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THE DEWULF PALEOINDIAN PROJECT

9000 YEARS OF COMMUNITY ON THE LANDSCAPE

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Good help makes all the difference in the world. It can turn lousy weather, pesty insects, blisters, sunburn, tight deadlines, and bad puns into a great experience. That mantra certainly applies to the DeWulf Paleoindian Project in northwest Illinois, which ended last fall after 611 person-days of work spread across three years. In all, 580m² of the site was excavated – a whopping figure by archaeological standards for a 9,000-year-old site – by a stream of gritty professional and avocational volunteers

from Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa. The DeWulf Paleoindian Project was awarded the Illinois Archaeological Survey Public Service Award in 2022 and stands as an excellent example of the value of public archaeology, and as one that bridges the gap between the professional and avocational communities (Figure 1).



Figure 1

The site was located in 2000 by Kenny and Jeff Hipskind, long time members of the Quad Cities Archaeological Society, who collected several handfuls of broken, early lanceolate-style spear points, including several made on Hixton from west-central Wisconsin. The Hipskinds and Loebel eventually crossed paths at an artifact show in 2007, a meeting that ultimately led to systematic investigations at DeWulf. In 2009 and 2010, fieldwork was conducted as a part of a field school with Dr. Matthew G. Hill of Iowa State University and Dr. Robert Hasenstab of University of Illinois-Chicago. This work, reported in *Illinois Antiquity* (Loebel and Hill 2012), confirmed the extent of the site through controlled surface collections that mapped over 1,200 artifacts. The distribution of artifacts on the surface suggested that the material was confined to a thin, rapidly deflating plowzone, which was being subjected to increasing agricultural damage. Combined with its location near a major highway interchange in the rapidly developing beltway around the Quad Cities, a decision was made to salvage as much of the material as possible. In the years after work ended in 2010, we watched from the sidelines as nearby

farm fields turned into subdivisions, wider roads, highway interchanges, and shopping malls, hoping that someday we would be able to return to continue work (Figure 2).

As luck would have it, in the fall of 2020, the tenant farmer and long-time project supporter revealed that the property had recently passed into a family trust and was again available for investigation. With that news in hand, Loebel, Hill, and Lambert coordinated plans to restart work. During several chilly October and November weekends in 2020, over twenty different professional and avocational volunteers heeded the call to action and donated 113 person-days of labor. An additional controlled surface collection was made, the excavation grid was re-established, and 88m² was excavated. The respite from COVID lockdowns and social isolation was welcome, although we adhered to testing, distancing, and masking protocols for personal protection. Volunteers quickly sorted into “excavators” or “screeners” as the site area was gridded off into 1x1m units. Each unit was assigned a number and a screening bag, and the plowzone was excavated and screened as a single level. A staggering amount (nearly 5,000 pieces!) and array of artifactual material was encountered including over 200 biface and 125 projectile point fragments, and 200+ pieces of Hixton

including flake, biface, and projectile point fragments from this unique source located over 200 miles away. Combined with the previous sample of material collected by the Hipskinds and the field school in 2009-2010, the assemblage now totaled over 10,000 items, with expectations of much more to come as we had just begun to scratch the surface.

With a healthy sample of point fragments now available for study, they could be compared to established point types (Figure 3). Based on typological similarities with points known primarily from the Plains, the unusual obliquely flaked lanceolate projectile points from DeWulf are most comparable to the Angostura type, with an estimated age of 8,500-9,500 years-old (Pitblado 2007). It also continued to be clear that DeWulf did not represent a simple habitation site, but rather a special use site where a large assemblage of bifaces, preforms, projectile points, and flake blanks were deposited after being intentionally broken and then burned. The reasons for this are open to interpretation and have been previously explored (Loebel and Hill 2012); however, whatever the particular reason behind the intentional destruction of a large hunting related toolkit (feasting, status seeking, votive or other offering), the connections of the DeWulf site to a constellation of other sites across



Figure 2



Figure 3

Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan that display similar attributes are clear (e.g., The Renier Complex, see Meinholz and Kuehn 1996).

The ancient hunter-gatherers that populated North America are often stereotyped as small groups of nomads wandering aimlessly across the landscape, who did little more than hunt large game and make fancy spear points. However, evidence from DeWulf and sites related to the Renier Complex leave no question that these people had rich social lives – like all people – and were deeply connected to other groups of people across northern Illinois and Wisconsin through direct and indirect, recurrent and sporadic contact among parents, siblings, cousins, aunts, uncles, grandparents, and others. In short, people have been coming together for myriad reasons for time immemorial, to celebrate rites of passage, to share important information and critical resources, and to help others in one way or another—including investigating the DeWulf site. Indeed, a sense of community is a universal and key attribute of human society, and cooperation between individuals and social groups has always played a critical role in defining what makes us human (Figure 4).

We returned to DeWulf in Spring 2021, freshly armed with vaccines and ready once again to break the social isolation of COVID and reform the team. A controlled surface collection added to our extensive map of surface distribution, helping to guide the

placement of the excavation block, which provided a better understanding of site formation processes, or the factors that have affected the archaeological record since deposition. At DeWulf, this includes thousands of years of natural erosion, and more recently, and more importantly, the effects of agricultural tillage and plow dispersion. Once again, professionals and students from six different universities, colleges, and institutions took part alongside the general public and Iowa Archaeological Societies and the Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology. What followed was a humbling and gratifying experience. Over the course of seven weekends from April to October, 331 person days of volunteer labor during 27 field days of work, resulted in the excavation of an additional 360m² of the site area, bringing the size of the excavation block to an amazing 419m². The impact of the volunteers is clear; without a dedicated crew (an average of over twelve people showed up on any given day!) who diligently shovel scraped and screened the plowzone, assigned bag numbers, hauled equipment, and became a well-oiled team, a project of this scale would simply not have been possible. For many volunteers, the chance to participate in an archaeological dig checked a bucket-list item. Our youngest crew member was 5-years-old, our eldest was over 80. Our project allowed folks from every walk of life to be immediately immersed in hands-on gathering of data, witness

the scientific process in action, participate in discussion and debate about what we were doing and why, and become Citizen Scientists. The results were impressive with nearly 9,000 additional artifacts recovered that year.

The vast bulk of the assemblage is comprised of blocky, thermally shattered pieces of chert. Even the smallest pieces recovered are fragments of larger flakes, which were likely intended to serve as blanks for future tool manufacture and use. Indeed, the small flake debris associated with flintknapping or production of items such as the large number of bifaces and projectile points recovered from the site is entirely absent – meaning the assemblage was made elsewhere and brought to the site intact, before being broken and burned. Three main raw materials sources are represented: Silurian formation Blanding cherts from outcrops along the Mississippi river to the northwest; Galena chert from sources across northwest Illinois and southwest Wisconsin; and Hixton silicified sandstone from the famous Silver Mound source in Jackson County, Wisconsin. One lively topic of discussion around the table screens was what these different sources may have represented? One group traveling through all three areas, or different groups each bringing a different raw material to the site? Did the site represent a single visit, or a repeatedly revisited location? And to throw another interesting twist into the story, DeWulf is



Figure 4

located only five miles away from a large outcrop of Moline chert, yet this material is absent from the assemblage. Why was this abundant and otherwise frequently used chert ignored by the groups who at DeWulf?

