ISAS 2014
Annual Report

ILLINOIS STATE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY
PRAIRIE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

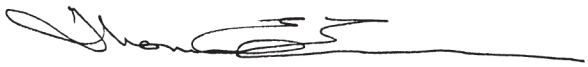
A Message from the Director

Dr. Thomas Emerson,
ISAS Director
State Archaeologist

The Illinois State Archaeological Survey (ISAS) is one of five state scientific surveys within the Prairie Research Institute (PRI) at the University of Illinois. ISAS houses the Illinois State Archaeologist, the authoritative spokesperson on archaeological policy matters for the state. ISAS also provides integrated scientific information about the state's archaeological resources that can help our citizens, communities, scientists, industry, and government agencies make better decisions about heritage interpretation, management and preservation in Illinois.

Ongoing initiatives include our work with citizens to record important Illinois artifact finds, the discovery of the War of 1812 Fort Johnson, and excavations at the early African-American town of Brooklyn, as well as computer modeling to better understand archaeological site locations as an aid to development. The Survey has recently joined with the Forest Preserves of Cook County to assist in managing their archaeological resources.

Today ISAS is recognized as housing one of the premier transportation archaeology programs in the United States. The ISAS-IDOT partnership preserves Illinois' important archaeological and historic resources while advancing Illinois' transportation infrastructure. Historically, archaeology and transportation are a strongly interwoven tradition in Illinois and are a prime example of the value of governmental partnerships and their widespread and positive impact on economic development, transportation goals, and resource preservation in the state.



Our Annual Report is designed to provide an overview of the Survey's yearly activities. The content of this report reflects the views of the contributors who are responsible for the facts and accuracy of the data presented herein and does not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of IDOT, the Prairie Research Institute, or the University of Illinois.

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www.isas.illinois.edu/publications

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Sincere appreciation to all the ISAS photographers and contributors—named and unnamed. The annual report is a collaborative effort that would not be possible without your creative input.

Contributors

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About the Covers

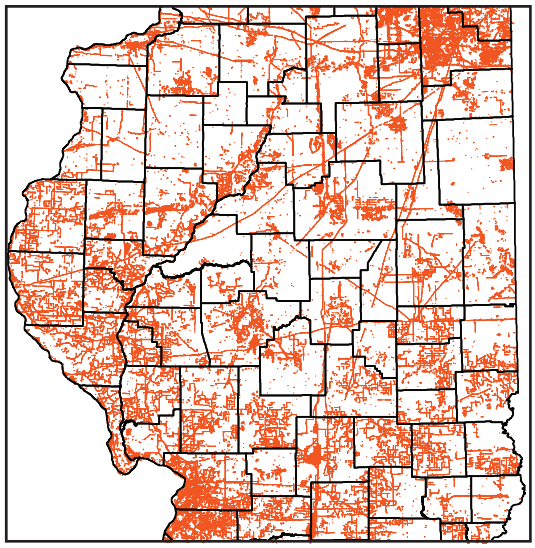
Front: A Mississippian notched Kaolin chert (caramel swirl pattern) hoe that was discovered in a wall trench at the East St. Louis site. Photography by Robert Rohe.

Back: Clockwise from upper left: Phase III excavation at the Wedding site in Jersey County; Phase II test-unit excavation at the Buckman Flats site in Knox County; Phase III shovel scraping at the Apple River borrows in Jo Daviess County; and Phase I shovel testing during the High Speed Rail: Chicago to Joliet project, in Pilcher Park in Joliet, Illinois. Photography by ISAS staff.

Progress, Partnerships, Preservation

Working Together

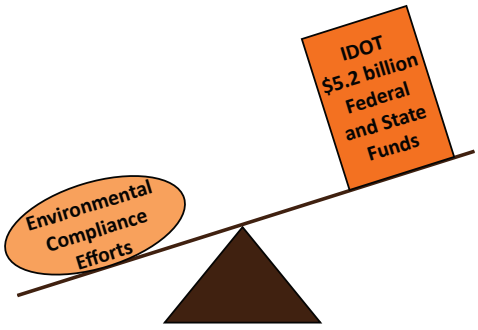
Too often, historic preservation and progress are viewed as contrary goals. Over a half-century of work by the Illinois State Archaeological Survey (ISAS) has demonstrated this stereotype to be false. Smart development that combines the expertise of entrepreneurs and archaeologists can create financially viable options for progress while also preserving important vestiges of the past. Decades of archaeological surveys have recorded over 63,000 habitation sites, fortifications, mounds, cemeteries, farmsteads, and artifact scatters despite the fact that probably less than 10 percent of Illinois has actually been examined. The state of Illinois is incredibly rich in archaeological history and the probability of historic resources and development co-occurring on the Illinois landscape is high.



Archaeological survey distribution—knowledge follows development.

ISAS and IDOT—A Partnership that Works

We all recognize the increasing need to modernize and expand Illinois' transportation network and infrastructure. Since 1956 the University of Illinois and ISAS have partnered with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) on thousands of projects that have advanced Illinois' transportation goals while also managing impacts on the state's past. IDOT was an early leader in the effort to preserve and interpret our national heritage while facilitating development, creating sustainable economic networks, attracting diverse businesses, and promoting agriculture and local economies here in Illinois. For more than half a century, IDOT archaeological compliance efforts have leveraged billions of federal dollars annually to improve and transform Illinois' transportation infrastructure. In the process, ISAS has helped IDOT discover, interpret, and manage 10,000 years of archaeological resources in Illinois.



The joint IDOT-ISAS compliance efforts have leveraged billions of federal dollars to improve and transform Illinois' transportation infrastructure.

Extending the Partnership Web—Supporting Smart Development

Federal and state laws require the protection of archaeological resources during development, yet most developers only consider archaeology during a project's later planning stages when changes may be both challenging and costly. Currently, zoning boards, community planners, and builders have no way to predict what landscapes may turn out to be archaeologically sensitive or even fully protected: they are left to "plan, acquire, and gamble," hoping that significant archaeological resources will not confound integrated designs, capital funding, or developer profit margins. The result often pits planners and preservationists in unnecessary opposition.

In response, ISAS hopes to extend its successful partnership model to serve the broad business community and archaeological contractors of Illinois to smooth development and preservation processes. Modeling resources can help stakeholders avoid sites that could become legal, economic, logistical, or public relations nightmares, eliminating conflicts, and crafting solutions at the earliest planning stages of a project when major decisions are being made. ISAS can do this by generating predictive resource modeling information not currently available to planners here in Illinois. ISAS is uniquely positioned to use new kinds of tools such as LiDAR and landscape evolution models that forecast land-use changes against resource sensitivities in areas of rapid urban development. These models contribute to "smart development" and benefit everyone—planners, landscape managers, zoning professionals, preservation-minded groups, and developers—all of whom stand to gain a great deal from predictive evaluations of the cultural resources they may encounter.

- **Over 300** prehistoric and historic sites in **53** Illinois counties mitigated or avoided
- **$6 million** reinvested into local Illinois communities

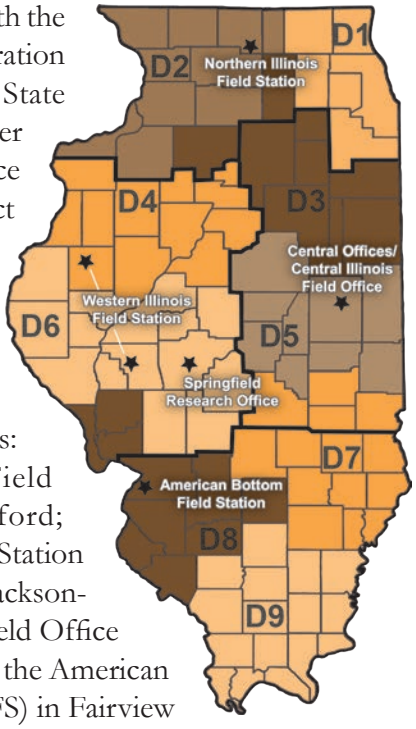
Looking forward, as ISAS and Illinois' state and private development communities increasingly work together, we anticipate that our decades-long cooperative partnership will continue to develop a vigorous, efficient, economic, and sustainable process—proving that preservation and progress can be served with a less confrontational process.

Since 1956, the highway archaeology program at the University of Illinois (now ISAS) and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) have worked together to preserve Illinois' important archaeological and historic resources while also helping to develop and advance Illinois' vital transportation network.

ISAS archaeologists conduct surveys, testing, and data-recovery excavations in advance of IDOT transportation projects to protect culturally sensitive resources and ensure compliance with federal and state laws that protect our nation's cultural heritage. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and Section 707 of the Illinois State Agency Historic Resources Preservation Act follow the same procedures for identifying and protecting cultural resources in the state. In fact, Illinois' Section 707 process was modeled after the federal 106 process so that the two could work in tandem. Section 707, for example, requires archaeological investigations in high probability zones and locations with previously recorded sites—in particular those with burial mounds. There are three stages or phases to the Section 106 and 707 processes:

- Phase I surveys to locate archaeological sites;
- Phase II excavations to collect information about those sites and determine if they are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places; and
- Phase III excavations to mitigate adverse impacts to significant sites that cannot be avoided.

When a survey is finished, ISAS archaeologists submit an Archaeological Survey Short Report (ASSR) which documents the results of a Phase I survey and, if warranted, an Archaeological Testing Short Report (ATSR) which documents the results of a Phase II investigation to IDOT's Chief Archaeologist who then assesses site significance and potential impacts and coordinates with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Illinois State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) seeking concurrence which then clears the project for construction.



Four ISAS field stations are responsible for archaeological investigations in the nine IDOT districts: the Northern Illinois Field Station (NIFS) in Rockford; the Western Illinois Field Station (WIFS) in Macomb and Jacksonville; the Central Illinois Field Office (CIFS) in Champaign; and, the American Bottom Field Station (ABFS) in Fairview Heights. ISAS also operates Flotation Lab facilities in Macomb and East Alton. The Springfield Research Lab houses a senior editor and historic research program.

In 2014 ISAS surveyed 161 projects in 57 counties across the state of Illinois for IDOT—from modest bridge replacements and borrows to multiple-county highway and high-speed railway corridors. ISAS also revisited more than 100 mounds and burial sites and generated a total of 144 ASSRs, ATSRs, Technical Reports, Research Reports, and Studies in Material Culture. ISAS was able to identify 200 new archaeological sites in 2014 as a result of the collaboration with IDOT.

The ongoing collaboration and unique partnership between ISAS and IDOT continues to increase Illinois' capacity for preservation, collaboration, public outreach, and smart development.

IDOT Cultural Resource Unit. Left-to-right: Emilie Eggemeyer, ISAS–Historic Architectural Compliance Specialist, Brad Koldehoff, IDOT Chief Archaeologist, Kristine McConkey, IDOT–Cultural Resource Survey Coordinator.

ISAS 2014 Overview

- **161** IDOT projects surveyed in **57** Illinois counties
  - **144** ASSRs, ATSRs, Technical and Research Reports, and Studies in Material Culture produced
- **200** new archaeological sites found; **29** sites revisited
  - **100+** mounds and burial sites relocated

2014 Charles R. McGimsey III—Hester A. Davis Distinguished Service Award

In the summer of 2014, the Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA) presented Dr. Thomas E. Emerson with the Charles R. McGimsey III—Hester A. Davis Distinguished Service Award during a meeting of the Society of American Archaeology in Austin, Texas. The award is the RPA's highest honor and recognizes the extraordinary service of a Registered Professional Archaeologist in achieving the mission of the RPA whether by a single action or through a lifetime of elevated service. In this case, the RPA Awards Committee noted that "the 2014 recipient certainly qualifies for the award in terms of both criteria" highlighting Dr. Emerson's role in establishing state preservation legislation, providing oversight for one of the largest CRM projects in the United States, creating and managing multiple publication series, expanding public archaeology at the University of Illinois, and researching and publishing significant works on a number of topics vital to understanding North American prehistory.

Patrick Garrow, President, Register of Professional Archaeologists, presents Dr. Thomas E. Emerson with the 2014 Charles R. McGimsey III—Hester A. Davis Distinguished Service Award.

Illinois Archaeological Survey Awards

The Illinois Archaeological Survey presented Dr. Andrew Fortier and Dale McElrath with the Charles J. Bareis Distinguished Service Award at the 58th joint IAS and MAC Annual meetings held in Champaign, Illinois. This award honors those individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to Illinois archaeology and/or the Illinois Archaeological Survey. Also during the 2014 MAC, the Illinois Archaeological Survey presented Dr. Thomas E. Emerson with the Illinois Archaeology Career Achievement Award which honors professional archaeologists for outstanding career accomplishments and contributions to our understanding of Illinois prehistory and history.

