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From the Editorial Staff

Having the pleasure to act as editor of this year’s edition of Stem to Stern has been a wonderful opportunity. The work that the students of this program have produced in the past year reflects the quality of the Maritime Studies Program, particularly in the ways that its students have been able to gain opportunities and conduct research on a variety of topics. The research and field experience that has been occurring not only within the United States but around the globe is truly inspiring. Helping to assist in sharing some of these accomplishments by acting as editor of Stem to Stern has been a great honor. The work that the students in this program are producing is wonderful to see, and I am excited to highlight some of their ongoing and past efforts within this edition. I hope that you all enjoy reading this year’s issue of Stem to Stern as much as I have enjoyed working on it.

– Bethany Earley

As a first-year graduate student in the Maritime Studies Program, I was very excited to see the vast number of fascinating projects the students are working on. The variety of interests and expertise of each student is astonishing. I was chosen to be the assistant editor of Stem to Stern by sheer luck, and I am very grateful. The best part about being a part of the editorial staff is observing the success of my classmates. I am very enthusiastic to see what the next few years have in store.

– Patrick Boyle

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- Thank you
2019 has been another busy year for the Program in Maritime Studies. Faculty have led local projects across the coastal landscape of eastern North Carolina, and traveled across the globe as far as Greece, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan), and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (Kwajalein Atoll).

This year’s field school students were able to experience a range of working conditions. In the summer, Dr. Harris and Dr. McKinnon led a group of students to various locations in North Carolina, spending time working on maritime heritage sites at risk on Portsmouth Island (a continuation of the project reported in 2018), on submerged canoes in Lake Phelps, and on submerged shipwrecks in the Tar River (the Tom Jones wreck). In what must be a record, water visibility pushing three feet was reported in the Tar.

In the fall, a team under the direction of Dr. Jason Raupp headed to the Republic of the Marshall Islands for a new Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) mission. This project was supported by colleagues from ECU’s Coastal Studies Institute and Diving and Water Safety office, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and the St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum’s Lighthouse Maritime Archaeology Program. This was also a major collaboration with Professional Diving Services, a commercial diving operator from Melbourne, Australia. The project also received crucial support from Kwajalein MIA Project (the organization that discovered the site) and the American Legion’s Richard B. Anderson Memorial Post 44, in addition to broad support from USAG Kwajalein Atoll and the island community.

This project was shadowed by a group of students led by Dr. Nathan Richards, Jeremy Borrelli, and Jason Nunn who also landed in Kwajalein Atoll to examine wrecks within the lagoon. The field school then ran parallel with the Raupp-led DPAA mission. With that work in full swing, students cycled between DPAA project tasks and shallow water investigations. The primary shallow water site of interest was a Landing Craft, Utility (LCU) of the 1466-series (a “successor” of the USA’s Landing Craft, Tanks [LCTs] of the Second World War). These were not the only field activities of 2019 in the Pacific region. As you will see in this volume of *Stem to Stern*, a team of Maritimers led by Dr. McKinnon collaborated with the Task Force Dagger Foundation and the Florida Public Archaeology Network on another Saipan-based DPAA mission, and students were also able to complete thesis research there.

By no means were all activities Pacific Ocean-focused. Dr. Stewart led a group of students to the Mediterranean on a study abroad trip (visiting Athens, Santorini, and Crete), and one lucky student got to work on a project in the Atlantic during NOAA’s search for USCGC Bear. Additionally, at the time of writing, other field work activities are also occurring, including more work in the Tar-Pamlico area (a search for relict harbor infrastructure near Washington, NC) and site inspections and remote sensing at the WW2-era subchaser, USS PC-1084 in the Upper Cape Fear (a remote sensing survey). The last two projects mentioned are a continuation of the fall field school and are also student thesis projects. We plan to fully report on these projects in 2020’s volume.

Some of the biggest news of the year was the successful completion of a search for a new assistant professor. We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Jason Raupp as the Program in Maritime Studies’ newest assistant professor. We’ve had the pleasure of working with Dr. Raupp for many years in his capacity as Staff Archaeologist. In this position he provided critical support for every aspect of our program’s operations. We are now very excited to welcome him into a new role. Dr. Raupp (Ph.D., Flinders University) specializes in maritime archaeology and history. His research interests include archaeology of the Pacific Ocean, Latin America, and the Caribbean, culture contact, historic fisheries, military technologies, and battlefield studies. As you will note from the opening paragraphs of this tract, Jason really has “hit the ground running.” Welcome Dr. Raupp!

Other personnel changes have occurred in the program. Our DPAA Research Fellow Jeneva Wright (MA ’15) found herself transitioning into a job as a contractor with SNA International in a capacity that would see her continue to work as an Archaeologist/Project Manager with the Partnerships and Innovations Directorate of the DPAA (and reside locally). To complete Jeneva’s contract we were able to hire Madeline (Maddie) Roth (MA ’18) into the position. Maddie’s contract was eventually extended due to other DPAA projects up until her successful employment as a Research Operations Specialist with NOAA’s Maritime Heritage Program. Over 2019 both Maddie and Jeneva have been critical in several DPAA-focused initiatives and we look forward to working with both in their new roles.

With Dr. Raupp’s transition into a tenure-track line, we’ve also been lucky to have Jeremy Borrelli (assistant staff archaeologist; MA ’15) oversee our field archaeology planning, logistics, and coordination activities. With ECU in the middle of a well-advertised hiring freeze, one of our immediate actions is to make sure that the staff archaeologist position is returned to us in 2020.

Other exciting news to report from the past 12 months includes the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) Maritime Heritage Program (MHP). The MOA was designed to create a conduit through which maritime heritage-focused expertise at ECU could be advertised amongst NOAA Marine Sanctuaries, while simultaneously advertising research ideas and broadcasting NOAA’s needs for research assistance. The intention is to create opportunity to form collaborations between NOAA and ECU employees that may lead to new initiatives such as research projects, outreach activities, and student internships. The Program in Maritime Studies already has strong long-term connections to the NOAA sanctuaries program (particularly through our many graduates working in sanctuaries), and we hope this MOA will further fortify these connections. Conversations between the Program and NOAA have already started in relation to a range of activities in the coming year from potential student thesis support to prospective field schools. Keep your eye out for the 2020 *Stem to Stern* to hear about how these and other initiatives have progressed.

– Nathan Richards, PhD, Program Director
Portside: Reaves Chapel

In the southeastern United States, it is exceedingly rare to find a black church constructed prior to the American Civil War that still stands today. While many historic structures simply fall apart, victims of both the indomitable march of time and the furious hurricanes that batter our state each year, black churches in the south have always had the added danger of race-based violence. Their varied usage as schools, meeting houses, and community centers placed them directly in the line of fire of those determined to limit the upward mobility of African Americans, and many were destroyed in the century of open racial discord that followed the conclusion of the war. Even my home church was a victim, burned by the Ku Klux Klan during the Civil Rights Era before being rebuilt by a coalition of family and community members.

It was this knowledge that I carried with me as I made a temporary move to Wilmington, North Carolina this summer to aid in the historic preservation of a rather remarkable structure. Historic Reaves Chapel AME Church was constructed just prior to the American Civil War by enslaved people living on the Cedar Hill Plantation in what is now Navassa, North Carolina. It remained on a bluff above the Cape Fear River until 1911, when it was moved by the congregation to its current location using oxen and logs. Its name originates from Mr. Edward Reaves, a formerly enslaved man who donated the land on which it now rests. The church remained active until the early 2000s, when the few remaining members either passed away or became too old to sustain the cost of keeping the building open. After partnering with the Cedar Hill/West Bank Foundation and the Town of Navassa with the goal of restoring the historic structure, the North Carolina Coastal Land Trust purchased Reaves Chapel in March 2019 using funds from the Orton Foundation, a subsidiary of the Moore Charitable Foundation.

As the Gullah Geechee Corridor Project Coordinator for the Coastal Land Trust, my job was to determine the history of Reaves Chapel and aid in the preparation for Phase 1 of the restoration process. I spent countless hours consulting with librarians, professors, and community members on the legacy of Reaves Chapel and the black church in general, and worked with Mayor Eulis B. Willis to coordinate an oral history project with the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill’s Southern Oral History Program. I was also responsible for the creation of an archival system for the preservation of materials located inside the church. Before repairs could begin on the structure to stabilize it for the hurricane season, we needed to move every single item out of the church, catalog them, and store them. The system I created was organized by location, date, and item number. For example, the first item taken from the church on July 17th was catalogued as REA071719-1. The second item would be labeled REA071719-2. All items were recorded on paper, photographed, and registered in an Excel spreadsheet with a description of the item and its photo number. In all, we collected and catalogued over 150 individual items, ranging from Sunday school programs to a pastor’s lectern over the course of two days.

The most rewarding portion of the internship was the day following our collections process. Using a forklift, a jigsaw, and an incredibly brave construction worker, they were able to detach the steeple, and the church bell inside it, from the church and lower it into a standing position on the ground. The lightening of the load on the church’s front corner aided in its stabilization, and the bell was removed and refurbished in preparation for the completed project. However, some community members made a special request prior to the removal of the bell. Due to the risk of destabilizing the church, it had been over three decades since anyone had heard the bell ring. Members of the Davis Family, which had roots in Reaves Chapel since its founding and were deeply involved in the project, were able to ring the bell once again. It was a poignant moment which emphasized the value of protecting cultural resources like Reaves Chapel.

