T H I S  S E M E S T E R  A T  T H E  G B L

F R O M  T H E  D E S K  O F  T H E  C U R A T O R

The curatorial staff had a very busy spring 2017 semester.

We ramped up our collections-based teaching initiative by partnering with the Anthropology Department faculty to use our collections in three courses: Introduction to Archaeology, Mid-west Archaeology, and Archaeological Curation. Practicum student Caitlin Withnell created a catalogue of the experimental use-wear tools housed in the Materials Science Lab, and also got hands on experience using stone tools to work cane and process fish. Practicum students Isabel Osmundsen and Katie Smith worked on archives-based research. In celebration of Women’s History Month, Librarian Kelsey Grimm presented a paper, “The Women Behind the Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology: Ida Black, Frances Martin, and Erminie Wheeler-Voegelin,” at the 2017 Hoosier Women at Work: Science, Technology, and Medicine Conference sponsored by the Indiana Historical Society. In conjunction with Kelsey’s talk, the curation team launched a gallery and digital photography exhibit titled “GBL Women in Archaeology.”

Research continued on the Angel Foodways Project with a focus on documenting the types of ceramic vessels found in Feature 37 at Angel Mounds, with the aid of collections assistant Mary Wernette. Over the summer the Foodways research focus will shift to the stone and bone tools found in the feature. Researcher Cheryl Munson utilized the archaeological collections at the lab to research early Mississippian occupations in the Falls of the Ohio Region, and presented her research at the 2017 Kentucky Heritage Council Conference. Researcher Matthew Davidson utilized the Materials Science Lab to conduct research on the function of Fort Ancient endscrapers. He presented the results of his research at both the 2017 Kentucky Heritage Council Conference and the 82nd Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archaeology. Davidson and Curator Melody Pope have plans to continue with a collaborative research project to further analyze endscrapers from Fort Ancient sites in the Ohio Valley.
Pope participated in the 82nd Annual Meeting of the SAA, where she presented a paper in a session titled “Integrating Functional Analysis: Contributions from Use-wear Analysis within the Broader Context of Human Behavior in Prehistoric North America.” Pope also attended several informative sessions on collections management, digital archaeology and collections-based research, and had a chance to visit the Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

During the spring of 2017, collections assistant Alex Elliott was busy in the collections care department, processing into the repository several new collections owned by the USDA Hoosier National Forest and the Naval Surface Warfare Center at Crane. The GBL also accepted into the permanent archaeological collection three new donated collections that contribute to Indiana archaeology and the legacy of collecting by Hoosiers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Volunteer Joce Turner completed organization of the ethnobotanical comparative collection. Collections Manager Jennifer St. Germain and collections assistant Baily Foust continued the historic image digitization initiative, and as a result of their work numerous images are now available through Indiana University’s Image Collections. Collections assistant Haley Suby processed institutional archives and digitized the maps in the Great Lakes-Ohio Valley Ethnohistory Collection. Librarian Kelsey Grimm with the assistance of two Cox Scholars, Logan Carte and Skylee O’Neal, have been continuing to catalogue books and manuscripts in the James H. Kellar Library. Last but not least, this newsletter initiative and all the great GBL social media activity this semester has been the result of the work of Hannah Rea, a journalism and history major and Hutton Honors College intern. Hannah will spend the summer interning at the Cincinnati Museum Center, but will be back at the GBL in the fall 2017 where she will no doubt be busy digging up “The Dirt” for our blog.

Thanks to all of the Curation Staff at the GBL! Have a great summer!

Melody Pope, Curator of Collections
The Glenn Black Lab received several donations over the past year:

**Robert F. Braunlin, M.D., and G. Louise Braunlin Collection**

The Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology announces the donation of significant artifacts, books and related documents from the family of Robert F. Braunlin, M.D., and G. Louise Braunlin. The collection numbering nearly 1,200 items includes ceramic vessels, pipes, atlatl weights, bone tools, plummet stones, and numerous chipped and ground stone tools.

