

# Abigail Thomsen

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## EDUCATION

- University of Massachusetts, Amherst**, Amherst, MA *MA/PhD September 2022-Present*
- *Focus:* Anthropology (Archaeological Emphasis)
  - *Advisors:* Dr. Sonya Atalay, Dr. Haeden Stewart
- Macalester College**, St. Paul, MN *Bachelor of Arts, May 2020*
- *Major:* Anthropology (Biological Emphasis, Honors)
  - *Summa Cum Laude*

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Arizona State Museum**, Tucson, AZ *January 2022-June 2022*  
*Museum Specialist*
- Assisted in physical transfer and registration of archaeological collections from cultural resource contractors to the repository
  - Cataloged and prepared items for storage
  - Maintained electronic inventories and digital workflows of projects
  - Worked collaboratively with staff to improve quality of collections storage and inventory
  - Performed archival research to identify objects subject to repatriation under federal and state burial laws and assisted in carrying out repatriation processes
- Archaeology Southwest**, Tucson, AZ *May 2021-December 2021*  
*Museum Technician*
- Worked full time at the Western Archeological and Conservation Center in the museum collections repository with archeological artifacts and historical objects
  - Supervised three students on over 30 collections management projects from National Parks across the Intermountain region, developing project management workflows and teaching practices including IPM, cataloging, data entry in ICMS, object rehousing, inventory, photography, etc.
  - Assisted Park Service staff with accessions, loans, NAGPRA compliance, archival research, data cleaning, year-end reporting, project development, inventories, etc.
  - Member of Archaeology Southwest Research Team, contributed to blog posts about preservation archaeology
- Bureau of Land Management Utah State Office**, Salt Lake City, UT *March 2021-May 2021*  
*Museum Intern*
- Developed knowledge and understanding NAGPRA laws and regulations in both theory and practice
  - Completed cultural affiliation research, wrote cultural affiliation reports and summaries, Federal Register Notices, consultation letters to Tribes, and other NAGPRA documents
  - Partnered with data specialist to create a database to track NAGPRA-eligible remains and items for over 60 federal repositories
- 106 Group**, St. Paul, MN *October 2020-April 2021*  
*Technician*
- Completed Phase I and II CRM survey and excavations throughout Minnesota
  - Cleaned, cataloged, and analyzed collections from surveys
  - Mapped burial mounds in anticipation of later nearby surveys
  - Prepared artifacts for curation
- University of Minnesota Archaeology Field School**, Minneapolis, MN *June 2020-July 2020*  
*Field Assistant*

- Assisted Dr. Ed Fleming in teaching Phase I and Phase II CRM excavations in the St. Croix River Valley
- Conducted pedestrian survey
- Performed and enforced social distancing measures and pandemic response safety in the field
- Mentored undergraduate students in the field
- Provided contextual resources on race and identity in Archaeology, in a Minnesota and national context.

**Science Museum of Minnesota**, St. Paul, MN

*June 2019-August 2020*

*Archaeology Laboratory Technician*

- Cataloged, mounted, labeled, photographed artifacts from a pre-contact archaeological excavation to bring collection up to modern standards
- Developed content about objects in Dakota archaeological collections for the public both in-person and online
- Became proficient in database work (Re:discovery)
- Assisted volunteers in collections management projects
- Engaged with the public in galleries and in the lab to teach them about the archaeology of Southwestern Minnesota

**Trust for Thanet Archaeology**, Birchington, England

*Spring 2019*

*Volunteer*

- Cleaned and identified human remains from a Neolithic burial
- Performed basic pathological analysis

**Science Museum of Minnesota**, St. Paul, MN

*Fall 2018*

*Archaeology Laboratory Methods Intern*

- Cataloged, mounted, labeled, photographed artifacts from a pre-contact archaeological excavation to bring collection up to modern standards
- Assisted in Phase II CRM excavations
- Contributed to report writing
- Engaged with the public to teach them about the archaeology of eastern Minnesota

**Anthropology Department, Macalester College**, St. Paul, MN

*Summer 2018*

*Summer Research Assistant for Dr. Scott Legge*

- Compiled literature review for CRM Phase I survey
- Participated in Phase I and Phase II CRM excavations as part of a field school under Dr. Ed Fleming of the Science Museum of Minnesota
- Analyzed and cataloged artifacts at the Science Museum of Minnesota
- Wrote final report on Phase I survey
- Educated museum visitors on the history of the study region

**Natural History Museum of Utah**, Salt Lake City, UT

*Summer 2017*

*Anthropology Collections Intern*

- Performed condition reports on pre-contact artifacts
- Learned basics of Integrated Pest Management
- Updated inventory of all objects on exhibit, both archaeological and ethnological
- Contributed to ongoing NAGPRA research
- Became proficient at database work (KEMu)

**University of Utah Anthropology Lab**, Salt Lake City, UT

*Summer 2015, Summer 2016*

*Laboratory Intern*

- Independently performed PCR, Gel Electrophoresis, and DNA extraction from non-human primate fecal matter
- Studied non-human primate DNA and genes associated in humans with ADHD and mosquito-borne illness immunity

**AWARDS, GRANTS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

<b>James P. Spradley Research Award</b> <i>Macalester College Anthropology Department</i>	2020
<b>Spradley Summer Research Fellowship</b> <i>Macalester College Anthropology Department</i>	Summer 2019
<b>Award for Best Ethnography</b> <i>Macalester College Anthropology Department</i>	2018
<b>F. R. Bigelow Foundation Summer Research Fund</b> <i>With Dr. Scott Legge</i>	Summer 2018
<b>DeWitt Wallace Distinguished Scholarship</b> <i>Macalester College</i>	2016—2020
<b>Dean's List</b> <i>Macalester College</i>	Fall 2016—Spring 2020

**PUBLICATIONS**

2020. Thomsen, Abigail R, [\*Beyond 106: Descendant-centered Collaboration to Interpret Dakota Archaeological Sites at Macalester's Katharine Ordway Natural History Study Area \(KONHSA\)\*](#). Anthropology Honors Project, Macalester College.
- In preparation, Legge, S.S., A.R. Thomsen, and E.P. Fleming, *Pine Bend Phase 1 Archaeological Survey, Pine Bend Bluffs Scientific and Natural Area, Dakota County, Minnesota*, report in preparation, Macalester College and Science Museum of Minnesota.