Of all the projects I’ve had the pleasure of working on, this one was by far the one that stands out to me. Having the honor of helping preserve one of the oldest remaining African American churches in North Carolina for a community that is so invested in seeing it survive was deeply relatable and personal to me. I would like to extend my deepest thanks to the Coastal Land Trust, Cedar Hill/West Bank Heritage Foundation, the Town of Navassa, and a myriad of community members for trusting me with the care of Reaves Chapel and providing me with the resources to make my internship a success. I am incredibly excited to see what the future holds for this magnificent historic site. 

— Joel Cook
Between 1521 and 1815, there were 400 recorded voyages of Manila galleons between Manila, Philippines and Acapulco, Mexico. Two of these wrecked in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI): Santa Margarita which wrecked in 1602 in Rota, and Nuestra Señora de la Concepción (Concepción) which wrecked on September 12, 1638 in Saipan. Both galleons were treasure salvaged by private companies between the 1980s and early 2000s, and remain to be studied archaeologically. For my thesis, I am analyzing cultural impacts between the 1980s and early 2000s, and remain to be studied.

The trip to MARC proved successful in getting first-hand accounts on the history of the galleons, however, they were mainly Spanish perspectives preserved in the written record. Because indigenous Chamorro knowledge is transferred through oral histories, their perspectives were missing from written history. As a result, I attempted to explore Chamorro oral histories on the galleons by visiting with historians Genevieve Cabrera and Fred Camacho in Saipan. They each took me around the island, discussing Spanish colonial history and showing me areas with Spanish heritage. Unfortunately, there were not many on the island with memories of the Spanish colonial period, except for Lino Olopai. On his front porch, Lino shared his family's colonial experiences and memories. Genevieve, Fred, and Lino provided their invaluable knowledge and Chamorro and Carolinian perspectives about the history of the Marianas, for which I will forever be grateful.

In an attempt to collect additional information on the galleons, I then traveled to the Philippines in August to visit the National Archives of the Philippines. The Archives houses one of the main collections of Spanish documents in the world, but was largely unexploited by researchers. While I was able to find a few relevant documents, the visit was less fruitful as many records have been lost over time or mainly covered topics past the 17th century. The visit to the Philippines, however, was still productive. I visited with maritime archaeologists Ligaya Lacsina, Rachelle Ureta, and Catherine King at the National Museum of the Philippines. In the 1990s, the Museum led archaeological excavations on the Manila galleon San Diego which wrecked in Manila Bay in 1600. While answering my numerous questions about the galleon, Rachelle and Catherine provided an informative tour of the San Diego artifacts.

Conducting research in the Pacific allowed me to gain a more well-rounded approach to exploring my thesis topic. Historical and archival research obtained from Guam, Saipan, and the Philippines led to new insights about Santa Margarita and Concepción. In addition, talking with Fred, Genevieve, and Lino has encouraged me to incorporate indigenous perspectives about the NMI's Spanish colonial history. Thank you to all who helped during my summer thesis research.

— Aleck Tan
For my thesis, I am creating biographies for several artifacts related to the service history of USS *Constitution* or Old Ironsides. It is the oldest warship afloat with over 200 years of service. Nominated as the Ship of State, it still boasts a crew of active duty Navy officers and sailors. While HMS *Victory* is older and remains docked, Old Ironsides is often taken out into Boston harbor for cruises and sails under its own power. What originally drew me to the ship was the history and reputation it had earned through its varied service and missions. Walking on the decks amongst sailors, wearing traditional 1812 uniforms evokes a strong sense of the history.

The artifacts selected for this study include the naval constructor’s bevel, Commodore Edward Preble’s sword, a rosary given by Pope Pius IX, and a collection of souvenirs made from the ship’s recycled materials. Each artifact reflects an integral part of the historical narrative of the ship and crew. Primary sources such as first-hand accounts, ships logs, letters, and ship plans will provide crucial information for each biography. In addition, I am creating a photo inventory and 3-D models of each artifact. Along with discovering a purpose for photogrammetry in material culture studies, this will contribute towards the museum educational and preservation mission. The models could be used as an accurate baseline for tracking material deterioration or to enhance websites and other digital platforms designed for both the public and researchers.

In August, the US Naval Academy Museum in Annapolis, Maryland gave me permission to take photos for a model of Edward Preble’s sword, the commander of USS *Constitution* during the Barbary Wars (1801-1805). During his command of the fleet, he bombarded the city of Tripoli and ordered the destruction of the captured vessel, USS *Philadelphia*. While in command, he wore his sword as symbol of his rank of commander and to enhance his status as a warrior and officer. For this study, I am examining physical characteristics as well as traditions and protocols connected to the sword to find how the sword is a symbol and how its meaning transformed through its use-life. For example, when it was given as a gift to a captain that worked for Edward Preble’s brother, the sword changed roles. Its role changed from a tool and symbol of rank, to a gift that derived its value from its association with Commodore Preble.

Grant Walker, one of the curators of the US Naval Academy Museum, facilitated the Photogrammetry model. After taking over 300 photos of the sword from every angle, I plugged them into Agisoft Photoscan and created a model of the sword. After speaking with Dr. Richards and Jeremy Borelli, I was able to clean up the model and load it onto a platform that allowed me to study the sword further.

While this research and writing is still ongoing, I would like to thank Dr. Lynn Harris for overseeing this material culture project and offering helpful advice and Dr. Nathan Richards and Mr. Jeremy Borelli for their help with creating and cleaning up my model. I would also like to profusely thank the Naval Academy Museum, USS *Constitution* Museum, and the Naval History and Heritage Command Detachment Boston for permission to access artifact collection and for their generous assistance during this research initiative.

– Ryan Miranda
In the Field - The Joint Recovery Team Returns to Saipan

In July of 2019, a group of archaeologists and former Special Operations Forces service members traveled to the island of Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands to conduct the island’s first official underwater archaeological excavation. Although administered along the same rigorous scientific standards as other excavations, the purpose of this particular project was quite different from the norm.

The United States of America (US) is remarkable in its stance on the remains of its service members. The ethos of US armed forces is to never leave a fallen comrade behind. The swirling confusion of combat, however, makes this a difficult promise to uphold. Of the more than 400,000 service members killed during the Second World War alone, as of October 2019 72,648 are still unaccounted (including 873 civilians associated with the US Government). Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) is a US government organization dedicated to fulfilling the pledge of bringing them home by locating and repatriating the remains of the fallen through archaeology.

The project, led by Dr. Jennifer McKinnon, was conducted by staff and graduate students of East Carolina University’s Maritime Studies Program and Task Force Dagger Foundation (TFDF), a nonprofit organization created to assist former special warfare service members and their families. These two groups partnered with DPAA to form the Joint Recovery Team. In 2018, the Joint Recovery Team surveyed a portion of the waters around Saipan and in the process located a wrecked WWII US aircraft. Drawing from aspects of battlefield, aircraft, and forensic archaeology, the purpose of 2019’s project was to confirm the identity of that aircraft through excavation and characterize the site.

In 1944, the island of Saipan was a strategic linchpin for both the Allies and the Japanese. As a result, the battle for control of the island was fiercely contested and resulted in one of the most brutal fights of the Second World War. Following preliminary air attacks on 13 June 1944, the invasion of Saipan commenced on 15 June and was not concluded until nearly a month later on 9 July. According to Richard Gailey’s book, War in the Pacific: From Pearl Harbor to Tokyo Bay, of the island’s approximately 32,000 Japanese defenders, almost all of them were killed. More than 3,000 US servicemen lost their lives at Saipan before, during, and after the battle. Many of their bodies were never recovered. Seventy-five years later, almost to the date, the Joint Recovery Team endeavored to work on those missing cases.

Each day began with a fury of activity. The team would assemble at the dock to load tanks, personnel, and project gear on board the boat before shoving off at approximately 7:15 am. On the way to the site, the 20 plus project members would receive a briefing on the day’s tasks. The boat would moor over the site and final preparations were completed before dropping the first teams of SCUBA divers.

Although metal detector surveys and detailed drawings were normal assignments, dredging, the standard method of underwater excavation, was the primary task of most days. Divers on the ocean floor would use the dredge, essentially a large vacuum, to pull away sand and sediment revealing artifacts and wreckage, which was meticulously recorded and photographed. The removed sediment was placed into bags and carefully screened aboard the boat so as to ensure that no material pertaining to the aircraft, no matter how small, was lost. The screened sediment was then placed into a large bag and lowered back down to the sea floor to be emptied.

Although the main goal was to identify and characterize the site for potential recovery, TFDF also used the project as a rehabilitative therapy event. Following military careers of great stress and personal sacrifices, many TFDF members need to adjust to civilian life. Guided by professional archaeologists, TFDF members learned how to conduct an archaeological project while searching for, in their terms, “a lost brother.” This provided a new “mission, purpose, and focus.”

