

UrbNet regional study conference

Africa and the Indian Ocean past in high definition

5–7 December 2018

Organisers

Stephanie Wynne-Jones (University of York)

Federica Sulas (Aarhus University)





Excavation and soil sampling at Unguja Ukuu, Zanzibar (Photo: Federica Sulas).

Table of Contents

Outline.....	4
Programme.....	6
Keynote lecture	
Objects and places in the western Indian Ocean – towards a high-definition “archaeology” of text.....	10
Abstracts	
Resource landscapes and changing priorities: early towns on Zanzibar	11
A new look at Kilwa.....	12
Archaeology at Songo Mnara, Tanzania: a study in high definition research on the eastern African coast.....	13
Holocene mangrove dynamics and relative sea-level changes along the Tanzanian coast, East Africa.....	14
Urban Farmers: eastern African cultures of farming and the growth of towns	15
Urban foodways on the Swahili coast through a fisheye lens	16
Between urban and estate: disease as a driver of landscape change in Mauritius	17
Comoros: A cultural crossroads in the western Indian Ocean.....	18
Urbanism in Islamic Oman: Julfar, Suhar, Jumeirah and Qalhat.....	19
Catastrophes and deaths along Tanzania’s Western Indian Ocean coast during the Early Swahili period, AD 900–1100.....	20
A comparative archaeology of ceramic imports in village and town on the central Swahili coast, seventh to fifteenth centuries CE	21
Histories of the exotic in the interior of Madagascar	22
Distance and scale: the organisational structure of maritime exchange in the Persian Gulf and East Africa.....	23
A handful of glass beads and trade around the Old World in the 8th to 9th c. CE.....	24
Iron production technologies and exchange networks along the Swahili coast	25
Great Zimbabwe’s iron: metalworking knowledge, social formation and the Indian Ocean in Southern Africa.....	26
Venues in town	28
Getting to Moesgaard.....	29
Contacts	31

Outline

The Indian Ocean rim was home to a wide range of urban societies over the last two millennia and these have been subject to study from a range of disciplines. The urban past of coastal eastern Africa is largely known through archaeology, while the sites of the Persian Gulf and the Indian subcontinent are known through a combination of material and textual sources. This can make it difficult to reconcile the trajectories of different regions, as the data are so varied; it has also meant that approaches to the entire region have tended to privilege certain areas over others. This conference is designed to help bring those regions into conversation, through a focus on novel and high-resolution studies of objects and places in the western Indian Ocean. These make it possible to augment what can be said about urban lives in the region, as well as providing new detail on object flows and resource use.

‘Africa and the Indian Ocean’ draws on a major research strand on eastern Africa, part of the Danish National Research Foundation Centre for Urban Network Evolutions at Aarhus University. It forms part of that centre’s focus on high-definition archaeology, and what it can add to our studies of the urban past. Africa is a significant but not exclusive focus of the event. Bringing together a range of colleagues at the forefront of research on past urbanism in the region, this conference will examine four interconnected themes of settlement in the context of urban transitions along the coastal and island environments of eastern Africa.

Main themes:

1. Understanding urbanism
2. Approaching urban landscapes
3. Urban transformations
4. Connecting places and object flows



Sunset over coral reef, Songo Mnara, Tanzania (Photo: Federica Sulas).

Programme

Wednesday 5 December

Venue: Moesgaard Museum, Moesgård Allé 15, 8270, Auditorium

	OPENING
13:30 – 14:00	Welcome and introduction to Urbnet Rubina Raja, Søren Sindbæk, and Stephanie Wynne-Jones
14:00 – 15:00	Keynote lecture: Objects and places in the western Indian Ocean – towards a high-definition “archaeology” of text Elizabeth Lambourn
15:00 – 15:15	<i>Coffee break</i>

