



The Artifact

A Publication of the Archaeological Institute of America - Milwaukee Society Vol. 25 No. 1, Fall 2019

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Letter from the President

**David Pacifico, Assistant Professor
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee**

Dear AIA-Milwaukee Society Members,

Welcome to the 2019-2020 programming season here at the Archaeological Institute of America – Milwaukee Society. As we celebrate the second half of our 50th year in operation, I want to highlight just how important your membership is to the Milwaukee Society and the Archaeological Institute of America. Institutions like ours and the community of thoughtful, inquisitive, and curious minds that we compose should not be taken for granted. It's hard to convene and build institutions like ours and even harder to keep them going. Your continued participation, support through membership, and sustained curiosity about objects and people from the past is the lifeblood of our venerable Society. As Milwaukee Society president, I never cease to be impressed and inspired by the enthusiasm you all bring to our lectures and other events. Bravo and thank you!

This autumn we have a full roster of thought-provoking lectures as well as a couple of special events. Our autumn lecture season will begin on September 29th with Andrew Goldman (Gonzaga U.) comparing ancient literature and recent archaeological finds in order to understand the Battle of Aegates Islands (241BC) in which the Romans and Carthaginians duked it out on the sea. From October 4th through 6th I'll be conducting archaeological excavations, which you are invited to attend, at Schlitz Audubon Nature Center. Register for free at www.SchlitzAudubon.org. In complement, International Archaeology Day will be celebrated at the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center from 1-4pm on Saturday, October 5th. Appropriately, our theme this year is "Hands On Archaeology." In addition to participating in the excavation, during the complementary IAD presentations you'll be able to view and participate in archaeological lab techniques. As Veterans Day approaches, our own Dr. Michael Gregory will present on his experiences recovering US GI remains in Vietnam with the Defense POW/MIA Accountability Agency. That lecture will be held on November 10th. In this issue you'll also find an advance dispatch from Dr. Gregory's talk as one of our "Postcards from the Field," which is a

new format that we're trying in lieu of our traditional articles. We end our lecture season with Kristin Landau (Alma College) who will talk about her work in Honduras exploring the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Copán. Please note that this lecture will take place on a Saturday, December 7, 2019.

We're lucky to have local lecturers from so far afield in our wider region. However, this kind of programming expansion comes at a cost. Like most other expenditures, the costs of hosting lecturers, their travel expenses, and IAD expenses are funded largely from the AIA-Milwaukee Society treasury, which typically hovers around several hundred dollars. It also tends to diminish by about a hundred dollars a year. To continue to reach beyond our own corner of Lake Michigan for talented local speakers and to improve our refreshment offerings, you'll find a call for donations later in this newsletter.

In addition, you'll find a second Postcard from the Field that documents my own trip to Peru's Casma Valley this past June. I focus particularly on new risks I observed to archaeological sites and on ways to mitigate those risks.

I'm proud to be the president of our venerable local chapter. I greatly value your participation in our events and, of course, your membership in the AIA. Together let's welcome our new members: Emma Eisner, Mary Pieschek, Riley Rockford, Morton Soifer, Fernando Medinilla-Luque. Welcome!

I look forward to seeing you at the lectures, IAD, and in the field!

Sincerely,

David Pacifico

**Welcome New Members
Joined Since January 2019**

Emma Eisner Riley Rockford
Mary Pieschek Morton Soifer
Fernando Medinilla-Luque

We are very happy you joined us!

**Helmets from the Sea: Military Finds
from the Battle of the Aegates Islands
(241 BCE)**

**A Lecture by Andrew L. Goldman
Gonzaga University**

*Sunday, September 29th, 2019
Sabin Hall, Room G90, 3:00 p.m.*

On 10 March, 241 BCE, the final naval battle of the First Punic War was fought off western Sicily, where a large Roman fleet engaged an equally large Carthaginian fleet near the Aegates Islands. The ancient historian Polybius tells us how the Romans won a decisive victory and forced the Carthaginians to sue for peace shortly thereafter. Almost 2,300 years later, the site of the battle has been located off Levanzo Island (in the modern Egadi Islands group), and its landscape has been carefully surveyed by RPM Nautical Foundation and Sicily's Soprintendenza del Mare. By the end of 2014, eleven warship rams, eight helmets, and a wide scatter of artifacts had been recorded on the sea floor. It is the first maritime battlefield from ancient times that has ever been explored.

