



The Artifact

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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. I hope you all had a happy holiday season and are looking forward to 2023. For spring 2023 we have an exciting lineup of in-person and virtual programs, including a couple that combine live and virtual elements.

This spring the AIA's lectures will take us from ancient Egypt and Cyprus to Turkey and Aztec Mexico. We will host a "live" speaker on Sunday, March 12, and four "virtual" speakers. For the January and February talks, on Egypt and Cyprus respectively, we are trying something new: a presentation of the virtual lecture via video, followed by a live discussion and Q&A fielded by two of our local experts—Dr. Jocelyn Boor on Egypt and Prof. Derek Counts on Cyprus. For these "watch parties" we will gather in the auditorium at St John's on the Lake to view the lecture on video and participate in the live discussion. For more details on the watch parties, the virtual lectures and speakers, and directions to St John's on the Lake please see pages 5 and 6 below. We hope you will join us for these special presentations!

Our fully live lecture takes place on Sunday, March 12 in our usual meeting place at UWM in Sabin Hall, Room G90 at 3:00 p.m. Dr. Ömür Harmanshah of the University of Illinois, Chicago, will discuss his latest field research in Turkey (see "Rural Landscapes, Archaeological Fieldwork, and Cultural Heritage Destruction in Turkey" page 2 below for more on the lecture and speaker).

Ann S. Eberwein, doctoral candidate in Anthropology at UWM, gives us a glimpse into her dissertation research in *A Tale of Remarkable Preservation: The Lake Dwelling Site of Robenhausen*.

Finally, I'd like to urge all of you who are AIA members to stick with us. If you are a member in good standing, thank you! If your membership is about to expire, please renew promptly. It only takes a few minutes to renew online on AIA's website: <https://www.archaeological.org/join/>. Login with your AIA login ID and password where it says "Member Login" and follow the prompts. All memberships last for one year and include a subscription to Archaeology Magazine as well as membership in our local society. There are many other benefits of membership available at the different levels of membership and these are also described on the website. The Milwaukee Society depends on the portion of your membership dues that are rebated to us from the national office in Boston. All of the AIA's activities, from the Lecture Program to publications to the fellowships and grants awarded to students, professionals and—yes—to local societies, are funded at least in part from members' dues. We can't do it without you!

Jane Waldbaum
Acting President



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-Milwaukee Society and Saint John's on the Lake Archaeology Hour Watch Parties

On Sunday, January 22, 2023 and Sunday February 26, 2023 the AIA-Milwaukee Society and Saint John's on the Lake are teaming up to present a couple of archaeological "watch parties." The watch parties will give us an opportunity to watch the videos of the January Archaeology Hour presentation on Egypt, and the February Archaeology Hour on Cyprus, and following that, to engage in live discussion and Q&A led by two of our members who happen to be experts in Egypt and Cyprus. Dr. Jocelyn Boor will lead discussion on Egypt on January 22 and Prof. Derek Counts will lead discussion on Cyprus on February 26. Both teach at UWM.

For each of these watch parties we will meet at 2:00 p.m. in the North Cultural Arts Center (AKA North CAC or NCAC) at Saint John's on the Lake. The room is equipped with comfortable chairs, a large screen and good sound system for viewing. Light refreshments will add to our enjoyment of the program. (See below for directions to St. John's). We hope to see you at one or both of these events!

The January 22 watch party will feature the virtual lecture "The Good Kings: Absolute Power in Ancient Egypt and the Modern World," presented by Prof. Kara Cooney, of the University of California at Los Angeles.



Statue of Ramses II at Luxor

In an era when democracies around the world are threatened or crumbling, Egyptologist Kara Cooney turns to five ancient Egyptian pharaohs—Khufu, Senwosret III, Akenhaten, Ramses II, and Taharqa—to understand why many so often give up power to the few, and what it can mean for our future. The pharaohs and their process of divine kingship can tell us a lot about the world's politics, past and present. Every animal-headed god, every monumental temple, every pyramid, every tomb, offers extraordinary insight into a culture that combined deeply held religious beliefs with uniquely human schemes to justify a system in which one ruled over many.