With a large contiguous excavation block under our belt and a sample of over 18,000 items, we thought our work on-site was done. However, as any archaeologist knows, once the fieldwork is done, the real work begins. During the winters off we worked diligently with students and volunteers to wash, catalog, and inventory the assembly. This allowed us to conduct preliminary spatial analysis of artifact density across the block, which revealed that density was increasing to the northwest, while we had adequately defined the southern and eastern edges of the site. This situation directly impacted another research question that we had: was this a single event, or were there multiple events across the site that might be reflected in several hot spots or areas of higher artifact density or concentrations with different raw material or tool types?

With this new information in hand (science!) and a generous offer of funding from the Hawkeye State Archaeological Society, we returned in 2023 to answer a new question: was the

change in density across the site due to cultural or natural (erosion and plowing) factors? Once again, our dedicated group of seasoned volunteers and new recruits turned out and got to work. Twelve field days and another 168 person-days of labor resulted in a significant expansion of the block to the north and west, allowing us to determine that material was being dispersed north-south and downhill by plowing and significant amounts of erosion. Our final excavation block measured an impressive 23 by 24 meters or 552m² with a smaller second block composed

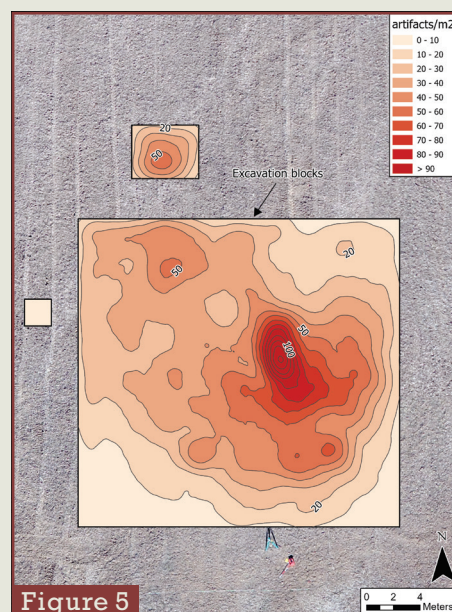


Figure 5

of 20 additional units to the north (Figure 5). Over 2,500 additional artifacts were encountered, bringing the total assemblage to over 21,000 items. Analysis continues with the efforts of multiple professionals, students, and volunteers.

In the end, public archaeology at the DeWulf site heavily engaged members of the public, professional, and student spheres. It also allowed us to offer hands-on experience to the next generation of archaeologists, create a new batch of Citizen Scientists, and collaborate with supportive avocational/collector societies. When the first group of people came together at DeWulf 9,000 years ago to reinforce or create social ties through a shared corporate activity, they would not know that a new community would form 9,000 years later in their footsteps. The early peoples of Illinois, which first entered the region 13,000 years ago, were at the foundation of the complex changes that unfolded among pre-Columbian societies of the Midwest over the course of the next 13 millennia. The insights gained into this unique site will also allow us to engage with descendant communities and illuminate the complex social systems and amazing adaptations of these First Peoples as they coped with immense changes across the physical and social landscape at the end of the last ice age.

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2023 IAAA ANNUAL MEETING

Alice Berkson

Public Service Archaeology and Architecture Program, University of Illinois; Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology; East Central Illinois Archaeological Society

We began the weekend with an informal supper time gathering Friday night at the American Grille in Canton, IL. It was a great chance for members to converse while enjoying western Illinois specialties. On Saturday, 55 members from across the state met at Dickson Mounds Museum (DMM; Figure 1), where we had our annual business meeting and chapter reports, followed by a keynote from Curator of Anthropology Logan Pappenfort, who spoke on Dickson Mounds: Native Perspectives Looking

to the Future. Afternoon talks included presentations from Michael Wiant, David Nolan, Norman Emerick, and Richard Fishel, followed by a tour of DMM exhibits.

IAAA board members Alice Berkson, Holly Labisky, and Sara Pfannkuche managed the meeting coordination, with excellent assistance from Logan Pappenfort and Christa Christensen, and additional DMM staff members who provided support for a well-run meeting. Illinois Valley Archaeological Society members brought sumptuous

breakfast items, and we had delicious box lunches from Eats on the Street in Canton, IL.

Members participated in a central Illinois Valley mound tour, led by Logan Pappenfort and Brooke Morgan of the Illinois State Museum on Sunday.

The annual meeting provided a way to reconnect with old friends and meet new members with an interest in supporting Illinois archaeology through informal conversations and compelling presentations. We are looking forward to next year's meeting!



Figure 1

2023 IAAA STATE FAIR BOOTH

Anne Wilson-Dooley

Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology
Chicago Archaeological Society

IAAA was at the Illinois State Fair again this year. We were in a new location down by the lake in Conservation World, and at first, I was concerned; however, other surrounding events and booths drew plenty of fair attendees to our area. The

booth was open for over 63 hours over ten days. There were nineteen facilitators who provided booth coverage, averaging three per shift. Not all were IAAA members, but we had five from the general Springfield area; one from Cahokia; four from

Central Wabash; six from East Central; two from Chicago; and one from Sauk Trail.

In the past, we did not count the number of visitors to our booth, but this year, we followed the lead of another booth, and used hand tally clickers. In total, IAAA's outreach booth engaged with about 1700 attendees. Some of these engagements were quite short, where fairgoers stopped by, viewed a few items, maybe picked up one of our handouts, then moved on. Other times, there were longer interactions and great conversations about Illinois' fascinating archaeological record.

Many of our displays and activities were the same as past years, but we had a few additional hands-on items. Again, Bill Iseminger brought two immensely popular artifact boxes from Cahokia; Carolyn Stephens brought the York Trail poster and three boxes of artifacts from the Wabash area; we again had Floyd Mansberger's posters from the 1908 Springfield Race Riot excavation; and finally, the remote sensing board created by Sara Pfannkuche and Dan Bartlett. Our major hands-on activity was wood disk drilling using micro chert drills, knapped by Larry Kinsella (figure 1). An added item this year was a box with small and sometimes nondescript artifacts and ecofacts, showing how they can have meaning for archaeologists, especially when they use sieving and flotation to collect floral and faunal specimens.

