

SEMINAR

The History of Exe Island, Exeter

SATURDAY 30 APRIL 2022

10am to 1pm Registration and Talks

Gallery 20, Royal Albert Memorial Museum (RAMM), Queen Street, Exeter EX4 3RX

2:30pm to 5pm Guided Walks

This seminar is the first to be dedicated in its entirety to the history of an artificial island at Exeter – known as Exe Island – from its creation in medieval times through to the present day

Five morning talks will be given by leading experts in their respective fields. The scene will first be set with a look at the *nature of the River Exe channel belt* at Exeter prior to the Romans, when the river was much wider and shallower than today. This will be followed by a summary of the *construction and development of the first stone bridge* over the Exe in c 1200, and an overview of *Exe Island's leats and mills* which lay the foundation for Exeter's industrial development: Exe Island's heyday involved the lucrative *cloth trade*, which peaked around 1700. Finally, a series of *reconstruction drawings* (as below) will give successive 'bird's eye' views of Exe Island urbanisation through to the Georgian era. Exe Island's industrial and archaeological legacy thereafter declined.

In the afternoon, a series of 'rotational' short walks will examine the unearthed segment of the medieval Exe Bridge; the restored Cricklepit Mill; the remnants of Frog Street following the slum clearances of the 1930s and extensive road building; and Tudor House with its ornate, slate-clad façade. These walks will be run in parallel, each starting and ending at the late medieval Grade II-listed 'House that Moved' (pictured overleaf). Participants will thus have the chance to join more than one of them. The 'House that Moved' is located at the bottom of West Street, opposite Mathew the Miller clock.

Seminar tickets at £20 per person include coffee

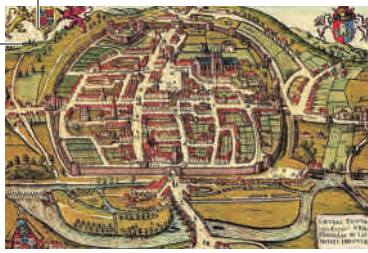


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This seminar was conceived by
THE DEVONSHIRE ASSOCIATION (charity no. 253468)
and realised in cooperation with the **DEVON**
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY and the **Friends of RAMM**



Extract from Richard Parker's reconstruction drawing of Exe Bridge and its setting c 1750 (© R. Parker)



Hogenburg & Braun map



Medieval Exe Bridge



Cricklepit Mill



'The House that Moved'



Tudor House facade

Morning – ROYAL ALBERT MEMORIAL MUSEUM – GALLERY 20

Richard Pocock, Session Chairman, Devonshire Association

10:00 – 10:30am REGISTRATION & COFFEE

10:30 – 10:40am Welcome and brief introduction

Antony T Buller, Seminar Convener, Devonshire Association

10:40 – 11:00am The River Exe and its relationship with the landscape

Jenny Bennett, Devonshire Association

11:00 – 11:40am Medieval Exe Bridge

Bill Harvey, Bill Harvey Associates Limited

John Allan, Exeter Cathedral Archaeologist & Senior Honorary Research Fellow, University of Exeter

11:40 – 11:50am BREAK

11:50 – 12:15pm Mills and leats of Exe Island

Martin Watts, Freelance Millwright & Mill Researcher

12:15 – 12:40pm The cloth trade on Exe Island

Todd Gray, Devon Historian & Research Fellow, University of Exeter

12:40 – 1:00pm Reconstruction drawings of Exe Island industrial urbanisation

Richard Parker, Freelance Historic Buildings Consultant

1:00pm LUNCH (at participants own cost and choice of eateries)

Afternoon – GUIDED WALKS

2:30 – 5:00pm 'Rotational' guided walks to examine the medieval

Exe Bridge, Cricklepit Mill, Frog Street and Tudor House:

leaders *John Allan, Bill Harvey, Martin Watts & Richard Parker.*

A bookstall outside the entrance to RAMM Gallery 20 will contain related publications.

Images courtesy of Antony T Buller, except the 1618 Hogenburg & Braun map (public domain)

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30 APRIL 2022

I/We would like to book _____ tickets at £20 each _____ Remittance for £

Name(s) _____

Address _____

_____ Telephone _____

Email _____

You may either pay for the seminar **on-line** via the Devonshire Association's website at devonassoc.org.uk/booking or by sending a cheque payable to 'The Devonshire Association', TOGETHER WITH A SAE, to the Registrar, Unit 10, Chitterley Business Centre, Silvertown, Exeter EX5 4DB, telephone 01392 860456.