Kara Cooney, speaker, received her Ph.D. in Egyptology from Johns Hopkins University and is currently a professor of Egyptian Art and Architecture and Chair of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures at UCLA. In 2005 she was co-curator of Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Cooney produced a comparative archaeology television series, titled "Out of Egypt," which aired in 2009 on the Discovery Channel and is available online. She has authored several popular books including *The Woman Who Would Be King: Hatshepsut's Rise to Power in Ancient Egypt*.



January Watch Party

"The Good Kings: Absolute Power in Ancient Egypt and the Modern World"

Sunday, January 22nd 2:00 pm
Discussion to follow

Masks are optional at Saint John's on the Lake

Discussant: Jocelyn Boor



Jocelyn Boor earned her MS and Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) and currently teaches courses at UWM in Ancient Egyptian Art History, Civilization and Mythology as well as on Ancient Near Eastern Art History.

Archaeology Abridged Virtual Lecture

"Ramses the Great: Power and Patriarchy"

Thursday, January 26, 1:00 pm CT
Zoom only

Register Today

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

The February 26 watch party will air a video of the virtual lecture “A Maritime Small World in Western Cyprus: Yeronisos Island, Maniki Harbor, and Cape Drepanum,” presented by archaeologist Joan Breton Connelly of New York University.

Prof. Connelly has directed the NYU Yeronisos Island Excavation and Field School just off western Cyprus for some 30 years. She will talk about her fieldwork on the island where she has pioneered eco-archaeology, undertaking floral and faunal surveys, annual bird counts, and establishing guidelines sensitive to the ways in which archaeological intervention impacts the natural environment.



Joan Breton Connelly, speaker, is a classical archaeologist with excavation experience in Greece, Kuwait, and Cyprus. Connelly was awarded a MacArthur Foundation fellowship for her work in Greek art, myth, and religion. Two of her books were named to the Notable Books of

the Year by the New York Times and her book, *The Parthenon Enigma*, won the Phi Beta Kappa Society’s Ralph Waldo Emerson Award in 2015. *Portrait of a Priestess: Women and Ritual in Ancient Greece* (2007) also won the Archaeological Institute of America’s James R. Wiseman Book Award. Connelly has also been honored with the AIA’s Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award.

Getting to Saint John’s on the Lake:

Saint John’s on the Lake is a large high-rise complex on the East side of Prospect Avenue between Royall (south) and Kane Place (north). St John’s may be entered from any of three main entrances: 1800 North Prospect, 1840 North Prospect or 1858 North Prospect Ave, Milwaukee. Check in as a visitor at any front desk and tell the assistant you are here for the archaeology program. They will direct you to the NCAC meeting room. Masks are optional but recommended. Please RSVP if you haven’t already: jcw@uwm.edu



By Bus: From the South the #30 or the Gold Line bus stops at Royall or Kane Place and Prospect in front of 1800 and 1858 N Prospect respectively.

From the North the #30 or Gold Line buses stop along Farwell at Kane and Royall. Walk one block east to SJOL.

Parking: Saint John’s has free, off-street, visitor parking just south of 1800 N. Prospect. Turn right (east) off Prospect at Royall into the visitor lot.

February Watch Party

“A Maritime Small World in Western Cyprus: Yeronisos Island, Maniki Harbor, and Cape Drepanum”

Sunday, February 26th 2:00 pm
Discussion to follow

Discussant: Derek Counts



Derek Counts holds his Ph.D. in Old World Archaeology and Art from Brown University. He is currently a Distinguished Professor of Art History at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and recently stepped down as chair of UWM’s Art History Department. He is Co-Director of the Athienou Archaeological Project in Cyprus, where he has been excavating for more than two decades. He has published extensively on the archaeology of Iron Age Cyprus, with a particular emphasis on Cypriot religion, as well as on Cypriot limestone votive sculpture and its associated iconography.

Archaeology Abridged Virtual Lecture

“The People of Cape Drepanum, Cyprus: A Rock Cut Family Tomb of Hellenistic and Roman Date”

Thursday, February 23, 1:00 pm CT
Zoom only

Register Today

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

“Rural Landscapes, Archaeological Fieldwork, and Cultural Heritage Destruction in Turkey”

In-person lecture, Sunday, March 12, 2023

Dr. Ömür Harmanshah, Director, The School of Art & Art History and Associate Professor of Art History, The University of Illinois at Chicago, will present the AIA's Nancy Wilkie Lecture in Archaeological Heritage.



