, floral, zoomorphic, and heraldic

motifs. This diversity provides valuable insights into the social status, patronage, and aesthetic tastes of those who used these objects, offering a broader understanding of the cultural and social dynamics associated with the use of ceramics in 16th-century Lucca.

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European faience, from the 16th-17th centuries, in the former Santana Convent in Lisbon – Power, prestige and refinement

Rosa Varela Gomes | Mário Varela Gomes | Mariana Almeida | Joana Gonçalves

Archaeological excavations carried out in the place where, until the end of the 19th century, the Convent of Santana de Lisboa stood, led to the identification not only of several architectural remains of that religious house built in the mid-16th century, with royal patronage, but also of a huge artefactual collection, resulting from its long occupation.

Among that collection is an important set of imported European ceramics, from Spain, Italy, the Netherlands and Germany, used at the table or as pieces of apparatus, that document the economic power, social prestige and refined taste of the female community installed there. These also echo the commercial and cultural relations between Portugal and several Western European countries.

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Exploring uncommon things: Chinese porcelain from two religious houses (Santana Convent and Santa Clara-a-Velha Monastery, Portugal)

Shanshan Li | Mário Varela Gomes | Rosa Varela Gomes | Huan Xiong

This study explores the uncommon presence of Chinese porcelain unearthed from two significant religious houses in Portugal—the Santana Convent (Lisbon) and the Santa Clara-a-Velha Monastery (Coimbra). Traditional archaeology has often focused on the chronology of Chinese porcelain discoveries, while overlooking the deeper meanings and symbolic significance within these objects. By integrating archaeological methods with art historical approaches, such as iconographic analysis, this study has uncovered some unusual pieces, including five-clawed dragon motifs and yellow glazed associated with imperial kilns, a bowl with pornographic themes, a bowl depicting Buddhist monk, and Kinrande porcelain. Grounded in an analysis of the religious and socio-historical contexts, we investigate the role and significance of these unique Chinese ceramics in the daily life of the religious houses, reflecting both the material culture and spiritual enjoyment. The research highlights the importance of Chinese porcelain as symbols of exoticism, luxury and status within the global trade networks of the 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries, while also expanding our understanding of the cultural and economic exchanges between Asia and Europe during the post-medieval period.

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From barrow to brickworks: investigating a post-medieval brick-making site using aerial survey methods

Katy Whitaker | Rebecca Pullen

This paper describes Historic England's new aerial survey of a complex, multi-period archaeological landscape in Dorset (UK), casting new light on a post-medieval brickmaking site. Despite covering only 4km<sup>2</sup>, the project is engaging with 5,000 years of life in Dorset's renowned Valley of Stones. Known and protected for its extremely well-preserved later prehistoric field systems, the Valley also has extensive evidence for medieval and post-medieval agriculture and extraction of various earth materials. Given this range of features, perhaps it is no surprise that Victorian Ordnance Survey staff labelled a mound above the Valley side as yet another tumulus. Despite standing next to water-filled pits and unusual linear earthworks, it wasn't until the 1980s that this

identification was challenged. We outline what can be achieved using aerial investigation and mapping methodology in an integrated landscape survey project to investigate a post-medieval earthwork site – and what still remains to be learnt.

‘A lot of questions and (almost) no answers’. Finds from a late 16th-century wreck site near Tallinn, Estonia  
Erki Russow

In 2015, a late 16th-century sailing ship was found near Tallinn, close to Naissaar Island. The heavily broken wreck is likely a small merchant vessel that sailed between Sweden and its eastern provinces, e.g. present-day Estonia and Latvia. While the wreck is also interesting from the point of view of the ship-building technology, in this presentation I will focus on some strange artefacts found on board. Namely, next to the usual everyday pottery available all around the Baltic, some finds deserve extra attention - globular vessels with five bungholes, one on top, others on the side. These items have thus far no parallels neither in the contemporary and archaeological literature nor as material evidence elsewhere. Based on contextual information, some interpretations can be made, but during the last ten years, we have not succeeded in confirming whether we have found the right answer or not.

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Navigating Traditions: Documenting a Decontextualised Balinese *Jukung* in a World of Boats  
Sarah Ward

This paper presents the archaeological documentation of a rare decontextualised 3mber *jukung pelasan*, a traditional double-outrigger canoe, originating from the Indonesian island of Bali and preserved as part of Scotland's now-disbursed World of Boats collection. The first documented recording of a *jukung pelasan* from what's now the *Nusa Dua* region of Bali, the research aims to fill gaps in the archaeological documentation of this particular type *jukung*, employing a methodology based on detailed measured drawings complemented by ethnographic fieldwork in Bali. This approach facilitated a comprehensive recording of the canoe's construction, cultural symbolism, and functional elements. Findings reveal the impact of musealisation on such artefacts, where the loss of context can obscure cultural narratives. The study underscores the *jukung's* relevance to maritime heritage, illustrating the need for ethical practices in heritage conservation to preserve traditional watercraft's integrity and interpretive potential.

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Aspects of a Sailortown – Maritime Enterprises Connecting Sea and Land.  
Caj Carlstein | Andrine Nilsen | Erik Sanzén | Daniel Söderberg

This paper examines results from the ongoing archaeological investigation of the pier harbour and the residential quarters in the district Masthugget in Gothenburg, Sweden. The excavations by Rio Göteborg have revealed how the area developed from the 1620s-1880s. A multitude of historical maps uncover a sailortown with maritime workshops and piers but also of town houses with lavish gardens next door to residential multi-unit structures in the expanding district. The land tax exposes a stratified community where commoners mixed with the novorich merchant class. We will moreover show how receipts, from visiting ships archives, can provide a groundbreaking way of finding clearcut links between the small- or big-time entrepreneurs on shore and the sailors at sea - while archaeological remains of various enterprises give further insight into services provided for local and global shipping

needs.

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Leave not a stone behind! Re-use and Logistics in the Construction of an Early Modern Fortress Town

Claes Pettersson

In the aftermath of the Kalmar War (1611-1613) it was obvious that the vulnerable north-eastern border of the Danish realm had to be strengthened. The solution was to give up two medieval cities in favour of a new fortified town, surrounded by vast wetlands.

