



The Current

NEWSLETTER OF THE ISLAND & COASTAL ARCHAEOLOGY
INTEREST GROUP

Volume 1: Issue 2 Fall/Winter, 2013

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Editor's Note

Dear ICA Interest Group Members;

As the inaugural year of the Island and Coastal Archaeology Interest Group wraps up, I am pleased to announce that our membership now stands at more than 900 individuals. This figure represents roughly 12% of the Society for American Archaeology's membership and is a notable indicator of the prominent place of islands and coastlines in contemporary archaeological practice. It also serves as a testament to the important role these environments played in the human past. As the interest group grows and develops its agenda, we hope that you, the members, will be involved in the process. The opportunity to participate comes with the next meeting of the Society for American Archaeology to be held in Austin, Texas, April 23-27, 2014. The ICA Interest Group will conduct its annual membership meeting at this time. The location and time of the meeting will be announced in the conference program at a later date.

For ICA members who are on the conference circuit, you will find announcements for a number of upcoming meetings listed in the following pages, including the 20th Congress of the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association in Seam Reap, Cambodia in January. If you have recently hosted or organized an event please consider communicating a brief account of the proceedings to *The Current*. The Newsletter welcomes short reports on recent meetings, conferences, symposia and workshops that keep the membership informed of professional activities around the globe. If you are interested in contributing please turn to page 12 for submission details.

On behalf of myself and the ICA Interest Group executive committee, we wish the best of for the holiday season and hope to see you in Austin in the New Year.

Christina M. Giovas
Editor, *The Current*



CONFERENCES, MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND CALLS FOR PAPERS

**20th Congress of the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association
January 12 – 18, 2014**

The 20th Congress of the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association will be held in Seam Reap (Angkor), Cambodia, January 12-18, 2014. Additional information may be found on the conference website, <https://sites.google.com/site/ippasiemreap2014/home>

**SEAPEOPLE "Archaeology of maritime hunter-gatherers:
From settlement function to the organization of the coastal zone"
April 10 – 11, 2014.**

The Société Préhistorique Française will host the workshop SEAPEOPLE "Archaeology of maritime hunter-gatherers: From settlement function to the organization of the coastal zone" in Rennes, France, April 10-11 2014. This workshop is open to archaeologists, anthropologists and palaeo-environmentalists working on maritime peoples of every continents. In order to bring to the foreground the diversity of the methods of study and evolving scenarios, participants are welcome from all continents. SEAPEOPLE is coordinated by Catherine Dupont and Grégor Marchand and is supported by: Projet européen 'Arch-Manche' (Interreg IVa 2 Mers, 2 Seas, fonds FEDER, Programme de labellisation de la MSHB SEAMESO, la Société Préhistorique Française, UMR6566, CNRS, Université de Rennes 1. For more information: <http://seapeople2014.univ-rennes1.fr/index.php>

Abstract: *Maritime hunters-gatherers have been the subject of much attention from anthropologists, in part because of the high variety of social organization that they exhibit worldwide. The diversity of their technical knowledge, whether related to fishing or to food preservation and storage, provides another focus of attention. Archaeologists have also developed a strong interest in these populations, known by their shell-middens along marine or estuarine seashores. The recent resumption of excavations on some of these sites in Atlantic and Mediterranean Europe has highlighted all their informative potential, that make clearer the question of the connections between the human beings and the marine environment. This renewed research dynamism is also connected to the diversification of archaeology as a discipline, which brings a variety of approaches to these littoral societies. One aim of this workshop is to present new methods of shellmidden excavation, and how to make use of both this and from the important but often problematic information obtained during old excavations. The dynamics of formation and transformation of these sites (taphonomy of organic remains, differential preservation, control of the oceanic reservoir effect during radiocarbon dating ...) will be more particularly highlighted, next to archaeological problems linked to coastal or estuarine environments. Finally, the development of the methods of underwater prospecting allows the extension of these themes. The shell-midden as a unique archaeological phenomenon clearly presents a complex situation!*

Beyond these considerations around sites with shell deposits in the strict sense, there is the question of their relation to broader economic and social networks, in particular the question of the collective mobility which would rely on complementary settlements, either on other locations along the coastline, or in the hinterland. Finally, by changing the scale of observation, the role of these coastal occupations in society must be



investigated. We know that a certain form of resistance to the attractions of the agro-pastoral economies took place in Atlantic Europe in the sixth millennium BC. But, new datings and data on the seasonality have allowed continual re-assessment of the duration of these confrontations, even their nature and also their role in the social dynamics observed in the Early and Middle Neolithic.

