



**Association for the Study of Travel
in Egypt and the Near East**



THIRTEENTH BIENNIAL ASTENE CONFERENCE



12-15 July 2019
at the University of York
and at the Railway Museum, York
Charity Commission Registration Number
1067157

Dear Colleagues,

We are very much looking forward to seeing you in York from Friday 12 to Monday 15 July 2019 at the 13th ASTENE Biennial Conference, York. It promises to be a most fascinating event! Full information about the event, including the latest updated programme and edited abstracts, is available on the ASTENE website. The present note is intended to provide advance information for participants on a few more detailed points. This edition of the *Bulletin* also includes a preliminary conference programme. If your paper has already been accepted, this note reiterates and complements what has been indicated to you already.

Venues

York

York is a beautiful walled city in north-east England with rich history and beautiful gardens. Founded by the ancient Romans, it has a magnificent 13th-century Gothic cathedral, York Minster, with medieval stained glass and two functioning bell towers. The City Walls form a walkway on both sides of the River Ouse. There is a thriving cultural scene and thirty world-class museums including the fabulous Railway Museum.

York is half-way between London and Edinburgh with the glorious Yorkshire Dales, North York Moors and Wolds nearby. We will have an opportunity to experience the beautiful countryside around York on the conference outing on Monday 15 July too.

University of York

Its university is globally renowned for its academic excellence. Its [Borthwick Institute for Archives](#) located in the University Library (no. 33 D2 on the campus map) near Vanbrugh College will be kindly providing a small display of items relating to travel and travellers in the Middle East specially for conference delegates.

Sessions from Friday 12 July to lunchtime on Sunday 14 July will be held in [Vanbrugh College](#), Heslington West Campus, University of York, York, YO10 5DD, United Kingdom (see map of [Campus West \(PDF !\[\]\(b4eeff342f60cc7bcd67d869b4fedca2_img.jpg\) , 1,969kb\)](#)). It is in the south-east of York, a short bus or taxi ride from the city centre (or a 45-minute walk for the energetic!). The college is located at the entrance to the University beside a beautiful lake and landscaped gardens.

All sessions will be held in the Main Lecture Theatre (V/045) or Seminar Room 2 (V/123), in Vanbrugh College (no 18, C3 on the campus map), the same building as the Department of the History of Art and the Department of History. These rooms are all equipped with microphones and facilities to project PowerPoint presentations. Book exhibitions and informal discussions will be held in the Additional Seminar Room 3 (V/044). Conference delegate luggage can be safely stored here.

National Railway Museum, York and on to Kapadokya50

We will be holding sessions on the afternoon of Sunday 14 July at the world-famous [National Railway Museum](#) in York. Apart from some fascinating ASTENE talks it will provide an opportunity for you to 'Immerse yourself in the home of iconic locomotives and an unrivalled collection of engineering brilliance'. Entrance to the museum is free. Please see your conference programme for more details but there will be plenty of time to wander around the museum as well as to attend excellent talks: two of them provided our key guest speakers.

Coaches will be provided to take you the short distance from Vanbrugh College to the museum. If you wish to drive to the railway museum, there is a dedicated car park beside the Museum with an all-day fee of £10 payable at the museum reception desks. For anyone needing transport by car from the museum to the restaurant, there will be several cars available to transport you from one venue to the other. The restaurant is also opposite an NCP car park.

Lunch on Sunday 14 July will be at the Railway Museum, York. Dinner on the 14 July will be in an excellent Turkish restaurant, [Kapadokya50](#), 24 George Hudson Street, York, YO1 6PL, less than a mile from the Railway Museum, York. Both meals are included in your conference payments.

Sledmere House and Castle Howard

The conference trip on Monday 15 July is to Sledmere House and then Castle Howard. The organisers have arranged a special visit to [Sledmere House](#) with its world-famous Turkish Room on Monday 15 July, with especial thanks to Christopher Sykes for his hospitality. In the afternoon we will drive on by coach to [Castle Howard](#) to view the house and gardens and attend a special lecture on the Grand Tour by their archivist, Dr Christopher Ridgway.

