



ISSUE 56 SPRING/SUMMER 2024

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

Newsletter of the Archaeological Society of Alberta



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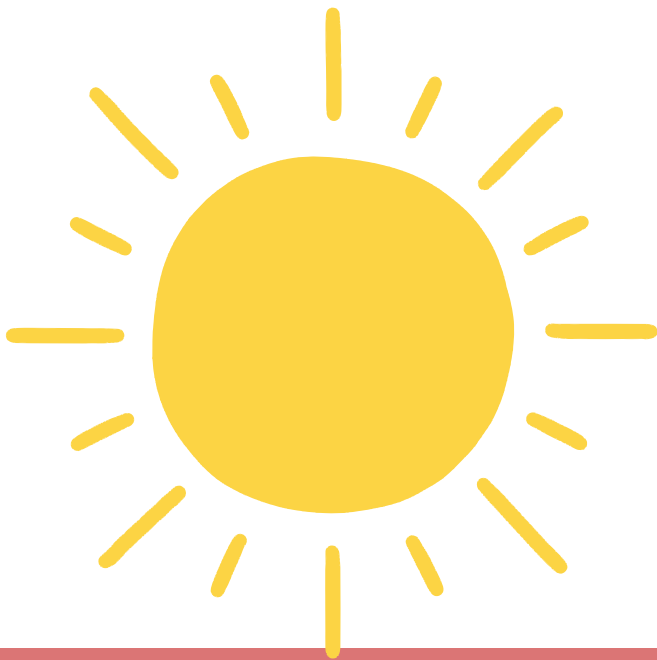


MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Message from the President

As summer rolls in to fall it is an exciting time of the year for archaeologists in Alberta and all members of the Archaeological Society. The summer season brings about adventures in field work when many new finds come to light. We wait to hear of updates on excavations, include those at the Head-Smashed-In Field School hosted by the University of Lethbridge as well as the on-going excavations at Bodo. A team from the University of Calgary also returned to investigate the John Ware homestead outside of Calgary. Elsewhere across the province a season of summer festivals and outdoor events shine a light on the public outreach and educational activities the Archaeological Society pursues. Who can believe that it has been forty years since the Samis Site was first designated in Medicine Hat? And now as we move into fall, more interest is building as Centres across the Province begin to roll out their winter programming, listing the speakers that are booked for the months ahead, attract new members and plan for assorted winter workshops. In the constant stream of information relating to archaeological studies across Alberta, we can be thankful a newsletter like this keeps us apprised of Society events; and I would like to thank both Tom Fothergill and Colleen Hughes for taking this on and keep us in the know about events, past and present.

Thank You, Brian Vivian



Vision Statement

The Archaeological Society of Alberta enhances the public's understanding of Alberta's archaeological resources and instils an appreciation of our collective past.

The Archaeological Society of Alberta advocates for the safeguarding of our non-renewable cultural heritage.

WIL PROGRAM

The Archaeological Society of Alberta's Work-integrated Learning Voucher program has fulfilled its quota for the 2023-2024 funding cycle. As we move into the fall, many of the students and recent grads will be wrapping up what we hope was an amazing learning and working experience for them. The Provincial Coordinator (PC) will be writing up the report for Advanced Education in October and November.

Prior to all that is the setup for the 2024-2025 funding cycle. This is the last year that the ASA has funding for the ASA WIL Voucher program. And in this last year, a few things have changed for employers looking to hire students through the ASA WIL Voucher Program.

- Membership to an ASA Centre is required
- The placement end-term deadline is September 30, 2025.
- Ensure that the student or recent graduate you are hiring **has not had** previous WIL funding. If you are unsure - contact the PC.
- We cannot hold placements indefinitely; once you are aware that you cannot fulfill your placement, notify the PC immediately.
- We offer payouts only through cheque or e-transfer

If you have any questions please contact the Provincial Coordinator at arkysocietyalberta@gmail.com

Center Memberships!

