



Preliminary programme

Nordic Urban Archaeology

10-12/5 2023

Copenhagen City Hall

– Experiences and new directions



Registration now open!
(limited room, first come - first served)

NUA 2023 is a conference in Copenhagen organised by, and intended for, practitioners and researchers in the field of urban archaeology in the Nordic countries. It will provide a forum to discuss a variety of topics and promote collaboration relating to the archaeology of urban life.

For detailed program, abstracts, conference location, registration and more please see: <https://musemodense.dk/nua23>



Preliminary programme



Nordic Urban Archaeology – experiences and new directions

Wednesday 10th - Friday 12th May 2023 in Copenhagen

During recent decades, numerous large-scale archaeological excavations have taken place in many towns and cities in the Nordic countries. Most have been rescue excavations which were not initiated by research questions or research projects. Many have nonetheless contributed to a significant increase in the volume and range of archaeological data. In addition to these new and substantial additions to the urban archaeological record, artefacts and data already stored in university and museum archives are being increasingly revisited. Despite the challenges associated with dealing with older data, this material holds a great potential for providing new results and insights relating to urban life in the past.

The conference “Nordic Urban Archaeology – experiences and new directions” is a new initiative that aims to explore the current status of urban archaeology. It will provide a forum for the presentation of papers and posters which will discuss the outcomes of excavations, research projects and other experiences rooted in urban archaeology and – not least – look ahead to see what the future holds. The conference’s goal is to enable the various experiences to generate mutual inspirations, synergies, and new collaborations and research.

Organisers

The organisers behind the conference are a group of archaeologists and researchers employed within research institutions in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden: Hanna Dahlström from Museum of Copenhagen and Kirstine Haase from Museum Odense and UrbNet, Georg Haggrén from Turku University, Chris McLees from The Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU) and Joakim Kjellberg from Upplandsmuseet/Medeltidsmuseet. The format emphasises the Nordic perspective as the starting point for the conference and highlights the aim to create a Nordic network of urban archaeology and ensure a strong relationship between field archaeology, collections and research.

Costs

Conference fee is 950 DKK and includes lighter lunch and coffee/tea and cake for the duration of the conference. On the evening of Wednesday 10th of May there will be a conference dinner at Madklubben København, to an additional cost of 480 DKK. Dinner includes a three-course menu, and 2 glasses of wine. About the restaurant: <https://www.madklubben.dk/selskaber-og-grupper/koebenhavn/madklubben/koebenhavn>

Registration

Registration takes place in two steps:

1. Send an e-mail to Hanna Dahlström at AQ06@kk.dk – deadline 1st of March. Registration is binding. Please state if you also wish to take part in the conference dinner. Please state allergies and food preferences when you register.
 2. Soon after 1st of March you will receive instructions about payment.
- Number of participants is limited, so the principle is “first come, first served”!

For general information please see the conference webpage and Facebook group:

<https://museumodense.dk/nua23>
www.facebook.com/groups/nua2023/

For questions please contact:

Hanna Dahlström AQ06@kk.dk
Kirstine Haase kirha@odense.dk

Welcome in May!

/The organising committee

Hanna Dahlström, Museum of Copenhagen.

Kirstine Haase, Centre for Urban Network Evolutions, Aarhus University & Museum Odense.

Joakim Kjellberg, Upplandsmuseet & Medeltidsmuseet.

Georg Haggrén, University of Turku.

Chris McLees, The Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU).



View of Rådhuspladsen during the Metro excavations 2012. Photo by Museum of Copenhagen

Wednesday 10th May

9:15 Arrival, coffee and registration

Session 1

Excavations and research – experiences and new directions

*Moderators: Natascha Mehler, Professor of Medieval Archaeology, University of Tübingen.
Georg Haggren, Professor of Archaeology, University of Turku.*

With this session, we will kick off the discussions and set the framework for the conference's overall theme: Nordic Urban Archaeology – experiences and new directions. We will start with a short overview from Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark on the state of urban archaeology reflecting on the following questions:

- What new insights and experiences have been gained during the past decade?
- Have new agendas been set and tested – if so, which?
- Are new theoretical approaches making a difference in field archaeology? In research?
- Which trends from the past decades have been fruitful and which have been abandoned?

The aim is that points, considerations and issues from the first section will form the conference's baseline and further discussions throughout the full three days. "Where are we now? How should we go forward?"

