

## **ARCHAEOLOGY OF MATERIAL CULTURE AND TERRITORY WITHIN THE IBERIAN COLONIAL EMPIRES (15TH-18TH CENTURIES)**

**Theme:** The archaeology of material culture, bodies and landscapes

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**Keywords:** Spanish colonialism, Portuguese colonialism, materiality

Iberian kingdoms created vast colonial empires between the 15th and the 18th centuries, based upon maritime and commercial dynamics but also with the component of territorial occupation. Portuguese established settlements in the Atlantic islands, created the Brazilian colony and settled in parcels of land in both African and Asian continents. Likewise, Spaniards established themselves in the North of Africa, several Caribbean islands and in broader spaces in America, along with settlements in Asia and the Pacific.

This symposium intends to analyze first globalization processes occurred by settlement processes, territorial occupation and technological change at the Portuguese and Spanish colonial empires throughout the archaeological record. In this regard, research focusing on urban spaces, rural structures or material culture from Iberian colonial period showing case-studies with strong interpretative and comparative perspectives are considered.

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## **Abstracts for session #769**

## **IBERIAN CULTURAL CONTACT AND COLONIALISM IN THE ISLAND OF GUAM: THE ABERIGUA PROJECT**

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In this paper, we will present ABERIGUA, an archaeological project that investigates the impact that the incorporation of Guam and the Mariana islands by the colonial network of the Spanish empire had on the local Chamorro population. We are seeking to understand the changes, but also the continuities that survived through this general process. We are particularly focusing on all those changes and continuities that took place in: 1) socio-ecological systems; 2) socio-political systems (with special attention to gender and sexual politics); and 3) the sphere of maintenance activities (a set of practices that, grosso modo, include tasks related with care giving, food processing and cooking, weaving, socialization of children, hygiene and public health, and organization and maintenance of daily-quotidian residential spaces).

We will also present the preliminary results from fieldwork campaigns conducted in June-July 2017 and April-May 2018 at the church and cemetery of San Dionisio and the Palace of the Governor. Both sites stand as archaeological witnesses of the 17th, 18th and 19th century colonial processes. Conflating historical written sources and archaeological information, we seek to contribute a better understanding of the historical-archaeological legacy connected to Iberian cultural contact and colonialism in this part of the western Pacific.

### **Keywords**

Modern Iberian Colonialism

Pacific archaeology

Guam

## **CEREMONIAL DRINKING RITUALS AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF INDIGENEITY BEFORE AND AFTER THE SPANISH CONQUEST OF THE ANDES**

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This paper brings together archaeological data relevant to the material culture of state and community drinking rituals from several Andean Prehispanic cultures (Tiwanaku, Wari, Inka) and colonial contexts, in order to better understand changes in community rituals and indigenous identity during the colonial period. The comparative perspectives offered through this broad approach draw on critical theories of colonialism, political economy, identity formation processes, and material culture. This theoretical background is used to contextualize the performance of private and public indigenous drinking rituals before and after the conquest, and to link those rituals to changing notions of indigeneity before and during the colonial period. The specific classes of material culture I use in this project include qeros (ceremonial drinking vessels made of ceramic or wood), public drinking spaces and chicha production features, that have been recovered from a variety of sites, including rural households and villages, public taverns in urban areas, and indigenous ceremonial spaces. I argue for a conceptual link between inclusive and exclusive notions of belonging in highland Andean indigenous cultures, and patterns in the production and distribution of chicha and qeros at various highland Andean sites. The roles that chicha shared in paired qeros played in each sociopolitical and cultural context I include reveal much about efforts to create, solidify, reorder or preserve indigenous identities by households within communities or by the state actors seeking to fold groups into larger polities.