**Jeremiah Mattix Collection**

The Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology announces the donation of a small collection of artifacts from the family of Jeremiah Mattix, who personally collected the artifacts from the late 19th to the early 20th century. The collection includes numerous projectile points that will be part of a project that maps spatial distributions of point types and raw materials across land forms and regions in Indiana.

**Anonymous Collection**

The Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology announces the donation of a small collection of artifacts from an anonymous donor. This collection includes numerous projectile points found in Tippecanoe County near Lafayette, Indiana between 1975 and 1977.

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**EXHIBITS**

**Out With the Old: “Work in Progress”**

In the lead-up to the GBL’s 50th Birthday, an exhibit was created to provide a realistic view of the profession of archaeology. Photos were chosen which demonstrated everyday life at excavations, which is far from the oft-romanticized version we get in movies and on television. The GBL intended it to be a way to match faces and names to the extraordinary history of archaeology in Indiana.

**In With the New: “Women in Archaeology”**

In honor of Women’s History Month, the Glenn A. Black Lab of Archaeology created an exhibit to pay tribute to the archaeological efforts of the women of our past. The exhibit is split into two parts: the first, a physical wall of photos in the GBL lobby. The second, a larger, digital collection of photos, with longer captions detailing the subject matter. The photos were available as part of an ongoing digitization effort by our media team.
TRIPS AND CONFERENCES

Several of our staff went on trips this semester:

In late January, Director Dr. April Sievert and Associate Research Scientist Elizabeth Watts Malouchos traveled to Miami, Oklahoma, for a two day workshop as part of the Shawnee Pottery Project (SPP). The SPP is a collaborative research project that brings together Shawnee tribal scholars and citizens, archaeologists, historians and tribal artists to reconnect the Shawnee to their ancestral pottery traditions. Discussions centered on different analytical techniques to test Fort Ancient pottery from the Middle Ohio River Valley and activities included an outdoor firing of experimental pottery reproductions.

In early February, Director April Sievert, Collections Manager Jennifer St. Germain and Librarian Kelsey Grimm traveled to Oklahoma to discuss the usefulness of IU collections with representatives from seven tribes.

Also in February, Kelsey, Curation Team Members Alex Elliott and Bailey Foust, and Programming/Social Media Intern Hannah Rea visited the Angel Mounds State Historic Site as part of an ongoing research project into the history of women in archaeology, specifically in the history of the GBL. Their findings helped contribute to the new photo exhibit on display in the GBL’s lobby: “Women in Archaeology.”


In April, Kelsey presented her findings from the “Women in Archaeology” project at the Hoosier Women at Work conference in Indianapolis, hosted by the Indiana Historical Bureau and the Indiana State Library.

PAST EVENTS

“Drums Along the Scioto”

The Glenn Black Lab was honored to host Brad Lepper, Senior Curator of Archaeology for the Ohio History Connection, and Ben Barnes, 2nd Chief of the Shawnee Tribe, who spoke in the Mathers Museum’s classroom April 11. They discussed Hopewell ceremonial and cultural traditions, placed in the context of contemporary Shawnee practices. The conversation was spurred by recent analysis of findings at Seip Mound, and was an attempt to identify the artifacts found based on current knowledge and context.
VOLUNTEER AND STUDENT APPRECIATION

◊ **Students**

*Collections*: Hannah Ballard, Maclaren Guthrie, Makinzie Hoagland, Molly Mesner, Tarin Snodgrass and Caitlin Withnell

*Library*: Logan Carte, Skylee O’Neal, Isabel Osmundsen, Katie Smith and Haley Suby

*Programming*: Rachna Chaudhari and Hannah Rea

◊ **Volunteers**

*Collections*: Joce Turner and Pat Harris

*Library*: Marge Faber

Thank you to all who gave their time this semester!