We have good items at the booth, but several need further developments. There are several of us who are discussing concepts and funding to further improve our State Fair items and to increase our public outreach efforts. Some of this was presented at the Fall IAAA Board meeting. Much thanks to the following people who made IAAA's 2023 State Fair booth a resounding success: Dawn Cobb, Mike Wiant, Tommy Bryden, Kevin Roberts, Curtis Winans, Bill Iseminger, Dale F. Simpson Jr., Georgia Abrams, Holly Labisky, Eve Hargrave, Isabel Cole, Hannah Rucinski, Camille Born, Laura Laudadio, Carolyn Stephens, Barb Ross, Marie Davis, and Cheryll Douglas.



Figure 1

2024 IAAA DUES AND DON'TS

Holly Labisky

Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology; East Central Illinois Archaeological Society

The Illinois State Fair outreach booth. *Illinois Antiquity* (IA). The Annual Business Meeting activities. The Permanent Fund grants. *Rediscovery* journal. Partnerships with professional groups for archaeological publications and posters for education and outreach. These are a few of the projects that your dues and donations fund to increase awareness about archaeology in Illinois. Without you, we cannot bring amateurs and professionals together to promote archaeological endeavors. Please read on to learn about how you can continue to support IAAA – and about our latest implementation to reach the masses.

DUES should be paid on or before January 1st, 2024. We collect dues following a calendar year. While we will accept memberships at any time, we ask that you be prompt with your renewals and send your payments as soon as possible. The amounts remain unchanged, and the membership categories are listed on the back mailing page of all IA issues, and on the online membership form.

DUES for chapter members should be paid according to your chapter's policies. In most instances, your IAAA dues will be paid along with your chapter dues. Your chapter will manage the transaction with IAAA, so you will be dealing with only one organization. Because procedures vary among chapters, check with your local leaders to get the most accurate information.

DUES from At Large members should be paid directly to IAAA. Currently, IAAA does not accept electronic payments. Checks or money orders, along with the membership form may be mailed to: Holly Labisky, IAAA Secretary, P. O. Box 3355, Champaign, IL 61826.

DON'T send cash.

DON'T make checks or money orders payable to an individual person. They should be made payable to IAAA. There is no need to write out the full name of the organization.

DON'T miss an issue of IA or the *Rediscovery* journal. Kindly inform the Secretary if you have moved, have two addresses, or will be temporarily away.

We try our best to assure that you receive our publications, but cannot guarantee delivery if we do not have a current mailing address.

DUES payments made in 2024 will allow you to receive a complimentary copy of *Rediscovery* which is on schedule to be published next year. This is a must-have for every archaeology library!

DON'T think we forgot about that big tease in the opening paragraph. We are very excited to announce the arrival of www.ILAdvanceArchaeo.org, IAAA's brand new website! Please visit the site, look around, print additional membership forms (if needed for gift memberships), and share your thoughts with Ms. Labisky or Editor Dr. Dale Simpson, Jr. There will be an article explaining more about the site in a future issue of IA, and we will print some of your comments. We look forward to hearing your feedback.

DON'T hesitate to direct any membership questions, mailing concerns, and/or comments to Holly Labisky at the address above or by email to:

BootHHL12@aol.com

Have you seen the new IAAA website?

Check it out at:

www.iladvancearchaeo.org



ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FOR ADVANCEMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY – APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip _____
 (Please list all names of persons included in family membership)

 Telephone _____

Membership categories
(per calendar year - circle one please)

Active	\$15.00
Family	\$18.00
Student	\$10.00
Institutional/ School	\$30.00
Sustaining	\$30.00
Joint Sustaining	\$40.00
Life	\$300.00
Joint Life	\$500.00
Benefactor	\$750.00

If you would like IAAA news and announcements by e-mail please provide E-mail Address below

Please mail to:
 Holly Labisky
 P.O. Box 3355
 Champaign, IL 61826

(check one) New Renewal

I am in sympathy with the aims of the Association, and hereby make application for _____ category of membership for the 20____ calendar year. Signature _____

Please make checks payable to: Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology. Note: At-Large members should use this form for their IAAA membership, which includes a subscription to *Illinois Antiquity*. Chapter members should pay IAAA stated dues through their chapters. Membership information and a form can also be obtained at <https://iladvancearchaeo.org/>.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2024 IAAA AWARDS

Addison Kimmel

Wapsi Valley Archaeology; Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology; Quad Cities Archaeological Society

IAAA awards are one way our organization recognizes the many varied and impactful contributions our members have made and are making toward our collective goals of advancing, supporting, and contributing to archaeology and archaeological research in our state. We have four awards that are given out on a semi-annual basis.

The Service to the Organization Award recognizes an individual's outstanding commitment and volunteer contributions to the IAAA.

The Lifetime Volunteer Award recognizes a member's long-term service to the IAAA and/or to the advancement of archaeological study in our state, usually in an avocational capacity.

The Professional Service Award is given to a professional archaeologist for work in that emphasizes collaboration with and avocationalists and furthers the goals of the IAAA.

The Preservation Award is given to the person, persons, or organization that has made an outstanding contribution to the preservation of Illinois' archaeological resources.

To ensure we can recognize the incredible contributions of our resolute and knowledgeable members, please consider nominating an outstanding IAAA member for one of these awards.

To nominate a deserving individual or organization, send a short nomination letter of no more than two pages, to addison.kimmel.rrc@gmail.com. Please include the name of the nominee, the name of the award for which you are nominating them, and a concise description detailing the reasons why you believe they should receive this award. Awards are presented at our annual meeting held each year in the spring. The deadline for nominations is March 1st, 2024.

2022 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION OF BOAT STONE GROVE AT MACKTOWN (11WO256)



Lucas Howser

University of Iowa; Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology

Dale F. Simpson Jr

Illinois State Archaeological Survey; College of DuPage; Northern Illinois University; Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology; Chicago Archaeological Society

Throughout its different precolonial cultural phases, Macktown has served as a dynamic human space with various functions. It witnessed changes in settlement patterns, resource utilization, and interactions with the surrounding landscape. The holistic examination of precolonial artifacts at Macktown revealed distinct phases of occupation, varying settlement intensity, land use patterns, and resource preferences (Howser 2022). The site (11WO256) experienced episodes of resource procurement stations and bivouacs during the Archaic period, where people settled temporarily and refined stone tools for their needs. The earliest evidence of freshwater mollusk exploitation has been discovered during this period. As the Middle and Late Woodland periods unfolded, Macktown transformed into more sedentary temporary base camps, witnessing a substantial increase in the exploitation of shellfish, specifically as this space was occupied by Effigy Mound building peoples. However, during the Mississippian period, Macktown became relatively abandoned, as only a few artifacts from these periods were found, suggesting that people passing through the region may have not established substantial settlements.