This lecture will discuss the ancient battle as we understand it from surviving literary sources like Polybius and will present what the new archaeological finds have revealed about the conflict and its combatants, the early legionaries of Rome, and the mercenary forces of Carthage. Fieldwork at this maritime site has not only produced some of the earliest Latin inscriptions and Roman iconographic representations ever discovered, but also a series of helmets of the early Montefortino type, what are arguably the most successful piece of equipment ever developed, in use for nearly 500 years. These mid-3rd century BCE finds are not only helping us to understand the use and production of Roman armor but are also permitting us to reexamine the development of the Roman military during its most important, formative years under the Republic. In addition, one of the newly recovered helmets is likely to be of Carthaginian origin, a discovery that is providing new insight into how Rome's greatest ancient adversary once waged war.

Andrew L. Goldman teaches at GU in both the History and Classical Civilizations Department. He has also worked in institutes in Turkey, Rome, and at the University of Pennsylvania Museum, where he still holds a research appointment. His fields of special interest are the history and archaeology of the ancient Mediterranean and Black Sea regions. He received his BA from

Wesleyan University (1988), and his MA and PhD from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (1993 and 2000, respectively).

As a field archaeologist, Dr. Goldman has worked as a director, field researcher or excavator at numerous ancient sites in the Mediterranean, including Çatal Höyük, Oinoanda, Kerkenes Dag, Gordion, and Sinop in Turkey, and Paleopaphos in Cyprus. At the archaeological field school held in Sinop each summer since 2015, Dr. Goldman uses the opportunity to introduce undergraduates to archaeological method and practice, with a focus upon proper data collection and the interpretation of primary evidence for understanding the material culture and social history of the ancient world.



For more about Andrew L. Goldman:
<https://gonzaga.academia.edu/AndrewGoldman>

International Archaeology Day

Hands on Archaeology

Saturday, October 5th, 2019
Schlitz Audubon Nature Center, 1:00-4:00 p.m.



International Archaeology Day (IAD) is a celebration of archaeology and the thrill of discovery. Every October the Archaeological Institute of America and organizations around the world present archaeological programs and activities for people of all ages and interests.

On Saturday October 5th, the Archaeological Institute of America – Milwaukee Society will join the Milwaukee Community Archaeology Project (MCAP) to celebrate International Archaeology Day from 1-4pm indoors at the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center, 1111 E Brown Deer Road, Bayside, WI. The event is FREE and open to the public. This year's theme is 'Hands on Archaeology.' Local archaeologists will provide visitors with an opportunity to learn about archaeological lab methods and try them out. Presentations include a variety of archaeological methods ranging from 3D scanning to cataloging artifacts from local historical sites.

This event is co-sponsored by the Archaeological Institute of America - Milwaukee Society and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Departments of Anthropology, Art History, and FLL Classics Program.

In addition to IAD, the MCAP along with Schlitz Audubon Nature Center will host a three-day archaeological excavation directed by Dr. David Pacifico, Assistant Professor of Art History, president of the AIA-Milwaukee Society, and Director of the Emile H. Mathis Art Gallery and UWM Art Collection at UW-Milwaukee. Excavations will run Friday October 4th through Sunday October 6th from 10am to 4pm. This community-based participatory research explores everyday life, residential activities, and production practices among early European immigrants to the Milwaukee area. We will follow up on last year's work by excavating two units in the Cappon/de Swarte farmstead, which was in use in the mid- to late-19th century. The Cappons and de Swartes emigrated to the area in the mid-19th century during a period of famine, economic downturn, and religious-political persecution in Holland. Volunteers of all ages are welcomed to observe, ask questions, and lend a hand. Register free at www.SchlitzAudubon.org

Missing in Action Archaeological Recovery Excavations in Southeast Asia

A Lecture by Michael Gregory
SNA International

Sunday, November 10th, 2019
Sabin Hall, Room G90, 3:00 p.m.