The building process needed the mobilization of a whole region to provide the labour and logistics. The oral traditions about the birth of Christianstad describes how building materials were transported from the deserted towns. Now these stories have been proven correct by recent archaeological excavations. In Åhus, the Blackfriars site illustrates the process of demolition and reuse, while bricks and exclusive tile ovens from the friary have been identified in the new town. With examples such as these it has been possible to trace the complicated process of this forced relocation. The magnitude and haste involved meant that anything that could be re-used had to be.

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Using a game engine for mediation and spatial analysis — reconstructing the defenses of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century fortress Gothenburg.

Mikael Lindahl | Niklas Ekholm | Teobaldo Ramirez | Carina Bramstång Plura | Andreas Skredsvik

Bridging the gap between digital method development, analysis of features, and mediation, our project is focused on the reconstruction of the Swedish fortress and city of Gothenburg in a 3D-game engine. The reconstruction is based on the large-scale excavations of Gothenburg's 17<sup>th</sup> century defenses, as well as a 14-17<sup>th</sup> century fort, undertaken due to the construction of a train tunnel under the city center.

Archaeological structures were documented with GIS software and photogrammetry. As part of a new approach to analyzing and visualizing archaeology, a 3D-model is now being constructed based on this data. The model has already become an integral part of the interpretation of the archaeological remains and a 3D-testbed for spatial analysis.

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The long-lasting transformation of the fortified settlements in Calabria: the case studies of Arena and Simeri Cricchi

Camilla Felicioni | Alessandra Coleschi | Marco Martini

The fortification process in Calabria is a fascinating subject, yet it has often remained underexplored over the years. This region features numerous fortified settlements strategically located to control trade routes and surrounding areas over time. These castles served as key landmarks for local communities until the devastating earthquake of 1783, which affected several villages. The castles of Arena and Simeri Cricchi exemplify this historical dynamic. Arena has undergone excavation, revealing its long history, while Simeri Cricchi has received less attention; however, recent surveys offer valuable context for future research. A comparative analysis of these two castles highlights both their similarities and differences in functionality and the roles they played over time.

Christina Regina - A Dutch Bastion in Gothenburg from the early 1640's  
Alexander Duncan | Mats Sandin | Tom Wennberg

The fortified city of Gothenburg was founded on the West coast of Sweden as port of trade in 1619. The Swedish crown aimed to secure a way to get access the global trade network by creating strong connections to the Dutch trading companies.

Gothenburg city and fortifications were planned and built from scratch. The first plans over the city were most likely made by Dutch architects. They employed ideas from the Dutch school of fortification, developed in the Low Countries during the French and Spanish wars in the second half of the 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.

This paper will focus on a recently completed excavation a Dutch type of bastion from the early 1640's. A large landslide during the construction of the bastion, strangely meant parts were very well preserved, furthermore remains from the subsequent reconstruction allows for comparison with the adapted construction methods.

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An osteobiography of Choppers the 'pg tips chimp'  
Blessing Chidimuro

Blessing Chidimuro (DNFTA Project: University of Reading)

The history of zoos is a rich and complex subject, often explored in literature, which delves into the intricate relationships between humans and animals. However, while much has been written about the significance of zoos, the narratives of individual animals housed within them have been notably overlooked. Interestingly, many zoos have donated the remains of their deceased animals to natural history museums, such as the National Museums Collection Centre in Edinburgh. These preserved specimens hold the potential to unveil the lived experiences of zoo animals. A particularly compelling avenue of inquiry lies in the creation of osteobiographies, a well-established method for reconstructing the life and death histories of human remains. Surprisingly, this approach has been infrequently applied to animals. Through interdisciplinary collaboration, we have conducted comprehensive skeletal and biomolecular analyses, in conjunction with an exploration of archival sources including medical and social histories, to chronicle the life of a specific 'celebrity' zoo animal, 'Choppers'. Choppers was a chimpanzee born in the 1960s in Sierra Leone, who gained fame through appearing in advertisements for the British brand of tea, PG Tips. This pioneering osteobiographical investigation of a zoo animal constitutes the initial phase of a broader examination of how chimpanzees have adapted to captivity. Furthermore, it sheds light on the ramifications of diet on their development and health in comparison to their wild counterparts. Finally, it offers deeper insights into the intriguing, entertaining, and sometimes unsettling social roles attributed to apes at the boundaries between humans and animals.

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From abbey to farm. Evolution of a florentine's monastic complex between renaissance and modern age. Preliminary archaeological data from the excavation site of the former cistercian abbey of San Salvatore a Settimo (Scandicci, Florence).  
Agresti Alberto | Crescioli Lorenzo | Causarano Marie-Ange | Agresti Guido

The investigation at the cistercian abbey of San Salvatore a Settimo, allowed us to document the profound modifications undergone by the monastery in the last 600 years. Two cloisters of different sizes were modified, adopting renaissance styles. The archaeological excavations in the smaller cloister show the evolution of the secular and religious buildings: the church's apse was modified and a cloister with loggia was built. Data of the renaissance phase were obtained thanks to the analysis of the structures and their decorations. During

the siege of Florence of 1529-1530, the building was severely damaged by the troops of Charles the 5th. The use of methodology from buildings archaeology, allowed us to observe further architectural changes. At the end of the 18th Century, the monastery was suppressed and its church converted into a parish. The last architectural interventions are related to both secular and religious activities.

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The Fire in of 1541 as a Catalyst for Change in Urban Development on the example of Prague's Hradčany

Gabriela Blažková | František Adámek

Since the Middle Ages, the town of Hradčany (located near Prague Castle) played the role of material and personal base for the ruler of the Czech lands and his court. Major reorganization in the composition of this area's property ownership concurred with a large-scale fire in 1541. Medieval buildings, most often half-timbered houses, were replaced by extensive palaces that fundamentally altered the character of the area. Hradčany gradually transformed into a residential town whose inhabitants possessed either direct or indirect links to the Habsburg court. Based on the analysis of primary archaeological and archival sources, as well as the architectural history of the existing buildings, the urban transformation of Hradčany will be demonstrated using concrete examples. Our current knowledge of the transformation and development of Hradčany is based on two pillars: the extensive historical and geographical work of the 19th-century archivist and the architectural research of individual houses in the second half of the 20th century. The results of their work led to the paradoxical situation that this area is now accepted as well known. The implementation of archaeological sources makes it possible to reconsider this view and to re-imagine the space in the late Middle Ages and early modern period.

