

CoLAT 29 April 2019 Paper 1

CITY OF LONDON ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST ROSEMARY GREEN GRANT: Impact of Industrialisation on London Health

Report: April 2019
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Oxbow Publication

Manufactured Bodies: The Impact of Industrialisation on London Health

With ongoing progress for the publication we have completed information for Oxbow to provide short biographies for Gaynor and Jelena and sent on the logo image for CoLAT and MoL. We also provided a synopsis that will appear on the back cover of the book and to be used in publicity material.

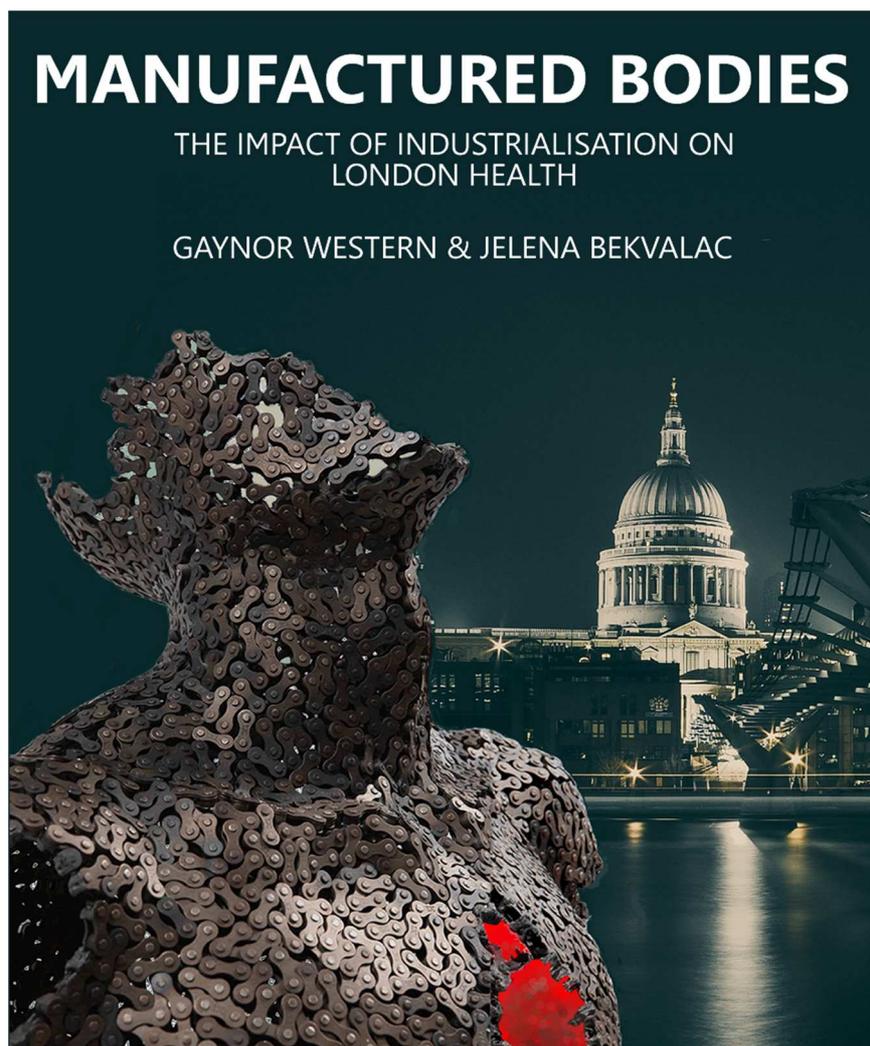
Synopsis

Industrialisation is a notoriously complex issue in terms of the hazards and benefits it has brought to human beings in our endeavours to improve our lives. This is never more evident than in the field of health and medicine, where there are many questions about the causes and treatments of diseases we commonly encounter today, such as cancer, diabetes and degenerative age-related conditions. Are there genetic predispositions to these conditions? Are they a mirror of our modern lifestyles, driven by our fast-paced lifestyles or have they always existed but gone undetected? The archive of human skeletal remains at the Museum of London provides a large bank of evidence that has been explored here, along with other skeletal collections from around England, to investigate how far some of these diseases go back in time and what we can tell about the influence of living environments past and present on human health. The Industrial Period was a key period in human history where substantial change occurred to the population's lifestyles, in terms of occupations, housing and diet as well as leisurely past-times, all of which would have impacted on their health. London had become the most densely populated metropolis in the world, the beating heart of trade and consumerism, an unambiguous example of the urban experience in the Industrial age. Using up-to-date medical imaging technologies in addition to osteoarchaeological examination of human skeletal remains, we have been able to establish the presence of modern day diseases in individuals living in the past, both before and during Industrialisation, to compare to rates in UK populations today. By re-examining the skeletal evidence, we have traced how the perils of unregulated rural and urban lives, changing food consumption, transport, technologies as well as improving medical treatment and life expectancy, have all altered health patterns over time.

A marketing questionnaire form also completed to assist with providing information to inform on the marketing of the book. With information including universities with courses that would find the book of relevance/interest and could add to their reading list, journals that would be good to send for review and to identify three short key selling points of the book

- Accessible text giving an overview of osteological research, aims and methods
- Unique research applying digital radiography to a large sample of archaeological human skeletal remains
- Synthesis of osteoarchaeological data in modern context of current health issues to understand the Impact of Industrialisation on long term health trends

An image was required for the Oxbow catalogue and website. Working with the design team a composite was created. There was discussion about the use of the sculpture in light of comments from CoLAT. It was selected to be used for being both a striking image but also for the resonance of the impact of industrialisation to the human body with its construct and form.



There will be the opportunity with the final book cover for further work

Oxbow has put information on line for the forthcoming publication which is possible to view from their website and Amazon. The book is now available for pre-order online via Oxbow, Amazon etc.

Oxbow were informed that Dr Rebecca Gowland would be the external peer review and that all of the text was also to be sent to CoLAT prior to being sent for publication. They were informed of the delay with the last chapter and conclusion to be completed in the beginning of 2019 and updated that they have now been completed and sent for review.

Writing of text

Contents List

- Acknowledgements
- Introduction
- Site Gazetteer
- **Chapter 1** Occupational Hazards and Sporting Catastrophes
- **Chapter 2** The Air We Breathe
- **Chapter 3** Cancer
- **Chapter 4** Getting Fat: A Growing Crisis
- **Chapter 5** Getting Old: Us in Winter Clothes
- Conclusion
- Selected Further Reading

All of the written text for the book is now complete

The first four chapters have been peer reviewed by Dr Rebecca Gowland, Durham University with her comments in the respective chapters. All of the comments have been addressed and updated. These chapters (with the peer review comments and updated versions) with the Introduction and Site Gazetteer were sent to John Schofield, Tim Williams and Roy Stephenson

There was a delay with the writing of the final chapter, caused by Jelena with ongoing research work and subsequently a delay for the completion of the

conclusion. The final chapter, Chapter 5 with the conclusion has now been completed and they have been sent to be reviewed to Dr Rebecca Gowland. It is hoped to have the comments by Easter, so that they can be addressed and the text updated accordingly. They will then be sent to John Schofield, Tim Williams and Roy Stephenson.

A summary review of the book will also be sent by Dr Rebecca Gowland, which will be sent to CoLAT.

We are doing final editing of all of the text and the final selection of images for inclusion within the book. Roy Stephenson has been asked to be copy editor

Once all comments have been received and addressed and any further edit amendments the final text can then be sent to Oxbow. The publication programme had been based upon a spring launch and summer publication in 2019.