Bodo Centre

Calgary Centre

Edmonton Centre

Lethbridge Centre

Red Deer Centre

SEEAS Centre

New Goldbook

Occasional Papers of the Archaeological Society of Alberta
Volume Number 17 (2 books)

Revisiting the Ancients: A Natural and Cultural History of the MacHaffie Archaeological Site (24JF4)

Patrick J. Rennie, Edwin Mohler, John P. Albanese, Jr., Synctiay Riley Auge, Linda Scott-Cummings, Leslie B. Davis, James K. Feathers, and T. Weber Greiser

with contributions by:

Melvin Beattie, John Byrd, John (Jack) Fisher, Jr., Richard E. Hughes, James Krakker, Sean McQueen, and Richard Pettersen

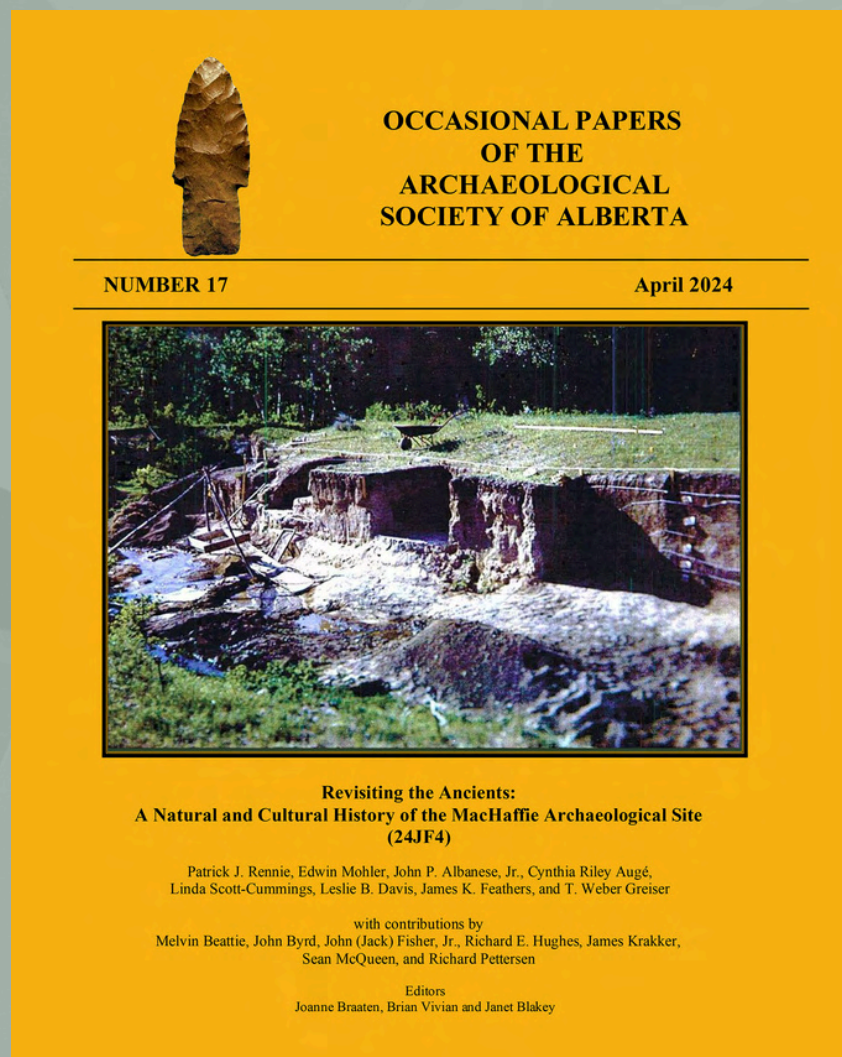
edited by:

Joanne Braaten, Brian Vivian, and Janet Blakey

Book 1: \$75.00 plus shipping

Book 2: complimentary PDF available on the [ASA Website](http://www.asa.alberta.ca)

**Order
online**



www.arkyalberta.com

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY NOSE HILL FIELD SCHOOL

by Tom Fothergill

As an archaeology student, I was thrilled to have the opportunity to participate in the University of Calgary's field school on Nose Hill, even if only for two days. The experience was amazing and I learned a lot about excavation in archaeology as well as much of the deep indigenous history surrounding the spot of Nose Hill.

On the first day, we were greeted by Dr. Lindsay Amundsen-Meyer, the lead archaeologist, and we were given a tour of the prominent Nose Hill locations as well as some of its history.. Nose Hill has long been known for its rich cultural layers, with artifacts dating back thousands of years. This specific stone circle was being excavated as there was a footpath running through the site that could have caused damage and erosion. While excavating the site is using up a non-renewable resource it was to better preserve the stone circle and allow for investigation into its cultural history then to leave it to erode.