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The Invisible Farms: Unearthing 18th and 19th Century Rural Life in Scania, Sweden  
Fredrik Larsson

Over the past three decades, archaeological excavations of 18th and 19th-century farms in Scania, southern Sweden, have increased significantly. Traditionally, these farms were considered well-documented through historical records and maps, making excavations seemingly unnecessary compared to older sites. However, recent excavations in villages such as Vintrie, Yngsjö, Gualöv, Fjälkinge, Vinslöv, and Toarp have created a multifaceted perspective of these sites. The farms were affected by the land consolidation process known as *enskitte* during the early 19th century, which relocated some farms, while others remained stationary. Notably,

some farms are almost entirely invisible archaeologically, with structures and artifacts scarcely present, while others are well-preserved. This raises the question: Is the absence of farmstead vestiges due to their geographical location and land type, or are there other contributing factors?

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Archaeological Insights into Rural Transformation and Heritage in Liguria's Inland. The case of Velva (Liguria, Italia)

Laura Gago-Chorén | Anna Maria Stagno | Margarita Fernández Mier

This presentation explores multidisciplinary methodology to assess changes in environmental resource management and their long-term impacts on the landscape, using charcoal production as a case study to reconstruct landscape transformation. Charcoal production provides a valuable entry point for examining shifts in the landscape, particularly in understanding historical practices and resource management. The discussion centers on ongoing research in the Ligurian Apennines, specifically in Velva (Castiglione Chiavarese), conducted by the Laboratory of Environmental Archaeology and History (LASA) within the predoctoral program CLOE (MSCA-Cofund). This research aims to support sustainable development policies, rural conservation, and local community initiatives. Like many European mountain regions, this area has been heavily impacted by the abandonment of agro-silvo-pastoral practices and depopulation. By integrating landscape and rural archaeological data with oral history, the research reveals how memories of past practices remain tied to specific locations, highlighting the social dimensions embedded within the landscape

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Naked truth: the industrial legacy of Sheffield's riverside fig trees?

Hanna Steyne | Mili Rajic

In August 2024, the Guardian published a short article titled 'Why fig trees are an emblem of Sheffield's industrial past'. It reported on a group of fig trees growing along the River Don in Sheffield, thought to have grown from fig seeds within fig biscuits consumed by 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century steel workers then transported via raw sewage outfall into the rivers, where the (sewage) rich soils and warm waters - resulting from industrial processes - provided a perfect growing environment for these fig trees. Of such importance to the legacy of Sheffield's steel industry, these fig trees are the only non-native trees to be protected in the UK, having been protected by the city council in 1991. This paper examines a number of questionable assumptions in this narrative, the growth of urban/internet myth, the importance of fig biscuits, and an exploration of Sheffield's 'Fig Tree Forest'.

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On the river bank, far away from home. Material traces of the 18-19<sup>th</sup> century Mennonite diaspora in the middle Vistula River valley.

Maciej Trzeciński

The paper is dedicated to the almost forgotten economic and cultural phenomenon of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Mennonite communities, migrating from the Netherlands and northern Germany to settle down in the middle Vistula river valley. Thanks to the knowledge from their homeland, they could not only adapt perfectly to specific environmental conditions but also transform previously inaccessible areas into zones of specialized – and profitable – agricultural activity. They lived in enclaves, separated from the local population both in terms of religion and the patterns of culture, but strongly linked to each other in the form of a trans-regional network.

This phenomenon did not survive World War II and the mass expulsions of the German-speaking population from post-war Poland. Nonetheless, material traces of specific forms of land use, settlement forms, and artifacts give an excellent background for both landscape studies and research on material dimensions of the everyday of diasporic communities.

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Italians in Patras (Greece). Uncovering the History of a Community through Archaeological Research in the Agios Dionysios Neighborhood, Patras.  
Nota Pantzou | Francesca Plateroti

During the 19th and the first half of the 20th centuries the city of Patras (Achaia), experienced a significant wave of internal and international migration. The flourishing port of Patras, among others, attracted a big number of Southern Italians. Most of these fishermen and farmers resided in the Agios Dionysios neighborhood. The community remained active until 1945, when the Italian defeat in World War II forced most of them to leave. The research presented here has been developed as part of an Erasmus+ traineeship. The aim has been to document this community's life through archival and ethnographic research but also through the recording of the surviving dwellings of the Agios Dionysios neighborhood using stratigraphic methods and photogrammetry. These first steps could be considered as a starting point for a project that aspires to raise awareness about this little known heritage of the city of Patras.

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The challenges for archaeologists during pre-investment urban archaeological investigations  
Dawid Grupa | Mariusz Ciszak

Archaeological research differs in its specificity and timing. There is a significant difference between purely academic research and investment research. As an archaeological company, we would like to outline the issues we face in our work that any archaeologist in the private sector might face.

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Post-Medieval Archaeology in Italy (1970-2020)  
Marco Milanese

An archeology interested in the post-1500 centuries up to the present can be clearly seen in Italian multi-period urban archeology starting from the 1970s, in the context of global archeology and the culture of diachrony of which the English research groups were the bearers. and Italians operating in several Italian cities in that period (mainly such as Genoa, Pavia and Milan).

At the beginning of the 1990s, epistemological reflection identified the need to build a large European scientific community around the theme of post-medieval archeology and in 1994 the international conference "Postmedieval Archaeology: the European experience and the Italy", with archaeologists representing five European nations, in addition to Italy: Great Britain (D. Crossley), Belgium (F. Verhaege), Holland (J. Baart), Spain (F. Amores ) and France (P. Bruneau, P.Y. Balut). On those foundational premises, the contribution intends to focus on the Italian situation thirty years after the 1994 declarations and summarize the developments of the topics and the new scenarios of the discipline.