From left to right:
Dr. Thomas E. Emerson (Career Achievement), Anne Haaker (Public Service), Dr. Andrew C. Fortier (Distinguished Service), Len Stelle (Distinguished Service), and Dale McElrath (Distinguished Service).

Midwest Archaeological Conference Distinguished Career Award

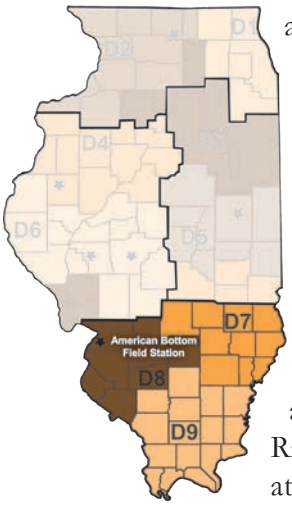
Dr. Thomas E. Emerson was also presented with the Midwest Archaeological Conference Distinguished Career Award during ceremonies at the 2014 MAC. The award recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the field of Midwest archaeology.

"His work has had a profound effect upon the way we do work in archaeology and interpret archaeological data in the Midcontinent."
–Dr. Robert Jeske

Dr. Robert Jeske, MAC president, with 2014 Distinguished Career Award Recipients Cheryl Ann Munson and Dr. Thomas E. Emerson.

American Bottom Field Station

The American Bottom Field Station (ABFS), located in Fairview Heights, is responsible for archaeological reconnaissance in IDOT districts 7, 8, and 9 that covers thirty-two southern Illinois counties between the Mississippi and Wabash Rivers. It is situated just east of St. Louis, Missouri and comprises most of the archaeologically complex American Bottom region.



District 8

The I-64 Interchange Project in St. Clair County

In 2014, pursuant to a Section 106 Programatic Agreement, ABFS resumed archaeological investigations at the John Knoebel site opening up a 1,634 square meter area to the west of Rieder Road in St. Clair County. ABFS crews identified an additional 15 prehistoric features and 37 historic posts, and, after mechanically testing almost five acres, hand-excavated a total of 138 cultural features. Prehistoric features included 69 Late Woodland (A.D. 350–900) and Mississippian (A.D. 1050–1100) pits and 4 Lohmann Phase (A.D. 1050–1100) Mississippian structures. These efforts yielded new and important information about the prehistory and early history of the region and cleared the project for construction.

Anna Poling digs a feature at the John Knoebel site.

Smith Cemetery and Indian Creek Site in Madison County

ABFS personnel completed a pedestrian survey and mechanized testing of the Illinois 143 bridge over Indian Creek in the fall of 2014. Results from ISAS investigations at the Indian Creek and Smith Cemetery sites were of particular interest. At the Smith Cemetery site, ABFS crews located at least 15 fallen but intact gravestones associated with the Smith family cemetery and dating to ca. 1849–1877. Crews also recovered chert debitage, fire cracked rock and ceramic sherds at the site—evidence of a prehistoric habitation site. ISAS investigations revealed a deeply buried living surface beneath several layers of alluvium/colluvium, Kramer and Dryoff-type projectile points signifying Late Archaic (4000–900 B.C.) and Early Woodland (900–100 B.C.) components, and two Middle Woodland (100 B.C.–A.D. 350) pits representative of repetitive landform utilization. In coordination with IDOT District 8 engineers, efforts are currently underway to redesign the project to avoid or minimize impacts to the sites.

The Smith Cemetery, ca. 1849–1877, was found during the IL 143 bridge survey project. On right: gravestones of Tabitha M. A. wife of G.W.F. Smith and George W. F. Smith.

Dr. Tamira Brennan, ABFS Interim Manager

IDOT Districts 7, 8, & 9

- **25** Archaeological Survey Short Reports (ASSRs) in 8 counties
- **6** Archaeological Testing Short Reports (ATSRs)

District 9

Phase II Investigations and Cemetery Preservation at the Southern Illinois Airport

In the spring and summer of 2014,

ABFS personnel completed Phase II investigations at the McKinney and Cheatham-McKinney Cemetery sites prior to IDOT's Division of Aeronautics proposed relocation of Fox Farm Road at the Southern Illinois Airport. At the McKinney site, ISAS archaeologists used both metal detection and mechanized testing to identify a modest assemblage of ca. 1840–1860s historic items. They also collected chert debitage, fire cracked rock, and unmodified cobbles which indicates a non-diagnostic prehistoric component to the site. ABFS crews delineated and hand-excavated a cistern, cellar, and privy as well as more than a dozen posts—all suggestive of a short-term occupation and possible "cabin" site which left no in ground signature of structural elements.

ABFS crews uncover and document grave shafts at the Cheatham-McKinney Cemetery site.

At the Cheatham-McKinney Cemetery site, ABFS archaeologists identified numerous damaged gravestone fragments as well as a few fallen but intact gravestones—one of which dated to 1849. ABFS crews used mechanized testing to locate more than twenty grave shafts where the marker stones had been removed. Indications are that the graves were part of the Brown Family Cemetery established and utilized by the family of William Brown during the mid-nineteenth century. ABFS personnel mapped each of the grave locations, backfilled the entire area, and created a suitable protection and preservation plan.

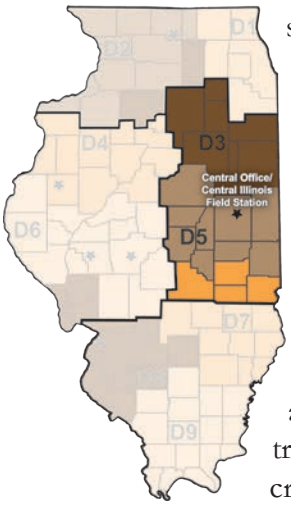
In the spring of 2014, ABFS crews also resumed archaeological testing at the Bob Smith No. 2 site, opening up a 19,132 square meter area. ISAS crews located an additional 55 prehistoric features including structures, hearths, pits, post-pits, and posts, as well as a rich assemblage of ceramic, lithic, faunal, and floral artifacts. ISAS also found chipped and groundstone tools suggestive of Early to Late Archaic (8000–900 B.C.) components, and chipped stone tools and ceramics representative of Early to Late Woodland (900 B.C.–A.D. 900) components and several large wall-trench structures strongly indicating a middle to late Tinsley Hill phase (A.D. 1300–1450) Mississippian component. Few sites from the Tinsley Hill phase have been investigated in the Big Muddy River valley.

Matt Holschen and Anna Poling map an excavation block at the Bob Smith No. 2 site.

Archaic full-grooved axe from the Bob Smith No. 2 site.

Central Illinois Field Office

The Central Illinois Field Office (CIFO) is located in Champaign and conducts archaeological surveys, testing, and excavation projects in IDOT Districts 1, 3, 5, and 7, including twenty-three counties that cover most of east and south central Illinois. CIFO crews investigated sites in Will and DeKalb counties as well. Most of CIFO investigations are IDOT-driven and consist of surveys for bridge replacement, highway, state and local roads projects, and, notably, parts of the Chicago to St. Louis High-Speed Rail project.



The Chicago to St. Louis High Speed Rail Project

In 2014, CIFO personnel continued their archaeological investigations along parts of the Chicago to St. Louis High-Speed Rail corridor in Will, Grundy, and Livingston counties, traversing both the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie and the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery. CIFO archaeologists found fifteen new historic period sites and eight sites with both historic and prehistoric materials.

CIFS crew members conduct auger testing in LaSalle County.

District 1

Laraway Road in Will County

In the spring of 2014, CIFO investigated over 500 acres along a roughly four-mile section of Laraway Road. During the Phase I survey, CIFO archaeologists identified forty new sites and revisited twelve previously reported sites within the corridor. CIFO recommended six sites as potentially eligible for nomination to the NRHP—all primarily historic period—although several also contain prehistoric materials. Five of these six sites are being recommended for Phase II evaluation due to the potential for adverse impact.

Dr. Brian Adams, Assistant Director–Statewide Surveys/CIFO Coordinator

IDOT Districts 1, 3, 5, and 7

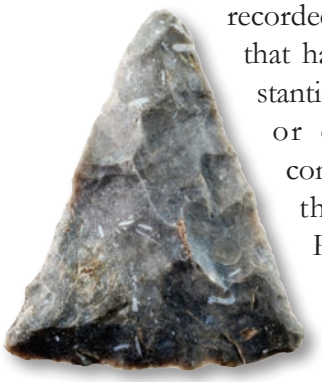
- **25** Archaeological Survey Short Reports (ASSRs) in 27 counties

CIFS staff locate the High Speed Rail Right-of-Way in the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie.

District 3

Ed Hand Highway and Bridge Project in LaSalle County

CIFO personnel also completed a survey of the Ed Hand Highway bridge project crossing the Vermillion River. CIFO crews identified four sites; three that produced prehistoric assemblages and one that had both prehistoric and historic components (11LS1157). CIFO archaeologists found a projectile point and potsherd at one of the prehistoric sites, indicative of a Woodland/Mississippian temporal affiliation (post A.D. 600). CIFO also revisited the Illinois Zinc Company Mine No. 1—a previously



Madison point found at LaSalle County site, 11LS1157.

recorded nearby site that had been substantially destroyed or covered by construction of the Ed Hand Highway bridge in the 1930s. Historically, Mine No. 1 had been a steam-powered, hand-operated coalmine ca. 1901–1922, shipping coal via railroad to the Illinois Zinc Company in nearby Peru. The site is currently located within Matthiessen State Park.

State Route 178 Crossing at Utica in LaSalle County

ISAS completed a Phase I survey of the State Route 178 bridge crossing at Utica in July of 2011. ISAS located sites including the Simonson site, a stratified multicomponent site containing Early Archaic (8000 B.C. to the nineteenth century A.D.) through Historic period materials. Further archaeological investigations were delayed pending a final plan.

In the fall of 2014, CIFO archaeologists conducted Phase II investigations of the same bridge. ISAS confirmed that the impacted site area had already been cleared by earlier IDOT investigations. As a result, CIFO crews were cleared to proceed with Phase II investigations of the Simonson site. Much of the project area had been extensively disturbed by prior road and bridge construction occurring around 1949 and again in 1960. And, although machine-excavated blocks revealed evidence of extensive disturbance related to prior highway work, a limited degree of depositional integrity still remained. In fact, CIFO archaeologists were able to identify the intact base of a probable Late Woodland (A.D. 800–1200) feature containing prehistoric ceramics as well as other artifacts from disturbed contexts, including a Middle Woodland Havana potsherd and two small blue glass seed beads from the Native American contact period.

Scott Drapalik sorts historic artifacts from a McLean County survey project.

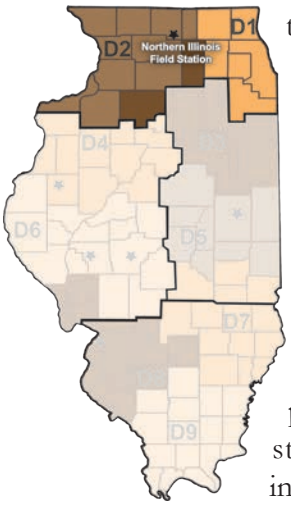
Dr. Brian Adams and Dan Smith conduct Phase II investigations at the Simonson site.

East Side Highway in McLean County

In 2014, CIFO investigated a revised alignment corridor for the East Side Highway project in McLean County, giving priority to areas with the greatest archaeological resource potential. CIFO crews investigated over 900 acres of the project's final alignment corridor, identifying and/or revisiting an astonishing 335 archaeological sites. Forty-six of those sites are located within the project's final preferred alignment corridor and CIFO is recommending five of the sites as potentially eligible for nomination to the NRHP. Four of the sites represent pre-Civil War, short-term Euro-American occupations. CIFO crews found no evidence, of any historic cemeteries, mounds, or other prehistoric mortuary sites anywhere in the preferred alignment corridor.

Northern Illinois Field Station

The Northern Illinois Field Station (NIFS), located in Loves Park, performs survey, testing, and excavation projects in IDOT Districts 1 and 2 that include the northernmost tier of eighteen Illinois counties. Most of the projects NIFS staff completed in 2014 were the result of urban expansion associated with the Chicago Metropolitan area—primarily IDOT highway, bridge, airport, railroad, borrow, culvert, and bike path projects.



