

**Name**

Kim Roche

Current Position

Rooswijk Project Conservator, MSDS Marine Ltd

Education and Qualifications

2018 MSc (Distinction) Conservation Practice, Cardiff University
2016 Postgraduate Certificate (Distinction) Art Conservation, Studio Arts College International Florence
2013 BA (First in Major) Art History, University of Central Florida

Professional Membership and Qualifications

- Institute of Conservation (Icon)
- Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS)
- NAS Tutor
- Open Water Diver

Selected Career Summary

2018 – present: Project Conservator at MSDS Marine Ltd
2017 – 2018: Conservation Volunteer Coordinator at Newport Medieval Ship Project
2016 – 2018: Conservation Volunteer, Preventive Conservation at National Museum Wales
2017: Conservation Intern at The Mariners' Museum and Park USS *Monitor* Center
2016: Materials Science Researcher, *Royal Savage* Project at Office of Naval Research (US)
2015: Conservation Intern at US Navy Underwater Archaeology Branch

Key Expertise

Kim has worked in the private and public sectors of conservation and heritage science in the UK and internationally for the last four years. After volunteering with the *Rooswijk* project team during the 2017 excavation season, Kim joined MSDS Marine as the *Rooswijk* Project Conservator in August 2018.

Kim's experience treating archaeological materials ranges from stabilising Etruscan small finds to desalinating and cleaning industrial-scale artefacts from maritime projects. Her expertise includes condition assessments and recording, material analysis and investigative conservation, interventive treatment, and packaging and transportation of artefacts.

Kim also supports public engagement, having organised an outreach initiative with London Mudlark and amateur archaeologists across the UK.

Kim has a research focus on corrosion science, specifically on the corrosion of iron in high-chloride

burial environments which was the subject of her master's dissertation. She is proficient in the use of X-radiography (X-ray), X-ray fluorescence (XRF), X-ray diffraction (XRD), Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR), and scanning electron microscopy (SEM-EDX)

Selected Project Experience**Rooswijk 1740 Excavation, England**

Since 2018, Kim has served as the Project Conservator for the *Rooswijk* excavation. She is responsible for the condition assessments, recording, storage and stabilisation of the excavated material.

Newport Medieval Ship Project, Wales

While completing her postgraduate studies in Cardiff, Kim volunteered with the Newport Medieval Ship Project, recruiting and managing a team of specialist volunteers to assess small finds and assist in the packaging and transportation of waterlogged timbers for conservation in York. Kim and her team completed annual condition assessments of the artefacts in the collection.

USS Monitor Project, Virginia

During a work placement at The Mariners' Museum, Kim treated numerous artefacts from the USS *Monitor*. Some of the artefacts from the 19th century ironclad steamship included a wood tool handle, copper alloy firing hammer, wrought iron small finds, and a large, concreted composite valve from the hull of the ship. The artefacts were documented, desalinated, mechanically cleaned, and dewatered to stabilise for storage and display. Kim also worked with her teammates in the conservation lab to transport and mechanically clean with dry-ice blasting large-scale wrought iron artefacts from the *Monitor's* gun turret.

Royal Savage Project, Washington DC

In 2016, Kim was contracted by the Office of Naval Research to analyse ferrous artefacts in the collection of the US Navy's Underwater Archaeology Branch. The artefacts belonged to *Royal Savage*, a 18th century schooner that served in the Lake Champlain squadron during the American Revolution. Of the nearly 500 artefacts assessed, over 80% had been historically treated with shellac, which was identified by FTIR. Treatment protocols were implemented to stabilise the iron artefacts in the collection.

Cetamura del Chianti Excavation, Tuscany

Following the 2015 excavation season, Kim recorded and treated various small finds from the Etruscan settlement including ceramic, iron, copper alloy, and silver artefacts. Kim undertook a project to identify suitable treatment methods for silver coins.

Select Publications & Presentations

Nordgren, E. et al. 2017. *Conservation of Maritime Heritage*. Conservation Matters in Wales, Past Practice Future Practice. Cardiff, 19 December 2017.

Roche, K. 2017. *Summer on the Monitor: Work Placement at The Mariners' Museum and Park*. Zibby Garnett Travel Fellowship Board of Trustees. Courtauld Institute of Art London, 14 November 2017.

Roche, K. 2017. *Public Engagement with Amateur Archaeologists: A Path to Public Archaeology Conservation?* Icon's First-Ever Twitter Conference. 6 October 2017.

Morrand, K. et al. 2017. *Savage Meets Science: The Rebirth of Royal Savage through Modern Technology* [Poster]. Society for Historical Archaeology Conference. Fort Worth, 4-8 January 2017.