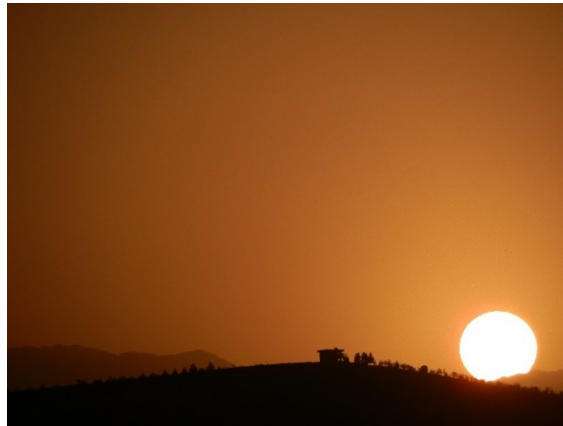


Grand Challenge Agendas in Environmental Archaeology *provisional programme*



Conference abstract

How do we approach today's great themes in international environmental archaeology? How will this feed into the next research agenda? What are environmental archaeology's grand challenges? 'Grand challenges for archaeology' have recently been proposed to focus the disciplines efforts and capabilities on the most important scientific challenges (Kintigh *et al.* 2014, *PNAS* 111, 879-80). Those identified focus on investigating the dynamics of complex socio-ecological systems, addressing key questions of emergence, complexity, demography, mobility, identity, resilience, and human-environment interactions. Environmental archaeology is ideally situated to contribute directly to these challenges, concerned, as it is, with the human ecology of the past – the relationship between past human populations and their physical, biological and socio-economic environments – through the analysis and interpretation of animal and plant remains within the depositional environment of the archaeological site and its surrounds. These approaches allow analysis of the dynamics of socio-ecological systems at varying spatial and temporal scales. Combined with the continued advancement of scientific methodological applications this is enabling increasingly powerful insights into human paleoecology, for example via analyses of palaeodiets, disease ecology, and past climatic change. Particular challenges lie in how to integrate data generated from diverse methodological approaches, and how to model and test cultural and ecological agency in the past, and how to tap the full potential that lies in increasingly large and disparate datasets being generated by the different practitioners of environmental archaeology. Public and fiscal responsibility also challenges environmental archaeological research to contribute to debates of relevance to the modern world, with its important potential insights on human-environment interactions, biodiversity, food security, and societal resilience.

Registration

You can register for the conference on-line here:

<http://www.epay.ed.ac.uk/conferences-events/college-of-humanities-and-social-science/school-of-history-classics-and-archaeology/grand-challenge-agendas-in-environmental-archaeology>

Please email AEA2017@ed.ac.uk with any enquiries.

Association for Environmental Archaeology Conference (University of Edinburgh, 1-3 December 2017)

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

(may be subject to change)

FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER

Start time	
1330	Optional conference visit: Behind-the-scenes tour at the National Museums Collection Centre (https://www.nms.ac.uk/collections-research/research-facilities/national-museums-collection-centre/). An opportunity to see highlights from the archaeology and vertebrate zoology research collections in the care of the National Museums of Scotland. Please email AEA2017@ed.ac.uk if you are interested in this visit. There will be a small transport cost involved. Booking essential and places limited.
From 1700	Conference registration
1800	Keynote address: SOCIAL AND CLIMATE CHALLENGES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ARCHAEOLOGY Prof Marco Madella ICREA Research Professor in Environmental Archaeology; Complexity and Socio-Ecological Dynamics Research Group; Humanities – Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona
1900	Drinks reception and photographic exhibition viewing Photographic Exhibition: <i>St Kilda: The Last and Outmost Isle</i> (Historic Environment Scotland)

SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER

Start time	
0910	Introduction to the conference
0920	SESSION: HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTIONS The chicken age? An environmental archaeological contribution to the Anthropocene debate Richard Thomas, Carys E. Bennett, Mark Williams, Ian Zalasiewicz, Matt Edgeworth, Molly Miller, Ben Coles, and Alison Foster
0940	People-plant relationships in Mesolithic-Neolithic Scotland Rosie Bishop
1000	The land below the Waves: maritime geoarchaeology and human-environment interactions in the southern North Sea basin Alex Brown, Andy Bicket, Louise Tizzard, and Dave Norcott
1020	Landscapes of Fire: The Impact of Controlled Burning Regimes on Vegetation in Neolithic Wadi Sana Yemen Abigail Buffington