District 1

Baseline Road in Kane and Kendall Counties

In 2014, NIFS crews surveyed an additional 193 acres along Baseline Road and revisited a previously recorded site while identifying a total of six new sites. NIFS recommended avoidance of the historic Jacob Keck Memorial Cemetery site that contains graves of early settlers dating from 1836 to 1936. NIFS archaeologists identified site 11K1374 that yielded a dense lithic scatter and recommended further investigation of the site's prehistoric component since it has the potential to provide important information about the poorly known prehistoric settlement patterns in the Fox River drainage area.

Historic well feature excavation at Will County site, 11WI1163.

South Suburban Airport in Will County

During 2014, NIFS conducted Phase II testing at three sites located within the confines of the proposed South Suburban Airport. NIFS staff identified 18 prehistoric features at site 11WI1136 including pit basins, post molds, and a rectangular basin. These features, along with five diagnostic projectile points and a number of ceramic sherds recovered during testing, indicate a Late Archaic through Late Woodland occupation. At the historic site 11WI1163, 21 features including a fieldstone residential foundation, a barn, trenches, posts, pits, cisterns, and privies were identified. The artifact assemblage, subsurface features, and archival research point to continual habitation from as early as 1839 to as late as 1974. The machine-stripping of parts of site 11WI1478 identified three prehistoric features (one pit feature and two postmolds) as evidence of prehistoric settlement patterns as well as early Euro-American settlement in southeastern Will County. While important information was recovered from all three sites tested, none appear eligible

NIFS crew head toward Will County site, 11WI1478, to begin excavation.

Paula Porubcan, NIFS Coordinator

IDOT Districts 1 and 2

- **35** Archaeological Survey Short Reports (ASSRs) in 16 counties
- **4** Project Summary Memos for testing projects

for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Illiana Expressway in Will County

NIFS surveyed an additional 300 acres along the proposed Illiana Expressway corridor in southern Will County. Since 2011, NIFS has examined over 6,000 acres of the 12,000-acre project corridor and located almost 250 new sites. In 2014, NIFS conducted targeted surveys within or near areas that had high potential for archaeological resources that led to the discovery of 13 new archaeological sites. Interestingly, the components of these sites further clarify a pattern of heavy Early and Late Archaic (8000 B.C.–1000 B.C.) activity with little to no evidence of Woodland (1050 B.C.–A.D. 700) populations' use of the area. This disparity suggests shifting patterns in settlement, subsistence strategies, and sociopolitical and ideological organization. One possible explanation may be a pan-regional movement of people from the remote uplands to core areas in the major river valleys during the Middle Woodland period—forever changing the demographics of peripheral regions such as the uplands of southern Will County.

Hardin point found in the Forked Creek Drainage located in the Illiana Expressway corridor.

Historic bridge survey in Will County.

District 2

Willow Creek Bike Path in Winnebago County

NIFS staff completed a survey of the Willow Creek Bike Trail in Rock Cut State Park in Winnebago County and identified a possible Frontier Era (1841–1870) historic site (11WO525). NIFS archaeologists recovered diagnostic historic ceramic artifacts and brick and architectural limestone fragments which potentially indicate a buried foundation. Archival research indicates that James Haven, an early settler of the Rockford area, occupied the site from ca. 1837–1854. Given the early and short-term occupation of the site, 11WO525 may be eligible for listing on the National Register. ISAS recommended site avoidance and in response project engineers redesigned the path to avoid the site area.

Pedestrian survey of the Illiana Expressway project.

Route 20 Culvert Replacements in Stephenson and Jo Daviess Counties

NIFS staff investigated an eleven-mile corridor along US Route 20 in advance of IDOT's culvert replacement, widening, and reconstruction project. NIFS crews revisited or identified twenty-eight archaeological sites including: a Middle to Late Archaic site (11SH76) that yielded additional lithic material and confirmed the site's potential NRHP eligibility; and, an historic Frontier and Early Industrial site (11SH231) which produced numerous temporally diagnostic ceramic artifacts, ca. 1830–1900 supporting the likelihood of a ca. 1870 habitation which may also be potentially NRHP-eligible.

Western Illinois Field Station

The Western Illinois Field Station (WIFS) has offices in Jacksonville and Macomb, the latter of which includes one of two ISAS flotation-processing facilities in the state. WIFS crews handle survey, testing, and excavation projects for thirty counties in IDOT Districts 4, 6, and the northwestern portion of District 8. This area is situated between the Quad Cities and Alton and encompasses the Illinois and Mississippi River valleys. In 2014, some of WIFS most notable finds resulted from archaeology done for IDOT projects in Knox and McDonough Counties.

District 4

The Macomb Bypass Project in McDonough County

In 2013, WIFS archaeologists finished a series of multi-year investigations on the Macomb Bypass (FAP-315/IL 336), clearing the way for IDOT's construction of a four-lane expressway connecting southwest Macomb to US 67. After fully testing twenty-three prehistoric sites identified along the proposed roadway corridor, ISAS archaeologists were able to recommend cultural clearance. However, in 2014, IDOT asked ISAS to evaluate a number of landlocked properties close to the new roadway. As a result, WIFS archaeologists located and hand-excavated the Corson site situated on a terrace overlooking Spring Creek. WIFS found evidence for Late Archaic (ca. 3000–1000 B.C.) pit features and subsurface rock hearths and concluded that the site's general configuration and presence of diagnostic Floyd points was similar to Merciless Ridge, an adjacent site ISAS excavated in 2013 as part of the same project.

Robert Monroe records the measurements of a Hardin point.

Rob Hickson maps a feature at the Burning Sands site.

District 6

The Meredosia Bridge Replacement in Morgan and Pike Counties

WIFS crews began archaeological investigations for the Illinois Route 104 Meredosia Bridge Replacement Project in May of 2014, pursuant to a Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Plans to replace the existing eighty-year-old bridge with a modern structure meant investigating several residential and commercial properties located within the new bridge's alignment. Meredosia, like other nearby river communities, sits on a high sandy outwash terrace that was once a Woodland Period (ca. 500 B.C.–A.D. 1000) habitation with burial mound complexes which makes it of particular archaeological interest. WIFS investigated former residential yards and a city park and identified and excavated seventy-nine prehistoric features at the Burning Sands site. Crews found elaborately decorated pottery and a very colorful assemblage of numerous flake blades and non-local cherts associated with an early Middle Woodland Havana component (ca. 150 B.C.) as well as a number of subterranean pit facilities associated with Late Woodland (ca. A.D. 600–1000) and

David Nolan, WIFS Coordinator

IDOT Districts 4, 6, and 8

- **24** Archaeological Survey Short Reports (ASSRs) in 30 counties
- **10** Archaeological Testing Short Reports (ATSRs)

WIFS crew excavate features at the Burning Sands site.

mid-nineteenth-century Euro-American occupations. Continuing work by WIFS here is providing the first sizeable modern archaeological sample of an Illinois river-edge Middle Woodland habitation.

Middle Woodland ceramic fragments from the Burning Sands site.

District 8

Illinois Route 3 in Jersey County

In the fall of 2014, IDOT's resurfacing and road widening project along Illinois Route 3 in Jersey County gave WIFS crews the opportunity to investigate an upland area not far from Grafton's city limits. ISAS was able to initially clear the main portion of the project after locating and excavating several sites, including the Hardin Munroe site—a buried upland chert workshop producing at least four Early Archaic flintknapping features. WIFS crews resumed archaeological testing, however, when it appeared that additional construction along the waterline would impact two previously tested sites: the Banded Brothers site and the Wedding site. Although ISAS found no intact deposits at the Banded Brothers site, crews did identify and excavate forty additional terminal Late Woodland (ca. A.D. 800–1000) features at the Wedding site. Notably, WIFS subsequent excavations produced fewer examples of distinctive Schild Spike stemmed arrow points, but a greater number of clay discoidals and granitic celt fragments in the waterline sample area at the Wedding site. The Wedding site is one of the first sizeable Late Bluff occupations excavated in the upland interior between the lower Illinois River valley and northern end of the American Bottom. WIFS personnel are currently processing the artifacts and samples from the site as well as analyzing and writing the Hardin Munroe site report.

Schild Spike stemmed arrow point from the Wedding site.

WIFS crew identify features at the Wedding site.

Little Town on the Prairie: The Ongoing Analysis of Bethel, Illinois

From its beginnings in 1833 and for several decades thereafter, the small town of Bethel served as a commercial hamlet in rural Morgan County. During the 1840s, Bethel boasted a variety of stores, blacksmith shops, wagon-makers, at least one hotel and even had its own mill. Andrew J. Thompson, who made wagons at Bethel during the late 1830s and 1840s before turning to the milling business, occupied one of the most archaeologically informative properties in town. Many features from the Thompson property are providing ISAS archaeologists with a rich glimpse into the town's pre-Civil War consumer practices and lingering folk traditions. Bethel was also home to Stephen A. Douglas, the well-known political opponent of Abraham Lincoln, who taught grade school in town for a short time. The town can even lay claim to an early Hollywood film star, Purnell Pratt, a physician's son who grew up in Bethel.

Features

In 2011, as part of the IDOT FAP-310 and US 67 Highway Project data-recovery excavations, archaeologists from the ISAS WIFS investigated portions of more than a dozen lots in Bethel and eventually excavated more than fifty significant features including a variety of subfloor cellars, outbuildings, wells and cisterns, and smaller activity-related pits. Several lots produced more than one well which suggests that some of the town's water sources sometimes failed or were considered contaminated and replaced. Cellars included large, stone-lined spaces as well as smaller unlined or wood-lined pits. Archaeologists even found several transitory outbuilding floors in the topsoil which are rarely preserved in plowed-settings. It appears that while Bethel began as an American Frontier-era community of mostly horizontal log buildings, it became an Early Modern service center populated by timber frame structures, and eventually a few balloon-frame dwellings much like those still constructed today.

Overlay of the 1833 town plat of Bethel onto modern aerial photo which also shows features (in orange) discovered during the 2011 excavations. Inset: House cellar feature showing part of the original brick floor and artifacts discarded into the fill.

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

Dr. Thomson's Galvanic Liniment bottle.

Artifacts

Porcelain doll's head found in a feature.

While analysis of Bethel's many artifacts continues, most of the objects recovered so far are from the town's earliest decades—somewhere between 1835 and 1855. This time period, happily, appears to reflect a "heyday" of activity in the town when household garbage was probably more casually discarded on the ground surface. Attitudes concerning household waste changed rapidly by the mid-1850s with garbage disposal increasingly occurring out of town. Not surprisingly, archaeologists found a wide variety of imported ceramics, but also numerous examples of regional stoneware from kilns in the nearby towns of Winchester and Whitehall. It also seems that while the citizens of Bethel didn't consume as many glass-packaged products as their more urbanized counterparts, they did consume both nationally and locally distributed products. For instance, samples from separate lots produced two examples of an early Illinois patent medicine—"Dr. Thomson's Galvanic Liniment"—distributed from Pittsfield, Illinois during the 1850s. The product was apparently not much of a success in Illinois, and the two bottles recovered represent only the second and third specimens to be found archaeologically across the entire state.

Metal Analysis

Bill Weedman holds the door of an early heating stove after electrolysis and treatment with microcrystalline wax.

Archaeologists often give little attention to iron artifacts during analysis—perhaps since iron objects can be difficult to identify because of their poor condition—rusted, encrusted, and corroded. As part of the Bethel Project, the Springfield Research Section instituted a special metals analysis procedure overseen by Bill Weedman which requires more intensive study of a variety of often-corroded and fragmentary metal artifacts including the thousands of nails recovered from mid-nineteenth century sites such as Bethel. Part of the procedure applies electrolysis and preservative coatings to selected diagnostic iron specimens. This procedure at Bethel helped identify fragmentary iron tools, hardware related to Andrew Thompson's wagon business, the nose cap from a southern Appalachian iron-mounted muzzle-loading rifle, and part of a toy pop-gun dating to the second half of the nineteenth century. One lot at Bethel even produced a multitude of early cast-iron heating stove fragments. A recently implemented specialized nail inventory has helped to better understand the nature of building techniques at Bethel during the early and mid-nineteenth century.

Fragment of a nineteenth century toy popgun.

Bethel Remembered

Bethel's heyday came to an end during the mid-1850s when the town was bypassed by the new railroad in favor of nearby Chapin. Without the railroad, Bethel's fortunes waned and by the late nineteenth century, the town that had once been a busy service center before the Civil War became little more than a loose-knit cluster of homes. Bethel is not entirely lost to us though, and because of the archaeology and our partnership with IDOT, ISAS archaeologists will continue uncovering the history of small town life in Illinois.