	UNDERSTANDING URBANISM Chair: Rubina Raja
15:15 – 16:00	Resource landscapes and changing priorities: early towns on Zanzibar Stephanie Wynne-Jones and Federica Sulas
16:00 – 16:45	A new look at Kilwa Mark Horton and Jesper Olsen
16:45 – 17:30	Archaeology at Songo Mnara, Tanzania: a study in high definition research on the eastern African coast Jeffrey Fleisher
17:30	<i>Drinks reception and speakers’ dinner at UrbNet</i>

Thursday 6 December

Venue: Moesgaard Museuseum, Moesgård Allé 15, 8270, Auditorium

	APPROACHING URBAN LANDSCAPES Chair: Jesper Olsen
09:00 – 09:45	Holocene mangrove dynamics and relative sea-level changes along the Tanzanian coast, East Africa Rob Marchant, Paramita Punwong, and Katherine Selby
09:45 – 10:30	Urban Farmers: eastern African cultures of farming and the growth of towns Sarah Walshaw
10:30 – 10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:45 – 11:30	Urban foodways on the Swahili Coast through a fisheye lens Erendira Quintana Morales
11:30 – 12:15	Between urban and estate: disease as a driver of landscape change in Mauritius Krish Seetah
12:15 – 12:30	<i>Q&A and discussion</i>
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>



URBNET CONFERENCE:
AFRICA AND THE INDIAN OCEAN PAST IN HIGH DEFINITION

	URBAN TRANSFORMATIONS Chair: Federica Sulas
13:30 – 14:15	Comoros: A cultural crossroads in the western Indian Ocean Alison Crowther
14:15 – 15:00	Urbanism in Islamic Oman: Julfar, Suhar, Jumeirah and Qalhat Derek Kennet
15:00 – 15:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:15 – 16:00	Catastrophes and deaths along Tanzania's Western Indian Ocean coast during the Early Swahili period, AD 900–1100 Elinaza Mjema
16:00 – 16:45	A comparative archaeology of ceramic imports in village and town on the central Swahili coast, seventh to fifteenth centuries CE Adria LaViolette
16:45 – 17:30	<i>Q&A and discussion</i>
19:00	<i>Speakers' dinner in town</i>

Friday 7 December

Venue: AU Campus Moesgaard, Moesgård Allé 20, 8270 Højbjerg, Building 4205, room 123

	CONNECTING PLACES AND OBJECT FLOWS Chair: Søren M. Sindbæk
9:00 – 9:45	Histories of the exotic in the interior of Madagascar Zoë Crossland and Chantal Radimilahy
9:45 – 10:30	Distance and scale: the organisational structure of maritime exchange in the Persian Gulf and East Africa Seth Priestman
10:30 – 11:15	A handful of glass beads and trade around the Old World in the 8th to 9th c. CE Marilee Wood
11:15 – 11:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:30 – 12:15	Iron production technologies and exchange networks along the Swahili coast Ema Bauzyté
12:15 – 13:00	Great Zimbabwe's iron: metalworking knowledge, social formation and the Indian Ocean in Southern Africa Ezekia Mtetwa
13:00	<i>Lunch</i> <i>End of conference</i>
	<i>After lunch, speakers can visit Moesgaard Museum</i>

Keynote lecture

Objects and places in the western Indian Ocean – towards a high-definition “archaeology” of text

Elizabeth LAMBOURN

School of Humanities, De Montfort University, Leicester, UK

This paper engages with the conference’s stated aim of bringing East Africa into dialogue with other regions of the Western Indian Ocean by focusing on approaches to the high-definition study of material culture in twelfth century Malabar. It also aims to stimulate a more deliberate discussion among scholars of the premodern Indian Ocean of the complex relationships between archaeological material and textual sources. Although we are all acutely aware of the extreme disparities in sources that we face – the conference call itself evoked the contrasting data sets of eastern Africa versus South Asia and the Middle East – as yet our discipline has not engaged very directly with ongoing debates in archaeology about this relationship (see Moreland, 2001, 2006; Andrén, 2013; Rutz and Kersel, 2014, to name but a few). This conference offers an opportunity to begin that process more deliberately.

