



The Artifact

A Publication of the Archaeological Institute of America – Milwaukee Society Vol. 28 No. 1 Fall 2022

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Letter from the President, Jane C. Waldbaum, Professor Emerita, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Greetings to all of you members of the Archaeological Institute of America-Milwaukee Society and welcome to the Fall lineup of programs sponsored by the national office of the AIA and by the Milwaukee Society.

In this edition of *The Artifact*, our local newsletter for Milwaukee Society members, we will explain the newly redesigned national lecture program, give you a run-down on the live and virtual speakers and their topics, and provide news on the research some of our members are engaged in.

But first, what am I doing here? In fact, I am serving as acting president for the 2022-23 season while our duly elected president, Derek Counts, takes a well-earned sabbatical. Derek will be back in the saddle as president starting in Fall 2023. Derek was recently named a Distinguished Professor at UWM, the university's highest level of professorship, an honor awarded to relatively few faculty. Hearty congratulations to Derek!

This fall we will present a hybrid series of lectures including one "live" speaker on October 16, and three "virtual" speakers, providing a rich and varied series of talks on a wide-ranging set of topics from "New Approaches to the Archaeology of Disease" in September to "The Wild, Wild East: Combating the Black Market in Ancient Asian Art," in November. Spring will bring us one more "live" speaker on March 12, plus four additional "virtual" lecturers. More on the spring program in the next edition of *The Artifact*.

We will be happy to be back at UWM in Sabin Hall, Room G90 for our "live" lecture of Fall 2022 on October 16 at 3:00 p.m. (see "City Making in Byzantine Athens" below for more on the lecture and speaker). Sabin is the venue we've used for our lectures for many years before COVID struck and we retreated to digital talks at home. It will be wonderful to see you all there. As always, the lecture will be free and open to the public, so bring your friends and anyone you think may be interested!

An article by David Pacifico, Mónica Suárez, Karen Meza, and Morgan Moore on their summer field season in Peru rounds out this issue of the *Artifact* bringing you news of what it's like to return to field work after several years away.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you who stuck with us during the last few, trying years. Your loyalty to the AIA and to the Milwaukee Society is greatly appreciated, as is your abiding interest in all things archaeological!

Jane Waldbaum
Acting President



Masks are strongly recommended but not required in Sabin Hall, or other indoor spaces at UWM. Please click on the link for more details on UWM's current COVID-19 policies:

<https://uwm.edu/coronavirus/frequently-asked-questions/>.

And if COVID should rear its ugly head again before October 16 we will switch back to the Zoom format we've been using and will announce the change by email.

To register for

ARCHAEOLOGY ABRIDGED
programs, Click

<https://www.archaeological.org/programs/public/lectures/archaeologyabridged/>

Or look for on-line lectures from other local societies on the month-by-month
EVENTS CALENDAR

<https://www.archaeological.org/events/>

AIA's New Lecture Program

Most of you have probably received multiple explanations from the AIA's national office in Boston about the many changes in the national lecture program. But since these changes represent the first major rethinking of the program in many years, I will try to boil it all down a little.

Those of you who have been long-time members will remember that in the pre-COVID past each of the more than 100 local societies regularly received two to three live speakers who were sent on lecture tours by the AIA's national office in Boston. The Milwaukee Society supplemented these national lecturers with three to four local experts who could speak on topics not covered by the national speakers, thus providing us with a wide-ranging program of in-person talks each academic year (September to May).

During the height of the COVID pandemic, from 2020 to 2022, AIA was unable to send speakers on tour and local societies were unable to host live speakers in their communities. Making lemonade out of lemons, AIA's national officers and Governing Board came up with the idea of fielding a series of short, pithy, virtual lectures and making them available on Zoom to all AIA members and other interested members of the public. These lectures proved wildly popular, attracting large audiences, often including people from outside North America—Sri Lanka anyone?—and were also made available to watch or re-watch after the actual talk via recorded videos. In addition, local societies, like Milwaukee's, were “sent” their regular two national speakers via Zoom so that the speakers didn't have to travel, and the local societies didn't have to host their lecturer in person and risk having to cancel for health reasons on either side.