Project landscape Bulasan Valley

Archaeological remains and landscapes are witnesses to deep time histories, yet they have increasingly been victims of targeted destruction as well as practices of looting in recent decades. Cultural heritage is always entangled with the politics of the environment, while heritage is always understood as a resource at risk waiting for a salvage operation. A major challenge for archaeologists today is that they have to serve as chroniclers of the unprecedented levels of heritage destruction under the current Turkish regime, and to contextualize this destruction within the conditions of precarity, extraction, and dispossession, which are different forms of environmental injustice. Late capitalist management of landscapes in the contemporary Turkish countryside have created disposable landscapes of extreme extraction and large-scale excavation. In his talk, Dr. Harmanshah will focus on various practices of heritage destruction in the western part of Konya province, Turkey, where the Yalburt Yaylası Archaeological Landscape Research Project has been documenting ancient and historical settlements and landscape features, while also keeping an account of ongoing heritage destruction since 2010. He will argue that on-the-ground fieldwork as a creative practice, and collaboration with local heritage communities are essential to performing such work as compared to remote sensing methods.



Sangir Magaza, Konya Province Turkey. Late Hellenistic-Early Roman Sinkhole Sanctuary. Yalburt Yaylası Archaeological Landscape Research Project 2010.



Dr. Harmanshah is currently an Academic Trustee on AIA's Governing Board. He holds the AIA's Nancy Wilkie Lectureship in Archaeological Heritage for 2022-23. This endowed lectureship was established to honor Nancy Wilkie, AIA President 1999-2002, and is intended to engage audiences in the fascinating and timely issues that are shaping the present and future of the field.

In-Person Lecture

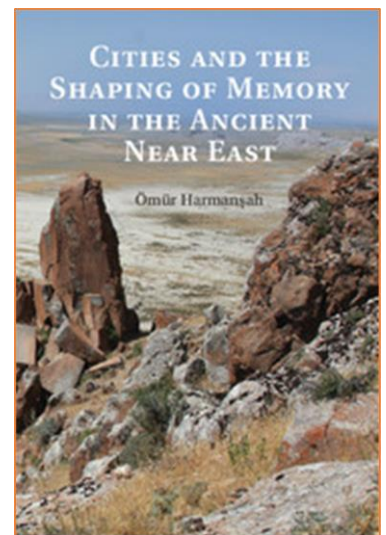
“Rural Landscapes, Archaeological Fieldwork, and Cultural Heritage Destruction in Turkey”

Sunday, March 12th 3:00 pm

Sabin Hall, Room G90, UWM
3413 North Downer Ave,
Milwaukee, 53211

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/>.



Dr. Harmanshah's Book Cover

For more about Dr. Harmanshah see:
<https://arthistory.uic.edu/profiles/harmansah-omur/>
<https://omurharmansah.wordpress.com/>

For more on the Yalburt Yaylası Archaeological Landscape Research Project: <https://www.yalburtproject.org/>

Virtual Lectures and Speakers, Spring 2023

March 2023, David Carballo:



David Carballo, professor of Archaeology, Anthropology and Latin American Studies at Boston University, specializes in the archaeology of Latin America, especially central Mexico, and with topical interests in households, urbanism, religion, social inequality. He works with contemporary communities to help in understanding ancient ones. Current investigations focus on Teotihuacan's Tlajinga district, a cluster of non-elite neighborhoods on the periphery of what was the largest city in

the Americas in the early first millennium CE. Recent books include *Cooperation and Collective Action: Archaeological Perspectives* (ed., 2013), *Urbanization and Religion in Ancient Central Mexico* (2016), *Teotihuacan: The World Beyond the City* (ed., 2020), and *Collision of Worlds: A Deep History of the Fall of Aztec Mexico and the Forging of New Spain* (2020).

April 2023, Sara Gonzalez:

Sara Gonzalez is Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Washington. She works at the intersection of tribal historic preservation, Indigenous Studies, and public history. Her research examines how community-based participatory approaches to research improve the empirical and interpretive quality of archaeological narratives, while also situating archaeology within a more respectful and engaged practice. Her approach involves exploring the diverse applications of minimally invasive field methods and digital media as tools for contributing to the capacity of tribal communities to manage their historic and environmental resources. Centered on her ongoing collaboration with tribal communities in California, Oregon, and Washington, Gonzalez has developed multiple classroom, lab, and field school programs that provide undergraduate and graduate students with the opportunity to participate directly in research with tribal communities that contributes to their capacity to study, manage, and represent their heritage. She has co-authored numerous journal articles and in 2018 co-authored the book *The Archaeology of Metini Village: An Archaeological Study of Sustained Colonialism*. She is also an editor for the forthcoming publication, Routledge Handbook of the *Archaeology of Indigenous-Colonial Interaction in the Americas*.



