

# Johanna Alaimo Pacyga

## *Curriculum vitae*

The University of Chicago  
Department of Anthropology  
1126 East 59<sup>th</sup> Street  
Chicago, IL 60637

[jpacyga@uchicago.edu](mailto:jpacyga@uchicago.edu)

### EDUCATION

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#### **Ph.D., Anthropology (Historical Archaeology & Anthropology)**

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

“Cultivating Catholicism: Gender, Vocation, and Missionization in Colonial Senegal”

Committee: Shannon Lee Dawdy, François G. Richard, Kathleen D. Morrison; Quorum: Michael Dietler  
*Defended June 1, 2021.*

#### **M.A., History of Decorative Arts and Design (2010), with honors & double distinction**

New School University, Parsons School for Design, New York, NY

“Rococo- Transition- Neo-classical: Does A Progressive Chronology Work?”

#### **B.A., Archaeology (2006), *cum laude***

Boston University, Boston, MA

Minors in Art History and French Language & Literature

### CURRENT APPOINTMENT

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**The University of Chicago-** Lab Manager and Archaeobotanical Analysis, Siin Landscape Archaeology Project, African Archaeology Lab, Department of Anthropology

### PUBLICATIONS

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#### **Refereed Journal Articles and Chapters**

2021 “Archaeology of Missionization in Colonial Senegambia.” In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Anthropology: African Archaeology*. Edited by Shadreck Chirikure. Oxford University Press.

2015 “Pythons in Paris: Fear and Desire in the French Empire.” *The Journal of the Western Society for French History*. Vol. 43:145-154.

#### **Non-refereed Journal Articles**

2015 “Honeybees, Fritillaria, and Empress Josephine’s Alençon Lace Bed.” *Objective: Journal of the History of Design and Curatorial Studies*. Issue 1 (Spring): 22-29.

#### **Book Reviews**

2019 “Alfredo González-Ruibal: An Archaeology of the Contemporary Era.” *African Archaeological Review*. Vol. 36: 559–561.

#### **Technical Reports**

2016 “Le rapport préliminaire du site: La Mission Saint-Joseph de Ngazobil” prepared for the Direction du Patrimoine Culturel, Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication du Sénégal, (Permit 2016: 000011).

### Articles Under Review

“A Biography of Place: Thinking Between Text, Practice, and Space at the St. Joseph Mission (Senegal),”  
*Historical Archaeology* special collection “Biographies of Mission.”

### Articles in Draft

“Conversion, Movement, and Placemaking in Colonial Senegal,” article for submission to the *Journal of Religion in Africa*.

“The Imperial Bee: Napoleonic Symbolism, Textile Production, and Reimagining the Past for a Legitimate Future,” for submission to *West 86th: A Journal of Decorative Arts, Design History, and Material Culture*.

### Articles in Prep

“Missionary Cotton: Commodity Chains, Labor, and Fashion Between Senegal and France in the 1860s,” article for submission to *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*.

Untitled Analysis and Interpretation of Faunal Data and Foodways from the Mission of St. Joseph (Ngasobil, Senegal), with Kevin C. MacDonald and Sacha Cummins.

### Book Proposals in Prep

“Cultivating Catholicism: Women’s Vocation and the Growth of the Senegalese Church, 1850-1960,” prospectus and monograph manuscript based on dissertation.

“One of a Kind: Approaching the Singular Artifact and the Archaeological Imagination,” prospectus for an edited volume requested for submission to Berghahn Books with Christopher Grant.

## GRANTS & AWARDS

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### Research Grants and Fellowships

2019-2020	Social Sciences Dissertation Completion Fellowship (The University of Chicago)
2018-2019	CISSR Dissertation Support Award (Center for International Social Science Research, The University of Chicago)
2017-2018	Wenner-Gren Dissertation Fieldwork Grant (Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research)
2017	ASMEA Summer Research Grant (Association of the Middle East and Africa) ( <i>declined</i> )
2016-2017	François Furet Travel Grant (France Chicago Center, The University of Chicago)
2015-2016	Social Sciences Division Short-Term Research Grant (The University of Chicago)
2015-2016	Leiffer Pre-field Research Fellowship (Department of Anthropology, The University of Chicago)
2014-2020	Marion R. and Adolph J. Lichtstern Fund (Department of Anthropology, The University of Chicago)
2012-2017	Five-Year Social Sciences Division Fellowship (The University of Chicago)
2007-2009	Cooper-Hewitt Masters Fellowship (Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum Smithsonian)

### Honors, Scholarships, & Prizes

2018-2019	Frederick Starr Prize Lectureship (Department of Anthropology, The University of Chicago)
2007-2010	Graduate Dean’s Scholarship (The New School University)