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Chair: Sanna Lipkin

Portable Art for the Masses: Pipe Stoppers in the Post-Medieval World

Susie White

From at least the 1620s pipe stoppers, or tampers, have been produced in a bewildering array of materials and forms, but they have been little researched by modern academics. Previous work has primarily focussed on examples from a collectors or art historical point of view, with little regard for establishing the typology, chronology or distribution patterns of these object. Thanks to the Portable Antiquities Scheme database there is now an opportunity to re-assess this intriguing class of object.

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A Nation of Shopkeepers – Home Goods for Abroad

David Higgins

Britain was famously described as a 'nation of shopkeepers' during the eighteenth century, highlighting the importance of trade and commerce to the economy. As British influence grew during the Post-Medieval period, opportunities arose to trade with different markets all around the world. This paper uses the artefactual evidence provided by clay tobacco pipes to show how even small workshops were able to tap into this developing international trade, offering products that were specifically tailored for foreign markets. As a result, small-scale manufacturers were able to benefit from Britain's growing dominance on the world stage, allowing prosperity to percolate down amongst the working classes

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Loneliness and love: ten years of a grieving husband's letters

Joel Santos | Tânia Casimiro | Gisela Monteiro | Sara Gonçalves

This presentation explores an emotional collection of letters discovered within a mausoleum in a contemporary cemetery, dating from the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The letters, written by a grieving husband over ten years following his wife's death, reveal a profoundly romantic narrative intertwined with profound loneliness. Through lyrical poetry and nostalgic reminiscences, the husband expresses his enduring love while articulating the emotional void left by his beloved's absence. This study contextualises these letters within their archaeological setting, examining the socio-cultural dynamics of love and loss in 20<sup>th</sup>-century society. By analysing the epistolary content alongside historical and archaeological data, we seek to illuminate the personal experiences of this couple, contributing to a broader understanding of intimate relationships and mourning practices during this period. Our findings will enhance the narrative of human connection within the archaeological record, offering a glimpse into the emotional lives of individuals in a not-that-long-ago era.

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Reviving the traces of Africa in Colombia: Narratives of the past, actions of the present  
Natalia Angarita | Alexa Villegas | Daniela Vargas

In December 2024, the National Museum of Colombia will host a meeting to show how the archaeology of the African diaspora has developed in the country. From this perspective, with the aim of preserving their vast cultural heritage and challenging the tendencies and practices that exclude and distort their history, research in archaeology has been developed in the academic, public and private spheres to incorporate and make visible the history and material culture of Afrodescendant. The aim of the paper is to highlight the event and to publicize the activities developed

in Colombia in which the archaeo-historical field may contribute to the recognition of AfroColombian culture.

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Round table: Archaeology of Mental Health

Archaeology of mental health: Approaches and Challenges

This roundtable brings together four panellists to discuss the approaches and challenges of studying the archaeology of mental health and institutions in the 18th–20th centuries. The goal of the roundtable is to share experiences, case studies, and ideas to encourage dialogue and examine the practices as well as ethical considerations of ‘mad’ archaeologies and of giving voices to the people of the past whose cognitive, behavioural, physical, and/or emotional wellbeing was affected during their life. Our discussion will include but will not be limited to the material and immaterial traces of mental health and mental health institutions as well as confinement and incarceration as punishment and reformation. The roundtable is moderated, and the floor will be open for questions and comments from the attendees after the roundtable.

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Lamsdorf/Łambinowice. An archaeology of memory

Michał Pawleta Adam | Dawid Kobiałka | Kamil Karski

The Site of National Remembrance in Łambinowice, Poland is a landscape encompassing former POW and resettlement camps that operated on the outskirts of the village from the time of the Prussian-French War, through the Great War, the interwar period, and the years 1939-1945. Between 1945-1946, part of the infrastructure of the former training ground, was repurposed by the Polish communist authorities as a labour camp.

Since 2022, interdisciplinary field research has been systematically conducted in the former camp areas, with a key focus on both non-invasive and invasive archaeological methods. One of the most significant findings was the discovery of an unknown and unmarked where 60 Italian soldiers, held in Lamsdorf at the end of the Second World War, were buried.

In our paper, we will present the preliminary results of the 2024 research, which led to the restoration of the identities of the Italians who perished in Lamsdorf.

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19<sup>th</sup> century prisoners of Sweden – preliminary results of an osteoarchaeological excavation  
Emma Törnblad

In 2023, Sydsvensk Arkeologi was hired to do an unusual excavation in Kristianstad, Sweden. It entailed searching for the earliest prisoners on the grounds of the former county jail. A citizen had voiced concern of the locally known prison cemetery, from which we preceded with a GPR-survey, an archival investigation, and an osteoarchaeological excavation to investigate. A total of 9 individuals were discovered, all determined male, of all age-ranges with signs of violence, malnutrition and a life of hard labor. Additionally, four individuals exhibited evidence of surgically sawn cranial vaults. The historical documentation provided a detailed list of the earliest prisoner’s names, crimes, causes of death – but also of murder and beheading. As an understudied population, these individuals represent an important material for understanding incarcerated people in our early correctional care system. It speaks to the experiences, in life and death, of a socially marginalized group in 19th century Sweden.

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*The german use of the public space in occupied Trondheim during world war II*  
Julian P. Cadamarteri

During World War II, German occupation forces sought to turn Trondheim into a strategic naval base. They emphasised control over public spaces like the city's main square, Torvet. The square was used for propaganda, with displays of captured equipment, military drills, and parades, asserting both military and ideological dominance. This aimed to project power and an inevitable victory. However, the local population subtly resisted through acts like wearing national symbols, defacing propaganda, and writing anti-German slogans. Using Torvet as a case, this paper examines how public space in Trondheim was militarized, both materially and through occupation activities. It also explores how civilians challenged these efforts, transforming public spaces into arenas of passive resistance, preserving their identity in the face of fascist occupation."

