

Time and Date:

Tuesday 14th September 2021 | 17:00-18:30 (London UTC+1) | 19:00-20:30 (Ankara UTC+3)

Speaker:

Jo-Hannah Plug, University of Liverpool

Title:

Breaking continuity? Site formation and temporal depth at Çatalhöyük and Tell Sabi Abyad

Zoom Link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_i4UpgzprRq2V5BFbhXX2NA

Summary:

Spatial continuity of the house is often seen as crucial in providing temporal depth for the Neolithic societies of southwest Asia. While an emphasis on the creation of such continuities is evinced at densely agglomerated sites, other sites show dispersal and frequent relocation of habitation. Superficially, Çatalhöyük (Turkey) and Tell Sabi Abyad (Syria) appear to be at either end of this spectrum. The purpose of this paper is to compare aspects of the archaeological evidence from the two sites, and in doing so to understand the different and similar ways in which site formation and social continuity were achieved. In particular, the presence of breaks in spatial continuities – an often overlooked aspect of site formation – and its implications are discussed.

Bio:

Dr Jo-Hannah Plug is a Post-Doctoral Research Associate at the University of Liverpool where she recently completed her PhD in Archaeology. Previously she obtained her MA and BA at Leiden University and since 2008 Dr Plug has been involved in archaeological fieldwork at a number of sites in Syria, Jordan, Turkey, Oman, and Egypt. Her research aims to achieve a deeper understanding of Neolithic Southwest Asian village societies, particularly through the reconstruction of mortuary behaviour, stable isotope analysis, radiocarbon dating, and the study of complex site stratigraphies.