Piecing Together the Puzzle:
The New Mississippi River Bridge Analysis

The New Mississippi River Bridge (MRB) project is a vital part of the St. Louis region's continued economic growth intended both to relieve congestion on the old Poplar Street Bridge and benefit downtown St. Louis. This huge IDOT project ultimately resulted in archaeological excavations across a prehistoric city now known as the East St. Louis Mound Complex: a Mississippian period (A.D. 1050–1300) site second in size only to Cahokia, its well-known and contemporaneous neighbor. This 717-acre site began as a smaller, Terminal Late Woodland village (A.D. 900–1050), but ultimately became one of the largest Mississippian period mound centers ever built. The indigenous inhabitants left behind thousands of archaeological features and millions of artifacts: all clues to the ways people once lived and the processes by which great cities came to be.

For more than four years, hundreds of ISAS crews worked to record ancient remains before the relocation of Interstate 70 was constructed. ISAS archaeologists encountered rich historic and prehistoric artifacts beneath substantial industrial, commercial, and residential rubble associated with the former St. Louis National Stockyards complex and surrounding areas.

In 2014, the ISAS American Bottom Field Station (ABFS) staff continued the intensive work of analyzing and reporting the finds from these excavations with the goal of creating a series of reports that illustrate the project's rich finds including: almost a half million stone artifacts, close to a half million items of pottery, numerous botanical and animal remains, and the more than 6,400 prehistoric features that contained them. Interestingly, some of these items originate from as far away as the upper Midwest, the Appalachian Mountains, and even the Gulf Coast which indicates the long-distance movement of items and people towards this great city-center.

Brad Koldehoff (IDOT), Pat Durst, and Lenna Nash (ISAS) discuss the New Mississippi River Bridge site.

Features unearthed from the prehistoric city include 1,210 domestic houses, 110 public and ritual buildings, and 3,702 pits for storage and refuse. Many specialized feature types were also found, such as 27 small storage structures for communal storage or tribute and 92 post-pits that once held wooden poles that would likely have been visible at Cahokia, almost seven miles away. Perhaps the most unexpected features were the basal remnant of a large mound and a complex of borrow pits from which the dirt to build it were taken. This mound was not previously documented since its upper portion was leveled by Euro-Americans long before the site gained historical interest. Each feature helps us interpret the sacred and mundane at the site which included long-distance travel and trade, immigrants bringing wares from their home lands, and pre-planned village, plaza, and mound areas that necessitated organized communal labor to execute.

Hundreds of ISAS archaeological technicians excavated 6,445 prehistoric and historic features buried beneath modern-day East St. Louis. Image courtesy of MODOT and IDOT.

The early stages of analysis and report writing continue to produce notable finds. Research has refined the timing of each of the site's features and made the layout of the Mound Complex at various points in time more apparent. For example, Terminal Late Woodland peoples often communally stored items in deep, rectangular pits big enough to park a small car in, while later Mississippian peoples abandoned this practice in favor of smaller, circular pits. The larger Terminal Late Woodland pits may reveal an emphasis on shared or public storage, while the smaller Mississippian pits may mark a shift towards more exclusive or autonomous storage patterns. The Terminal Late Woodland and Mississippian occupants appear to have structured their built landscape in very different ways: earlier inhabitants lived in small-group based housing clusters, while later Mississippian occupants resided in a considerably more structured city layout that required advanced planning and oversight.

Data from the MRB project is beginning to complete the puzzle that portrays life and religion in pre-Columbian Illinois. The East St. Louis Mound Complex volumes will provide one of the most comprehensive and informative series of works published on a Mississippian site to date, and serve as an important resource for generations of archaeologists to come.

MRB Lithics

More than 450,000 stone artifacts weighing nearly 9 tons (over 8,150 kg) were recovered from East St. Louis. These range from simple artifacts like unmodified limestone, fire-cracked rock, and debris from stone tool production to impressive artifacts like pipes, arrowheads, hoe blades used for agriculture, ceremonial knives, and adze blades for working wood. More than 20 varieties of stone are present in the assemblage, the most prevalent of which include Burlington, Mill Creek, Kaolin, Ste. Genevieve, and Salem chert. These were procured from local or regional sources. Less common stone materials come from further afield, including Knife River Flint from North Dakota, Hixton Orthoquartzite from Wisconsin, and mica from the Appalachian Mountains, illustrating the extensive trade network of the Mississippian peoples.

The ABFS lithics team looks over some of the nearly 500,000 stone artifacts recovered from East St. Louis that required thousands of person hours to make.

The only Catahoula point found in the assemblage of 968 points at East St. Louis is made of Cobden chert which is native to the region. The Catahoula style comes from the Caddo region of Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas, and is evidence of the immigration of non-local people to the area.

The Exchange Ave. figurine, the only one of its type found at the East St. Louis site, shows a Mississippian woman holding a whelk shell cup imported from the coast. Historical accounts associate this kind of cup with the Black Drink, a hot, caffeinated drink used in ceremonial purification.

Discoidals were commonly used for playing Chunkey, a high-stakes athletic game played in the pre-Columbian Southeast. In all, 80 discoidals were found at the East St. Louis site which exhibit a variety of styles.

This highly polished Mill Creek chert hoe is one of 45 complete hoes recovered from East St. Louis. The polish on its surface comes from silica in the soil and demonstrates that this tool was in fact used.

MRB Ceramics

The ceramic assemblage from East St. Louis contains pottery fragments, fired clay objects, and burnt clay from features spanning the Terminal Late Woodland period through most of the Mississippian period. Over 450,000 ceramic items weighing nearly 3.5 tons (over 3,100 kg) and representing 33,897 unique vessels were recovered and analyzed. The vast majority (93 percent) are fragments of pottery vessels including rims and body sherds. Jars and bowls are the most common vessel forms although several beakers, bottles, plates, and miniature vessels are also present. Most pots were used in the storage, preparation, or serving of food and drink. Decoration on vessels is most common during the Stirling phase (A.D. 1100–1200) which is directly related to the production of Ramey Incised jars and the presence of nonlocal vessels. Nonlocal pots were manufactured in areas as distant as the Great Lakes to the north and the Gulf Coast to the south then transported to the site. They are distinguished from locally made vessels by the nonlocal clay, atypical shapes, and types of decoration. Building on previous investigations at the site and throughout the region, recent excavations and subsequent analyses provide us with the opportunity to investigate the history of the site specifically and the American Bottom in general.

Over 1,000 Ramey Incised jars are present in the MRB assemblage. Most are small and easily transportable but this jar is one of the largest and most complete examples found at the site.

This human arm and fist effigy handle was affixed to a beaker, a specialized vessel used in the preparation and consumption of "black drink," a highly caffeinated tea made from the leaves of a holly plant that grows in coastal regions of the southeastern US and Gulf of Mexico.

Residents of the East St. Louis Mound Complex used the various jars, bowls, plates, and bottles to store, prepare, and serve food and beverages.

A Ramey incised jar from East St. Louis that has been physically and digitally reconstructed by ISAS analysts. Vessel shapes are more complex and decoration is more intricate during the Stirling phase. The greater investment in the production of pots indicates a refinement in technique and more specialized knowledge of the craft.

This decorated plate is likely from the Caddo region of present-day Oklahoma and Arkansas. Over 400 nonlocal pots were transported to East St. Louis throughout its occupation but they are most common during the Stirling phase.

MRB Archaeobotany and Faunal

Archaeobotany—In 2014, ISAS archaeobotanists focused on analyzing structural residues from a number of burned houses located in Tract 5 of the Mississippi River Bridge excavations. These included materials used to build a so-called temple or elite residence and materials used for more typical houses. Burned houses contained both wood fragments from original roofs and walls, and grass thatching used as insulation or covering. Analysis showed that most of the wood used in constructing houses was from one of three types of trees: oak, hickory, and cottonwood or willow with only limited use of woods from other local trees, like elm, ash, maple, or sycamore. Selectivity for specific function was also evident. Narrow cottonwood or willow posts comprised the wall framework for one of the residences while the temple builders selected hardwoods, particularly oak, as wall posts. The temple also included posts made of sacred red cedar wood that is absent from the more mundane residences. Findings confirm both that wood selection was not random and that availability of quality hardwoods was not a limitation.

ISAS Senior Archaeobotanist Mary Simon and Jeff Illlingworth, from the Fiber Perishable Laboratory at Mercyhurst College, examine a rare sample of woven cane matting with one end wrapped around a red cedar log.

A "spear" point found lodged in a deer vertebra, evidence of the hunting methods used by the Mississippian inhabitants of East St. Louis.

Faunal—Analysis of the MRB faunal remains is currently underway. Favorable bone preservation allows for a detailed examination of late prehistoric subsistence practices. White-tailed deer were the primary large game animal and were likely hunted year round. Large quantities of fish and bird (especially waterfowl and wetland birds) bone were recovered and demonstrate extensive use of the diverse, productive floodplain resources of the American Bottom. A variety of other large and small mammals, birds, turtles, and shellfish were also observed in the faunal assemblage. Several domestic dog burials were also recognized with observed pathologies suggesting that some dogs were used as draft animals.

Historic Mead House

In addition to the prehistory, archaeologists documented more than 250 historic features during excavations for the MRB project and revealed a slice of what life was like in late nineteenth and early twentieth century East St. Louis. By the nineteenth century, the sleepy village of East St. Louis, perched on the outskirts of a growing metropolis, had itself grown into a booming hub for the transport of livestock. ABFS staff analyzed domestic features excavated from Goose Hill, an East St. Louis neighborhood near the stockyards and meat packing plants, and, in doing so, excavated significant numbers of boarding houses. The Mead House was one such boarding house where an estimated seventy or more people lived between 1890 and 1920. ISAS archaeologists discovered numerous artifacts including plain white ceramic serving bowls which suggested that soups and stews or other liquid-based dishes were the most common boarding house fare and that communal dining may have been the norm. And, when animal bones excavated in the area were analyzed, archaeologists found that people ate a fair amount of beef, chicken, and pork and even expensive round steaks—occasionally bringing home better cuts of meat for personal consumption. These and other artifacts found at the boarding house give us a rare glimpse into what daily life was like in a multi-occupancy residence in early East St. Louis.

ISAS crews excavated more than 100,000 nineteenth century artifacts including housewares, bottles, and ceramic "dining sets" from buried outhouses, wells, and cellar features at the East St. Louis site.

Research and Analysis

Why do ISAS archaeologists analyze artifacts instead of simply putting them on a shelf or donating them to a museum? Why save these material vestiges of human culture at all? Perhaps because they are a part of our shared history and national identity—a account often told without the benefit of the written word. Archaeologists study human prehistory and history and analyze artifacts to learn about who we were as individuals and as communities. Artifacts are not simple things defined by a single story or role, they are pieces of contested history which hold diverse meanings for different people, past and present. Understanding our past means understanding the artifacts of the past.

"It is because of the contest and conflict they embody, and the way they combine use and meaning, that artifacts are such valuable tools for exploring the past."

—Steven Lubar and Kathleen Kendrick in "Looking at Artifacts, Thinking About History," Smithsonian Education, 2013.

Woven cane matting from the East St. Louis site.

Archaeobotany Section

Mary Simon, Senior Archaeobotanist

Archaeobotany Section researchers analyzed plant remains recovered during IDOT-driven archaeological excavations across the state of Illinois. This work helps archaeologists understand how, when, where, and why plants fit into the lives of people living in the Midwest from the earliest prehistoric times through European pioneer times and helps us address issues of subsistence, technology, landscape management, medicinal plant use, and even ritual and ceremony.

In 2014 Archaeobotany analysts examined over 800 flotation samples from 14 sites and over 900 hand collected charcoal samples from burned structures at two Mississippian Period (ca. A.D. 1100–1300) sites in East St. Louis and Orendorf. Burned timbers from houses at both sites indicate that people were selecting specific wood types for targeted purposes rather than randomly using anything available.

Sites excavated as part of the FAP-310 project in the northern American Bottom showed an absence of corn from several Late Woodland contexts supporting our recently proposed model that, rather than being a gradual drawn out process, corn was introduced to this part of America at a late date and spread rapidly.

Work directly dating domesticated beans recovered from the Tucker Drive and Janey B. Goode sites in the American Bottom and from the Joe Louis site in northeastern Illinois confirms that beans post-date corn by several hundred years which belies theories for introduction of Mesoamerican crops as a single "crop complex."

Finally, in a study of ritual plant use among Mississippian peoples, Archaeobotany staff are examining old collections from the BBB Motors and Julien sites for additional evidence of tobacco, morning glory, or jimson weed. These plants contain psychoactive compounds and researchers are studying their use by prehistoric peoples to induce altered states of consciousness as part of religiously dictated ritual and ceremony.

Mary King, Mary Simon, and Dr. Kimberly Schaefer (L–R) prepare to unearth a wooden bowl from a soil pedestal taken from the Orendorf site.

