

Kom al-Ahmer—Kom Wasit in Context: Exploring the Dynamics of Ptolemaic and Roman Egypt

international Conference
university of leicester
12 – 14 November 2025





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Welcome

We are delighted to welcome you to Leicester for the upcoming conference, **Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit in Context: Exploring the Dynamics of Ptolemaic and Roman Egypt**, which will take place from November 12-14, 2025.

This conference brings together a diverse group of specialists working on Egyptian Archaeology and related disciplines. Participants include archaeologists, historians, ceramicists, Coptic period experts, and Egyptologists. We are also pleased to welcome archivists and scholars of North African archaeology, whose perspective will contribute to a broader understanding of regional dynamics and cross-cultural interactions.

The main focus of the conference will be the Ptolemaic Kingdom, and Egypt as a Roman Province, including its role within the Eastern Roman Empire. Central to our discussions will be the case study of Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit, located in the Western Nile Delta. This event marks the culmination of thirteen years of fieldwork and the publication of the third volume in the *Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit* series.

This long-term research project has contributed significantly to rewriting the history of Alexandria's Hinterland through intensive archaeological investigations. It has established a model that has yielded a remarkable wealth of data for understanding the dynamics of the region, not only during the Ptolemaic and Roman periods but also from the Late Dynastic era through to the Islamic period.

We will also take a moment to remember two distinguished scholars who have passed away in recent years: Judith McKenzie and Rafal Czerner.

In memory of Judith McKenzie, a dedicated session will focus on Alexandria and its regional connections with Petra and the Levant, reflecting two of her main research areas and scholarly contribution.

In memory of Rafal Czerner, we will turn our attention to the north coast of Egypt, exploring its interactions with Marmarica, Cyrenaica, Rome, and beyond; themes that were central to his work on architecture and regional connectivity with the Mediterranean.

Finally, we will explore a new project on Egypt led by Richard Thomas, alongside presentations covering a range of topics from upper Egypt, including Ptolemaic, Roman, and Coptic sites.

The outcomes of this conference will be brought together in an edited, peer-reviewed volume titled, *The Dynamics of Ptolemaic and Roman Egypt*, which will also include contributions extending to earlier and later periods.

We look forward to seeing you in Leicester.





Code of Conduct

Our Commitment to a Positive Experience

Our conference is a place for everyone to feel welcome and included. This code of conduct outlines our shared expectations for a safe and positive environment for all participant, including attendees, speakers, volunteers, organisers, venue staff, and sponsors.

Expected Behaviours

We encourage you to engage in a way that makes our conference a great experience for everyone. Here's how you can help:

Be respectful and considerate. Treat all participants with dignity and kindness. Remember that everyone brings a unique perspective and background.

Be mindful of your surroundings. Be aware of others and your environment to ensure a safe space for everyone.

Be collaborative. We are all here to learn and connect, so please be open to new ideas and friendly conversations.

Cooperate with staff. Please follow all event and venue rules and listen to any instructions from conference staff.

Speak up. If you notice a dangerous situation, or see someone in distress, please alert a conference organiser immediately so we can help.

Unacceptable Behaviour

Our goal is to create a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere. We have a zero-tolerance policy for any form of harassment, discrimination, or demeaning behaviour. Any participant asked to stop such behaviour is expected to comply immediately.

If a participant violates this code of conduct, conference organisers will take appropriate action, which may include being removed from the conference.



Programme



Professor Dr. Eng. Arch. Rafał Czerner (1958–2024)

Rafał Czerner was a distinguished scholar, architect, and conservator specializing in ancient architecture. His broad research interests included ancient, medieval, and contemporary architecture, as well as the conservation of archaeological sites.

He participated in numerous archaeological missions across the globe, including in Egypt, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Ukraine, Italy, Peru, and Bolivia. He was deeply involved with the Polish-Egyptian Conservation Mission in Marina el-Alamein, serving as its head from 2012 to 2018.

At the Wrocław University of Technology, Professor Czerner was a revered lecturer and, from 2014, led the Department of History of Architecture, Art, and Technology. He also served as Chairman of the Scientific Discipline Council of Architecture and Urban Planning and was twice elected to the University Senate.

His research at Marina el-Alamein focused on a specific type of geometric architectural decoration from the Hellenistic and Roman periods, known as the "Marina type," a style particularly associated with the blocked-out Corinthian capital. He published his findings in his monograph, *The Architectural Decoration of Marina el-Alamein* (2009), and numerous articles.

In addition to his academic work, Czerner was an active organizer of conferences and exhibitions, including a major exhibition on the 20 Years of the Egyptian-Polish Conservation Mission Marina el-Alamein at the National Museum in Alexandria.



Associate Professor Judith McKenzie (1957-2019)

Judith McKenzie was a distinguished scholar of Graeco-Roman and Late Antique Egyptian art and architecture, and Alexandria in particular. She was also an expert on Nabataean art.

A committed academic, McKenzie began her career at Oxford University in 1987, where she contributed immensely significant works in the fields of archaeology, art, and religious change in sacred spaces. In 2003, she directed the Khirbet et-Tannur Nabatean Temple Project. Recognizing the need for accessible resources, she co-founded the Manar al-Athar photo archive in 2012, an open-access database of archaeological sites in the Middle East that has grown to become one of the largest of its kind. In 2016, she began her last undertaking as the principal investigator on the project Monumental Art of the Christian and Early Islamic East: Cultural Identities and Classical Heritage.

Her extensive research resulted in several influential publications, including; *The Architecture of Petra* (1990), *The Architecture of Alexandria and Egypt, c. 300 BC – AD 700* (2007), *The Nabataean Temple at Khirbet et-Tannur* (2013), and *The Garima Gospels: Early Illuminated Gospel Books from Ethiopia* (2016).

Day 1

12 November 2025

9:30 - 9:45

Welcome

Ruth Young - Head of the School of Heritage and Culture

Rasha Hussein A. Mostafa - Cultural Attaché and Bureau Director. Egyptian Bureau for Cultural & Educational Affairs. The Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt - UK

Michele Asolati **Mohamed Kenawi** and **Cristina Mondin** - Project Directors

Panel 1: Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit: Western Nile Delta

9:45 - 10:30

Mohamed Kenawi

The Western Delta: Why? An Overview on Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit 2012–2025

10:30 – 10:50

Presentation of Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit I, II and III

10:50 - 11:00

Discussion & Questions



11:00 - 11:20

COFFEE BREAK



11:20 - 11:40

Audrey Eller

The Metelite Nome in Context: Historical Geography and Archaeology in the Northwestern Delta

11:40 - 12:00

Hannah Ringheim

Following the Scent: Greek Pottery and Imitations at Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit

12:00 - 12:20

Cristina Mondin

The Occupation of Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit Based on Ceramic Evidence

12:20 - 12:40

Erika Sbarra, Christine Johnston, Giovanna Bellandi, Mirko Furlanetto, Viviana Civitella, and Katia Gavagnin

The Results of the 2025 Fieldwork

Day 1

12 November 2025

12:40 - 12:50

Discussion & Questions



12:50 - 13:30

GROUP PHOTO & LUNCH



13:30 - 13:50

Giorgia Marchiori

What Happens Under One's Roof? Inside and Beyond the House: Insights from Domestic Archaeology at Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit, Western Nile Delta

13:50 - 14:10

Maria Lucia Patanè

Food System, Domestic Space, and Household Core in the Hellenistic Period: The Case Study of a Tower House at Kom Wasit

14:10 - 14:30

Alessandra Morrone and Marta Colmenares

The First Burials of Kom Wasit: Preliminary Human Bioarcheological Results

14:30 - 14:40

Discussion & Questions



14:40 - 15:00

COFFEE BREAK



Panel 2: Alexandria and Judith McKenzie

15:00 - 15:20

Damian Robinson and Franck Goddio

Recreating Meaning and Alexandria's Maritime Façade from the Ptolemaic to the Roman Period

15:20 - 15:40

Mariette de Vos Raaijmakers and Redha Attoui

Hadrian on the Nile in the So-called Palestra Complex in His Villa near Tivoli

15:40 - 16:00

Robert Bewley

Jordan, Judith, and Petra

Day 1

12 November 2025

16:00 - 16:20

Andy Reyes

The Re-Use of Sacred Spaces in the Levant

16:20 - 16:30

Discussion & Questions

16:30 - 17:30

DRINKS AND REFRESHMENTS

Drinks and refreshments are generously supported by:



19:00

**Dinner at the Belmont Hotel
Speakers and Invited Guests**

Panel 3: Alexandria's Hinterland

09:30 - 09:50

Katherine Blouin

The Bigger Picture: On Storying the Nile Delta through Transhistorical and Land-Based Approaches

09:50 - 10:10

Robert Schiestl and Heike Möller

Living in Ruins: First Insights into the Graeco-Roman Settlement at Kom el-Gir in the Central Northwestern Delta

10:10 - 10:30

Aurélia Masson-Berghoff

A New Well from the Hellenion: Technologies and Beliefs in Contact at Naukratis

10:30 - 10:40

Discussion & Questions

10:40 - 11:00

COFFEE BREAK

11:00 - 11:20

Cristina Mondin

Rosetta and Abu Mandour in Transition: Notes on Late Roman and Early Byzantine Occupation

11:20 - 11:40

Aude Simony

Kom Bahig: A Site in the Mareotic Region During the Ptolemaic and Roman Periods

11:40 - 12:00

Pascale Ballet and Patrice Georges-Zimmermann

The Town of Bouto in Greco-Roman Rimes: State of Research

12:00 - 12:10

Discussion & Questions

12:10 - 13:00

LUNCH

Panel 4: Too Far Away? Beyond Alexandria's Hinterland: Remembering Rafal Czermer

13:00 - 13:20

Grażyna Bąkowska-Czerner

Marina el-Alamein and El Darazya – On the Borderland of Egypt and Marmarica

13:20 - 13:40

Ahmed Buzaian

Interactions between Cyrenaica and Egypt: From Ptolemaic Rule to the Byzantine Era

13:40 - 14:00

Lea Rees

Dahshur Beyond the Pyramids: Communities and Memory in Late- and Post-Pharaonic Egypt

14:00 - 14:10

Discussion & Questions

14:30 - 16:30

Visit to the Leicester Museum & Art Gallery

Panel 5: Middle and Upper Egypt

09:30 - 09:50

Richard Thomas, Richard Bibb, Joanne Cooper, Lidija McKnight, Campbell Prince, and Chris Stimpson

Raptors Unwrapped: The Exploitation of Birds of Prey in Late and Ptolemaic Egypt

09:50 - 10:10

Rim Saleh

The Private Egyptian Kitchens from the Persian to the Ptolemaic Period: A Bridge Between Cultures? Examples from the Delta

10:10 - 10:30

Anne Marie Williamson

The Future is Archived: Unlocking New Knowledge in Archaeology Through Digital Innovation

