

Workshop 3: Heritage and public impact in Norman Conquest archaeology

**Thursday 26th April 2018,
Norwich Castle Museum
10:00 AM-5:00 PM**

Aims

Despite the prominent place of 1066 in the popular consciousness, public understanding of the Norman Conquest is derived primarily from the historical sources of the period. Beyond castles, archaeology and material culture have had little influence on the portrayal of the Norman Conquest in education, media, and heritage. As such, this final workshop will focus on strategies for communicating the archaeology of the Norman Conquest to wider audiences, and brainstorming new ideas for improving the public understanding of the material dimensions of the 11th and 12th centuries through outreach and education.

Particular areas of discussion will include the potential of collaborative research partnerships between academics, museums, heritage bodies, and professional archaeology, and how we can best facilitate mutually beneficial partnerships and future research on existing datasets and collections. We will also build on discussions of field archaeology from workshop 2, focusing on how the professional sector, which is responsible for generating and interpreting a large amount of 11th and 12th-century data, can play a more active role in archaeological scholarship and debate on the Norman Conquest. Contributors from the institutions responsible for the protection, curation, and presentation will highlight the particular challenges and opportunities that these properties and collections offer for ensuring that the archaeology of the Norman Conquest, and the stories we can tell through material culture, become more prominent in the public consciousness. There will also be a particular emphasis on highlighting the current HLF project to refurbish and redesign the 12th century Norman palace keep at Norwich Castle Museum, and utilizing the ideas generated in all three workshops to discuss plans at NCM, as well as thinking forward to future outreach endeavours focusing on the Conquest.

Schedule

10:00 Arrival: meet in the central rotunda to proceed to the Town Close Auditorium

10:15 Introduction

10:30 Tim Pestell, Norfolk Museums Services: The Norwich Castle Museum renovation and HLF grant

11:00 Rosie Weetch, British Museum: The Norman Conquest behind glass: challenges and opportunities for displaying the Norman Conquest in museums

11:20 Michael Lewis, Portable Antiquities Scheme: PAS and the Norman Conquest (and the Bayeux Tapestry visit)

11:40 Discussion and breakout activities; NCM excavations tour

1:00 Lunch

2:00 James Miles, Church of England: The Church Heritage Record and the potential for collaboration

2:20 Don Henson, University of York: Continuity and innovation in making connections with the Conquest in schools and colleges

2:40 Carezza Lewis, University of Lincoln: The Norman Conquest, media, and public understanding

3:00 Chris Lewis, King's College London: The Exon Domesday project, interpretations and outreach

3:20 Naomi Sykes, University of Exeter: Opportunities and challenges of Conquest-focused citizen science

3:40 Tea break

4:00 Discussion and breakout activities

5:00 Roundup and close

Attendees

Aleks McClain, University of York
Anna McCarthy, Norfolk Museums Services (part of day)
Aubrey Steingraber, University of York
Carenza Lewis, University of Lincoln
Chris Lewis, Kings College London
David Petts, Durham University
David Stocker, Independent scholar
Dickon Whitewood, Norfolk Museums Services, Keep team
Don Henson, University of York
Harriet Evans, University of York
Heather Wallis, Norfolk Museums Services, Excavations
James Miles, Church of England
Jenny Alexander, University of Warwick
Lee Warden, Norfolk Museums Services, Learning team (PM only)
Leonie Hicks, Canterbury Christ Church University
Liz Elmore, Norfolk Museums Services
Michael Lewis, British Museum/Portable Antiquities Scheme (AM only)
Naomi Sykes, University of Exeter
Rob Liddiard, University of East Anglia
Rob Webley, University of York
Rosie Weetch, British Museum
Sandy Heslop, University of East Anglia
Steven Ashley, Norfolk Historic Environment Service
Tim Pestell, Norfolk Museums Services

Breakout groups**Aleks McClain**

Leonie Hicks
Rosie Weetch
Aubrey Steingraber
David Petts
Carenza Lewis
Dickon Whitewood
(Lee Warden--PM only)

Naomi Sykes

Chris Lewis
Michael Lewis (AM only)
Steven Ashley
David Stocker
Jenny Alexander
Heather Wallis
Anna McCarthy

Tim Pestell

Sandy Heslop
Rob Webley
Rob Liddiard
James Miles
Don Henson
Liz Elmore