

ASA – Lethbridge Centre

APRIL MEETING: Dr. Chris Epplett, Professor,

University of Lethbridge

WHAT: Paradise Found: Persian Gardens and Classical Landscapes

WHEN: Tuesday, April 1st, 2025 at 7 pm.

IN PERSON: PE264, 1st Choice Sports & Wellness Building, U of L campus

(across from the Tim Hortons)

ZOOM: https://uleth.zoom.us/j/92422927045

Dr. Chris Epplett has taught ancient Greek and Roman history at the University of Lethbridge for a number of years, after having earned his BA and MA in Classical Studies and Classical Archaeology at McMaster University, followed by his PhD in Classics at the University or British Columbia. His main research interests include military history, including the use of war elephants in ancient Greek and Roman armies, as well as the history of ancient sport and spectacle, in particular the staged hunts or *venationes* of the Roman arena.

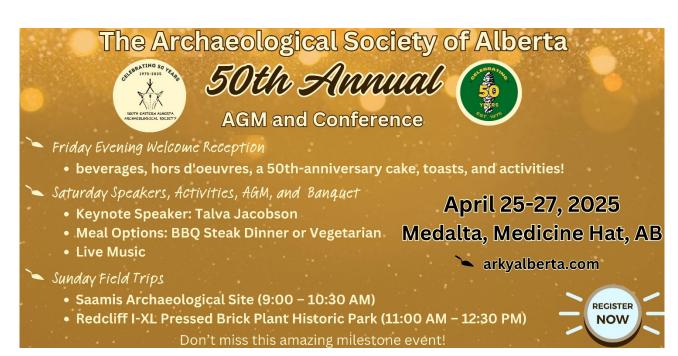


Abstract:

The term 'paradise' is commonly used in modern parlance, in large part because of its frequent association with the Garden of Eden in the Bible. The origins of the concept as used today, however, are substantially more convoluted and complicated than might appear at first glance.



The paradise, as a venue for the collection of exotic plants and/or animals, has a lengthy history, extending from the earliest periods of Near Eastern history through to the Roman Empire and beyond. As will be seen, the potential propaganda applications of the royal paradise helped ensure that it survived in a variety of states over thousands of years, even into the vocabulary of modern-day English.



Conference website: https://arkyalberta.com/conferences/current

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