



The Artifact

A Publication of the Archaeological Institute of America – Milwaukee Society Vol. 29 No. 1 Fall 2023

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Letter from the President,

Welcome to the Fall edition of your local AIA-Milwaukee Society's newsletter, *The Artifact*. Within these pages you will find a variety of notes highlighting upcoming lectures and events, as well as articles regarding matters of archaeological interest. As we begin our new season of lectures and events, I would first like to offer my sincere thanks to UWM Prof. Emerita Jane Waldbaum, who graciously offered to serve as our local president this past year while I was on sabbatical. Jane's leadership was especially important as we navigated a host of changes to how the AIA works at the local level; our newest event format – the “Watch Party” – was her innovation. Jane continues to act as our local society's *consigliere*, in addition to staying on our local executive board as Membership Coordinator. Thanks, Jane! Many thanks also go to our continuing leadership team. AIA-Milwaukee would not be able to maintain its vibrant programming without these volunteers. I would also like to take this time to welcome our newest members. The Milwaukee Society depends on membership dues, as all of the AIA's activities are supported by these dues. Your membership is the single-most important element for the success of our local society, its annual program of lectures, and other events.

I am very excited about the Fall 2023 AIA-Milwaukee program. Our local schedule begins on Thursday, October 19 when we welcome Prof. Sinclair Bell of Northern Illinois University. Prof. Bell will be highlighting his latest research on the intersection of race and representation in the art of the Roman empire—an important and timely topic that exemplifies recent, necessary shifts in the types of questions classical archaeologists are asking about race in antiquity, as well as the methods and approaches they are using to answer them. We are especially excited that Prof. Bell's lecture will serve as our keynote event for International Archaeology Day for 2023. In November, we are planning a field trip! Join AIA-Milwaukee as we charter a bus to the Field Museum in Chicago to see the latest blockbuster exhibition: *The First Kings of Europe*, which explores the rise to power of ancient Europe's first kings and queens in the Balkans. More details will follow as we work out the logistics and costs. Finally, in December we will hold a “Watch Party” at St. John's on the Lake. After watching Dr. Katherine Chiou deliver her virtual lecture on “Cuisine and Crisis: An Edible History of the Moche of Ancient Peru,” local host UWM Assistant Prof. of Art History an expert on Peruvian archaeology, David Pacifico, will be on hand to lead us in discussion.

In addition to programming notes, this issue of *The Artifact* treats us to an interview with Dr. Ashley Lemke, UWM's newest archaeologist in the Department of Anthropology, as well as a “Report from the Field” by AIA-Milwaukee VP Katherine Czarnecki, who highlights fieldwork at the Koshkonong Creek Village site near Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, which documents archaeological materials dating to the Oneota culture (900 CE – 1650 CE). For now, I invite you to enjoy this edition of *The Artifact* and encourage you to mark your calendars with dates of our various local events this Fall.

Yours in archaeology,
Derek B. Counts, President
AIA-Milwaukee Society



If you are a continuing member and/or if your membership is about to expire, please remember to 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.

To register for

ARCHAEOLOGY HOUR
programs, Click

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

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

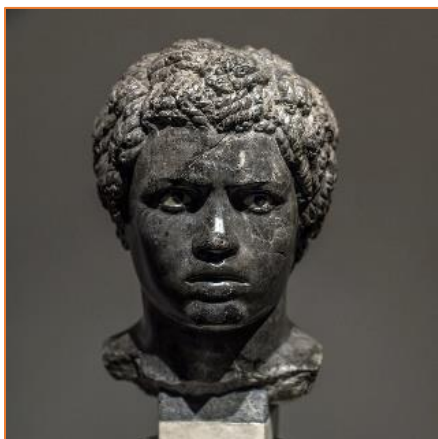
<https://www.archaeological.org/events/>

International Archaeology Day Lecture

“Race,” Racism, and Representation in Ancient Italy: Ethiopians in the Visual Arts of the Roman Empire”

In-person lecture, Thursday, October 19, 4:30 pm

Dr. Sinclair Bell, Director, Professor of Art History and Presidential Teaching Professor at Northern Illinois University, will present the AIA-Milwaukee’s International Archaeology Day Lecture.