**7th Annual International Conference on Mediterranean Studies
April 14 – 17, 2014**

The Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER) organizes its 7th Annual International Conference on Mediterranean Studies, April 14 – 17, 2014, Athens, Greece. The aim of the conference is to bring together scholars, researchers and students from all areas of Mediterranean Studies, such as history, arts, archaeology, philosophy, culture, sociology, politics, international relations, economics, business, sports, environment and ecology, etc. Deadline to submit abstracts is December 31, 2013. Conference website: www.atiner.gr/mediterranean.htm.

**12th International Conference of the International Council for Archaeozoology
September 22 – 27, 2014**

The 12th International Conference of the International Council for Archaeozoology will be held September 22 – 27, 2014 in San Rafael (Mendoza) Argentina. ICAZ promotes zooarchaeology as a field of growing importance for archaeology and for understanding faunal paleodiversity. Meetings are held every four years with the goal of strengthening interactions between archaeozoologists on all continents and between archaeozoologists and other disciplines in order to advance understanding of the human-animal relationship. The 2014 ICAZ meeting will focus particularly on strengthening ties with Latin American archaeozoologists. The online registration system is now available: <http://www.icaaz2014argentina.com>. Abstracts for thematic sessions may be submitted through March 1, 2014. Abstracts for general communications may be submitted through to March 30, 2014.

Thematic Sessions of Interest to ICA Members (session titles linked to abstracts):

[Ichthyoarchaeology In The Americas](#). Organizers: Philippe Béarez and Francisco Zangrando; panchozan@yahoo.com.ar; bearez@mnhn.fr

[Global Patterns In The Exploitation Of Animal-Based Raw Materials: Technological And Socio-Cultural Issues](#). Organizers: Natacha Buc, Annalisa Christie, Alice Choyke, and Vivian Scheinsohn; scheinso@retina.ar

[Molluscs As A Record Of Human-Environment Relationships: Environmental Reconstructions, Impacts, And Management](#). Organizers: Christina M. Giovas, Zhanna Antipushina and Catherine F. West; cmgiovas@uw.edu; amwg.icaaz@gmail.com; cwest@bu.edu

[Zooarchaeology In Oceania](#). Organizers: Pam J. Crabtree and Kelila Jaffe; Pc4@nyu.edu; kelila.jaffe@nyu.edu



Climate Change, Marine Productivity, And Human-Based Ecosystems: Contrasting Sub-Arctic And Sub-Antarctic Historical Marinescapes. Organizers: Herbert Maschner, Luis Borrero, Matthew Betts and Nicole Misarti; maschner@isu.edu; laborrero2003@yahoo.com; Matthew.Betts@civilisations.ca; nmisarti@alaska.edu

Malacological And Isotopic Studies Along The Pacific Coast. Organizers: Carola Flores and Marcelo Rivadeneira; carolaflores@gmail.com

Recent Approaches To Zooarchaeological And Ethnozoological Research At Caribbean Lowlands. Organizers: Diana Rocío Carvajal Contreras and Elizabeth Ramos Rocca; diacarco@hotmail.com; diana.carvajal@uexternado.edu.co; eramosroca@uniandes.edu.co

Trade And Migration: The Zooarchaeology Of Contact And Movement. Organizers: Richard Madgwick and Sarah Viner-Daniels; MadgwickRD3@cardiff.ac.uk

Environmental Archaeology **Call for Papers**

Environmental Archaeology welcomes all contributions that consider the interaction between humans and their environment in the archaeological and historical past. Particular areas of interest include:

- New developments within theory and practice of environmental archaeology
- Biomolecular archaeology
- Human osteology and paleopathology
- Human interaction with climatic and environmental changes in the past

Open access publication option: *Environmental Archaeology* is a subscription journal, but is also OA-compliant. Therefore the option of open access publication is available to authors with the necessary funding. www.maneypublishing.com/moreopenchoice. Benefits of submitting to this journal: indexed by Scopus and ranked in Q1 Social Sciences (Archaeology); no submission or page charges; official journal of the Association for Environmental Archaeology (AEA). Submit your paper online: www.edmgr.com/env



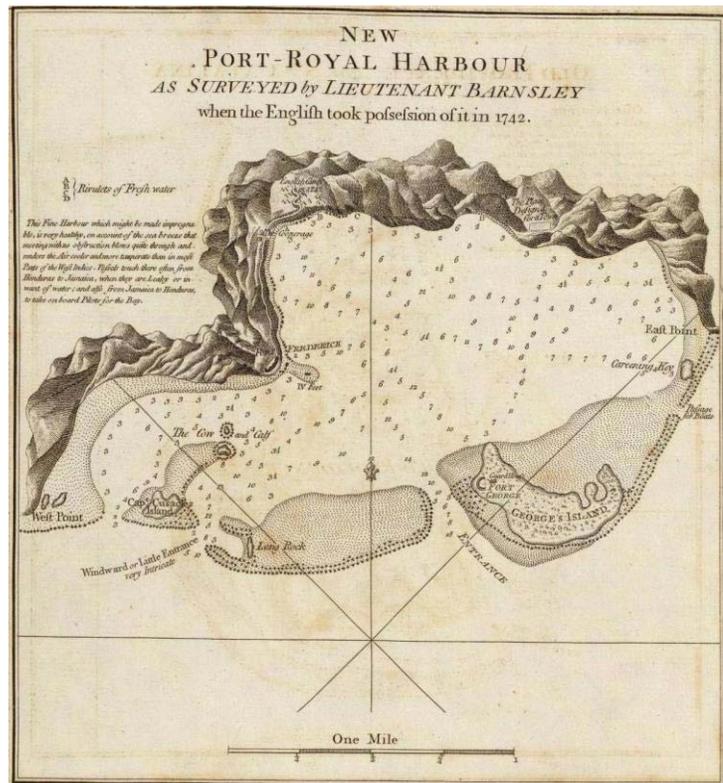


RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Unearthing Augusta—an 18th Century English/Miskitu Settlement on Roatán Island, Honduras

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In 1742, an English outpost of the emerging British Empire was established on Roatán Island off the north coast of Honduras. The community, Augusta, housed a mix of English militia, colonial settlers, and indigenous Miskitu peoples from the mainland. While the settlement was occupied for a brief span of only seven years, the material record of the community provides insight into early English-Miskitu interactions during the process of English royalization in the western Caribbean. This research project brings ethnohistorical evidence together with data collected through archaeological survey and excavation to better understand the spatial organization of Augusta and the daily lives of its inhabitants.



Four field seasons of archaeological investigations have been conducted by the University of South Florida between 2009 and 2012, and have unearthed mixed deposits of English and Miskitu material culture. These deposits were found scattered among cobblestone platforms and wattle and daub constructions, and include a wide range of bottle glass shards (mostly from rum or wine bottles), hand wrought iron nails for building as well as small board and clasp nails and larger cinch nails for ship repair, fine red earthenware, Staffordshire-type slipware, tin-glazed ceramic sherds, indigenous plainware sherds, kaolin tobacco pipe stems and bowls, indigenous ground stone fragments, and various firearm components including a variety of musket balls.

Figure 1: Inset from the map of “New Port-Royal Harbour, Ruatan” as surveyed by Lieutenant Henry Barnsley in 1742. The map was produced “with improvements by Thomas Jefferys, Geographer to the King,” and was published in 1775 by Robert Sayer as part of “The West-India atlas.”