In the end, the digital lectures proved successful and convenient (and also economical) for AIA and for the Societies. But we in the local societies missed the experience of having lecturers visit us in person, speak to us face-to-face, and answer *our* questions personally. So, this year's program is something of a hybrid. AIA is sending each local society one live national speaker (see below: “City Making in Byzantine Athens” for the Milwaukee Society's talk on October 16, 2022) and in addition, AIA is making available funds so that each society that wants to may sponsor a local speaker as well (ours will be in the spring, March 12, 2023, and we will provide detailed information on this later in the season). Furthermore, in the 2022-23 season, AIA will be hosting seven virtual, hour-long lectures in its “Archaeology Hour” series, and seven “Archaeology Abridged” talks by the same speakers who present in Archaeology Hour but on different topics. These lectures will be available to all AIA members and to anyone else around the world who is interested. See below for information on the first three virtual speakers (“AIA's Virtual Lectures and Lecturers, Fall 2022”). To find out more about the program and to register for Archaeology Hour talks click on: <https://www.archaeological.org/programs/public/lectures/archaeologyhour/>.

To view the Recorded Videos of past

Archeology Abridged talks, click:

<https://www.archaeological.org/programs/public/lectures/archaeologyabridged/>

Archaeology Day at the UWM- Waukesha Field Station

A Late September Outing Free and open to the public

Here is information on a local archaeological event taking place at the

UWM-Waukesha Field Station,
W349 S1480 S Waterville Road,
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

**Saturday, September 24,
9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

Take this opportunity to experience archaeology in the field and learn about Native American cultural resources, participate in archaeological surveys and excavations, see real artifacts, make stone tools and pottery, and bring your own artifacts for identification.

**Wear outdoor clothing.
Equipment and refreshments will
be provided.
ALL are welcome.**

For more information and directions see:

<https://uwm.edu/waukesha/event/archaeology-day/>

City Making in Byzantine Athens

*An In-person Lecture by Dr. Fotini Kondyli,
NEH Horace W. Goldsmith Distinguished Teaching Professor of
Byzantine Art and Archaeology,
McIntyre Department of Art, University of Virginia*

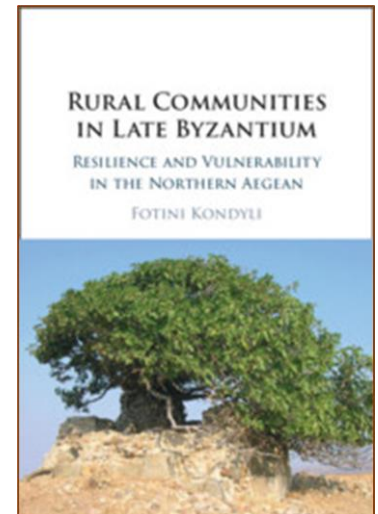
Dr. Fontini's work seeks to reconstruct the topography and spatial layout of Byzantine Athens (4th-15th centuries CE), and to better understand contemporary living conditions and socio-economic activities in the city. Her lecture will focus on city-making processes and particularly on the role of non-elite, ordinary people in them. Fontini sees Byzantine cities as highly political environments and explores city-making activities as political actions. Like modern cities, Byzantine ones were stages for key political events ranging from rituals that celebrated imperial power to riots and acts of resistance. She pays equal attention to monumental public spaces as to streets, open unbuilt areas, and common areas outside and around houses. She will also examine changes in the urban environment that point to ordinary people's involvement and consider the impact of such activities in enhancing their social capital and political influence. Dr. Fontini's project provides new approaches to the reconstruction of Byzantine cities by attempting to rewrite Athens' history from the perspective of ordinary people's individual and collective experiences. It also contributes to a diachronic study of urban phenomena including civic groups, urban planning, and political action.