Throughout the project, the atmosphere among the Joint Recovery Team was a jubilant one of professionalism and cohesive friendship. TFDF members benefitted from their new-found mission and the comradeship of working with their fellow veterans while ECU members were able to gain invaluable experiences of being around true professionals of the US military. The symbiotic relationship between the two halves of the Joint Recovery Team was ideal for the task at hand. While the final results of the summer’s work have not yet been made public, when considering the rehabilitative therapy aspects alone, the project was a success.

All participants would agree that it was a fantastic experience and a lot was accomplished. With so much work yet to be done in the search for missing service members, not only in Saipan but throughout the world, the Joint Recovery Team will undoubtedly continue their work into the future.

— Jack “Gus” Adamson

Figure 2: Excavations underway on the July 2019 Joint Recovery Team Project.

Figure 1: Members of the Joint Recovery Team on the operations boat.
During the first summer semester, Dr. Harris and Dr. McKinnon led maritime students on a summer field school to at-risk maritime sites throughout eastern North Carolina. As part of a National Park Service Preservation Training and Technology (PTT) Grant, students were trained in rapid *in situ* state of the art documentation at a variety of coastal cultural heritage sites, on both land and water, which are either unstable, eroding, or deteriorating. Each site has state or national historic significance, conservation management challenges and serves as an intellectual platform to segue between preservation of an historic icon and research questions that will be utilized in a variety of formats.

Students and faculty began their journey documenting the USS *Peterhoff*, a former Confederate blockade runner turned Union blockader lost off the coast of Fort Fisher near Wilmington. Students navigated the minimal visibility site to record deterioration on several of the ship's features including the anchor and davit. In addition, sediment samples were gathered to assess geological factors that could potentially damage the sunken relic. After several days at the coast, students worked at two local sites, a supposed plantation barge which sunk in the Tar River near the Old Sparta Bridge and the remains of Greenville's nineteenth-century attempt at a lock and dam.

The last major trip of the summer field school brought students to Portsmouth Island, an abandoned village across the inlet from Ocracoke Island. Here, students recorded several sites throughout the historic village and the island's shoreline. Students performed line searches in the first 10 meters from the shoreline, as well as approximately 5 meters inland. Students uncovered fragments of glass, bricks, and remnants of wooden structures which were subsequently recorded and mapped. Most of the work on the island, however, focused on the Life-Saving Station grounds and the artifacts within. Students outside used innovative technology, a real-time kinematic global navigation satellite system (RTK GNSS), to plot what remains of the Life-Saving Station facilities. This data can be inputted into computer programs such as ArcMap to document the several alterations made to the site throughout time, as well as the effects of erosion and deterioration. On the inside, students busily recorded the Monomoy Life-Saving boat and Henry Piggott's skiff, both displayed amongst a variety of other contemporary artifacts. Both activities will assist site managers to assess the potential for environmental damage to one of North Carolina's remaining links to the foundations of the United States Coast Guard.

Thanks to Dr. Harris and Dr. McKinnon's expertise, students participating in the field school learned valuable archaeological techniques that can be applied throughout a wide variety of situations. As a native North Carolinian myself, I enjoyed travelling to these remote locations previously I had never been seen firsthand. In addition, my fellow students and I actively played a part in protecting our state's maritime heritage for generations to come. ☘️

– William Nassif
In the Field - LAMP Field School

This summer I attended the LAMP 2019 field school as a supervisor. The Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program (LAMP) is an archaeological investigation branch of the St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum. The program, founded in 1999, is dedicated to investigating and understanding the maritime cultural heritage of St. Augustine which spans over 500 years. LAMP has provided field schools for students interested in maritime archaeology for over ten years and has been a part of many ECU maritime students’ experience.

I assisted training the field school students in a number of scientific diving activities including check-out dives and a black-out course underwater. This way, the students would have the ability to work underwater at the site, whatever the given visibility. Before diving on the ocean site, the students participated in another check-out dive in a shallow, clear spring. In addition to the basic SCUBA abilities, the students practiced archaeological skills at four stations. These skills included, circle searches, dredge assembly, and drafting. My assigned station was circle searches which the students completed both with regular SCUBA equipment and with the black-out masks. After this training, we felt confident that everyone would be able to dive and work safely and effectively underwater.

Theses Defended IN 2018-2019


Tyler Woodson Ball, Reading Between the Iron Lines: An Analysis of Cannon Arrangement on Caribbean Shipwrecks.

Katrina Bunyard, The Development of the Naval Truck Gun Carriage: History, Archaeology, and Design.

Tyler Martin Caldwell, Defend Your Coast: Network Analysis of Crusader Fortifications and Settlements in the Kyrenia Region of Cyprus.


Ian P. Harrison, South Africa’s Battle of the Atlantic: 1939-1945.


Stephen Lacey, Early 18th Century Cast Iron Hand Grenades on the North American Atlantic Coast.

Ryan Marr, An Historical and Ethnographic Study of Cultural Change and Continuity in the Construction and Use of Vernacular Watercraft in the Tanga Region, Tanzania.


Martha Mihich, Defining the Great Lakes Passenger Freight Propeller: A Statistical and Historical Study.

Michele Panico, Hammocks: A Maritime Tool.

Madeline J. Roth, Discovered Repeatedly: Archaeological Documentation and Site Restoration of Pacific Reef Wreck (BISC-29, 8DA11953).

Stephanie Soder, “The Japanese and U.S. Fought the War, We Ended Up Paying The Price”: The Indigenous Experience on Saipan During World War II.
This field school focused on the excavation of the “Anniversary Wreck.” This site was discovered in the summer of 2015 using a magnetometer. Previous excavations have revealed large amounts of concreted artifacts including cauldrons which have been conserved by the museum’s staff as well as a group of dedicated and trained volunteers. The site is relatively close to shore, in approximately 20 feet of water, with visibility ranging from black water to 10 feet. These conditions provided a safe but educational experience for the field school students, as well as the supervisors. Every student had multiple opportunities to practice dredging on the site in addition to assembling and disassembling the dredge and equipment. At the end of the field school, students had dredged down to artifacts in two of the four units established on the “Anniversary Wreck.”

As a supervisor, my main duty was to supervise the students while completing underwater excavation. This included teaching and coaching dredging skills as well as providing an extra pair of eyes for SCUBA safety. Most students were experienced divers and needed minimal instruction or assistance. While I was on a rotation for diving on the site with the students, I also helped the students plan and prioritize their assigned terrestrial projects. These terrestrial projects were designed to build upon the skills and experiences with which most students came into the field school and provide opportunities for them to take charge of their own field work. The smaller projects studied well-known historical places around the city and the potential needs and importance for preservation of these particular sites, highlighting the heritage this history can offer. The students determined how their research would be represented and recorded. Utilizing myself and the other supervisors as project members, we mapped and surveyed the degradation of these sites. Towards the end of field school, I aided the students to synthesize research and create a public presentation for museum members.

An additional duty of mine as a supervisor, and one of the most enjoyable, was volunteering at the Museum. I was given various positions where I interacted with the museum visitors to educate them about the Lighthouse and St. Augustine history as well as the technologies involved in underwater excavation. Many people were very interested in how archaeology underwater actually worked and asked many questions about the process. Additionally, the museum has designed literal hands-on programs for visitors to experience the difficulties of archaeology in black water environments as well seeing first-hand what sort of artifacts and encrustations are found on excavation sites. Working in this position allowed me to have an insight into public archaeology and education.

In the position of supervisor at the LAMP field school, I learned a number of the necessary precautions and planning actions needed to run a field school. In such a short time as five weeks, it can be difficult to fit in all the necessary skills for potential maritime archaeologists. However, I came to understand that the point of the LAMP field school is to ignite interest from students thinking about the type of archaeology they want to pursue.

A special thanks to the LAMP staff Chuck Miede, Allyson Ropp, Brendan Burke, Nick Budsberg, Austin Burkhard, Starr Cox, Andrew Thomson, and Dorothy Rowland. Additional thanks to the other supervisors Charles Bendig and John Sabin and the LAMP 2019 field school students. 

— Mackenzie Mirre Tabeling
The remote region of the Republic of the Marshall Islands was the site of East Carolina University's Field School for 2019. The ECU team's base of operations, ironically enough, was centered on the island of Kwajalein (within Kwajalein Atoll) and the U.S. Army base that envelopes the entire island. The atoll is located 1,600 miles east of Guam and 2,100 miles west of Hawaii. It was within this seemingly isolated Pacific atoll that the Program's Fall field school commenced. A group of students led by Dr. Nathan Richards, Jeremy Borrelli, and Jason Nunn traveled to Kwajalein Atoll to examine wrecks within the lagoon. The field school also ran concurrently with a mission spearheaded by Dr. Jason Raupp (see Keusenkothen article), with students cycling between the two projects.