For accessibility information in Castle Howard see <https://www.castlehoward.co.uk/visit-us/visitor-information/accessibility>

NB. It may be possible to arrange a Monumental Landscapes Tour, based on 12 people minimum for which the cost would be £30 per person but it will take about 2 and a half hours and is quite a tough walk. Please contact <2019yorkastene@gmail.com> by 1 June if you are interested.

Bookings are ongoing!

Booking for the conference

The absolute final closing date for conference booking is 20 June. A late fee of £40 is charged for any bookings made after the 1 June 2019.

Offers of papers and posters

Please note that the closing date for offers of papers and abstracts is not until 15 May. If you still wish to offer a paper for consideration for the conference programme, please contact the organisers on <2019yorkastene@gmail.com>. If your paper has already been accepted, but wish to adjust your abstract or paper title, please contact the organisers as soon as possible and in any event no later than 20 June 2019.

We also welcome conference posters to be displayed in the Additional Seminar Room 3 (V/044). Anyone wishing to offer a poster should send us a title and abstract by 20 June 2019. Participants who are involved in arranging posters should contact us in good time if they require further information. For further instructions, please contact 2019yorkastene@gmail.com

Getting there

There are excellent detailed instructions about how to travel to the venue on the University of York [website](#) but we are including some of the more useful instructions here too.

Travelling to the UK by Air

The closest airports to York are Leeds-Bradford International Airport and Manchester Airport. If your plane is scheduled to arrive in an airport further away in the UK, please [click here](#) for further directions.

- To travel from *Leeds-Bradford International Airport to York*. Use the [First 757 bus service](#) from Leeds Bradford airport to get to Leeds bus station or Leeds train station. The 757 bus operates up to every half hour (hourly in the evenings). From Leeds train station, the train to York runs several times an hour and takes about 30 minutes. Find fares and times online on the [National Rail](#) website. Alternatively, use [National Express](#), [City Zap](#) or [Coastliner](#) buses to travel from Leeds bus station to York Railway Station, a journey of about an hour (from there take a local bus or taxi to Campus West, see below).
- *Manchester Airport Railway Station* is in the centre of the airport complex: just follow the signs for the Station. A direct train runs every half an hour. The train will take approximately one hour and 50 minutes. If you do not have a train ticket already, you can buy a single or return ticket from the ticket office at this station. Alternatively, you can book online in advance on the [National Rail](#) website. Alternatively, you may wish to travel by coach using [National Express](#) to York Railway Station (from there take a local bus or taxi to Campus West, see below).

We don't advise that you take a taxi directly from any of the airports as you will be charged a very high fare.

Travelling to the UK by boat

The nearest port to York is Hull, about 45 miles away, or Liverpool, about 100 miles away. Ferries from Zeebrugge and Rotterdam dock daily at Hull. Arriving at a port on the south coast of England requires a lengthy overland journey so is not recommended.

Travelling to York by train

Eurostar arrives in London at St. Pancras station. If you want to travel on to York by direct train, you simply cross the road to King's Cross station.

There is a frequent, fast train service to York on the main East Coast Line from London King's Cross to Edinburgh. There is also a direct service between York, Leeds and Manchester Airport. Buying train tickets on the day of travel can be very expensive. Some train companies allow you to book in advance at a much cheaper rate and you can self-print your ticket or collect it at the train station. Find out more on the [National Rail](#) website.

Travelling to York Railway Station by coach

Coaches run by [National Express](#) or [Megabus](#) are usually cheaper than trains, but will take significantly longer to reach destinations. Note any restrictions on the amount of baggage you can take with you. You will need to travel by local bus or taxi from York Railway and Bus Station to Campus West, University of York.

Buses and taxis from York Railway Station to Campus West, University of York.

The University is a short [bus ride](#) direct from the Railway Station, York YO1 6HP. Bus 66 departs from stand RJ at York train station. UoY66 bus stops across the road (about 100 metres) from the Railway Station and the bus stop is to the right as you stand looking from the Railway Station. This service runs up to every 15 minutes on a Monday to Saturday and every 20 minutes on a Sunday. To discover the location of bus stops and the route [click here](#). Ask to alight at the bus stop for the University Library (no. 32, D2 on the campus map), Campus West. The Information Centre (no. 17, C2 on the campus map) is only a [three-minute walk away](#), [click here](#) for details.

