



The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc. Newsletter Winter 2023-24

President's Message: Hello SPA!

It's hard to believe that we've reached the end of 2023. I hope that it was a safe and productive year for all.

SPA had a great 2023, capped by a well-attended annual meeting in Dubois and a wonderful summer bus tour – The Archaeology of Civil War Battlefields and Sites. I extend a hearty thank you to the SPA Annual Meeting Committee, SPA Board of Directors, North Fork Chapter 29, Program Chair, Poster Session Chair, sponsors, volunteers, presenters, and attendees for the support and hard work that ensured a successful annual meeting. Also, sincere thanks to Sarah Neusius and John Nass for organizing the bus tour and making it a marquee SPA experience. My apologies to anyone I missed that contributed to either event – thank you.

To build on the momentum of 2023, I'd like to issue a challenge to the membership for 2024: let's grow SPA. The success of an organization is due to its vitality, and that vitality is driven in large part by the size and diversity of an engaged membership. There are many ways to grow an organization but may I suggest three simple ones each of us can do to grow SPA:

- Bring a neighbor, friend or relative to an SPA chapter meeting or event;
- Present a paper at the SPA Annual Meeting and share your work in Pennsylvania archaeology with a broader audience;
- Encourage a student to present a poster at the SPA Annual Meeting. Meeting registration will again be free for students in 2024.

Together we can make SPA a stronger and more vibrant organization, extending the legacy that began in 1929. Let's make it so!

Yours in archaeology,
Chuck Williams

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SPA'S 2024 FIELD TRIP: THE OHIO MOUNDS AND THEIR PRESERVATION



Mark your calendars for the 2024 SPA Field Trip which will be a return to Ohio to view important mound and earthwork sites. Our very first SPA field trip also took in the Ohio mounds, but this trip was missed by some, and it also was in 2015 before many of the Hopewell sites were designated World Heritage sites. Besides visiting many of the mounds, we will explore the issues surrounding the preservation of Adena and Hopewell sites. The dates for the trip will be from the night of June 14 through June 17, so please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

We have also discussed the rising costs of our field trips with the SPA board, and even the possibility of ending the field trip program. Post-pandemic bus fees and hotel costs now make it difficult to keep the costs as low as we believe we need to in order not to price many of our members out. The sense we got from the board was that the annual field trip has been so positive for those participating that we need to continue it by exploring new formats that would make it possible for more members to be included. One specific suggestion was to find centralized locations or bases from which members could carpool to the sites we are viewing. We did this during our first two post-pandemic mini-field trips with some success. This year's Ohio mounds trip is perfect for such an approach, so we have made it this year's plan. In this way we will totally cut the bus fees, and this will significantly reduce the costs. Stay tuned for more details in the Spring Newsletter.

I also want to mention that there has been continued talk among some of the field trip participants about trying a much more ambitious trip to the Northern Southwest. Such a trip would be a whole different undertaking. It might take place at another time of the year, last longer, and surely would involve air travel as well as significantly more expense. It would also be tremendous fun! I do have ideas about doing this with Crow Canyon Archaeological Center (<https://crowcanyon.org/>) where I have contacts from our time doing archaeology in the Four Corners. However, to pursue this, I would need a list of 10-12 probable participants that

could be added to once a trip was planned, and a sense of whether the Fall or the Spring would be preferable. Of course, this would not be a final commitment, but please email me at sraahneusius@gmail.com if you are interested in being on such a list. If I get enough responses, I will explore further.

Excavations at the site of a 19th century tavern, Fayette County.

What constitutes a tavern or an inn in the early 19th century is confusing because all manner of structures could be called either a tavern or an inn? The Greene Tree Tavern Stand in Menallen Township, Fayette County, is one example of the rest stops built along the National Road in the early 1800s to service private and commercial travelers. Inns such as the Compass Inn in Westmoreland County, the Jean Boneau Tavern near Bedford and the Century Inn in Washington County were known stagecoach stops and passengers would have been wealthier, more affluent travelers. These upper-class travelers would have expected more refined accommodations and meals.

Beneath these “Hiltons” of the day were the more traditional taverns who catered to travelers and working class folks. Those traveling on foot or by horse and families moving west on the National Road would have sought the services of these establishments. Charles Fenno Hoffman describes such a meal he had eaten in a tavern, ‘The fare consisted of hot rolls, tea, large pieces of pork swimming in its gravy, and a plate of noble potatoes, that pulverized when you touched them’ (Braden & Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village., 1988, p. 15).

Beneath these were the tavern stands, the truck plazas or “Loves” of the 19th century. Tavern stands catered to wagoners and drovers, but also those traveling on foot or by horse. Wagoners were professional drivers for hire who hauled goods – the truck drivers of their time – and they were the most common traveler on the National Road at that time. At a tavern or wagon stand you might be more likely to find a simpler meal similar to that described above.

What types of artifacts can we expect to find at taverns and tavern stands such as the Green Tree? Since families often lived in these structures, what separates a tavern from a farmstead of the same time? Dr. Ronn Michael sought to answer this question by conducting excavations at both the Peter Colley Tavern in 1970 and later at the Searight Tavern in 1972-1973. He thought excavation recover evidence of sets of dishes rather than single pieces, indicative of a wealthy family. Dr. Michael also thought they may find larger quantities of pipe fragments, mug and pitcher sherds, along with sherds from large serving dishes would be found as well, reflecting the service function of these establishments (Michael & Carlisle, 1976). Dr. Michael found that the expected large quantity of pipe fragments, barroom ceramics, and family style food serving dishes were missing, and concluded the ceramics found at these two sites differed very little from what you would find at a typical 19th century farmstead (Michael, 1973).

At the time of Dr. Michael’s excavations, both of the main structures were still standing. When excavation started in May, 2019, the site of the proposed tavern was simply a grassy area between a cornfield and US. 40. After an area was cleared of weeds and tall grass, large granite rocks and limestone pieces were visible at the surface. A N-S baseline was established and



a grid of 2m² units established. Initial excavation began where a noticeable rise or swell in the surface was visibly suggestive of a possible chimney fall. Excavation confirmed the existence of a dense concentration of cut stone and limestone rubble, but not in the form of a chimney base. Continued excavation has revealed a small, multilayered, cut limestone foundation

1.88 m by 3 m (7 ft by 10 ft) in size. The rectangular pattern has a disjointed, cut limestone floor. The rectangular foundation is visible in this image of the excavation block (foundation denoted by red circle).