The island itself seems part tropical paradise as depicted in a late 1970s television series, and some sort of idyllic suburb right out of the Eisenhower Era. Tall stands of coconut trees, several in the 90-foot range, perfectly line the streets busy with bicycle traffic. The Army post only allows the use of bicycles for personal travel (motor vehicles are reserved for official government use). It's not uncommon to get a friendly wave from a passerby on bike while moving onto the daily work site. Despite the sometimes-oppressive sun and humidity, the small 2.5 milelong island surrounded by aquamarine and deep blue seas could be regarded as a physical manifestation of tranquility. The scene of serenity is such that it almost conceals the destruction the region faced during WWII.

By the time the U.S. Army's 7th Infantry Division had completed what began with their 31 January 1944 amphibious assault, the island resembled a moonscape rather than an important strategic base. By 6 February 1944 the flat and relatively featureless landmass had been stripped of nearly all vegetation. Of the almost 9,000 Japanese soldiers and Korean laborers that inhabited Kwajalein, 7,870 Japanese soldiers and Imperial conscripts had been killed in action.

Only a few terrestrial markers remain to demonstrate the former presence of the Japanese Empire's forces. When a visitor ventures into the lagoon, the magnitude of the battle and succeeding military activity becomes clear. The lagoon within Kwajalein Atoll is loaded with ships and aircraft sunk during the battle along with various military craft that met their fate during the fierce fighting or later, tragic accidents, or during the period of nuclear weapons testing in the Marshall Islands.

During our initial checkout dive conducted a few hours after our arrival it became evident that many of the wrecks both from the war and from more contemporary times, remained relatively undisturbed. The Landing Craft Utility (LCU) resting at 25 feet which we were tasked with recording is in relatively excellent shape, while a Japanese patrol boat located only a few hundred feet away and sitting at 50 feet is still largely intact including its gun emplacements. Both were surrounded by healthy coral and sealife, including a massive and equally curious sea turtle.

The location of the LCU could be easily identified from shore due to its mast breaking the surface with a white buoy attached. The wreck is exceptionally intact though, mysteriously, the incredibly heavy ramp at the front of the vessel is missing. Brain, stag, and other coral covered the decks, while cautious angelfish kept an eye on us sketching the wheelhouse. It was clear to the team that a significant event happened on the starboard side; several sections of steel plate were missing, though the corresponding ones are present on the port side. Wires and hoses were still present, dangling in the last place they were still utilized before the LCU was lost. Aside from one day, the weather and current cooperated with us providing excellent visibility. While we attempted to find data plates to further help us identify the wreck, review of back issues of the Kwajalein Hourglass, a monthly publication for the island, may have provided us with the best clues to its identity.

Our operation in Kwajalein would not have been possible without support from the command team on the base, or the corner stone support provided by the Kwajalein MIA Project (KMP) and the American Legion's Richard B. Anderson Memorial Post 44. Members of KMP were instrumental in providing logistic support and keeping the team's moral up through excellent meals and fellowship. The same can be said for the American Legion Post, who not only provided us the same support, but unselfishly allowed us the use of their meeting room as a field house. The support of both these elements not only reinforced the perception of the excellent hospitality on Kwajalein but set the crew up for optimal success in its recording efforts. As a result, the team was able to get accurate sketches and a phenomenal model based on photogrammetry.
More than 81,000 U.S. service personnel are still missing from past conflicts – the vast majority from World War II. The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) is the government entity responsible for searching for missing service members and accounting for them. This September, researchers from the Program in Maritime Studies collaborated with DPAA and other partners to investigate a World War II site in the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Led by Assistant Professor Jason Raupp, the project team included maritime archaeologists Maddie Roth (MA ’18/DPAA Fellow), William Hoffman (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management), and Allyson Ropp (MA ’16), as well as photographer John McCord (ECU Coastal Studies Institute) and myself as the Dive Safety Officer. In addition to the ECU team, dive operations were coordinated by Professional Dive Services (PDS) – a commercial diving group from Australia. Logistical support provided by staff at U.S. Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll and local non-profit group Kwajalein MIA Project (KMP) were invaluable to the success of the project – and KMP made the most amazing southern boil I’ve ever had!

The team lived aboard, and conducted dive operations from, the PDS vessel M/V *Phantom*. Dive operations on the site were intricate and included a variety of technologies. The archaeological team used nitrox and open circuit scuba, while John and I dove rebreathers (which required decompression dives in order to extend bottom times) for photographic documentation. PDS divers focused on heavier tasks and employed surface supplied diving rigs equipped with mask-mounted cameras, which also required in-water decompression. Overall, the combination of these three systems proved effective and allowed for a very efficient dive station.

Research projects can be challenging. Dives can be deep, dark, and potentially hazardous. Seas can be rough, and diesel fumes may be omnipresent. Temperatures can be too hot or too cold. Hours can be long. Even in a location as idyllic as the Marshall Islands, such challenges exist. However, those same projects can be deeply rewarding, as was certainly the case for this one. Long days and hard work can bond a team, and that is undoubtedly something we experienced at Kwajalein. Additionally, the PDS dive team was supremely professional, and it was a pleasure to work alongside them.

The ultimate purpose of our project was present in our thoughts throughout the mission. World War II ended over 75 years ago, and while this may seem a very long time – the war is still with us, in the hearts and minds of the families of lost service members. I’m honored and humbled to have been part of a group working to keep our nations promise of “no one left behind.”

– Mark Keusenkothen

Mark Keusenkothen diving in Kwajalein.

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**ECU Maritimers Receive Awards and Internships**

*Stem to Stern* is pleased to announce news of the following awards and internships:

**Jack Augustus Adamson** – The Admiral Ernest M. Eller Graduate Fellowship in Modern Naval History

**Joel Cook** – The Barbara and Matthew Landers Graduate Fellowship in History

**Emily DiBiase** – The Bodo Nischan Memorial Graduate Scholarship in History

**Jacquelyn Hewett** – The Lawrence F. Brewster Graduate Fellowship in History

**Kendra Lawrence** – The William Hamlin and Mary Quaife Tuttle Graduate Scholarship in History

**Luke LeBras** – The Henry C. Ferrell, Jr. Graduate Scholarship in History

**Ryan Miranda** – The Admiral Ernest M. Eller Graduate Fellowship in Modern Naval History

**Mackenzie Mirre Tabeling** – The Lawrence F. Brewster Graduate Fellowship in History

**William Nassif** – The Susan Dudley Phi Alpha Theta Scholarship

**Aleck Danielle Tan** – The William Hamlin and Mary Quaife Tuttle Graduate Scholarship in History

**Joshua Vestal** – The Admiral Ernest M. Eller Graduate Fellowship in Modern Naval History and The Susan Dudley Phi Alpha Theta Scholarship

**Kendra Lawrence** – Internship with the Mystic Seaport Museum
Portside - Study Abroad in Greece

Maritime Studies students Emily DiBiase, Tyler McLellan, and Jacquelyn Hewett traveled to Greece during Summer Session II 2019. Dr. David Stewart led this group of intrepid graduate students, along with two undergraduates, Ashley Hunter ’20, and Ashton Fisher ’19. The five students were drawn to this three-week study abroad not only by their love of Greek history and archaeology, but also modern Greek culture. Dr. Stewart divided the study abroad into two classes of Maritime Cultural Landscapes and Maritime Archaeology of the Ancient Mediterranean. Though the classes were separate, he used the group’s visits to archaeological sites and museums to interrelate the two sub-disciplines into a cohesive structure relevant to the locations, highlighting the Bronze Age.

The group’s first impression of Greece was the breathtaking view of the Acropolis with spotlights illuminating the famous Dorian columns of the Parthenon at dusk from the balcony of an Air BnB. On the first leg of the journey, the students visited nearly all the famous sites and museums in Athens, including the Acropolis and Agora, their associated museums, and the National Archaeological Museum. Those long days of walking around Athens were rewarded by gazing upon the “face of Agamemnon,” or being close enough to the Caryatids to compare their intricate decorations. That afternoon, part of the group visited the picturesque town of Oia while the rest of the group swam at a black sand beach. The next day they hiked to the top of a mountain in order to visit the fortified city of Ancient Thira, inhabited beginning in the 9th century B.C.

Losing a day of travel due to the ferry workers strike, an apparently common occurrence, the group set off to Crete’s largest city, Heraklion. The group was welcomed there by the famous Cretan hospitality and the best plate of souvlaki on the island. The next few days were filled with absorbing Minoan culture through the Heraklion Archaeological Museum. Using what Dr. Stewart had taught about maritime landscapes, the group even jumped in the water to ground-truth a possible Minoan harbor structure.

The Bay of Mirabello was next on the syllabus so that the students could gain some practical landscape experience on a terrestrial site. The goal of that field research was to take a multidisciplinary approach to identify a possible landing place used by the local Minoans for maritime traffic. Despite not spending as much time there as originally intended, the day of field work was the most beneficial to learning how to read a landscape to extrapolate about Minoan life.

After a few days in eastern Crete, the group spent a few days in south-central Crete visiting another major palatial site, Phaistos, and its associated port town of Kommos. Phaistos quickly became the preferred palace for the group because, in addition to showing multiple phases of occupation, the site also lacked the distracting reconstructions (and tourists) of Knossos. Kommos was also extremely interesting because the fantastic example of Bronze Age ship sheds were clearly visible from the fence.