9:50	<i>Welcome & introduction</i>
10:00	What is the state of Urban Archaeology in Finland? Georg Haggren, Professor of Archaeology, University of Turku
10:15	What is the state of Urban Archaeology in Sweden? Joakim Kjellberg, PhD, archaeologist, Upplandsmuseet & Medeltidsmuseet Stockholm
10:30	What is the state of Urban Archaeology in Norway? Chris McLees, PhD, archaeologist, Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU)
10:45	What is the state of Urban Archaeology in Denmark? Hanna Dahlström, PhD, research coordinator, Museum of Copenhagen & Kirstine Haase, postdoc, Aarhus University & Museum Odense
11:00	Reflections on the development of urban archaeology over the last 25 years Gavin Lucas, Professor of Archaeology, University of Iceland
11:30	Questions & discussion Moderated by Natascha Mehler, Professor of Medieval Archaeology, University of Tübingen
11:50	<i>Lunch</i>
12:50	Brave New Urban World: The Emergence of an Urban Identity in High Medieval Europe Peter Carelli, National Historical Museums, Stockholm

13:10	The Worlds Within – the Diversity of Urban Life Annika Nordström, National Historical Museums & Department of archaeology and Ancient History, Uppsala University
13:30	Agriculture within the medieval city of Trondheim, Norway Julian Cadamarteri, Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU)
13:50	Urban Early modern houses: from excavations to standing structures, and back again. Göran Tagesson, Department of History, Uppsala university
14:10	The King's Own City -archaeology in the fortress town Christianstad Claes Pettersson Sydsvensk Arkeologi AB
14:30	<i>End of session 1/ Coffee break</i>

Session 2

Developments in excavation methods and interdisciplinarity

Moderator: Kirstine Haase, Aarhus University & Museum Odense.

This session focuses on new excavation methods and the inclusion of scientific methods.

- What is new in excavation methodology – is it only technology and natural science that are developing in archaeological fieldwork?
- How does interdisciplinarity work in practice?
- Humanities and science – are they in opposition? If yes, what is that then? How do we create the best conditions for interdisciplinarity?
- What are the good examples? And what are the bad examples?

14:55	<i>Introduction</i>
15:00	”Why does she act this way”? - An oblique look at interdisciplinary cooperation, opportunities and limitations in archaeological observation, documentation and analysis work. Axel Christophersen, Professor of Historical Archaeology, Norwegian University of Sciences and Technology (NTNU)
15:30	Market Square - hectare-size Town Excavations in 17-18th Century Turku, Finland, in 2018-2022. Kari Uotila, Docent in Archaeology, University of Helsinki, University of Turku & Muuritutkimus Ab
16:00	Looking at urban contexts from animal perspectives: a peek into zooarchaeological assemblages and archive records Hanna Kivikero, University of Helsinki & Emma Maltin, University of Stockholm
16:20	<i>Programme End</i>

19:00 Conference dinner at Madklubben

<https://www.madklubben.dk/selskaber-og-grupper/koebenhavn/madklubben/koebenhavn>

(by those who have signed up and at self expense)

Thursday 11th May

Session 2 - continued

8:30	<i>Intro</i>
08:35	Seeing with other eyes: how technologies and the natural sciences are changing the stratigraphic interface Sarah Croix, Associate Professor of Archaeology, Aarhus University
09:05	Single-year radiocarbon dating in nordic urban archaeology: Ribe and the importance of context Bente Philippsen, National Laboratory for Age Determination, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
09:25	Echoes of the past – lessons from the use of GPR and interdisciplinary applications in Kristianstad’s 17th and 18th centuries Fredrik G. Larsson, Sydsvensk Arkeologi AB
09:45	Archaeological geophysics in an urban context Jani Causevic, Digital archaeology, The Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU)
10:05	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10:30	The use of iron in early modern buildings and the use of metal finds as a source material Linda Qviström, Department of History, Uppsala university
10:50	Future preservation of past life: A multidisciplinary investigation into preservation of ancient biological remains from medieval cemeteries Hege Hollund, The Museum of Archaeology, University of Stavanger
11:10	The heterogeneity between urban residents - using skeletal remains as a primary source to understand life in medieval towns Vicki R. L. Kristensen and Dorthe D. Pedersen, Unit of Anthropology (ADBOU), Department of Forensic Medicine, University of Southern Denmark
11:30	<i>End of session 2</i>

Session 3

New research and old materials – challenges and perspectives in collections and archives

Moderators: Joakim Kjellberg, Upplandsmuseet/Medeltidsmuseet & Chris McLees, Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU).

Finds and documentation have been collected and preserved for more than 100 years through urban archaeology in the medieval Nordic cities. Still, they are an often underused resource for new knowledge and urban archaeological research.

Under the headline "New research and old materials – challenges and perspectives in collections and archives", we wish to direct attention to the potential of the extensive collections and the archaeological archives as a source for new and in-depth knowledge on the social and physical spaces of the city.

The session explores:

- How older material and data from old excavations have been revived in recent research.
- How accessibility and usability of older material can be improved for research purposes.
- The threats to collections and archives. How and why archaeological material and data should be preserved for the future, considering it is a limited and non-renewable resource.