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) is tasked with providing "the fullest possible accounting" to the families and the nation about the more than 82,000

Americans who remain missing or “Unknown” from WWII through the Gulf Wars. Of this figure, approximately 1,588 are the result of the Vietnam War. While this is a small fraction of the total cases, they never-the-less receive substantial attention from the DPAA staff, who must research, investigate, and excavate “incident” sites, and when successful, identify recovered remains. For the forensic archaeologists directing the field studies, the work is challenging, exciting, frustrating, and satisfying, as they will encounter conditions--scale, work pace, topographic setting, expectations, and goals--rarely experienced at traditional archaeological sites and certainly never discussed in grad school. Often the skills of the archaeologist, as well as the rest of a recovery team, are what bridges the gap between historical research and the recovery and identification of a missing service member, whether the individual is from the Vietnam War or another conflict falling under the purview of DPAA.

Dr. Michael Gregory is an archaeologist with SNA International and a Board Member of the non-profit Camp Douglas Restoration Foundation, Inc. He holds degrees from Arizona State University (PhD and MA) and Washington and Lee University (BS). Being a historical archaeologist by choice, his primary research interests are the early suburbanization of Chicago, economic practices of 19th-century rural America, and Civil War prisoner-of-war camps. As a member of SNA International, he directs forensic recovery and investigative excavations for the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) in Southeast Asia. Prior to this position, he taught at DePaul University and directed Cultural Resources Management studies in the American Midwest, Southwest, and Mid-Atlantic regions. Over his varied career, the DPAA missions have proved to be the most challenging, engaging, and fulfilling/discouraging work he has undertaken.

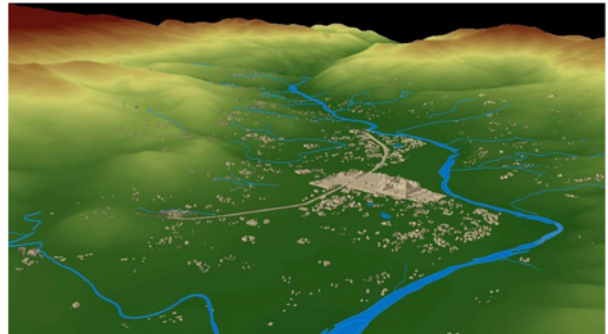


For more about Michael Gregory see his *Postcard from the Field: Investigating an MIA Related Site in Vietnam for the DPAA* on pages 5-6.

Ancient Maya Political Integration: A Case Study from Copán, Honduras

**A Lecture by Kristin Landau
Alma College**

**Saturday, December 7th, 2019
Sabin Hall, Room G90, 3:00 p.m.**



Map of San Lucas. Image: Kristin Landau.

In this lecture Dr. Landau addresses the questions of how political leaders come to power and why others choose to follow. She will examine the dynamics of political integration between the neighborhood of San Lucas and the central government of Copán, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in Honduras. The ancient city of Copán is unique for its 200 years of intensive research on temples and tombs and the decipherment of Maya hieroglyphic writing. This extraordinary work has revealed a wealth of information about the history and politics of Maya royalty. However, archaeologists understand much less about everyday life for the majority of people living outside of the city center. Mapping and excavation in the urban neighborhood of San Lucas reveals how ancient residents actively negotiated with the top-down power strategies of Copan elites. This bottom-up approach has also inspired grassroots collaboration with an indigenous high school to teach a year-long introductory anthropology course; which highlights how major anthropological questions are relevant for past and contemporary people.