The last city the group visited on this whirlwind tour of Bronze Age Crete was the port-city Chania. While there, the group hunted for a Mycenean tholos tomb, visited the Maritime Museum of Chania located in the Venetian fortress of Firka, and marveled at the reconstruction of a Minoan ship. Who else can say that they witnessed over 4,000 years of history over the course of three weeks? Or discussed the archaeological identifiers of Minoan seafarers over a hand-held gyros wrap with a lemon Fanta? This experience was truly one of a kind; and Dr. Stewart’s excellent guidance from his firsthand knowledge of Crete resulted in an unsurpassed understanding of Minoan and Greek culture which can only be gained from walking the streets of Akrotiri, the West Court of Phaistos, or the modern metropolis of Heraklion.

– Jacquelyn Hewett
Summer Study Abroad

Over the course of several weeks this summer, three students from the Maritime Studies program (Emily DiBiase, Jacqui Hewett, and Tyler McLellan) and two undergraduates (Ashton Fisher and Ashley Hunter), accompanied Dr. Stewart on a study abroad program in Greece. We began our grand tour in Athens, then took ferries to Santorini and Crete. Most of our time was spent on Crete, where we traveled around and marveled at archaeological sites and museums until it was time to take another ferry back to Athens to fly home.

Aside from getting a crash course in archaeology, we also learned a lot about maritime cultural landscapes, discovering how to view landscapes to determine ways in which the maritime interacts with the terrestrial, and in which humans interact with their surroundings. Since the point of any study abroad program is to get out of the classroom and see the world, much of this academic work took place in the field, at the sites that we were discussing. Casually chatting about important concepts and seeing phenomena in person genuinely helped cement the ideas in my mind and allowed me and the other students to figure things out through our own observations instead of simply being shown things on a PowerPoint.

One of the great things about Greece is that, at least at many of the sites we visited, people can walk pretty much anywhere (but not everywhere, as I was reminded by a few salty guards). There is nothing wrong with guides and signage but wandering around sites and interpreting them for oneself is half the fun, and it is important that future archaeologists learn how to look around and make reasonable conclusions about the evidence in front of them. In addition, seeing sites such as the Acropolis in Athens and the palace at Knossos, which we had previously only seen in textbooks, was a surreal experience, as was being inches away from famous objects in several of the museums we visited.

Study abroad programs not only allow students to learn outside the classroom, but also give them an opportunity to experience another culture. While certain things such as Fanta Lemon and blue and white architecture were ubiquitous, each island, city, and town that we visited had its own unique character. The most interesting was Santorini, where the giant caldera and black sand were constant reminders of the volcanic eruption that destroyed part of the island in the 1600s B.C. Even the wine from that island is famously delicious due to the rich volcanic soil. Overall, this trip to Greece was a fantastic experience.

We had the opportunity to see amazing archaeological sites, look at interesting artifacts, spend time with an awesome professor, immerse ourselves in Greek culture, and even make a few friends along the way.

Emily DiBiase

Catching up with MSA

In January several members attended and presented at the annual Society for Historical Archaeologists conference. This year it was held in St. Charles, Missouri, and its attendees from ECU included almost all of last year’s officers and most of the incoming class from 2018.

Near the end of February, MSA made a trip up to Baltimore. This trip included tours of many of the historic vessels in the area. Dr. Susan Langley, the state underwater archaeologist for Maryland, even conducted the tour of the USS Constellation.

MSA also organized various training sessions in the spring semester, including the “It’s a Privilege” workshop provided by Associate Director Shaun R. Simon of the Ledonia Wright Cultural Center. MSA members also went to Fantasy Lake Scuba Park to gain more diving experience.

It was during the spring semester that the new officer board was elected. The current officers for MSA are Mackenzie Mirre Tabeling (President), Bethany Earley (Vice President), William Nassif (Treasurer), and Tyler McLellan (Secretary). MSA also welcomes Dr. Raupp as our new Faculty Advisor.

The annual fundraiser for MSA, Sea Biscuits and Bitters, turned out to be a great success this past year. It was held in April at Crossbones Tavern and featured a silent auction. We had a nice turn out, and truly appreciated seeing the support of all those who came to the event and helped the organization by bidding.

Near the end of the spring semester, continued on page 18
In the Field - Going on a Bear Hunt

The USCGC Bear is a 270-foot vessel that usually spent its days conducting law enforcement runs. More recently, it was modified for a scientific expedition to find its namesake, the Revenue Cutter Bear. The original Bear was built as a steam sealing ship in 1874 but was recruited by the United States government to rescue the ill-fated Greely Expedition to the Arctic. The vessel had proven its ability to brave the treacherous northern waters and was sent to the waters of the newly acquired Alaska territory, serving as the premier law and rescue ship in that region. The vessel gained even more fame for its delivery of reindeer to Alaska from Russia and its rescue of a stranded whaling fleet. Bear was then used as a research vessel by Admiral Richard Byrd in his explorations of the Antarctic. Bear was modified for use in patrols during the Second World War, where many consider it to be the first American vessel to capture an enemy ship, although the capture occurred prior to the entry of the United States. After the war, the old ship was put into dock but was bought by a wealthy merchant from Philadelphia to be turned into a restaurant. As if in defiance in preference to a burial at sea, Bear sank in a storm while under tow on 19 March 1963.

On 13 September 2019 the heir to its name left Boston Harbor with a team from the NOAA Maritime Heritage Program, a Coast Guard historian, a technician from CSA Ocean Sciences, and a graduate student from East Carolina University, as well as its compliment of roughly one hundred crewmen and women. It took roughly twenty hours of sailing to reach the survey area, where the scientists dropped a Klein Industries side scan sonar off the stern. The sonar, or tow fish, was pulled by a thick cable that had data wires that ran through the center. The cable was controlled by a large winch that was welded to the deck special for this venture and was then fed through a wheel that hung from an I-beam, also specially welded. A GPS unit crowned the I-beam. The GPS and winch were all connected through cables that ran through the bulkhead and into a makeshift lab in the back of the vessel, under the helicopter pad. Two screens worked simultaneously, running two programs: Hypack and SonarPro. One of the two screens monitored the GPS in relation to the search grid, this screen was echoed by a monitor that was set up on the bridge and connected via a wire that ran the exterior of the ship. The bridge was then able to navigate along the search lines. The two sonar programs displayed a waterfall of data that the researchers had to observe as it moved. The tow fish, while being pulled, scanned out to 150 meters on either side. However, the fish needed to maintain a certain altitude above the sea floor. The optimal altitude was five to ten meters; however, this was difficult to maintain. Changes in bottom topography as well as in vessel course and speed put the tow fish at risk of not collecting good data if rising too high or striking the bottom and causing damage if dropped to low. The vessel towed the fish over preset search grids in a lawnmower fashion, overlapping the scanned bottom during each pass. The scanned bottom data was pieced together to form a map of the sea floor.

The Coast Guard Cutter Bear was famous for its excellent food. Meals were served four times a day, with the fourth at midnight for the late watch. The hanger was populated with workout equipment, but the scientists were often busy themselves. The team had split up into two watches of twelve-hour shifts, running from 6 AM to 6 PM, and 6 PM to 6 AM, as the tow fish was kept in the water for as long as possible. Tasks included monitoring the sonar and either bringing in or letting out cable, which was accomplished in the computer room but with less accuracy than when working the handle on the winch itself. Communication was kept using walkie-talkies. The search was conducted for two weeks, although poor weather and a lack of supplies sent the vessel back to shore more than once. In these two weeks that were spent on the water, several potential targets have been identified. However, none of these can be confirmed until a second expedition is mounted for further investigation. The Revenue Cutter Bear is a very historic ship, and the crew were as equally interested as the scientists. It was an honor to work with the Coast Guard, and a privilege to be a part of this expedition.

– Tyler McLellan
Ahoy Mates! Welcome to ECU

New MA Students in the Program in Maritime Studies

Patrick Boyle hails from Batavia, Illinois. He studied history as an undergraduate but eventually completed a research master’s degree in historical and maritime archaeology in Bristol, England. Patrick applied to ECU’s Maritime Studies program to gain more fieldwork experience. His main research interest is centered around 16th-18th century piracy. Outside of school, Patrick enjoys scuba diving, skydiving, and a myriad of other outdoor activities. He worked as an indoor skydiving instructor for the past two years while also volunteering on archaeological digs in the USA and the UK. Patrick plans on pursuing a PhD in maritime archaeology and wants to retire in the Caribbean.

Amber Cabading is a graduate student in the Maritime Studies program at ECU. She graduated from Texas State University with a B.S. in Anthropology, minor in Geography and Art History. Amber has always been fascinated with history and the natural world. When she learned that there was a field where she could combine her interests with her love of being in the water, she was captivated. She became SCUBA certified and eventually worked her way up to an instructor level with experience in Scientific Diving. Her interests in archaeology originally started in Classical History; however, after interning for the Marine Archaeology Program at the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and putting in many hours flipping through old newspaper articles in “the dungeon” (basement) of the THC, she soon converted to historical research. Currently, her interests are focused on 17th and 18th-century piracy, privateers, and the armament on board their vessels. Outside of academics, she can usually be found curled up playing video games with two cats or blowing bubbles somewhere underwater.