English residents can use your Free Bus Pass if you have one. The Scottish concessionary fare bus pass is not valid for journeys within England or Wales. You cannot use your Welsh pass for travel in England either.

A taxi from the railway station to the University will take approximately 15 minutes (likely cost on a taximeter £7 to £8). There is a taxi rank just outside the station. It can often be just as quick, and significantly cheaper, to take a bus.

Travelling to Vanbrugh College by car

See [Maps and directions](#) for detailed [road directions](#) to campus. If you're using a satnav, use the postcode YO10 5DD.

Car Parking is available on campus to Conference attendees (see [map](#) and press the bottom button 'car parks' to find their locations). Parking on Friday 12 July and Monday 15 July is by payment at parking metres located in the pay-and-display car parks. According to the latest information available to us, parking costs £1 per hour up to four hours or £6 for the day. You can pay by coin or via your mobile using [RingGo](#). Parking is free between 6.00pm and 8.00am, weekends and bank holidays. i.e.

Thursday 11 July Pay between 8am and 6pm

Friday 12 July Pay between 8am and 6pm
Saturday 13 July Parking free all day
Sunday 14 July Parking free all day
Monday 15 July Pay between 8am and 6pm

The University has a very strict policy about [car parking on campus](#) so you will need to pay to park. (For information about parking at the Railway Museum on Sunday 14 July, see below.)

Accommodation

Accommodation during the conference will be in Vanbrugh College, variously in Donald Barron A. and Barbara Scott Court E and F (2B on the Campus West map). Check-in times to accommodation is at 14.00 on the day of arrival and check out is at 9.30 on the day of departure. Lifts are available at all venues. These accommodation houses are less than five minutes easy walk from the lecture theatres and restaurants. You can get an excellent idea of the location and accommodation by viewing this [video](#).

Accessibility and Mobility

You will have notified us about any specific health and safety issues on your booking form already. If not, please contact us as soon as possible.

Meals

Meals on campus

Breakfast, lunch, coffee and teas and evening meals are in the Vanbrugh College, University of York West Campus (no.18, C3) apart from afternoon and evening meals on the 14 July and lunch on the conference trip on 15 July. Mealtimes and locations of meals, as well as tea and coffee breaks are listed on your conference programme. There will be a conference dinner on Saturday 13 July. Please ensure that you wear your conference badge to all meals. Please advise us of any dietary requirements on your booking form.

We have been advised that there is no active bar in Vanbrugh College during the conference. If you require wine with any of your meals in Vanbrugh College, including the Conference Dinner, please contact Janet Starkey with your requirements by 1 July. She will then advise the York conference centre, about the quantity of each wine required along with who has ordered what. The cost of the wine will be added to the final invoice sent to ASTENE so therefore ASTENE would need to take payment from delegates by 1 July to ensure everything is in place. York cannot bill delegates individually but will only work through the ASTENE Conference Organisers. We will circulate the wine list with this note by Mailchimp for your information.

If you need other supplies, please note that several of the catering outlets on campus are closed out of term-time but the grocery store in the heart of Vanbrugh College will be open as will the cafeteria at the University Library during working hours. Click here to find out about nearby [supermarkets](#). (See Campus Services, Market Square, no. 87, C2 on the map). According to the latest information available to us, Nisa Supermarket there is open Monday to Friday: 8am to 9pm, Saturday: 8am to 8pm and Sunday 11am to 5pm.

Tea- and coffee-making facilities are provided in your rooms in Vanbrugh College accommodation blocks. The self-catering kitchens in your accommodation blocks on campus are not available to conference delegates.

Quiet room

We have been given the use of Vanbrugh Senior Common Room on the Friday and Saturday evenings following our dinners for anyone who might want to sit quietly and relax rather than join in the evening sessions. Strictly, no alcohol is allowed. It is a communal space, so they have requested that any litter is cleared to the bins outside on departure each evening and that the space is vacated no later than 10pm.