Kristin Landau is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Alma College. Since 2005 she has conducted community-based archaeology at the ancient city of Copán, Honduras, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Specifically, she investigates the dynamic relationship between centralized power and everyday life within Copán’s urban neighborhoods, providing a bottom-up perspective to questions of state formation. She also works collaboratively with local indigenous leaders to promote science and heritage education. By linking past

and present, she highlights how archaeology is relevant for contemporary people.



For more about Kristin Landau:
<https://alma.academia.edu/KristinLandau>

AIA's 121st Annual Meeting



**Washington, D.C.
January. 2-5, 2020**

- For more information on the 2020 Annual Meeting as it develops please consult:
<https://www.archaeological.org/programs/professionals/annual-meeting/>
- ALL members of AIA are welcome to attend this annual conference at a discount registration.

Postcard from the Field: Investigating an MIA Related Site in Vietnam for the DPAA

**By Michael Gregory
SNA International**

At the end of the work day, I'm soaked head-to-toe with sweat, which I can wring from my socks. I am amazed

by how much humidity the August air of Vietnam's Central Highlands can absorb and hold. Fortunately, I will return to my air-conditioned hotel room and a waiting shower, while other colleagues will be "enjoying" a base camp, tent, and field shower. Regardless of our living arrangements, we are in Vietnam as part of a recovery mission sponsored by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), which Congress created from existing, similar organizations in order to provide "the fullest possible accounting" to the families and the nation of the more than 82,000 Americans, who remain missing from WWII through the Gulf Wars.



Site Excavation. Photo: Michael Gregory.

In Vietnam, 1,246 service members remain missing as a result of the Vietnam War. Each year, DPAA organizes four missions, deploying a total of 25 recovery and investigative teams to search for remains of these individuals. The teams consist of military personnel and civilians--the archaeologists--who will investigate ground loss and aircraft crash sites for burials and uninterred remains, applying forensic archaeological methodologies to the recovery of evidence and remains.

As an archaeologist during these investigations, you come to appreciate service personnel for their discipline, can-do attitude, and lack of complaining, especially as the temperature rises and the sweat rolls down. At the same time, you have to love the challenge of investigating complicated sites located in settings that no right-minded group would occupy or archaeologist ever willingly excavate. However, gravity and engine thrust take air craft where they will, whether a level rice paddy, the side of a mountain, or some place in between. Due to the nature of many incidents--crashes--and the acidity of tropical soils, little in the form of human remains may survive, and often, recovery teams return only knowing "where the individual is not"; hoping that this at least narrows the next recovery team's focus,

providing them a better opportunity for recovering remains, which may be repatriated and identified at the DPAA state-of-the art labs. Regardless of field results and settings, the sites are challenging, engaging, and an honor to excavate.



The author with recovery team at the end of mission field work.
Photo: Michael Gregory.

categorize, and analyze features in the landscape. Based on my previous work in the field, we're able to locate and identify ancient structures using satellite images that have resolutions as precise as 15cm per pixel. At that resolution you can almost identify a basketball on the surface.

This past academic year we focused on three sites: Cerro Olivar, Tucushuanca, and Cahuacucho in Peru's coastal Casma Valley. These sites vary in age, but all of them have a Casma Culture component, dated to the late prehispanic period, ca. AD 1000-1400. In the satellite images, we've identified numerous structures with administrative, ritual, and residential functions.

I visited these sites this last June to evaluate their viability for future field research. What I found is that they are viable and in urgent need of documentation because a new threat has emerged to archaeological preservation: agricultural encroachment on archaeological sites.

Postcard from the Field: Agricultural Encroachment in Peru

By David Pacifico
Assistant Professor
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee



View of Cahuacucho from Tucushuanca.
Photo: David Pacifico.

I spent most of June in Peru this year reconnecting with colleagues, collecting recent publications from Peruvian cultural organizations, and scouting archaeological sites for future research. Specifically, on that last point, I was ground-truthing research I've been conducting this past year with undergraduates at UWM. Throughout the academic year, we observe satellite images, digitize,



Combi bus modified to serve as water pump.
Photo: David Pacifico.