Andrew (Andy) Goad joined the Marine Corps after graduating high school in Amarilla, Texas. During his time serving as a humanitarian peacekeeper, he fell in love with the ocean. After serving, he moved to the mountains of Colorado, where he found a fondness in rivers. Wandering east, he found himself in Denver, where he enrolled at Metropolitan State University of Denver and earned a degree in History, with numerous teaching endorsements. While at MSU Denver, Andy was active with Phi Alpha Theta and earned a spot on the USA Rugby Academic Honor Roll. During school, he presented at both History and English conferences. Andy concentrated much of his studies on the West, namely range Indian, and water wars, mountain mining, and how the films of John Ford became the space westerns of today. After graduating, Andy taught middle school history; however, following standards and lesson plans was never in his nature. He not only wanted to teach history, he wanted to make it. He decided to combine his love of diving with his love of history. ECU was the most apparent fit, so Andy moved east. His research interests cover a wide swath of Americana: from prohibition rum runners, Marines in the Civil War and even the Revolutionary War on Lake Champlain. Andy is a NAUI Master and Rescue diver. In his spare time, you can find him spending time with his son, his wife and his dogs wandering the great outdoors, visiting any of the numerous local minor league baseball fields or rafting wherever the rapids are available.

William (Trip) Jakeman is a first-year graduate student in the Maritime Studies program. Before coming to ECU, he spent his undergraduate years at Florida State University (FSU) studying classical archaeology. While attending FSU, Trip participated in an archaeological field school working on a Roman site in Ansedonia, Italy. He is a member of the National Honor Society for the Classics, Eta Sigma Phi, and the National Society for Leadership and Success, Sigma Alpha Pi. Prior to FSU, Trip attended school in Washington State. His research interests pertain to the classical Mediterranean and classical seafaring, specifically Mediterranean piracy and its interaction with the Roman Empire. Trip does not have a hometown—being from a family with “restless feet,” home is wherever his family lives.

Louis Kelley earned his BS in anthropology from Michigan State University. He spent a year working in a lab with Dr. Stacey Camp to both catalogue and calculate the minimum number of vessels (MNV) for her Kooskia Internment Camp Project. Louis’ academic interests are mainly focused on topics pertaining to WWII, more specifically the internment of Japanese and Japanese American citizens by the United States government. Through his studies, he seeks to provide further insight on this subject, particularly by comparing the treatment of internees in different camps. Louis hopes to complete his master’s degree in two years to allow himself more time to decide whether he would like to pursue a PhD. Some of Louis’ non-academic interests include gaming, hanging with people, and swimming.

Justin Larremore is a first-year student in the Maritime Studies program. Originally from Central Texas, he earned his BA in European History with minors in Archaeology and English at the University of North Texas. During his Bachelor’s, he spent his summers working with the Boy
Scouts leading adventure programs in the Florida Keys which was his first exposure to scuba diving. Afterwards, he sought more underwater opportunities and participated in a maritime field school in St. Augustine, Florida. Just before arriving in Greenville, Justin spent a summer in Malta working towards his Divemaster certification. Justin’s research interests include colonial shipwrecks, whaling, Renaissance-Early Modern seafaring, among other things. Outside of school, he enjoys backpacking, diving, reading, and writing.

Matthew (Matt) Lowe was born in Dallas, Texas, but spent most of his school years in Brentwood, Tennessee. He graduated from the University of Alabama, after fulfilling his major in history and a minor in anthropology with a focus in archaeology—previously, he was on the pre-med track. Matthew’s interests during his undergraduate years focused on the Roman Empire and World War II. He participated in an archaeological excavation of a bathhouse at the Etruscan and Roman city of Cosa. Matthew became interested in maritime history due to the lack of knowledge of pre-Roman civilizations, particularly the Minoan civilization and the possible presence of Minoan cultural remains underwater. He is also interested in ancient maritime and age of sail warfare in addition to the Pacific Theater of World War II.

Taylor Picard is a first-year graduate student in the Maritime Studies program at ECU. He grew up in Contra Costa County, California, where he graduated from Diablo Valley College with his associate’s degree in anthropology. In Spring of 2016, he transferred to Humboldt State University (HSU) where he majored in anthropology with an emphasis in archaeology and minored in geospatial analysis and scientific diving. During his time as an undergraduate, Taylor has been employed in archaeological positions for the California State Parks, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, HSU Archaeological Research Laboratory, and various cultural resource management firms. He has always had an interest in military history of all eras, as well as the history and variety of human maritime activities. While he has enjoyed working in cultural resource management, Taylor’s goal is to work in academia in order to teach and continue pursuing research.

Montana (Darby) Robbins is a first-year graduate student in the Maritime Studies program. Born and raised in eastern North Carolina, her frequent family vacations to the NC coast and the Pamlico Sound instilled a passion for maritime history and culture at a young age. She graduated from Appalachian State University with a B.S. in Anthropology, concentrating in Archaeology and minoring in History. During her time as an undergraduate, she focused on the archaeology of the prehistoric Southeast, and gained terrestrial field experience working at two sites in western NC. Darby’s primary research interests include the maritime cultural heritage of NC, museum conservation, piracy, and other maritime criminal activity during the Age of Sail. Outside of academia, she enjoys reading, listening to music, and spending time with her cat, Arya.

Andrea (Andi) Yoxsimer is from Reno, Nevada, and graduated from the University of Nevada Reno with degrees in Biology and Anthropology and a minor in Psychology. Since graduating in the Spring of 2016, Andi has traveled and lived in a variety of places, such as Australia, India, and Thailand. Andi fell in love with diving when she was living in Australia and was determined to find a way to meld her love of archaeology with diving. Andi is excited to be back to school, as she is a self-proclaimed nerd. Andi’s interests include shipwrecks and their influence on the marine ecosystem and how preservation of shipwrecks can potentially benefit marine ecosystems.

Trenton Michael Zylstra is from Grand Rapids Michigan and is a Canadian, American dual citizen. Trenton has been interested in maritime archeology since the age of 16 when took a field school in underwater archeology during a summer break. Since then, he has taken every opportunity to further his education wherever maritime archeology is concerned. Trenton graduated from Grand Valley State University with bachelor’s degree in anthropology with a minor in archaeology. Trenton just recently received his Master diver certification. He has worked as a CRM Field Tech. Trenton has a keen interest in African history and history in general. It is his hope to explore understudied topics in African maritime history and use that knowledge to help further both academic as well as public knowledge and awareness of that history.

Catching up with MSA, continued

MSA also hosted a farewell social for students who had successfully defended their theses and were graduating in May. Similarly, with the beginning of the fall semester, MSA co-hosted the Welcome Aboard social with the Maritime Studies Program to welcome the new members of the program.

Since then, MSA has been active in trying to create events for its member and the Maritime Studies Program that are both educational and also to provide social and networking opportunities. MSA has begun hosting a Brown Bag lunch series to give both students and faculty chances to attend presentations by a variety of speakers, including Dr. Raupp, Josh Marano, Dr. McKinnon, Maddie Roth, and Allyson Ropp.

In the future, MSA plans to once again offer as much support as possible for those students planning to attend the upcoming SHA conference in Boston, as well as a weekend trip in the spring semester to find potential research topics and learn more about various aspects of maritime history.

MSA is grateful to all those who have supported it. The Maritime Studies Program, the History Department, the faculty, staff, alumni, past officers, and all those who have given their time and talents to aid MSA are greatly appreciated. We would not be where we are without your support, and we look forward to what the future holds for MSA and its members.

— Bethany Earley
Where are our Maritimers now? 2019

A

Hoyt L. Alexander (2018) – Tech Support Technician, Department of Geography, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
James Allan (1987) PhD – Lecturer, St. Mary’s College of California, Moraga, CA and Vice President, William Self Associates, Orinda, CA
Ray Ashley, (1996) PhD – Executive Director, San Diego Maritime Museum and Professor of Public History, University of California at San Diego, CA
Melissa Ashmore (2012) – Inventory Specialist, Cabela’s; Volunteer Specialist, Antelope Island State Park, Syracuse, UT
Paul Avery (1998) – Auckland War Memorial Museum, Auckland, New Zealand
Monica Ayhens (2009) – PhD student, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

B

Tyler Woodson Ball (2019) – Contract Archaeologist, West Virginia
David Baumer (1998) – Virginia Beach, VA
Dina Bazzill (2007) – Vice President of Cultural Resources, Environmental Corporation of America, Alpharetta, GA
David Beard (1989) – Executive Director, USS KIDD Veterans Museum, Baton Rouge, LA
Nadine (Kopp) Beaudoin (2012) – Project Archaeologist, Paterson Group, Ottawa, ON
Sam Belcher (2002) – Medical Technologist (ASCP), Laboratory Supervisor, Central Baptist Hospital, PhD student, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
Kathryn Bequette (1992) – Director, Maritime Archaeology and Research, OELS, Westminster, CO; consultant with Denver Ocean Journeys Aquarium
Daniel J. Bera (2015) – Museum Specialist, Naval History and Heritage Command, Richmond, VA
Emily Powell Bera (2017) – Senior Curator and Project Manager, Naval History and Heritage Command, Richmond, VA
Jacob Betz (2004) – PhD candidate, Department of History, University of Chicago, IL; Preceptor, Harvard Writing Program, Cambridge, MA