2005	Golden Key Honors Society induction (Boston University)
2003-2005	Dean's List (Boston University)
2002-2006	University Scholar's Award (Boston University)

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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- 2022 **“Experiments in Cotton and Conversion: Mid Nineteenth-century Missionization at St. Joseph of Ngasobil (Senegal),”** Society for American Archaeology, 30 March-3 April
- 2022 **“To Redeem or Ransom? The Spiritan Fathers and Questions of Enslavement and Freedom in Late Nineteenth-century French Senegal,”** Society for French Historical Studies, 24-27 March
- 2021 **“Taking Root: Catholic Conversion, Movement, and Placemaking in 19<sup>th</sup>-century Senegal”** Contemporary and Historical Archaeology in Theory, 1-30 November (Virtual)
- 2021 **“Excavating Vocation: A New Look at Missionization in Colonial Senegal.”** Society of Africanist Archaeologists Biennial Conference, 14 August- 28 September (Virtual) [postponed due to COVID-19, originally scheduled for September 21-24, 2020]
- 2020 **“African Habits: Archaeology of the Saint Joseph Mission, ca. 1863-1940.”** Society for Historical Archaeology, 8-12 January
- 2019 **“What’s in a Button? Sartorial Artifacts, Colonial Journeys, and the Archaeological Imagination.”** Society for Historical Archaeology, 9-13 January
- 2018 **“A Biography of Place: Thinking Between Texts and Objects at the Saint Joseph Mission.”** Society for Historical Archaeology, 3-7 January
- 2016 **“Visual Artifacts Ethnographic Collage Installation.”** Contributor (photography). “Multi/Sited Reunion/Conference”, U.S. Locations Workshop Conference, The University of Chicago, 9 June
- 2015 **“Pythons in Paris? Colonial Imaginaries, Depictions, Interactions, and Misrecognitions of Snakes in the French Empire.”** Western Society for French History, 5-7 November
- 2015 **“Alternate Media as Archaeology.”** First author, with Haeden E. Stewart. Theoretical Archaeology Group, 22-24 May
- 2015 **“The Bait” (paper and short film).** Second author, with Haeden E. Stewart. Theoretical Archaeology Group, 22-24 May
- 2015 **“Crafting the Fringes of French Imperialism: Ceramic Politics in Siin, Senegal.”** First author, with François G. Richard. Society for American Archaeology: 15-19 April
- 2014 **“The Imperial Bee: Napoleonic Symbolism and the Reappropriation of French Pasts.”** Theoretical Archaeology Group, 23-25 May

- 2009 **“The Imperial Bee: Napoleonic Legitimacy, the French Worker, and the Alençon Lace Bed.”**  
Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum MA Program Annual Symposium: Flora and Fauna, 16-17 April

## CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

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- 2022 **Session Chair “Post-abolition Labor and Communities, A Global View from the Plantation and Beyond.” [accepted symposium session]**  
Society for American Archaeology, 30 March- 3 April 2022
- 2021 **Session Chair “Religious Movement(s): Places and Landscapes of Conversion.”**  
Contemporary and Historical Archaeology in Theory: Pilgrim CHAT—Movement, 1-30 November
- 2019 **Session Co-chair “One of a Kind: Approaching the Singular Artifact and the Archaeological Imagination”** with Christopher Grant.  
Society for Historical Archaeology, 9-12 January
- 2015 **Session Co-chair “Alternate Media as Archaeology,”** with Haeden E. Stewart.  
Theoretical Archaeology Group: Movement, 22-24 May

## CAMPUS TALKS

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- 2021 **“Archaeology of Missionization in Colonial Senegambia”**  
Interdisciplinary Archaeology Workshop, The University of Chicago, 15 April
- 2019 **“African Habits: Vocation & Daily Life at the Convent of Saint Joseph”**  
African Studies Workshop, co-sponsored by the Interdisciplinary Archaeology Workshop, The University of Chicago, 3 December
- 2019 **“Growing an African Church: Indigenous Sisters & the Expansion of the Mission to Senegal”**  
Interdisciplinary Workshop on Modern France and the Francophone World, The University of Chicago, 5 April
- 2018 **“A Biography of Place: Thinking Between Texts, Architecture, and Space in the Mission Context.”**  
Interdisciplinary Archaeology Workshop, The University of Chicago, 6 December

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Historical Archaeology, Colonialism, Religion & Conversion, Gender & Religion, Anthropology of Archives, Human/Plant Relationships, French Empire, West Africa, North America, Caribbean, Domestic Archaeology, Women’s Labor, Historical Ecology, Anthropology of Food & Cuisine, Inequalities