In addition to the rectangular foundation, excavation has identified sections of dry laid stone foundation with associated builders trenches, stone lined postholes, and a portion



of a flagstone floor (see drawing). Also present is an immense, artifact rich, sheet midden that covered most of the excavation block. In 2023, this year, we discovered a section of another stone foundation that appears to contain a cellar. The remains have yet to be drawn onto the site base map.

In addition to Mon-Yough Chapter members, several students from California University of Pennsylvania have assisted with the excavation over the past five years. Our most recent volunteer was Sara



Moses who posed for a picture while shovel shaving at the tavern site.

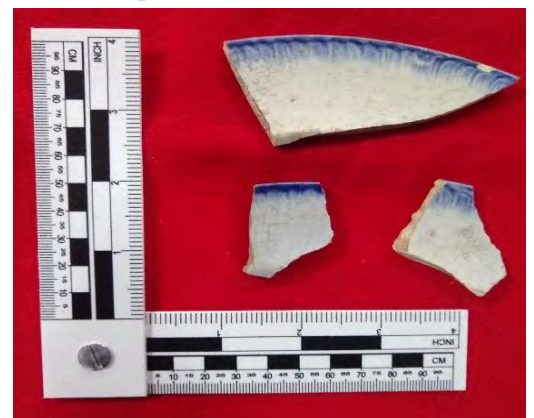
Excavation of over 70 m² has recovered several thousand artifacts in the form of faunal remains, clothing items, metal, glass, and copious ceramic sherds. The following types of ceramic have been identified: utilitarian salt glazed stoneware and Redware representing a variety of vessel shapes. Pearlware is represented by both hand painted and transfer printed patterns on plates, platters, and bowls. Also common are blue edge Pearlware plates.

Whiteware is represented by both green and blue-edged decorated vessels, hand painted dishes, transfer vessels in a variety of colors, spatter and sponge decorated. Yellowware and examples of both molded and plain Ironstone were also found.



Hand painted Pearlware tea cup.

Several examples of cutlery and hand-blown glassware have been found. Among the glassware is a hand-blown glass decanter and matching tumblers produced at the New Geneva Glassworks. The glass factory was part of an industrial community financed by Albert Gallatin at New Geneva. The **glassworks** produced window glass, bottles, decanters and other items between 1828 and 1847.



Activities are represented by slate pencils, brass sewing thimbles, smoking pipes, and parts from harmonicas. Children's toys are represented by ceramic doll parts, stone and glass marbles. Clothing is represented by dozens of various types of shell, bone, glass and brass button, and clothing hooks.



Excavation will continue in 2024. Our effort will focus on the new structure found in 2023 that could be Hand blown glass decanter and tumbler the actual tavern. One end of the structure appears to have a filled-in cellar. The foundation is dried laid stone and is suggestive of a log structure. When the summer field schedule is finalized, it will be uploaded to the SPA website and will be made available on the chapter's website and Facebook page.



Volunteers are welcome. Please contact John Nass via email at nass81@breezeline.net.

John Nass
Mon-Yough Chapter #3

Examples of Buttons.

Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) will offer an Archaeological Field School this summer from May 20 to June 28, 2024, at the National Register listed site of Squirrel Hill (36Wm0035), located in New Florence, Pennsylvania.

The 2016 and 2022 archaeological field schools confirmed the presence of a Johnston-phase occupation (ca. 1590 A.D.), revealed at least two earlier potential cultural components (ca. 1300 A.D. and 400 A.D.), and demonstrated that the actual site boundaries extend beyond the current Archaeological Conservancy’s landholdings. Excavations also indicated that occupation of the site was more complex than initially believed. Of particular interest, ground penetrating radar identified a large rectangular structure significantly different in both size and shape from typical Monongahela domestic structures. This summer’s field school will focus on clarifying the nature of the pre-Johnston Phase occupations, determining how large the site was, finding the central plaza and/or site stockade; and ground-truthing the rectangular structure identified in 2016.



The field school will combine traditional excavation techniques with geophysical survey, shovel testing, and soil coring. Three courses are offered: 1) ANTH 320 (6 cr.), designed for undergraduates; 2) ANTH 520 (6 cr.), designed for graduate students with minimal or no previous experience; and 3) ANTH 740 (4 cr.), designed for advanced graduate students seeking supervisory experience. ANTH 740 students will design an independent research objective and supervise a small crew of undergraduate students to address their research question. Class will run Monday through Friday, 8:00am through 5:00pm. Transportation to and from the site will be provided by IUP, with rides leaving from McElhaney Hall. Housing is available through the IUP Office of Housing & Residence Life, or can be obtained individually in town.

Photograph caption 1: Students from Indiana University of Pennsylvania (left) and California University of Pennsylvania (right) smile from their unit at the 2016 IUP archaeological field school.

A Public Archaeology Day is being planned for those who wish to see the site (and get their hands dirty!) but not register for the entire course. For more information or an application, please contact Lara Homsey-Messer (lmesser@iup.edu), Bill Chadwick (wchadwic@iup.edu), or call the IUP Department of Anthropology at 724-357-2841. Additional information on previous Squirrel Hill excavations can be found at <https://www.iup.edu/anthropology/research/excavations-at-the-late-monongahela-squirrel-hill-site/>.



Photograph caption 2: Using ground penetrating radar at the 2016 IUP archaeological field school.

Underwater Cultural Resource Management Field School in Lake Erie

Until approximately 4,000 years ago, Lake Erie was lower than it is today, leaving large swaths of the modern lake bottom open for habitation. During earlier times, the lake basin contained two smaller lakes connected by a wetland and stream. This mixture of environments would have been attractive to humans, and the quick filling of the basin likely preserved sites in situ. By combining marine remote sensing, geoarchaeology, and Indigenous knowledge, we will identify areas on the lake floor that likely contain submerged habitation sites.