10:30 - 10:40

Discussion & Questions

10:40 - 11:00



COFFEE BREAK



11:00 - 11:20

Melanie Flossmann-Schütze

The Residential Areas of Hermopolis Magna and Tuna el-Gebel in Greco-Roman Times: Tower Houses, Waste Pits, and Papyrological Sources

11:20 - 11:40

Gertrud J.M. van Loon

Around Antinoupolis: Monastic Settlements in Quarries and Tombs

11:40 - 12:00

Hana Navratilova

Multilingual Epigraphic Corpora - Examples from Pyramid Precincts and the Temple of Seti I at Abydos

12:00 - 12:20

Audrey Eller

Rediscovering Hiw: New Field Research in a Nome Capital of Upper Egypt

Day 3

14 November 2025



12:20 - 12:30

Discussion & Questions



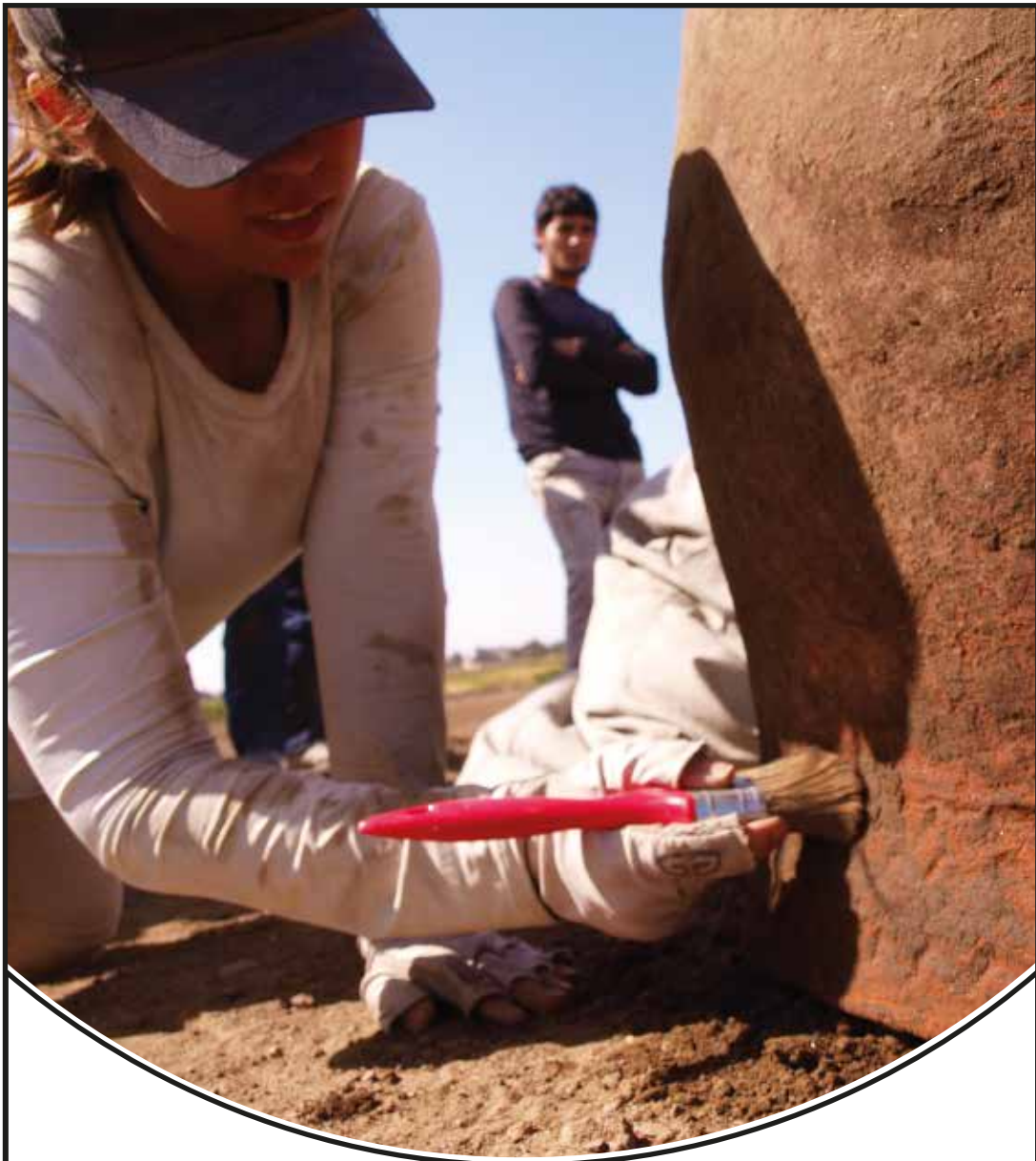
12:30 - 12:40

Closing Remarks

Cristina Mondin

Mohamed Kenawi

Anne Marie Williamson



Abstracts & Biographies

KENAWI, MOHAMED**The Western Delta: Why? An Overview on Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit
2012–2025****Panel 1: Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit: Western Nile Delta****09:45–10:30****Abstract:**

Since 2012, a multidisciplinary project has carried out intensive excavations and a comprehensive study programme at two of the largest Graeco-Roman sites in Beheira Province, part of Alexandria's hinterland. To date, it remains the only project that has focused exclusively on investigating this region for over 13 years.

Our understanding and dating of the area have evolved significantly thanks to both published and unpublished results from the project.

In this lecture, I will present an overview of the project's work, highlight selected findings, discuss the final phase of occupation and abandonment, address challenges in dating, and outline the project's future directions.



KENAWI, MOHAMED

About the Speaker:

Mohamed Kenawi is an archaeologist specialised in Hellenistic and Roman archaeology. He is a Research Associate at the School of Archaeology and Ancient History, University of Leicester. Previously, he worked as a Researcher and Training Manager at the School of Archaeology, University of Oxford, for the Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa (EAMENA) Project. From 2011 to 2016, he served as Head Researcher at the Hellenistic Centre of Bibliotheca Alexandrina before becoming Acting Director from 2016 to 2017.

He has taught at the American University in Cairo, Catania University, the Arab Academy for Science and Technology, and Al-Farabi Kazakh National University. Additionally, he has contributed to various archaeological and heritage projects in Italy, Libya, Jordan, and Egypt for over 20 years.

ELLER, AUDREY

The Metelite Nome in Context: Historical Geography and Archaeology in the Northwestern Delta

Panel 1: Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit: Western Nile Delta

11:20-11:40

Abstract:

During the Hellenistic and Roman periods, the boundaries of Egyptian nomes shifted frequently, with new cities rising to the status of capitals as a result of their increasing influence and prosperity. The abundance of preserved sources in both Greek and Egyptian – papyri, coins, and inscriptions – provides valuable insight into this dynamic process.

The Metelite nome, apparently established during the Roman period, and its capital, Metelis, long remained poorly localized. References to the region are scarce and derive mainly from Pliny the Elder, Claudius Ptolemy, and Stephanus of Byzantium, all of whom suggest a location in the northwestern Delta, not far from Alexandria. Mentions of the Metelite nome and its capital are limited to a handful of Greek papyri, a Greek inscription, and a few nome coins, all dating to the Roman era.

A decade of work by the Italian archaeological mission at Kom al-Ahmar and Kom Wasit has identified a very promising candidate for the location of Metelis. This presentation will explore the history of the city, particularly during the Ptolemaic and Roman periods, drawing on the available textual and material sources.

The creation of the nome under Roman rule will also be contextualized within broader historical and administrative developments.



ELLER, AUDREY

About the Speaker:

Audrey Eller is an archaeologist and ceramologist, Aude Simony defended in 2016 her PhD on ceramic production in the Western part of the Nile Delta during Early Roman period. Currently research engineer at CNRS, she takes part in the excavations and surveys conducted by Centre d'Etudes Alexandrines (CEAlex, UAR 3134), notably that of Kom Bahig, where she has been directing excavations since 2019. She is also involved in several missions in Western Delta such as Bouto/Tell Fara'in and Kom Abu Billu/Terenouthis.

RINGHEIM, HANNAH

Following the Scent: Greek Pottery and Imitations at Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit

Panel 1: Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit: Western Nile Delta

11:40-12:00

Abstract:

This paper explores a distinctive assemblage of Attic black-glaze pottery and local imitations dating from the late 5th to 4th centuries BCE, discovered at Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit in Egypt's Western Nile Delta. Although such Greek wares are typically treated as ubiquitous trade goods in broader Mediterranean scholarship, their presence in these two long-term settlement sites offers valuable insight into local consumption patterns, domestic practices, and cross-cultural connectivity.

Rather than generic markers of trade, these vessels—especially perfume containers and tableware—reveal specific regional preferences. The demand for Attic-style perfume flasks, for instance, speaks not only to Egypt's own thriving oil and perfume industries, but also to the prestige and functional adaptability of Greek containers for local products. The assemblage sheds light on localised trade routes within the Delta and on connections to major coastal hubs such as Thonis-Heracleion.

These imports, alongside their local imitations, demonstrate how Greek ceramic forms were woven into the fabric of daily life in Egyptian settlements. Far from being passive recipients of foreign goods, the communities at Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit actively integrated these wares into existing traditions, negotiating identity, function, and connectivity through material culture.

By focusing on a small but telling corpus, this study repositions Attic imports not as mere indicators of trade, but as dynamic components of intercultural exchange and local practice in the Western Delta.



RINGHEIM, HANNAH

About the Speaker:

Dr. Ringheim is an Archaeologist turned entrepreneur, with a passion for innovation in cultural heritage.

She earned her PhD in Archaeology from the University of Oxford in 2018 and has held lecturing positions at ETH Zürich and the University of Edinburgh, as well as research posts in Athens and Israel.

Over the past 16 years, she has participated in excavations across the Mediterranean, including Egypt, Greece, Israel, Turkey, and Cyprus.

Her research focuses on ancient trade, warfare, and cross-cultural interaction, with a growing interest in integrating emerging technologies, such as AI and Extended Reality, into archaeological practice.

She is currently Co-Founder of a Zürich-based start-up that uses Mixed Reality to reconstruct historical sites, making the past accessible in immersive and innovative ways.

MONDIN, CRISTINA**The Occupation of Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit Based on Ceramic Evidence****Panel 1: Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit: Western Nile Delta****12:00-12:20****Abstract:**

Over the course of 13 years of archaeological excavations at the sites of Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit, 20 sectors located in various parts of the archaeological areas have been investigated. The decision to excavate such a wide number of areas was shaped by several factors, including the site's orography and its differing states of preservation. It also reflects one of the core research questions that initiated the project in 2012: What was the role of this settlement in the Western Delta?

With this overarching aim, the present paper focuses on the results of the study of ceramic materials, offering a synthesis of the chronology and transformation of occupation across more than a millennium of settlement history, ranging from the 26th Dynasty to the early Islamic period.

Three main aspects will be examined:

1. The diachronic development of the settlement, as revealed through the evolution of neighbourhoods shaped by construction, abandonment, and reuse;
2. The occupation of residential quarters in relation to the social status of their inhabitants;
3. The commercial networks of the sites within Egypt and the wider Mediterranean, and how these connections changed over time.