Professor Kondyli is a Byzantine archaeologist who works on the Late Antique, Byzantine and Frankish periods (5th-15th c). Her research interests include spatial practices, community building processes and the material culture of Byzantine non-elites. She also works on cultural, economic, and political networks in the Eastern Mediterranean in the Late Byzantine period (13th- 15th c.). Her work brings together archaeology, archival research, spatial analysis, and the digital humanities. She is the author of *Rural Communities in Late Byzantium, Resilience and Vulnerability in the Northern Aegean* (2022) that argues for resilient island rural communities and seeks to reinstate non-elites in the historical narrative. It points to their ability to cope with environmental, demographic, and political crises and initiate changes that contributed to their survival and well-being. She is also the coeditor of *The Byzantine Neighbourhood. Urban Space and Political Action* (2022). As an active field archaeologist, Kondyli has worked in numerous archaeological sites in Greece, Albania, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and Germany. She is currently involved in archaeological projects at Athens, Thebes, northern Attica, and Samothrace.



Join us for this **FREE** lecture
Sunday, October 16th, 2022, 3:00 pm

UWM Sabin Hall, Room G90, 3413
North Downer Ave, Milwaukee, WI



For further reading see:

Kondyli, Fotini. "The View of Archaeology." In *The Byzantine Neighbourhood. Urban Space and Political Action*, edited by Fotini Kondyli and Benjamin Anderson. Abingdon: Routledge, 2022, 44–68.

Bouras, Charalambos. *Byzantine Athens, 10th–12th Centuries*. London: Routledge, 2017.

Frantz, Alison. *Late Antiquity: AD. 267–700 (The Athenian Agora, vol. XXIV)*. Princeton, NJ: American School of Classical Studies at Athens, 1988.

Kaldellis, Anthony. *The Christian Parthenon: Classicism and Pilgrimage in Byzantine Athens*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009

Virtual Lectures and Speakers, Fall 2022

Each of the first three lecturers for AIA's virtual lecture program brings us new and exciting perspectives on several important aspects of archaeology that seem particularly relevant in today's world: the archaeology of disease; presentation of archaeological collections in their cultural and community contexts by museums; and combatting the illicit antiquities trade.

First up in **September** is **Dr. Krish Seetah**, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Stanford University. His Archaeology Hour talk on Tuesday, September 20 at 9 p.m. CT and Wednesday, September 21 at 6 p.m. CT is on "New Approaches to the Archaeology of Disease: Climate, Imperialism and Malaria in the Indian Ocean." His Archaeology Abridged talk is on "Healing the Body: How Scientific Archaeology is Revealing the Medicinal Practices of Enslaved Peoples," Thursday, Sept. 29, 2022, 1 pm. CT.



Krish Seetah is a zooarchaeologist (studies animal remains) whose focus is primarily on colonization and colonialism. He is also the Director of the 'Mauritian Archaeology and Cultural Heritage' project, which studies European Imperialism and colonial activity in the Indian Ocean. The project centers on the movement of peoples and material cultures, specifically

within the contexts of slavery and Diaspora and focuses on key sites on the island nation of Mauritius. Using a systematic program of excavation and environmental sampling, the Mauritian Archaeology and Cultural Heritage project aims to better understand the transition from slavery to indentured labor following abolition; the extent and diversity of trade in the region; and the environmental consequences of intense monoculture agriculture.

October brings us **Dr. Alaka Wali**, Curator Emerita of North American Anthropology, Field Museum, Chicago. She will speak on "Inclusive Museum Narratives: Contextualizing Collections through Collaboration," for Archaeology Hour on Tuesday, October 18, 2022, 9 p.m. CT OR Wednesday, October 19, 2022, 6 p.m. CT; and on "Representing Native American Perspectives on Time: Examples from the Field Museum," for Archaeology Abridged on Thursday October 27, 2022, 1 p.m. CT.



Alaka Wali was the founding director of the Center for Cultural Understanding and Change from 1995-2010 at the Field Museum. During that time, she pioneered the development of participatory social science research and community engagement processes based in museum science. Wali curates the North American collection, one of the Museum's largest regional anthropology holdings. Her research

focuses on the relationship between art and the capacity for social resilience and she has authored several books and monographs and published over 50 articles on a wide range of topics, including museum practice, political ecology, and urban anthropology. Wali has curated numerous exhibitions, pioneering co-curated exhibitions with Native American contemporary artists. She led the curation of the renovation of the North American Anthropology Hall, just opened in May 2022, which broke new ground for the Field Museum with a deeply collaborative approach that privileges the perspectives of Native American scholars, artists and community members.