Roman Bust

The visual and material culture of the Roman Empire provides an abundant record of encounters with or simply imaginings of foreign peoples. These images render visible complex formulations of ethnicity, social hierarchies, and power. This lecture surveys the ways in which imperial artists represented the peoples whom the Romans referred to as Ethiopians or Nubians (i.e., “Black” Africans) in a variety of visual media. The lecture also

considers how and why these works have been (mis)interpreted or sometimes altogether ignored by ancient art historians, and proposes new ways of integrating them into future, critical histories of Roman art.



Sinclair Bell is Professor of Art History and Presidential Teaching Professor at Northern Illinois University, where he teaches courses on Greek, Etruscan, and Roman art and architecture. He has excavated at sites in Italy and Tunisia and worked as a curatorial assistant at museums in Germany and Greece. He studied Classical Art & Archaeology at the universities of Oxford, Edinburgh, and Cologne, receiving his PhD in

Classics in 2004. Sinclair’s research is broadly concerned with Etruscan and Roman material culture and art, with special interests in sport and spectacle and freed slaves and foreigners. His current book project, *Aethiopians in Roman Art and Society: Visualizing Difference in a Multi-ethnic Empire*, is the subject of his lecture tonight.

For more about Dr. Bell see: <https://www.niu.edu/art/about/faculty-staff/sinclair-bell.shtml>

In-Person Lecture

“Race,” Racism, and Representation in Ancient Italy: Ethiopians in the Visual Arts of the Roman Empire”

Thursday, October 19, 4:30 pm

Lubar Hall, Room N140, UWM
3202 North Maryland Ave.
Milwaukee, 53211

Follow the link below for a campus map:
<https://apps.uwm.edu/map/locations/1978>

Masks are strongly recommended but not required in Lubar 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/>.

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

On Sunday, December 3, 2023 the AIA-Milwaukee Society and Saint John's on the Lake are teaming up to present an archaeological "watch party." The watch party will give us an opportunity to watch the video of the December Archaeology Hour presentation on Peruvian cuisine. Following that, engage in live discussion and Q&A led by David Pacifico, an Assistant Professor of Art History at UW Milwaukee and specialist in Peruvian archaeology.

We will meet at 3:00 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 this event!

The December 3rd watch party will feature the virtual lecture "Cuisine and Crisis: An Edible History of the Moche of Ancient Peru" presented by Dr. Katherine L. Chiou from the University of Alabama



Imagine stepping into the shoes of an ancient Peruvian, tasting the flavors and savoring the meals of a time long past. In this talk, we'll journey into the rich culinary history of the Moche people, who thrived along the desertic northern Peruvian coast from AD 100-800. But it's not just about what was on the plate; it's about what those meals can tell us about the lives, struggles, and joys of two very different parts of Moche society. By exploring both a grand feast preparation area and a humble commoner's home, we'll dig into what food reveals about wealth, status, and daily life during a turbulent time marked by drought and political tension. These questions and more will be served up in this delicious journey into the past. Whether you're a foodie, history buff, or simply curious about how meals connect us to our ancestors, this talk is a feast for the mind you won't want to miss.

Dr. Katherine L. Chiou, speaker, is an anthropological archaeologist and paleoethnobotanist whose research interests include foodways in the past and present, Andean archaeology, household archaeology, and plant domestication. Katie received her BA from New York University and her MA and PhD from the University of California, Berkeley and is a faculty member in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Alabama where she oversees the Ancient People and Plants Laboratory.



December Watch Party

"Cuisine and Crisis: An Edible History of the Moche of Ancient Peru"

Sunday, December 3rd 3:00 pm
Discussion to follow

Masks are optional at Saint John's on the Lake

Discussant: David Pacifico



David Pacifico is an archaeologist who researches late precolonial urban societies on the North Central Coast of Peru. He has led research at El Purgatorio and Cerro Sechin, among others. At UWM he is an assistant professor of Art History and director of the Emile H. Mathis Art Gallery and UWM Art Collection. He served as the AIA-Milwaukee Society President from 2018-2020.