This field school employs a Cultural Resource Management (CRM) approach. CRM, the legally required management and protection of our shared heritage, requires archaeologists to do more than just archaeology. CRM requires an understanding of legal frameworks, professional ethics, consultation, and project management. Conducting CRM in an underwater environment also requires specialized skills in marine remote sensing, landscape reconstruction, and, occasionally, SCUBA diving. This field school teaches the skills of underwater Cultural Resource Management through research on the submerged landscapes of Lake Erie. This program will not focus on shipwrecks (the more academic side of marine archaeology) but on understanding submerged landscape as this is the mainstay of Marine CRM work and where the greatest need for trained marine CRM professionals is. The skills taught in this course are similar to those employed in CRM to identify sites prior to offshore energy (wind, oil, and gas) development. This course is appropriate for students interested in both Cultural Resource Management and traditional academic archaeology in an underwater environment.

This field school is offered through the Center for Field Sciences.

Dates: July 14 to August 10

Location: Erie, PA

Instructors: Ben Ford (Indiana University of Pennsylvania), Joe Stahlman (Seneca Nation of Indians), and Jessi Halligan (Texas A&M University)

Tuition: \$4810 (includes 8 semester credits)

For more information and to enroll: <https://www.fieldsciences.org/program/2024-us-pa-lake-erie/>

Celebrating Archaeology Month 2023

MEADOWCROFT FALL ARCHAEOLOGY WORKSHOP

The fall workshop was held on Saturday, October 7. This year's theme explored the way(s) individuals and groups use material culture, architecture, and space such as landscapes and perishable expressions, to set us apart, as well as uniting us. Examples of material culture used to express identity and found archaeologically include carvings, textiles, pottery, petroglyphs and structures. Perishable examples include hairstyles, tattoos, and clothing.

Participants for the year's workshop were **Dr. Brian Redmond**, Curator Emeritus of Archaeology, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; **Dr. Amy Hirshman**, Associate Professor, West Virginia University; and **Dr. Jonathan Burns**, Associate Professor, Juniata College. Workshop co-organized **Dr. John Nass** introduced the guest speakers, served as moderator, and provided an introduction to the workshop theme of individual and group identity.

Dr. Redmond discussed stone pipes and pottery styles associated with the Whittlesey and Sandusky traditions of northern Ohio along the southern shore of Lake Erie, and how these may tell us about territoriality, interregional and intraregional exchange, and ethnic identity.

Dr. Hirshman shared her research regarding the Late Postclassic Tarascan State from Western Mexico. Dr. Hirshman focused her discussion on ethnicity, class, and gender, and how these are expressed in the emergency of the state, state identity, class formation, and the daily lives of some of the citizens of this political entity.

Dr. Burns talked about the construction and maintenance of identity during the 18th century using items of personal adornment – such as buttons, charms, and watch keys – from Pennsylvania's frontier fortifications built by British military forces during the French and Indian War. According to Dr. Burns, such mundane artifacts inform us about group identity (military), as well as particulars about individuals within the military.

Overall attendance this year was down, but there were two groups of students in attendance from Penn State main campus and from Indiana University. Extra activities included artifact identification by members of the Mon-Yough chapter, a weaving demonstration by Lourie Stewart, flint knapping by Steven Nissly, and a contingent from the State Historic Preservation Office who helped individuals record undocumented archaeological sites.

Box lunches were provided by the Springhouse restaurant. Those attending the workshop were also treated to a tour of the Meadowcroft Shelter at the end of the workshop.

Submitted by John Nass, Jr.

The State Museum of Pennsylvania Annual Workshops in Archaeology

The annual Workshops in Archaeology program was held at The State Museum of Pennsylvania on October 28, 2023. The theme for 2023 was *Discovering the Past: The Sciences of Archaeology*, with a panel of speakers comprised of experts in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Carbon 14 dating, Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey, geoarchaeology, and soil analysis.



The morning sessions were kicked off with opening remarks by two new PHMC staff, Angelica Docog, Director of the State Museum and anthropologist by training, and Paul Nasca, the new Senior Curator of the Section of Archaeology. The first speaker was the State Historic Preservation Office's (SHPO) Archaeological Site Survey Coordinator Taylor Napoleon, who spoke on the use of the PA State Historic and Archaeological Resource Exchange (PA-SHARE) online system to record and update site information. Brendan Culleton, Ph.D., a researcher at Penn State University (PSU), discussed his work with the university's Accelerator Mass Spectrometer (AMS) and its capabilities in radiocarbon dating archaeological materials. Heather Wholey, Ph.D., a professor in West Chester University's anthropology program, spoke on GPR and its uses in archaeological fieldwork. The morning was rounded out with

a presentation on geoarchaeology by Joseph Schuldenrein, Ph.D., with examples of projects from Pennsylvania and around the world.

The afternoon sessions began with a presentation from PSU researcher Thomas Harper, Ph.D., on rockshelter sites and how high-tech analyses of these sites can affect our understanding of broader archaeological topics. Lithic technologist Jack Cresson took an in-depth look at how stone artifacts were made and used and how this improves our understanding of artifact function. The last two presentations of the day were by PSU researchers Jose Capriles, Ph.D., and Alejandra Domic, Ph.D. Mr. Capriles discussed human interaction with the environment over the last 13,000 years and how it has shaped the modern Pennsylvania ecology while Ms. Domic spoke on the archaeological evidence of crop domestication in the new world and its spread to the United States. An engaging Q & A session with the speakers rounded out the formal portion of the day, followed by light refreshments.

As in former years, flintknapper Steve Nissly demonstrated his amazing talent at stone tool production and our colleagues from the PA SHPO, including Noel Stratton, Casey Hanson, Justin McKeel, Sarah-Ladd Manley, and Kristen Walczesky assisted with instruction on PA-SHARE, site recordation, and artifact identification.