SEPTEMBER

Archaeology Hour Virtual Lecture

"New Approaches to the Archaeology of Disease: Climate, Imperialism and Malaria in the Indian Ocean"

Tuesday, September 20th 9:00 pm
Wednesday, September 21st 6:00 pm



Archaeology Abridged Virtual Lecture

"Healing the Body: How Scientific Archaeology is Revealing the Medicinal Practices of Enslaved Peoples"

Thursday, September 29th 1:00 pm

OCTOBER

Archaeology Hour Virtual Lecture

"Inclusive Museum Narratives: Contextualizing Collections through Collaboration"

Tuesday, October 18th 9:00 pm
Wednesday, October 19th 6:00 pm

Archaeology Abridged Virtual Lecture

"Representing Native American Perspectives on Time: Examples from the Field Museum"

Thursday, October 27th 1:00 pm

The final virtual speaker of fall 2022 is **Tess Davis**, Executive Director, the Antiquities Coalition.

She will give two talks in November on her important work fighting the illegal antiquities trade: “Blood Antiquities: Tomb Raiders, Art Smugglers and the Black Market in Cultural Treasures,” Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 9 p.m. CT OR Wednesday, November 16, 6 p.m. CT for Archaeology Hour and “The Wild, Wild East: Combating the Black Market in Ancient Asian Art,” Thursday, November 17, 2022, 1 p.m. CT for Archaeology Abridged.



Tess Davis, a lawyer and archaeologist by training, is Executive Director of the Antiquities Coalition. Davis oversees the organization’s work to fight cultural racketeering worldwide, as well as its award-winning think tank in Washington. She has been a legal consultant for the US and foreign governments and works with both the art world and law enforcement to keep looted antiquities off the market. She writes and speaks widely on these issues — having been published in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, CNN, Foreign

Policy, and top scholarly journals — and featured in documentaries in America and Europe. She is admitted to the New York State Bar, teaches cultural heritage law at Johns Hopkins University, and is a Term Member of the Council on Foreign Relations. In 2015, the Royal Government of Cambodia knighted Davis for her work to recover the country’s plundered treasures, awarding her the rank of Commander in the Royal Order of the Sahametrei.

These lectures will be recorded so if the original dates or times are not convenient for you, you may watch them later through the AIA’s YouTube channel. The AIA will announce when they are available, and the links will be on their website.

AIA’s Annual Meeting, January 5-8, 2023

New Orleans, Louisiana

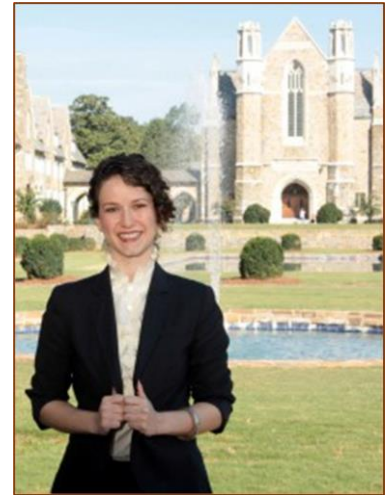
This year, AIA’s Annual Meeting will be a hybrid affair. Those of you who want to take advantage of discounted hotel rates to soak up some New Orleans music and food as well as participate in the Annual Meeting of scholars, general archaeology buffs, should make plans to go in person. But if travel is not in the cards for you in the next few months, then consider attending the meeting virtually. Most of the programs will be available via Zoom as will be committee meetings and special events like the Public Lecture. The Hyatt Regency New Orleans will be the official meeting hotel, with discounted rates available from January 2 to 9, in case anyone wants to go early to enjoy this special city. Please click on: <https://www.archaeological.org/programs/professionals/annual-meeting/hotel-and-travel/> for more information. The information on this site is currently preliminary, but it will be updated regularly as more details about the meeting and its program become available.