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. Please RSVP to: jcw@uwm.edu



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

From the North the #30 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.



What Is International Archaeology Day?

International Archaeology Day (IAD) is a celebration of archaeology and its contributions to society. Every October the AIA and archaeological organizations around the world present archaeological programs and activities for people of all ages and interests. Whether it is a family-friendly archaeology fair, a guided tour of a local archaeological site, a simulated dig, or a presentation from a visiting archaeologist, the interactive, hands-on IAD programs provide a chance to uncover the past and experience the thrill of discovery. For more info: www.archaeologyday.org.

Virtual Lectures and Speakers, Fall 2023

September 2023, Elise A. Friedland:

Classical Washington: Greece & Rome in the Art and Architecture of DC



Elise A. Friedland is Associate Professor of Classics and Art History in the Department of Classical and Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the George Washington University. Her research focuses on Roman sculpture, especially that produced and displayed in the Roman Near East, and the role of religious statuary in cultural exchange. She has published a co-edited volume,

The Sculptural Environment of the Roman Near East: Reflections on Culture, Ideology, and Power (2008, Peeters Press) and a monograph, *The Roman Marble Sculptures from the Sanctuary of Pan at Caesarea Philippi/Panias (Israel)* (2012, ASOR's Archaeological Report Series). She is co-editor of the *Oxford Handbook of Roman Sculpture* and is currently at work on a second monograph, *Seeing the Gods: Sculptures, Sanctuaries, and the Roman Near East*. In 2013, Prof. Friedland was awarded the AIA's Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award. For the AIA, Prof. Friedland has served as President of the Central Florida Society and of the Washington, D.C. Society in addition to serving as an officer of those societies. She has also served on Lecture Program Committee, Societies Committee, and the Society Outreach Grant Subcommittee. From 2009-2013, Friedland served as Co-Chair of the Program Committee for the AIA's sister organization, the American Schools of Oriental Research.

October 2023, Anne Austin:

Ancient Ink: Discovering the Tattooed Women of Ancient Egypt

Anne Austin is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology & Archaeology at the University of Missouri—St. Louis. Her research combines the fields of osteology and Egyptology in order to better understand daily life in ancient Egypt. Specifically, she uses data from ancient Egyptian human remains and daily life texts to reconstruct ancient Egyptian health care networks and identify the diseases and illnesses people experienced in the past. While working in Egypt, Anne discovered the only known ancient Egyptian tattoos on a mummy with over 30 different tattoos. Anne's next research project will focus on the practice of tattooing in ancient Egypt and its potential connections to gender, religion, and medicine. In addition to her interests in Egyptology and osteology, Anne works on improving archaeological data management practices through her participation in an international, collaborative ethnographic research study on archaeological field schools.



SEPTEMBER

Archaeology Hour Virtual Lecture Zoom only

“Classical Washington: Greece & Rome in the Art and Architecture of DC”

**Wednesday, September 27th @ 7pm CT
Register Today**

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dp5zhsyHTaidUiNh5lnFgg#/registration

These lectures are free and open to all who are interested, but you must register for *each* of them separately

OCTOBER

Archaeology Hour Virtual Lecture, Zoom only

“Ancient Ink: Discovering the Tattooed Women of Ancient Egypt”

**Wednesday, October 18th 7:00 pm CT
Register Today**

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Emw27BLTRsqwyVheRqFMTA#/registration

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-Milwaukee Field Trip to the Field Museum in Chicago

Saturday, November 11, 2023

9 am – 5 pm

We will leave Milwaukee at 9 am and return by 5 pm

Join AIA-Milwaukee on a society-sponsored field trip to the Field Museum in Chicago to visit the latest blockbuster exhibition: *The First Kings of Europe*. A chartered bus will take care of the driving! The trip is partially subsidized by AIA-Milwaukee and a generous donation from Carthage College Archaeology Fund via AIA member, Prof. Dan Schowalter. Exact costs will be based on total number of participants. More details will follow. For now, 'Save the Date' and we will reach out with details soon.