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Lauralyst (Denmark) – a smallholding on the edge of memory  
Mette Svart Kristiansen

The paper will present the preliminary results from the excavation in 2024 of the smallholding Lauralyst, Denmark. The project was conducted as a student excavation and research project in 2024 by Aarhus University in collaboration with Moesgård Museum. The smallholding belonged to the manor Vilhelmsborg and dates from the late 1800s to mid-1900s. The site is today overgrown with forest, but a part of local awareness and cultural heritage. The project developed within a web of different tangible and intangible sources. It became evident, that people, both past residents as well as visitors to the excavation, proved to be important sources themselves, as the reconstruction of daily life at Lauralyst, the floor plan and garden layout would be based on not only excavation data from fieldwork, photos and written records, but also memories associated with the place, the house and the people once living there.

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An archaeology of mass crimes. The case of discovering 700 victims from the Second World War in Death Valley, Poland  
Dawid Kobiałka

In the autumn of 1939, representatives of the local intelligentsia, farmers, the mentally ill and disabled people, and Jews. At the end of January 1945, the Germans murdered several hundred Poles in the surrounding fields, whose bodies were then burned to cover up the traces of the crime. As a result of the archaeological research carried out, the remains of approximately 700 people were found, over 6,000 pieces of evidence were secured and various types of samples were taken for specialised analyses. The aim of my paper is to outline the history of the place and the key role of methods, tools and archaeological approach that led to the discovery of the remains of victims that were to be hidden forever and the memory of them erased. In my speech, I will also emphasised the ethical and personal dimension of this type of archaeological work.

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Application of the RTI/PTM method in research and documentation of artifacts from the recent past – project: Lexicon of Katyn Archaeology (1990-2015)  
Magdalena Majorek-Lipowicz | Olgierd Ławrynowicz | Kacper Ciesielski

The aim of the research project „Lexicon of Katyn Archaeology (1990-2015) is to collect, systematise, archive and make public information on to date Polish

archaeological research on traces of the Katyn Massacre. The multidisciplinary team appointed to realize the set goals also interprets the existing knowledge obtained by archaeologists as a result of the research carried out so far at the „Katyn sites“. The aim is also to collect new hitherto unarchived data and to make the entire resource available to a wide audience. This time we would like to present you the effects of using the RTI/PTM [Reflectance Transformation Imaging/Polynomial Texture Mapping] method. Using this particular technique of technical photography, we have made visible in a way that is unattainable using other methods: convexities and recesses, traces of intentional engraving (inscriptions) and traces of use on the flat or slightly curved surfaces of small-sized artifacts (e.g. objects with inscriptions - identity marks - so-called dog tags, military decorations, coins).

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DBAGH – a new project on the anthropological archaeology of tanners in Marrakech  
Thomas Reitmaier | Victoria Immervoll | Abdallah Fili

Marrakech, embedded in the Haouz Plain north of the High Atlas, was founded by the Almoravids in the 11th century. With the city's flourishing political, cultural and economic development from the 11th/12th century onwards, a neighbourhood of tanneries was established in the eastern part of the medina, still existing today. The artisanal transformation of raw animal skins into high-quality leather and its processing into various products has thus represented an important cultural heritage for almost a millennium. A new research project 'dbagh' sheds light on this complex topic from an anthropological and archaeological perspective. The focus is on precise documentation of the 'traditional' tanners' quarter in order to document the tacit knowledge handed down over generations, as well as the material culture and structures. In addition, a little-known area of small tanneries to the north of the medina will be analysed.

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One woman's trash ... is a source for archaeology?  
Elisabeth Waldhart

Between 2020 and 2022, archaeological excavations in a ruined castle (Schloss Trautson, Tirol, Austria) uncovered waste pits from the 1980s. The artefacts from these pits are mostly packaging for food products and other household-related purposes as well as kitchen supplies and supplies for DIY projects. Sources like oral accounts or self-published books, point to the building's last occupants: a couple from Vienna, related to the family who owned the castle, spent summers on the site with mutual friends. Is it possible to connect the (quite extraordinary) lives of these people with the everyday objects left behind in the grounds? In my contribution, I will examine how we can analyse the contents of these pits: What are appropriate scales for analysis? How do these objects relate to the couple, their lifestyle and their position in society? On which topics – from gender roles to consumer culture – can these objects be questioned?

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DUST Project - Spoils and debris in modern port cities: A contribution to the study of modern Calceology in Portugal

Ana Catarina Garcia | Gonçalo Lopes | Miguel Carvalho

Throughout the early modern age, the abandonment of waste at coastline, in port cities and villages were a regular behavior. Waste from buildings, useless objects, garbage and other debris, which were left behind could either be used for landfill on the shores, gaining space for living, or they were dumped into the aquatic environment. Identified in an archeological context, they are relevant information, not only for understanding this environmental dimension, but also for knowing more about daily life. Using the archaeological records and inventory of leather specimens and the reconstructions in 3D models, we will focus our analysis on the study of leather and cork as urban waste, considering them not only as spoils, but also understanding them as garments and footwear. In doing so, we will bring together multidisciplinary skills to study, of this material culture, contributing to the study of footwear in Portugal in the early modern era.

Crypts of the Holy Trinity Church in Byszewo – Field Research and the Potential for Laboratory Analysis of Discovered Materials

Tomasz Kozłowski | Mikołaj Dobek

Church in Byszewo is an early medieval foundation associated with the Cistercians. However, in post-medieval, it served only as a rural parish church supported by donations from local nobility and wealthy peasants. The current 17th-century structure conceals crypts where approximately 100 burials have been discovered. The inventoried findings exhibit substantial diversity and an excellent state of preservation in both artifacts and human remains. The archaeological materials became the foundation for analyses in 2024 as part of a doctoral project titled “Intrapopulation Social Stratification and Its Manifestations in the Light of Archaeological and Bioarchaeological Studies of the Population Buried in the Holy Trinity Church in Byszewo”. Detailing the church's history, archaeological work, and project goals will illustrate the broad analytical potential of integrating historical sources with archaeological and bioarchaeological analysis in exploring the church's past.