MARCH

Archaeology Hour Virtual Lecture

“Collision of Worlds: An Archaeological Perspective on The Spanish Invasion of Aztec Mexico”

Tuesday, March 15 @9 CT

Register Today

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gg_wAUh52Qn6AINzQeppfjA

Wednesday, March 16 @6 CT

Register Today

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vb_NeUguIQIT67ZCAn4WODHg

Archaeology Abridged Virtual Lecture

“Traitors or Native Conquistadors? The Role of Tlaxcala in the Fall of Aztec Mexico”

Thursday, March 23rd 1:00 pm CT

Register Today

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_iWusMtOfQEGk6oT7sPrMkA

APRIL

Archaeology Hour Virtual Lecture, Zoom only

“With, For, And By: Doing Archaeology in a Grand Ronde Way”

Tuesday, April 18th 9:00 pm CT

Register Today

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Nt9O-DEzTj2C5y-s5QeS-w

Wednesday, April 19th 6 pm CT

Register Today

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1WfZCRSafQnSIwNnX83IYsg

Archaeology Abridged Virtual Lecture, Zoom Only

“The Science of Storytelling”

Thursday, April 27th 1:00 pm CT

Register Today

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_8PcF7EG2QfqQshkeZvNNTIsg

These lectures will be recorded, so 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



AIA's 2023 Annual Meeting took place between January 5th and 8th in New Orleans. The Annual Meeting (AM) is an opportunity primarily for professional archaeologists and students to gather together to hear papers presented on the latest archaeological research, exchange ideas, and generally network in both academic and social settings. This year's meeting was a hybrid event: all of the academic sessions and many of the committee and other meetings were available either on person or on Zoom, allowing people to participate who can't or don't want to travel, but also enabling those who braved the airlines to enjoy the pleasures of NOLA.

As usual, a wide variety of sessions was presented on many different topics, ranging from traditional excavation reports such as "New Excavations in Pre-Historic Greece," "Recent Fieldwork in Italy," "New Research in North Africa," to explorations of ancient social and economic life such as "Health in the Ancient World," or "Cemeteries and the Dead." Several sessions addressed pressing current topics regarding cultural heritage protection and preservation: papers presented in "Cultural Heritage Protection after Iraq: Advances and Developments over the Past 20 Years" looked back over approaches to heritage protection policy since the Iraq War and the looting of the Iraq National Museum. Speakers in the workshop on "Current Events and Heritage Protection in Ukraine: Efforts to Protect Culture at Risk" addressed what is being done now in the current cultural emergency in Ukraine. Two fun sessions on more unusual topics included "Learning from Food: A Feast of the Archaeological Study of Foodways," covering edible topics from Roman and Medieval Europe to the Americas; and "Music, Sounds, and Rhythmical Moments, Funerary Contexts in the Ancient World," where speakers discussed the role of music and dance in ancient funerary practice.



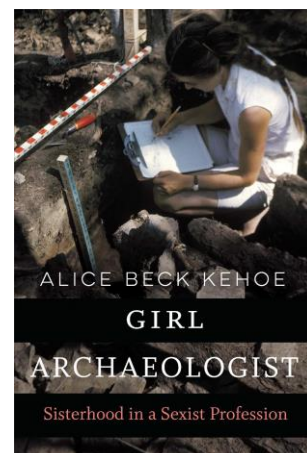
In addition to the academic paper sessions, the Annual Meeting is the place where much of the AIA's business gets done. The Governing Board (Board of Trustees), Council and many committees meet during the AM. The Council is made up of AIA's officers and trustees as well as representatives from each of the Local Societies. The Milwaukee Society is one of more than 100 such local societies and was represented at the meeting by Jane Waldbaum and Derek Counts. At the Council Meeting new officers and Governing Board members were elected and other business was transacted. AIA's new international president is Dr. Elizabeth S. Greene, a maritime archaeologist based at Brock University in Canada. We wish her and the other newly elected officers and board members well in their ongoing work for the betterment of the Archaeological Institute of America!