The First Kings of Europe



Oldest gold objects in the world 4600-4400 BCE

Explore the rise to power of ancient Europe's first kings and queens and discover how once egalitarian farming communities developed power, inequity, and hierarchy for the first time. Travel back to 5000 BCE to uncover what prehistoric tools, weapons, and ritual sculptures can tell us about life in the Balkans' earliest societies. Venture through

the trade routes that shaped the world as we know it today. See the axes, swords, and crowns that turned warriors into royals and forever changed the structure of society. *First Kings of Europe* brings together the work and stories of 26 museums and 11 countries throughout southeastern Europe; the show gathers more than 700 objects (e.g., jewelry, weapons, armor, and more), which have never before been shown together. Highlights include:

- The Varna Treasure (oldest human-made gold objects created 6000+ years ago)
- Bronze Age swords and armor
- Thracian gold
- The Borovo Treasure (part of a feasting set once owned by King Kotys I)

Welcome New Members
Joined AIA-Milwaukee Society
Since February 2022

Anthony Asmuth
Leslie Martin
Jennifer McGeoghan
Adam Miller

We are very happy you joined us!

For More information about the main exhibit, click the link below:

<https://www.fieldmuseum.org/exhibitions/first-kings-europe>



Interview with Dr. Ashley Lemke:

Newest Addition to the UWM Anthropology Department

Lydia McDermott

Lydia: What are you hoping to bring to your classes, both at the graduate and undergraduate level?

Dr. Lemke: One of the things that I've always brought to the table is that I am just really excited about all things archaeology and anthropology related. I was trained as a broad four-field anthropologist. So, I am not afraid of talking to students about research projects that may not seem to be in my research purview. I am a broad thinker and enjoy engaging with problems and I think that's very important in terms of student engagement. My research interests center on hunter-gatherers, subsistence techniques, and human-environment interactions, but I've also worked on historical cemeteries, Bronze age bone tool manufacture, and prehistoric art. For me, engaging with students and their own research interests is fun and enriching. Really engaging in their research I think will be really fun.



Hands-on activities and training are really important for undergraduate and graduate students. What I have tried to do in the past, and aim to do in the future, is make research accessible. That can be problematic in archaeology as a field, but there's ways to do it. Accessible is a broad concept, I strive to make archaeology more accessible in terms of finances, travel opportunities, different means of learning, etc. My field schools have been designed to be more affordable than most and are well below the average for tuition and expenses, for example. They're shorter as well, but they're shorter on purpose so that people can attend them and not worry about taking six weeks off from work or taking eight weeks off to travel to a foreign country when they might have family obligations and or other concerns. That is something I hope to bring and continue.

I'm also interested in learning more about the UWM Anthropology program, it's a long-standing program, and I'm curious what people think is working well that I can help support and continue, as well as new avenues of research, technical training, and engagement that I can add.

Lydia: I know that you have dug in Spain and in Germany and, of course, the Galt site in Texas and you've done research into lost African American cemeteries, and bridging the generation gap, tell me more about the different excavations you engaged in, what drew you to those excavations?



Dr. Lemke: When I was in graduate school they wanted people to go and excavate at places that had nothing to do with their dissertation. Their idea was that you could go and get a broad range of experience and see how different people excavate, how different people approach the past, interpret their excavations, experience different field methods, etc.. One summer I went to Spain and Germany and France. I excavated at two different sites in Spain, really early Homo Heidelbergensis, 1.5 million years old, Lower Paleolithic, and then I dug in Spain at a Neanderthal habitation site. It's really fascinating material culture because when you're excavating you feel like you're excavating any other hunter-gatherer site, which is really neat cause you caught yourself every once in a