To better understand Macktown's multicomponent nature, and to celebrate Illinois Archaeology

Awareness Month, an educational archaeological excavation in Boat Stone Grove (BSG) was conducted in September 2022. These efforts were supported by the Winnebago County Forest Preserve District, Macktown Living History, North Central College, College of DuPage, Elgin Community College, and local volunteers (Simpson 2022; Howser and Simpson 2023). The research area for the excavation was located approximately 105m north by northeast of the Macktown Visitor Center, nestled upon the dolostone quarry bluff that overlooks the Rock River. In 2003, 2010, 2017, and 2018, reconnaissance surveys were carried out by Midwest Archaeological Research Services staff (Pfannkuche et al. 2007, Martinez and Howser 2019). All Phase I investigations involved ground testing that concluded with the recovery of precolonial cultural material. Geospatial interpolation of the artifacts recovered during those years indicate that there is an increase in density traversing north, towards the bluffs edge. Thus, the purpose of the BSG excavation was to continue archaeological investigation northward.

Methods

Prior to the archaeological reconnaissance, vegetation in the area was cleared by brush hogging providing access to the Bur Oak savannah landscape. The project boundary measured 35m northwest to

southeast by 10m northeast to southwest and the topographic profile was relatively flat. To ensure the highest artifact yield, three transects of shovel test probes (STPs), oriented northwest to southeast, were laid out. STPs locations were marked with pin flags and mapped with a handheld global positioning system (GPS). Transect 1 consisted of eight scheduled probes, however, one probe was left unexcavated. Transect 2 and 3 consisted of seven scheduled STPs. In total, 21 probes were excavated.

Due to the discovery of two distinct occupational components in 2017 and 2018, STPs during this season were excavated in two stages with an upper stage (Late Woodland) and lower stage (Middle Archaic). The upper layer was excavated at an average of 21 centimeters below surface (cmbs) and the subsequent lower layer was excavated to sterile glacial deposits, which was roughly 50cmbs. Soil collected from the shovel tests was sifted through 1/4" hardware cloth screens. Artifacts secured by the screens were immediately placed in bags labeled by probe, and were taken to the Macktown Visitor Center Lab. Once in the lab, the artifacts were processed, cleaned, and inventoried.

Artifact counts were partitioned into various artifact types, including stone tool reduction debris (i.e., flakes, shatter), fire-cracked rock (FCR),

ground stone tools, ceramics, chipped-stone tools, cores, faunal remains, and shell ecofacts. The Late Woodland component data indicates that artifacts consisted primarily of chert flakes (n=115), then 14 fragments of shatter, four ceramic sherds, one chert core, and two stone tools. No FCR or ground stone tools were recovered from this stage. Faunal and shell fragments were found in the eastmost probes of Transect 1. In total, 136 artifacts were recovered from the upper level. Comparable to the Late Woodland component, the Middle Archaic component data reveals that freshwater shell is deposited in the eastmost probes of Transect 1, with flakes being the most abundant artifact (n=41). Additionally, there is

one fragment of shatter, one fragment of FCR, one stone tool, and one ground stone tool. In contrast to the Upper Level, there are no cores found in this stage. In total, 44 items of precolonial material culture were found in the lower level.

The artifact inventory was structured in Excel with the capability to be joined and related to geospatial data collected in the field, which was subsequently compiled and analyzed using the Inverse Distance Weighting (IDW) tool in ArcGIS Pro. IDW interpolation is an analytical tool used to calculate values with no information utilizing data based on known values of nearby points. By applying IDW interpolation to the known artifact

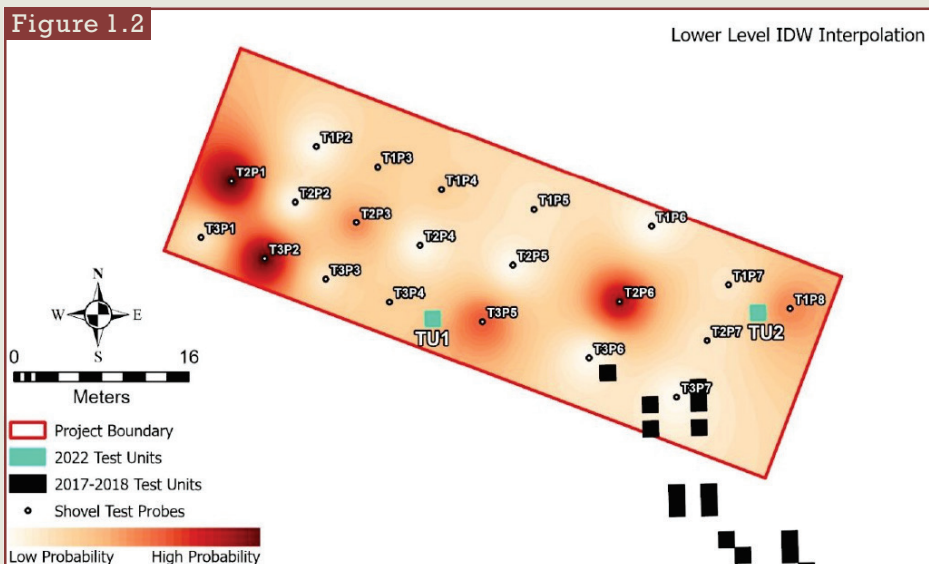
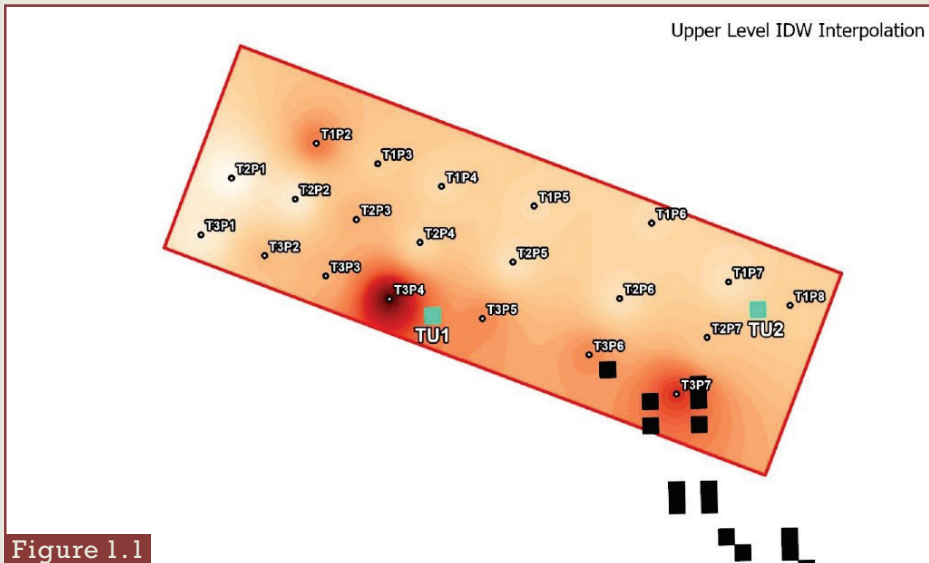
distribution (e.g. between Late Woodland and Middle Archaic components), one can generate a continuous surface that visualizes the artifact density across the project area.