2024 Keystone Internship Opportunity in the Section of Archaeology

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission is pleased to announce its postings for **Summer 2024 Keystone Internships at The State Museum of Pennsylvania**, The Pennsylvania State Archives, The State Historic Preservation Office, and The Bureau of Historic Sites and Museums. The Section of Archaeology intern will acquire hands-on experience working with artifacts from an important historic site in Philadelphia. The intern will learn how to use the PA-SHARE geographic information system for recording archaeological sites, develop curation skills, learn museum practices and procedures, and assist the archaeology curators.

The Section of Archaeology internship is open to students who are enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program for the Summer or Fall 2024 academic term and who are working toward a degree in Archaeology, Anthropology, Museum Studies, or a related field. Closing date for applications is February 2, 2024.



For more information on the Section of Archaeology internship, please visit

www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pabureau/jobs/4284910/keystone-internship-state-museum-of-pennsylvania-college?page=3&pagetype=transferJobs or scan the QR code below.

Save the Date! - 2024 Annual Workshops in Archaeology

*State Museum of Pennsylvania,
300 North Street, Harrisburg
October 2024*

The theme of this year's program for the workshops has not yet been decided but will center on an important aspect of Pennsylvania's diverse and interesting archaeological past. The workshops will be held in conjunction with the PAC Fall Business Meeting, which will be held at The State Museum. The date for the workshops will be announced in the coming months. Stay tuned!

The Section of Archaeology is Open for In-Person Visits

The Section of Archaeology is now open for scholarly research in our labs and offices and for deliveries of collections. Please contact Paul Nasca at pnasca@pa.gov for more information or to set up an appointment for research or collection delivery.

News from the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (PA SHPO)

After 35 years of service, **Noël Strattan** is retiring from the PA SHPO. Over the course of her time, Noël has served in many roles including archaeological reviewer, PASS Coordinator, and CRGIS Administrator. In her final role, Noël served as the PA-SHARE Administrator and played a key role in the planning, development, and implementation of PA-SHARE- the PA SHPO's online data management and cultural resource GIS tool that is the primary interface for all program areas within the SHPO. Noël's expert knowledge of Pennsylvania archaeology and extensive data management experience has made her an invaluable asset to the SHPO team. Please join us in wishing Noël a happy, healthy, and very well-deserved retirement!



SPA Note: *Noël has served the Society during her working career and prior. She has been a long time member, serving on committees and as an officer in several chapters throughout the years. We wish her a happy retirement and hope that she will continue to lend her expertise and energy to the Society in the future. **Congratulations and best wishes Noël!***

PHMC Keystone Internships

The PHMC has officially posted the [2024 Keystone Summer Internships!](https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pabureau/jobs/4284590/keystone-internship-state-historic-preservation-office-archaeology-college?page=3&pagetype=transferJobs) This year the PA SHPO is offering an internship with the Archaeology section of our Environmental Review division. The intern will work with PA SHPO staff to make geomorphology survey data more accessible to professional archaeologists, learn how to record archaeological sites, and conduct archaeological site and project field views. For the full posting, please visit:

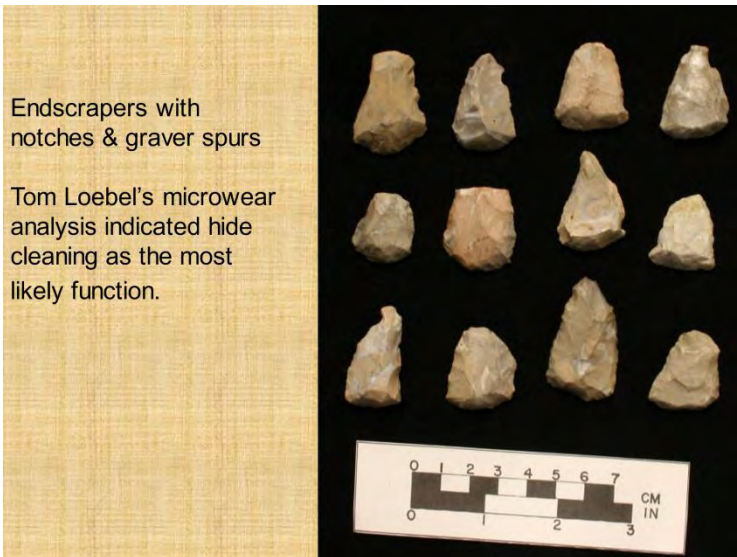
<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pabureau/jobs/4284590/keystone-internship-state-historic-preservation-office-archaeology-college?page=3&pagetype=transferJobs>.

The internships will be between 225-300 hours and last 10 weeks between May 13, 2024 and August 23, 2024. Students enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program are eligible to apply. **The deadline to apply is February 2, 2024.**

An update on recent test excavations at the Shoop Paleoindian site: preliminary thoughts concerning site function, chronology, and community patterning.

by Kurt W. Carr, Joseph P. Vitolo, Robert Ronngren, Sharon McDonald, Kim Sebestyen, and Brian Harrison,

John Witthoft published the first substantial report on the Shoop site (36Da20), over 70 years ago in 1952. He described the site as an early Paleoindian overlook, hunting, and processing camp. He identified the Onondaga chert quarries of western New York, located 350 km to the north as the source of 98% of the artifacts. This has since been confirmed by XRF (x-ray fluorescence) analysis conducted by Christine Rieth (2013) and thin section analysis by Frank Vento (Carr *et al.* 2020). The site covers over 15 hectares (38 acres) but consists of 11 to 19 separate concentrations. There are very few artifacts from later time periods and this site is thought to be a single component manifestation, covering a limited number of visits during a relatively short time frame within



the Paleoindian period. It is the largest Paleoindian site in Pennsylvania and one of the largest non-quarry sites in the Middle Atlantic region. Although the quantity of artifacts has grown to over 9200 including approximately 2100 tools, the nature of the individual concentrations has not been systemically determined. Do these represent separate visits by extended families as part of the seasonal round as suggested by Witthoft or do these concentrations represent different activity areas from a more limited number of visits by a large social group or is this a single event meeting place for several larger social units. Most agree with Witthoft's assessment that

hunting, animal processing, and hide scraping are the most common activities. This has been reinforced over the decades by surface collecting that has resulted in over 100 fluted points, over 500 endscrapers, 260 side scrapers, 200 bifacial tools, 140 wedges, over .650 utilized and retouched flakes, and over 7000 pieces of debitage. Caribou or elk are frequently considered the focus of these activities but there is no faunal remains to support this scenario.