### **Keywords**

Andes  
rituals  
Inka  
Spanish  
colonialism

## **CONNECTIVITY AND ISOLATION IN EARLY SPANISH COLONIAL NEW MEXICO**

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The New Mexican Spanish colony, established in 1598 under the leadership of Juan de Oñate y Salazar, existed at the extreme fringes of the colonial Spanish empire. The Camino Real (the main route connecting the New Mexican colony to Mexico City) was over 2,560 kilometers long. Travel between Mexico and New Mexico involved navigating both mountains and desert as well as passing through territory controlled by hostile indigenous populations. In addition, the initial Spanish colonists in New Mexico were few in number. Given this alongside the difficulties involved with travel along the Camino Real, trade caravans connecting New Mexico to the rest of New Spain arrived in Santa Fe and points north only irregularly: support wagon trains began around 1610, but were highly sporadic until 1631, and even then they arrived at best every three years. The 17th century New Mexican colonists were, in short, isolated from the rest of the Spanish world both physically and politically. In this remote location, how did the New Mexican Spanish colonists maintain (or fail to maintain) their connections to Spain? In this paper we use architectural, faunal, and ceramic evidence from early Spanish Colonial New Mexican sites as compared to the record from 17th century Mexico City to explore questions of Spanish identity on the edge of the 17th century Spanish world.

### **Keywords**

New Mexico  
New Spain  
Mexico City  
isolation  
identity

**IBERIAN SETTLERS AND ANCIENT IRRIGATION SYSTEMS. EXAMPLES FROM THE KINGDOM OF GRANADA AND EARLY COLONIAL PERU (15TH-17TH C.)**

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This presentation explores the transformation of water irrigation and water distribution systems in early colonial Iberian contexts through methods of historical archaeology. Either in the Iberian Peninsula, in the Atlantic islands or in the Americas, the construction of water mills and the new selections of cultivars made by the Iberian settlers transformed the original designs and the former organisations of water distribution in different contexts more often than not. Also, native surviving populations could keep the management of their lands to different extents, in spite of the new colonial conditions. This was the case of some Morisco and Indian communities in areas of the Kingdom of Granada and the earlier Viceroyalty of Peru, respectively. No doubt, the presence and the uneven political capacity of these former peasant populations was a crucial aspect which determined both the variety of ways and the chronologies of the transformations introduced by the conquerors. On this respect, common issues emerging from different and coeval colonial contexts are discussed and compared in the light of textual and archaeological evidence. Among others, how and where the new colonists settled and possessed the irrigated fields; whether or not the new and the former irrigators shared turns of water and tracks of land; the different spatial patterns of field distribution resulting from the establishment of the new settlers among or besides native peasants, and the different balance between irrigated and non irrigated areas in the new colonial contexts.

**Keywords**

irrigation  
settler colonialism  
Granada  
colonial Peru

## **THE TECNOLONIAL PROJECT AND THE 16TH CENTURY CITY OF VALDIVIA (CHILE) IN THE VICEROYALTY OF PERU. FIRST ARCHAEOMETRIC RESULTS**

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The research project Tecnolonial -Technological impact in the colonial New World. Cultural change in pottery archaeology and archaeometry (HAR2016-75312-P) is focused on the contact among different societies in a colonial context after the expansion of the Crown of Castile after 1492. Among the different case studies in the Americas, the southernmost case is that of Valdivia (Chile) in the Viceroyalty of Peru, a town of a discontinuous life. The town was founded ca. 1552 and it was destroyed in 1599. Later on, from 1602 to 1647, it was recovered by the mapuche-huilliche indigenous population, but with a short period of Dutch occupation in 1643. Finally, the town was refounded by the Crown of Castile in 1647. To present, an archaeological project (Fondecyt num. 1130730) has identified several prehispanic and colonial evidences and it has also gathered the documentary sources from the 16th century onwards. All this efforts are now placed in the frame of the Tecnolonial project to further investigate the European pottery, but also the indigenous and colonial ceramics and their relation with the European and indigenous traditions.

In a first phase, 23 majolica and 7 glazed coarse ware individuals have been chemically characterized by means of x-ray fluorescence analysis (XRF) and mineralogically by means of x-ray diffraction analysis (XRD). According to the results, a subsample has been further investigated by means of scanning electron microscopy (SEM-EDX) in order to assess their sintering state and microstructure. All individuals were recovered at the Plaza de la República, within the foundation area of Valdivia. In the present paper, we will present the first results of this case study in relation with the whole Tecnolonial project.

