



# THE MATERIAL BODY, 1500–1900 A CONFERENCE OF ARCHAEOLOGISTS AND HISTORIANS

4–5 JULY 2018, UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM



Oxford Archaeology Ltd



Courtesy of Sheffield Archives

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This conference brings together archaeologists and historians to explore new ways of studying the body in the post-medieval past. It will explore the challenges and possibilities of combining the archaeological, osteoarchaeological and historical record to understand the body and its role in the human past.

We invite archaeologists who also work with historical documents and historians who work with material culture, including physical remains of the body, to share and discuss their research. What can bodily remains tell us about experiences of the body during life?

How can the physical body be illuminated by using documents? What can scholars working on the history of the early modern body learn from studying the remains of those bodies?

**Themes may include:**

- Sex/gender, age, occupation and disability
- The human body as material culture
- Studying lived identity using the material body as tool
- 'Embodiment' as a social and cultural, as well as physical, experience
- Methodological interventions using the insights of historians and archaeologists working on the body

Please send a title and maximum 400-word abstract of 20-minute papers to this email address: [materialbody@contacts.bham.ac.uk](mailto:materialbody@contacts.bham.ac.uk). The deadline is 16 February 2018.

Organised by Dr Elizabeth Craig-Atkins (Archaeology, University of Sheffield) and Professor Karen Harvey (History, University of Birmingham).

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