Welcome New Members

Joined AIA-Milwaukee Society
Since January 2022

Emily Behrendt
Robert Kagen
Michael McCutcheon
Will Peters
Catherine VanKammen

We are very happy you joined us!



Good News! AIA-Milwaukee Society member and Secretary-Treasurer, Alice Kehoe, had her latest book, *Girl Archaeologist: Sisterhood in a Sexist Profession*, selected as a 2022 Choice Outstanding Academic Title. Choice is the publishing unit of the Association of College and Research Libraries. Every year they publish a list of the best in scholarly publications both print and digital. It is an honor for a book to appear on this list. The book provides a fascinating and very readable account of what graduate school and the archaeological profession was like for women back in the '50s, '60s, and '70s. Highly recommended! Congratulations Alice!

A Tale of Remarkable Preservation: The Lake Dwelling Site of Robenhausen

Ann S. Eberwein

The circum-Alpine lake dwelling lifestyle proliferated in west-central Europe from 4300-500 BC. As many as 24 different cultures, identified mainly on the basis of pottery styles, lived in villages both along lake shores and raised on stilts or piles over shallow lake waters. The lake dwelling period spans the late Neolithic through the Early Iron Age and over 1,000 lake dwelling sites have been identified across Switzerland, northern Italy, eastern France, southern Germany, central Austria, and western Slovenia. These sites are exceptional due to the anaerobic or oxygen-free preservation of organic material including textiles, basketry, plants, and the wood used to construct the villages, which were prevented from decay by the silty lake beds or bog environments. Because of this remarkable preservation, we know a great deal about the circum-Alpine lake dwellers and the way that they lived.



Figure 1: Artist's rendering of a small lake dwelling village (from: Coles and Coles 1989).

The lake dwellers were sedentary, but the structural elements of villages built in the damp lakeshore environment generally lasted no more than 10-15 years, after which they were either rebuilt or abandoned. The people who lived in these villages practiced a mixed subsistence strategy: they grew crops, gathered wild resources, hunted, fished, and kept domesticated animals. Flax was grown at many sites during the late Neolithic and the lake dwellers used these fibers to make linen textiles using warp-weighted looms and processed flax in the lakes using a method called retting. Remarkable finds such as dugout canoes and cartwheels suggest that they traveled by both water and land and traded with other villages and with far-flung regions based on the presence of exotic materials at some sites. They used flint, and later copper and bronze tools, antler tines and wood implements, manufactured pottery, matting, netting and basketry and produced impressive wooden objects such as house doors, which have been preserved.

Since the wood used for village construction was preserved, dendrochronology or tree-ring dating can determine the exact years that settlements were built and abandoned, and this has revealed a very specific village formation process. In most cases, sites began with a pioneer phase in which a single house was built, followed by one or two more houses the following year, then many houses in the 3rd, 4th, and 5th years. Lake dweller villages often consisted of about 10-15 houses, although some larger sites with as many as 100 houses have been discovered. Houses were often arranged in a row facing the lake or in two rows on either side of a "main street" and based on the similarity of house sizes, the people were probably egalitarian. Some villages were surrounded by a palisade while others have something more akin to a low fence defining the settlement area. In some cases, a site was abandoned, then left vacant for a generation, and when it was reoccupied, new houses were built in the exact locations of houses in the previous village. At a few sites, vacant spaces were left between houses, then occupied later, suggesting that the spaces were being saved for friends from another village or possibly for older children, when they married and left their parents' home. These last two examples demonstrate the concept of Hausplatz, meaning a specific location associated with a certain domestic unit such as a family.

The quantity of detailed information available for lake dwelling settlements is beyond the scale of most archaeological sites. However, a number of important questions remain, including the following: why did people choose to live on lakes and lake shores, why are there gaps in time when no one lived on the lakes, and why were these sites abandoned in the Early Iron Age? Researchers working in the second half of the 20th century often suggested that lakeside villages were refuges because more habitable, arable lands were occupied by more powerful groups. Palisades and fences around villages were thought of as defensive structures, suggesting high levels of conflict. Climate change leading to lake level increases was often considered the main determining factor in the periodic gaps in occupation and the eventual abandonment of the lake dwelling lifestyle.