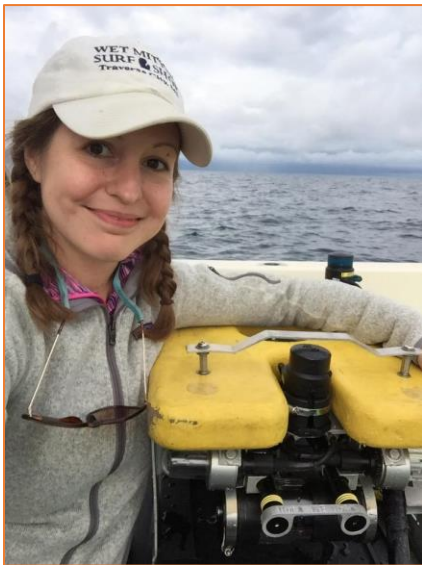
while saying oh, wait... Was their cognition different, because it doesn't really seem like it would have been different. Was their social grouping different? We were excavating beds... what the Spanish archaeologists interpreted to be beds... where Neanderthals were- sleeping mats and things. After those excavations I visited sites in France, I did Lower, Middle, and Upper Paleolithic all in one summer.

Probably the most different thing I've done: I worked in Romania at a Bronze Age site for a couple seasons. I worked at a Middle Bronze age site, kind of a hierarchical center. [We were] excavating the waxing and waning of this hierarchical center. Previously, I did a cutmark study in Alaska, and I took the methods that I had developed in that study and used them on a Bronze Age faunal assemblage. That was a good example of methods that crosscut time and different kinds of archaeological sites. A lot of those experiences are fundamental to me, from my training, just thinking about archaeology broadly.

Then the cemetery project was something that Maria Franklin at the University of Texas at Austin, [who has] worked a lot with enslaved people's archaeology [introduced me to]. I was a work-study student at the SHPO (State Historic Preservation Office) in Texas and they wanted me to digitize maps, but then CRM contractors were calling because they had found slave cemeteries. These burials were not on any of the maps, [while] older maps from the 1800s had these really clearly demarked cemeteries but [on] the USGS maps from the 1970s, the cemeteries would be gone. I started looking into that as part of my Honors Thesis as an undergraduate and then I cycled back to it two years ago, [as] this kept happening in Texas. Where I was is a big metropolitan area and there were tons of construction [and CRM firms were] finding all these cemeteries. I went back to that thesis work and published it because essentially it's a structural racism thing, where [the cemeteries] were just being ignored in mapping practices, which makes it harder for archaeologists to know they were there. [The cemeteries] were being damaged and destroyed. That work was actually cited in the African Burial Ground Act. In terms of all the research I have done, that's one that is just really relevant, informative for people making policy, which I never thought would happen so that's definitely a highlight of what I've worked on.

Lydia: You are using virtual reality to teach kids about caribou hunting? Tell me more about that.

Dr. Lemke: When I was an undergraduate I had the opportunity to go searching for submerged landscapes on a project in the Gulf of Mexico. A colleague in the lab I was working in got a grant to go look for the Clovis shoreline in the Gulf of Mexico. I lived in a boat on the Gulf of Mexico for 2 weeks and I got hooked. The technology was really fascinating, and I was really excited with the idea that we could find these very old sites. That was the first underwater project I worked on.



Dr. Lemke with Jake, her underwater robot.

But underwater can be expensive, challenging, and it's hard to explain to the public. When you're trying to explain shipwrecks, people have a frame of reference for shipwrecks. They see TV shows, or they've read magazines, or they've read *National Geographic*, or they've watched a Pirates of the Caribbean movie. When you're talking about a modern shipwreck, people have a frame of reference. But when you start talking about the Ice Age and hunter-gatherers and massive climate change, massive global water level waters level rising and all these things, people's eyes start to glaze over. For understandable reasons, but you can't just say- oh, yeah, there's 9,000-year-old caribou sites in the middle of Lake Huron. It just doesn't make any sense without a story.

