

Connecting with the Past: Cultural Survivals and Ethnographic Comparison in the Study of Ancient Societies

Interdisciplinary workshop, University of Birmingham (UK) 12–13 November 2026

Thursday 12 November 2026

10.15-11, Coffee/tea

11-11.15, Welcome

11.15-12, Gavin Lucas, Material Memories

12-12.30, Idowu Mojeed Alade, Hauntology and the Unburied Past: Rethinking 'Survivals' through Roman Festivals of the Dead

12.30-1, Ana Delia González Jiménez, Cultural Survivals of Pharaonic Egypt in Present Egypt? The Sacred Landscape of Luxor through Religious Festivals

1-1.45, Lunch

1.45-2.15, Elizabeth Hicks, Acknowledging the Impact of African Analogies in the Development of Post-Processual Theory and the *Chaîne Opératoire* Concept in Archaeology

2.15-2.45, Geirr Kristian Homme Lunden, Thriving, Surviving, or Reviving: The Fishing and Fowling Scenes of 18th Dynasty Thebes

2.45-3.15, Mischa Twitchin, 'Between Magic and Logos' (Warburg)

3.15-3.45, Coffee/tea

3.45-4.15, Wiebke Leister, The 'Ancient' Serpent-Ritual of Cocullos: Cultural Survival, Revival and Contemporary Significance

4.15-4.45, Lorenzo Verderame, The Bedouin and the 'Unchanging Orient'

4.45-5.30, Elizabeth Edwards, Behaving 'Otherwise': Photographs from 'Cultural Survivals' to Survivance

Friday 13 November 2026

9.30-10, Claire Padovani, A Continuity of Ruptures: Ethnography and Archaeology of Clay Crafts in the Chamchamal Region, Iraqi Kurdistan

10-10.30, Katharina Zinn, Ancient Headrests as Contemporary Information and Inspiration: Heritage, Design and the Use of Comparative Analogy

10.30-11, Akanksha Yadav, Material Memories: Ritual Technologies and Cultural Continuity in Chaṭha Pūjā

11-11.30, Coffee/tea

11.30-12, Charlie Burnell Oubridge, Cultural Survivals in Egyptological Thought: Reconsidering National Religion as Force of Habit

12-12.30, Nathaniel Sydenham, Tracing Survivals: Cultural Values, Belief systems, and the patterns of anthropological historiography

12.30-1.15, Chris Wingfield, A Reformer's Science? Progressivism, Collecting and Enantiodromia in Anthropology

1.15-2, Lunch

2-3.30, Final discussion and concluding remarks



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For **in-person** attendance, email organiser
Leire Olabarria L.Olabarria@bham.ac.uk

For **online** registration use link or QR code
<https://bham-ac-uk.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/FoWLY3DcSFirnZBFnOGQ#/registration>

