



# The Artifact

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## Letter from the President

*Dr. Jane C. Waldbaum,  
Professor Emerita, University  
of Wisconsin - Milwaukee*



Dear Members of the AIA-Milwaukee Society,

Welcome to the Spring 2012 edition of our members-only newsletter, *The Artifact*. We have an exceptionally busy Spring program planned for you including a full schedule of lectures *and* the Third Annual Milwaukee Archaeology Fair.

This Spring we will enjoy *four* lectures instead of our usual three: First, Dr. Morag Kersel of DePaul University in Chicago will discuss the cultural heritage implications of the trade in Middle Eastern antiquities on January 29; on February 26, Dr. Laura Villamil of UWM will tell us about her excavations in Quintana Roo, Mexico, and on April 1, Dr. Monica Smith of UCLA will introduce us to archaeology in India. Finally, on April 29, Dr. William Parkinson, Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, will present his research on early European villages.

As in previous years, all lectures are held in Room G90, Sabin Hall, 3413 North Downer Ave at the corner of Newport. Lectures are followed by discussion and refreshments and are co-sponsored by UWM's Departments of Anthropology, FLL/Classics, and Art History. All lectures are *free and open to the public*.

For the third year in a row the Milwaukee Society and the Milwaukee Public Museum are teaming up to bring the Milwaukee Archaeology Fair to children and families throughout southeastern Wisconsin. See p. 7 for details on the upcoming Fair, and plan on joining us March 9 and 10 for the big event.

I'm pleased to report that the first ever National Archaeology Day last October was a big success—both nationally and here in Milwaukee. Bettina Arnold, AIA-member and Professor of Anthropology at UWM,

organized a behind-the-scenes visit to UWM's Archaeological Research Laboratory where visitors learned about some of the cutting edge research being done by UWM archaeologists, got their questions answered by the experts, and even helped sort archaeological detritus from flotation (water sieving of soil to find tiny artifacts).



**Shannon Friere, UWM Anthropology graduate student, supervises a flotation sorting problem for National Archaeology Day while Prof. John Richards looks on.**

You can read more about National Archaeology Day in Milwaukee on our website: <http://www4.uwm.edu/archlab/AIA/announcements.cfm>. There you will find more photos of the event as well as links to what the other AIA local societies did to celebrate. We hope to make this an annual event, so watch for it next year.

As always, you, our members, are AIA's most important asset! AIA's roster of over 200,000 members helps the AIA support research in archaeology world-wide, provides scholarships and fellowships for young archaeologists, promotes the preservation of archaeological sites around the globe, and maintains programs like the lecture series and the archaeology fairs to share that research with the public. I urge you to keep your membership up-to-date so that you may stay in the loop on all our activities and help us with your support. And please bring a friend or relative along to sample a lecture or the Archaeology Fair in March. Perhaps they will like it enough to join. New members benefit everybody.

Membership in AIA now includes a subscription to our lively and colorful magazine *Archaeology* at no extra charge. Other publications, such as the scholarly *American Journal of Archaeology*, are deeply discounted to members who choose them. Students, teachers and active-duty military personnel with ID receive half off regular rates. Continuing members can renew for two years at a discount over the one-year rate, or, if you would *really* like to make a commitment, become a lifetime member. Information on

rates is on the renewal notice you will receive from our Boston headquarters when your membership is nearing expiration, and on the AIA's national website at [www.archaeological.org/membership](http://www.archaeological.org/membership).

Again, I welcome everyone to our spring programs and I hope to see all of you there. Happy New Year!

*Jane C. Waldbaum*

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## **Welcome New Members Joined Since September 2011**

Kevin Garstki      Adrienne Frie  
Joellyn Lauritch   Benjamin Locke  
David Stock

We are very happy you joined us!

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## **AIA Member Looks for Underground Railway Stop in Maywood, IL**



**DePaul University  
archaeology students  
excavating in Maywood**

Mike Gregory, AIA-Milwaukee Society member and visiting assistant professor at DePaul University in Chicago, last fall led his archaeology students in a search for an Underground Railway stop along the Des Plaines River west of Chicago at Maywood. Slaves escaping the south before the Civil War were hidden and assisted northward by citizen "conductors," one of whom may have been Zebina Eastman of Maywood. The DePaul University Urban Historical Archaeology Field School students searched for the location of Eastman's house, and while they didn't definitely locate it—this time—the students learned a lot about the practice of archaeology; Gregory plans to return to Maywood with more students to continue to research its rich history.