To date the term “high-definition” has been used almost exclusively within archaeology, however, many areas of the Indian Ocean remain unexcavated – for example, archaeological data is still non-existent for large parts of the premodern Malabar coast – preventing these areas from contributing to (or benefiting from) this approach. Are they therefore consigned to permanent obscurity or might other types of source material, notably texts, be exploited in equivalent ways? Essentially, is a high-definition “archaeology” of text possible? If so, WHERE and WHEN is it possible, and how might it be different from approaches such as micro-history and/or Geertz’s thick description? Through their unique resolution the so-called ‘India Book’ documents – the portion of the Cairo Genizah relating to Jewish trade in the western Indian Ocean in from the late eleventh to twelfth centuries CE – offer a promising place to explore this problem. This paper reflects on the potentials and pitfalls of submitting the ‘India Book’ documents to the “high-definition” approach.

Abstracts

Resource landscapes and changing priorities: early towns on Zanzibar

Stephanie WYNNE-JONES^{1,2} and Federica SULAS²

¹ *Department of Archaeology, University of York, UK*

² *Centre for Urban Network Evolutions, Aarhus University, Denmark*

Urban centres on Zanzibar are some of the earliest and most enigmatic towns in eastern Africa. Although they seem to have been sited to take advantage of international trade networks, and there is evidence that they were connected around the Indian Ocean by the 7th century CE, we know surprisingly little about how they functioned. Only recently have excavations begun to target the spatial layout of early towns, or to explore what activities occurred inside and outside the houses.

This is crucial information, as there is evidence that urban centres on Zanzibar occupied very different environmental niches, and archaeology can inform on sustainable practice in the past. This paper reports on research that is exploring the resource landscapes in which these early towns existed. Excavations and geophysical survey at Unguja Ukuu have focused on the spatial layout of the site, and on the use of local resources – crops, animals, forests, coral reef – in the maintenance of urban life. The fieldwork has recovered a series of different adaptations, probably based on different cultural decisions and technologies, suggesting that context is all important in understanding the working of a town and that past inhabitants developed different forms of sustainable urbanism to suit different times.

A new look at Kilwa

Mark HORTON¹ and Jesper OLSEN²

¹ *Department of Archaeology, University of Bristol, UK*

² *Physics and UrbNet, Aarhus University, Denmark*

The famous excavations at Kilwa Kisiwani were completed in 1967, and these have influenced many interpretations of coastal archaeology during the subsequent 50 years. In 2016, as part of the Songo Mnara project, we were able to revisit the site and undertake a sondage type excavation adjacent to one dug in the 1960's – the results of which influenced the original historical interpretation of the site. We have been able to revisit this sequence in detail, with the added advantage of a series of high precision 14C dates on a range of materials recovered from well-stratified contexts. The larger excavation has also allowed us to reinterpret the original conclusions and we can explore the historical implications of the new chronology that we have obtained. The paper will set out a new understanding of the rise of Kilwa as the principal port city of East Africa in the 13th–15th centuries, and set Kilwa within the wider context of Swahili archaeology.

Archaeology at Songo Mnara, Tanzania: a study in high definition research on the eastern African coast

Jeffrey FLEISHER
Department of Anthropology, Rice University, TX

Four seasons of archaeological research at the 14th–16th century AD Swahili site of Songo Mnara provide the most high definition approach to a coastal stonetown ever completed. This paper will provide an overview of the multi-scalar and multi-layer data collection strategies that are providing a unique level of detail on domestic and public life. This high definition approach includes: full coverage archaeological survey of Songo Mnara Island; complete geophysical survey of the urban settlement; systematic shovel test survey in the urban settlement for artifact, geochemical, and phytolith sampling; architectural assessment of all standing architecture; excavation of more than 60 trenches including two mosques and two complete houses; geochemical sampling at a microscale within buildings.