One way to do public outreach actually started as a tool for us because our team found that it was a big area to cover, and we only have so much money and time. [We asked ourselves] What's a tool that can help us find archaeological sites to help target our search areas? We created (with the help of Dr. Robert Reynolds and his students at Wayne State University) a computer simulation of the ancient environment; you could spin a dial and the waters would rise and lower. You could look at this ancient landscape. So, we turned it into virtual reality [that] we, as the scientists, could enter and

look at. We realized [that] this is a really interesting engagement tool. There are many archaeological sites where you can give tours, but I can't take 20 people on a 20-foot boat in the middle of Lake Huron. So, instead you can enter virtual reality and experience the ancient landscape. Two years ago, the team and I tried it out with high school students in Alpena, Michigan.

Alpena is on the shores of this really fascinating lake, and [the students] know nothing about it. VR, fortunately, is popular with students. They get a primer on archaeology, on hunter-gatherers, on Anthropology, about caribou hunting, about indigenous subsistence practices, [and] about Native Americans. Then they use all that knowledge [to] enter virtual reality and pick where they think the sites are. They find sites, which is super cool, and then we go out on the boat and test out [their] predictions. Nobody becomes an archaeologist and thinks- you know, I really want to do virtual reality with high school kids. I never thought I would do that. But it ended up becoming this neat offshoot of research which is now engagement and STEM education, and students are really getting into it. So, just this past summer, two



Dr. Lemke ice fishing in Alaska

weeks ago, I was able to take some of the high school students out on the boat with us so they could learn how to drive the underwater robot and look at their own research site.

I went a couple of years ago to the Arctic Circle [in Alaska where] they hunt caribou. The idea is to link the high schools (in Alpena and Kotzebue, Alaska) in virtual reality so that they can be virtual pen pals, and then students who come from a different culture, even though they are all in the US, can teach each other about subsistence and ways of life, and then do it in this ancient virtual landscape, that's going to be really cool.

Lydia: You are one of the first archaeologists that we have at UWM that actually works in the Paleoindian and Archaic cultures and are an amphibious archaeologist. What do you see in the next 10 years really building your own program? How do you imagine that taking shape, what lines of research are you hoping to look into?



Dr. Lemke: I have been anxious to work with graduate students my whole career. I have always enjoyed engaging with students, and I am at the point in my career that I have many projects and opportunities to share. I can't do all these things. And I have a lot of colleagues who have all these great opportunities and I want to say yes to everything, but I can't do them all. So, I think I have a ton of connections for graduate students to build their own show with what they want to do. So, I think that's really important. And why I'm talking about the graduate student part is because that really factors into what I envision to be the 10-year plan. When I interviewed here I thought "this is the place" for me, it's going to be amazing to physically be in the area where a lot of my research is conducted I do both terrestrial and underwater archaeology, and I think that it's very important for archaeologists moving forward in the 21st century that underwater research is a part of life now, there is so much offshore wind farm development for example and there are very few people working underwater on precontact/prehistoric time periods, including the Paleoindian time period. There's a huge economic and employment opportunity for students who can work on both sides of the water line. Those are opportunities that people can seize, and I can help them seize them. A lot of the models that we have about lifeways at the end of the last Ice Age are probably incomplete at best, and inaccurate at worst, because we haven't ever looked at the whole available landscape; peoples in the past lived on many landscapes that are now submerged, in the Great Lakes, but all over the world. Which means we haven't had the whole cadre of sites, right? Imagine trying to study state formation in the Maya area, but you're only looking at ritual centers or villages. That's what it's like working in time periods of lower water levels but only looking on land. I see the research trajectories going hand in hand, half terrestrial and half underwater. I think all of these things are doors of opportunity that have been flung open. Being here and building on the very strong Midwest/Great Lakes history of the program and then extending that in new and different ways.

Lydia: It sounds like your 10-year plan is to build a new avenue in UWM in which you can utilize the connections you already have and to push forward a new generation of terrestrial and underwater archaeologists.