**MONDIN, CRISTINA**

About the Speaker:

Cristina Mondin is an Associate Researcher at the University of Padua, currently on secondment to the American University in Cairo. She is conducting a project funded by the European MSCA (Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions) programme, dedicated to the application of new technologies, particularly Artificial Intelligence, to the documentation of archaeological materials and ceramics from excavations.

From 2015 to 2024, she was Manager of the Civic Museum of Asolo (Italy), where she was responsible for organising conferences, exhibitions, and research on the permanent collection. During this period, she also conducted and published research on the Roman and Medieval aqueducts of the city and promoted biographical studies on the English traveller and writer Freya Stark, who lived in Asolo and travelled extensively in the Middle East.

She is currently the co-ordinator of the *Kom al-Ahmer/Kom Wasit archaeological project* and the *Rosetta project in Egypt*. Additionally, she is co-principal investigator in two research projects in collaboration with Boğaziçi University (Türkiye): *Manufacturing Goods: The Economy of Late Roman Central Anatolia* and the *Tarsus Gözlükule Excavation – Roman Contexts*. She also co-manages the social media presence of the academic journal *Rei Cretariae Romanae Fautores* and serves as Egypt correspondent for the journal *Instrumentum*.

SBARRA, ERIKA; JOHNSTON, CHRISTINE; BELLANDI, GIOVANNA; FURLANETTO, MIRKO; CIVITELLA, VIVIANA; and GAVAGNIN, KATIA

The Results of the 2025 Fieldwork

Panel 1: Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit: Western Nile Delta

12:20-12:40

Abstract:

In 2025, the Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit Archaeological Project conducted a field season focused on the mid-Roman cemetery that occupied part of the tholoi bath complex. Archaeologists and anthropologists collaborated to gather concrete data on the burials and to enable comprehensive analysis. In this lecture, we will explore the different burial typologies and present a first glance at the results.

**SBARRA, ERIKA**

About the Speaker:

Erika Sbarra is a post graduated researcher in archaeology. She holds a Master of Arts in Archaeology, specifically in OEVO, Orientalistica: Egitto e Vicino Oriente, at University of Pisa. She completed her bachelor in Lettere e Beni Culturali, curriculum archaeology, in University of Calabria. Her master thesis focused on an architectural and symbolic comparison between the Egyptian pyramids and the pyramids in other cultures, looking for similarities and differences and a point of conjunction. Since 2024, she is engaged in the archaeological project of Kom al-Ahmer and Wasit and Rosetta with the University of Padua under the direction of Dr. Mohamed Kenawi, Dr. Cristina Mondin and Dr. Giorgia Marchiori.

MARCHIORI, GIORGIA

What Happens Under One's Roof? Inside and Beyond the House: Insights from Domestic Archaeology at Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit, Western Nile Delta

Panel 1: Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit: Western Nile Delta

13:30-13:50

Abstract:

This presentation offers a reflection on the investigation of domestic contexts at Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit between 2014 and 2024. In Egyptian archaeology, significant resources have been devoted to the study of larger structures—often administrative, mortuary, public, or religious in nature—primarily associated with the secular and religious elite; fewer have been dedicated to examining smaller, and at times less sophisticated, buildings linked to common people. Efforts at Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit have uncovered two early Ptolemaic tower houses at Kom Wasit, fifteen buildings of the early Ptolemaic residential district of Kom al-Ahmer, and one Late Antique house, also at Kom al-Ahmer. In the challenging environment of the Nile Delta, humid conditions hinder the preservation of organic material, leading to the loss of much evidence and a scarcity of textual information. This limitation narrows the scope for anthropological inquiries into the social dynamics among inhabitants, families, and households. Relying heavily on the surviving archaeological evidence unearthed from domestic contexts, this presentation showcases the results obtained so far in reconstructing aspects of the everyday realities of the settlements' inhabitants and will consider contemporary challenges as a proxy for gaining further insight on the social complexity at the sites.

MARCHIORI, GIORGIA

About the Speaker:

Giorgia Marchiori is an archaeologist specialising in Graeco-Roman Egypt, domestic archaeology, and survey. She is a Research Associate at the University of Leicester and has worked on several prominent projects in the Nile Delta. Her work primarily focuses on analysing the daily lives of ancient communities through the lens of their domestic and urban contexts.

She has an MSc in GIS and Spatial Analysis in Archaeology from the University College London Institute of Archaeology and a PhD from Durham University. Her doctoral research explored Late Antique housing in the Western Nile Delta, focusing on a case study mudbrick house dating back to the early 5th century CE from the site of Kom al-Ahmer in Beheira. This research sheds light on domestic life, architecture, and the interplay between regional and Roman influences during Late Antiquity.

Additionally, she has co-authored works like *Unearthing Alexandria's Archaeology: The Italian Contribution*, which highlights Italian archaeological efforts in Alexandria from the late 19th to mid-20th centuries, and co-edited the third volume of the excavation monograph series of the Kom al-Ahmer – Kom Wasit Archaeological Project, which focuses on the Ptolemaic residential districts of the two sites.

She was the field director of the Kom al-Ahmer – Kom Wasit Archaeological Project from 2014 to 2024.

PATANÉ, MARIA LUCIA

Food System, Domestic Space, and Household Core in the Hellenistic Period: The Case Study of the House of the Hunter at Kom Wasit – Western Nile Delta

Panel 1: Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit: Western Nile Delta

13:50-14:10

Abstract:

In Egypt, archaeological research on food has traditionally focused on the analysis of food remains from funerary contexts of the Pharaonic period, particularly from tombs of royals or high-status individuals. This approach has offered a limited view, primarily reflecting the nutritional practices of the elite and allowing only a partial reconstruction of ancient diets.

A more comprehensive understanding of food systems requires a multidisciplinary approach, combining material culture, textual sources, and bioarchaeological data. A significant gap in current scholarship is the absence of specific studies on food archaeology in Delta sites during the Hellenistic and Roman periods.

This paper addresses this issue by presenting preliminary results from the analysis of ceramic assemblages associated with food preparation, storage, and transport from Hellenistic domestic contexts in a tower house (Unit 11) at Kom Wasit, located in the western Nile Delta. The aim is to investigate the use of domestic space through ceramic typology and functionality, and to reconstruct the social profile of the inhabitants.

The study integrates typological and functional analysis of pottery with iconographic and literary sources, in order to identify food consumption patterns within the household. Faunal remains from various parts of the building support the interpretation. The evidence allows a reconstruction of spatial functions and suggests a middle-to-lower social status for the occupants. This contrasts with findings from another tower house (Unit 9), likely contemporary, where material evidence points to a higher social standing.

The research contributes new insights into daily food practices in the Hellenistic Delta, enhancing the discussion on socio-economic and cultural organization in domestic contexts.

**PATANÉ, MARIA LUCIA**

About the Speaker:

Maria Lucia Patanè is a PhD candidate in Archaeology at the Department of Cultural Heritage, University of Padua. She earned her Master's degree in Archaeology from the University of Catania, with a specialization in the material culture of the Hellenistic and Roman periods. She has taken part in numerous excavation campaigns in Sicily and abroad (Nea Paphos, Cyprus), collaborating with the Superintendencies of Catania, Enna, Messina, and Syracuse, the Pontifical Commission for Christian Archaeology, the CNR/IBAM of Catania, and the École Française de Rome. Since 2014, she has been a member of the Kom al-Ahmer/Kom Wasit Archaeological Project. In recent years, she has also contributed to research projects in Middle and Upper Egypt in collaboration with the Universities of Padua, Leicester (UK), and Geneva (Switzerland). She has presented papers at conferences and study days focusing on Hellenistic and Roman pottery in Sicily and Egypt, with particular attention to the study of ancient food systems.

MORRONE, ALESSANDRA and COLMENARES, MARTA**The First Burials of Kom Wasit: Preliminary Human Bioarchaeological Results****Panel 1: Kom al-Ahmer and Kom Wasit: Western Nile Delta****14:10-14:30****Abstract:**

Despite its socio-economic significance during the Greek, Ptolemaic, and Roman periods, the Western Delta remains an emerging focus in Egyptian archaeology, particularly with regard to the study of human skeletal remains. Excavations carried out in 2016 at Kom Wasit (VII century BCE–III century AD, Beheira province) revealed the site's reuse as a cemetery during the mid-Roman period. Among the findings were terracotta sarcophagi, amphorae, and 24 human skeletons, nine of which were excavated and recovered. The cemetery is believed to extend over a much larger, as yet unexplored, area.

This presentation introduces the pilot bioarchaeological study of the human remains recovered from Kom Wasit. Initial excavations, supervised by on-site anthropologists, were followed by macroscopic and morphometric analyses during the 2025 fieldwork season. These analyses aimed to reconstruct biological profiles, assess health indicators, and conduct radiocarbon and stable isotope analyses to explore diet and health. The results of this first intervention will be presented, including a paleodemographic assessment and paleopathological overview of the site, with a focus on selected case studies of particular interest. Future research directions of this project will also be outlined. By contextualizing these findings within the historical framework of the region, this interdisciplinary study contributes to a better understanding of Graeco-Roman living conditions and lays the groundwork for continued bioarchaeological investigation in the Western Delta.

About the Speaker:

MORRONE, ALESSANDRA

Alessandra Morrone is a postdoctoral researcher in bioarchaeology at the University of Tartu (Estonia) and a staff member of the University of Tartu Archemy Lab and the “Health and Disease in Sicily” project. She is particularly interested in health and diet disparities across age and gender groups, especially in relation to infant feeding practices, which she examines through palaeopathology and stable isotope analyses.

Alessandra participates in several bioarchaeological and forensic projects across Italy, Estonia, Lithuania, Sweden, and Egypt. In the Kom Wasit archaeological mission, she is supervising the excavations of the burials, conducting the osteological assessments, and taking samples for biogeochemical studies. She will then perform collagen extraction for C and N stable isotope analysis to perform dietary and stress reconstruction.



COLMENARES, MARTA

She is currently working towards a PhD, focusing on the use of biogeochemical techniques—specifically molecular (FTIR-ATR) and elemental (Direct Mercury Analysis, ICP-MS)—to study archaeological human remains associated with various funerary practices, such as inhumation, cremation, and artificial mummification. Marta did two research stays at the Department of Archaeology and Classical Studies in Stockholm University to learn the slow precipitation of silver phosphates protocol preparation for analysing oxygen isotopes in human and animal bones.