At the upper level (Figure 1.1), a concentration of artifacts is observed between Transect 3 Probe 4 and Transect 3 Probe 5. This suggests that this area experienced more intense productivity during the Late Woodland period. The lower level (Figure 1.2) shows a decrease in the overall artifact density compared to the upper level; however, there is a depositional trend towards the west at deeper depths. It is important to note that the total artifact interpolation raster appears biased due to the higher count of artifacts from the upper level. Due to time constraints, only two 1m square test units were excavated.

Test unit 1 (TU1) was placed in the area with the highest artifact density, between Transect 3 Probe 4 and Transect 3 Probe 5. Soil from this layer was removed by trowel to a depth of 20cm. TU1 consisted of a silt loam, with organic inclusions, particularly fine roots. In the northeast quadrant, the soil was black (10YR 2/1) in color, which was consistent with the plane orientation of the O Horizon. The remaining quadrants of TU1 consisted of dark brown (7.5YR 3/2) silt loam.

Test unit 2 (TU2) was placed in the eastern corner of the project boundary where a Middle Archaic deposit of freshwater shell was discovered. The unit was excavated by trowel until shell was exposed, nearing 25cmbs. TU2 consisted of a loamy sand, with organic inclusions, such as fine and medium roots. Soil within the unit's A Horizon was black (10YR 2/1) in color and well drained, formed in moderately coarse or coarse textured eolian material, with a thin layer of residuum.

A total of 225 items of material culture (e.g., chert debitage, a chert tools, FCR, and ceramic sherds) were recovered from the BSG test units. Freshwater



mollusk shell fragments were also collected and recorded. All archaeological materials were processed, prepared, and analyzed at the Midwest Archaeological Research Services Lab in Crystal Lake, IL.

categorizations are utilized to identify the different stages of lithic tool production and provide insights into manufacturing processes. Primary debitage are the least represented with three flakes, while there were 29 secondary, and 44 tertiary debitage.



Figure 2

Results

Lithics

The reduction debris (debitage) from stone tool manufacturing was the most abundant stone artifact type (Figure 2). Sixty-three flakes and 14 shatter fragments were recovered primarily from TU1. Complete and partial flakes were visually determined by standard attributes such as platforms, bulb of percussion, eorillure flake scarring, and/or evidence of flake termination. Flakes are relatively thin, flat or conchoidal, and retain a distinct edge. The prime material utilized for production was microcrystalline quartz, primarily a variety of Platteville-Galena and Burlington chert, with some silicified sandstone (quartzite) flakes. Shatter has a polygonal geometry with no indications of the flake attributes and no distinct dorsal or ventral faces. This debitage type was distinguished from glacial till by material type, lack of polish, and retention of a sharp edge.

In TU1, there is primary, secondary, and tertiary debitage present. These

The distribution of primary, secondary, and tertiary reduction debris within TU1 indicates that stone tool production was in late stages, and it is likely that earlier stages of production were started elsewhere.

Additionally, debitage is sorted into categories to identify the division of heat-treated and non-heat-treated material. The categories consist of non-heat-treated, heat-treated, non-heat-treated with cortex, heat-treated with cortex for both flakes and blocky fragments. Heat-treated material was assessed by visual inspection. Out of the 76 pieces of debitage, 35 (46% of assemblage) were considered heat-treated. The chert material used by precolonial people contains many impurities; thus, as both Platteville-Galena and Burlington chert have fossilized inclusions and mineralized fissures that cause points of structural weaknesses in the rock, heat-treatment was done to mitigate the knapping unpredictability of poor-quality chert.

One chipped-stone tool was recovered from TU1 (Figure 3). This artifact is a mid-stage, medial biface fragment crafted from heat-treated Burlington chert with fossiliferous inclusions. It measures 11.38mm in length, 24.4mm in width, and 8.5mm in thickness, with a weight of 3.2g. This tool has no diagnostic features to indicate the cultural group associated with its production, however, as its provenience was in the upper level, it is assumed to be associated with the Late Woodland component at BSG.



Figure 3

Ceramics

From TU1, 77 precolonial ceramic sherds were recovered, and 69 sherds were recovered from TU2 (Figure 4). Most sherds were heavily eroded; however, in-depth analysis of a six sherd samples from TU1 (n=2) and TU2 (n=4) identified two Late Woodland cultural/temporal affiliations: Lane Farm and Madison Ware cord impressed (Figure 5). The Lane Farm sherd measured 11.46mm in length, 10.21mm in width, 4.81mm thick, with a weight of 0.6g. The hardness of the sherd was soft as it withstood only a two on the Mohs scale. The exterior colors are yellowish red (5YR 4/6) and very dark grayish brown (10YR 3/2), while the interior color is dark reddish gray (5YR 4/2). It is a sand-tempered body sherd with eroded cord marked decoration. Lane Farm Cord Impressed pottery has been described as a transitional style between the late Middle Woodland into the Late Woodland (1,450-1,200 BP) and was developed in the early stages of the Effigy Mounds tradition (Porubcan et al. 1998:23; Pfannkuche et al.

2007:89). This pottery type is associated with the Millville Phase of southwestern Wisconsin and northeastern Iowa. The distinction between the Lane Farm cord impressed and Madison Ware ceramics was determined by the difference in temper and hardness, as Lane Farm sherds are softer (2) with sand temper and Madison Ware is fine

the mottling on the exterior of the samples. They are crafted from fine grit-tempered paste produced from quartz and have cord markings as their decorative element. The sherds were fired evenly from the exterior to the interior. These pottery sherds are associated with the Madison Ware series from the Late Woodland, Eastman Phase (1,250-950 BP)

two test units were excavated at BSG. In total, 405 items of precolonial material culture and 15.30g of shell were recovered over the course of three days. Due to the limited nature of the excavation, the interpretation of the site is still within the preliminary stages.

Based on the current archaeological evidence, the Late Woodland component at BSG was predominantly inhabited by Effigy Mound tradition peoples, as indicated by predominance of Madison Ware pot sherds. The site appears to have been utilized as an area for middle to late-stage chipped-stone tool production during this period. The presence of Madison Ware pottery and chipped-stone tools suggests that the site served as a resource procurement station for the Effigy Mound peoples, who likely engaged in activities such as stone tool making and raw material gathering.



Figure 4



Figure 5

grit tempered and harder (3). At BSG, most pottery sherds were affiliated with Madison Ware, which was differentiated by the temper within heavily eroded fragments.