Nearby pubs

The excellent [Deramore Arms](#), Main St, Heslington, York YO10 5EA is a short walk (11 minutes' walk, [click here](#) for directions; 3 minutes' drive by car; 0.5 mile) from Vanbrugh College. Not only does it serve excellent food, but it has a charming and welcoming atmosphere. There is another bar on campus (<https://www.yusu.org/food-drink/the-glasshouse>) but it is usually only open in term time.

Meals on 14 July 2019

Breakfast as usual in Vanbrugh College cafeteria; Lunch at the National Railway Museum, York and supper at the Kapadokya50 Restaurant nearby in 24 George Hudson Street, York, YO1 6LP.

Meals on the conference trip on 15 July

Meals on the 15 July are not included in the conference package but there is an excellent range of food available at the two main cafés at Castle Howard. Space has been reserved for ASTENE delegates at the Trellis Café.

Registration

1. *Conference Registration.* Please make your way in the first instance to the Conference Reception at the Information Centre where you will be directed to the ASTENE registration desk.
2. *University of York Key collection.* You will be able collect your room key for your accommodation, if you are staying in Vanbrugh College but only after you have registered at the ASTENE registration desk unless you are arriving out of hours in which case you can collect your key from the University of York Information Centre. The University of York Information Centre (no. 17 C2 on campus map) is open 24 hours of the day so there is no problem if you arrive out of regular working hours. Please ensure you register at the ASTENE registration desk as soon as it is open again.

ASTENE Registration Desk

On your arrival please register at the ASTENE Registration desk and collect your conference bag, latest copy of the conference programme and your conference badge before collecting your key for your accommodation. ASTENE registration will take place in or near the Information Centre on the first day from 11 am on the morning of Friday 12 July. Late comers to the welcoming session can register in the first coffee break. Please try to arrive

promptly, to ensure that the proceedings can begin on time. The ASTENE registration desk will be open on Saturday and Sunday 13 and 14 July for registration during the conference from 08.30-09.00 am and its staff will be able to help answer any of your queries again in the tea and coffee breaks. If you need further assistance at any time, please contact one of the ASTENE conference team.

Name Badges

Name badges will be provided at the ASTENE registration desk. Please always wear your badge during the Conference in order to ensure access to the relevant locations. Name badges should be returned to the ASTENE registration desk at the end of the Seminar.

Posters

If you are bringing a poster to display at the conference, please let the staff at the ASTENE reception desk know and they will direct you to those who can help display them.

Conference programme

The programme has a great deal to offer you: book displays, conference papers and round table discussions. As with earlier ASTENE Conferences, there will be a wide range of lectures about well-known, lesser-known and newly discovered travellers. Sessions will also include papers about other subjects of fascination. All papers should be based on original research. Where possible, lectures of related interest will be grouped together into sessions such that they will hopefully invite wider discussion.

In addition, given the popularity of Movie Night at Norwich, there will be another **Movie Night** in York after dinner on Friday 12 July.

There will be a **Gala Dinner** on Saturday 13 July followed by the launch of the latest ASTENE book entitled *Journeys Erased by Time: the rediscovered footprints of travellers in Egypt and the Near East* (Oxford: Archaeopress, 2019) and edited by Neil Cooke. Copies will be presented to the authors. We will also be launching several other ASTENE related books (see programme for details).

We aim to include plenty of time for networking and discussions as they are integral to ASTENE conferences as well as future publications and travel.

We are including a copy of the latest draft of the conference programme in this *Bulletin* but please bear in mind that the closing date for abstracts is not until 15 May so there may be further changes to the programme. As you may see, given the large number of offers of papers this year, it has been impossible to avoid parallel sessions. Nevertheless, we hope we are providing a rich programme, but inevitably its smooth running depends on accurate timings. Please bear in mind that this may be subject to last-minute changes and that the final version will be available at the ASTENE registration desk at the conference itself.

Book stalls (Additional Seminar Room 3 (V/044).