Bioarchaeology/Osteology Section

Dr. Kristin Hedman, ATAM Director/ Physical Anthropologist

The Bioarchaeology and Osteology Section is located at the Survey's Killarney Research Annex (KRA) in Urbana, and at the American Bottom Field Station (ABFS) in Fairview Heights, Illinois. Staff are responsible for implementing the Human Skeletal Remains Protection Act (HSRPA) (20 ILCS 3440 et seq.) which has specific requirements for excavating, analyzing, reporting, and disposition of human remains. In general ISAS and IDOT attempt to avoid disturbing human remains when they can be identified in advance of construction, however, occasionally remains are encountered where construction impacts cannot be avoided. In such instances there is a formal legal process in place for their treatment and disposition.

The 2014 analysis of recovered human remains continues to provide new information on the life and death of Middle/ Late Archaic inhabitants of southern Illinois. Bioarchaeology/osteology staff analyzed human remains from the Broglio site in Williamson County. While IDOT policy is to avoid burial areas, in this instance, project impacts could not be avoided and it became necessary to excavate the habitation that contained a small burial area. These individuals were found buried amidst the village occupation debris, each in a flexed position indicating burial occurred soon after death. One of the young adult females had 25 tube shell beads scattered over, next to, and underneath her pelvis, possibly from a belt or strand that had been tied around her waist and a marine whelk shell pendant with smooth worn edges and two drill holes placed on the right side of her chest. Another of the individuals had four Late Archaic period (4000–3000 B.C.) projectile points placed along the left side of the torso. As none were imbedded in the body and there was no trauma to the skeletal remains, it appears the artifacts were intentionally placed with these individuals. Upon completion of this analysis the remains will be transferred to the Illinois State Museum where, under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, they are available for repatriation by any claimant tribes.

Aimee Carbaugh examines osteological specimens.

Osteology staff at the Meredosia Bridge project.

Ceramics Section

Alexey Zelin and Kjersti Emerson, Ceramic Analysts

This past year the ISAS Ceramics Section has analyzed and reported on ceramic material from a variety of sites, many from IDOT's ongoing FAP-310 Highway project in the northern American Bottom region. These sites have been the particular focus of our ceramic research specialists who have identified multiple Late Woodland and Mississippian ceramic components. The FAP-310 sites receiving the most attention this year have been the Reif, Tena Deye, Lillie, and Ray's Bluff sites.

A Black Sand/Morton phase ceramic rim fragment from the Barrelhead site.

The Reif and Ray's Bluff sites represent short-term, single component Late Woodland Sponemann phase occupations (A.D. 650–900). The Lillie and Tena Deye sites are multicomponent sites occupied by multiple groups in both Late Woodland and Mississippian (A.D. 1050–1200) time periods. Tena Deye included one of the few examples of the recently identified Late Woodland Cunningham phase (A.D. 500–650). The Cunningham phase was contemporaneous with the Mund phase (found further south in the American Bottom; A.D. 500–650) and

A rare example of a nearly intact aquatic bird effigy recovered from the Fish Lake site.

curately determine overall Sponemann phase chronology.

Also in 2014, ISAS staff analyzed additional small collections in an attempt to add comparative data for various other IDOT projects. Brief analyses of Early Woodland Black Sand/Morton surface collections (750–100 B.C.) from Duane Esarey's Illinois River Survey project and a revisit to the original excavations of the Oak Forest site have provided valuable information to both the in-progress Tree Row site report and the now complete Hoxie Farm site ceramics report.

Ceramic vessel from the Hoxie site.

the ceramics may be a northern "variant" of Mund phase ceramics which appears to be a northern derivative of the Rosewood (A.D. 350–400/500) and Mund phases in the southern American Bottom.

Taken as a whole, these site analyses have also provided enough information to create a much more detailed picture of Sponemann phase ceramics and culture. ISAS rchaeologists may now, for the first time, seriate—or chronologically order—early from late Sponemann phase ceramics and thus more ac-

A Black Sand/Morton phase ceramic rim fragment from the Duck Creek Outlet site.

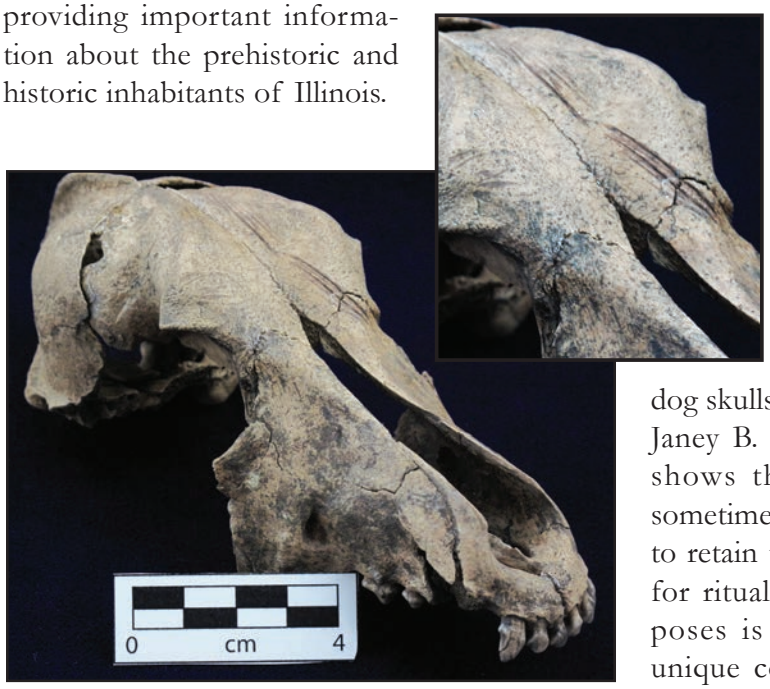
Faunal Section

Steven Kuehn, Faunal Analyst

The ISAS Faunal Section identifies, analyzes, and interprets prehistoric and historic faunal assemblages collected by ISAS archaeologists. Most of the materials are from IDOT projects and archaeological sites across the state. Faunal staff are also responsible for developing and maintaining the ISAS faunal comparative collection which is used to identify animal bone recovered from archaeological sites.

In Illinois, faunal material most often includes bones, teeth, antlers, fish scales, mollusk shells, and eggshells—all of which provide important information about past diet, animal exploitation strategies, habitat use and resource availability, seasonality, and butchering practices.

In 2014, our staff analyzed thousands of faunal remains from more than two dozen IDOT project-related archaeological sites across Illinois. Faunal staff produced reports on six complete site assemblages even as staff continue to analyze another twenty faunal assemblages from prehistoric and historic sites as well as zooarchaeological remains from IDOT-related excavations done over the past five decades. Data obtained from these assemblages is providing important information about the prehistoric and historic inhabitants of Illinois.

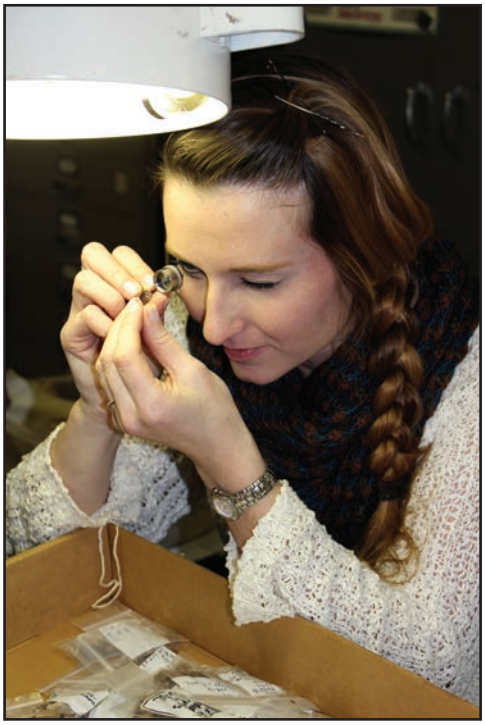


A dog cranium from the East St. Louis site shows cut marks which indicate the removal of the hide.

A particularly exciting example of ongoing faunal analysis comes from the East St. Louis and Janey B. Good sites. Over 100 individual dogs were identified at the Late Prehistoric (post A.D. 600 to about A.D. 1300) Janey B. Goode site. Fifty-five dogs represented specific intentional "burials" while another 25 were represented only by skull fragments. ISAS researchers are still analyzing the dog assemblage at both sites, but the preliminary results suggest a shift in the use and treatment of dogs from that of ritual sacrifice and consumption to living with their human custodians as useful members of society.

Sometime between the Late Woodland and Terminal Woodland periods, dogs stopped being sacrificed and eaten and started working as pack animals by carrying loads on their backs and in some cases even pulling a travois—a type of sled used by indigenous peoples to drag loads over land. Interestingly, evidence of cut marks on one of the East St. Louis dog skulls and on one of the Janey B. Goode wolf jaws, shows that humans were sometimes skinning the dogs to retain the pelts—whether for ritual or mundane purposes is unknown. These unique collections provide critical insights into how dogs were treated at death in Late Prehistoric native societies.

Jolene Kuehn sorts through small bone fragments.



Alli Huber analyzes a small animal bone.

Historical Archaeology Section

Mark Branstner, Senior Historic Archaeologist

Historical Archaeology Section staff identify, evaluate, and document historic period resources from archaeological sites across Illinois, participating at all stages—from initial historical research through project planning and implementation, testing and evaluation, and ultimately, the mitigation and reporting of significant sites.

Broad-brush painted teacup (upper) and annular bowl (lower) from the DeBaun site.

In 2014, researchers reviewed new historic archaeology projects and continued their work on large, multi-year IDOT projects including: railroad-related excavations in Knox County; bridge replacement projects in both Morgan and Adams Counties; an historic cemetery preservation at the Southern Illinois Airport in Jackson County; and a detailed assessment of a proposed streetscape improvement next to the Lincoln Home National Historic Site in Springfield.

Major portions of the DeBaun site Technical Report in Madison County, another early-middle nineteenth century farmstead, were completed. Before the end of the year, extensive analysis began of the Hawkeye site, another mid-nineteenth century farmstead in Henderson County, but with the added significance of a rare and well-preserved early brick clamp.

Staff also moved a number of older projects towards final reporting and publication. These included the Chenoweth site, a nineteenth century farmstead in McDonough County, and the Rockyford town site, a short-lived mid-nineteenth century hamlet in Lee County. Finally, staff assisted in the excavation and analysis of the historic components of ISAS' continuing work at the Fort Johnson site, a War of 1812 fortification near the town of Warsaw, in Hancock County.

Matt Cross examines images of ceramics from the DeBaun site.

Bottles from the Chenoweth site: (left) Dr. Phelps Brown, Jersey City N.J. and (right) J.H. Aley, Galesburg ILL.

Lithics Section

Madeleine Evans, Senior Lithics Analyst

In 2014, ISAS Lithics Section staff focused on analyzing and writing about stone tools and debris from sites ISAS archaeologists investigated for IDOT's ongoing FAP-310 Highway project. Staff worked with collections from several multi-component sites in the Bethalto area and continued their detailed analysis of sites in the Vaughn Branch locality.

The Vasey site near Wood River included intact Early Archaic deposits in an upland setting which gives the ISAS lithics team a rare opportunity to explore how this particular part of the landscape was used by some of Illinois' earliest inhabitants. A large concentration of material at Vasey may reflect an activity area centered on a hearth used more than 10,000 years ago. In fact, one of the most intriguing aspects of the site's lithic assemblage is a cache of thick and heavily used scrapers that were probably stored at the site in anticipation of a return visit.

Chert scrapers from the Vasey site cache.

Lithics staff involvement in several long-term projects, including the Hoxie Farm site in Cook County and the Fish Lake site in Monroe County concluded in 2014. The Hoxie Farm site is the location of two or more large Upper Mississippian settlements occupied during the 14th and 15th centuries. The lithic assemblages from these occupations include thousands of arrow points as well as pipes, hide scraping tools, axes, drills, and many artistically embellished items which offer a rich picture of life at these settlements.

Adam Tufano and Madeleine Evans discuss prehistoric stone tool production.

Incised sandstone token (left) and pendant (right) from the Hoxie Farm site.

The Fish Lake site is the location of several sequential villages occupied between A.D. 650 and 900. Common arrow points in the assemblage reflect the newly adopted use of bow and arrow technology. A wide range of tools offers insight into the diverse activities that took place. An absence of agricultural equipment provides a useful comparison with assemblages from sites dating just after A.D. 900 when agricultural pursuits expanded rapidly in southwestern Illinois.