Holocene mangrove dynamics and relative sea-level changes along the Tanzanian coast, East Africa

Rob MARCHANT¹, Paramita PUNWONG² and Katherine SELBY¹

¹ *York Institute of Tropical Ecosystems, Environment Department, University of York, UK*

² *Faculty of Environment and Resource Studies, Mahidol University, Nakhon Pathom, Thailand*

There is continued uncertainty regarding the rate, timing, duration and direction of Holocene sea-level for the Indian Ocean, and the interaction that this would have had on coastal populations. This changing nature of the shore line and sea-level would have clearly impacted on past populations, as it is today, and will continue to do so into the future. We present a new synthesis and chronology for Holocene relative sea-level (RSL) using a range sediment cores retrieved from mangrove ecosystems along coastal Tanzania. We apply the relationship of ratios between the key mangrove taxa of *Sonneratia*: (*Bruguiera/Ceriops*) (S/BC) and *Sonneratia*: *Rhizophora* (S/R) to interpret mangrove dynamics and refine the vertical errors associated with relative sea level change. The sediment cores, obtained from the Rufiji Delta and two locations on Unguja Island, Zanzibar, record mangrove development from around 7900 cal yr BP. An early to mid-Holocene RSL rise occurred from ~7900 to ~4600 cal yr BP that reached a higher level than at the present day. A lower RSL occurred after 4600 cal yr BP, resulting in mangroves retreating seaward at all three locations, before a low magnitude RSL rise occurred between 4400 and 2000 cal yr BP. Another RSL rise is recorded at ~500 cal yr BP before falling to a level lower than present at ~100 cal yr BP and rising during the last century. From two of the three the locations, Unguja Ukuu, and the Rufiji Delta, there is clear evidence of human use of the coastal environment as recorded by increased fire expression and expansion of cereal cultivation (most likely rice) respectively. There is great potential to scale up the investigation presented here to other coastal mangrove sites across East Africa, as well as offshore islands. Such an extension to work would provide an unprecedented regional record of environmental and sea-level changes from a far-field region and allow us to distinguish RSL signals across East Africa and the interaction this may have had with coastal communities.

Urban Farmers: eastern African cultures of farming and the growth of towns

Sarah C. WALSHAW
Department of History, Simon Fraser University, CA

What is the relationship between farming and the growth of trading towns along the eastern African coast and islands, as seen through archaeobotanical signals? On Pemba Island, the late first millennium village of Tumbe was supported largely by millet- and sorghum-based agriculture. However by 1050 CE Tumbe was abandoned and a new town was established nearby, Chwaka, whose foodways were dominated by rice and peas adopted through Indian Ocean networks. Chwaka's culture of rice was not limited to the urban environment, as the nearby village of Kaliwa shows similar ubiquity of rice. However, this model does not hold throughout the coast; emerging data from southern sites suggest that rice was not as dominant as African cereals may have been. Furthermore, Comorian sites and settlement patterns differ still, and may be linked to Indian Ocean colonization more directly. Archaeobotanical patterns taken together with other archaeological data and inferences from ethnobotany can help us understand local logics of agriculture and the different pathways to feeding towns.