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1040	Can inherent environmental differences explain patterns of landscape change after the Norse settlement of Iceland? William Hiles, Ian T. Lawson, Richard T. Streeeter, and Katharine H. Roucoux
1100-1140	Coffee break and poster session
1140	SESSION: LANDSCAPE AND SUSTAINABILITY Is the development of farmed landscapes in the late Holocene a case of econiche replacement and ecosystems engineering? David Smith, Geoff Hill, and Harry Kenward
1200	Wooded or not wooded; that is the question. Downlands and beyond and its relevance to human societies Michael J. Allen
1220	Stepping into the Same River Twice: Water and Sustainability in Roman Ostia Mark A. Locicero
1240	Sustainable energy and construction: Examples from the Zagros and Anatolia c. 10,000-6,000 BCE Wendy Matthews
1300-1400	Lunch
1400	SESSION: INTEGRATION OF DATA AND INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES Linking International and Interdisciplinary Data to Enable Data- Intensive Research on Long-Term Human Ecodynamics in the North Atlantic: the DataARC Project Rachel Opitz, Colleen Strawhacker, Adam Brin, Gisli Pálsson, Emily Lethbridge, Philip Buckland, Peter Pulsifer, Jackson Cothren, and Thomas H. McGovern
1420	Animal domestication and zoonotic disease: modeling brucellosis transmission in Neolithic goat populations Robin Bendrey, Guillaume Fournie, and Dirk U. Pfeiffer
1440	Fossilised environments above the ground – an interdisciplinary approach to the ecology of medieval castle construction Mark Thacker
1500	Optimizing zooarchaeological research on cetaceans Youri van den Hurk
1520-1550	Coffee break
1550	SESSION: COLONISATION, MOBILITY AND ENVIRONMENT Ancient Invasive Species: Insights, Collaboration, and Policy Catherine F. West and Courtney A. Hofman
1610	Accidental travelers, uninvited guests- Fossil insects, farming and ecological imperialism Eva Panagiotakopulu and Paul Buckland
1630	Thriving in the unexpected: permanent life on an open salt marsh M. Schepers
1650	Searching for Migrants: a multi-proxy approach Laura Bonsall, Catriona Pickard, Jane Evans, Andrei Soficaru, Alan Dalton, Gordon Cook, Ulle Aguraiuja, and Clive Bonsall
1710	END

1720-1820 Association for Environmental Archaeology AGM

1930 Conference Dinner

SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER

Start Time	
0900	SESSION: ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD Archaeology has no relevance Suzi Richer, Daryl Stump, and Robert Marchant
0920	Beyond the Braidwoods: Grand Challenges in the Environmental Archaeology of Iraq- Past, Present, and Future Elizabeth Farebrother, Charlene Murphy, Ulrike Sommer, Hanna Sosnowska, Chris Stevens, and Dorian Q. Fuller
0940	Answers to questions. The New National Archaeological Research Agenda of the Netherlands Inge M.M. van der Jagt
1000	Meeting the grand challenge of climate change through a new social contract for archaeology Rowan Jackson, Andrew Dugmore, and Felix Riede
1020	Archaeological Palaeoenvironmental Archives: The Challenges and Opportunities Ahead Paul Flintoft
1040-1120	Coffee break and poster session
1120	SESSION: CLIMATE CHANGE AND ADAPTATION Coasting along?: climate change, coastal erosion and environmental archaeology- challenges and opportunities Ingrid Mainland, Jane Downes, and Alison Keir
1140	Human Adaption and Climate Change in the Past: A view from the western coast of Luzon Island, Philippines Mark Anthony C. Mabanag, Vito Paolo C. Hernandez, and Mary Grace Lualhati Barretto-Tesoro
1200	Rice, rain, and lack-of: How rice agriculture crossed environmental zones in India and lessons for a changing climate Eleanor Kingwell-Banham
1220	Climatic Variability and Resilience: Lessons from the past in north-central Nigeria Emuobosa Akpo Orijemie
1240-1340	Lunch dataARC networking event; demonstration at 13.10
1340	SESSION: ENVIRONMENT, IDENTITY, SOCIETY The Easter E.g.- Changing Perceptions of Cultural and Biological “Aliens” Tom Fowler, Joel Alves, Carly Ameen, Greger Larson, Luke John Murphy, Philip Shaw, and Naomi Sykes
1400	Cultural Choice or Climatic Determinism? Understanding the Spread of Agriculture in the Western Balkans Anne Sommières
1420	Using agent-based models to test the effect of environment circumscription on the evolution of social complexity Alice Williams and Thomas Currie
1440	Conviviality and Landscape Michael Given
1500	Integrated approaches to investigating early farming systems: microarchaeology of livestock dung Marta Portillo