Documenting Collections

In addition to being a permanent repository for artifacts recovered during IDOT related work, ISAS documents and stores many artifacts donated by private individuals from across the state. These collections provide important supportive information that assists in a fuller understanding of landscape use when evaluating IDOT projects. While Illinois is rich in historic and prehistoric sites, much of our state's archaeology remains uninvestigated with many shallowly buried sites damaged or destroyed by decades of plowing, erosion, or development. Often, the collections of private citizens are all that is left of these sites. By donating their collections to ISAS, private collectors ensure that the artifacts are not only permanently preserved and further studied, but also kept available for the enjoyment and use of the general public.

GIS Section

Michael Farkas,
GIS Coordinator

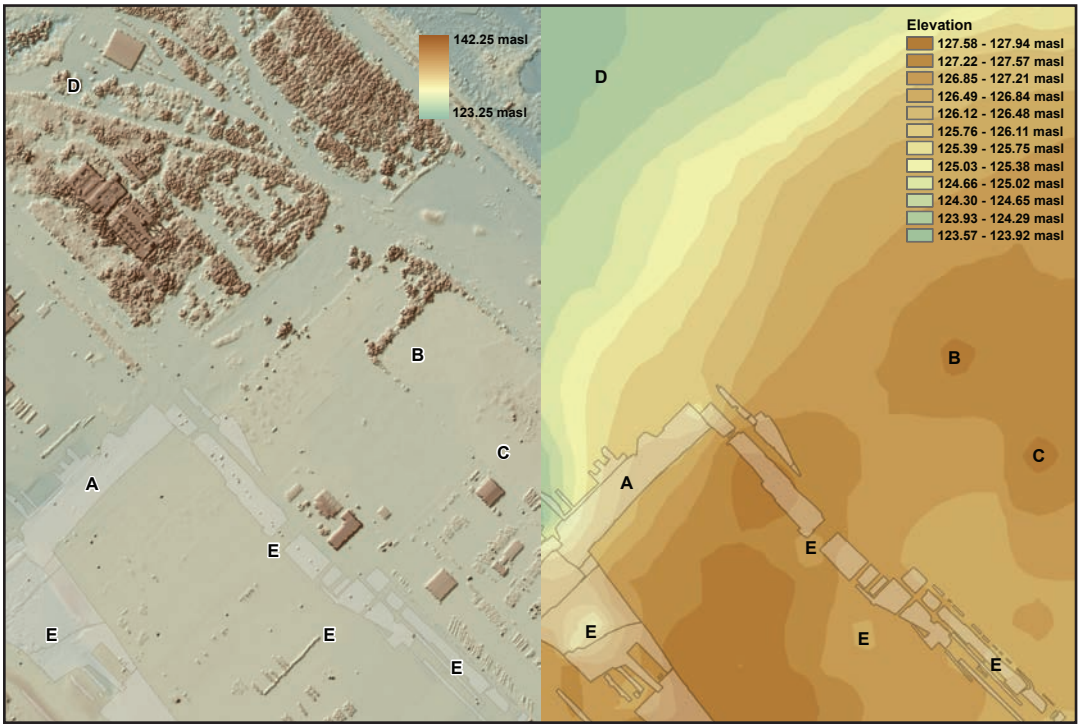
The Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Section provides spatial, cartographic, and site modeling support to the Survey which helps ISAS staff collect, store, and retrieve data and display it in a visually comprehensible way. GIS helps IDOT project archaeologists study spatial dimensions of human behavior over time, making more complex analyses of the landscape possible. In 2014, the GIS section continued its work:

- Managing the IDOT Project Notification System (PNS) by generating information packets for each new project containing both location maps and a summary of nearby mortuary-related archaeological sites. Initially designed to assist FHWA coordinate with Tribal governments, PNS is now widely used by ISAS to provide notifications and details about new FHWA/IDOT projects to Tribal representatives, ISAS regional archaeologists, and state and federal agency staff.
- Providing program-wide access to the state archaeological site file database maintained by the Illinois State Museum (ISM).
- Maintaining the Illinois Cultural Resources Management Report Archive Database containing over 22,000 documents related to Illinois compliance archaeology.
- Updating and maintaining the Illinois Inventory of Burial Sites (IIBS) which contains information about more than 3,000 known historic and prehistoric burial and mound sites in the state. ISAS field crews periodically revisit these mortuary sites and update the IIBS database with each site's current condition.

Also in 2014, GIS staff continued assessing the condition of more than 9,500 prehistoric mounds across Illinois using LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) made possible by the Illinois State Geological Survey's Illinois Height Modernization Program. Thus far, the LiDAR data has produced highly detailed, spatially accurate digital models of the Illinois landscape and revealed numerous burial mounds which will help to manage and protect these invaluable cultural resources.

ISAS Statewide Database

After several years, the ISAS Statewide database will receive a facelift and a new name! The database is being developed, in two stages: the first stage is the ISAS Projects database which is an inventory of all projects, and the second stage will be the ISAS Sites database that will track projects that continue through to Phase II and Phase III status. Field stations will be able to access this database through the ISAS FileMaker Server, and input Archaeological Short Survey Report (ASSR) information as well as upload documents. This database will increase efficiency through the real-time tracking of surveys for IDOT projects.



GIS can "remove" historic period fill and model the ground surface to reveal the well-preserved remains of a large thousand-year old Mississippian mound center beneath modern-day East St. Louis.

***A*—Excavated portions of the buried and well preserved Mississippian city showing hundreds of structures from "neighborhoods" within the prehistoric city.**

***B and C*—Locations of suspected Mississippian Mound remnants showing where buried mound surfaces are elevated on the prehistoric landscape.**

***D*—Cahokia Creek floodplain has been raised over seven feet which obscures this natural landscape feature under the modern city.**

***E*—Hidden low areas that may represent Mississippian borrow pits buried by nearly three feet of historic fill.**

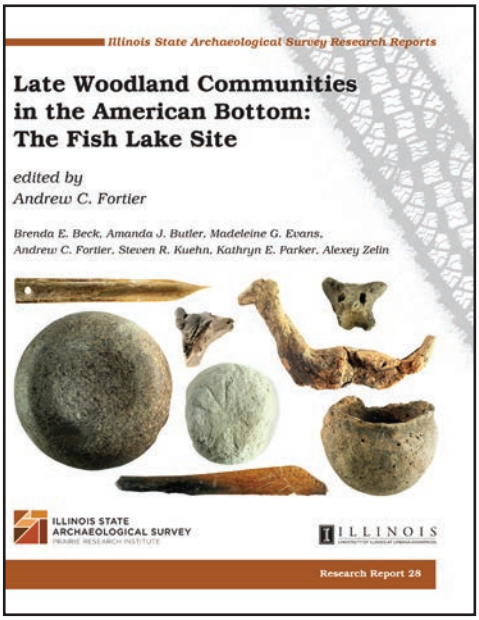
Special Projects

Dr. Andrew Fortier, Special Projects Coordinator

In 2014, during analysis of material from IDOT's FAP-310 Highway project, Special Projects staff encountered significant Late Woodland Sponemann (A.D. 650–900) Phase components that will help to reevaluate the poorly known Sponemann phase in the American Bottom. This analysis strongly suggests that the Sponemann phase can now be divided into early (A.D. 650–750) and late (A.D. 750–900) subperiods.

Continuing investigations of rare coprolite (feces) samples from excavations in East St. Louis found that the samples—likely canine fecal matter—revealed a diet lacking in bone consumption unlike canine coprolites found at the Janey B. Goode site that indicated a diet rich in meat and/or fish bones. In fact, the East St. Louis coprolites are quite similar to the scat of modern dogs who eat high-grain carbohydrates. It's not at all clear why East St. Louis dogs were eating mostly grain while the Janey B. Goode dogs were feasting on meat, but future analyses of these and other samples will hopefully shed light on the question.

Special Projects staff completed the important Fish Lake Site Research Report (No. 28), a large Patrick phase (A.D. 650–900) Late Woodland occupation, which provides a wealth of new information about Late Woodland community patterning, subsistence, and technological practices in western Illinois. ISAS found that large villages were formed at Fish Lake before the presence of corn agriculture, a crop typically thought to foster population aggregation. Fish Lake shows that corn may not be the only stimulus for population growth and aggregation with other factors—including socio-political factors—likely playing a role.



Archaeological Geophysics

Dr. Robert McCullough and Dr. Thomas Loebel are currently working to develop an archaeological geophysical component for the survey. Through the recent purchase of a Bartington Grad 601-2 gradiometer, ISAS will be able to measure subsurface magnetic gradients flowing from the earth that may reflect buried archaeological deposits. In addition, the acquisition of a Geonics EM38-MK2 means that ISAS can now collect soil conductivity data and determine that same soil's magnetic susceptibility. By using both instruments in a complementary manner, ISAS will be able to analyze variations which can help detect buried archaeological resources. By collecting different types of data for use on the same project, ISAS hopes to obtain a fuller understanding of potential subsurface archaeological deposits.

Dr. Robert McCullough and Dr. Thomas Loebel calibrate the Bartington Grad 601-2 gradiometer.

Archaeological Geophysics is a way to explore the potential archaeology of an area with instruments that create maps of properties of subsoil, including archaeological remains in that subsoil. Geophysical surveys can delineate, describe, and image cultural remains in a less costly and non-destructive way which dramatically enhances the real area covered by a single project and allows exploration of larger areas and an understanding of sites in a wider context.

Archaeological geophysics can also help archaeologists select excavation locations with previous geophysical information by optimizing resources and increasing the effectiveness of excavations. This emerging geophysical capacity will allow ISAS to pursue non-invasive archaeological surveys that can be used to help stakeholders—including IDOT and its partners—plan future projects and/or minimize impacts to current ones.

Curation

Dr. Laura Kozuch, Curator

Currently, ISAS curates about 22,000 curation-sized boxes (cubic feet) of artifacts and over 2,000 linear feet of documents with IDOT projects comprising over 90 percent of all the stored artifacts. ISAS houses extensive collections from numerous National Register of Historic Places sites including the Cahokia, Emerald, and Mitchell mounds sites as well as from the eighteenth century historic French Colonial Cahokia settlement—in addition to thousands of boxes from NRHP-eligible sites like East St. Louis. ISAS curation practices conform to the standards set forth in *Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Collections* (36 CFR Part 79). The text of this seminal legislation is available at http://www.nps.gov/archeology/tools/laws/36CFR79.htm.

As part of its initiative on Ancient American Art, The St. Louis Art Museum borrowed several artifacts from ISAS including the famous Birger flint stone figurine. Excavated in the late 1970s during the I-270 project, the figurine shows a Mississippian woman kneeling in front of a serpent which is believed to represent fertility.

In 2014, Curation officially entered the twenty-first century when it began digitizing documents. Collections staff spearheaded the project whose goal is to reduce ISAS' printed photo storage by culling slides from the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s. Discarding redundant images and digitizing the best of the rest has dramatically reduced the volume of ISAS' document collections without sacrificing substance.

Stirling Phase Mississippian owl effigy hooded water bottle from the East St. Louis site.

Also in 2014, Curation staff continued cataloguing artifacts from significant archaeological sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places as well as from sites that had been in long-term storage but that hadn't been catalogued or inventoried for many years. Curation staff also catalogued two other recently excavated sites: the Siebert Site in St. Clair County (50 boxes) and sites from IDOT's FAP-310 Highway Project in Madison County (ca. 550 boxes). All told, in 2014, Curation staff catalogued an astounding 65,522 objects, artifacts, and cultural materials from around the state of Illinois.

Stephanie Daniels and Kim Wurl organize ISAS artifact collections.

Finally, in 2014, ISAS procured a new warehouse for long-term collections storage with Curation and Survey staff coordinating to build and place collections shelving and to move boxes of artifacts and materials to the new warehouse. In tandem with the move, Curation staff entered each of the 1,380 boxes moved, into a Box Inventory database making our curated items more accessible and manageable.

Production

Michael Lewis, Senior Production Manager

The ISAS Production Office is involved in everything from publishing to Information Technology (IT). Production supports the Survey by:

- Promoting the Survey and its science through publications, the internet, social media, and community outreach;
- Providing IT support and services to the Survey's offices, sections, and field stations located throughout Illinois.

Publications. Production helps disseminate information from ISAS research about archaeological and historical topics to professional and public audiences. In 2014, ISAS published 8 Technical Compliance reports, 6 Research Reports, and 1 Studies in Material Culture report. A complete list of Survey publications can be found at the ISAS Shop Site at https://shop.inrs.illinois.edu/shop-isas.html.