Urban foodways on the Swahili coast through a fisheye lens

Eréndira M. QUINTANA MORALES

Department of Anthropology, Rice University, TX

Fish are more than just a major source of daily protein for fishing communities; fish are entangled in the lives of coastal residents from the moment fish are captured, processed, and eventually consumed and discarded. These daily activities shape the identity of coastal residents, their inter-relationships and their interaction with the surrounding environment. Despite the vast quantities of fish bones recovered from Swahili coastal archaeological sites, researchers are only beginning to study these materials more closely. To expand our understanding of urban foodways in Swahili towns, we reconstructed past fishing practices using a database of over 35,000 fish remains. This paper presents trends in Swahili fishing practices at both regional and community levels, highlighting recent work that combined zooarchaeological data of fish remains with lipid residue analysis and morphological analysis of cooking and eating vessels. Our results indicate that nearshore fishing persists alongside the advent of deep sea fishing and the integration of domesticated animals during urban development. Intra-site analysis showed that although most houses shared a similar composition of fish taxa, greater proportions of larger fish and fast-predatory fish were found in stone houses compared to daub houses, suggesting that elite residents had better access to these types of fish. These results demonstrate the complex ways past coastal residents used daily fishing and fish consumption practices to negotiate social status and develop community identity, providing impetus for further research on fish remains to elucidate past urban life around the Indian Ocean rim.

Between urban and estate: disease as a driver of landscape change in Mauritius

Krish SEETAH

Department of Anthropology, Stanford University, CA

From 1855 to 1859, the island of Mauritius, with a landmass of only 2040 km², was producing close to 10% of the world's sugar: a staggering testimony to the power of imperial influence on ecology. The transformations that this intensification in cane production resulted in were far reaching. Despite a well-developed historic narrative, one facet that remains poorly understood is the context of disease.

This paper presents details of the way disease was dealt with, initially in the urban context, but increasingly in response to the changing dynamics and magnitude of specific diseases themselves. Charting a series of malaria epidemics that plagued the island from the 1850s onwards, the presentation concentrates on the imperial response to malaria. In 1867, some 41,000 people died from malaria, 10% of the entire population at that time. This massive death toll catalyzed large-scale landscape changes, illustrating imperial reactions to the largely indiscriminate nature of disease. The paper also discussed how archaeology is contributing to a clearer understanding of the historic context, and potentially, how archaeology may have utility for contemporary studies of vector borne disease.

Comoros: A cultural crossroads in the western Indian Ocean

Alison CROWTHER¹, Mark HORTON², Nicole BOIVIN³, Henry WRIGHT⁴, Abdourahmane BOURHANE⁵, Tabibou Ali TABIBOU⁵, Patrick ROBERTS³, Anneke JANZEN³, Monica TROMP³, Maddy BLEASDALE³, Shop MALLICK⁶ and David REICH⁶

The Comoros archipelago – a small chain of stepping-stone islands linking mainland East Africa with Madagascar – have long been part of trading systems that connect the Swahili coast with the Indian Ocean world. Recent data collected by our team suggest that the first settlements on these islands, comprising a small number of 8th–10th century villages with distinctive ‘Dembeni’ phase ceramics, also played a central role in the Southeast Asian colonisation of Madagascar. This presentation showcases our recent work at Dembeni phase sites on Anjouan (Old Sima) and Grande Comore (Membeni), focusing on the high resolution archaeological science methods we are employing to better understand who the first Comorians were, their biological and cultural links to Africa and Asia, and more broadly the nature of settlement, trade and ecological transformations in this western Indian Ocean archipelago.

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Urbanism in Islamic Oman: Julfar, Suhar, Jumeirah and Qalhat

Derek KENNET
Department of Archaeology, Durham University, UK

This paper will examine the archaeology of urban (or proto-urban) settlements in historic Oman. It will look specifically at sites such as Julfar, Suhar, Jumeirah, Rustaq and Qalhat as well as a number of smaller and less-well-known locations. These well-known sites are the places where it is perhaps possible to speak of urbanism in Oman between the 7th and early 17th century. The paper will examine the location, form and nature of these settlements (based largely on archaeological evidence) and consider what this tells us about how society, settlement and economy developed in Oman over this long period of history. Based on what is presently known, it seems that in all cases apparently urban developments were more closely linked to outside relationships than they were to being based purely on internal, agricultural hinterlands. At least that is how it seems at present, but there is more evidence still to be uncovered and the picture may change. Oman's location on the maritime route between Iraq and East Africa, and its close links to Africa mean that developments there reflect to some degree broader regional patterns.