# Who Owns the Past? Investigating the Trade in Middle Eastern Antiquities

**A Lecture by Dr. Morag Kersel**  
**DePaul University, Chicago, IL**

**Sunday, January 29, 2012, 3:00 p.m.**  
**Sabin Hall, Room G90**



**Morag Kersel in the Field**

When an artifact is taken from the ground it is subject to different fates. If it is scientifically excavated it is taken to a lab or museum for study and curation. If it is not found by archaeologists it may enter the antiquities market—legally or illegally. When there is a legal antiquities trade, recent research has shown that multiple stakeholders hold competing claims. In Israel, for example, it is legal to buy and sell artifacts from state-sanctioned dealers, if the collections pre-date the 1978 national ownership law. Not all aspects of this trade are legal, however, and not all participants have an equal voice. The market in Israel is comprised of archaeologists, collectors, customs officials, dealers, government employees, looters, middlemen, museum professionals, and tourists, all expressing a degree of entitlement in the acquisition and disposition of artifacts. The porous borders between Israel, Jordan, and the Palestinian Authority complicate the situation as artifacts found in those areas enter the market and go out to Europe, the Far East, and the United States. In her lecture, Dr. Kersel will document the journey of a Roman coin as it travels from the Palestinian countryside to the Upper West Side of New York City, using it to examine the various positions in the debate over who owns the past.



**“Biblical Roman Coin” from Antiquities Dealer’s website**

**Dr. Morag Kersel** is assistant professor of Anthropology at DePaul University in Chicago. She is an archaeologist with a doctorate from the Department of Archaeology at the University of Cambridge and a Master of Historic Preservation degree from the University of Georgia. Her work combines archaeological, archival and oral history research in order to understand the efficacy of cultural heritage law in protecting archaeological landscapes from looting. She has excavated and conducted field research in Canada, Greece, Israel, Jordan, Palestine, the U.S., and currently co-directs archaeological excavations at the Chalcolithic site of Marj Rabba in the Lower Galilee and the "Follow the Pots" project in the Dead Sea Plain of Jordan—tracing the movement of Early Bronze Age pots from the Dead Sea plain in Jordan.



**Antiquities Shop in Jerusalem’s Old City**

Suggested reading related to this lecture: **“Who Owns the Biblical Past? We All Can,”** by Morag Kersel,  
<http://www.bibleinterp.com/opeds/ker358019.shtml>

# After the Maelstrom: The Archaeology of Post-Collapse Maya Communities in Central Quintana Roo, Mexico

A lecture by Dr. Laura Villamil  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Sunday, February 26, 2012  
Sabin Hall Room G90, 3:00 p.m.



Laura Villamil (left) at National Archaeology Day in the UWM Archaeology Lab

The Classic Maya civilization flourished in Mesoamerica from ca. 250 to 900 AD and then collapsed. But what happened to the people? In her lecture, Prof. Laura Villamil, UW-Milwaukee, will present evidence of a widespread reoccupation of abandoned Classic Maya sites in south-central Quintana Roo, Mexico. Drawing on evidence from her recent excavations at the site of Margarita and at neighboring sites, she will discuss what happened in the immediate aftermath of the so-called Classic Maya Collapse (ca. 850-900 AD), as well as some of the strategies adopted by the Maya to initiate the process of societal regeneration.

**Dr. Laura Villamil** is assistant professor of Anthropology at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She received her doctorate from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Dr. Villamil has carried out fieldwork at various sites in southern Quintana Roo, Mexico since 1993. In 1998, she initiated the Central Quintana Roo Archaeological Project, a

regional project that has investigated various sites in order to understand the long-term history of this little-known region of the Maya lowlands. Since 2008 she has co-directed excavations at the site of Margarita.



Laura Villamil Cleaning a Maya Stele

## Recent Publications by Laura Villamil:

2008. Creating, transforming, rejecting, and reinterpreting Ancient Maya urban landscapes: insights from Lagartera and Margarita. In Norman Yoffee (ed.), *Identity, Memory, and Landscape in Archaeological Research*, pp 183-214. University of Arizona Press, Tucson.

2005. Investigating Urban Diversity in South-Central Quintana Roo, Mexico. Laura P. Villamil and Jason Sherman. In Justine M. Shaw and Jennifer Matthews (eds), *Quintana Roo Archaeology*, pp. 197-213. University of Arizona Press, Tucson

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Third Annual Milwaukee  
Archaeology Fair**

**Friday, March 9 &  
Saturday, March 10**

**10 am to 3 pm**

**Milwaukee Public Museum**

# The Archaeology of Ancient India

***A Lecture by Dr. Monica Smith  
University of California, Los Angeles***

***Sunday, April 1, 2012  
Sabin Hall Room G90, 3:00 p.m.***



**Monica Smith**

Over two hundred years of archaeological research in the Indian subcontinent has revealed a fascinating wealth of ancient civilizations. The sophisticated Bronze Age Harappan culture (ca. 3300-1300 BCE) had trading relationships with the Arabian Gulf and with Mesopotamia, as well as an enigmatic script that remains undeciphered. The subsequent Early Historic period (ca. 1500-200 BCE) witnessed the development of Buddhism, urbanism and a comprehensive writing system. By the 1st century A.D., the written tradition included religious texts, poetry, political analyses, and even medical treatises. In her lecture Dr. Monica Smith will explore the highlights of archaeology in ancient India, including recent results from her international collaborative research project at the ancient city of Sisupalgarh, India.