Dr. Lemke: Yes! I have CRM firms contacting me all the time for names of people who can do this kind of work. Really, a lot of underwater archaeology is doing geophysical survey, it just happens to be under water. Those are skills people can learn and the Great Lakes is a perfect place to do it.

Lydia: Is there anything that you want to share with the AIA community that you think is important?

Dr. Lemke: Everywhere I've lived and done archaeology I've always worked with the local societies. If there's anybody in the community that's curious and wants more archaeology engagement, reach out (ashlemke@uwm.edu) if they want to work in the lab, if they want to work with collections. When I start to work on projects and field schools I'm always happy to have people come and participate and visit and ask questions. I am happy to help with anything AIA-Milwaukee needs, and if members are curious about getting more experience, I am happy to talk to them.

Want to connect with Dr. Lemke? Email her at ashlemke@uwm.edu

Summer Field School at Koshkonong Creek Village

Kathrine Czarnezki



Oneota ceramics, photo by author

The UWM Anthropology Department organized a six-week archaeological field school centered around the Koshkonong Creek Village (KCV) site near Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. The program, a twenty-five-year partnership with local farmers, focused on instructing students on how to document, analyze, and safeguard archaeological materials dating to the Oneota culture (900 CE – 1650 CE). The course, directed by Dr. Richard Edwards from UWM's Cultural Resource Management and Archaeological Research Laboratory, catered to a diverse cohort of twenty undergraduate and graduate students. Students were instructed in elements of both academic and rescue archaeology practices.

Archaeological fields schools prepare students in practical techniques relevant to cultural heritage conservation. The lessons interweave elements of practical experience, theoretical knowledge, and the methodologies of excavation and interpretation. Taking place outside of the classroom, this type of practical experience is an invaluable lesson. Individuals must understand the physical demands on the body (temperatures, terrain, manual labor) and the tactile nature of excavation and artifact handling. The

importance of documentation to preserve provenience is also stressed: archaeology is a destructive science, meaning once a site is excavated, the material is permanently disturbed, and the site cannot be recreated. Excavation must occur systematically.

At Lake Koshkonong, students received instruction in various survey techniques commonly employed by CRM professionals to assess the presence of archaeological sites. These surveys can take different forms. Upon mastering the skills of measuring twenty-meter increments via pace and utilizing a compass, they engaged in pedestrian walkover surveys (referred to as “ped”). In this type of survey, individuals spread out in 10-meter intervals and traversed farmer’s field, making the locations of artifacts with flags. These artifacts were subsequently documented using a GPS transmitter and later collected for further analysis. The primary goal was to identify clusters of artifacts that could signify the presence of an archaeological site, which would then be recorded for future excavations.

Additionally, students were trained in the execution of shovel test pits, where holes were dug at fifteen-meter intervals along a transect. The soil excavated from these pits was carefully screened for artifacts. The color is recorded with the Munsell color chart. A test pit was considered “positive” if it yielded artifacts. Empty test pits are deemed “sterile.” Comprehensive records of these activities were maintained through paperwork, field journals, and the use of GPS units.

During the excavation phase, students were assigned to work on both excavation units and archaeological features. They functioned as part of a team, operating within an organized grid pattern and under the supervision of two crew chiefs (teaching assistants). In this hands-on experience, students acquired the skills to differentiate the “plow-zone,” a disturbed layer of material. They learned to recognize various elements, including plant and animal



Madison point recovered during survey.
Photo by author

remains, ceramics, and lithic materials. The students meticulously documented each stage of the excavation process and created detailed maps of both their excavation units and archaeological features, precisely marking the positions of artifacts within the excavated matrices.

Another important tenet of a field school is learning laboratory processes. During July 2023, there were several days in which the wildfires from Canada severely impacted the air quality surrounding the site. Working outside in those conditions was unsafe, and students instead received instruction in Sabin Hall, home of UWM's Anthropology Department. Students learned how to sort, count, and weigh archaeological material there. They saw a demonstration of how flotation machines operate to sort pollen and other tiny pieces of floral remains from soil samples. Students also learned how to wash artifacts, organize an archaeological research facility, and navigate this new set of paperwork—the time spent in Sabin cemented how an hour in the field becomes three in the lab.