These materials indicate a mid-eighteenth century occupation, and suggest that both English and Miskitu populations lived and interacted within the same settlement. This archaeological



Figure 2: A Staffordshire-type English mug (ca. 1740s) with trailed, jeweled, and combed designs; unearthed at Augusta, Roatán.

evidence supports historical accounts of an English-Miskitu alliance forged as early as the sixteenth century, and fostered for years as the English sought allies in their colonial efforts against rival European powers. More broadly, these data suggest that Miskitu labor and identity were entangled with English lifeways and lifestyles, and that these entanglements can reveal some of the complex ways in which the process of royalization was adapted to the unique social and natural landscapes of the western Caribbean.

Grand Island Archaeology: The Late Archaic Period (4,500-2,000 BP)

Fernanda Neubauer, Project Staff and Field Co-Director of the 03-913 and 03-914 Site Excavations

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Website: <http://iilt.ilstu.edu/jmskibo/grandisland/>

There is a paucity of Late Archaic period archaeological data from the mainland of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. In contrast, recent excavations on Grand Island by the Grand Island Archaeological Program—ongoing since 2001 under the direction of James Skibo and Eric Drake—have yielded a sizable body of evidence of Late Archaic occupations there. Fernanda Neubauer, who is

Figure 1: The location of the six Late Archaic sites on Grand Island that have been excavated by the Grand Island Archaeological Program (GIAP): Popper (03-825), 03-754, Gete Odena (20AR348), Duck Lake (03-1056), 03-913, and 03-914.





conducting her doctoral research on the Late Archaic in Grand Island, suggests that throughout this period the island was a place on the landscape to which families would periodically return to in the fall. The seasonality of resource availability probably structured many technological innovations and decisions related to survival and landscape modification.

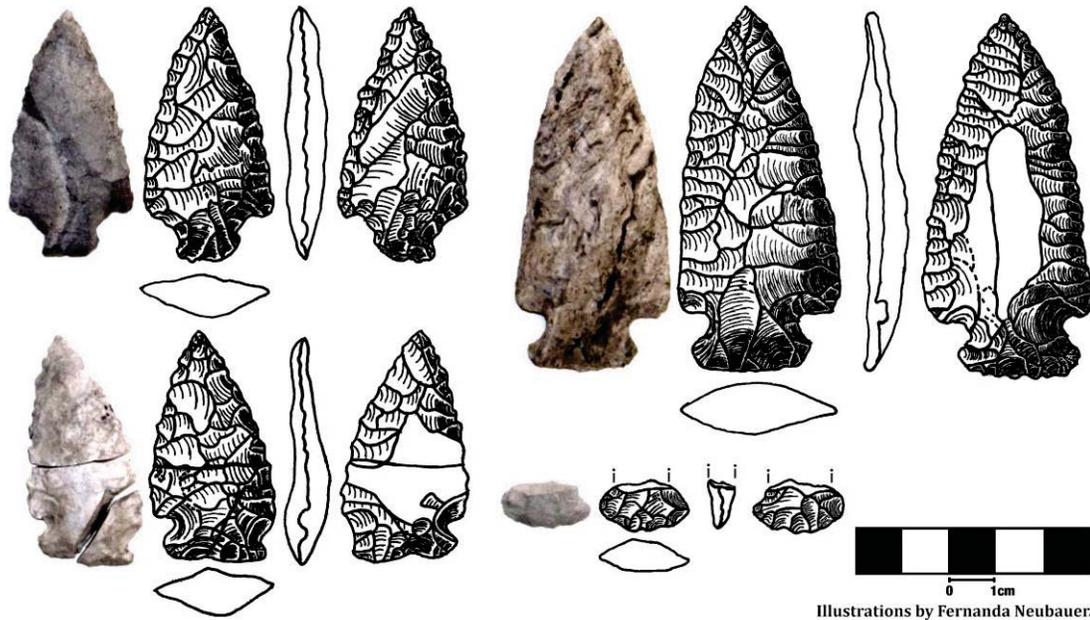


Figure 2: Late Archaic projectile points are rare findings in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, but the GIAP has recovered four chert points in context at the Popper site on Grand Island.