The remaining samples consisted of Madison Ware pottery with mean dimensions 24.28mm in length, 18.36mm in width, and 5.19mm in thickness, weighing 2.68g, with a hardness of 3 on the Mohs scale. The interior color is dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2), while the exterior colors are reddish brown (5YR 4/4) and dark brown (10YR 3/3). Erosion on the exterior of the sherds has caused the interior to be exposed, as indicated by

(Howell 2001). Madison Ware pottery is associated with the Effigy Mound tradition across southern Wisconsin to northeastern Iowa. Madison vessels typically have cord-marked or twined fabric impressions with horizontal bands, chevrons, and triangular decorations on their exterior (Benn and Thompson 2014:21). They are known for relatively thin walls, compact paste, and a horizontal band of twisted cord impressions on the exterior and interior rim margin.

Freshwater Mollusk Shell

Freshwater calcareous shell was discovered in the eastern corner of the 2022 BSG project area. In TU2, a total weight of 15.30g of shell was excavated with a recovery rate of approximately 90 percent.

Conclusion

During the 2022 research and educational archaeological excavation, 21 shovel test probes and

The Middle to Late Archaic component of the site was not extensively investigated. The limited data available from the shovel test survey from this component shows an increase in artifact density at greater depths towards the west end of the project boundary. This trend could indicate a shift in human activity or occupation patterns during the Middle to Late Archaic period including different land use practices or settlement dynamics during that time. Although this component has been less studied, it provides an opportunity for additional investigation to uncover details about this period of human occupation, cultural history, and development. While the current archaeological findings have provided valuable initial insights, additional research could reveal more about the archaeological context, cultural practices, and changes in human occupation, and land use over time at BSG.

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CEMETERY ARCHAEOLOGY IN NORTH CHICAGOLAND



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Undergraduate research bundles many desirable activities; a practical engagement with a subject, peer collaboration, professional networking opportunities, training in specific skills, and faculty mentorship. In America, these activities are most often affiliated with the various science, technology, engineering, art, or mathematics (or STEAM) disciplines for which many grant-funded initiatives exist. Comparatively fewer opportunities exist in the social sciences and are rare within Illinois community colleges that enroll most of the state's undergraduates.

The field school is a common source of undergraduate training in archaeology and is often required for entry-level positions. Heath-Stout and Hannigan's (2020) review of 209 field schools outlines how cost represents a significant barrier to the non-wealthy. Beyond tuition, students are usually asked to pay predetermined program fees and additional travel expenses that may total many thousands of dollars. These expenses are rarely covered by student loans and few scholarships exist. Beyond this, the full-time commitment of field schools is impractical for those asked to forgo wage employment. When coupled with a difficult job outlook, these burdens depress working-class representation within archaeology. Heath-Stout and Hannigan conclude that lower cost and locally accessible opportunities are

needed to promote greater inclusion in the profession. To this we add opportunities that are also part-time in nature, ideally embedded within curricula capable of subsidized by student loans, and featuring asynchronous aspects to accommodate unpredictable student circumstances.

This report shares the aims of an embedded field project made possible by support from an Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology Permanent Fund Grant. We describe the project's questions and methodology and outline the preliminary benefits to students (two former students are co-authors). This project is organized through the College of Lake County, a public two-year community college about 50 miles north of Chicago. The school enrolls around 12,000 students per year, mostly drawn from the working class, many of whom are first-generation students. Many students live in lower-income communities and their median income hovers near the poverty line. These students are unlikely to be able to afford the time or expense associated with the typical archaeological field school or other internships and therefore are at risk of finding themselves uncompetitive for entry-level employment after years of schooling. A community college environment is an unconventional setting for archaeological research,

presenting little laboratory space or internal funding. These difficulties were magnified greatly during the COVID-19 period when students were disallowed from physically working together on projects, necessitating the creation of a virtual type of field training.

Theory

The learning outcomes of many archaeological field schools are almost exclusively concerned with technical mastery. Selecting the nearest archaeological site for the sake of organizing an excavation facilitates active learning and imparts employable skills to students. For many of us, this constitutes a perfectly acceptable form of research. Others may also find it desirable to evaluate scenarios that are of broader interest to social theory. For the latter, one needs to identify the cultural resources most useful to answering particular questions. As many archaeologists strive to evaluate models of long-term social change, we typically look towards multicomponent sites or landscapes.

The North Chicagoland region offers a wealth of multicomponent public cemeteries with millions of above-ground mortuary features dating to the past two centuries. Chicago's historic cemeteries present a variety of information of interest to wider social theory, notably the ever-changing expressions of mortuary status relevant to the study of social inequalities. A familiar way to interpret mortuary variability is the Saxe-Binford paradigm which posits a relationship between burial treatment and social organization. Status differences in life result in different investments after death so variations in mortuary treatment are broadly thought to reflect social organization. In this view, unusually labor-intensive or expensive mortuary features signal wealthy individuals or families. Lavish graves of young children, too young to have amassed much personal wealth or prestige, are traditionally interpreted to mean that status was ascribed.

The Saxe-Binford paradigm does not offer universal relevance. "The dead do not bury themselves," quipped Pearson (1993: 203), reminding us that burial treatment reflects the intentions of the living to idealize the dead. Such a perspective is consistent with actor-based approaches in archaeology when mortuary ritual is viewed as a negotiation between living interest groups. Pearson's study of funeral and monument expenses from 1977 London revealed no broad correlation between economic class and the treatment of the deceased. McGuire's

(1988) analysis of public cemeteries around Binghamton, New York offered a longer-term perspective on social status. He identified periods in the cemetery record where the Saxe-Binford paradigm offered reasonable accuracy and other periods where it did not.

Methods

To evaluate the Saxe-Binford versus agency scenarios, students are asked to first determine if social ranking is identifiable in the cemetery record. This requires first understanding the range of mortuary monument variation during