ROBINSON, DAMIAN and FRANCK GODDIO

Recreating Meaning and Alexandria's Maritime Façade from the Ptolemaic to the Roman Period

Panel 2: Alexandria and Judith McKenzie

15:00-15:20

Abstract:

Discussions of the Pharos of Alexandria often centre on its role guiding ships to the great Portus Magnus from far out to sea and of it being a symbol of Ptolemaic wealth and power. Once in the harbour, however, the view of the city that vessels were confronted with is seldom discussed. In this paper we will investigate the changing nature of the maritime façade of Alexandria – the highly visible palaces and temples observable from the waters of the Portus Magnus – and consider how these buildings helped to create and define a range of meanings about how the ruling elite of Alexandria wished to portray themselves to those arriving in the harbour. Using evidence provided by excavations undertaken by the *Institut Européen d'Archéologie Sous-Marine* we will show how Alexandria's monumental biography changes to reflect the aspirations of its rulers across the Ptolemaic and into the Roman period and how the meanings attached to some of its buildings, notably the visual axis comprising of the Royal Palace and Iseum on Antirrhodos Island and the Caesarium, flex in line with changing attitudes and aspirations, while others such as the Pharos and the temple of Poseidon remain more constant in their messaging. The lighthouse was thus just one component of a much larger monumental biography with the view from the sea a complex façade replete with changing meaning.

About the Speakers:

ROBINSON, DAMIAN

Damian Robinson is the Director of the Oxford Centre for Maritime Archaeology in the School of Archaeology, University of Oxford. He is a classical archaeologist who works with the team from the *Institut Européen d'Archéologie Sous-Marine* on the research and publication of the submerged port cities of Canopic coast. He is currently completing a volume with Franck Goddio on a Roman-era ship's boat found in the Royal Port of Antirrhodos Island.

GODDIO, FRANCK

Franck Goddio is the President of the *Institut Européen d'Archéologie Sous-Marine*. He directs the research and excavation of the eastern harbour of Alexandria and the submerged cities of Thonis-Heracleion and Canopus in Aboukir Bay, which are supported by the Hilti Foundation. Goddio has recently published a volume on the excavation of the Iseum on Antirrhodos Island, which was destroyed in an earthquake in the Claudian period.

DE VOS RAAIJMAKERS, MARIETTE and ATTOUI, REDHA

Hadrian on the Nile in the So-called Palestra Complex in His Villa near Tivoli

Panel 2: Alexandria and Judith McKenzie

15:20-15:40

Abstract:

The Palestra complex built around 134 BCE after Hadrian's return from Egypt and Antinous' drowning in the Nile in 130 CE, was purposely chose the peripheral area near the Acqua Ferrata river to the north of his villa at Tivoli to commemorate the tragic event in an articulated building by Egyptianizing sculptures and wall decorations. Antinous' deification process to Osirantinoos is visualized by interaction of scenes and depiction style from the Egyptian Book of the Death and monstra guarding the entrance to the underworld described in the Greco-Roman world in Homer's Nekyia, Virgil's Aeneid book 6 and Ovid's Tristia 4.7.11-19. The paper contains illustration and analysis of the polychrome Egyptian figures painted in the coffered vaults of room 1 and of the Greco-Roman monstra in cameo style in white stucco relief emerging from an Egyptian blue background in the vaults of room 5. This representation style seems inspired by the faience inlays of wall tiles in the Ramesside palaces at Qantir and Tell el-Yahoudiyah in the eastern Nile Delta.



DE VOS RAAIJMAKERS, MARIETTE

About the Speaker:

Mariette de vos Raaijmakers holds a PhD in Classics from Leiden University, and was a Professor of Classical Archaeology at Trento University from 1988-2014. Her research spans territorial and rural archaeology, with a focus on ancient settlements in Roman Italy, Tunisia, Algeria, and Türkiye.

She has directed archaeological and topographic surveys across these regions including, Dougga (1994-2000, 2007-14), Eastern Algeria (Oued Jenane, Lac Tounga 2003-05 and 2010, Bougous, Ain Karma 2006, Tarf 2008, Chaffia, Souk Ahras 2009, Madauros 2010-11, Annaba 2013, Zitouna 2021-2025), and in Eastern Türkiye (Karasis 2003-2005), and, has worked on excavations in Isera, Rome, and Ain Wassel

De vos Raaijmakers' interests also include Hellenistic and Roman art history, domestic architecture, studia pompeiana, and oriental religions in the Roman Empire. She is the recipient of the prestigious Prix Serge Lancel Award (2022), and has held fellowships at Dumbarton Oaks and Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung. She has published over 200 publications,

<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9981-9443>.

BEWLEY, ROBERT**Jordan, Judith and Petra****Panel 2: Alexandria and Judith McKenzie****15:40-16:00****Abstract:**

Research at Petra, using aerial imagery, grew out of the synergy between Judith, the Aerial Archaeology in Jordan project and the Endangered Archaeology (EAMENA) project. Having met Judith in Oxford for the first time in 2015, one day I was summonsed - one of the "Let's meet for coffee" messages. This was one of many memorable events in the Café Rouge (now closed). Maps were laid out over many tables and eventually a kernel of what was needed, emerged. Judith's knowledge of Petra was encyclopedic. Yet her concern for the condition of archaeological sites was also ingrained in everything she did; her approach was not just to understand the archaeology and the "story" of a site, but also to improve their preservation for future generations. This chimed with my own beliefs and approach, so a joint venture was created.

This paper will highlight the specific aspects of our short period of aerial work at Petra; she changed our approach to photographing Petra, looking "behind the sites". Her concern was that many of the tombs and architectural features in Petra were at risk from natural erosion and splitting away from the (vertical) planes of rock.

The paper will also examine the wider work of aerial archaeology in Jordan, and the region. It will also look ahead to the changing nature of aerial imagery, and the increasing threats from climate change.

**BEWLEY, ROBERT**

About the Speaker:

Dr Robert Bewley is a Research Associate at the School of Archaeology, Oxford. An expert in landscape archaeology, his work focuses on aerial survey and the protection of cultural heritage. From 2015 to 2020, he served as the Director of the Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa project, funded by the Arcadia and the Cultural Protection Funds.

<http://eamena.arch.ox.ac.uk>.

Dr. Bewley has extensive fieldwork experience, having directed the Aerial Archaeology in Jordan project since 1998 and established the Aerial Archaeology in Oman project in 2018.

He is the author of seven books including Prehistoric Settlements (1994 and 2003), Aerial Archeology – Developing Future Practice (2002 with W. Raçzkowski), and Ancient Jordan from the Air (2004 with David Kennedy). He has worked in Britain, Europe, the Middle East and North Africa on aerial and field surveys, excavations and aerial archaeology training workshops.

Dr. Bewley's research interests include prehistory, landscape archaeology, heritage protection, aerial survey (he holds a Private Pilot's and a drone License), field survey, endangered archaeology, prehistoric settlement, the Middle East, and North Africa. He received his PhD in Archaeology from the University of Cambridge, and was an undergraduate at Manchester University studying Ancient History and Archaeology.

REYES, ANDRES

The Re-Use of Sacred Spaces in the Levant

Panel 2: Alexandria and Judith McKenzie

16:00-16:20

Abstract:

This brief presentation discusses Judith McKenzie's final archaeological project, left unfinished at her death and shortly to be completed for publication. It is a study of architectural re-use in the ancient world: the move from pagan temple to synagogue, church, or mosque, as different religious traditions spread across the Levant. The phenomenon of 'conversion', usually examined from historical or theological perspectives, is considered here from an archaeological and architectural perspective, from Hellenistic times to the beginnings of the Crusader period. This study will be published in two volumes, one on sites in Lebanon and Syria, the other on evidence from Israel, Jordan, and Palestine.

Previous work on re-use and 'conversion' almost uniformly describes monolithic change imposed from above and uniformly applied. The archaeological and architectural analysis offered here, however, tempers this view and makes it possible to examine the phenomenon from the standpoint of local communities that responded differently to new forces and changing circumstance. The presentation concludes by considering implications that may be drawn from this study for the archaeological re-use of sacred spaces in Egypt during the Roman and Late Antique periods.



REYES, ANDRES

About the Speaker:

Andres Reyes is a member of Wolfson College, Oxford, and an Honorary Research Associate of the Griffith Institute. He is also a Visiting Member of the Faculty of Classics at the University of Oxford. From 1993 to 2021, he taught Greek, Latin, and Archaeology at Groton School Massachusetts.

BLOUIN, KATHERINE

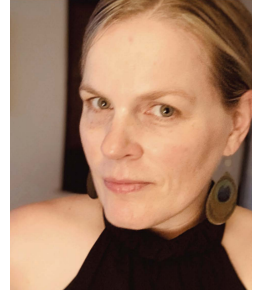
The Bigger Picture: On Storying the Nile Delta through Transhistorical and Land-Based Approaches

Panel 3: Alexandria's Hinterland

09:30-09:50

Abstract:

Drawing from my experience editing the collective volume *The Nile Delta: Histories from Antiquity to the Modern Period* in a time of accelerating climate crisis, I will reflect on what transhistorical and Land-based approaches to the history of this region can teach us, and what potential futurities these combined narratives allow us to (re)imagine.

**BLOUIN, KATHERINE****About the Speaker:**

Katherine Blouin (Ph.D. 2007, Université Laval (Québec) and Université de Nice Sophia Antipolis) is a 12th generation French settler from Québec city. She is the lead editor of *Everyday Orientalism*. Her publications include *Le conflit judéo-alexandrin de 38-41: l'identité juive à l'épreuve* (2005), *Triangular Landscapes: Environment, Society, and the State in the Nile Delta under Roman Rule* (2014), *The Nile Delta: Histories from Antiquity to the Modern Period* (editor, 2024) and *The Routledge Handbook of Classics, Colonialism, and Postcolonial Theory* (coedited with Ben Akrigg, 2024). She is currently working on a book project entitled *Inventing Alexandria*.

SCHIELSTL, ROBERT and MÖLLER, HEIKE

Living in Ruins: First Insights into the Graeco-Roman Settlement at Kom el-Gir in the Central Northwestern Delta

Panel 3: Alexandria's Hinterland

09:50-10:10

Abstract:

The region around Buto (Tell el-Fara'in) in the central northwestern delta was investigated by a survey, under the auspices of the German Archaeological Institute Cairo, with a twofold research question: (1) to study the settlement history of the region and (2) to understand this history in the context of the changes in the regional landscape. Combining different research methods, a fundamentally different landscape for the Graeco-Roman period has emerged, which helps us understand why the new settlements of this period were widely distributed.

In a second phase of the project, one such Graeco-Roman settlement, Kom el-Gir, c. 4 km northeast of Buto (Tell el-Fara'in) was chosen for small scale excavations. First results of the excavation of this settlement will be presented. As the basis of the dating of the archaeological layers relies mostly on pottery, the ceramic finds will be presented in greater detail.

About the Speaker:

SCHIESTL, ROBERT

Robert Schiestl is an historian and Egyptologist with a permanent position at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany. He earned his PhD in Egyptology in 2003 on a late Middle Kingdom cemetery in Avaris (Tell el-Dab'a).