Rare findings of animal remains (NISP 76) from the Popper site (03-825) indicate that fishing for whitefish and the hunting of medium to large size mammals would have been recurrent activities on Grand Island. People recurrently used the Popper site as a place to live during the fall, when spawning whitefish were available in abundance in the shallow shoreline waters. Neubauer's techno-typological analysis of the 9,800 lithics recovered from Popper revealed that flintknapping behavior there was directed primarily toward the production of expedient flakes rather than formal tools, potentially for the processing of mammals and fish. By focusing on foodways, lithic technology, settlement variability, and residential mobility, this research investigates the people who used Grand Island throughout the Late Archaic period. This range of evidence is an important gateway to understanding decisions related to cuisine, technology, and landscape interactions.



Understanding Early Cultural Complexity in Coastal Peru: Investigations of Small-Scale Ceremonial Architecture at the Late Archaic Site of Huaricanga, Fortaleza Valley

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In 2012, archaeological excavations conducted at Huaricanga along Peru's north central coast investigated the changing nature of ritual practices performed by early leaders as they systematically incorporated religion into their base of power. The research at Huaricanga focused on a series of small-scale ceremonial structures that date to the Late Archaic Period (3,000-1,800 B.C.). The Late Archaic Period witnessed the appearance of multiple communities with monumental platform mounds and large sunken courts. Although considerable research has been accomplished over the last 40 years on the economic foundations of these early societies, little attention has been devoted to the role of ideology in the development of complex socio-political organization.



Figure 1: General view of the series of superimposed ceremonial structures at Huaricanga. These buildings have plastered surfaces, two-level floors, and extensive evidence of burnt offerings. A modern irrigation canal (foreground) provided an extensive profile that served as a guide for excavations.

Research by the Huaricanga Archaeological Research Project (HARP) blends traditional archaeological methodologies with innovative analytical techniques to reconstruct ancient ritual practices. A variety of analyses,



Figure 2: Piece of worked shell, perhaps a pendant, found in construction fill within the ceremonial architecture at Huaricanga. Ritual structures tend to lack macroscopic evidence of the activities that took place inside their walls. Therefore, the majority of the artifact content often comes from fill contexts. The lack of artifacts further substantiates the need for multi-disciplinary techniques and microscopic analysis.



including X-ray fluorescence spectrometry, micromorphology, pollen analysis, Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy, and scanning electron microscopy, performed on a superimposed series of ceremonial buildings are allowing for a comparison of ceremonial architecture and the activities that took place within the structures. HARP's multi-disciplinary investigation of small-scale temples at the site of Huaricanga explores variation in ritual practices in the evolving complex polities on the Peruvian coast during the Late Archaic Period. For more information, please visit the HARP website at <http://www.diggingperu.wordpress.com>.

Fragility and Sustainability in restricted island environments: Adaptation, Culture Change and Collapse in prehistory. The case of the island of Malta in Southern Mediterranean Europe. A first field statement.

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FRAGSUS is a collaborative research programme of five years (1 May 2013-30 April 2018) funded by the European Research Council and undertaken by the School of Geography, Archaeology and Palaeoecology Queen's University Belfast, the Divisions of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of Cambridge, the Department of Archaeology and Classics, University of Malta, the National Museum of Archaeology (Heritage Malta) and the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage, Malta. The project team have chosen the small island archipelago of Malta, one of Europe's earliest civilisations, as an island laboratory for the investigation of a long-held question of cultural continuity and change in the Neolithic five and half thousand years ago. The archaeo-environmental project examines the development of this small island archipelago in order to develop models of how societies emerged, expanded, were sustained, and then finally declined, collapsed, or got transformed or replaced.