## TEACHING PROFILE

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### Interests

Historical Archaeology, Human-Plant Relationships, Material Culture Studies, Archaeological Methods, Archaeobotany, History & Archaeology of the Atlantic World, Colonialism, Historical Ecology, Reading Archives, French Empire, Decorative Arts and Design, Eighteenth and Nineteenth-century Fashion

### Experience

#### **University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Amherst, MA**

##### **Instructor of Record**

2022 Instructor in the Anthropology Department, **North American Archaeology**

#### **The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL**

##### **Advising**

2020-2021 Preceptor in Environmental and Urban Studies (six undergraduate advisees)

##### **Instructor of Record**

2021 Lecturer in Program on the Global Environment, **B.A. Colloquium** [online]

2019 Lecturer in the Anthropology Department, **Making Plants Work: Anthropology of Human-Plant Relationships**, cross-listed with Environmental Studies

2019 Lecturer in the Social Sciences Collegiate Division, Critical Race and Ethnic Studies, Civilizations Sequences, **Colonizations I**

##### **Other Positions**

2018 Teaching Intern / Writing Workshop Instructor, Department of Art History, **Art and Archaeology of Death and Mourning in Ancient Greece**

2016 Teaching Assistant, Program on the Global Environment, **Human Impact on the Global Environment**

2015 Teaching Assistant & Lab Instructor, Department of Anthropology, **African Archaeology Lab Practicum**, (Spring 2015, Fall 2015)

2014 Social Sciences Collegiate Division Teaching Intern, Civilizations Sequences, **Colonizations I**

#### **MacEwan University, Edmonton, Alberta**

2017 Teaching Assistant, **Archaeological Field Methods**, in conjunction with the Mill Creek Historical Archaeology Field School

#### **Boston University Mediterranean Field School, Mahon, Spain**

2008 Junior Assistant for Drawing, **Archaeological Field Methods**

### Prepared Courses and Syllabi

Archaeology of Inequality: The Atlantic World

Historical Archaeology Lab Practicum

Making Plants Work: Anthropology of Human-Plant Relationships

Colonial Ecologies

Ecologies of Heritage  
 Colonization of the Atlantic World  
 North American Archaeology

## FIELDWORK & RESEARCH

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### **Dissertation Research, Dakar, Senegal**

2018 Archival research: Archives of the Daughters of the Holy Heart; Missionary Archives of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit at SPEM; National Archives of Senegal.

### **Dissertation Research, France (Paris & Chevilly-Larue)**

2017 Archival research: General Archives of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit (Chevilly-Larue); Archives of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Cluny (Paris).

### **Mill Creek Historical Archaeology Project-** H. Stewart, The University of Chicago, Edmonton, Alberta

2017 *Assistant Project and Field School Director:* Mill Creek Historical Archaeology Field School. Excavation at Vogel's Meat Packing Plant, ca. 1900-1914.

2016 *Field Supervisor:* Survey and excavation of early twentieth-century domestic contexts.

### **Dissertation Fieldwork: NHAP, Ngazobil, Thiès Region, Senegal**

2017 *Director* of the Ngazobil Historical Archaeology Project. Survey, excavation, and mapping of the Saint Joseph's Catholic Mission, ca. 1860-1940.

2016 *Director* of the Ngazobil Historical Archaeology Project. Preliminary fieldwork at the Saint Joseph Mission, including survey, location, and mapping.

### **Siin Landscape Archaeological Project-** F.G. Richard, The University of Chicago, Siin Region, Senegal

2015-16 *Lab Manager and Field Archaeologist,* Atlantic Transitions ca. 1400-1800, Diohine, Mbissel

2014 *Field Archaeologist,* Atlantic Transitions ca. 1400-1800, Diohine

### **Mill Creek Ravine Waterways Survey-** H. Stewart, The University of Chicago, Edmonton, Alberta

2015 *Field Archaeologist* on late-nineteenth and early-twentieth-century industrial sites along the Saskatchewan River and Mill Creek Ravine.

### **Historical Archaeology of Lawrence County-** A. Morris, UC Berkeley, Lawrenceville, Illinois

2013 *Field Archaeobotanist* on early twentieth-century African American Diaspora farmstead site.

2012 *Lab Assistant* for ceramic and glass analysis.

2012 *Field Archaeologist* on mid-nineteenth through early-twentieth-century African Diaspora farmstead site.

### **Archaeological Survey of Colonial Dominica-** M. Hauser, Northwestern University, Soufrière, Dominica,

2013 *Field Archaeologist and Archaeobotanist* on eighteenth through early twentieth-century plantation site.