The Hoard Museum was another location that served as a refuge. Here, Dr. Edwards, his teaching assistants, and the museum staff illuminated the profound connection between field schools, cultural preservation, and historical narration. They emphasized the crucial principles of ethics and stewardship. In addition to adhering strictly to state laws and established procedures, it is important that archaeologists communicate with stakeholders, especially those representing marginalized and descendant communities. It was emphasized that archaeologists bear a responsibility to serve the public and publish their findings. Students were instructed on the significance of establishing clear provenance and provenience when museums or collections acquire objects for collections.



An uncommon find- pot handle.
Photo by author.



Hearth or Earth Oven. Photo by Author

At the museum, students could see how information about the Oneota is displayed to the public. "Oneota" is an archaeological culture rather than an ethnographic one, meaning it is unknown how the individual tribes between 900 CE – 1650 CE would have referred to themselves. Students had the opportunity to engage with displays and analyze how ancient lifeways were interpreted and presented to the public. Students were critical of older sections of the collection assembled in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries that displayed artifacts in an antiquarian fashion rather than following modern museum practice. The museum includes these pieces as a critical commentary on the field's history, collecting, and display. It impresses upon visitors the importance of scientific archaeological representation.

Field schools also foster personal growth and collaboration. Students can gain confidence over six weeks, putting into practice what is only read about in a classroom setting. Their familiarity with physical labor and artifact identification increased as their daily routines became well-established. It is an important skill to compromise and work efficiently with others who may have different

skill sets and backgrounds. Some students find they are exceedingly talented in archaeological illustration; others take to troweling, while others still create detailed maps. Their peers are likely future co-workers and represent future networks of archaeological professionals. A field school is also a valuable experience in that, after completion, students can work in CRM firms. Most archaeologists in the United States spend a significant portion

of their career employed in this sector conducting rescue archaeology (making sure a road isn't expanding over burials or through a site of historic significance, for example).

Field schools are an essential aspect of archaeological education. They connect theoretical learning and practical education. Students build their skillsets and appreciation of the archaeological process. They are allowed to contribute to the work of future researchers and participate in cultural preservation. For educators, the process is gratifying; instructors watch their students grow into future archaeological professionals.

AIA-Milwaukee Society Fall Calendar



Fall 2023

September 2023:

Archaeology Hour Talk, Zoom only:

Wednesday, September 27th 7:00 pm CT

Dr. Elise A. Friedland, "Classical Washington: Greece & Rome in the Art and Architecture of DC"

October 2023:

Archaeology Hour Talk, Zoom only:

Wednesday, October 18th 7:00 pm CT

Dr. Anne Austin, "Ancient Ink: Discovering the Tattooed Women of Ancient Egypt"

AIA-Milwaukee In-person Lecture:

Thursday, October 19, 4:30 pm CT, Lubar Hall, Room N140, UWM 3202 North Maryland Ave.

Dr. Sinclair Bell, "Rural Landscapes, Archaeological Fieldwork, and Cultural Heritage Destruction in Turkey"

November 2023:

AIA-Milwaukee Field Trip to the Field Museum in Chicago

Saturday, November 11, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm CT

The First Kings of Europe Exhibit

Archaeology Hour Talk, Zoom only:

Wednesday, November 15, 7:00 pm CT

Dr. Katherine L. Chiou, "Cuisine and Crisis: An Edible History of the Moche of Ancient Peru"

December 2023:

AIA-Milwaukee Archaeology Hour Watch Party:

Sunday, December 3, 3:00 pm CT, Saint John's on the Lake in the NCAC

Dr. Katherine L. Chiou, "Cuisine and Crisis: An Edible History of the Moche of Ancient Peru"
Followed by live discussion, Q&A, and refreshments

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