11:30	<i>Introduction</i>
11:35	Bergen and Borgund, 1950s modern medieval archaeology Gitte Hansen, Professor of Medieval Archaeology, University Museum of Bergen
12:05	<i>Lunch</i>
13:05	Old materials – new insights: How to activate older datasets into current research? Jette Linaa, Affiliate Associate Professor of Archaeology, Aarhus University and Curator, Moesgaard Museum
13:35	Swedigarch – Swedish National Infrastructure for Digital Archaeology Eva Svensson, Professor of Environmental Science, Swedigarch & Karlstad University
14:05	Let's not forget the old and dead. Turku Cathedral and Church of Holy Spirit as part of urban archaeology and future research Liisa Seppänen, Aalto University
14:25	Small favours. Medieval Material Culture Sigrid Samset Mygland, Bryggen Museum
14:45	Excavating excavations. Research on non-published excavations in Ribe Michael Alrø Jensen, Museum of Southwest Jutland
15:05	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15:30	A City at War: Visby 1288-1525 Anders Andrén, Stockholm University
15:50	A medieval pottery assemblage, from a 1990s excavation Erik Johansson, Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, Lund university
16:10	A Registration Praxis for Clay Tobacco Pipes With an Awareness of Smokeways Robert Bergman Carter, Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, Lund University
16:30	<i>End of programme</i>

Ca 17:00 Social event TBA

Friday 12th May

Session 3 - continued

08:30	<i>Introduction</i>
08:35	The City Space under the Town Hall Square: A Digital Knowledge Pool for Physics, Geology, and Cultural Heritage Tina Rasmussen & Niels Henrik Andreasen, Københavns Museum
08:55	Unraveling the urban palimpsest through maps and written records Morten Søvsø, Museum of Southwest Jutland
09:15	Gamle plantegninger, fra illustrasjoner til forskningsmateriale Therese Marie Edman, Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU)
09:35	Stavanger – the Metropolis of southern Norway and its little-known medieval remains... Volker Demuth, University of Stavanger
09:55	<i>End of session/ Coffee Break</i>

Session 4

The future of Urban Archaeology

Moderator: Hanna Dahlström, PhD, research coordinator, Museum of Copenhagen

We wish to discuss the future of urban archaeology. We also want to present the idea of creating a more formalised network for Nordic Urban Archaeology with recurring conferences. Is there a need and an interest?

- What trends lie ahead?
- What is the role of urban archaeology in society?
- What are the challenges (legislation, traditions etc.)?
- How can we improve collaboration between institutions that work with different aspects of archaeology (e.g. fieldwork and research)?

10:20	<i>Introduction</i>
10:25	New ways for Urban Archaeology? Søren M. Sindbæk, Professor of Archaeology, Centre for Urban Network Evolutions, Aarhus University
10:55	Bright lights, big city - Urban Archaeology in yet another Age of Uncertainty Stefan Larsson, PhD, Cultural Environment specialist/Archaeologist, Swedish Transport Administration
11:25	Planning with urban archaeological heritage for future cities Torggrim Sneve Guttormsen, Archaeologist and Research Professor, The Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU)
11:55	<i>Lunch</i>

12:55	Considering long-term effects of the level of ambition in contract archaeology – valuing historic knowledge for future generations Jeanette Gustavsson, Andrine Nielsen, Jonathan Pye and Caj Carlstein. Rio Kultur- och Naturkooperativ, Göteborg
13:15	In search of guidelines for preserving and conserving town archaeological finds and samples Tanja Ratilainen, Museum Centre of Turku and University of Turku
13:35	Ny arkeologi i Gamla stan i Kalmar Hanna Menander & Magnus Stibeus, Arkeologerna
13:55	Mellan stad och förstad: framväxten av ett historiskt landskap i slussens skugga Jan Kockum, Arkeologikonsult
14:15	<i>Break</i>
14:35	Byer i det sydsjællandske Øresundsområde – småt men godt Annemette Kjærgaard, Museum Sydøstdanmark
14:55	Before the towns: Traces of the pre-urban landscape Halldis Hobæk and Julian Cadamarteri, Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU)
15:15	NUA – A future Network?
15:30	<i>End of Conference</i>



Archaeologists from Museum of Copenhagen excavating late medieval/ renaissance Western City gate in 2012.
Photo by Museum of Copenhagen.

Confirmed Posters

– on display throughout the conference

Session 1	Archaeology for Västlänken in Gothenburg Carina Bramstång Plura et al. Arkeologerna, Statens historiska museer
Session 1	Towards growing interest about urban archaeology of early modern towns in Finland: past, present, and new possibilities Tia Niemelä, University of Helsinki
Session 1	Archaeology on the shoreline-new evidence of coastal activities from the high medieval period to the 1880's in the town of Varberg on the Swedish West Coast Elisabet Schager, Arkeologerna, National Historical Museums & Johan Klange, Halland Museum of Cultural History, department of Cultural Heritage.
Session 2	The Role of Urban Archaeology in a Multidisciplinary Approach to Urban Heritage Philip H. W: B. Hansen. Norwegian University of Life Sciences.
Session 3	The maritime life of a Viking Age town Rune Edberg, Arkeografiskt Centrum, Uppsala
Session 3	Det yngste Starup og det ældste Haderslev Tenna Kristensen, Museum Sønderjylland
	+ More posters to be announced



Photo: Excavation in Odense 1915, after photography in Nationalmuseet (1915:499, neg. 88634).
<https://odensebilder.dk/billedvis.asp? billednr= 36969>