**Dr. Monica Smith** is professor in the Department of Anthropology and the Cotsen Institute of Archaeology at the University of California, Los Angeles. She has her Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Michigan, an M.A. in Archaeology from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a B.A. in Classical Civilization from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Her research interests include comparative modern and ancient urbanism, trade and economics in prehistory, archaeological method and theory,

anthropology of food; South Asia, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean. Since 1992 she has conducted fieldwork in India (Ancient city of Sisupalgarh in Orissa state) along with other Indian research. Other fieldwork experience includes projects in Bangladesh, Turkey, Tunisia, Madagascar, Egypt, Great Britain, Italy, and the American Southwest. She has published widely on her research and received several prestigious grants to support her work, including from the National Science Foundation, Wenner-Gren Foundation, and National Geographic Society.



**Monica Smith in India**

To find out more about Monica Smith's work see:  
<http://www.anthro.ucla.edu/people/faculty?lid=1325>

<http://members.authorsguild.net/monicalsmith/>

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## **AIA-Milwaukee Society Election of Officers**

Nominations are requested for two Milwaukee Society officers with elections to be held at our last lecture on April 29, 2012: President Jane Waldbaum has served two consecutive two-year terms and must be replaced; Secretary-Treasurer Alice Kehoe is at the end of her term but is eligible to run again.

If anyone has any nominations to propose, or if you are interested in being considered for nomination yourself, please send your suggestions to the Nominating Committee at [aiamke@milwpc.com](mailto:aiamke@milwpc.com). Candidates for office *MUST* be current AIA members. New names and faces welcome!

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# The Archaeology of Early European Village Societies

**A Lecture by Dr. William Parkinson**  
**Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago**

*Sunday, April 29, 2012*  
*Sabin Hall Room G90, 3:00 p.m.*

After tens of thousands of years of making a living by hunting and gathering wild resources in the natural environment, some human societies began to adopt more sedentary lifeways centered on the exploitation of domesticated plants and animals. In southern Europe, these Neolithic farmers began to establish villages about 9,000 years ago. In his lecture, Dr. Bill Parkinson, of the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, discusses research that he and his colleagues recently conducted in Greece and Hungary to explore the social dynamics of early village societies in the Neolithic Period and Bronze Age (ca. 6000 to 1000 BC).



**Bill Parkinson in the Field**

**Dr. Bill Parkinson** is a specialist in European and Eastern Mediterranean Prehistory. He is Associate Curator of Eurasian Anthropology at the Field Museum of Natural History and Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Illinois at Chicago and Department of Anthropology, Northwestern University. He is the American director of the Körös Regional Archaeological Project in Hungary, an

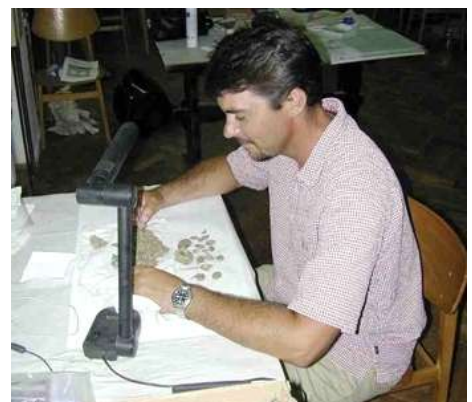
international, multi-disciplinary research project aimed at understanding the social changes that occurred on the Great Hungarian Plain throughout the Holocene. He studies how the earliest state societies in Europe—the Minoan and Mycenaean states of Greece—arose during the Bronze Age, and how they interacted with their neighbors in the Near East, Egypt, and Anatolia. He received his M.A. and Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Michigan, and his B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Illinois at Chicago. His research has been supported by grants from the National Science Foundation, the Wenner-Gren Foundation and other organizations. He has published extensively in scholarly books and journals, including the AIA's *American Journal of Archaeology*.



