

Monastic Economies in Egypt and Palestine, 5th-10th centuries CE

16th–17th March, Ertegun House, Oxford

Organisers: Louise Blanke, Jennifer Cromwell and Bryan Ward-Perkins.

Wednesday 16th March

8.45 – 9.10 Registration

9.10 – 9.30 Introduction by Louise Blanke, Jennifer Cromwell and Bryan Ward-Perkins.

Session I: Monastic food production and consumption

Session chair: Jennifer Cromwell

9.30 – 10.05 Alain Delattre: *Agricultural management and food production at the monastery of Bawit*

10.05 – 10.40 Dorota Dzierzbicka: *Monastic vintages. The social and economic role of wine in Egyptian monasteries during the 5th-7th centuries.*

Tea and coffee break

11.10 – 11.45 Darlene Brooks Hedstrom: *Cooking, baking and serving: A window into the kitchen of Egyptian monastic households and the archaeology of cooking.*

11.45 – 12.20 Gábor Kalla: *The refectory and the kitchen in the early Byzantine cloister of Tall Bi'a (Syria). The Egyptian and Palestinian connections.*

Lunch

Session II: The monastic estate (built environments and landholdings)

Session chair: Elisabeth O'Connell

13.30 – 14.05 Tomasz Derda and Joanna Wegner: *The Naqlun fathers and their business affairs*

14.05 – 14.40 Karel Innemée: *St Macarius's Monastery in Sketis: Questions raised by recent surveys*

14.40 – 15.15 Jacob Ashkenazi and Mordechai Aviam: *Economic growth and monastic built environment in Christian Galilee in Late Antiquity*

Tea and coffee break

15.45 – 16.20 Isabelle Marthot-Santaniello: *Monasteries as landowners: Evidence from the Egyptian village of Aphrodito (6th-8th centuries CE)*

16.20 – 16.55 Arietta Papaconstantinou: *Loans, land, and the Lord: Was credit important for monastic estates?*

16.55 – 17.30 Davide Bianchi: *A great monastic estate between Palaestina and Arabia*

Drinks reception at Ertegun House

Thursday 17th March

Session III: Travel and pilgrimage

Session chair: Bryan Ward-Perkins

9.00 – 9.35 Gesa Schenke: *Egyptian Hagiotopeography: documentary and literary evidence for the martyr veneration at monastic shrines*

9.35 – 10.10 Tonio Sebastian Richter: *The making of memory: visitors' inscriptions in the Upper Egyptian monastery Deir Anba Hadra*

Tea and coffee break

10.30 – 11.05 Orit Shamir: *Garments and shrouds of Egyptian and Nubian pilgrims from Qasr al-Yahud, ninth century CE*

11.05 – 11.40 Daniel Reynolds: *Deconstructing the pilgrim economy*

11.40 – 12.15 Paula Tutty: *Monastic travels in fourth and fifth century Egypt*

Lunch

Session IV: Trade and the production and consumption of material goods

Session chair: Louise Blanke

13.30 – 14.05 Mennat Allah el Dorry: *It's a dung job: Exploring fuel disc production in Egyptian monasteries*

14.05 – 14.40 Andrea Myers Achi: *Illuminating the Scriptorium: Monastic economy and book production from the medieval monastery of St Michael in Egypt*

Tea and coffee break

15.10 – 15.45 Daniel Caner: *P.Colt 79 as evidence for the distinction between offerings (Prosporai) and blessings (Eulogiai) in Byzantine Monasticism*

15.45 -16.20 Sebastian Olschok: *The economic complex of Deir Anba Hadra, Egypt*

Break

16.50- 17.30 Summary discussion led by Louise Blanke and Jennifer Cromwell

Conference dinner

Participation is free, but registration is essential. Please register at monastic.economies@gmail.com before 10th March. Further updates, including abstracts, will be posted on <https://monkscamelssandwine.wordpress.com/>

The symposium is generously sponsored by Aarhus University's Sapera Aude funded project *The Emergence of Sacred Travel* <http://projects.au.dk/sacredtravel/>, the Danish Research Council and Ertegun House.