Julie Witford of Cornucopia will be running a book exhibition and David Davison of Archaeopress will also be there. If you would like to contribute copies of relevant books to be sold in aid of ASTENE funds, please contact 2019yorkastene@gmail.com

The ASTENE AGM

The Annual General Meeting is, as usual, part of the conference programme and is planned for Sunday 24 July. The meeting Agenda, Minutes of the previous meeting, and any other material will be available in advance of the meeting or — in case of any necessary additional information — on the meeting day at the latest. We encourage as many ASTENE members to attend this important meeting as possible.

Notes for speakers: Timing and Presentations

Each speaker (apart from the three guest speakers, David Barchard, Walter Rothschild and Andrew Martin, see conference programme) has been allocated 30 minutes for their paper, including time for questions and discussion. This means that you should aim for a presentation of around 20 minutes, leaving around 10 minutes for questions and discussion. As a rough guide, for most people this will be equivalent to a paper of 2,000 to 2,500 words, with no more than 25 to 30 slides. Speakers are asked to kindly practice and time their talks in advance to ensure they fit within the time available.

If you are using a PowerPoint presentation, you should bring this with you on a USB stick, so that it can be uploaded onto the relevant equipment in advance of your session. Please ensure that you give your PowerPoint presentations to the session chair and helpers in the break before your session, and even earlier if possible. Please ensure that you do this in good time, to ensure that your PowerPoint presentation is working satisfactorily, and make sure to have a back-up copy. If you have any unusual AVA requirements, please contact the organisers as soon as possible. Your PowerPoint presentation should be compatible for use with the MS Windows operating system. If you are a Mac user, please kindly test the compatibility in advance, especially as fonts and formatting are concerned. If you wish to send your PowerPoint presentation in advance of the Conference, please use [Wetransfer](https://www.wetransfer.com) (free and safe to use) to send it to the conference organisers at 2019yorkastene@gmail.com and no later than 1 July if possible. If you are coming from abroad, please check the relevant regulations for the use of electronic equipment on your flight nearer the time, as regulations are liable to change at short notice.

Session Chairs

Each conference session will have a chairperson. It is advisable that you introduce yourself to your chairperson in advance of your session. The Chairpersons will receive an invitation and, if they agree to accept the part, also a brief introduction to their role. Speakers should contact the chair of their specific session in good time before the session itself. Session chairs will be instructed to adopt a strict policy on timing, as we have is a very full programme, and sessions cannot be allowed to overrun. This is particularly important as we are running parallel sessions during the Conference, and these need to be kept in phase.

Conference assistants (Bursaries) – at every ASTENE conference, we have dedicated delegates, who, as bursary holders, are also fulfilling the role of an assistant to other delegates. If you are a Bursary holder, you will receive instructions in a separate communication. If you, as a speaker, or a chairperson, need any assistance with technology in the conference lecture halls or similar directions, the Bursary holders will be there to help.

Photography, Video and Recording

It is not permitted to take photographs, video or record the lectures or discussions. There may, however, be a group photograph taken for use in the Bulletin and members will be given the choice of whether to be included or not.

Internet Access at the University of York

There are two free internet connections available to visitors on York Campus: [Eduroam](#) for those visitors from other universities; CityConnectWifi for all other visitors via a social media account or by completing a short web-form. Connection to [CityConnectWifi](#) is also available at the Railway Museum.

Subsequent publication of papers

We have arranged publication of a selection of papers given at the Conference with Archaeopress in Oxford, subject to peer review. Thus, you may be invited around 30 September 2019 to submit a paper to the publications steering committee after the conference for consideration. If your paper is selected, the deadline for submission of papers will be 1 January 2020. Papers can be submitted in English or French and should be no more than 5000 words (including notes but excluding the list of references) with no more than ten illustrations including tables, figures and maps. Papers should be submitted electronically via Wettransfer to 2019yorkastene@gmail.com. Speakers may prefer to submit their paper for publication in the *ASTENE Bulletin* (see deadlines online). More detailed information and instructions will be circulated after the conference.

If in the meantime you have any further queries in advance of the Conference, please do not hesitate to contact us again. Otherwise, we look forward to seeing you in York on 12-15 July 2019.

Best wishes from Carey, Paul, Janet, Harry and Madeline
The ASTENE York Conference Committee