



# The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Student Archaeology Conference

## Developing Integrated Archaeology

School of History, Classics and Archaeology, University of Edinburgh

### **ASA 2015, University of Edinburgh**

The third Annual Student Archaeology Conference will be hosted at the University of Edinburgh, School of History, Classics and Archaeology on the 11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> June 2015. This main theme of the conference is Developing Integrated Archaeology. We encourage all students, particularly undergraduates, to submit an abstract for one of the four sessions outlined below.

Abstracts should be submitted through the application form to the following email address [asa2015edinburgh@gmail.com](mailto:asa2015edinburgh@gmail.com) by the deadline on the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2015. All enquiries should be addressed to the organizational committee at [asa2015edinburgh@gmail.com](mailto:asa2015edinburgh@gmail.com). You can also contact us through social media:

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### **Session Outlines and Call for Papers**

#### **Session 1. Scientific Archaeological Methods**

The application of science-based methods to archaeology is long established, and its use and impact are continuously expanding. The vast array of scientific techniques available to archaeologists today has made the study of biological and material remains of past people and cultures more comprehensive than ever. Interdisciplinary approaches have become an integral part of any archaeological research project and have created whole new sub-disciplines such as environmental archaeology, paleodietary studies, and forensic archaeology, to name but a few. This session is intended to cover a broad range of topics, including (but not limited to) dating techniques, remote sensing and archaeological survey methods, geoarchaeology, archaeological chemistry (aDNA, stable isotopes, residue analysis), paleobotany, zooarchaeology and osteological

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methods. Participants could discuss methodological aspects or focus on case studies that employ science-based approaches to investigate archaeological research questions.

## **Session 2. Archaeology beyond Academia**

Archaeological research produces a huge amount of information that is often significant to the communities in which it is practiced. From uncovering untold histories to providing educational opportunities through public outreach and economic development via tourism, the value of archaeology extends far beyond academia. This session will explore the role of archaeology within the wider community, the strategies employed in teaching and promoting public engagement, and developing commercial and public archaeology initiatives. We encourage submissions focused on the use and methods employed in areas such as archaeotourism, community archaeology and public archaeology, and the consequent dissemination of archaeological knowledge to the wider community and general public, in addition to collaborative networks created between professional, academic and community led archaeologist. Reports and outcomes of recent and/or current archaeological projects with community interaction are welcomed.

## **Session 3. Applied Archaeological Theory**

Theory and practice in archaeology can sometimes feel like two distinct disciplines, despite the significant benefits conferred on projects adopting a multi-disciplinary research focus. Applied theory encourages non-traditional interpretations and broadens the spectrum of archaeological research. This session will explore the relationship between theoretical paradigms and physical archaeology, the impact of theory on the practice and analysis of artefact recovery, and novel theory-based interpretations. We encourage submissions focussed on re-assessing existing assemblages, the application of theory in projects involving excavation and post-excavation analysis, and novel interpretations or models where theory has been a significant influence. Reports or updates on recent archaeological projects or studies investigating the interplay between theory and practice are welcomed.

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## **Session 4. Historical Archaeology**

Historical Archaeology investigates the past through combined studies of both material culture and documentary sources. Archaeological sources are analysed and interpreted in connection to the historical dataset such as maps, texts and oral history. Due to its multidisciplinary focus, historical archaeology is one of the most rapidly expanding archaeological disciplines and is composed of many sub-disciplines such as industrial archaeology and underwater archaeology.

This session aims to present different case studies regarding historic cultures, which should be investigated through material culture, as well as through documented and oral history. The overall goal of the session is to present different approaches in investigating historical contexts. More specifically, the session aims at showing and discussing complementary case studies on themes such as migration, contact and conflict.

### **Round Table Discussion: Transitioning between Academic and Commercial Archaeology (ABSTRACTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR THE ROUND TABLE)**

As a student conference, the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASA organising committee have recognised the importance of helping participating students, both undergraduate and postgraduate, to open a dialogue into future careers in archaeology. This will be undertaken at the University of Edinburgh with an informal round table discussion involving specialists from different branches of career archaeology; commercial, museums, academia, and forensics.

The workshop will be mediated by Tom Gardner, commercial archaeologist and post-graduate student at the UoE. The discussion will have a free form, involving a loosely structured set of themes, from student work, unpaid internships, and commercial health & safety practice, to forensics employability, CV formatting, and the IfA and CBA's role in archaeology careers.

The conference committee wants this session to be informative and malleable, where topics of discussion and questions are desired, and new avenues for discussion relevant to the participating audience are encouraged. The aim of the session is to prepare conference participants, especially students, for what a career in archaeology entails, and how to achieve it.

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### ASA 2015 ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORM

Please complete the following and email by March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 to:

[asa2015edinburgh@gmail.com](mailto:asa2015edinburgh@gmail.com)

**Name & Surname:**

**Institution:**

**School/Department:**

**Research/Subject field:**

#### Please tick relevant boxes

- Undergraduate (please specify year) \_\_\_\_\_
- Postgraduate (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Presentation Format

- Paper
- Poster

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**Abstract title:**

**Proposed session:**

**Abstract** (Please type abstract below - **300 WORD LIMIT**)

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