The site has not been dated radiometrically and dating is based on the fluted projectile points. The fluted point assemblage contains a wide variety of shapes and at first glance they could reflect fluted point types from the entire Paleoindian era. Most of the points are characterized as having short flutes, and are generally parallel sided, characteristics of the Clovis type. However, as noted



by Carr *et al.* (2013) and Cox (1986), the base is generally more concave than the Clovis type and, in some specimens, the maximum width is slightly above the flute. These are not characteristics of the Clovis type, so the conclusion is that the points date slightly after Clovis and that the variety of shapes are a reflection of resharpening during the 350 km trip between the Shoop site and the Onondaga chert quarries in western New York.

Environmental Setting

The Shoop site is situated in the Ridge and Valley physiographic zone, approximately 10.5 km (6.5 miles) east of the Susquehanna River, in an

upland valley. Upland settings in the Ridge and Valley are an unusual location for Paleoindian sites as less than 10% of sites from this era are found in this setting (Carr 2018; Carr and Adovasio 2013 and 2020). The site is near the base of the north facing slope of Dividing Ridge that separates the Armstrong drainage to the north from the Powell's Creek drainage to the south. There is a perennial spring along the southeastern edge of the site and a first order stream, Conley's Creek, is situated just north of the site at the bottom of a steep slope although no artifacts have yet to be recovered from either of these specific locations.

Fieldwork

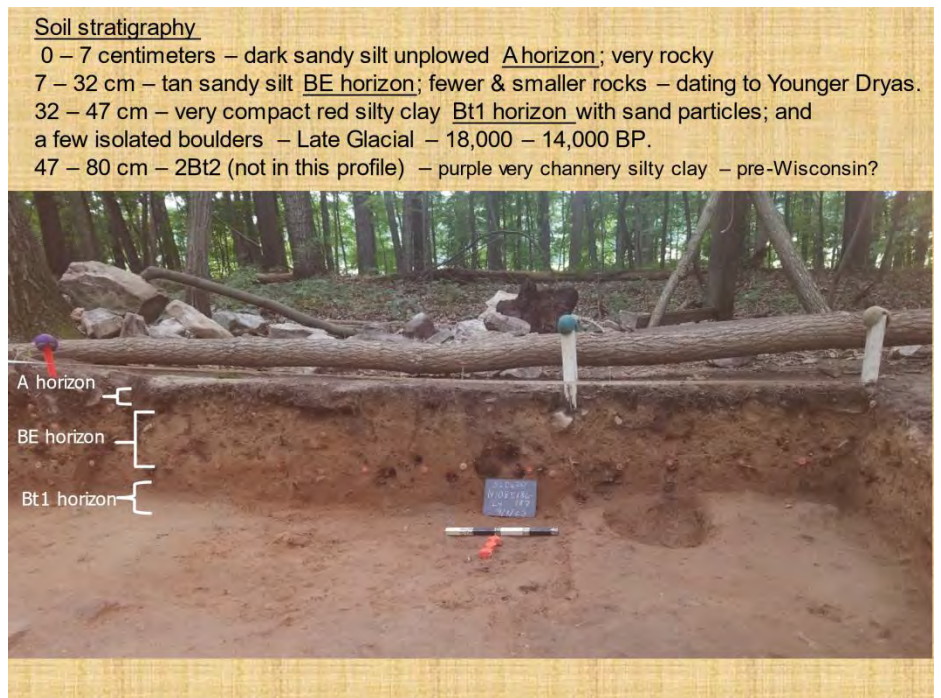
The current investigation was initiated in 2021. The research goals are to investigate community patterning and chronology. The field work focused on a wood lot at the south end of the site that, based on aerial photographs, has not been plowed in over 90 years (and our field work has demonstrated that there is no evidence for plowing). If the site has never been plowed there is a greater chance of identifying charcoal features for dating and the distribution of artifacts will be less disturbed and more amenable to the analysis of artifact patterning. Just as important, twenty years ago, the ridge overlooking the site was farmland and now it is a housing development so negative impacts to the site are a real possibility.

The 2021 field investigation began with systematic testing in the wood lot along a colluvial terrace near the bottom of Dividing Ridge at the south end of the site. This produced only one cluster of artifacts that was designated the Miller Locus after the property owner. In 2022, the area was expanded into a block excavation measuring 3 meters by 6 meters. Units were excavated in 10-centimeter arbitrary levels within stratigraphic units and the soil was double screened using $\frac{1}{4}$ followed by $\frac{1}{8}$ inch screens.

Although the use of $\frac{1}{8}$ screening requires more time, it has allowed us to identify minority lithic material types and we expect a more nuanced view of lithic reduction techniques. More importantly, one of the main goals of this project is to investigate community patterning and the use of $\frac{1}{8}$ screening is a more accurate identification of activity areas and human behavior.