Figure 1: The Zembaq field site on Malta

The first field season in September 2013 concentrated on the recovery of pollen to seek understanding of regional change in vegetation over the archipelago. Field sites were chosen on



the basis of geospatial assessment by Dr. Christopher Hunt (Queen's Belfast) in collaboration with other colleagues (notably Prof. Patrick J Schembri of the University of Malta). These sites were ground truthed with georadar by Dr Alastair Ruffell (Queen's Belfast) to assess depth and hazard. The data are now under study. A further short supplementary season is anticipated for November 2013, and the study of archaeological landscapes will commence in Spring 2014.



Recent Publications

Bevan, A. and J. Conolly

2013 *Mediterranean Islands, Fragile Communities and Persistent Landscapes: Antikythera in Long-Term Perspective*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Breen, Colin

2013 Towards an archaeology of early Islamic ports on the Western Red Sea Coast. *Journal of Maritime Archaeology* 8(2):311-323.

Broodbank, C.

2013 "Minding the gap": Thinking about change in early Cycladic island societies from a comparative perspective. *American Journal of Archaeology* 117 (4):535-543.

Brown, Sarah K., Christyann M. Darwent, and Benjamin N. Sacks

2013 Ancient DNA Evidence for genetic continuity in Arctic Dogs. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 40(2): 1279–1288.

Commendador, Amy S., John V. Dudgeon, Bruce P. Finney, Benjamin T. Fuller, Kelley S. Esh.

2013 A stable isotope ($\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$) perspective on human diet on rapa nui (Easter Island) ca. AD 1400–1900. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. 152(2):173–185.

Darwent, John, Owen K. Mason, John F.

Hoffecker, and Christyann M. Darwent
2013 1000 years of house change at Cape Espenberg, Alaska: A case study in horizontal stratigraphy. *American Antiquity* 78(3):433–455.

Eckert, Suzanne L. and Daniel R. Welch

2013 A commanding view of the Pacific: highland land use as viewed from Vainu'u, a multi-component site on Tutuila Island, American Samoa. *Archaeology in Oceania* 48(1):13–25.

Fitzpatrick, Scott M. and Richard Callaghan

2013 Estimating trajectories of colonization to the Mariana Islands, Western Pacific. *Antiquity* 87:840-853.

Jazwa, Christopher S. and Jennifer E. Perry (Eds.)

2013 *California's Channel Islands: The Archaeology of Human-Environment Interactions*. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

This compendium condenses decades of excavation and analysis into a single volume, tracing human occupation of the Channel Islands from the earliest settlement by marine-adapted foragers at the end of the Pleistocene to the tragic story of historic



depopulation continuing into the nineteenth century. Contributors discuss topics including human settlement patterns, prehistoric trails, the use of plant resources, ceremonialism, and the decisions that people made when confronted with diverse and changing environments. Table of Contents link: <http://content.lib.utah.edu/cdm/singleitem/collecton/upcat/id/1897/rec/1>

Journal of Island and Coastal Archaeology
2013 Special Section: Islands, Coastlines, and Stable Isotopes: Advances in Archaeology and Geochemistry, Volume 8(2).

Contributors:

West, Catherine F.
Islands, coastlines, and stable isotopes: advances in archaeology and geochemistry, p. 149-151.

Burchell, Meghan, Nadine Hallmann, Andrew Martindale, Aubrey Cannon and Bernd R. Schöne
Seasonality and intensity of shellfish harvesting on the North Coast of British Columbia, p. 152-169

Jew, Nicholas P., Jon M. Erlandson, Jack Watts and Frances J. White
Shellfish, seasonality, and stable isotope sampling: $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ analysis of mussel shells from an 8,800-year-old shell midden on California's Channel Islands, p. 170-189.

Thompson, Victor D. and C. Fred T. Andrus
Using oxygen isotope sclerochronology to evaluate the role of small islands among the Guale (AD 1325 to 1700) of the Georgia coast, USA, p. 190-209.

Krigbaum, John, Scott M. Fitzpatrick and Jamie Bankaitis
Human paleodiet at Grand Bay, Carriacou, Lesser Antilles, p. 210-227.

Pestle, William J.
Fishing down a prehistoric Caribbean marine food web: Isotopic evidence from Punta Candelero, Puerto Rico, p.228-254.