### **Keywords**

Archaeometry

Valdivia

majolica

glazed coarse ware

colony

## **RED IN COMMON: THE ARCHAEOMETRICAL CHARACTERIZATION OF ROJA BRUÑIDA POTTERY FROM PANAMA**

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Panamá Viejo was founded in 1519 by the Spanish expeditionary Pedrarias Dávila. At the time, it was the first permanent settlement in the Pacific Ocean, becoming a city by a royal decree in 1521. Shortly after its creation the city became an important base for the trade with Spain. Unfortunately, in 1671, the English pirate Henry Morgan attacked and sacked the city, resulting in a fire that destroyed the entire city. Thus, a new settlement was built a few miles west, which would become the origin of the modern Panama City. Roja bruñida pottery is a very characteristic typology of ceramic within colonial contexts in America that is distinguished by a red/brownish clay paste with a shiny reddish thin slip. This study accounts for the first archaeometrical characterization of the so-called Roja Bruñida pottery from Panama unearthed in recent archaeological excavations at Panama Viejo and Casco Antiguo. Forty-five ceramics have been characterized by means of Neutron Activation Analysis (NAA), XRD and SEM. The archaeometrical study of these wares will shed light into the understanding of the technological influence on Panama majolica by European and local potting traditions within the cultural frame of societies in contact in a colonial context. Additionally, the supply of raw materials for the potting industry in colonial Panama is assessed diachronically considering the important historical disrupting episode that eventually ended in the relocation of the city. Larger archaeological and historical implications of this important ceramic in the Spanish colonial market within the region are also assessed.

### **Keywords**

Pottery  
Panama  
Colonial  
Archaeometry

Abstract #: 07

## **HOUSES IN KSAR SEGHIR (MOROCCO): ARCHAEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF THE URBAN HOUSE IN THE 15TH AND 16TH CENTURIES.**

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Ksar Seghir was conquered by the Portuguese in 1458, after a long medieval Islamic occupation. After its abandonment in 1550, it remained as an unknown archaeological site, until the major work of Charles L. Redman and his team throughout the decades of 1970 and 1980. Their studies allowed the identification of the Portuguese and the medieval Islamic settlements, revealing their main buildings and public facilities, as well as the housing structures of their inhabitants.

This presentation aims to reflect on the transformations of the vernacular architecture in this Portuguese town, while looking into the evolution of its urban form. Besides the analysis of the remaining architectural structures in each occupation phase, we will be assessing the differences and continuities in terms of the type and model of construction, the materials applied and the construction techniques, according to the archaeological record and contemporary written sources. Our study will also include a brief approach to the material culture found in each housing complex and its compartments, in order to address their functional use and socio-economic framework. Lastly, there will be a significant comparison between the houses and the urban organization in Ksar Seghir and other settlements in Portugal from the Late Middle Ages.

### **Keywords**

North Africa, Portugal, Urbanism, Houses

**'LAND THAT HAS NEVER BEEN USED BEFORE'. COLONIAL SETTLEMENT AND LAND CLEARING IN ANDALUSIA AND GRAN CANARIA (16TH C.)**

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The conquest of Andalusia and the Canary Islands by the Castilian Crown in the Late Middle Ages was followed by the immediate establishment of thousands of settlers, who farmed the seized lands and defended the conquered territories. The creation of these colonial settlements implied the progressive transformation of the indigenous agricultural landscape that surrounded them, in order to adapt it to their economic objectives and productive strategies. One of the ways in which the transformation of the landscape took place was through the ploughing of uncultivated land to mass-produce cash crops, such as cereals, wine and sugar cane. The systematic clearing -and enclosing- of lands is a phenomenon closely linked to European settler colonialism, and it has been documented in many regions that were conquered before 1492 -such as the British Isles, Eastern Europe and Iberia- and after that date, and in both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. This poster presents two case-studies of indigenous settlements that were emptied and repopulated with colonists, one in Southern Iberia -Olvera (Cadiz)- and on another one in the Canary Islands -Agüimes (Gran Canaria). In both cases, the newcomers brought under cultivation hundreds of hectares of unfarmed land during the sixteenth century; land that, according to them, 'had never been used before'. We will analyse how these processes of land clearing were organised and how they actually reused, modified or destroyed the pre-existing landscapes.

**Keywords**

Settler Colonialism

Landscape

Clearances

Agriculture