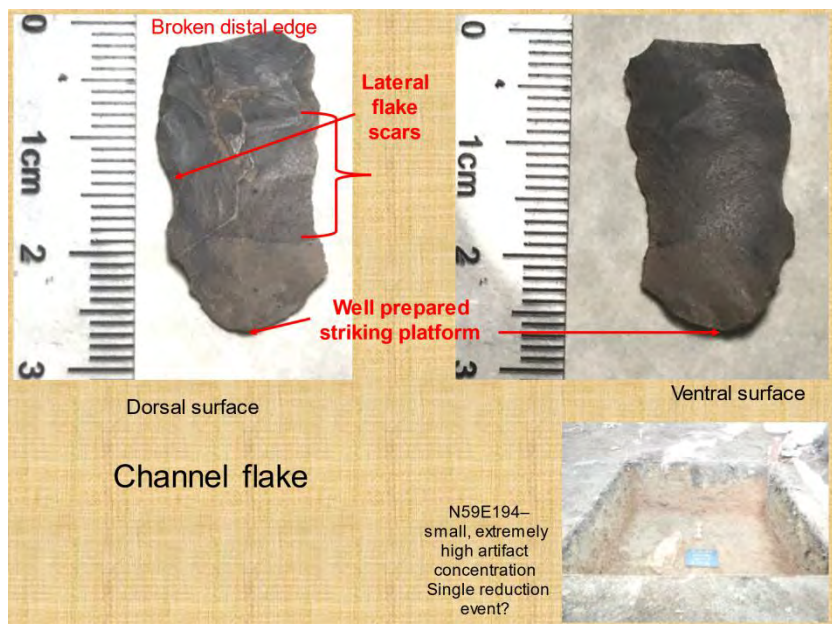
A total of 18 units have been completed down through Level 4 resulting in the recovery of over 2000 artifacts. The excavation seems to cut through the middle of an activity area with artifact densities increasing to the north and decreasing to the east and west. Soil scientists John Wah, Dan Wagner, and John Stiteler each visited the site for one day. They identified the three soil horizons – 1) a dark, thin, unplowed A horizon measuring to a depth of 7 centimeters (although Dan believes it has been plowed), 2) a tan BE horizon from 7 to 40 centimeters and 3) a reddish brown Bt1 horizon beginning at 40 cm below the surface. The landform on which the site is situated extends another 1.6 meters below the current floor and is the result of a series of colluvial deposits dating to at least pre-Wisconsin/Sangamon times. The artifacts were dropped on a surface near the top of the BE horizon and subsequently buried through bioturbation and gentle down slope movement during Younger Dryas and Late Glacial times. According to John Stiteler “At the time they were deposited there would have been a thin forest-floor A overlying a Bw or BC, all of which has developed into the BE over the last 10,000ish years.”

Artifacts are found throughout the A horizon, BE and 12% are even found in the top level of the older Bt1 horizon. However, we do not believe this is a culturally stratified profile but rather the vertical distribution of artifacts is the result of bioturbation – that is the vertical displacement of artifacts via roots, frost heaving, and animal borrowing including



invertebrate soil transport.

Less than 3% of the artifacts are classified as formal tools and utilized flakes. 98% of the artifacts are in Onondaga chert with minor numbers of jasper, Normanskill chert and a black chert of unknown origin. Thermal alteration is common with approximately 35% - 40% exhibiting evidence of pot lids or internal crazing. Cobble or bedrock cortex is evident on less than 5% of the artifacts. Based on an examination of striking platforms and with assistance of long-time lithic technologist, Steve Nissly, antler, bone, or wooden batons or pressure flakers were used to remove at least 95% of the debitage. Hammerstone reduction



There are two other artifact concentrations; the Fogelman-Frey concentration is located 150 meters to the east of the Miller locus, relatively small but produced 54 tools. The Shertzer locus is large and produced over 2000 artifacts including 400 tools. In an effort to investigate the relationship between the Miller locus and the Shertzer locus located 80 meters to the southeast in a plowed field, two transects of 50X50 cm test units were placed uphill and south of the block excavation at five-meter intervals. Most of these did not produce any artifacts but halfway between the two concentrations, one unit produced 133 artifacts. This was expanded into a one-meter unit that produced a total of 581 flakes and tools. The surrounding units at 5-meter intervals produced less than seven artifacts from each unit. This is a small concentration with an extremely high artifact count, covering an area of at most 10 m in diameter. It could represent a single lithic reduction event. The analysis of the artifacts is ongoing, but at least one channel flake was recovered, along with a fragment of a wedge and a distal fragment of a projectile point. To my knowledge, this is one of a very few channel flakes recovered from the entire site, and it obviously documents fluted point production.

In summary, these individual artifact concentrations identified along the southern border of the site represent a diverse set of activities ranging from a potential habitation site such as the Shertzer locus with its large numbers and wide variety of artifacts to the single reduction event located between the Shertzer and Miller loci. Based on Witthoft's original observations, we have always known that the artifacts at Shoop were organized into individual concentrations, but now we have real examples and a better understanding of the size and artifactual characteristics of these concentrations.

Field work in 2024 will start in mid-April and we will continue with the investigation of community patterning. The high artifact density area between the Miller and Shertzer concentrations will be expanded, and we will continue our use of close interval transect testing to identify additional activity areas in the wood lot.

Finally, this project is being conducted by a small group of dedicated volunteers who have contributed significantly to its success. In addition, several groups, notably Jack Cresson and Steve Nissley's flint knapping group and Heather Wholey's archaeology class have volunteered for a day or a weekend. If anyone is interested in joining us, my email is listed below.

Kurt Carr – paleocarr@gmail.com



Volunteers - top row from the left – Joe Vitolo, Justin McKeel, Judy Hawthorn; bottom row from the left – Vicki Vitolo, Kim Sebestyen.

Acknowledgements

We are incredibly grateful for the cooperation of the landowners, Scott and Theresa Miller. Without their gracious permission allowing access to their land, this new research would not be possible. Ron Lebo and Robert and Robin Holtzman are adjacent landowners and have also been very supportive.

Separate visits to the site by John Wah, Dan Wagner, and John Stiteler provided basic descriptions of the soil profile and invaluable insights into the pedological history of the site; Steve Nissly's assistance with analyzing the tools and debitage from a lithic technology perspective was very helpful and educational.

I sincerely appreciate help from professional colleagues Kim Sebestyen, Casey Hanson and Justin McKeel for their field

experience; And especially to the dedicated citizen scientists, Joe Vitolo and his wife Vicki, Brian Harrison, Sharon McDonald, and Robert Ronngren who have consistently contributed to this project in so many ways.

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SPA Annual Meeting 2024/PAC Symposium

Pennsylvania Archaeological Council (PAC)

Spring 2024 Symposium

Friday, April 12, 2024

Carlisle, PA

Call for Papers:

Topic: Pennsylvania's Moving Frontier

Moderator: Dr. Ben Ford (IUP)

Symposium Abstract: The frontier shifted rapidly across trans-Appalachian Pennsylvania during the 18th century, sometimes so quickly that cartographic sources struggled to keep up. The archaeological record, including forts, settlements, and transportation networks, provides the best information about this period in Pennsylvania history and how residents adapted to a rapidly changing landscape.