Published as *Tell el-Dabca XVIII. Die Palastnekropole von Tell el-Dabca. Die Gräber der Straten d/2 und d/1 des Areals F/I in Tell el Dabca, Ausgrabungen in Tell el-Dabca, Untersuchungen der Zweigstelle Kairo des Österreichischen Archäologischen Instituts XXX, Denkschriften der Gesamtakademie der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften XLVII, Wien in 2009.*

Schiestl has conducted fieldwork in Egypt; Northeastern Nile delta, Tell el-Dab'a, Heliopolis, Dahshur, central northwestern delta, region of Buto (Tell el-Fara'in), and Kom el-Gir. His research interests include, material culture, in particular pottery, funerary and settlement archaeology, surveys and survey methodology, landscape archaeology, and delta archaeology.

MÖLLER, HEIKE

Heike Möller is a German archaeologist specializing in ceramic research and ancient trade networks/economy studies. She studied Classical Archaeology, Prehistoric Archaeology, and Ancient History at the Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg and the Université de Provence in Aix-en-Provence. She completed her PhD in 2015 with a dissertation on Ptolemaic-Roman pottery production and trade networks in the Eastern Marmarica (Northwest Egypt).

She has served as an Assistant Professor at Aarhus University and as a research associate at the University of Cologne and the German Archaeological Institute (DAI). Her fieldwork spans multiple countries, including Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, and Turkey, where she contributed to several projects. Recent studies focus on Chimtou and Henchir Bourgou/Tunisia; Gadara/Jordan and Marea, the Eastern Marmarica and Kom el-Gir/Egypt.

In addition to her research, Möller has organized teaching programs and workshops, including initiatives on ceramic analysis (eg. German and Arabic films on documentation of ceramic finds (photographing, drawing, processing)). Her publications include monographs, articles, and contributions to international conferences.

MASSON-BERGHOF, AURÉLIA

A New Well from the Hellenion: Technologies and Beliefs in Contact at Naukratis

Panel 3: Alexandria's Hinterland

10:10-10:30

Abstract:

Recent fieldwork at Naukratis by the British Museum has revealed a significant new feature: a fired brick-lined well dating to the early 4th century BC, located within the Hellenion, a large monument in the northern part of the site identified by Herodotus as a Greek sanctuary. It seems to replace an earlier well, constructed during the Saite period and lined with cylindrical terracotta casings. Wells are a recurring feature in Naukratis, with previous examples uncovered in the Greek sanctuaries of Apollo, Aphrodite, and also within the Hellenion itself.

This newly discovered well contributes valuable data to the study of water management technologies in antiquity, particularly as well construction remains an understudied aspect of both pharaonic Egypt and the Greek world. The paper will explore the construction techniques of these successive wells in comparison with other examples from Naukratis, elsewhere in Egypt, and the wider eastern Mediterranean. Finds associated with the well – including a New Year's flask, Bes vases, and ritually 'killed' vessels – strongly suggest a ritual dimension to its use. However, this religious significance was not necessarily, or solely, Greek. The material culture indicates the adoption or adaptation of Egyptian ritual practices, pointing to a cultural milieu that transcends binary distinctions. Ultimately, the evidence from this well invites a rethinking of identity and practice at Naukratis – not as a site defined by rigid cultural boundaries, but as a place of hybrid expression and local character, shaped by diverse and interacting traditions.

**MASSON-BERGHOFF, AURÉLIA**

About the Speaker:

Aurélia Masson-Berghoff is the Curator for Late Period, Ptolemaic and Roman Egypt at the British Museum. An archaeologist specialising in Egyptian material culture of the first millennium BC, her work focuses on settlement and temple contexts, with a particular interest in cross-cultural interactions and trade between Egypt and the wider Mediterranean world.

Since joining the British Museum in 2012, she has been a lead researcher on the Naukratis Project, analysing Egyptian material from this key Delta riverport, and the Western Nile Delta Project, which reassessed the major archaeological survey carried out between 1977 and 1983 in the region around Kom Firin. She also co-curated *Sunken Cities: Egypt's Lost World*, the Museum's first major exhibition of underwater archaeology, showcasing discoveries from the submerged cities of Thonis-Heracleion and Canopus.

Masson-Berghoff has directed and co-directed fieldwork in Egypt, notably in Karnak where her research on the Priests' Quarter explored the evolution of this temple sector, its inhabitants, and its integration within the broader religious and architectural landscape.

Actively involved in several major research programmes, such as the Theban Harbours and Waterscapes Survey, she also initiated and collaborated on scientific studies focusing on ceramics, faience, and metal artefacts, bridging archaeology with interdisciplinary analysis.

MONDIN, CRISTINA

Rosetta and Abu Mandour in Transition: Notes on Late Roman and Early Byzantine Occupation

Panel 3: Alexandria's Hinterland

11:00-11:20

Abstract:

Since 2018, the Amasili House project has been engaged in the renovation and enhancement of one of the most significant Ottoman period buildings in Rosetta. The decision to focus on such a prestigious structure reflects a broader aim of promoting the history and cultural heritage of the city, particularly in relation to its surrounding territory and the Western Nile Delta. The enhancement project envisions the transformation of the house into a cultural hub with an exhibition space showcasing material evidence from Rosetta and its hinterland.

Among the archaeological sites that currently contribute to reconstructing the historical development of this important urban centre is Abu Mandour. Located approximately 2 km south of the present-day historic centre, the settlement is known to have been occupied during the Hellenistic period and then continuously inhabited from the late Roman–early Byzantine period through to the Ottoman and modern eras. Our current understanding of the site is based on a series of rescue excavations carried out by the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) in the 1990s, which resumed in 2021.

The research aims to present the materials recovered during the SCA excavations and, on this basis, to offer a preliminary analysis of the role of Rosetta and Abu Mandour in the regional economy. In particular, the study seeks to shed light on the significance of this centre during the late Roman and early Byzantine periods, both in terms of its religious functions and its role as a port facilitating the exchange of goods between Egypt and the Mediterranean. Furthermore, the study of the materials has provided an opportunity to test innovative technologies for more efficient documentation of ceramics from archaeological contexts, including the application of artificial intelligence for fabric analysis and the use of 3D modelling for graphic documentation ceramics from archaeological contexts, including the application of artificial intelligence for fabric analysis and the use of 3D modelling for graphic documentation.

**MONDIN, CRISTINA**

About the Speaker:

Cristina Mondin is an Associate Researcher at the University of Padua, currently on secondment to the American University in Cairo. She is conducting a project funded by the European MSCA (Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions) programme, dedicated to the application of new technologies, particularly Artificial Intelligence, to the documentation of archaeological materials and ceramics from excavations.

From 2015 to 2024, she was Manager of the Civic Museum of Asolo (Italy), where she was responsible for organising conferences, exhibitions, and research on the permanent collection. During this period, she also conducted and published research on the Roman and Medieval aqueducts of the city and promoted biographical studies on the English traveller and writer Freya Stark, who lived in Asolo and travelled extensively in the Middle East.

She is currently the co-ordinator of the *Kom al-Ahmer/Kom Wasit archaeological project* and the *Rosetta project in Egypt*. Additionally, she is co-principal investigator in two research projects in collaboration with Boğaziçi University (Türkiye): *Manufacturing Goods: The Economy of Late Roman Central Anatolia* and the *Tarsus Gözlükule Excavation – Roman Contexts*. She also co-manages the social media presence of the academic journal *Rei Cretariae Romanae Fautores* and serves as Egypt correspondent for the journal *Instrumentum*.

SIMONY, AUDE

Kom Bahig: A Site in the Mareotic Region During the Ptolemaic and Roman Periods

Panel 3: Alexandria's Hinterland

11:20-11:40

Abstract:

The site of Kom Bahig is located in the Mareotic region, some fifty kilometres west of the city of Alexandria and approximately one kilometer from the southern shore of Lake Mariout. Archaeological research carried out by the Centre d'Études Alexandrines over the past ten years has revealed significant occupation of the site during the Ptolemaic period.

After a period of abandonment, which was probably fairly long, it follows on an earlier settlement dating from the Pharaonic period (Third Intermediate and Late Period) and is characterized by the presence of domestic installations in the southern part of the site and by a paved pathway and the remains of small monuments in the northern part. The site then appears to have been significantly occupied during the Roman period, until it was finally abandoned around the 3rd century AD. The marked reoccupation of this Mareotic site bears witness to the intense development of the Alexandria chôra during the Greco-Roman period.



SIMONY, AUDE

About the Speaker:

Aude Simony is an archaeologist and ceramologist, Aude Simony defended in 2016 her PhD on ceramic production in the Western part of the Nile Delta during Early Roman period. Currently research engineer at CNRS, she takes part in the excavations and surveys conducted by Centre d'Etudes Alexandrines (CEAlex, UAR 3134), notably that of Kom Bahig, where she has been directing excavations since 2019. She is also involved in several missions in Western Delta such as Bouto/Tell Fara'in and Kom Abu Billu/Terenouthis.

BALLET, PASCALE and GEORGES-ZIMMERMANN, PATRICE**The Town of Bouto in Greco-Roman Rimes: State of Research****Panel 3: Alexandria's Hinterland****11:40-12:00****Abstract:**

Some ten kilometers east of the Rosetta branch, the Tell el-Fara'in/Bouto site is located some one hundred kilometers from Alexandria. It was quickly explored by William M. Flinders Petrie in 1886. Charles Trick Currelly dug few test pits in 1904. This visit enabled him to present a first sketch map of the site. After the work of the Egypt Exploration Society (EES) in the 1960s, it was mainly in the early 1980s that the site was systematically explored by the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut Kairo (DAIK), with a spatial approach to the site and excavations on pre- and protohistoric periods. This has enabled us to highlight the major phases in the site's history since the beginning of the 4th millennium. Since the end of the 1990s, the French team, hosted by the DAIK concession, has been studying the various aspects of the city of Bouto, from just before Alexander's conquest to the early Islamic period. This presentation is an opportunity to show the state of research and explain what make a city in the graeco-roman period (baths, workshops, necropolis, etc.).

About the Speakers:

Pascale Ballet is Professor Emeritus at Paris Nanterre University, a position she has held since September 2021. A distinguished archaeologist and specialist in Egyptian ceramics, she has built an extensive academic and research career spanning several decades.

She served as Full Professor at Paris Nanterre University from 2015 to 2021, after holding the same position at the University of Poitiers between 1999 and 2015. Prior to that, she was Assistant Professor at Rennes 2 University from 1993 to 1999.

Her career began at the French Institute of Oriental Archaeology (IFAO) in Cairo, where she was a scientific member in 1983–1984 before becoming a permanent researcher from 1984 to 1993. During this time, she was responsible for the ceramological section and served as editor of the *Cahiers de la céramique égyptienne*.

Beyond her academic appointments, Pascale Ballet directed the French Archaeological Mission at Buto (Tell el-Fara'in), Egypt, from 2001 to 2019. This mission, carried out under the auspices of the IFAO in Cairo and the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, contributed significantly to the understanding of the ancient Nile Delta.



