

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION



'THE REGIONAL AND TRANSREGIONAL IN ROMANESQUE ART AND ARCHITECTURE'

Poitiers: Wednesday 4th April to Friday 6th April 2018

Joining Instructions:

We are looking forward to meeting you in Poitiers in April. This document covers the main points for anyone attending the conference. Also attached is a map of Poitiers, a draft programme and a draft itinerary for those who are staying on for the visits over the weekend of the 7th and 8th April.

Conference Registration:

Registration will take place between 09.00 and 09.30 am in the foyer of the Amphithéâtre Bourdieu on the ground floor of Bâtiment E18 of Poitiers University's School of Arts and Social Sciences (UFR Sciences Humaines et Arts). This is marked by a hexagon containing the letter 'A' on the attached map. The easiest way to reach the 'Amphi Bourdieu' is to approach it from the rue des Carmélites. Once you pass the junction with the rue Domaine Fonteneau there is an opening on your right through which you can see the large concrete University building that is Bâtiment E18. The Amphi Bourdieu is immediately on your left as you enter. It is between 10 and 15 minutes walking distance from Notre-Dame-la-Grande or around 15 minutes from the Hôtel de Ville.

When delegates arrive for registration the only requirement, other than familiarising yourself with the foyer, assessing the distance to the nearest toilets, and buttonholing your friends, is that you collect your conference pack and badge. The badge will identify you as a member of the conference for teas/coffees, lunches, dinners and the reception.

The Lecture Theatre:

All the lectures will be held in the 'Amphi Bourdieu'. This seats around 140 people, which is comfortably above the number registered for the conference, and has a large screen together with the usual AV facilities. It is also conveniently situated on the ground floor and is accessed from a spacious foyer where teas and coffees will be served between sessions.

Lunches

Our original plan was to use a self-service University canteen for lunches. However, the canteen that served the School of Arts and Social Sciences has been closed, so we will instead use two nearby restaurants. This should improve the quality of the food and will certainly eliminate the need to stand in a queue. However, it also necessitates splitting the conference for lunch. The two restaurants are marked on the map. R1 is 'Les Archives' and R2 is 'Le Rooftop'. A lunch restaurant will be allotted to you, and will appear on your conference badge as R1 or R2. Each restaurant will be expecting a specific number of people and a specific set of dietary requests, so please don't try to switch between lunch restaurants. Lunches are one of only two occasions when we're splitting you into groups, and the restaurants will be instructed not to serve anyone with the wrong number on their conference badge.

Dinners and Reception

There will be two conference dinners – on the Wednesday evening at Les Archives (R1), and on the Friday evening, courtesy of the Mayor and the municipality of Poitiers, in the Hôtel de Ville (R3). In addition, there is a reception and after-hours visit to the Baptistery and Musée Sainte-Croix following the last session on the Thursday of the conference. Given the size of the baptistery it will be necessary to split the conference into groups for this visit, but this can be done informally on the day.

Visits (7th and 8th April)

The weekend's visits have been arranged as an anti-clockwise circuit running east of Poitiers on the Saturday (Nouaillé-Maupertuis, Montmorillon, Saint-Savin-sur-Gartempe and Chauvigny) and as a walking tour of Poitiers itself on the Sunday. For the Saturday we will travel by coach, and the coaches will leave from the Place Aristide Briand (in front of the Préfecture) at 08.30 on the Saturday morning. It is anticipated we should be back by 18.30. Visits on the Sunday will be in foot, and will start at 09.00 at Poitiers Cathedral. Vox receivers and earpieces will be issued to everyone on the visits, and the site speakers will use Vox radio transmitters that enable the individual to wander freely while still listening (or not), according to one's wish. There will be short presentations at each site.

Travel/Transport:

Poitiers station is only 15 minutes from the city centre and is well served by buses. There is a taxi rank, and taxis are usually readily available during the day, but can be scarce in the evening. Useful taxi numbers are 'GIE R@dio Taxis' – 05 49 88 12 34 – 'Association des Artisans Taxis' – 05 49 01 10 01 – and Poitiers Taxi – 06 95 83 13. There is no coach shuttle service between Poitiers and the airport, so, short of hiring a car, you will need to travel by taxi. This is relatively inexpensive (around €15), and can be booked in advance. The two main taxi companies operating between the city centre and airport are 'GIE R@dio Taxis' and the 'Association des Artisans Taxis' as above.

Weather:

It's early April. Expect anything except a heat-wave.

Contacts

We suggest that email contact should be the main method of communication before the conference. The conference secretary is Ann Hignell – who can be contacted on aehignell@yahoo.com Alternatively, if you wish to get in touch with a conference convenor contact John McNeill on jsmcneill@btinternet.com If you should have problems on the Tuesday or during the Conference the main contacts are: Ann Hignell, Conference Secretary on 07733 134959 and John McNeill on 07790 872023. [Once in France, if calling to a UK mobile, please remember to replace the first 0 with 0044 – thus 00 44 7790 872023 or 00 44 7733 134858]