Submission requirements and details: We invite the submission of paper titles and 150-word abstracts by February 2nd, 2024 to Dr. Jessica Hedgepeth Balkin (Jessica.Hedgebalkin@colorado.edu). Symposium speakers will each be granted an honorarium of \$100 to defray the costs of travel and board. The PAC Symposium committee intends to consider publishing an edited volume from the papers presented.

CALL FOR PAPERS

**The 93rd Annual Meeting of
The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology
April 12-14, 2024
Carlisle, PA**

Comfort Suites, 10 S. Hanover Street, Carlisle, PA 17013

Group Rates: \$109.00 Single, King or 2 Queen Beds Early reservations are recommended.

Reservations at (717) 960-1000

Hosted by the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc.

Program Chair: Chuck Williams

chuckwilliams2019@outlook.com

Presentation at the SPA annual meeting is open to any member of the society in good standing. Papers are limited to 20 minutes and must relate to some aspect of Pennsylvania Archaeology. Individuals are invited to submit an abstract of 150 words or less to Chuck. NO later than March 18, 2024.

The Program Committee will evaluate each submission and will notify by email of acceptance, recommended changes based on the nature of the material, or rejection for ethical issues or sensitivities.

Poster Session Chair: Ben Ford

Students wishing to present posters should email their title and abstract NO later than March 18, 2024 to Ben Ford at: nywq@iup.edu . Please include a copy of your student identification card when submitting.

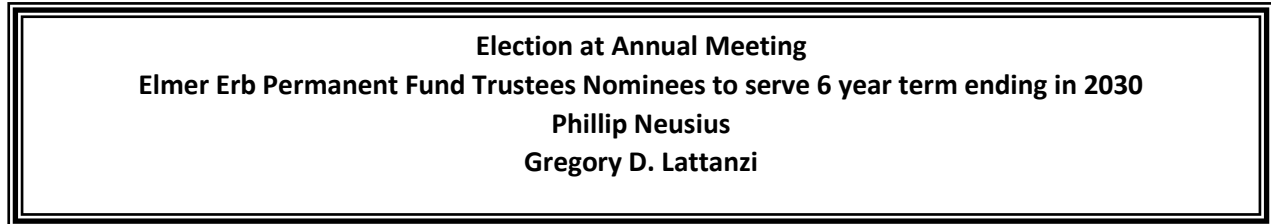
Instructors and students please note: meeting registration costs for students will be covered by the SPA.

MORE information and registration can be found in the upcoming SPA Newsletter Spring 2024 and on the website. Please remember that only members in good standing can present or vote at Annual Meeting. 2024 dues are payable now. Forms may be found on the SPA website along with a paypal option at www.PennsylvaniaArchaology.com .

SPA Awards Committee

The deadline for nominations for the Lifetime Achievement, J. Alden Mason and the Archey awards is Friday, **March 15, 2024**. Please submit only typed nomination forms and supporting documentation, including letters of support.

Revised 2024 nomination and eligibility criteria for the awards will be available in early January, 2024. Please go to the society webpage www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com to find the revised form(s). Please email completed awards packets to John Nass, Awards Committee chairperson, at nass81@breezeline.net. *Questions and those seeking assistance completing awards nomination packets should also be directed to John Nass as well.*



2024 James W. Hatch Scholarships

The Pennsylvania Archaeological Council (PAC), in cooperation with the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology (SPA), will again award scholarships to enable students of archaeology to attend the annual joint SPA/PAC meeting, April 12-14, 2024, in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. We anticipate that up to four awards of \$150 apiece will be made. We encourage all current college or high school students with a demonstrated interest in Pennsylvania archaeology and the activities of the SPA to apply, although preference will be given to students planning to present papers or posters at the meeting. Applications, in the form of a brief letter of interest explaining the student's background and qualifications for the award, should be sent by mail or e-mail by **April 7, 2024**

to: Paul Raber, praber@heberlingassociates.com or (717) 547-5558

Heberling Associates, Inc.

904 Main Street, PO Box 376

Alexandria, PA, 16611

Elmer Erb Permanent Fund Research Grant

The Trustees of the Elmer Erb Permanent Fund are interested in providing funds to support Pennsylvania archaeology – research that will enhance our understanding of past cultural behavior. In support of that goal, we have developed a grants program for students and non-professional members of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology. Award of funds is dependent on a research proposal detailing methods, significance of the project and the feasibility of completion within 18 months. The application form is available on the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology website.

- Proposals should be submitted in electronic format at erbresearch22@gmail.com.
- **Grants are restricted to students (currently registered at an accredited college or university) or avocational archaeologists who are members of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology.**
- The grant can be used in research to enhance our understanding of past cultural behavior in Pennsylvania such as travel, expendable supplies, equipment rental, remote sensing studies, radiometric dating, or curation fees.
- The application deadline is December 31st.
- The maximum award is \$1500.00 per applicant.

Applications will be accepted for calendar year ending December 31st; awarded applicant/s will be notified by March 1st.

[Elmer Erb Permanent Fund Research Grant Application](https://pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/Awards.htm) is available at <https://pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/Awards.htm>

The W. Fred Kinsey Meeting Scholarship

Provides student membership to The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology (SPA) for one year, a \$150.00 award, and banquet costs for the annual SPA meeting. Students currently pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree are eligible to apply for the W. Fred Kinsey Meeting Scholarship. Students are not required to attend Pennsylvania institutions, but research must be relevant to Pennsylvania Archaeology. Publication of student papers in Pennsylvania Archaeologist is at the discretion of the editor but this is an excellent opportunity to share your research with the archaeological community. Eligibility is dependent on a complete, single-author paper with PowerPoint slides (if appropriate) to be presented at the annual meeting scheduled for April 12-14, 2024, in Carlisle, PA. Paper abstracts must be submitted to the Program Chair; Chuck Williams, chuckwilliams2019@outlook.com. Please visit the Society's Annual Meeting page for additional information - <https://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/conferences.htm>

Look for other Scholarships and Meeting News will be available on the SPA Website and in the SPA Newsletter Spring 2024

Please remember that the Auction at Annual Meeting benefits the Elmer Erb Permanent Fund. The fund proceeds from the fund provides for the C-14 Committee awards as well as covering student registrations for Annual Meeting and the Elmer Erb Permanent Fund Research Grant. Chapters and Individuals may send or bring donations for the auction to Annual Meeting.