However, research over the past twenty years has challenged environmentally deterministic perspectives and the idea that lakeshores were a less desirable place to live.



Figure 2: Excavations at Robenhausen in the late 19th century with excavator Jakob Messikommer in the foreground (after Altorfer 2010).

During the winter of 1853-1854 the first lake dwellings were discovered by the nascent archaeological and antiquarian community. One of these early discoveries was made in 1858 by a landowner and farmer, Jakob Messikommer, at a site called Robenhausen on Lake Pfäffikon near Zurich. At Robenhausen, the peat bog over which the village was built makes the preservation noteworthy even among lake dwellings and Jakob Messikommer was particularly interested in saving the preserved plant material that he found due to his interest in plants and knowledge of farming practices. The timing of the lake dwelling discovery was coeval with the founding of many museums in both Europe and the United States, and many artifacts and organic remains found their way into museum collections. Because of its early discovery and extensive excavation, visitors flocked to Robenhausen and often collected artifacts which became part of early museum collections. These visitors signed a logbook kept by Messikommer, often making it possible to track the removal of artifacts from the site based on where

visitors lived and the institutions that they were affiliated with. While the circum-Alpine lake dwellings remain significant in Europe, in the U.S., they were generally exhibited through the mid-20th century, then relegated to museum collections storage.

UWM Anthropology Professor Bettina Arnold was responsible for the identification of material from Robenhausen and other lake dwelling sites in the Milwaukee Public Museum's (MPM) collection in the early 2000s. Since then, she has led a program of research on the MPM collection, and a number of Masters theses have been produced by UWM students under her supervision. My Masters thesis research focused on the MPM's food-related plants from Robenhausen, which include wheat and barley, crab apples, hazelnuts, and lumps of processed cereal grains which may be bread, porridge, or some undefined prehistoric food. My research utilized experimental archaeology combined with macrobotanical analysis, which is the process of sorting and identifying seeds and other plant material. Most of the material from Robenhausen in the MPM collection is charred, with the exception of the hazelnuts, but it is preserved in such a way that the anatomy of the plants is still visible, allowing the identification of different species of wheat, for example. My goal was to understand foodways, meaning the way that the people who lived at Robenhausen thought about, chose, processed, and cooked their food. Foodways is a newer theoretical focus of research within archaeology. In the past, food processing and cooking were often devalued as the arena of women and servants. In addition, environmental factors were often used to explain food consumption, but recent research considers food choice as an expression of human agency, a way that we structure society, and create communal identities. As Andrew Sherratt and others have noted: we do not eat species, we eat meals (1991). To that end, while I sorted through bags of grains, identifying wild turnip, raspberry, and bilberry seeds, chenopods, and a few caraway seeds from the archaeological deposits at the site of Robenhausen at the MPM, I also dried my own crab apples and made porridge and cereal cakes, in order to understand the steps involved in prehistoric cooking and food processing. I then charred all of my experimental foods and compared them to the material in the MPM collection. After completing my Master's degree, I was accepted to the doctoral program at UWM and chose to continue studying foodways at Robenhausen by incorporating other U.S. museum collections from the site into my research.



Figure 3: Bottle of charred wheat and barley from the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History Robenhausen collection



Figure 4: Charred crab apple pieces from the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology Robenhausen collection.

In 2021 and 2022 I worked with two additional Robenhausen botanical collections at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. These collections differ from the MPM material because many components are housed in the original labelled vials and jars into which they were placed by the excavators and collectors. In most cases the genus and species of the plants are written on the labels and many of the glass containers were individually crafted to house the specific specimens. The Smithsonian collection is by far the largest and best documented of all U.S. Robenhausen collections – two of the men who collected this material, Charles Rau and Thomas Wilson, were curators of the Smithsonian and the latter participated in excavations at the site. While documenting the Smithsonian collection, I came across a small jar of charred wheat donated by Wilson, with the words “Our own find!” celebratorily written on the cork. Thinking about the excitement of these early antiquarians, their scientific acumen in correctly identifying the seed species, and the care that they took to preserve this material is mesmerizing.