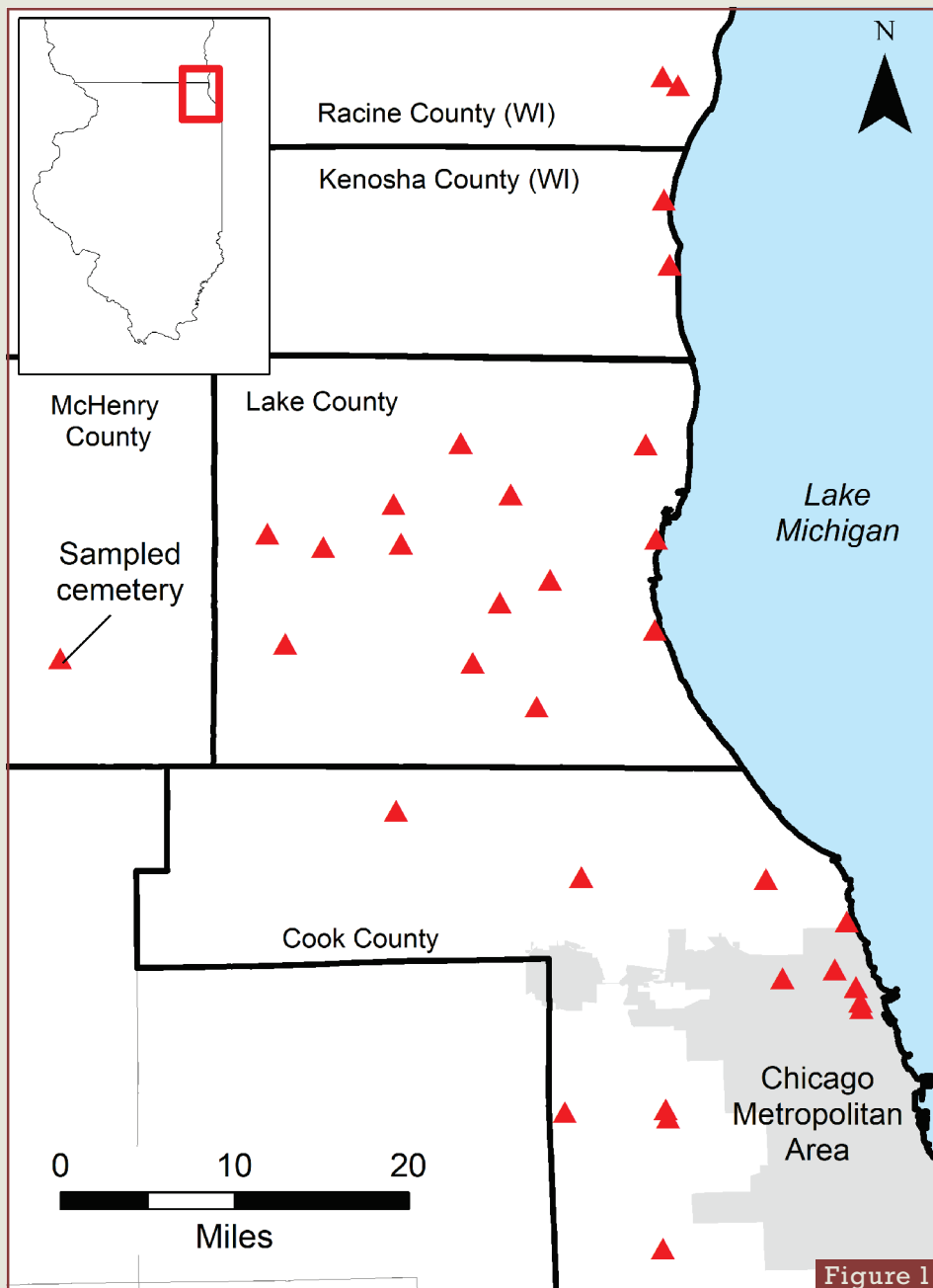


Figure 1

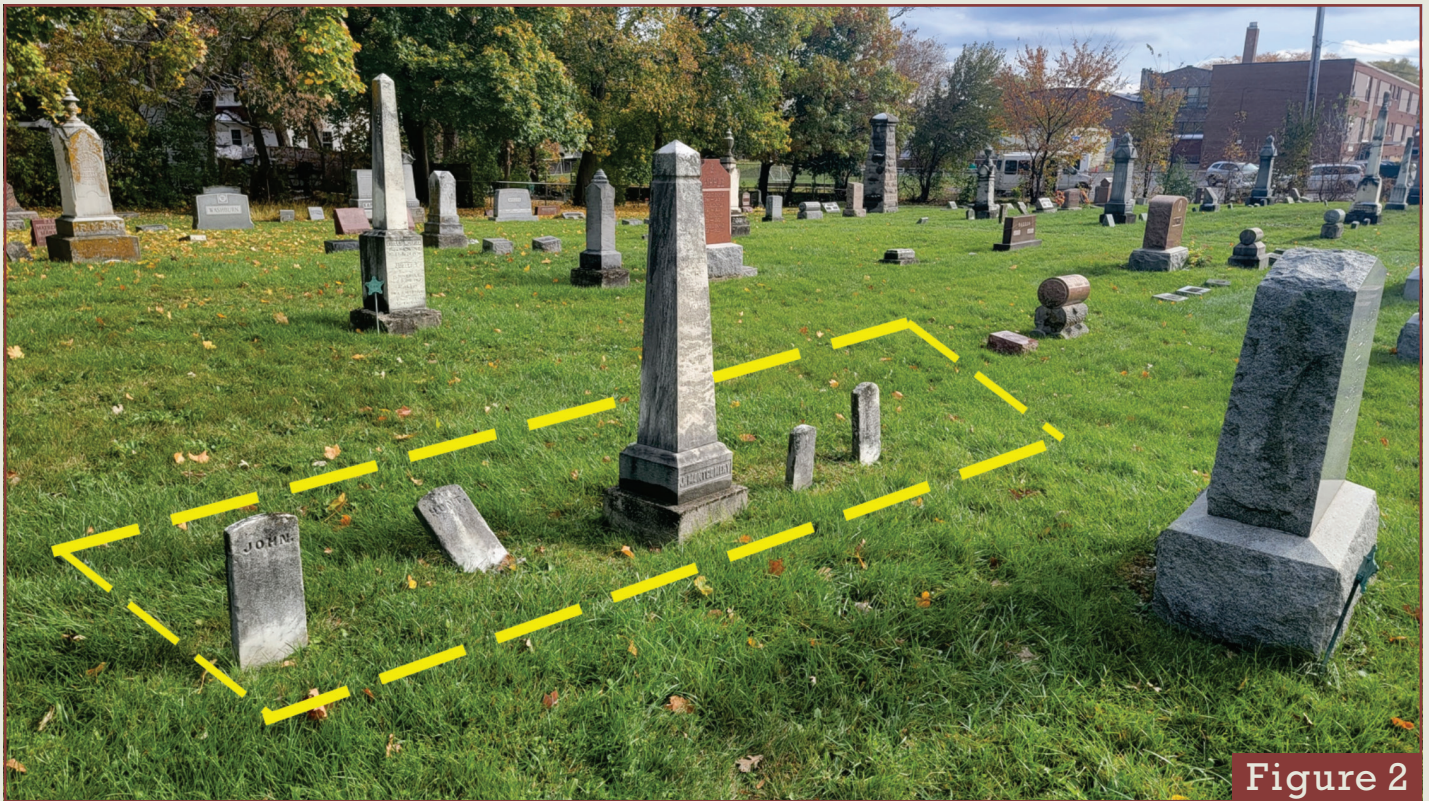


Figure 2

a specific period, a desire that favors an extensive random sampling methodology combined with lessons on creating maps, a photographic log, and taking detailed measurements. A hypothetical mortuary range may include highly conspicuous monuments at one end, grading into the smaller and more modest monuments favored by those of intermediate status, ending with temporary markers or the mass graves of the indigent. The argument in favor of the Saxe-Binford paradigm is stronger when the observed range of variation approximates the upper-middle-working class distinctions that characterize Chicagoland society. The agency argument, by contrast, is strengthened when status in life is not mirrored by treatment in death. Monuments in some cemeteries (especially those associated with specific ethnic groups or religions) trend toward greater size or craftsmanship, for example, while others avoid ostentation. To seek broader trends despite these obvious variations, we find it desirable to sample a large number of cemeteries.