### **Independent Research and Object Study, France**

2009 Museums and eighteenth through nineteenth-century historic sites in Paris, Compiègne, Fontainebleau, and Versailles.

### **Boston University Field School in Archaeology & Heritage Management, Menorca, Spain**

2008 *Archaeological Field Assistant* at Torre d'en Galmès.

### **Boston University Mediterranean Archaeological Field School, Menorca, Spain**

2005 *Field Student* on domestic archaeological project at Torre d'en Galmès (Iron Age to Islamic period).

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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2020-22 **Peer Reviewer:** *Historical Archaeology; African Archaeological Review*

- 2018 **Discussant, Workshop on Latin America and the Caribbean,** The University of Chicago, 24 May  
 “*Vive le Mariage, Vive la Liberté!* Revolution and Emancipation in the French Antilles, 1848-1852,” dissertation chapter by Deirdre Lyons, Department of History, University of Chicago.
- 2014 **Discussant, Workshop on Latin America and the Caribbean,** The University of Chicago, 1 May  
 “Domestic Bureaucracies,” dissertation chapter by Geneviève Godbout, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago.
- 2013 **Volunteer, Theoretical Archaeology Group 2013 Meeting,** Chicago, IL, 9-11 May, Publicity and Merchandise Committee

## DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

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- 2018 **Graduate Student Coordinator & Liaison to the Hiring Committee, Department of Anthropology,** The University of Chicago, Environmental Archaeology job search.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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- 2021 **“Introduction to R Programming for Historical Archaeologists,”** Digital Archaeological Archives of Comparative Slavery (short course, 7 meetings)
- 2020 **“The Dating Game: Identifying Historic Ceramics,”** Society for Historical Archaeology Survey and hands-on review of historic ceramic forms common to the eastern United States, 17th-19th centuries.
- 2018 **“Teaching Anthropology Beyond the University of Chicago,”** Department of Anthropology, The University of Chicago  
 Conversation with Dr. Dave Pacifico (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee).
- 2016 **“Teaching @ Chicago,”** Chicago Center for Teaching, The University of Chicago, Presentations, forums, and workshops on the role of the instructor, fairness and inclusion, grading.
- 2016 **“Teaching with University Collections,”** The University of Chicago  
 Presentations and workshops on object-based learning held at the Smart Museum of Art and the Special Collections Research Center at the Regenstein Library.
- 2014 **“Teaching in the College,”** Chicago Center for Teaching, The University of Chicago  
 Presentations, forums, and workshops on: establishing authority, equity, and expectations; learning challenges in the social sciences; course design; conflict in the classroom; learning from visuals.
- 2013 **“GIS/Spatial Analysis Workshop,”** Social Sciences Computing Services, The University of Chicago.

## SELECT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (non-teaching)

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- 2021-           **Lab Manager & Archaeobotanist**, Siin Landscape Archaeology Project, African Archaeology Lab, Department of Anthropology, The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2014-2016      **Lab Manager**, African Archaeology Lab, Department of Anthropology, The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2007-2009      **Curatorial Fellow**, Wallcoverings Department, Smithsonian Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum Smithsonian Institution, New York, NY
- 2008            **Copyright Project Intern**, Digital Lab, Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn, NY
- 2005            **Heritage & Archives Intern**, Mission Archéologie, Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication, Paris, France
- 2003            **Archives Intern**, Cardinal Bernadin Archives & Records Center of the Archdiocese of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2003            **Digitization Intern**, Herman Dunlap Smith Center for Cartography, Newberry Library, Chicago, IL

## LANGUAGES

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French (excellent reading; good/informal writing; conversational speaking)

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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Society of Africanist Archaeologists (SAfA)  
 Society for American Archaeology (SAA)  
 Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA)  
 Western Society for French History (WSFH)  
 Society for French Historical Studies (SFHS)  
 Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (ASMEA)

## PHOTOGRAPHY

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- 2021            **“Testa Produce, 4555 S. Racine Avenue”** displayed as part of the permanent exhibit at the Packingtown Museum, Chicago IL
- 2015            **Six photographs of buildings and street scenes in the Back of the Yards and Canaryville neighborhoods of Chicago, IL** published in: Dominic A. Pacyga. *Slaughterhouse: Chicago’s Union Stock Yard and the World It Made*. Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press.
- 2015            **“Union Stock Yard Stone Gate,” “Testa Produce Building”** published in *Out of the Loop*. Eds. Virginia B. Price, David A. Spatz, and D. Bradford Hunt. Vernacular Architecture Foundation. Evanston, IL: Agate Publishing