

# ALBA MENÉNDEZ PEREDA

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Graduate from the University of Durham (BA) and the University of Cambridge (MPhil), who has been involved in numerous international archaeological projects. Currently working in commercial archaeology for Wardell Armstrong Archaeology. Bilingual Spanish/English.

## EDUCATION

### 2016-2017 MPhil Archaeology (Pass with Merit); Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge, UK

- Subjects: Archaeology of the Americas, Core Archaeology, Research Skills, Management of Archaeological Heritage. Audited Sociopolitics of the Past.
- Supervisor: Dr Elizabeth DeMarrais.
- MPhil Dissertation: *“Colonization and Identity (Re)Construction: Religion in ancient Mesoamerica and New Spain”*. Research on the impact of the Spanish Christianization campaign on the religious identity of the Mesoamerican indigenous population through analysis of burial remains before and after Spanish colonization. Awarded mark of Distinction.
- Class Rank: I graduated 9<sup>th</sup> out of 29 students in my year.

### 2013-2016 BA Archaeology and Ancient Civilisations (First Class Honours); Durham University, UK

- Undergraduate Dissertation: *“Glass production in Medieval Spain between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries”*. Awarded the Birley Bursary Award by the Department of Archaeology in November 2015 to financially support this research.
- Developed excellent analytical research skills via written assignments, along with teamwork skills through fieldwork participation.
- Class Rank: One of only 17% of the cohort to be awarded First Class Honours.

### 2011-2013 Spanish Bachillerato and International Baccalaureate; I.E.S. Ramiro de Maeztu, Madrid, Spain

- Managed my time effectively to achieve good results in two different academic programs studied simultaneously.

## PUBLICATIONS

Menéndez Pereda, A., 2016. Study of Attitudes to Health and Religion in Medieval England. *International Journal of Student Research in Archaeology*, 1.2: pp.43-53. ([www.ijrsa.org/second-issue](http://www.ijrsa.org/second-issue))

## RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### November-December 2017, Site Assistant for Wardell Armstrong Archaeology, Ipswich, UK.

- Peat surveying of an extensive area around Ipswich (Suffolk County) prior to the installation of cable routes associated with the development of an off-shore windfarm.
- Responsibilities included excavation of trial trenches, their planning and levelling, drawing of associated cut sections and completion of recording forms with little to no supervision.

### December 2016-May 2017, Member of the Conference Organising Committee for the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Cambridge Heritage Research Group Seminar. University of Cambridge. Dr Dacia Viejo-Rose.

- Acted as the point of contact for all the individuals who were interested in presenting at the conference on the topic of “Heritage and Revolution”.
- In charge of the reception of submitted abstracts and their compilation, and member of the selection committee.

### October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016, Volunteer at “Prehistory and Archaeology Day”, archaeological outreach event forming part of the Festival of Ideas; University of Cambridge. Laure M. Bonner.

- Ran an activity in which the public participated in the process of Bronze Age textile production.

### September 1<sup>st</sup>-September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Excavation at Madinat Albalat, Romangordo, Cáceres, Spain. CNRS- Université Lumière Lyon 2. Dr Sophie Gilotte. ([albalat.hypotheses.org](http://albalat.hypotheses.org))

- Excavation of a domestic structure in the Medieval Islamic settlement of Madinat Albalat. Recovery and inventorying of remains associated with the occupation of the structure.

July 2016, **Post-excavation work at Cerro de la Merced**, Cabra, Córdoba, Spain. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. Professor Fernando Quesada. (cerrodelamerced.blogspot.com.es)

- Database registration, using FileMaker, of all the information related to the artefacts recovered over several seasons at the Iberian site of Cerro de la Merced.
- Photographic and hand-drawn recording of small finds.

November-December 2015, **Research Assistant**, *Identifying and Communicating the "Wows" of Archaeology Outdoors*. Department of Archaeology, Durham and National Trust. Prof Robin Skeates.

- Analysis of 2,500 photographs taken by visitors to sites under National Trust management.
- This project aims to identify what attracts visitors' attention within archaeological monuments to improve the way these experiences are delivered by heritage stakeholders.

July 2015, **Excavation at Colleparado and Pastena**, Italy. University of Durham. Prof Robin Skeates.

- Excavation at Grotta Regina Marguerita (Colleparado) and Grotta del Pertuso (Pastena).
- Recovery and processing of remains (human and animal bones, pottery and personal ornaments) left as the result of the occupation of these caves during the Middle Bronze Age.

June 2015-June 2016, **Archive Research Assistant**, *"World War One Roll of Service"*. Palace Green Library, Durham. Mr Francis Gotto.

- Research on the members of Durham University who participated in WWI, for the publication of their biographies.

July 2014, **Excavation at Bulbuenta**, Zaragoza, Spain. University of Durham. Prof Chris Gerrard and Dr Alejandra Gutiérrez.

- Three-week project at the 16<sup>th</sup>-century Abbot's palace at Bulbuenta, which included the excavation of a medieval pottery kiln.
- Processing of the artefacts discovered including glass, glazed tiles and clay tripods.

June 2014, **Excavation at Binchester Roman Fort**, England. University of Durham. Dr David Petts.

- Excavation of the north section of the central room of the bathhouse.
- Developed skills in the use of maps, drawing techniques, and level manipulation.

July 2012, **Excavation at Complutum**, Alcalá de Henares, Madrid, Spain. Sociedad Española de Estudios Clásicos-Madrid and Universidad Autónoma de Madrid.

- Excavation of the mid-1st century Roman *domus* known as "House of Griffins".

## **NON-ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK EXPERIENCE**

From January 2017, **Team Member at Project Access-Team Spain**. (projectaccess.co)

- Responsible for the social media profiles of Project Access-Team Spain used to update potential applicants on the various informational resources available.

October 2016-June 2017, **Student Library Assistant**, Emmanuel College Library, Cambridge.

- Attending to students at reception when the library is unstaffed in the evenings.

## **ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND INTERESTS**

- Journal Reviewer for the *International Journal of Student Research in Archaeology*.
- Certifications: Obtained a Construction Skills Certification Scheme card (expires September 2022) after passing the CITB Health, Safety and Environment Test.
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: Student Member (No. 9367) since August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- Languages: Spanish - mother tongue; English - bilingual.
- IT: MS Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Adobe Illustrator and FileMaker.
- Extracurricular Activities and Sports: Durham University Archaeological Society; St Mary's College Boat Club; and Emmanuel College Boat Club.
- Travelling: Moving countries has helped me become more independent and open-minded. I particularly enjoy discovering the heritage of the places I visit.