NOVEMBER

Archaeology Hour Virtual Lecture

“Blood Antiquities: Tomb Raiders, Art Smugglers and the Black Market in Cultural Treasures”

**Tuesday, November 15th 9:00 pm
Wednesday, November 16th 6:00 pm**



Archaeology Abridged Virtual Lecture

“The Wild, Wild East: Combating the Black Market in Ancient Asian Art”

Thursday, November 17th 1:00 pm

To register for any or all of the **Archaeology Hour** talks, click here:

<https://www.archaeological.org/programs/public/lectures/archaeologyhour/>

To register for any or all of the **Archaeology Abridged** talks, or to see recordings of previous talks, click here:

<https://www.archaeological.org/programs/public/lectures/archaeologyabridged/>

By 2020, Pacifico and Suárez began a collaboration that included digital mapping and fieldwork at archaeological sites in an area ranging from Cerro Sechín to just upriver of Tucushuanca - in essence the entire midsection of the Sechín branch of the valley. In 2021 fieldwork began based on Pacifico's, Suárez, and Meza's previous fieldwork supported by the digital maps made by UWM undergraduate and graduate research assistants. This process has been most recently built upon by the project's current graduate research assistant, Moore, who joined the Project in early 2021.

Moore's work began with the digitalization of the upriver sites, including Tambillos, Cahuacucho, and Tucushuanca. After adding to and organizing the digitalization of these sites, Moore moved on to the sites surrounding Cerro Sechín. Moore and Pacifico also began an effort to categorize ceramic motifs observed at the sites of El Purgatorio and Cerro Sechín.

In late 2021 Pacifico was scheduled to meet Suárez and Meza in Peru but was unable due to the pandemic. Instead, Suárez and Meza, on the ground in Peru, and Pacifico and Moore, in the digital lab in Milwaukee began a surface investigation of the sites around Tucushuanca, including Cahuacucho, Tambillos, and Cerro San Pedro (aka Ornopampa). This preliminary work was accomplished by Pacifico and Moore examining and digitalizing the sites via satellite imagery, which allowed Suárez and Meza to then investigate the sites in the field and report back on their findings.

Summer 2022 Field Season

The Summer 2022 Field Season was the first time that the South American and North American team members were able to work together in person in the field. Our goals were to train as a team with high resolution GPS units, a photography drone, and to integrate these tools into a field survey workflow. Once trained, we aimed to document all the archaeological sites on the mountain Cerro Sechín. If time allowed, we aimed to revisit the sites near Tucushuanca to capture drone images for detailed digitization of those sites as well.

Sites at Cerro Sechín

We began our training at the site of Lagunas II (briefly studied in the 1980s by a team led by UC-Riverside professor Carol Mackey), located a few hundred yards from the temple of Cerro Sechín. Due to its wide-open layout and clear surface artifacts, we used it as a testing ground for flying our drone, laying control points, and documenting features in the archaeological landscape.



Meza, Suárez, and Pacifico at Lagunas II, Cerro Sechín

After getting our workflow settled, we began documenting all the sites on the mountain of Cerro Sechín. Though Julio C. Tello scientifically discovered the ruins of the temple at Cerro Sechín *and* noted several other sites on the same compact mountain, there has been limited exploration of the sites around the main temple at Cerro Sechín. Indeed, Suárez and Meza are among the few people who have previously undertaken such work.

Covering as many as 8km a day, frequently climbing to the top of the shadeless desert mountain, we were able to photograph, establish geographical control points, and document samples of artifacts and architecture at nearly all the sites around the temple at Cerro Sechín.

Analysis is ongoing and a small amount of data collection remains to be completed at the Cerro Sechín sites surrounding the temple. Nevertheless, a clearer picture of the mountain and its importance through time is emerging. The main temple at Cerro Sechín is dated to around 1500 BC. However, sites probably dated to the late Formative (ca. 400 BC) and late Intermediate Period (ca AD 1300) surround it. For example, Suárez noted that the architecture of the mountaintop walled structure directly above the main temple is likely from about 400 BC. It parallels several other oval-walled hilltop sites in the valley including the solar observatory of Chankillo and a structure at Tambillos, near Tucushuanca.

On the western and southern flanks of the mountain, Pacifico observed that ceramics and architecture suggest Late Intermediate Period dates (AD 1200-1400) for sites like Lagunas I, Lagunas II (which confirms Mackey's earlier work), and Chilli. All the sites touch the very same mountain as the Formative Period main temple. Many ignore the steep topography in order to complete orthogonal plans. This defiant maintenance of form and contact with the mountain suggest that physical communion with the mountain was an important part of site layout in the late Formative and Late Intermediate Periods.