McManus, Ellen, Janet Montgomery, Jane Evans, Angela Lamb, Rhea Brettell and Johan Jelsma
"To the land or to the sea": Diet and mobility in early Medieval Frisia, p. 255-277

Hodgetts, Lisa M.
2013 The rediscovery of HMS Investigator: Archaeology, sovereignty and the colonial legacy in Canada's Arctic. *Journal of Social Archaeology* 13(1): 80-100.

Jerardino, A.
2013 *The Archaeology of the West Coast of South Africa*. BAR International Series 2526, Archaeopress, Oxford.

Klein, Richard G. and Teresa E. Steele
2013 Archaeological shellfish size and later human evolution in Africa. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA*. DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1304750110.

Knapp, Bernard
2013 *The Archaeology of Cyprus: From Earliest Prehistory through the Bronze Age*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Marquardt, Bill and Karen A. Walker (Eds.)
2013 *The Archaeology of Pineland: A Coastal Southwest Florida Site Complex, A.D. 50-1710*. Institute of Archaeology and Paleoenvironmental Studies, Monograph No. 4, University of Florida, Gainesville.

Pierotti, Ray
2013 Human impacts on seals, sea lions, and sea otters: Integrating archaeology and ecology of the Northeast Pacific. *Ethnobiology Letters* 4: 32-36.



Reitz, Elizabeth J.
2013 Continuity and resilience in the central Georgia Bight (USA) fishery between 2760 BC and AD 1580. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 41:716–731.

Tartaron, Thomas F.
2013 *Maritime Networks in the Mycenaean World*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.



Submission Instructions: How to Contribute to The Current

A variety of interest pieces and announcements are accepted for publication in the ICAIG newsletter. Generally, the deadline for submission for the Spring/Summer Issue is May 1st and for the Fall/Winter Issue, November 1st. Submissions and inquiries may be directed to *The Current* Editor, Christina M. Giovas (cmgiovas@uw.edu). Contributions need not follow any specific format, with the exception of “Research Highlights” and “Recent Publications” (instructions below).

Instructions for Submitting Recent Publications

- Citations submitted for the “Recent Publications” section of the newsletter should follow the *American Antiquity* / *Latin American Antiquity* style guide. (<http://www.saa.org/AbouttheSociety/Publications/StyleGuide/tabid/984/Default.aspx>)
- “In press” citations should be accompanied by a digital object identifier (DOI).

Instructions for Preparing “Research Highlights” Descriptions

- Prepare a short description, written in the third person, that includes the purpose of the research, location, brief review of findings to date (if relevant), and other information of potential interest to the membership.
- Descriptions should be single spaced, using 12 pt, Times New Roman or Calibri font, and should be submitted as an MSWord file (.doc or .docx).
- Be sure to provide a title (project name or site name) and include the names and organization of the author(s)/principal investigator(s) submitting the description.
- Provide a valid email address for a single contact author/principle investigator.
- Proof read and spell check the research description, especially place names.
- **Word limit:** please keep the description to a maximum of about 250 words (i.e., abstract length).
- Only include literature citations if absolutely necessary. List these after the research description using the citation format for *American Antiquity*. Guidelines available at: <http://www.saa.org/StyleGuideText/tabid/985/Default.aspx>
- **Images:** One or two (maximum) JPEG or TIFF format photos/images/illustrations may be included with the research description. Image resolution should be 600 dpi. Please note that photos may be cropped to fit to the page if images are too large or include significant “empty” space. To avoid this, please format images prior to submission to include only necessary content.
- Include a caption for any images submitted.

Submit descriptions and images as separate files to the newsletter editor, Christina Giovas, at cmgiovas@uw.edu. Submissions that do not meet the above guidelines will be returned to the author for revision, which may delay publication in *The Current*. Due to space constraints not all submitted pieces may be included in a given issue of *The Current*. If this is the case, your contribution will receive priority listing for the next issue. Do not hesitate to contact the editor if you have any questions. We look forward to receiving your contributions.