A grid system was set up for systematic excavation. This process was fascinating, and as a student working at Parks Canada, this gave me a lot more insight into how the provenience and Borden systems are used with a visual representation. The attention to detail required was impressive, underscoring the precision necessary in archaeological work. Once the grid was established, slow methodical excavation began and was tough work using only trowels and sieves to slowly excavate the top layers and search for archaeological remains.

The field school also emphasized the importance of collaboration and teamwork. Working alongside students, professors, volunteers, and especially having oversight from members of Indigenous communities. This collaboration allowed for various views and insights into what a specific artifact might be and I learned a lot from the students around me. I was taught how to better identify various flakes and found many 'microflakes' as my instructor was teaching me about. There was also a collection of animal bone found as well as various stone tools. This hands-on experience really strengthened my knowledge of the identification of various material types and seeing firsthand the identification of stone tools and the methods used to produce them.



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY NOSE HILL FIELD SCHOOL *Continued*

There was a great deal of respect placed on this material culture and each piece was bagged and organized for later analysis. The stone circle was also left in place on each respective pedestal of soil to get a full picture for the shape of the stone circle. I had also been told that there was a possibility that this stone circle would remain in place and be turned into a monument with the guidance of indigenous leaders to allow for a visiting area within the park of Nose Hill and share the rich history with the public.

Though my time at the University of Calgary's Nose Hill field school was brief, it left a lasting impression. The hands-on experience, coupled with the knowledge shared by the experts, deepened my appreciation for the complexities and rewards of archaeological work. It was a privilege to contribute, even in a small way, to the ongoing exploration and understanding of our shared history. I now have a lot more respect for the individuals conducting this tough work, especially the students at Nose Hill who worked through rain or shine to unearth this piece of history in the short time they had. The environment was fantastic with everyone having a very upbeat and accommodating passion for the work and I would recommend anyone who is interested to check out the next public archaeology days to experience first hand the brilliance of these kinds of excavations.



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BE UP TO DATE ON MORE U OF C EXCAVATIONS BE SURE TO CHECK OUT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY FACEBOOK PAGE [HERE](#)

CENTER ACTIVITIES

ASA CALGARY CENTRE

SPEAKER SERIES

Archaeogenetics and the African Past

Presented By: Dr. Scott MacEachern

Date: April 17, 2024

EVENTS

Casino Fundraiser at Cowboys Casino

Date: April 18 - 19th, 2024

ASA CALGARY CENTRE

Lecture Series

Dr. Scott MacEachern: Archaeogenetics and the African Past

WED APRIL 17th @ 7pm. Central Library
Patricia A. Whelan Performance Hall



ASA EDMONTON CENTRE

SPEAKER SERIES

Talking Arky: From Here, There, and Everywhere: The Perishable Technologies of Promontory Caves