Suárez examines a megalithic bas relief on the façade of the main temple at Cerro Sechín

Middle Sechín sites near Tucushuanca

Suárez and Meza visited the sites of the Sechín middle valley, near Tucushuanca, in 2021 using a mobile GIS application and cellular networks to gather geographical, architectural, and artifact data that was integrated into our online spatial database. In 2022 Suárez, Meza, and Pacifico returned to these middle Sechín sites: Tucushuanca, Tambillos, Ornopampa, and Cahuacucho. Our visits to those sites allowed us to capture drone photos with control points that we will georeference and subsequently digitize to provide detailed maps for future research. Like the mountain of Cerro Sechín, the sites in the middle Sechín branch also appear to have been reused during different periods, suggesting that the locations themselves were important for ritual, strategic, and economic reasons, or some combination.

Conclusions

Any conclusions at this point are very preliminary. After all, we returned from the field just a couple of months ago, and radiocarbon samples collected from both areas have yet to be analyzed. However, the season was extremely fruitful. We were able to establish and refine field methods for rapidly mapping the archaeological landscape of the Sechín River section of the Casma Valley. Our investigations revealed that the landscape is much more complex than we had previously thought. In the surprising absence of a previous valley-wide survey, our work has begun to reveal the intricate cultural sequence in the area.

It appears at this point that the sites at Cerro Sechín and near Tucushuanca were multi-component sites. They were occupied multiple times in the long history of the valley. The details of those occupations and the changes that occurred over time remain to be revealed. One preliminary pattern we reported in 2022 to the National Congress of Archaeologists in Peru is that it appears that middle Sechín sites may have seen earlier occupations at higher altitudes and further upriver, while later occupations moved downhill and downstream from earlier occupations.

Future Fieldwork

Two future field seasons are already planned. In January 2023 Pacifico and Moore will meet Suárez and Meza in Peru to continue our work around Cerro Sechín. Our goals will be to finish documenting the few sections of Cerro Sechín that we did not complete in 2022 and to begin developing methods for rapid catch-and-release artifact documentation and analysis in the field. In May and June 2023, we'll again return for excavations led by Suárez at the Temple of Cerro Sechín and detailed systematic documentation of artifacts at the later sites surrounding the temple at Cerro Sechín. The May/June 2023 season is intended to be the first season of a multiyear field school.

AIA-Milwaukee Society Fall Calendar



Fall 2022

September 2022:

Archaeology Hour Talks:

Tuesday, September 20th, 2022, 9:00 pm CT Lecture

Wednesday, September 21st, 2022, 6:00 pm CT Lecture

Dr. Krish Seetah, New Approaches to the Archaeology of Disease: Climate, Imperialism and Malaria in the Indian Ocean

Archaeology Abridged Talk:

Thursday, 29th, 2022, 1:00 pm CT Lecture

Dr. Krish Seetah, Healing the Body: How Scientific Archaeology is Revealing the Medicinal Practices of Enslaved Peoples

October 2022:

Sunday, October 16th, 2022, 3:00 pm in-Person Lecture

Dr. Fotini Kondyli, City Making in Byzantine Athens

Sabin Hall, Room G90, UWM, 3413 North Downer Ave, Milwaukee

Archaeology Hour Talks:

Tuesday, October 18th, 2022, 9:00 pm CT Lecture

Wednesday, October 19th, 2022, 6:00 pm CT Lecture

Dr. Alaka Wali, Inclusive Museum Narratives: Contextualizing Collections through Collaboration

Archaeology Abridged Talk:

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Dr. Alaka Wali, Representing Native American Perspectives on Time: Examples from the Field Museum

November 2022:

Archaeology Hour Talks

Tuesday, November 15th, 2022, 9:00 pm CT Lecture

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Tess Davis, Blood Antiquities: Tomb Raiders, Art Smugglers and the Black Market in Cultural Treasures

Archaeology Abridged Talk:

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Tess Davis, The Wild, Wild East: Combating the Black Market in Ancient Asian Art

You can check out our Milwaukee Society website for updates: <https://aia-milwaukee.uwm.edu>