Photography and Graphic Design. In 2014, ISAS production staff, along with field offices staff, photographed archaeological artifacts for more than twenty ISAS publications. Staff also used field photography to enhance the Survey's social media feeds. Production's graphic design staff completed cover designs for the *Midcontinental Journal of Archaeology* for the Midwest Archaeological Conference and numerous ISAS reports. Production was also involved in poster designs for the Fort Johnson project in Warsaw, Illinois, and trail signage for the Forest Preserves District of Cook County.

Angela Patton and Sarah Boyer set up the book display at the MAC.

Web. Production staff reorganized the ISAS website this year making it cleaner and easier to navigate, added the Survey's Twitter and Facebook feeds to the homepage, and implemented drop-down menus.

IT. In 2014, the IT unit enhanced the operating system on computers survey-wide by installing upgraded server hardware at field stations and in sections. These upgrades make more information available via the web and will help users more easily access Survey data.

Social Media/Video

This year ISAS made a concerted effort to improve communication by increasing the social media and video content of our website by giving it a whole new look and feel and making it more interactive and informative than ever. The website now has a live RSS feed of social media and incorporates a "slider" of our most up-to-date work and newsworthy events which posts "real time" photos from ISAS archaeologists in the field and images showcasing the Survey's archaeological, preservation, and community engagement efforts. The website also highlights the work of the Office of the State Archaeologist. You can visit us at www.isas.illinois.edu.

ISAS began using Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram in 2013 with the goal of doubling the Survey's audience in 2014 which was more than achieved!

	2013	2014
Facebook	270 likes	533 likes
Twitter	12 followers	799 followers
Instagram	0 followers	241 followers
YouTube	506 views	3,544 views
	1,822 minutes watched	15,418 minutes watched

Also in 2014, the ISAS video program released two short documentaries, "Founded by Chance, Sustained by Courage: The Brooklyn, Illinois Project" and "200 Years Later: The Burning of Fort Johnson and the War of 1812." ISAS also launched an Archaeology in Minutes (AIM) series on our YouTube channel which can be found at https://www.youtube.com/user/illinoisarchaeology.

Look for ISAS on Facebook at:
https://www.facebook.com/IllinoisStateArchaeologicalSurvey

ISAS is also on Twitter:
https://twitter.com/ILStateArch

We're even on Instagram:
https://instagram.com/ilstatearchaeologist

Angela Patton interviews Patrick Durst.

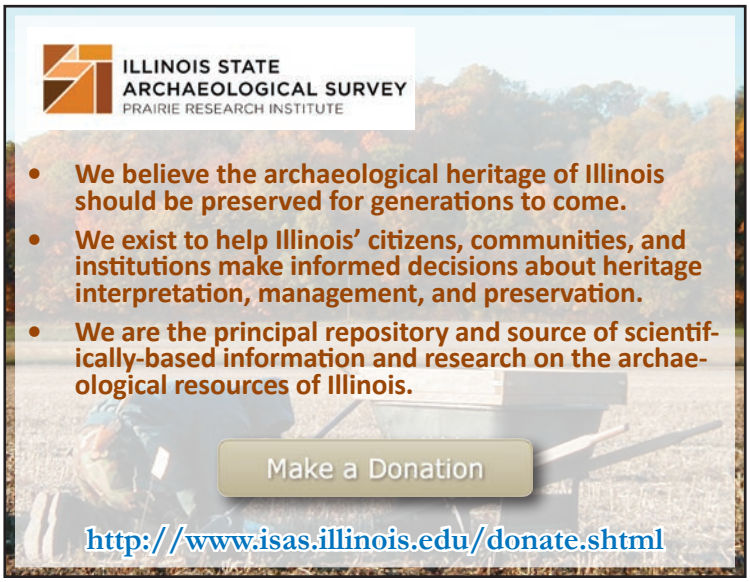
Dr. Thomas E. Emerson, Illinois State Archaeologist

The State of Illinois recently created the Office of the Illinois State Archaeologist (OISA) and designated the Illinois State Archaeological Survey (ISAS) as a state scientific survey. ISAS Director, Dr. Thomas E. Emerson, is Illinois' first State Archaeologist who is tasked with advocating for the public importance of the archaeological record in Illinois and the authoritative spokesperson on matters of archaeological fact and policy for the state. Dr. Emerson is also responsible for providing current information about Illinois' archaeology and research to the public at large, communities, scientists, industry, and government agencies.

Preservation—OISA helps identify, evaluate, and plan for the management and preservation of public and private archaeological sites and cultural landscapes in Illinois—working with public and private entities in order to preserve many of Illinois significant cultural resources.

Data Management—OISA is both a repository of knowledge and a clearinghouse for distributing information about Illinois' rich resources to state and local governments, the professional community, and the public. OISA retains and manages databases about archaeological reports, photographs, burial mounds, and artifacts, including:

- Over 80,000 archaeological reports, site records and protected burial sites records;
- Collections from over 5,000 sites across the state of Illinois;
- More than 3,000,000 archaeological artifacts.



Education—OISA participates in and promotes education and outreach through programs like the Prairie Research Institute's Naturally Illinois Expo school programs, museum exhibits, and lectures. OISA's educational efforts also keep municipalities, park districts, and other governmental agencies informed about current legislative changes and programs, regulatory information, and best practices.

Research—OISA directs and conducts archaeological research in Illinois under the umbrella of ISAS' Ancient Technologies and Archaeological Materials (ATAM) program. OISA continues to focus on research with a direct economic impact on Illinois' citizens by emphasizing "Smart Development" and helping preservationists and developers cooperate in achieving their goals.

Public Engagement

Eve Hargrave, Public Engagement Coordinator

Education and public outreach efforts are an important part of the Illinois State Archaeological Survey program. ISAS researchers are involved in a wide variety of activities throughout the state including promoting Archaeology Day events, presenting to school groups, lecturing to college students and community groups, preparing archaeological exhibits for regional museums and IDOT, doing interviews with national and local print, radio and television media, and conducting tours of ISAS laboratories for students.

ISAS staff continue a tradition of volunteering many evening and weekend hours to identify artifacts, attend and speak at public events, and document larger private collections all of which help preserve Illinois' cultural resources. Some of the more notable examples of ISAS' outreach efforts from 2014 are:

- Dr. Laura Kozuch's participation on the UIUC Campus-wide Preservation Working Group ensuring the long-term access to the physical, electronic, and intellectual contents of the UIUC Campus' cultural assets;
- The Illinois Ancient Artifacts Project spearheaded by Dr. Thomas Loebel, Dale McElrath, Madeleine Evans, David Nolan, and Steve Boles which focuses on education about and documentation of family artifact collections for posterity.
- ISAS' continued work with the Smeja Foundation, the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, and IDOT, facili-

Dr. Duane Esarey discusses prehistoric ceramics with the public at *Experience Archaeology*.

tated by Paula Porubcan and Edward Jakaitis, preserving and interpreting archaeological sites and collaborating on future development plans and research goals.

ISAS continues their work with communities across Illinois by educating the public and helping with site preservation:

- **The Clarke Cabin, Rochester, Illinois**—While remodeling a very old house near Rochester, Illinois, the owner discovered the well-preserved, hand-hewn log walls of what was once a two-room cabin in her kitchen. ISAS' Robert Mazrim and Lauren Fitts recorded the exposed remains of the circa 1840 dwelling and identified original doors and windows as well as the rarely-preserved remains of an early nineteenth century front porch which was subsequently covered over by a 1912 addition.
- **Museum of the Grand Prairie, Mahomet, Illinois**—ISAS continues to collaborate with the Museum of the Grand Prairie. Several of our staff presented talks for the Museum's Archaeology Lecture Series during the spring of 2014. They also provided archaeological activities for visitors including atlatl throwing, ceramic manufacturing, seed sorting, and a mock archaeological dig during the Prairie Stories, September, 2014 event at the Museum.
- **PRI Summer Camp**—For one week, "campers" met with representatives from the PRI including researchers from ISAS who helped students make lithic tools and pottery using traditional Native American tools.
- **PRI's 2014 Lightning Talk Symposium**—ISAS staff participated in a number of challenging five-minute talks using a mere 20 slides for a maximum of two minutes of screen time and rose to the challenge with great success.
- **PRI Survey Collaboration**—In 2014, ISAS joined several of our PRI sister surveys in promoting our combined resources to a variety of audiences, among them the New Burnham Park Fall Adventure Day in Chicago, Illinois, and the Illinois Science Teachers Association's Annual Meeting 'Science in the South' at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale.

Dr. Thomas Loebel demonstrates how prehistoric chert tools were created at *Experience Archaeology*.

Students make traditional ceramics during the PRI Summer Camp.

Madeleine Evans explains prehistoric tool production and use during the PRI Summer Camp.

Brooklyn Public Engagement Program

Brooklyn, Illinois is a small, modest community near the banks of the Mississippi River that has the distinction of being America's first Black town. According to oral tradition, in 1829 many freeborn and formerly enslaved African Americans settled there to form a refuge community. Over time, Brooklyn grew as a biracial town and, in 1873, it became the first majority African-American town to incorporate in the United States. By the late-nineteenth century Brooklyn rapidly transformed into an all-Black town.

Since 2008, ISAS has partnered with Brooklyn's citizens, leaders, and their historical society to form the Brooklyn Public Engagement Program. The program is an effort to revitalize the town using archaeology, history, and shared memories to create a sense of place and make its past relevant to current and future generations. The program's goals include historic preservation, elevating awareness of Brooklyn's significance, and heritage-based community development.

In August and September of 2014, ISAS archaeologists were involved in intensive archaeological investigations within Brooklyn for the first time since 2008. ISAS spent three weeks excavating the former home site of "Mother" Priscilla Baltimore (1801–1882), Brooklyn's most famous nineteenth-century resident. This work was performed on a small lot

Feature excavation at the former home site of "Mother" Priscilla Baltimore.

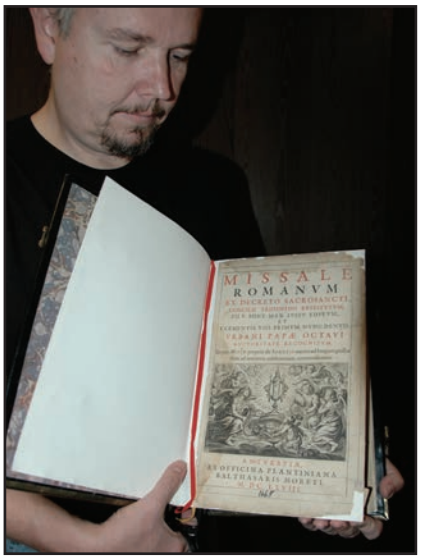
Wood-lined feature excavated in Brooklyn, Illinois.

along North Sixth Street where Baltimore built a home in 1851 and appears to have resided until ca. 1872. Baltimore was a highly influential figure in the development of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) church in Illinois and Missouri. She founded the first AME Church west of the Mississippi (in St. Louis), and, according to AME Church records, she established the first AME seminary in the west in her Brooklyn home in the 1860s.

ISAS excavations found traces of repeated residential reuse of the lot in the late-nineteenth through early-twentieth centuries. Nine features and four dozen posts were investigated including wood-lined privies, cisterns, and small pits. While none of the features were filled while Priscilla Baltimore was living there, most were filled between about 1875 and 1890. We know that Priscilla Baltimore was living in St. Louis in 1873, so it is likely that the features filled in the 1870s reflect the transfer of her occupancy of the lot to a new owner. It was common for new residents of urban lots to fill in old privies and cisterns and build new ones. And, although the excavations didn't supply details about Priscilla Baltimore's life, they have revealed new data about domestic life in Brooklyn at the dawn of an era of African-American political empowerment.

This dig was extensively covered by local print and broadcast media and many Brooklynites stopped by to share their knowledge and ask about the work. Our work has helped reignite interest and enthusiasm within Brooklyn for additional archaeological and historical investigations and has also led to discussions with the town's new mayor regarding future program activities.

Holy Family Church



Bob Mazrim holds the original missal brought to the mission in 1699.

The French village of Cahokia is one of the oldest European settlements in the Mississippi Valley. French Seminarian priests were guided to the site by La Salle's associate Henri de Tonti in 1698 and established a mission to the Tamaroa and Cahokia bands of the Illinois the following spring. French traders and their new families soon followed, and the locale played an important role in the connection between the Illinois Country and the new colony of Louisiana. At the center of the village is the Church of the Holy Family, an impressive vertical log structure built in 1799 on the site of the 1699 mission. Holy Family is the oldest continuous Catholic parish in the United States.

As part of the Colonial Heritage Project, Robert Mazrim and Dr. Duane Esarey took a small crew to the French village of Cahokia for four days of research-based excavations near the Holy Family Church. There they encountered a rich, stratified, and well-preserved midden dating back to the years of the Tamaroa mission. Our archaeologists found several deposits including some associated with a ca. 1820s–1830s rectory—the late eighteenth century occupation of the property by British soldiers—and most significantly, with the Seminarian mission compound of the 1720s and 1730s.