Chapter News 21 John Shrader Chapter #21 Celebrates 50 Years

On April 21, 2024 Janet Johnson is scheduled to be the speaker at the 50th anniversary celebration of the chartering of the John Shrader Chapter 21 of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology. Inc.

In March the chapter will continue excavating for the 15th year the Mouns Jones site, the oldest structure (1716) in Berks County.

In March or April, the chapter is planning to start excavating at a site 1/2 mile from Valley Forge.

We will be celebrating Independence Day with the Friends of Hopewell and the Trust of Berks County for the 3rd year.

Any questions: contact Gene Delaplane, (484)341-8775



**Call For Papers
New York State Archaeological
Association
105th Annual Meeting
April 12-14, 2024**

Best Western Plus Oswego Hotel and Conference Center, 26 E. 1st St., Oswego, NY

The William M. Beauchamp and Thousand Islands Chapters are proud to host the 105th Annual Meeting of the New York State Archaeological Association and the annual Spring meeting of the New York Archaeological Council April 12-14, 2024. NYAC will meet Friday April 12. The NYSAA annual business meeting will be Friday evening, with paper presentations Saturday and Sunday morning. The annual banquet, awards ceremony and special guest speaker will be held Saturday evening. All events will be at the Best Western Hotel, 26 E 1st St., just a short distance from historic Fort Ontario and the Safe Haven Holocaust Museum.

This is an open call for anyone interested in submitting abstracts for papers or posters on any subject of interest in the archaeology of New York and adjoining regions. Presentations should not exceed 20 minutes in length. One paper/poster per presenter- although individuals may co-author multiple papers. All presenters must register for the conference. Abstracts, authors, affiliation and AV preferences must be received by March 15, 2024 for consideration. Meeting registration must be pre-paid by April 1, 2024. Registration information will be available online at <http://nysarchaeology.org/conference>.

Please send your title, abstract, A/V preference and contact address to: Tim Abel, tabel@twcny.rr.com

THE SOCIETY FOR PENNSYLVANIA ARCHAEOLOGY, INC.
Encourages submissions for the SPA Jacob L. Grimm C-14 Award

Applicants must complete one copy of the application form for each sample they wish to submit.

Should space be required for additional information, please append as attachment sheets.

DO NOT SEND SAMPLES WITH THE APPLICATION.

Submissions must be reviewed prior to approval by the Jacob L. Grimm C-14 Award Review Committee.

Generally a single sample is approved per year by the committee, but this varies depending on available funding.

Please note that this is a MATCH and only half the sample cost is funded.


Any SPA member in good standing may submit for C-14 samples. SPA Chapters are especially encouraged to submit C-14 samples.

Applications and instructions may be found on the SPA website and will be processed as they are received.


Submission deadline is normally **four weeks prior to the next SPA Annual Meeting**.

Dr. Bernard K. Means, chairman, C-14 Committee, bkmeans@vcu.edu

THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Cultural Resources Section



PennDOT Highway Archaeological Survey Team (PHAST) 2024 Summer Program



PennDOT's Cultural Resource Section is offering internships in cultural resource management as part of PennDOT's Highway Archaeological Survey Team (PHAST) based out of Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) in Indiana, Pennsylvania. Field technicians will be hired through the Department's Scientific and Technical Internship Program (STI). Crew will be directly involved in important research on the management, study, and stewardship of archaeological sites and historic resources potentially affected by transportation projects. They'll also be exposed to the full range of job skills and employment opportunities in Cultural Resource Management through informal seminars and hands-on experience

in GIS, geophysical survey, curation, archaeological field work, project assessment, consulting, environmental review, and National Register evaluation.

Our program will offer crew members pay at **\$16.67/hour**, and undergraduate or graduate credit may be available through your university department. Preference will be given to applicants with previous exposure to GIS, database management, and archaeological, historical, or historic preservation course work and field experience. Excellent communication skills are important. Applicants will be asked to submit their resume and a one-page writing sample. Interviews are typically scheduled in late February and March.


Requirements:
To be considered for the program, students **must** be registered full-time (carrying 12 or more undergraduate credits or 9 or more graduate credits) for the fall semester 2024, and in good academic standing. The following majors will be considered for the PHAST program:

Anthropology, Archaeology, Cultural Resource Management, Historic Preservation, Preservation Planning, History, Architectural History, Geography/GIS, Geology, American Studies, or related field.

Students must also have completed their 1st year in a 2-year associate's degree program or their 1st year in a 4-year bachelor's degree program.

Apply online at: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/pabureau/jobs/4313109/penn-dot-highway-archaeological-survey-team-intern-college>

Questions can be directed to:
Susanne Haney, PHAST Director (724) 357-2081 suhaney@pa.gov



The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc.
P.O. Box 213
New Bethlehem, PA 16242

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Time to renew your
SPA 2024 membership

The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc.

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First Vice President Angela	Jaillett-Wentling, Angela.jailet@yahoo.com
Second Vice-President	Ben Ford, Ben ford@iup.edu
Secretary:	Judy M. Duritsa, 301 North Drive, Jeannette, PA 15644 or e-mail at: jmduritsa@comcast.net
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Officers 2024

Send SPA Newsletter information to the Secretary

Newsletter Deadline: March 1, 2024

The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc. was organized in 1929 to: Promote the study of the prehistoric and historic archaeological resources of Pennsylvania and neighboring states; Encourage scientific research and discourage exploration which is unscientific or irresponsible in intent or practice; Promote the conservation of archaeological sites, artifacts, and information; Encourage the establishment and maintenance of sources of archaeological information such as museums, societies, and educational programs; Promote the dissemination of archaeological knowledge by means of publications and forums; Foster the exchange of information between the professional and the avocational archaeologists

To subscribe to the SPA Newsletter by email, contact the newsletter at: jmduritsa@comcast.net
All **current updates** are available at www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com and our Facebook page.