Saxon Bisbee (2012) – Nautical Archaeologist & Vessel Manager, Northwest Seaport Maritime Heritage Center, Seattle, WA
Jeremy R. Borrelli (2015) – Assistant Staff Archaeologist, Program in Maritime Studies, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
Charles S. Bowdoin (2016) – School teacher, Atlanta, GA
Jeffrey Bowdoin (2012) – Curator Branch Head, Naval History and Heritage Command, Washington, DC
Dan Brown (2013) – Analyst, Oceaneering International, Inc., Hanover, MD
Dorothy (Sprague) Brown (2018) – RPA, Program Presenter at Carnegie Science Center, USS Requin (SS-481), Pittsburgh, PA
Robert Browning, PhD (1980) – Retired Historian, United States Coast Guard, Washington, DC
Darryl Byrd (1998) – Linthicum Heights, MD

C

Tyler Martin Caldwell (2019) – Hydrographic Technician, Cardinal Point Captains, Inc., Greenville, NC
Peter Campbell, PhD (2009) – Assistant Director, British School at Rome, Rome, Italy
Frank Cantelas (1995) – Deputy Director, NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research, Silver Spring, MD
Jodi Carpenter (2007) – Oceanicering, Nottingham, MD
Elise Carroll (2018) – Lab Office Manager, Queen Anne’s Revenge Conservation Lab, Greenville, NC
Chris Cartellone, PhD (2003) – Senior Nautical Archaeologist, AECOM, Germantown, MD
Joe Cato (2003) – Raleigh, NC
Lauren Christian (2017) – Wood Environmental and Infrastructure Solutions, Columbia, SC
Patrick Cole (1993) – Writer, Barcelona, Spain
Edwin Combs, PhD (1996) – Assistant Professor, Miles College, Birmingham, AL
Michael Coogan (1996) – Manager, Strategic Planning, Northrop Grumman IT, Herndon, VA
Amy (Mitchell) Cook, PhD (1994) – Professor and Chair, Department of History, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL
David Cooper (1998) – Branch Chief, Cultural Resources, Apostle Island National Lakeshore, Bayfield, WI
Kathryn L. Cooper (2014) – Greenville, NC
Annalies Corbin, PhD (1995) – President & CEO, FAST Foundation, Columbus, OH
Lee Cox (1985) – Director, Dolan Research, Inc., Newtown Square, PA
Stephanie Croatt (2013) – Assistant Superintendent, Battleship Texas State Historic Site, La Porte, TX

Michelle Damian, PhD (2010) – Assistant Professor, Monmouth College, Monmouth, IL
Claire Dappert, PhD (2005) – Historic Research Archaeologist, Illinois State Archaeological Survey, Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, IL
James P. Delgado, PhD (1986) – Senior Vice President, SEARCH, Inc., Jacksonville, FL
Alena Derby (2002) – Pilates Instructor and Personal Trainer, CORE Pilates Studio, Nantucket, MA
Jeff DiPrizio (2001) – High School teacher, Hudson, NH
Brian Diveley (2008) – Senior Archaeologist, CH2M HILL, Seattle, WA
Tricia Dodds (2009) – Archaeologist/Project Manager Maritime Heritage, Rincon Consultants, Inc., Los Angeles, CA
Wade Dudley (1998) PhD – Teaching Professor, Department of History, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC

Justin R. Edwards (2015) – History Teacher, Riverside High School, Adjunct Instructor, Martin Community College, Williamstown, NC
Rita Fose Elliott (1988) – Education Coordinator & Research Associate, The LAMAR Institute, Savannah, GA
Scott Emory (2000) – Cockeysville, MD
Jeff Enright (1999) – Maritime Archaeology Division Leader, SEARCH, Pensacola, FL

Sabrina S. Faber (1996) – Chief of Party, Promoting Youth Civic Engagement
Kim (Eslinger) Faulk (2005) – Chief Operating Officer, The PAST Foundation, Columbus, OH
David Fictum (2015) – Author, Burlington, WI
Patrick Fleming (1998) – Raleigh, NC
Richard Fontanez, MD (2001) – Contract Archaeologist, Director of Instituto de Investigaciones Costaneras, and Hyperbaric Medicine Facilities, Medical Center, Puerto Rico
Paul Fontenoy, PhD (1995) – Retired, Albuquerque, NM
Chris E. Fonvielle, Jr, PhD (1987) – Professor Emeritus, UNC-Wilmington, Wilmington, NC
Kevin Foster (1991) – Washington, DC

Adam Friedman (2008) PhD – Adjunct Assistant Professor, UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy, and Associate Consultant, Adivo Associates, Chapel Hill, NC
Don Froning (2007) – Archaeologist, Scientific Consultant Services, Inc., Honolulu, HI; Lecturer, Windward Community College, Kaneohe, HI

Stephanie Gandulla (2014) – Research Coordinator, Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Alpena, MI
Kate Goodall (2003) – Co-Founder and CEO of Halcyon, Washington, DC
Amy (Rubenstein) Gottschamer (1995) – Real estate broker, Santa Fe, NM, and Lawrence, KS
Jeff Gray (1998) – Superintendent, NOAA Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Alpena, MI
Jeffrey Groszkowski (2007) – Firefighter/Apparatus Operator, New Hanover County Fire Services, Wilmington, NC

Richard Haiduven (2003) – Deceased
Phil Hartmeyer (2014) – Maritime Archaeologist, Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Alpena, MI
Lynn B. Harris, PhD (1988) – Associate Professor, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
Margaret Harris (2004) – Southern California
Ryan Harris (2006) – Nautical Archaeologist, Parks Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Ian P. Harrison (2019) – PhD student, Public History, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC

Ian Hazel (2016) – Patrick F. Herman (2017) – Stadium Retail and Events Manager, Seattle Seahawks, Seattle, WA
Theresa Hicks (2012) – Operations Manager, Inland Seas Institute, Juneau, AK
Robert Holcombe (1993) – Retired, Naval Historian and Curator, Port Columbus Civil War Naval Center, Columbus, GA
Thomas W. Horn (2014) – Dive Specialist, Florida International University’s Aquarius Reef Base, Miami, FL
Trevor Harrison Hough (2018) – Assistant Project Manager, SWCA Environmental Consultants
Bernard James Howard (2016) – Project Manager, Heritage and Environmental Resources Office for the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Clewiston, FL
Robin Croskey Howard (2016) – Objects Conservator, Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, Clewiston, FL
Nathaniel Howe (2011) – Curator of Preservation, Alands Sjofartsmuseum, Aland Islands, Finland
Michael D. Hughes (2003) – Project Manager, SAIC, Washington, DC
George Martin Huss II (2019) – Archaeologist, Naval History and Heritage Command, Washington, DC

Claude V. Jackson (1991) – Museum Curator, St. Louis, MO
Tiffany (Pecoraro) James (2007) – Vice President of Project Development and Government Relations, Magnum Energy, Salt Lake City, UT
Brian Jaeschke (2003) – Registrar, Mackinac Island State Park Commission, Mackinac Island, MI
John O. Jensen, PhD (1992) – Associate Professor, Department of History, University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL
Jennifer Jones, PhD (2012) – Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
Rick Jones (1996) – Building Contractor, Morehead City, NC

John Kennington (1995) – Communications Officer, Campus Services, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA
Sara C. Kerfoot (2015) – Archaeologist, National Park Service
Nathaniel Robert King (2018) – Archaeologist, Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Bangor, ME

Carolina Baseball Museum, Wilson, NC
East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
Richmond, VA
Head, Naval History and Heritage Command, Technology, Atlanta, GA
Officer, Campus Services, Georgia Institute of

Morehead City, NC
(NRCS), Bangor, ME
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Sanctuary, Key Largo, FL
National Park Service

Jennifer�Jones, PhD (2012) – Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
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Sara C. Kerfoot (2015) – Archaeologist, National Park Service
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National Park Service

