

Themes of the Sessions:

Session 1: The Question of Architecture

More often than not our accounts of prehistoric sites focus on an architectural object, whether this be a building defined by its walls or a series of phased structures. But this understanding offers only a limited understanding of the dynamics and materials that are involved in the practice and use of lived space. This session questions the hierarchy in knowledge of architecture that sets up design over use, object over practice.

There have been many critiques in archaeology of the prescriptive way in which we perceive and understand architecture (S. Oliveira Jorge 1999 and Thomas 1993). At the same time, it seems that it is very difficult for us to leave this legacy behind in our approaches to our archaeological evidence. What do we need to do? Is it enough to leave architectural terms out of our descriptions due to the dominant view that they conjure up? Is a change in terminology enough? Does this make a major change to the ontology of Design and Form that is embedded in thinking Architecture?

Session 2: Architecture as Practice

A recent field of study, formed from the convergence of archaeology and anthropology (V. Oliveira Jorge et al. 2006), is the study of the ways in which people inhabit, perceive and shape their environments, in currents of space, time and movement. Departing radically from the conventional archaeologies of architecture, which treat buildings as objects of analysis, work at the level of practice suggests that we need to think in a different way about inhabitation. Rather than thinking of inhabitation as an activity that comes after architecture, these practices can instead project forward and create the conditions for building. This session explores the currents of time, space and movement that are made manifest in prehistoric archaeological evidence.

Session 3: How Material Culture and Architecture Relate to One and Other

This session explores research at the scale of materials, from a range of sites that deal to different degrees with issues of occupation and monumentality. It investigates the detail and dynamic of deposition in the past. It considers the significance of the temporal trajectory in the evidence, and how it reconfigures accounts of the making and unmaking of space in prehistory (Brudenell in Brudenell and Cooper 2008 and Knight in Garrow et al. 2005).

Session 4: The Nature of Prehistoric Inhabitation

Over a decade ago, the anthropologist Tim Ingold asked the question ‘...where, in an environment that bears the imprint of human activity, can we draw the line between what is, and is not, a house, or a building, or an instance of architecture?’ (Ingold 1995).

Prehistory has moved from the study of monumentality over occupation, culture over nature, architecture over place, to an archaeology of dwelling. This session follows materials through networks of action (Pollard 2008), looks closely at how these practices extend out to create lived space in

prehistory, and debates the nature of the relationships that were involved (Rodrigues et al. 2007).

References

- Brudenell, M. and Cooper, A. 2008. Post-Middenism: Depositional Histories on Later Bronze Age Settlements at Broom, Bedfordshire. *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* 27(1): 15-36.
- Garrow, D; Beadsmoore, E. and Knight, M. 2005. Pit Clusters and the Temporality of Occupation: an Earlier Neolithic Site at Kilverstone, Thetford, Norfolk. *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society* 71: 139-157.
- Ingold, T. 1995. Building, dwelling, living: how animals and people make themselves at home in the world. In Strathern, M. (ed.) *Shifting Contexts: Transformations in Anthropological Knowledge*, 57-80. London: Routledge.
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- Oliveira Jorge, V; Cardoso, J.M; Vale, A.M; Velho, G.L. and Pereira, L.S. (eds.) 2006. Approaching 'Prehistoric and Protohistoric Architectures' of Europe from a 'Dwelling Perspective'. Special edition of the *Journal of Iberian Archaeology*. 8.
- Pollard, J. 2008. Deposition and material agency in the Early Neolithic of southern Britain. In Mills, B.J. and Walker, W.H. (eds.), *Memory Work: Archaeologies of Material Practices*, 41-59. Santa Fe: SAR Press.
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- Thomas, J. 1993. The Politics of Vision and the Archaeologies of Landscape. In Bender, B. (ed.) *Landscape: Politics and Perspectives*, 49-84. Providence and Oxford: Berg.

Workshop Schedule

Friday 28th January 2011

Introduction to workshop

11.00-11.15 Sérgio Monteiro-Rodrigues (University of Porto) and Lesley McFadyen (University of Porto)

Session 1: The Question of Architecture

11.15-11.45 *Thinking Prehistoric Architecture Today*. Vitor Oliveira Jorge (University of Porto)

11.45-12.00 Case Study Questions

12.00-1.00 Structured Debate Chaired By: Ana Bettencourt (University of Minho)

Lunch 1.00-3.00

Session 2: Architecture as Practice

3.00-3.30 *The Olchon Court Cairn, Herefordshire: The Re-Invention of Architectural Tradition*. Julian Thomas (University of Manchester)

3.30-3.45 Case Study Questions

3.45-4.15 *Castelo Velho, Alto Douro: The Site as a Web of Actions*. Susana Oliveira Jorge (University of Porto)

4.15-4.30 Case Study Questions

Break 4.30-5.00

5.00-6.00 Structured Debate Chaired By: João Muralha (University of Porto)

6.00 Workshop drinks reception, followed by workshop dinner

Saturday 29th January 2011

Session 3: How Material Culture and Architecture Relate to One and Other

1. Architectural Sequence and Material Culture Deposition

9.30-9.50 *Depositional Practices and Pits in the South of Portugal during the Bronze Age: The Case of Montinhos 6 (Serpa)*. Lídia Baptista (University of Porto)

9.50-10.00 Case Study Questions

10.00-10.20 *The Temporalities of Occupation and Deposition of Broken Pottery at an Enclosure Site and a Pit Site in Neolithic Britain*. Mark Knight (Cambridge Archaeological Unit)

10.20-10.30 Case Study Questions

2. Sherd Stories and Other Artefacts

10.30-10.50 *Sherd Biographies and the Dynamics of Ceramic Deposition on Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age Settlement Sites in Eastern England*. Matt Brudenell (University of York)

10.50-11.00 Case Study Questions

11.00-11.20 *How fragments of pottery tell a story of stratigraphy.* Dulcineia Pinto (University of Porto)
11.20-11.30 Case Study Questions

Break 11.30-12.00

3. Architecture as Material Practice

12.00-12.20 *Sherds as Materials: Examples from Castanheiro do Vento, Alto Douro.* Ana Vale and the Castanheiro do Vento Team (University of Porto and University of Tomar)
12.20-12.30 Case Study Questions
12.30-12.50 *Actions in Time: After the Breakage of Pottery and Before the Construction of Walls at Castelo Velho, Alto Douro.* Lesley McFadyen and the Castelo Velho Team (University of Porto and University of Tomar)
12.50-1.00 Case Study Questions

Lunch 1.00-3.00

Session 4: The Nature of Prehistoric Inhabitation

3.00-3.30 *Stonehenge, its Environs, and the British Later Neolithic: An Account of Prehistoric Lived Space.* Josh Pollard (University of Bristol)
3.30-3.45 Case Study Questions
3.45-4.15 *The connection between ephemeral structures and mobility at the Neolithic site of Prazo, Alto Douro.* Sérgio Monteiro-Rodrigues (University of Porto)
4.15-4.30 Case Study Questions

4.30-5.30 Structured Debate Chaired By: Maria de Jesus Sanches (University of Porto)

Closing Discussion and Future Directions

5.30-6.00 Chaired By: Sérgio Monteiro-Rodrigues and Lesley McFadyen