In the past, archaeologists despaired that looting (aka "pot hunting," aka "huaqueo" in Peru) was an ongoing threat to archaeological sites. To some degree it still is. More dire, however, is the encroachment of middle-level agricultural expansion in archaeologically rich areas. The details of this phenomenon will require close study. However, we can broadly define middle-level agricultural expansion as agricultural development conducted on a scale larger than the plots managed by a local family and smaller in scale than industrial agribusiness ventures. Talking with colleagues in the field, the consensus is that these middle-level ventures are run by one or more investors in nearby cities who buy up cheap tubes, cheap water tanks, and cheap pumps that they use to crisscross archaeological sites in order to

cultivate the sites with maize, mangos, and potentially avocados. These are likely destined for export.

This kind of agricultural expansion is particularly damaging because it is fast, cheap, and driven by people who do not live near the archaeological sites. Local residents are often hired to help lay the tubes and guard the fields at key moments, but they are not in control of the projects themselves – at least according to a few conversations I had with colleagues in June.

Archaeological ethics should direct us to consider the needs of living people when implementing archaeological preservation efforts. Considering the needs of living, local people is especially important in rural areas where many of those living near archaeological sites are socially and economically marginalized. But in the case of middle-level agricultural encroachment, it is economically powerful groups that are taking advantage of local need and the lack of adequate archaeological supervision to increase their fields of products destined for export.



Recently-planted fruit trees in archaeological area.
Photo: David Pacifico.

The details of these finds require further probing and only careful investigation and coordination will uncover the details of this process and find appropriate solutions. What is clear at present, however, is that efforts to document archaeological sites using recent and historical satellite and aerial images will be essential in preserving an archaeological landscape that is facing rapid destruction.

Appeal for donations

Dear esteemed members of the AIA-Milwaukee Society,

The AIA-Milwaukee Society is going strong after 50 years, thanks to the hard work of our local leadership

committee, thanks to your enthusiastic participation, and thanks to support from the AIA. However, like many cultural institutions, the AIA has cut back on certain funding lines. Our own society covers the costs of refreshments, honoraria and travel expenses for local scholars, expenditures for printing *The Artifact*, and for International Archaeology Day. While we remain solvent, we have a declining treasury. But, because our overall expenditures are low, a little goes a long way.

In that light, I would encourage you to donate to the AIA-Milwaukee Society in order to help us continue the long, warm, and enthusiastic tradition we are lucky to have here in Milwaukee. Donations of any denomination are welcomed. Donations of \$150 will earn you a named lecture in the coming lecture season. We also seek to build ties to businesses and community groups that share interests in the regions, cultures, and topics covered in our lectures.

Funds will be used primarily to host ‘local’ scholars from further afield in the Midwest and to expand our refreshments offering.

Sneak Preview of Spring Programs

On February 10, Pedar W. Foss, Professor of Classical Studies at DePaul University will present a lecture titled “When did Vesuvius Explode?” In the Spring, we will also have two other lectures.



Pompeii with Mt. Vesuvius in the background

You will find more information on these events in the Spring 2020 issue of the *Artifact* and in our spring email notices.

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AIA-Milwaukee Society Fall Calendar

PLEASE KEEP
Fall 2019



- September 29 Sunday, September 29, 2019, 3:00 pm. *Lecture*
Andrew L. Goldman, *Helmets from the Sea: Military Finds from the Battle of the Aegates Islands (241 BCE)*
- October 5 Saturday, October 5, 2019, 1:00-4:00 pm. **Schlitz Audubon Nature Center**
International Archaeology Day Celebration: Hands on Archaeology
- November 10 Sunday, November 10, 2019, 3:00 pm. *Lecture*
Michael Gregory, *Missing in Action, Body Not Recovered: DPAA Archaeological Activities in Southeast Asia*
- December 7 **Saturday**, December 7, 2019, 3:00 pm. *Lecture*
Kristin Landau, *Ancient Maya Political Integration: A Case Study from Copán, Honduras*

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 on Sundays.