**Bill Parkinson on the Great Hungarian Plain**

For more on Bill Parkinson's research see:  
<http://fieldmuseum.org/users/william-parkinson>

[http://fm1.fieldmuseum.org/aa/staff\\_page.cgi?staff=wparkinson](http://fm1.fieldmuseum.org/aa/staff_page.cgi?staff=wparkinson)



**Bill Parkinson in the lab**

## Milwaukee Archaeology Fair Coming March 9 & 10

Planning for the Third Annual Milwaukee Archaeology Fair, co-sponsored by the AIA-Milwaukee Society and the Milwaukee Public Museum, is well under way. The Fair will take place at the Public Museum on Friday March 9 and Saturday March 10 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm both days. Admission to the Fair is free with regular admission to the Museum.

Fair participants will include a mix of area professional archaeologists, museum professionals and graduate and undergraduate students who will present a wide range of hands-on activities and demonstrations designed to help the past come alive for children, families and teachers from Southeastern Wisconsin. Investigate everything from ancient games people played to Egyptian mummies to Medieval picture books, Chinese calligraphy (writing with a brush), and the Maya calendar (find out if the world will end in 2012!). Compare what it was like to live along a lake in prehistoric Europe vs. making your living on the prairies of Wisconsin.



Returning in full regalia will be the magnificent Roman, Greek, Celtic and Renaissance re-enactors. They not only look authentic but they will happily and knowledgeably answer your questions about what life was like in the times they represent. A list of all the presenters is on the MPM's website: <http://www.mpm.edu/education/special/archaeology-fair/>

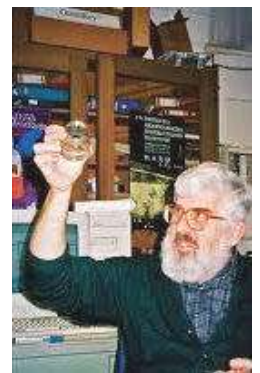
Save the date and make your plans now to attend the Third Annual Milwaukee Archaeology Fair. And if you are a K-12 educator and would like to arrange a field trip for your students please call: 414.278.2714 or see: <http://www.mpm.edu/education/fieldtrips/> for more information. For an extra charge you can see the special exhibit *Cleopatra: The Search for the Last Queen of Egypt* at the same time. Come and make a day of it!

## AIA's 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Held in Philadelphia, PA January 5-8, 2012



As this issue of *The Artifact* goes to press the 2012 AIA Annual Meeting has not yet taken place. Milwaukee Society members, Derek Counts, Renée Calkins, and Bettina Arnold, will be attending and performing various administrative and scholarly duties while they are there. Derek and Renée are representing the Milwaukee Society at the meeting of Council, AIA's legislative body where new officers and trustees are elected, new regulations are enacted, and other official AIA business is conducted. Derek, together with his wife and Milwaukee Society Vice President, Elisabetta Cova, serves as co-book review editor for AIA's scholarly journal the *American Journal of Archaeology*, and he will attend the meeting of the editorial board. He will also serve as a discussant for an academic paper session on Hellenistic and Roman Cyprus. Bettina is attending a meeting of the Lecture Program Committee, the committee that selects the national speakers for next year's lecture program.

As always, the Annual Meeting serves not only as a venue for the presentation of new research but also as the occasion for many special events, including a public lecture by Dr. Patrick McGovern of the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, on "Uncorking the Past: Ancient Ales, Wines, and Extreme Beverages." McGovern's book, *Uncorking the Past: The Quest for Wine, Beer and Other Alcoholic Beverages* (Berkeley 2009), won honorable mention last year for AIA's Holton Book Award. Even if you can't make his talk you might like to read his book.



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# AIA-Milwaukee Society Spring Calendar



## Spring 2012

- January 29                      Sunday, January 29, 2012, 3:00 pm. *Lecture*  
**Who Owns the Past? Investigating the Trade in Middle Eastern Antiquities**
- February 26                     Sunday, February 26, 2012, 3:00 pm. *Lecture*  
**After the Maelstrom: The Archaeology of Post-Collapse Maya Communities in Central Quintana Roo, Mexico**
- March 9-10                     Friday & Saturday, March 9 & 10, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. **Milwaukee Public Museum**  
**Third Annual Milwaukee Archaeology Fair**
- April 1                            Sunday, April 1, 2012, 3:00 pm. *Lecture*  
**The Archaeology of Ancient India**
- April 29                         Sunday, April 29, 2012, 3:00 pm. *Lecture*  
**The Archaeology of Early European Village Societies**

All lectures will take place in room G90 of Sabin Hall on the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee campus unless otherwise noted. Sabin Hall is located at 3413 N. Downer Ave. Free street parking Sundays or in Klotsche Center lot north side of Sabin Hall.



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