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Post-medieval Burials with Sickles Discovered During Research at the Church in Byszewo – Objects Reflecting Forgotten Aspects of Catholic Spirituality

Wiesław Nowosad | Tomasz Kozłowski | Mikołaj Dobek | Patrycja Staniszewska

During archaeological excavations at the Church of the Holy Trinity in Byszewo in 2018, burials were discovered that included sickles placed within coffins as part of the grave goods. A scientific analysis of these types of grave offerings in a broader context can enhance our understanding of their significance, as sickles hold a complex symbolic meaning that became particularly rich in post-medieval Christian spirituality. Both the location of the graves and the burial characteristics indicate that the deceased were likely Catholics. Given the intact deposition of the skeletons, the abundance of grave goods, and the condition of the artifacts, it is feasible to conduct a thorough analysis of this topic. Presenting the findings and examining the symbolism of sickles will contribute to the discussion on the "uniqueness" of such deposits in Catholic crypts and churches.

Low Shoes with side cutouts on heels from Chełmińskie Przedmieście in Toruń (XVII century)  
Małgorzata Grupa | Cizsak Hanna

Research conducted on the area of Przedmieście Chełmińskie in Toruń in 2024 led to the discovery of approximately seven thousand pieces of leather. While the conservation works were performed over one hundred shoes were qualified as suitable for reconstruction. This collection included unique low shoes with side holes placed on leather heels. All gathered footwear has signs of long-term usage, what is especially visible is scuffed heels. What is more this type of footwear is exceedingly rare finding in archaeological excavations. Described shoes were commonly worn with doublet and knee-length trousers, calves were covered by close-fitting knitted stockings (preserved in different degrees), which were also found during these excavations. Gathered data are relevant source in the context of the extensive studies of costumes.

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Children's grave dresses from Puck- similarities and differences  
Małgorzata Grupa | Karolina Blusiewicz

Research conducted in the tomb of Wejher family not only gave interesting information about the members of mentioned family buried in first half of XVII century but also it was a chance to discover funeral clothes dedicated to adult and children. Analysis of clothes remains allowed to match some pieces of used fabrics together which initiated recreation of preliminary drawing reconstructions of garments. Comparison of clothes led to the conclusion that the majority of the fabrics inside of the tomb were clothes especially prepared for corps so called grave clothing. Obtained data are the basis for determining differences and similarities between construction of particular elements in grave clothing and possibilities or lack of it in dating on the basis of cut.

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Who was buried in a crypt of Saint Anne Church in Przechlewo (Poland) – verification of written sources.  
Wiesław Nowosad | Małgorzata Grupa | Mariusz Cizsak

Exploration of Prądyński family's crypt located in Church of Saint Anne in Przechlewo verified tales about that burial. It was believed that there were buried only members of the Prądyński family and two priests. However, according to written sources there were three members of the previously mentioned family and also three priests. The rest of twenty-three persons found in the tomb were members of other noble families which included adults and kids. In accordance with previously collected data only seventeen people buried in crypt are known but the rest of the human remains are unidentified. It is speculated that the unidentified persons were from nobility because of the complexed equipment of the grave and presents of silk garments, but we can also assume that they were rich peasants. Are these differences result of the partitions of the country and changes in church regulations introduced by invaders, in this case Prussians.

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Necrogeographies of post-medieval Lisbon: the cemetery of the Military Hospital in São Jorge Castle  
Susana Henriques

Cemeteries in post-medieval Lisbon were much imposed by the urbanity of the city, with the church being the axis of the community of living and dead. Religious institutions and hospitals also had a significant role in handling the deceased. During times of mortuary crises, it was necessary to establish new consecrated grounds. The research aims to explore the relationship between urbanity and cemeteries, examining how religious

beliefs and cultural traditions shaped the burial practices in post-medieval Lisbon, focusing on the Military Hospital cemetery in São Jorge Castle, administered by the Hospitaller Order of São João de Deus. It will address the impact of the hospital and its cemetery on the community and urban landscape, as well as consider the obituary records of the deceased military. An articulation between historical records and archaeological data is used to understand how landscape and mortuary practices influence each other, reflecting beliefs and social norms.

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Pioneering Spirit: Illicit Whisky Production in the Highlands of Scotland  
Daniel Rhodes | Derek Alexander

Scotland is famous for the making of whisky. Over the last four years the National Trust for Scotland has been conducting research into archaeological evidence for its illicit production. The research has identified and excavated illicit whisky making sites throughout the Highlands. The research aims to ask by whom, how and where was whisky being made and how common was this illegal activity in rural lifeways of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century. The paper will outline the geography and material culture of this activity and examine how whisky making was part of both local and national economies. As well as how Victorian identities reflected back on the history of distilling activities, and how these identities have persisted in a multibillion-pound industry.

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Still Room for digging: archaeological investigations of The Glenlivet whisky distillery  
Derek Alexander | Daniel Rhodes

As part of our Pioneering Spirit whisky project, the National Trust for Scotland has been excavating the remains of the first licensed distillery in Speyside at The Glenlivet. Set up in 1824, by George Smith, at his farm, the site was operational until 1859 when it was abandoned and part dismantled in favour of a purpose-built distillery further down the hill. Excavation has revealed the ground plan of the distillery and in particular the layout of the Still Room. Artefacts recovered include a wide range of objects associated the process and personal items that must have been lost or broken during the week-long process of whisky making. The site marks a cross over from small scale production of around 50 gallons per week in 1824 to the large scale industrial production of over 600 gallons in 1859.

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The Hacienda La Estancia: Exploring Lime and Wood Production in colonial peninsula of Barú, Cartagena de Indias (Colombia)  
L. Victoria Báez Santos

This project analyses the production system of an 18th century hacienda on the Barú peninsula, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia. Despite acknowledging the role of haciendas in agropastoral activities and urban infrastructure, there is limited scholarly attention on colonial production systems in Cartagena. This study employs a historical archaeology approach, combining historical documents, archaeological surface surveys and excavations to uncover complex hacienda production techniques. Key findings include the identification of resource extraction areas (limestone, coral and Brazilian wood), kilns, power sources, water storage areas, residential areas and transportation networks. The hacienda initially relied on slave labour, and then shifted to a tenant system, marking a transition in production systems. This research highlights the intricate network surrounding the production of these resources. By examining these elements, the study provides valuable insights into the colonial production landscape and productive development of the Baru region.