Catastrophes and deaths along Tanzania's Western Indian Ocean coast during the Early Swahili period, AD 900–1100

Elinaza MJEMA

Department of Archaeology and Heritage Studies, University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Natural disasters such as floods, tropical cyclone storms, tsunamis and earthquakes had various kinds of effects on ancient societies around the world. In Eurasia and the Americas, the number of archaeological studies of these phenomena is increasing, particularly from geoarchaeological perspectives, but in East Africa few archaeological studies have yet been undertaken of their impacts on local communities. Archaeological and palaeoclimatic records nevertheless show that lowland settlements situated along the Western Indian Ocean seaboard occasionally flooded in the course of the late Holocene. This paper presents new archaeological evidence from Pangani Bay, northeast Tanzania, that suggests that flash floods occurred on the southern bank of the Pangani River c. 1000 years ago, resulting in the catastrophic destruction of an ancient village located near the river's mouth. Excavations conducted at the site of Kimu have recovered human remains interbedded in deposits of probable flood origins. Dating evidence and geoarchaeological records lead to the conclusion that Kimu was probably occupied during a period of climatic aridity prior to the flood event that destroyed the site and appears to have led to the death of its occupants en masse.

A comparative archaeology of ceramic imports in village and town on the central Swahili coast, seventh to fifteenth centuries CE

Adria LAVIOLETTE
Department of Anthropology, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

Swahili urban systems of the eastern African coast have been shown to vary considerably within this culture zone. The role of long-distance trade on the coast and on indigenous coastal urbanism is significant, where imported goods took on a wide range of roles. The imported artifacts recovered archaeologically from two Swahili sites in northern Pemba Island, Tanzania, provide an opportunity to examine the impact of long-distance contacts and how they changed over time from the seventh through fifteenth centuries CE, in pre-urban and urban contexts. Tumbe, a large trading village occupied from the seventh through tenth centuries, provides us with evidence of strong trade and exchange ties with locales in the African interior as well as in the western Indian Ocean. After Tumbe's abandonment a new settlement, Chwaka, was founded in an adjacent location, and grew into a densely occupied town over the eleventh to fifteenth centuries. The imports there are many times greater in variety and number than at the earlier site. The data from Tumbe and Chwaka allow comparison between two distinct periods and types of settlement as urbanism emerged, and allows comparison with Shanga, a Swahili settlement that grew from village to town over the same period of time, in the Lamu Archipelago, Kenya, and from which we have an excellent corpus of imported ceramic data. This paper will present these materials in a comparative framework to address questions of changing trade networks on Pemba Island and in the broader context of the central/northern Swahili coast, as well as consumption patterns and the social practices around imported goods.

Histories of the exotic in the interior of Madagascar

Zoë CROSSLAND¹ and Chantal RADIMILAHY²

¹ *Department of Anthropology, Columbia University, NY*

² *Musée d'Art et d'Archéologie, University of Madagascar, Antananarivo, Madagascar*

In this presentation we consider the circulation of imported materials through Madagascar in the second millennium CE. Although relatively few examples of imported materials have been found in the interior of Madagascar, there is certainly evidence that materials reached even the center of the island and were important in the constitution of political power at different periods, especially in the southern region of Androy. We compile the available evidence for the flow of imported materials and ideas in the interior of Madagascar, and assess what we know of the routes by which exotic objects left the coast from sites such as Mahilaka, Kingany and Vohemar and were brought into the interior.