It has been over 150 years since the first lake dwellings were discovered, and numerous modern excavations in the region have added to what we know about the lake dweller lifestyle and their subsistence strategies. In addition, the application of modern methods and theoretical approaches have generated new perspectives on these prehistoric people. For example, new research has stressed the strategic location of these sites, which were situated at the center of trade routes that spanned Europe. Access to the lakes also provided opportunities for processing flax, yew, and other materials. In addition, the areas around the lakes were suitable for agriculture and were curated landscapes with coppiced fruit and nut trees and bramble hedges, both of which would have attracted game animals. This landscape introduces the idea of the *Siedlungskammer*, an area of land shared by one or more lake dwelling villages. While the villages themselves were relatively impermanent, lasting for only 10-15 years unless extensive renovations took place, the area around them was a more permanent, maintained landscape associated with a particular group of people. This curated landscape represented a substantial investment of time and energy, perhaps connecting generations of people to one particular *Siedlungskammer*. It also explains other components of the archaeological record – along many lakes, one village is abandoned, then another founded within the next few years. In addition, paleoethnobotanical data suggest that people practiced intensive garden cultivation, in other words, they did not leave fields fallow, instead they might have used manure from domesticated animals to replenish soils when needed. This means that they would not have moved to a new area as the soil was depleted, but would have relocated their villages instead, moving within the more permanent *Siedlungskammer*.



Figure 5: Hazelnuts from the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology Robenhausen collection.

In the 1990s, underwater archaeology and sampling at Robenhausen confirmed many of the original findings from Jakob Messikommer’s excavations and also filled in some gaps. Swiss archaeologist Kurt Altorfer produced a Masters thesis in 2000 and an impressive monograph in 2010, both of which document the Robenhausen material in mainland European museums. In 2013 Katherine Leckie documented many of the Robenhausen collections in Great Britain, with a focus on the historical context of collecting by early antiquarians. One goal of my dissertation research is to contribute to the reunification of Robenhausen collections by creating a digital open access database that includes all food-related plant materials housed in US museums. Recent research in the circum-Alpine region and, specifically at Robenhausen makes both this goal and an exploration of foodways at this site possible.

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AlA-Milwaukee Society Spring Calendar



Spring 2023

January 2023:

Archaeology Hour Watch Party:

Sunday, January 22, 2023, 2:00 pm CT, Saint John's on the Lake in the NCAC

Dr. Kara Cooney, "The Good Kings: Absolute Power in Ancient Egypt and the Modern World"

Followed by live discussion, Q&A, and refreshments

Archaeology Abridged Talk:

Thursday, January 26, 2023, at 1:00 pm CT, Zoom only

Dr. Kara Cooney, "Ramses the Great: Power and Patriarchy"

February 2023:

Archaeology Hour Watch Party:

Sunday, February 26, 2023, 2:00 pm CT, Saint John's on the Lake in the NCAC

Dr. Joan Connelly, "A Maritime Small World in Western Cyprus: Yeronisos Island, Maniki Harbor, and Cape Drepanum"

Followed by live discussion, Q&A, and refreshments

Archaeology Abridged Talk:

Thursday, February 23, 1:00 pm CT, Zoom only

Dr. Joan Connelly, "The People of Cape Drepanum, Cyprus: A Rock Cut Family Tomb of Hellenistic and Roman Date"

March 2023:

In-person Lecture:

Sunday, March 12, 3:00 pm CT, Sabin Hall, Room G90, UWM 3413 North Downer Ave, Milwaukee, 53211

Dr. Ömür Harmanshah, "Rural Landscapes, Archaeological Fieldwork, and Cultural Heritage Destruction in Turkey"

Archaeology Hour Talk, Zoom only:

Tuesday, March 14, 9:00 pm CT and Wednesday, March 15, 6:00 pm CT

Dr. David Carballo, "Collision of Worlds: An Archaeological Perspective on The Spanish Invasion of Aztec Mexico"

Archaeology Abridged Talk, Zoom only:

Thursday, March 23, 1:00 pm CT

Dr. David Carballo, "Traitors or Native Conquistadors? The Role of Tlaxcala in the Fall of Aztec Mexico"

April, 2023:

Archaeology Hour Talk, Zoom only:

Tuesday, April 18th 9:00 pm CT and Wednesday, April 19th 6 pm CT

Sara Gonzalez "With, For, And By: Doing Archaeology in a Grand Ronde Way"

Archaeology Abridged Talk, Zoom only:

Thursday, April 27th 1:00 pm CT

Sara Gonzalez "The Science of Storytelling"

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