Leader Masters Degree Program, University of

Morgan MacKenzie (2011) – Clinical Nurse Leader Masters Degree Program, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
Jana (Otte) Madden (2014) – History Teacher, North Carolina Virtual Academy, Greenville, NC
Joshua Marano (2012) – Maritime Archaeologist, South Florida National Parks (Biscayne, Everglades, and Dry Tortugas National Parks); Adjunct Professor, University of Miami Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, Homestead, FL
Eleftheria Mantzouka (2004) – Montessori Teacher, Durham, NC
Tom Marcinko (2000) – South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, Charleston, SC
Elizabeth (Pratt) Marlowe (2017) – Geobase Asset Management Site Lead for the Air National Guard, Joint Base Andrews, MD
Zachary T. Mason (2014) – Support Scientist/Lead Archivist, NOAA’s Coral Reef Information System, University of Maryland, Earth Systems Science Interdisciplinary Center
Rod Mather, D.Phil (1990) – Professor of Maritime History and Underwater Archaeology, Chair of the Department of History, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI
Christopher McCabe (2007) – Coastal Archaeologist and Supervising GIS Specialist, Applied History Lab, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI
Peter McCracken (1999) – Electronic Resources Librarian, Cornell University; Co-Founder and Publisher, ShipIndex.org, Ithaca, NY
Salvatore Mercogliano, PhD (1997) – Associate Professor of History, Campbell University, Buies Creek, NC and Adjunct Professor of History, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, King’s Point, NY
Keith Mevold (2005) – Underwater Archaeologist, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, WI
Martha Mihich (2018) – St. Louis, MO
David Miller (2005) – Instructor, Craven Community College, Havelock, NC
Valerie (Rissel) Mims (2012) – Marketing Coordinator, Craven Arts Council and Gallery, New Bern, NC
Robert Minford (2012) – L&P Capital One Financial Corporation, Richmond, VA
Calvin Mires, PhD (2005) – Research Associate III, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution; Faculty, Bridgewater State University, Bridgewater, MA
Ivor Mollema (2015) – Senior Archaeologist, Co-Diving Safety Officer, Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research, Tallahassee, FL
Kimberly E. Monk, PhD (2003) – Adjunct Professor in Historical and Maritime Archaeology, Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada
David Moore (1989) – Curator of Nautical Archaeology, North Carolina Maritime Museum, Beaufort, NC
James Moore, PhD (2003) – Marine Archaeologist, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Sterling, VA
R. Scott Moore, PhD (1992) – Distinguished University Professor and Chair, Department of History, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA
Shawn Holland Moore (1998) – Director of Scholarships and Signature Programs, East Carolina Alumni Association, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
Stuart Morgan (1985) – Public Information Director, South Carolina Association of Counties, Columbia, SC
Tyler Morra (2012) – Seattle, WA
Jeff Morris (2000) – Owner/Senior Scientist, Azulmar Research, LLC and Geomar Research, LLC, Port Republic, MD
Sam Newell (1987) – Retired Pitt County Schools, Contract History Consultant, Greenville, NC
Kevin Nichols (2002) – Intelligence Research Specialist, Department of the Army; PhD student, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
Christopher Olson (1997) – Nautical Archaeologist, Maritime Historian, Operations Director, and Co-Founder, Maritime Heritage Minnesota, St. Paul, MN
Jeffrey B. O’Neill (2016) – Vanceboro, NC
Deirdre O’Regan (2001) – Editor, SEA HISTORY; Vice President National Maritime Historical Society, Pocasset, MA
Jason Paling (2003) – Teaching Lecturer, Plymouth State University, Adjunct Professor, Rivier University and Nashua Community College, Director of the Hamontun Archaeological Project in Guatemala and Co-director of the Ranch Ojo de Agua Underwater Project in Chiapas, Mexico and Chiquilistagua Archaeological Project in Nicaragua
Michele Panico (2018) – Greensboro, NC
Adam K. Parker (2015) – Project Archaeologist, Ama Terra Environmental, Inc., Austin, TX
Harry Pecorelli III (2003) – Staunton, VA
Martin Peebles (1996) – ER Nurse, St. Petersburg, FL
Whitney Petrey (2014) – Environmental Planner Archaeologist, Caltrans District 1, CA
Morgan Pierce (2016) – “enjoying life,” Newark, DE
Andrew Pietruszka, PhD (2005) – Underwater Archaeologist, Coastal Observing R&D Center, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA
Mateusz Polakowski (2016) – PhD student, University of Southampton, United Kingdom
Larkin Post (2007) – Gartley & Dorsky Engineering & Surveying, Camden, ME
Sarah Milstead Post (2007) – Program Manager, Cornerstones of Science, Brunswick, ME
Darren Poupore (2004) – Chief Curator, Biltmore Estate, Asheville, NC
Edward Prados (1993) – Country Director, AMIDEAST, Washington, DC
Franklin Price (2006) – Archaeologist III and Diving Safety Officer, Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research, Tallahassee, FL
Coral Rasmussen (1993) – Archaeologist, NA VFAC Pacific, Pearl Harbor, HI
John Ratcliffe (2012) – Clerk, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, Canada
Eric Ray (2009) – Lead Interpretive Planner, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Austin, TX
Phillip Reid (1998) – Independent Scholar, Wilmington, NC
Bradley Rodgers, PhD (1985) – Retired, Professor and Director, Program in Maritime Studies, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
Jason Rogers, PhD (2004) – Archaeologist, National Park Service, Anchorage, AK
Filippo Ronca (2006) – Nautical Archaeologist, Parks Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Allyson Genevieve Ropp (2016) – Underwater Archaeologist, Lighthouse Maritime Archaeology, St. Augustine, FL
Aja Rose (2017) – B. Scott Rose (2017) – Laboratories Mechanic II, Department of Geology, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
Lindsay (Smith) Rothrock (2010) – Archaeologist Compliance and Review, Florida SHPO, Tallahassee, FL
Lauren A. Rotsted (2015) – Dive Immersion Program Coordinator and Researcher, Georgia Aquarium, Atlanta, GA
Stephen Sanchagra (2014) – Edge Engineer, Apple Corporation, Austin, TX
John Schaefer (1994) – Schoolteacher, Washington, NC; PhD student, UNC Chapel Hill
Robert Schneller, PhD (1986) – Historian, Naval Historical Center, Washington DC
Laura Kate Schnitzer (2012) – Principal Investigator and Archaeologist, New South Associates, Stone Mountain, GA
Emily Anne Schwalbe (2016) – PhD student, Anthropology Department, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Ralph Lee Scott (1979) – Professor, Curator of Printed Books and Maps, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
R. Laurel Seaborn (2014) – PhD student, Department of History, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
Benjamin Siegel (2011) – Diebold Fellow and R. Kirk Underhill Fellow, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA
Jessica Smeeks (2014) – Part-time Instructor at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, Hickory, NC
Joshua Smith, PhD (1997) – Professor, Department of Humanities, U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, & Interim Director, American Merchant Marine Museum, Kings Point, NY
Jon Travis Snyder (2006) – Middle School Level Lead and Math Instructor, Montessori School of Denver, Denver, CO; Instructor, Guitar Construction, Red Rocks Community College, Lakewood, CO
Stephanie Soder (2019) – Archaeological Field Technician, Dovetail Cultural Resource Group, Fredericksburg, VA
Chris Southerly (2003) – Deputy State Archaeologist, Diving Safety Officer, NC Underwater Archaeology Branch, Kure Beach, NC
MARITIME STUDIES GRADUATES!
Please let us know if your name is not on the list or if we need to update your current status.

We would love to hear from you!

Kathy A.W. Southerly (2006) – Assistant Dive Safety Officer at North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher, Kure Beach, NC
Sara Spatafore (2017) – Adjunct Instructor of History, East Carolina University Department of History, Study Abroad Program, Cetraldo, Italy
Joyce Steinmetz (2010) – PhD student, Coastal Resources Management, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
Sofia Stuart (2018) – AmeriCorps Service Member; Educator, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Vergennes, VT

Bruce Terrell (1988) – Chief Historian and Maritime Archaeologist, NOAA National Marine Sanctuaries Maritime Heritage Program, Silver Spring, MD
William H. Thiesen, PhD (1993) – Atlantic Area Historian, United States Coast Guard, Portsmouth, VA
Olivia L. Thomas (2017) – PhD student, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX
Lex Turner (1999) – Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, Vidant Medical Center, Greenville, NC
Kenneth Tyndall (1988) – New Bern, NC

John Wagner (2010) – Fitness Supervisor, Montrose Recreation District, Montrose, CO
Sarah Waters (1999) – Education Coordinator, NOAA Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Alpena, MI
Gordon P. Watts (1975) PhD – retired from ECU 2001; Director, Tidewater Atlantic Research and International Institute of Maritime Archaeology, Washington, NC
Jenna Watts (2000) – Veterinary Services Supervisor, Dumb Friends League, Denver, CO
Andrew Weir (2007) – President, Commonweath Heritage Group, Inc., Traverse City, MI
Wilson West (1985) PhD – Principal Consultant, WestHall Heritage Research and Consulting, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
David Whipple (1993) – Alexandria, VA
Heather White (2004) – Director of Library Project Development, Joyner Library, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC
Scott Whitesides (2003) – Archaeologist/Curator, Golden Spike National Historic Site, Brigham City, UT
Elizabeth Whitfield (2005) – Owner, TriBella Multisport, Denver, CO
Kimberly Williams (2000) – History Professor, Hillsborough Community College, Tampa, FL

Spehnn Williams (2004) – Owner, PACC Consulting, LLC., Sanibel, FL
Adriane Askins Wise (2000) – Command Historian, US Army Medical Department Center and School, Health Readiness Center of Excellence (AMEDDC&S), Joint Base San Antonio - Fort Sam Houston, TX
Nicol Wittig (2013) – Analyst 4/ Cultural Resources Specialist, Merjent, Inc., Minneapolis, MN
Sarah Wolfe (2001) – Exhibit Registrar, George Washington’s Mount Vernon, Mount Vernon, VA
Elizabeth Wyllie (2012) – Seattle, WA


Stem to Stern
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