Involving community into the mountain areas (Alpi Orobie -Lombardia, Italy-): discovering rural traditions as a rebirth strategy

Federica Matteoni | Chiara Pupella

The archaeology of architecture can make a significant contribution to the revitalisation and enhancement of mountain areas, becoming a key tool for identifying and understanding the structure of the historical, settlement and socio-cultural heritage of these territories. Adopting a multidisciplinary perspective, the aim is to focus on the territorial heritage and specific cultural traditions, analysing human interactions, economic dynamics and legislative aspects. The scientific analysis of the cultural landscape and of the mountain territorial system, with particular reference to the territory of the Alpi Orobie, makes it possible to assess the environmental and social impact of human activities, paying attention to the evolution of settlements and constructions over time. This approach also aims at identifying self-sustainable growth strategies, through the in-depth study of the territory and its historical transformations.

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The long lasting transition from the middle ages to the modern era in central and southern Italy  
Carlo Citter

Since 2018, a range of projects have been undertaken in Tuscany, Latium, Calabria, and Sicily to examine the transition to the modern era. These projects vary in their stages of development: some are nearing completion, while others are still in progress, and we are preparing to initiate new ones in the upcoming year. Nonetheless, we have preliminary findings that we can share and discuss within the scientific community. Our research encompasses both urban and rural contexts, focusing on four key topics: long-term changes versus sudden events, natural resource exploitation, urban transformations (including decline, change, and development), and the networks of connectivity related to the production and exchange of goods and artifacts. By comparing these four regions with distinct characteristics, we have already identified unique features as well as common trends that we aim to assess within a Mediterranean context.

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Persistence and change between the Middle and the Modern Age of the use of a thermomineral spring. The case of the Caldanelle thermal hotel in Petriolo (Italy)

Edoardo Vanni | Cleo Barbafera | Debora Quaglia

Archaeological investigations conducted since 2018 on the Caldanelle site (Civitella Paganico - Italy), located near a thermo-mineral spring, have brought to light a rather complex settlement intended to accommodate pilgrims and bathers who came here to take advantage of the curative properties of the thermal springs. The excavation campaigns have identified a corridor with several entrances and rooms, which can be interpreted as spaces intended for the initial reception of bathers belonging to a 15th-16th century phase. The last phases of frequentation refer to the 17th century. The stratigraphy of the elevations, however, speaks of an early phase from the 14th-15th century that is still visible, with the identification of a door underneath the walls, which was later obliterated by an intentional action. Caldanelle represents the only example of a thermal hotel excavated in Italy, allowing us to observe the transformations that occurred in a long-run perspective around a crucial resource such as sulphurous water.

Historical Dynamics of Mountain Settlements: Environmental Resource Management and Population Shifts in Southern Spain (18th-21st Centuries)  
José Abellán Santisteban | Anna María Stagno | Ylenia Paciotti | Blas Ramos Rodríguez | José María Martín Civantos

This study focuses on the cortijos (farmhouses) and seasonal settlements of Sierra Nevada (Granada, Spain), examining their role in managing environmental resources from the 18th to the 21st centuries. Using rural and landscape archaeology, alongside documentary and historical cartography analysis, the research documents the transformation of these spaces and their connection to population dynamics in this now largely depopulated area. Two centuries ago, however, Sierra Nevada's cortijos supported a dense population and intensive agricultural and pastoral activities. By tracing the shifts in irrigation systems, land use and settlement patterns, this study seeks to establish a comparative framework for understanding similar high-altitude settlements. Although these spaces share commonalities in agricultural and husbandry practices, they have undergone distinct preservation processes influenced by changing socio-economic conditions. This research highlights the importance of cortijos as territorial units and provides insights into their historical role in shaping the Sierra Nevada landscape.

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Shepherds, huts and grasslands. The Archaeology of last-centuries pastoralism in Galician and Aragon mountains (North Spain)  
David Garcia-Casas | Paula Ballesteros-Arias

This paper focuses on the study of the temporality of pastoral practices in mountain landscapes during the 20th and 19th centuries, which ethnographers have recorded. By demonstrating the dynamism of agropastoral communities during long-term chronologies, we challenge the timeless image assumed in the narratives of ancient pastoralism.

This presentation introduces the preliminary results of our archaeological surveys and excavations in Sierra del Suido (Galicia) and Sobrarbe (Aragon Pyrenean). In the first study zone, we recorded about 100 archaeological sites related to husbandry in the last centuries. Moreover, an excavation at one of these sites, Casariños, has uncovered an occupation sequence of three moments. The preliminary material analysis shows a chronology between the 16th and 18th centuries. In Sobrarbe, at the Mallatas de Albella shepherds' site, we have discovered a level of occupation with insights into pastoralism, and the pottery suggests a post-medieval chronology. These advances help us to understand the social construction of mountain landscapes in northern Iberia through seasonal pastoral practices

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Changes in landscape management in the Sierra Nevada  
Ylenia Paciotti

This research lies in rural archaeology, aiming to identify continuities and discontinuities in the landscape, observable through cartography as well as the archaeological record, in order to reconstruct, over recent centuries and with the support of documentary sources, the changes and management of a territory by local communities. The study focuses on southern Spain, specifically the Sierra Nevada, where communal land management and shared resources, particularly water, have created a sustainable system.

The study is related to the research project ANTIGONE (ERC StG 2019), conducted by the Laboratory of Archaeology and Environmental History at the University of Genoa, which aims to verify whether the disappearance of shared practices has played a key role in the

abandonment processes of mountain areas in Southern Europe between the 19th and 20th centuries. ANTIGONE aims to investigate the relationships between material changes in environmental resource management practices and the social organization of local communities.