Distance and scale: the organisational structure of maritime exchange in the Persian Gulf and East Africa

Seth PRIESTMAN
Asia Department, The British Museum, London, UK

Certain key assumptions surrounding the discussion of Indian Ocean maritime exchange have been so widely and frequently repeated that they have entered the realm of common knowledge. Yet it is also clear that the terms of reference applied often appear rather narrow. A basic assumption has been made that maritime exchange occurred frequently, in large volumes and over long distances, and that it constituted a substantial source of revenue that state structures benefited from on a significant scale. A clear narrative has also been established around perceived stages in the growth and intensification of long-distance exchange in which textual and archaeological finds such as the 9th century Belitung wreck and the accounts of seafaring adventure in sources such as the Akhbar al-sin wa'l-hind neatly coalesce. The point of departure here is not so much to say that the prevailing reconstruction needs to be reconsidered, but simply to emphasise that it needs to be tested from an evidential perspective. One of the important means of doing so is via quantitative analysis of long-term changes in patterns of ceramic exchange. The examination of this unedited record of economic behaviour from coastal settlements in East Africa and the Persian Gulf is starting to reveal important information not only concerning differences in the intensity of ceramic exchange between site, but also in the operation of intersecting networks functioning on a local, regional and trans-regional scale. Via this analysis we can begin to unpick some of the underlying organisational characteristics of Indian Ocean exchange.

A handful of glass beads and trade around the Old World in the 8th to 9th c. CE

Marilee Wood

Department of Archaeology, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

In the 8th and 9th centuries CE the Old World experienced a period of exploration and interaction, including expansive and far-reaching long-distance trade, that accompanied the spread of Islam. Evidence of the extent of this trade is found in a diverse group of glass beads that were all made from a type of plant ash glass that is believed to have been produced in the Iraq/Iran region. But the methods used to make the beads vary dramatically, from simple monochrome drawn beads to elaborate mosaic tube-folded ones, suggesting that the glass was traded to distant regions before being made into beads. Tracing this glass and the beads made from it—which have been found in the Middle East, Sri Lanka, Thailand, East Africa, Southern Africa, West Africa and even Scandinavia – will be the focus of this discussion.

Iron production technologies and exchange networks along the Swahili coast

Ema BAUZYTÉ
UrbNet, Aarhus University, Denmark

The paper presents the results of an ongoing PhD project that focuses in on evidence of iron production uncovered at a number of archaeological sites along the Swahili coast. The project employs archaeometallurgical methods, including elemental and microscopic analyses of iron production debris, in order to reconstruct the technological know-how involved in the process. It further aims to understand how evidence of iron production relates to other archaeological features uncovered at sites, as well as how materials and technological expertise may have been transferred to and subsequently moved along the coast. The paper presents the most recent developments in the project and reveals exciting new data about Swahili iron production between 7th–15th centuries CE.

Great Zimbabwe's iron: metalworking knowledge, social formation and the Indian Ocean in Southern Africa

Ezekia MTETWA

Schlebusch Lab, Human Evolution Program Department of Organismal Biology, Evolutionary Biology Centre, Uppsala University, Sweden

Great Zimbabwe carries one of the most extensive and diverse records of iron production designs and processes in sub-Saharan Africa, dating to at least the end of the first millennium AD. Evidence includes natural draft furnaces (one with a rectangular furnace morphology), tap slags, tuyeres fused in multiples and manganese rich ores suggestive of intensified iron production, consumption and distribution especially in the first half of the second millennium AD. In this presentation, I explore the extent to which Great Zimbabwe's iron-related practices shaped, and were reshaped by changing aspects of trade interactions with the wider Indian Ocean community. In particular, I deal with the nature of technological and socio-political transformations created by the interplay and dynamics of the socio-spatial and trade relationships between communities in southern Africa and the Indian Ocean world. I argue that the tendency of globalized trade relations to shift did not only influence the dynamics of state development and decline in southern Africa, but equally impacted the dynamics of supply and demand for quality iron. By extension, this would have undoubtedly influenced the nature, organisation and reorganization of iron production systems and processes, seeing that connections and disconnections between communities tend to affect the flow of both the material products and cross-borrowing of technological ideas.