The Holy Family Church site with excavations in the background.

A cross-pendant fragment found during the excavations at the Holy Family Church.

ISAS also found several features during our brief investigation including a subfloor depression related to a structure that may have been used as a dwelling for families working at the mission. Numerous bison and cattle bones were found nearby, as well as some of the earliest European pottery yet excavated in the village of Cahokia.

Dr. Tamira Brennan and Dan Blodgett map a test unit profile at the Holy Family Church site excavations.

At the end of our excavations at Holy Family Church, the Church Parish held a celebration premiering a new permanent exhibit of Parish history at the Church Hall. Robert Mazrim opened the event with a lecture on French Colonial archaeology, after which Parish Council member John Reed presented him with the Award for Outstanding Service to Holy Family. The celebration also featured a new publication from the Church—a book of traditional French recipes collected from area families who trace their ancestry to the colonial settlement of Cahokia.

Forest Preserves of Cook County (FPCC)

In partnership with the Illinois Natural History Survey and the Illinois State Water Survey, ISAS completed a natural and cultural resources management plan for 70,000 acres owned by the Forest Preserves of Cook County (FPCC). The plan's results and recommendations are presented in the web-based public document *Natural and Cultural Resources Master Plan,* which can be found at **http://fpdcc.com/preserves-and-trails/plans-and-projects/natural-and-cultural-resources-master-plan/**.

Paula Bryant records lithic artifacts from the Ed Lace site, a site located in the FPCC.

Past and present urban development of the Metro Chicago region may mean that the FPCC lands contain our best and, possibly, only opportunity for learning about the prehistory and early history of northeastern Illinois. Sites within the FPCC represent the entire range of human occupation from 10,000 year-old Paleoindian campsites through World War II German POW camps.

> ***"To date, approximately 1,200 archaeological sites have been recorded in Cook County. About 550 . . . of these are located on FPCC property. Even this indication of the importance of FPCC sites is understated as many of the 650 sites located outside of the FPCC have been destroyed by urban development."***
>
> *—Natural and Cultural Resources Master Plan, FPCC.*

In 2014, ISAS's Northern Illinois Field Station (NIFS) staff developed management priorities, long-range objectives, and landform sensitivity models for more than 1,000 FPCC and Cook County sites. NIFS staff also completed data consolidation. ISAS continues to develop text and graphics for the many interpretive signs to be placed in the preserves. We also consulted with FPCC staff on 69 parks-related Capital Improvement projects including new campgrounds, picnic areas, parking, canoe launches, and access roads as well as landscaping, shoreline stabilization, and habitat restoration.

Finally, in 2014, NIFS completed field investigations in 35 project areas near known site locations and, in the majority of cases, confirmed that construction would have no impact on significant archaeological resources. In other cases, projects were redesigned to avoid archaeological resources. These field investigations added considerably to our knowledge of Chicago-area prehistory. At the 11CK143 site in Shabbona Woods, for example, we found tools and ceramics indicating Archaic (8000–6000 B.C.) through Late Woodland (1050 B.C.–A.D. 700) occupations and obtained significant information about the influence of climate change on prehistoric settlement patterns.

The 2014 efforts to identify and evaluate the cultural resources within the FPCC lands is the first part of a five year cooperative effort by PRI and FPCC to develop and implement a consistent approach to resource management across the Forest Preserve's vast holdings.

NIFS crew conduct testing in the FPCC.

NIFS crew work in the FPCC Chicago Botanic Garden.

Ancient Technologies and Archaeological Materials Program (ATAM)

Dr. Kristin Hedman
Director of ATAM,
Physical Anthropologist

The Ancient Technologies and Archaeological Materials program (ATAM) is the archaeological sciences research arm of the Illinois State Archaeological Survey (ISAS). ATAM staff use archaeometry—an interdisciplinary study of early technologies and analyses of archaeological and historic materials using modern instrumental techniques—to obtain pre-historic and historic archaeological information. ATAM promotes and facilitates interdisciplinary research between archaeology and the natural, physical and social sciences, and humanities within the Prairie Research Institute and the University of Illinois.

In February of 2014, the Illinois State Archaeological Survey (ISAS) and ATAM hosted the Third Science and Archaeology Symposium at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign campus. The one-day interdisciplinary symposium provided an opportunity for students and professionals in archaeology and other fields to share innovative research ranging from malaria in the new world to the possibilities of remote sensing using LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging).

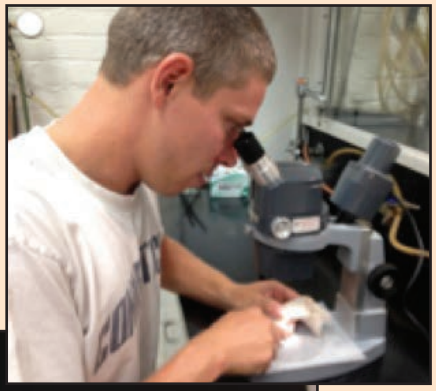
Dr. Kristin Hedman, Associate Director of the ATAM, was awarded a Prairie Research Institute Matching Research Award Program grant in late 2014 to continue research into possible places of origin for immigrants to Cahokia using strontium isotope ratios of mussel shells and other archaeological fauna. Also in the fall of 2014, ATAM awarded three Student mini-grants to graduate students in Anthropology at the University of Illinois. These grants are designed to help students complete theses or capstone projects involving instrumental analyses of archaeological or art historical materials.

"Thompsons Compound Syrup of Tar for Consumption Philadelphia" found during excavations at the Burning Sands site.

Finally, ISAS produced an amazing find in August of 2014 when archaeologists recovered a partially-full bottle embossed with "Thompsons Compound Syrup of Tar for Consumption Philadelphia" from an excavated early-to-mid 1800s cellar in Meredosia. Medicine bottles with their contents intact are rarely preserved which makes this bottle's recovery a unique opportunity to investigate what exactly served as "medicine" during the 1840s and 1850s.

What is Strontium?

Strontium is a soft metallic element similar to calcium. It occurs naturally in certain minerals and is absorbed in the bedrock and into a location's water system and plants. Eventually, strontium is absorbed by the animals eating those plants and into the systems of people who eat those animals. Strontium is best preserved in teeth and the element's levels in tooth enamel can provide important information about where an individual is from. What this means for archaeologists is that we can get a strontium reading from a very small sample of an individual's teeth and then link that individual to a specific geographical area.



Upper: Philip Slater examines a mussel shell.
Lower: Strontium isotope testing sample locations on a mussel shell cross-section.

Warsaw Forts/Fort Johnson

ISAS archaeologists continue to help commemorate this War of 1812 American Military outpost's bicentennial anniversary by excavating the remains of a large building discovered during earlier investigations. In May of 2014, Western Field Station archaeologists found evidence of a sizeable privy at the fort—possibly an officers' outhouse vault—related to a military camp that occupied the Fort's ruins from 1815 to 1816 called Cantonment Davis. In September of 2014, ISAS worked with Dr. Michael Kolb of StrataMorph GeoExploration, Incorporated, to map the nature of a sand deposit capping part of the Fort-era remains. The information revealed the likelihood that the area was leveled and reclaimed as part of the Cantonment Davis 1815 to 1816 military camp occupation. ISAS excavations at Fort Johnson continue to produce many period artifacts—all consistent with the War of 1812—that should ultimately help unlock the original layout of the fort and military camp.

Having planned the dig to coincide with the destruction of Fort Johnson 200 years earlier, ISAS hosted a number of distinguished guests including: Gillum Ferguson, author of *Illinois in the War of 1812*; William Wilson, President; Vice President Robert Ridenour; and, Ferne Ridenour of the Illinois War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. Several Illinois state legislative aides also participated in the events and ISAS Director, Dr. Thomas Emerson, presented informational posters about the archaeology of the Fort to the City of Warsaw and its Historical Society, all of which attracted a great deal of positive public interest and media attention.

Dr. Thomas Emerson (center) presents a poster detailing the archaeology of Fort Johnson to Mike Heisler, the Mayor of Warsaw (left) and Martha Zumwalt, the President of the Warsaw Historical Society (right).

Midwest Archaeological Conference

ISAS hosted the 58th Midwest Archaeological Conference (MAC) in Champaign, IL. The MAC has over 500 members, supports a state-of-the-art journal published three times per year both in print and digitally, and has initiated a new Occasional Papers series. It annually sponsors a conference that regularly hosts nearly 400 participants and attendees. This year the MAC had 12 symposia as well as 216 presentations and posters.

ISAS conference personnel: Mike Lewis (IT), Linda Alexander (photographer), and Eve Hargrave (event organizer).

Not only did ISAS host the MAC, six of the twelve symposia were organized and led by ISAS personnel. Much of ISAS's output highlighted the outstanding and extensive archaeological efforts of the Illinois Department of Transportation. ISAS staff presented 39 papers and 7 posters on diverse topics including paleoethnobotany, bioarchaeology, historic and prehistoric site excavations, material cultures, and the use of GIS technology to enhance archaeological research.

Two early evening receptions were sponsored by the Illinois Archaeological Survey (a professional and avocational society) and by the MAC. These casual opportunities to meet colleagues and do a little socializing and networking are a critical aspect of what makes conferences successful.

Dr. Martin Carver from the University of York gave the keynote presentation during the MAC Banquet. He gave a witty and compelling talk discussing his work at Sutton Hoo, a large burial mound complex containing prehistoric and Anglo-Saxon burials in southeast England. He also outlined his future plans for another series of archaeological investigations at Sutton Hoo.

Dr. Martin Carver, University of York, UK.

Adams, Brian

2014 Talking Bones: Scapulae and European Upper Palaeolithic Rituals. In *Aeolian Scripts: New Ideas on the Lithic World. Studies in Honour of Viola T. Dobosi*, edited by Katalin T. Biró, András Markó, and Katalin P. Bajnok, pp. 257–278. Budapest: Magyar Nemzeti Múzeum.

2014 A Relic From the Confederate States of America in Champaign County. *Illinois Antiquity* 49(3):8–9.

2014 Leavitt Manufacturing Company Building, 208 West Griggs Street, Urbana, Illinois. *Preservation Matters*. Volume 34, Number 1/2. Preservation and Conservation Association, Champaign, Illinois.

Benson, Erin M.

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Boles, Steven L.

2013 *Archaeological Investigations at Site 11MS2410 (Gypsy Rose Lee) for the Spring Valley Road Improvement*. Archaeological Testing Short Report No. 463. Illinois State Archaeological Survey, Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign.

Boyd, Timothy, and David J. Nolan

2014 *Archaeological Investigations at Site 11MD1192 (Rowanoak Site) for the FAP 315/IL 336 Macomb Bypass Project*. Archaeological Testing Short Report No. 438. Illinois State Archaeological Survey, Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign.

Boyd, Timothy, and David J. Nolan

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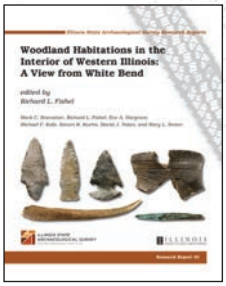

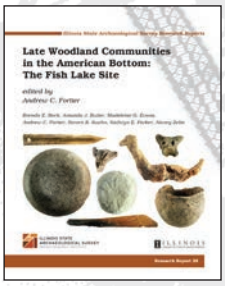

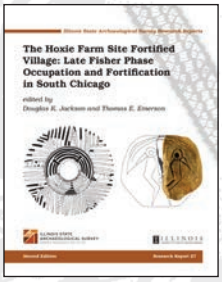

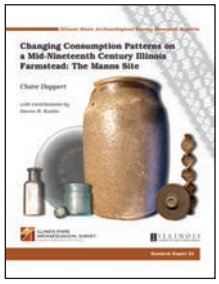

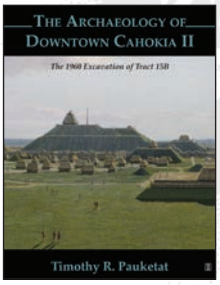

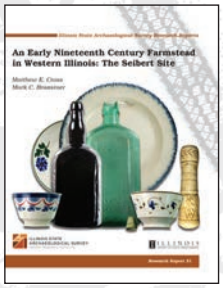

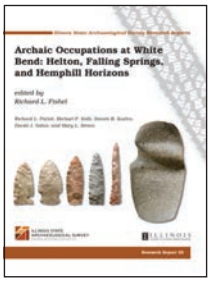

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