Thus far, this project collected data from thirty-two public cemeteries (Figure 1). This includes thirteen cemeteries in Cook County, two in Kenosha County (Wisconsin), fourteen in Lake County, one in McHenry County, and two in Racine County (Wisconsin).

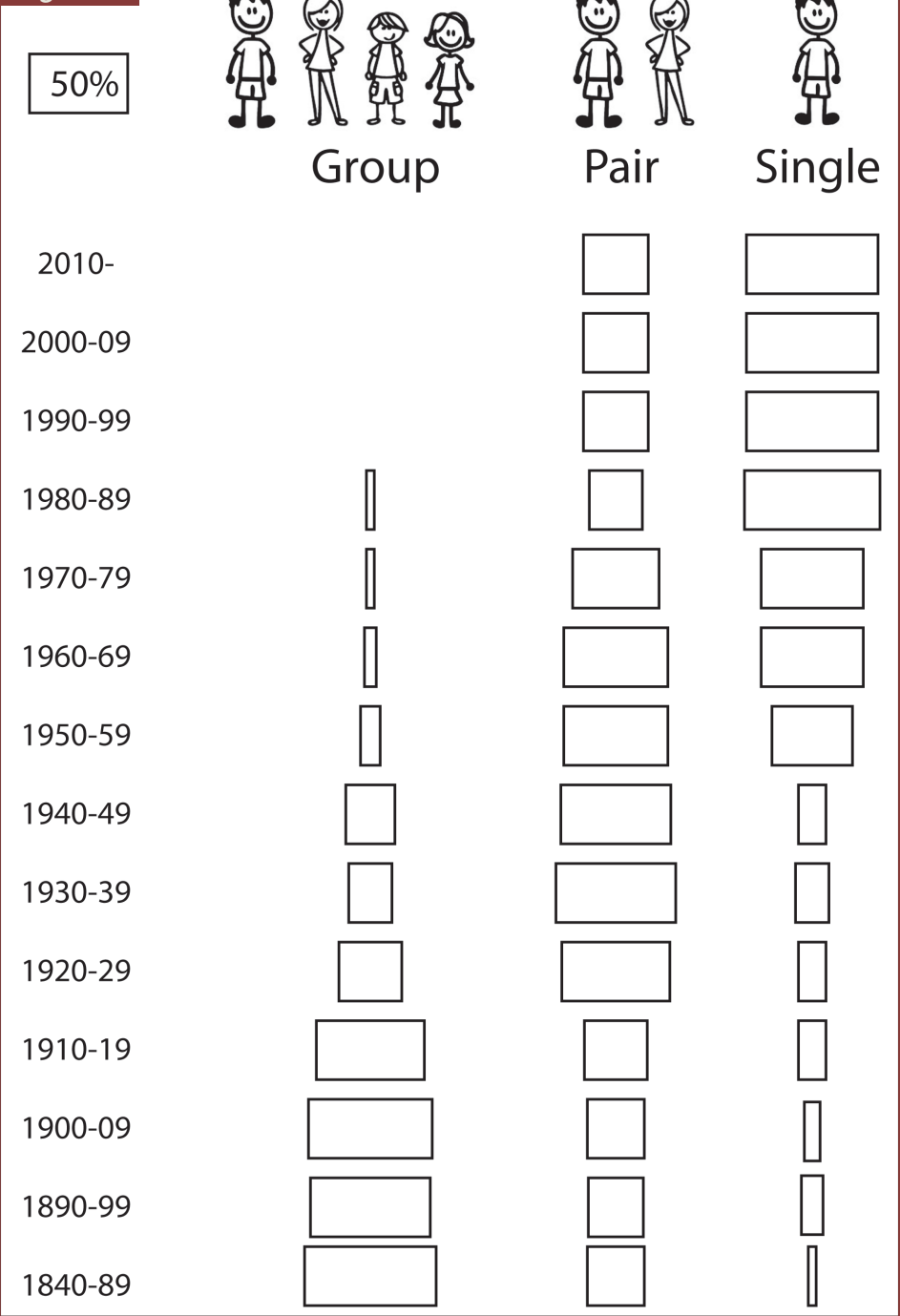
While many projects select well-preserved gravestones as their unit of analysis, we found it useful to design the project around the cemetery plot as McGuire (1998) did. A cemetery plot is a unit of analysis that was meaningful to those in the past, evidenced by individuals buried alongside their children, spouses, or other relatives. Plots are often recognizable as small spatial clusters of graves, typically carved from the same types of stone, bearing decorative similarities, and inscribed with the same surname (Figure 2). Over the past two centuries, a clear social atomization trend has been identified within public cemeteries. This changes from a high frequency of extended family plots early, toward cemeteries dominated by couples, eventually replaced by a landscape of largely individuals (Figure 3). Students are invited to consider these trends

alongside information on American marriage and residence patterns.

As community college commuter students reside in many different locations around the North Chicagoland area, they often elect to research a public cemetery close to their residence. This proved useful when social distancing was required because students could still isolate while visiting different cemeteries. Text messaging and video conferencing technology allowed students to work simultaneously and share photographs, ask questions, and receive feedback in real-time. While physical campus access was restricted to students during this time, they could, however, pick up tools useful to this project outside (e.g. tape measures, cameras). The data gathered from these cemeteries is entirely digital (e.g. photographs, spreadsheets, etc.), able to be entered on cell phones, stored on cloud media, and requires no access to a campus laboratory.

Archival research and quantitative analyses introduced asynchronous elements into the project methodology.

Figure 3



These tasks also provided an avenue for those students uncomfortable or unable to visit a public cemetery. Random samples of names and dates noted from monuments are researched further using websites like Ancestry.com and other genealogy websites. Accessing scanned census records, obituaries, and associated documents provides information useful to economic class estimates

(e.g. residence value, last occupation). This information is being contrasted with the historical value of the volume of the plot's above-ground stone (e.g., marble, granite, slate) using rank correlations and other statistical techniques. Quantifying how well, or how poorly, class and mortuary investment were associated over time promises to provide an initial means to evaluate our two theoretical scenarios.

Student outcomes

Over the past few years, students have recorded information from many thousands of burial plots, totaling about 9,000 individuals. Their insights informed a variety of course presentations, theses, academic presentations, and this report. This benefits a broader range of students than merely archaeology majors, leading to a higher percentage of students succeeding in their course, being retained in college, and receiving training in skills used in many careers. Much of this was realized during a pandemic when few other students around the country could benefit from field research. We warmly thank the Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology for helping us to make possible a rare opportunity enjoyed by so many underprivileged college students.

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