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1520-1550	Coffee break
1550	SESSION: APPROACHES IN PALAEOENVIRONMENT STUDIES From micromammals to paleoenvironments: an actualistic model Orr Comay and Tamar Dayan
1610	Changing distribution of the Mastic tree (<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i>) in Western Iberia. Inferences from archaeobotanical finds Leonardo Gondim Carvalho de Fonte, and Pedro Beja, and João Pedro Tereso
1630	Counting Sheep: coprophilous fungal spores as a proxy for herbivore abundance Althea L. Davies
1650	Stable C and N isotopes in crops from Neolithic and Bronze Age Poland: sample accessibility and agriculture development at the edge of the world Aldona Mueller-Bieniek, Maria Lityńska, Marek Nowak, and Joanna Pyzel
1710	END

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

(in alphabetical order)

The AGRICHANGE Project (2018-2021): an integrated approach to agricultural change and climate during the Neolithic period in Western Europe

Ferran Antolín, Simone Haberle, Ana Jesus, Héctor, Matinez-Grau, Georgina Prats, Marguerita Schäfer, and Bigna L. Steiner

Isotopes, Microscopes, and Fish Bones: Applying Analytical Science to Iron Age Archaeofaunal Study

Alex Fitzpatrick

How can archaeological sites contribute to environmental education?

Tomas Gerich

The Pastoral Environment: an interdisciplinary review of faunal assemblages in the British Late Bronze Age

Roxanne Guildford

Agency and Artefacts

Frances Hall

Aliens: A Tool for Documenting the Archaeology of Invasive Species

Courtney A. Hofman and Karissa S. Hughes

How agricultural practices adapted to diverse environments? A case study from Southwest China

Rita Dal Martello

The portrayal of rabbits and hares in the Medieval period and their religious associations

Esther Pilgrim

Did domesticated rice originate in south-western Sri Lanka independently?

R. Premathilake

"Of rodents and men"- The evolution and nature of human-micromammal relationships in prehistoric Orkney and Scotland

Andrzej Aleksander Romaniuk

Association for Environmental Archaeology Conference (University of Edinburgh, 1-3 December 2017)

Bones of Transition: Iron Age-Roman Zooarchaeological Assemblages from East Wear Cliff, Kent

Katharine Steinke

The Landscape of Medieval Bərdə, Azerbaijan 6th-13th Centuries AD.

David Stone

Investigating the feasibility of reinstating the 'natural' woodland of the Highlands by using long-term palaeoecological records

J.E. Sybenga , S. Timpany, R. Anderson, and M. Smith

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Early registration runs to 10 November 2017, after this date a late booking fee will apply. Early registration costs:

Student, AEA member: £60

Student, non-AEA member: £70

AEA member: £80

Non-AEA member: £90

Please email AEA2017@ed.ac.uk with any enquiries.

Conference organisers

Robin Bendrey, Andrew Dugmore, Eva Panagiotakopulu, Xavier Rubio-Campillo (University of Edinburgh)

Organising Committee

Andrzej Romaniuk, Katharine Steinke, Angela Boyle, Roxanne Guildford (University of Edinburgh)

Acknowledgements

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