BALLET, PASCALE



GEORGES-ZIMMERMANN, PATRICE

BAKOWSKA-CZERNER, GRAŻYNA

Marina el-Alamein and El Darazya – on the Borderland of Egypt and Marmarica

Panel 4: Too Far Away? Beyond Alexandria's Hinterland: Remembering Rafal Czerner

13:00-13:20

Abstract:

On the northwestern coast of Egypt, approximately 100 km west of Alexandria, in the El-Alamein region, there are archaeological sites of Marina el-Alamein and El Darazy, where relics of ancient settlements from the Greco-Roman period have been preserved. One of them is identified as Antiphræ and Leukaspis, the other is probably ancient Derrhis. Research in Marina el-Alamein has been conducted for 40 years, while in El Darazya it began in 2021.

These settlements were located between Alexandria and Cyrenaica on important communication routes. They operated in a semi-arid area, in difficult environmental conditions that required good organisation, especially in terms of water supply.

Both sites are distinguished by their architecture, which draws on many traditions, primarily Greek and Roman. The main rooms of the houses had niches, which are evidence of private worship, as are the small altars found there. The preserved artefacts, fragments of paintings and sculptures indicate the existence of religious syncretism, with dominant Egyptian and Greek influences. At both sites, objects, mainly ceramics, originating from various regions of the Mediterranean basin were found. The inhabitants of these provincial settlements drew on the achievements of many, often distant cultures, but especially on those of Alexandria. They adapted foreign models to local conditions, shaping their own traditions.

**BĄKOWSKA-CZERNER, GRAŻYNA**

About the Speaker:

Grażyna Bąkowska-Czerner (PHD), is an Assistant Professor at the Centre of Comparative Studies of Civilisations of the Jagiellonian University.

Her academic focus is the archaeology of the Greco-Roman period in Egypt.

For nearly two decades, she worked at the archaeological site Marina el-Alamein as a member of the Polish Archaeological Mission and the Polish-Egyptian Conservation Mission. She is also a member of the Italian Archaeological Mission at Jebel Barkal in Sudan and part of the Polish-Egyptian Mission El Darayza in Egypt.

Since 2022, she has participated in research at Villa Romana del Cassale, as part of the Summer School "ARCHLABS. Archaeological heritage in late antique and Byzantine Sicily, Piazza Armerina".

Her main research interests include Greco-Roman domestic architecture, art, and iconography. She is also involved in the study of ancient gems, as well as the iconography of decorated Meroitic pottery.

BUZAIAN, AHMED**Interactions between Cyrenaica and Egypt: From Ptolemaic Rule to the Byzantine Era****Panel 4: Too Far Away? Beyond Alexandria's Hinterland: Remembering Rafal Czermer****13:20-13:40****Abstract:**

This contribution examines the commercial relationship between Cyrenaica (eastern Libya) and Egypt from the Ptolemaic period (c. 323 BC) to the end of the Byzantine era (AD 642), based on limited and often imprecise evidence.

Cyrenaica's proximity to Egypt meant its security and politics were closely tied to its powerful neighbor. Under the Ptolemies, the region developed strong political and cultural ties with Egypt, though actual trade appears modest. Cyrenaica exported wine, olive oil, and the valuable silphium plant, while Egypt supplied goods like papyrus, linen, and luxury items. Difficult sailing conditions between Cyrenaica and Alexandria may have hindered regular trade.

After Rome annexed Cyrenaica in 74 BC and merged it with Crete, Greco-Roman cultural influences increased, but trade with Egypt remained limited. While Egypt had no olive oil surplus, Cyrenaica likely exported small quantities of it, as indicated by Cyrenaican MR8 amphorae found at Kom el-Dikka in Alexandria and in the Nile Delta.

In the Byzantine period, archaeological finds—especially amphorae and ceramics—reveal some continued trade. LR6 amphorae, linked to wine, and limited quantities of Egyptian 'A' ware (Coptic R.S. Ware) have been found in sites like Berenice and Apollonia, suggesting ongoing but minor exchanges.

Overall, the evidence for commercial ties between Cyrenaica and Egypt is fragmentary, relying mainly on archaeology and inscriptions. Despite political closeness, trade remained modest throughout the centuries.

**BUZAIAN, AHMED**

About the Speaker:

Ahmed Buzaian holds a PhD in Archaeology from the University of Leicester, and is a Research Associate with the EAMENA Project. His research interests include, industrial and field archaeology, specifically techniques in archaeological excavations, the Roman economy, pottery, and endangered heritage. A former full-time lecturer in classical archaeology at Benghazi University (1994-2012), Buzaian has directed training excavations at the ancient cities of Teucheira (modern Tocra) (1994-2012) and Balagrae (modern al-Beida) (2001-2006), and co-directed the Anglo-Libyan excavations at Euesperides (1995-2006).

REES, LEA

Dahshur Beyond the Pyramids: Communities and Memory in Late- and

Post-Pharaonic Egypt

Panel 4: Too Far Away? Beyond Alexandria's Hinterland: Remembering Rafal Czermer

13:40-14:00

Abstract:

When the name Dahshur is mentioned, most Egyptologists probably associate the site with its heyday during the Old and Middle Kingdoms, when it gained prominence as a pyramid field and as a residence cemetery for the highest elites of ancient Egyptian society. Yet, the later phases of Dahshur's history – extending well beyond the Pharaonic era – remain understudied, despite their potential to enrich our understanding of ancient Egypt's macro- and microhistory. This paper shifts the focus from Dahshur's royal pyramid complexes to examine the practices of local communities who lived, worked, and were buried here or frequented the site in the Late Period and through subsequent eras, including the Graeco-Roman, Late Antique, and Islamic periods. It will present some results of the excavations of a Graeco-Roman cemetery investigated by the German Archaeological Institute in Cairo that has remained largely unpublished so far. By drawing on evidence from royal and secondary inscriptions, this study reconstructs the ways in which people commemorated the earlier history of Dahshur in late- and post-Pharaonic history. By integrating material culture and epigraphic sources, the paper highlights Dahshur's continuing importance as a locus of local identity and ritual activity, long after its significance as a centre of royal building activity had faded.

**REES, LEA**

About the Speaker:

Lea Rees is an Egyptologist with a research focus on settlement and landscape archaeology, cultural interactions, research history, and archaeological theory. Her main area of work lies with the archaeological missions of the German Archaeological Institute at Dahshur, the Humboldt Universität zu Berlin in the tomb of Ramesses III in the Valley of the Kings (KV 11), and the University of Padua in Rosetta.

She is Lady Wallis Budge Junior Research Fellow at University College, Oxford, and an Associate Member of the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern (2022-2025). She currently holds a travel grant by the German Archaeological Institute. Her dissertation at the Egyptological Seminar of Freie Universität Berlin dealt with creating a social topography of Dahshur, covering 5 millennia of chronological, functional, and social transformations of its cultural landscape, published as *SDAIK 15* with Harrassowitz. Along with excavations in Egypt, she has worked with archaeological missions in Germany, Saudi Arabia, and Sudan. She is one of the co-editors of the journal *Forum Kritische Archäologie* (FKA), and a trustee and board member of the Friends of the Petrie Museum.

**THOMAS, RICHARD; BIBB, RICHARD; COOPER, JOANNE;
MCKNIGHT, LIDIJA; PRICE, CAMPBELL and STIMPSON, CHRIS****Raptors Unwrapped: The Exploitation of Birds of Prey in Late and Ptolemaic Egypt****Panel 5: Middle and Upper Egypt****09:30-09:50****Abstract:**

Birds of prey (raptors) pervade the history of Egypt in the form of hieroglyphs, artistic representations and mummies. Despite this centrality, scholarly investigation has rarely extended beyond their divine associations. Combining cutting-edge, non- and minimally-destructive scientific analyses of mummies, with ornithologically informed evaluation of art historical and textual evidence, our project seeks to transform understanding of the exploitation of raptors in Late and Ptolemaic Egypt (712-30 BCE), when vast numbers were mummified on an industrial scale and interred in subterranean catacombs.

In this presentation, using three specimens as examples, we will explain how we are combining computed-tomographic images of small raptor mummies, with new zooarchaeological methods, radiocarbon dating, and mobility and dietary isotope analysis, to establish how these birds were captured and managed. We will also describe our complementary re-analysis of textual and art-historical evidence. Ultimately, we seek to showcase how an interdisciplinary investigation of raptor mummies can inform upon human-mediated long-term change in wild bird population dynamics.

**THOMAS, RICHARD**

About the Speaker:

Richard Thomas is a Professor in Archaeology at the University of Leicester, where he has been based for 22 years. His research centres on the analysis of animal bones from archaeological sites (zooarchaeology) and has two main strands: the reconstruction of past human-animal relationships, predominantly in the historic period; and animal palaeopathology – the study of animal health, disease and injury in the past. His research explores the changing relationships between humans and animals and examines the contemporary relevance of these findings.

Richard is Principal investigator of a three-year Leverhulme Trust research project - "Raptors Unwrapped" - which will shed new light on mummified birds of prey in Late Period and Ptolemaic Egypt.

SALEH, RIM

The Private Egyptian Kitchens from the Persian to the Ptolemaic Period: A Bridge Between Cultures? Examples from the Delta

Panel 5: Middle and Upper Egypt

09:50-10:10

Abstract:

This presentation examines private kitchens in domestic contexts across the Egyptian Delta from the Saito-Persian to the Ptolemaic period (c. 664–30 BCE), a time of significant cultural and political change. While elite and monumental architecture in this period has received substantial attention, much less is known about the organization of everyday domestic life, particularly kitchen spaces where food was prepared, cooked, and stored.

Focusing on a selection of Delta sites—such as Tell el-Maskhuta, Tell el-Retaba, and Mendes—this research aims to identify the physical features of private kitchens through architectural remains, ceramic assemblages, and other domestic artifacts. It also considers how these spaces may reflect broader patterns of cultural continuity and transformation during successive periods of foreign rule.

Rather than seeking definitive cultural attribution, this study takes a contextual approach to explore how domestic culinary practices may have responded to, or resisted, external influences. Theoretical frameworks from household archaeology and cultural interaction studies are used to assess the role of kitchens as potential indicators of local identity, adaptation, and routine.

Although this is a work in progress, the study suggests that examining private kitchens can provide a more grounded understanding of daily life in the Delta, contributing to wider discussions on domesticity and cultural interaction in Late Period and early Hellenistic Egypt.

**SALEH, RIM**

About the Speaker:

Rim Saleh is a PhD candidate at HAA-CReA-Patrimoine at l' Université libre de Bruxelles, working under the supervision of Professor Laurent Bavay. Her doctoral research focuses on food processing installations and domestic workshops in Egypt from the Saite to the Roman period (7th century BCE to 3rd century CE), with a particular interest in the archaeological visibility of culinary practices and their socio-cultural implications.

She holds a Master's degree in Archaeology and the History of Ancient Worlds from the Université Lumière Lyon 2, where she wrote her thesis on small-scale and domestic bathing facilities in Greco-Roman Egypt.