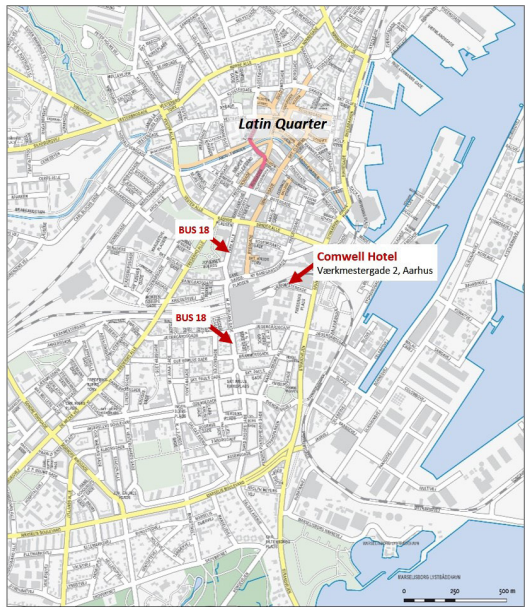
View from the Hill Complex, Great Zimbabwe (Photo: Federica Sulas).

Restaurant SlapAf
Studsgade 8
800 Aarhus C

Hotel Comwell
Værkmestergade 2
8000 Aarhus C

Aarhus Train Station (Banegaardspladsen)

Getting to Moesgaard



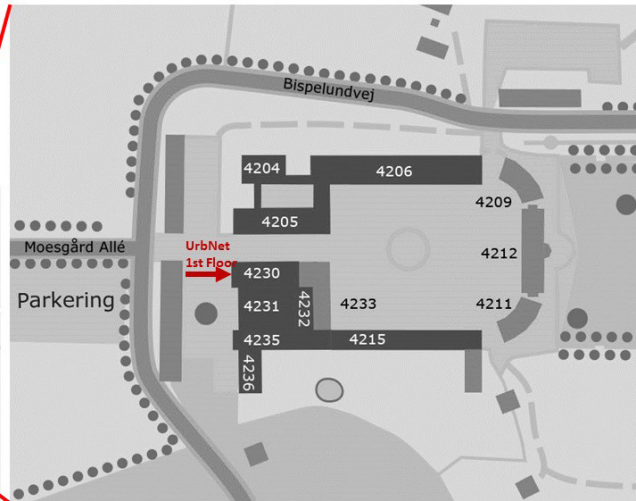
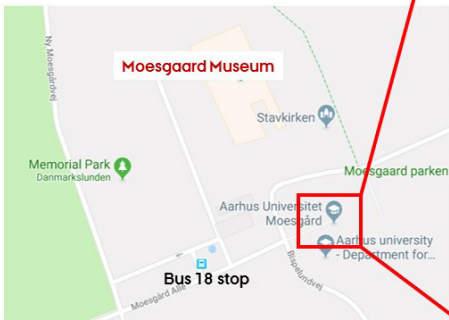
UrbNet is located at Moesgaard Manor in Højbjerg, approximately 10 km south of Aarhus city centre.

From downtown Aarhus, you can take **Bus 18**

Bus 18 (see timetable: https://www.midttrafik.dk/media/11776/linje18_normalplan.pdf) is a yellow city bus, which leaves from Park Allé three times an hour (direction: Moesgård). Enter the bus through the back or the middle door and purchase your ticket at the ticket machine (20 DKr in cash). Get off at the bus stop “Moesgård Museum” (end station) - the ride takes approximately 25 min. From there, it is only a 300 m walk to UrbNet (see map on next page).

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**UrbNet regional study conference: Africa and the Indian Ocean past in high definition
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Book of abstracts

Editors: *Mie Egelund Lind, Federica Sulas and Stephanie Wynne-Jones.*

Front cover: *Fishermen sailing, Songo Mnara, Tanzania (Photo: Federica Sulas).*

Back cover: *Friday Mosque, Tumbatu Island (Photo: Federica Sulas).*

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