

Koordynatorzy seminarium *Archeologia Pogranicza* (Wydział Archeologii UW) zapraszają serdecznie wszystkich zainteresowanych na seminarium doktoranckie / The coordinators of the seminar *Borderland Archaeology* (Faculty of Archaeology, University of Warsaw) would like to invite the doctoral students to a doctoral seminar by

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The issue of "gaps" in the archaeological record: the case study of Medieval settlement in Petra, Jordan

Faculty of Archaeology, Room 109

Poniedziałek 28 lutego 2022, g. 9.45.00-11.15 / Monday 28 February 2022, 9.45AM-11.15AM



Photo: Petra and Baydha seen from the Shara mountains. Photo by Micaela Sinibaldi

The sources of history, and archaeological sources in particular, are, by their own nature, bond to have important gaps in evidence, but it is crucial to distinguish between a gap in the sources, a perceived gap and a gap in the original document. The case study of Petra and Jordan in the Medieval period are ideal to illustrate this issue. For a long time, a commonly held notion was that the Petra valley and region had been abandoned for the whole Medieval period apart from a short parenthesis during the Crusader period. However, this view was not based on a comprehensive study of the local material culture. Creating a basic ceramic chronology for Medieval Petra and combining it with surveys, Buildings Archaeology, and an analysis of the documentary sources has allowed drawing a very different picture of settlement in Medieval Petra.

Micaela Sinibaldi is a Visiting Professor at the University of Warsaw, a Honorary Research Fellow at Cardiff University and the Director of the Islamic Baydha Project in Petra, Jordan. After completing a PhD at Cardiff University on the subject of the Crusader Lordship of Transjordan and holding several post-doctoral fellowship (Humboldt University, the Council for the British Research in the Levant), she has served as acting deputy director at the Kenyon Institute in Jerusalem (Council for British Research in the Levant). With K. Lewis, J. Thompson and B. Major she has co-edited *Crusader Landscapes in the Medieval Levant. The Archaeology and History of the Latin East*, University of Wales Press (2016), a Festschrift for Prof. Denys Pringle. Among recent contributions is: M. Sinibaldi, "Karak Castle in the Lordship of Transjordan: Observations on the Chronology of the Crusader-period Fortress" in P. Edbury, D. Pringle and B. Major, *Bridge of Civilisations. The Near East and Europe c.1100-1300*, Oxford, Archaeopress (2019). An article summarizing the PhD research is in M. Sinibaldi, "The Crusader Lordship of Transjordan (1100–1189): settlement forms, dynamics and significance" is now in print for *Levant*.