Presented by: Elizabeth Goldberg

Date: April 18, 2024

Public Archaeology in Alberta

Presented by: Taydem Laroque

Date: September 19, 2024

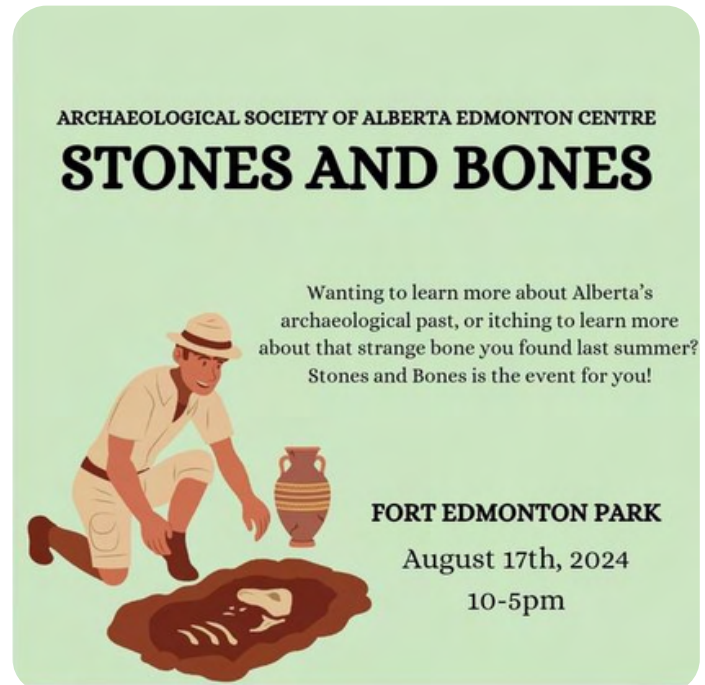
Events

Indigenous Centric Canada Day Showcase and Celebration

Date: July 1st, 2024

Stones and Bones

Date: August 17, 2024



ASA RED DEER CENTRE

Events

Lacombe Museum, Stones and Bones

Date: July 15, 2024



CENTER ACTIVITIES

SEAAS CENTRE

SPEAKER SERIES

Archaeological tour of Bar Diamond Ranch and location of various medicine wheels.

Date: May 4th, 2024

40th Anniversary of Saamis archaeological excavation at Kin Coulee Park,

Date: July 10th, 2024



ASA LETHBRIDGE CENTRE

Events

Claresholm Museum, Stones and Bones

Date: May 11th & 12th, 2024

Volunteer Archaeology Field Opportunity.
Participants joined an archaeology field project in Porcupine Hills.

Date: July 20, 2024





BODO SOCIETY & CENTER

SPEAKER SERIES

Drum Circle and Presentation

Speaker: Felicity Weymer

Date: July 26, 2024

Description*

EVENTS

Bodo Archaeological Camp and Tours

Date: May 28 - August 23, 2024

Kid's Birthday Parties

Date: May 28 - August 23, 2024

2024 Curriculum-Based Archaeological School

Programs: Grades K-12

Date: May 31 - June 26

Bodo Archaeological Society BBQ Lunch Fundraiser

Date: June 28th, 2024

Annual Open House and BBQ

Date: July 1st, 2024

Summer Kids Camp

Speaker: Felicity Weymer

Date: July 2 - August 21, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

**81st Plains Conference Lethbridge, Alberta
October 16-20, 2024
Find more info [here](#).**



**Check out the ASA website for any Speaker series
or other events coming up in your area!
More information can be found [here](#).**

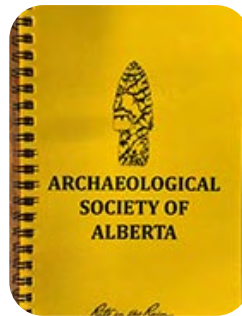
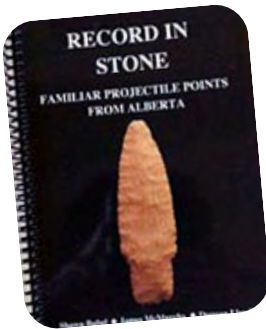
ORANGE SHIRT DAY
SEPTEMBER 30TH!

Artist: Kristy North Peigan

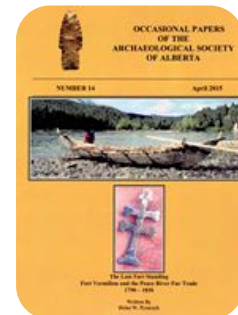


STORE

CHECK OUT THE ASA STORE FOR A VARIETY OF
BOOKS AND OTHER ARCHAEOLOGY ITEMS



ALSO CHECK OUT THE GOLD BOOK SERIES



ALL STORE ITEMS CAN BE FOUND [HERE](#)

Saskatchewan archaeological site offers new evidence of Indigenous arrival 10,000 years ago

Source: CBC News



Drought conditions bring new archaeological finds and suspected dates of Indigenous livelihood

Source: CTV News



Oldest known animal sculptures carved 40,000 years ago

Source: Good News Network



Podcast - The New Brunswick Archaeology Podcast

And they won an award - **U of L professor wins national award for archaeology podcast**

Source: Lethbridge News Now



Prehistoric tools suggest Indigenous arrival to America 7,000 years earlier than past estimations

Source: All That's Interesting



Archaeology in Space

Source: National Post



2,000 year old Mysterious Burial Mound found in Kazakhstan

Source: Arkeonews