Since 2013, she has participated in numerous archaeological fieldwork projects in Egypt and France. These include long-term collaborations with the IFAO at Kom Abou Billou, Taposiris Magna–Plinthine, and Tebtynis, as well as excavations in Karnak, Abbad (Eastern Desert), and the Delta region (Kom el-Ahmer)

She co-organized the 2020 Doctoriales and was co-leader of the Junior Lab (co)Habiter (2020–2022), which focuses on ancient domesticity and space sharing.

WILLIAMSON, ANNE MARIE

The Future is Archived: Unlocking New Knowledge in Archaeology Through Digital Innovation

Panel 5: Middle and Upper Egypt

10:10-10:30

Abstract:

Archaeological archives, as the primary repository of archaeological data, offer far more than a static learning resource. Beyond their role as 'legacy' documentation, where the archival encounter is typically framed as historical research, these archives are vibrant spaces for dynamic knowledge creation, looking as much to the future as to the past. Set within that frame, this presentation explores the potential of archives in knowledge generation when integrated with new digital technologies.

This paradigm shift, from passive repository to active site of knowledge production, effectively transforms archaeological archives from source to subject. This transformation is underscored by digital advancements within these archives, including 3D modelling, virtual reality, and advanced analytical tools. These technologies facilitate unprecedented levels of data accessibility, re-interpretation, and synthesis, enabling users across disciplines to hypothesize, test, develop, and construct new research questions.

Exploring some of these digital innovations within the British Institute for Libyan Studies (BILNAS) Archive, this presentation demonstrates the value of archaeological archives as essential engines for future research and innovation.

**WILLIAMSON, ANNE MARIE**

About the Speaker:

Anne Marie holds an MA in Irish Literature from Queen's University Belfast, and PhD from Ulster University. Her doctoral research, completed in 2016 with the support of a D.E.L Research Studentship, focused on the mobilisation of the female body in Northern Irish women's writing from 1900-2010.

For five years, Anne Marie was a Teaching Associate at the University of Nottingham. In this role, she taught modules on the history, theory, and practice of dramatic writing and theatre production, and developed learning content for the school's online master's programme in Applied English.

In June 2023, Anne Marie completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Archives and Records Management (with Distinction) via distance learning at the University of Dundee. She is a member of the Archives and Records Association UK and Ireland, and an Associate Fellow of Advance HE. Since August 2024, she has served as the archivist for the British Institute for Libyan & Northern African Studies.

FLOSSMANN-SCHÜTZE, MÉLANIE

The Residential Areas of Hermopolis Magna and Tuna el-Gebel in Greco-Roman Times: Tower Houses, Waste Pits, and Papyrological Sources

Panel 5: Middle and Upper Egypt

11:00-11:20

Abstract:

The city of Hermopolis Magna, capital of the 15th Upper Egyptian province and primary centre of worship for the deity Thoth, underwent a period of significant urban development from the time of the Old Kingdom right up to the Greco-Roman period. The local deity of paramount importance was the baboon- and ibis-shaped god Thoth, whose sacred animals, which were also kept at the local Thoth temples, were buried in the animal necropolis of Tuna el-Gebel.

While the city's sanctuaries and later churches have been the focus of scientific research, there is a paucity of knowledge regarding the actual residential areas, especially from the Greco-Roman period. This is partly because the residential buildings of Hermopolis fell victim to the Sebach activities and early excavations. However, archival documents and early photographs from the Italian and German excavations, the latter under the direction of Günther Roeder, reveal a townscape characterised by tower houses. In contrast, the Munich excavations in the settlement areas of Tuna el-Gebel furnish detailed insights into the architecture and utilisation of tower houses during the Greco-Roman period.

The lecture will present the residential areas of Hermopolis and Tuna. While detailed insights into the quotidian life of individual inhabitants of Tuna are possible, information on street names and water supply can be gleaned from papyrological sources for Hermopolis. The material remains of both sites complement each other to form a compelling picture of life in the Hermopolites. Finally, the afterlife of both sites in Arabic Hermetic sources will be discussed briefly.

FLOSSMANN-SCHÜTZE, MÉLANIE

About the Speaker:

Mélanie Flossmann-Schütze is the deputy director at the State Museum of Egyptian Art in Munich (SMAEK). She completed her doctorate in 2014 at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, which focused on divine standards in ancient Egypt. For the last 20 years, she has researched the animal necropolis of Tuna el-Gebel, focusing on the religious communities of Tuna el-Gebel and Hermopolis Magna. Flossmann-Schütze is co-editor of the series 'Tuna el-Gebel' and 'Hermopolis Magna', and is the author of numerous academic articles. She is particularly interested in residential architecture (tower houses) and food culture in the Greco-Roman period. Her current research project at the SMAEK focuses on the reconstruction of statues of King Radjedef from his pyramid complex in Abu Rawash (in cooperation with KU Leuven, IFAO Cairo, co-financed by the Schiff Giorgini Foundation and the EU).

VAN LOON, GERTRUD J.M.**Around Antinoupolis: Monastic Settlements in Quarries and Tombs****Panel 5: Middle and Upper Egypt****11:20-11:40****Abstract:**

Around the city of Antinoupolis (Middle Egypt), monks settled in ancient quarries and tombs in the range of hills to the east of the city, adapting the available space into living quarters, communal spaces, and churches and chapels.

These monastic settlements are not well known and often fragmentarily preserved. Nevertheless, the churches and chapels of these communities from Speos Artemidos to Amarna, show connections with Antinoupolis and the artistic heritage of the Mediterranean world.

**VAN LOON, GERTRUD J.M.****About the Speaker:**

Gertrud J.M. van Loon is an art historian specialising in the material culture of Christian Egypt, particularly wall paintings and their context. In the framework of the KU Leuven Dayr al-Barsha Project, she studies monastic settlements in quarry areas and tombs on the eastern bank of the Nile in Middle Egypt, notably in Dayr Abu Hinnis. She is also a member of the interdisciplinary Dayr Anba Hadra Project (German Archaeological Institute, Cairo), which documents the Monastery of Anba Hadra near Aswan, and she collaborates with specialists in Christian Nubia of Warsaw University in a cross-border research project, on church decoration in Southern Egypt and the northern part of Nubia, Nobadia.

NAVRATILOVA, HANA

Multilingual Epigraphic Corpora - Examples from Pyramid Precincts and the Temple of Seti I at Abydos

Panel 5: Middle and Upper Egypt

11:20-11:40

Abstract:

Long histories of ancient sites in Egypt are acknowledged, but not always thematised explicitly as examples of cultural or object biography, reflecting long-term change in socioeconomic and conceptual frameworks. In two case studies inspired by an ongoing project concerned with secondary epigraphy in Egypt, I would like to address some examples of multilingual epigraphic material (graffiti, funerary texts, etc.). The first case study will address material encountered in and around pyramid precincts in Abusir, Saqqara and Meidum (with Dahshur as a comparand), and consider patterns of interaction implied by this corpus of material, addressing the role of graffiti as markers of the changing roles of these royal funerary precincts. The second case study will thematise a review of the multilingual corpus in the temple of Seti I at Abydos, where a developing teamwork has revealed witnesses to a fascinating cultural biography of this building, starting with early hieratic graffiti, possibly of a New Kingdom date, and continuing with a multilingual corpus that was gradually added possibly up to 3rd century CE.

**NAVRATILOVA, HANA****About the Speaker:**

Hana Navratilova studied in Prague, Pisa and Vienna. She currently teaches at the University of Oxford, and is a member of the Egyptian Expedition to Dahshur of the Metropolitan Museum of Art since 2011, and works also for the expedition of the Czech Institute of Egyptology. She has worked previously both in Egypt and Sudan. She is involved in the study of Egyptian secondary epigraphy (graffiti) since 2003, and in fieldwork epigraphy in Egypt since 2010. Her main research interests are in New Kingdom epigraphy, history of Egyptology and use of digital humanities. She is also the editor of Who was who in Egyptology at the Egypt Exploration Society.

ELLER, AUDREY

Rediscovering Hiw: New Field Research in a Nome Capital of Upper Egypt

Panel 5: Middle and Upper Egypt

11:20-11:40

Abstract:

Situated some fifty kilometres north-west of Luqсор, the town of Hut-Sekhem/Diospolis Mikra – corresponding to the present-day town of Hiw – lies halfway between Dendera and Abydos, on the west bank of the Nile. Hut-Sekhem was originally an agricultural estate established from the ground up by King Sesostriѕ I around 2000 BC to provide income for the cult of the god Amun at Karnak. This domain gradually grew in importance until it became the main city and capital of the 7th Nome (province) of Upper Egypt.

During the Greco-Roman period, Hut-Sekhem remained a regional capital and was renamed Diospolis Mikra, emphasizing its connection to Thebes, the larger Diospolis. The city continued to expand, and its temples flourished. Due to its strategic location between the routes leading to the Libyan oases in the west and Thebes to the south, it became the site of a garrison. Additionally, a fort was established at Hut-Sekhem/Diospolis Mikra on the edge of the desert, likely during the early Roman period.

Despite its importance and strategic role in Pharaonic and Greco-Roman periods, this regional capital is still largely unknown. Indeed, like many urban sites in Middle and Upper Egypt, the city has received very little attention and its remains, while promising, have been little studied. To address this gap, a new archaeological mission has been launched as a collaboration between the University of Geneva and the Egyptian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities. This presentation will examine the history of the city during the Greco-Roman period and present the initial findings from recent field campaigns.



ELLER, AUDREY

About the Speaker:

Audrey Eller is an archaeologist and ceramologist, Aude Simony defended in 2016 her PhD on ceramic production in the Western part of the Nile Delta during Early Roman period. Currently research engineer at CNRS, she takes part in the excavations and surveys conducted by Centre d'Etudes Alexandrines (CEAlex, UAR 3134), notably that of Kom Bahig, where she has been directing excavations since 2019. She is also involved in several missions in Western Delta such as Bouto/Tell Fara'in and Kom Abu Billu/Terenouthis.



Planning Your Visit

Catering

Leicester Food and Drink, the University's catering service, is committed to providing a great experience. If you have any issues with the catering during the conference, please let the organisers know. To ensure we can accommodate everyone, please inform us of any dietary requirements or allergies if you have not already done so.

On-campus Accessibility

The conference will take place in Council Suite Rooms 1 & 2, located on the first floor of the Fielding Johnson Building.

For a complete guide to the venue's accessibility, please visit the AccessAble website: <https://tinyurl.com/2x964m5u>

Key information about the Fielding Johnson Building

The main reception is located just inside the main entrance to the right and has step-free access.

A public platform lift provides access to the Council Suite Rooms on the first floor. It is located past the Harry Peach Library.

Toilets are all located on the ground floor in the corridor to the left as you enter the main building. This includes male, female, and accessible facilities, all with step-free access.

Parking

Parking is available at the Freeman's Common Multi-Storey Car Park (MSCP), which is open to both university visitors and the public. You can make contactless payments upon exit at the barriers or use the payment machines on the lower ground and ground floors.