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From paths to pastures: an archaeological approach to Iberian transhumance routes  
Anaís González Puga | Blas Ramos Rodríguez

Transhumance is one of the most practiced forms of herd management in the history of the Iberian Peninsula. This practice enables the sustainable exploitation of resources due to its versatility and capacity to adapt to the environment. This makes it a crucial factor in the configuration of the landscapes. Despite this, this mode of grazing leaves a material footprint that is difficult to trace down and investigate - this fact has led to a scarce representation of this theme in archaeological research. This proposal lays out an archaeological approach to medieval and modern transhumant roads through the study of livestock cisterns. It focuses on the systematic study of the cañada real de Poniente a Levante that crosses the province of Almería (Spain)

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Exploring methods of public engagement to amplify archaeology's impact  
Lenore Thompson

Archaeological research is important for many reasons, offering insight into how people arranged their societies and navigated various social, political and environmental challenges. However, the impact of this knowledge is considerably reduced if not communicated to the broader public. This paper examines the effectiveness of incorporating public engagement into research through two separate projects. One project, in Tuscany, Italy, invited the public to join heritage craft potters to explore the possibility of using locally sourced clays, once utilised to produce robust wares in the 12<sup>th</sup> century, in current production practices. The second project, in Derby, UK, invited the public to examine 19<sup>th</sup> century Egyptian-made souvenir replicas of ancient objects, made with such skill that many have found their way into museum collections around the world as 'real' artefacts. These projects asked participants to rethink ideas of authenticity, value, place-making, and the importance of supporting the heritage craft community. Both projects aimed to foster links between participants and their history and wider community, fostering place making, inspiring sustainable choices for our future, shifting colonial mindsets, and supporting local economic growth

## Posters

The Recovery After Abandonment: the Transition from Castelmonardo to Filadelfia.

Assunta Campi

Destroyed by the earthquake of 1783, the ancient settlement of Castelmonardo is located southeast of Filadelfia (VV) in Calabria. The hill that hosts the remains of this significant site, probably founded in the early middle ages, consists of three heights, all with evident archaeological evidence. Current studies have highlighted the presence of a tower (probably built by the Normans), rock caves, cisterns, substructures, residential areas, and various ecclesiastical buildings. Following the earthquake, the site was abandoned, and the debris was used to construct the new settlement of Filadelfia, designed with a regular geometric structure consisting of two orthogonal axes overlaid on rectangular blocks. From an identity perspective, the reconstruction of the five churches that were already present in ancient Castelmonardo is particularly interesting, four of which were built at the corners of the central square in the new city's urban layout.

The Gypsum Routes

Luca Zambito

Gypsum is a material that has been used since antiquity both as a binder and as a sealant to strengthen the closure of transport containers. Its production results from a complex sequence of operations (preliminary identification of the quarry, application for a license, lease or purchase of the land, quarrying operations, further subdivided until reaching the lime sizes, furnace preparation for firing, final weighing, and grinding into powder). At the end of this complex process of quarrying and firing, gypsum became part of an extensive commercial network, in which the essential link was formed by the carters who connected the production sites to market demand.

The aim of this study is to analyze a large and largely unknown gypsum production district located in the Canicattì area, where at least six different double-lime quarries can be observed. The research will include the survey of these quarries and horizontal stratigraphic investigation. An additional step of the study involves archival research to reconstruct the supply networks and the mineral trade.

Archaeology of Landings

Luca Zambito

Operation Husky began between the 10th and 11th of July 1943. In the northwest sector of the landing forces, which included the port of Licata, the Allies faced vigorous defense from Italian and some Nazi battalions. To this day, the coastline is marked by casemates, gun emplacements, and other defense-related infrastructure aimed at thwarting potential seaborne attacks. In the plain of the Naro River, American troops encountered strong resistance from the soldiers of the 35th Bersaglieri Battalion.

The objective of this study is to conduct an initial cataloging and documentation of surviving military structures, and to investigate the battlefield of Piano delle Zecche using archaeological survey methods, situated among the municipalities of Naro, Favara, and Castrofilippo. By integrating archaeological data with documentary sources and the last remaining oral testimonies, our aim is to reconstruct a hidden chapter of our recent military history.

Smoking paraphernalia from the city of Lagos (Portugal)

Miguel Martins de Sousa | Ricardo Costeira da Silva | Nuno Pedrosa | Ana Gonçalves | Elena Morán | Vanda Gato

Following previous interventions, between 2022 and 2023, significant archaeological efforts expanded and rehabilitated the Municipal Museum of Lagos (*Dr. José Formosinho*). This project, focused on the former police station near the 'Porta da Vila,' revealed portions of the medieval wall and an albarrana tower that once watched over the northern entrance to medieval Lagos. Historical records dating to the 16<sup>th</sup> century indicate a prison on this site. However, the structure underwent transformations at least in 1712, after the 1755 earthquake, and in the 1940s, but retained its purpose until 2011.

The archaeological results from this project are significant for understanding the urban, economic, and sociocultural dynamics of Lagos. Pottery and human remains discovered at the site provided evidence for the earliest preserved occupations, implying traces to a global network since the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Among the artifacts uncovered from the early modern layers were two traditional Portuguese earthenware tobacco pipes from the 17<sup>th</sup> century, alongside eight white ball clay stems and two unusually shaped fragments believed to function as smoking pipes.

This exploration into the assemblage of smoking apparatus benefits in contextualizing each artifact within its historical framework. By examining this collection, we gain a deeper understanding of the cultural significance and the social practices surrounding its use in Lagos. Additionally, our approach fosters a greater connection to the historical narratives that shape our present and reminds of how the study of everyday objects, such as smoking pipes, can illuminate broader aspects of cultural identity and human practices throughout history.

Research group EUROPA POSTMEDIAEVALIS  
Gabriela Blažková | Kristýna Matějková

EUROPA POSTMEDIAEVALIS is organising its fifth conference on the archaeology of the modern era in Zadar, Croatia, in 2026. What is the secret of its success? And what lies ahead? The impetus for this small platform was first and foremost an attempt to bring together researchers working on the same topics within Central Europe. It soon became clear that it was desirable to go beyond this imaginary border and to communicate about the issues across Europe, as the chosen research topics also appealed to researchers outside Central Europe (Croatia, Italy, France, Portugal, Romania, Ukraine, etc.). The conference takes place every two years and is always thematically defined. The four peer-reviewed conference proceedings (*Archaeopress*), which bring together the latest perspectives on the subject and which include the insights of archaeologists from different countries, are proof that the aim is not only the meetings themselves, but also to promote pan-European research on (not only) early modern or modern ceramics. These are qualities that can help EUROPA POSTMEDIAEVALIS to maintain continuity in the future.