Freeman's, Welford Road, Leicester, LE2 6BF

Accommodation

Speakers will be staying at the **Belmont Hotel, 20 De Montfort Street, LE1 7GR**. Free parking is available for guests. Breakfast is included.

<https://www.belmonthotel.co.uk/home>

Check-in: The earliest you can access your room is 15:00 pm on November 11th. You can, however, check in at any time during the day.

Check-out: Guests must check-out by 11:00 am on 14th of November. You can leave your luggage at the reception before heading to the university.

Conference venue

The conference will be held in the **Council Suites Hall on the first floor of the Fielding Johnson Building, University of Leicester**.

<https://www.seh.co.uk/key-projects/university-of-leicester-council-chamber/>

Travelling to Leicester

Travel Information for International Guests

Getting to the UK

The most convenient airports are:

East Midlands airport (EMA): 30- minute taxi-ride or 1-hour coach journey away.

Birmingham airport (BHX): 1-hour taxi-ride or 1.5-hour train journey.

London Stansted airport (STN): 2-hour direct train or 2.5-hour journey by coach.

London Luton airport (LTN): 2.5-hour train journey (not direct) or 2-hours direct coach journey.

London Heathrow (LHR): 2.5-hour train journey via London St. Pancras International Station.

We recommend flying to any of the first three options.

New entry requirements for EU Nationals

Since Brexit, EU citizens must have a **valid passport** instead of an ID Card. Since April 2025, **EU nationals** (excluding Irish citizens and those with existing UK residency) **must also obtain a UK Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) before traveling**. This costs £16, is valid for up to two years, and allows multiple entries. **Airlines are required to check for a valid ETA before boarding.**

<http://www.gov.uk/eta/apply>

Travel to Leicester from the Airport

Coach (Bus): National Express provides frequent, direct services from Stansted and Luton airports. Tickets can be purchased online.

Website: <https://book.nationalexpress.com/>

Train: Check times and purchase tickets on the National Rail website.

Tickets and timetables: www.nationalrail.co.uk

Taxi/Car: Services like Uber are available.

Travel within Leicester

The hotel is a 15-minute walk from the university. Alternatively, an Uber costs approximately 5 GBP. Don't forget to bring an umbrella!

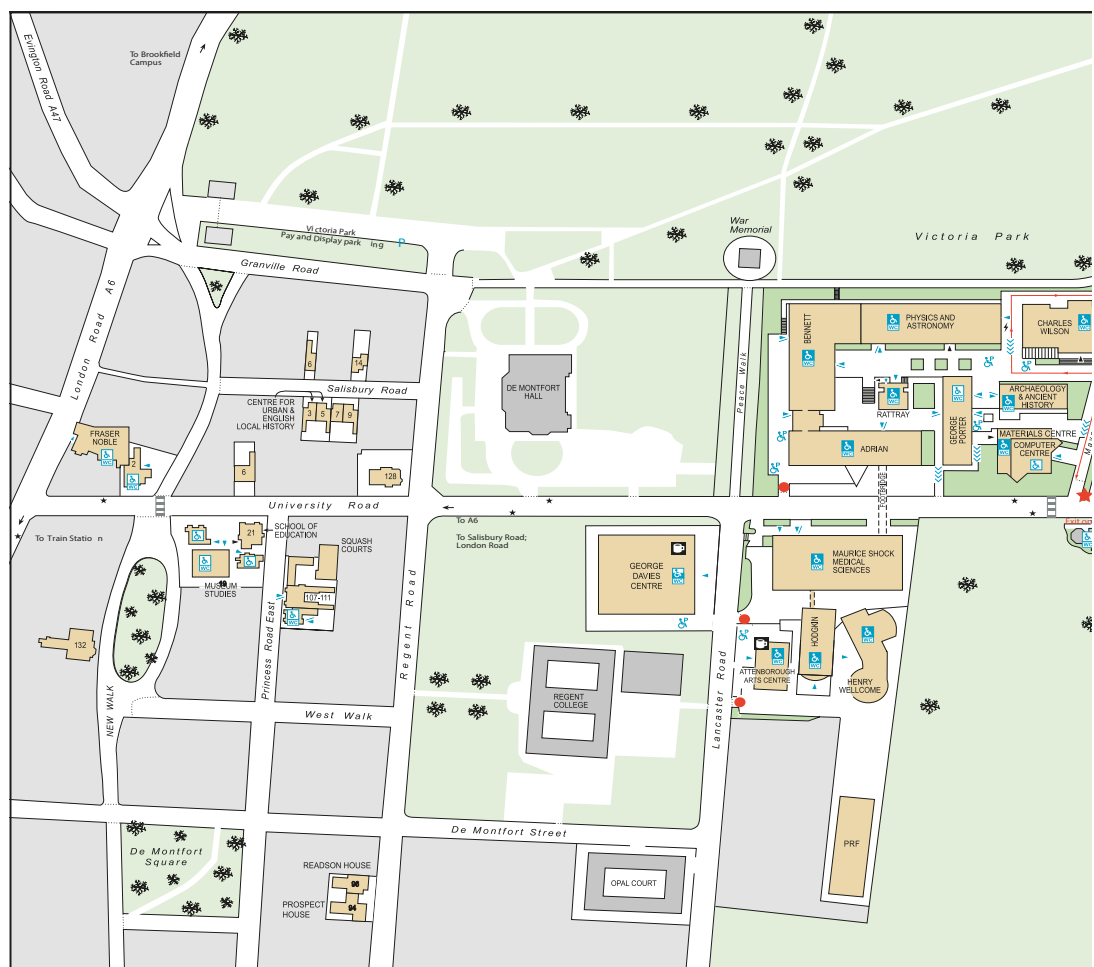
Presentation Formats

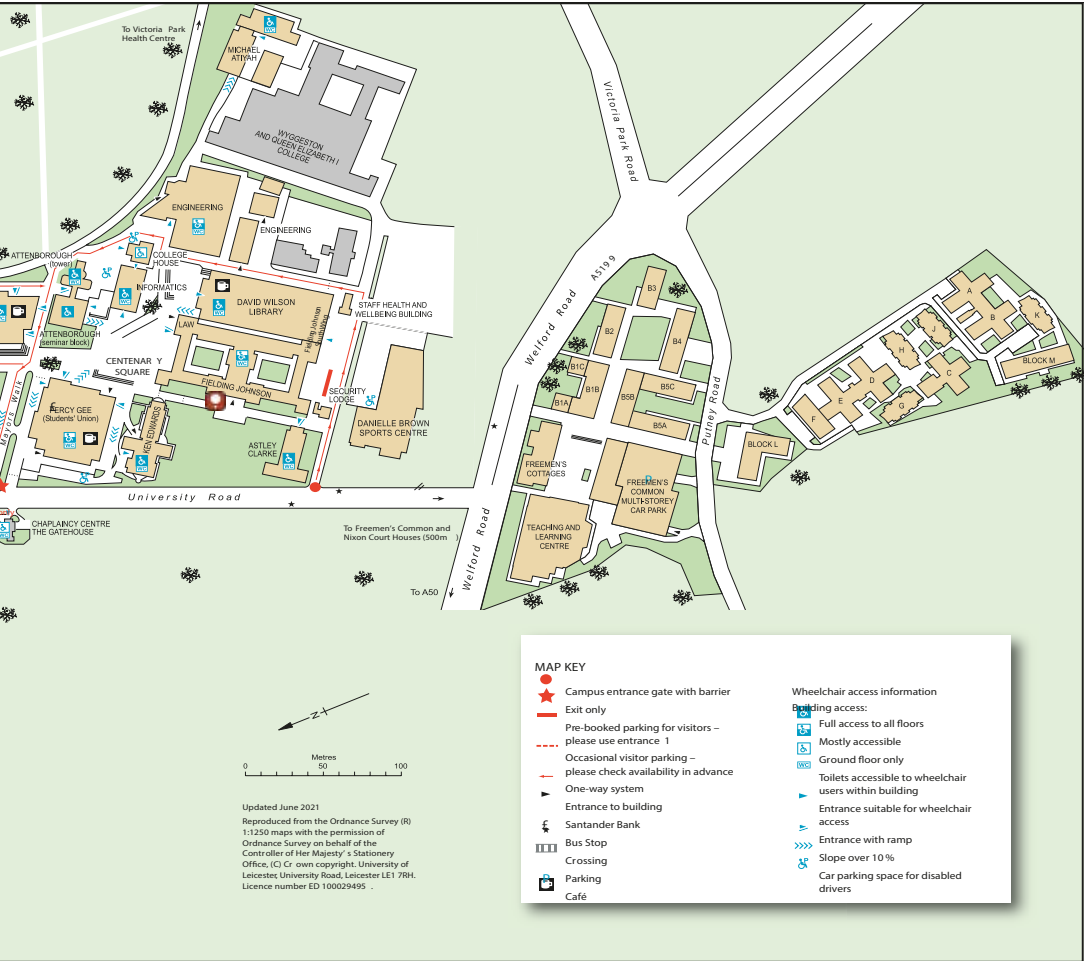
Each speaker has a **20-minute slot** for their presentation.

Presentations must be in **PowerPoint (PPT format only)**. **Please do not use alternative presentation software.**

Questions and discussion will follow each session.

If you plan to read your paper, bring a printed copy as printing services are **unavailable** at the venue.





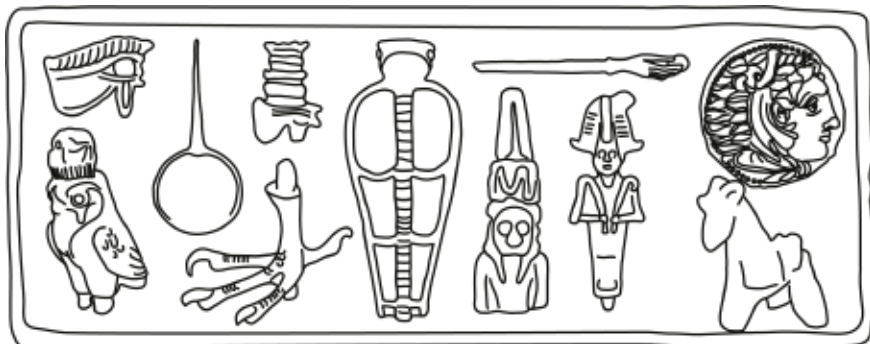
Acknowledgement

The organising committee extends its sincere thanks to all who helped make this conference possible. Special gratitude goes to Ingrid Dyson (School Administrator) and Kate West (Administrative Assistant) for their invaluable support. We are also incredibly grateful to Xuejiao Huang for her creative design of the programme and tote bag, and for her patience and dedication throughout the editing process.

Programme designed by



Xuejiao Huang



KOM AL-AHMER WASIT

Fielding Johnson Building
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University Road
Leicester, LE1 7RH
12 – 14 November 2025



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