

2012 Michigan Archaeology Day



Saturday,
October 6, 2012

11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Michigan Historical Center,
Downtown Lansing

Welcome to Michigan Archaeology Day 2012



Have you ever wondered whether archaeologists dig in Michigan? Well, they do. Archaeologists from around the state have set up special table displays throughout the 2nd floor gallery. There are artifacts from lots of different archaeological sites, ranging from a Paleo-Indian site dating to over 10,000 years ago, to a farmstead site dating back to the 1840s. In the Forum Auditorium, several archaeologists will be presenting talks on their projects. So walk through the galleries, have a seat in the auditorium, visit our hands-on activities—please feel free to ask questions—and enjoy!

PRESENTATIONS

Forum Auditorium, 11:00 am–3:00 pm

Introductions by Dr. Dean Anderson, State Archaeologist

11:00 am Snippets of the Past: Late Prehistoric Life in the Lower Grand River Valley

Presenter: Dr. Michael Hambacher, Commonwealth Cultural Resources Group, Inc.

Recent excavations for the US-31/M-231 Bridge Project documented a series of short-term Late Prehistoric occupations in the lower Grand River Valley. Distinctive artifacts indicate that the primary use of the site post-dates about A.D. 1200, although evidence of earlier occupation exists as well. This talk will use these excavations to discuss the process of modern archaeology, how the site was used, and what it tells us about a poorly understood part of Michigan's prehistoric past.

Noon Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Presenter: Wayne Lusardi, Michigan Department of Natural Resources

State Maritime Archaeologist Wayne Lusardi will present an overview of underwater archaeology being conducted in and around the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary based in Alpena. The sanctuary is an extension of a state underwater preserve and serves to protect more than 50 historic shipwrecks, most dating to the 19th century. Current research includes shipwreck survey and documentation, as well as artifact conservation.

1:00 pm Pioneer Farmers of Pleasant Valley: Rediscovering a Sesquicentennial Farmstead in Brighton

Presenter: Tim Bennett, Michigan Archaeological Society

Mr. Bennett will discuss the results of six seasons of archaeological field work as well as recent developments from a series of analytical techniques conducted at the Timothy and Lucretia Jones Warner Homestead, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The Warner family occupied the site for over 170 years dating back to 1841, and Tim Bennett is a Warner descendant.

2:00 pm Life at the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School as Seen Through Archaeology

Presenter: Dr. Sarah Surface-Evans, Central Michigan University

Federal boarding schools are a dark legacy of the United States policy toward the "Indian Problem." One such school operated in Mount Pleasant, Michigan, from 1893 to 1933. Today, researchers at the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and Central Michigan University are striving to uncover the school's past and preserve the stories of the children who attended it for the future. Dr. Surface-Evans will present the results of recent archaeological investigations at the school and discuss plans to restore and nominate it to the National Register of Historic Places.

Kids—Join the lab team!

Museum Time Lab, 1st Floor, 11:00 am–3:00 pm

Participate in a mock excavation to learn how archaeologists document sites

Learn why archaeologists love dirt and what it can tell us about the past

Experiment with making and decorating your own pottery

Take home an archaeology activity book filled with coloring, crosswords, word searches and more!

DEMONSTRATIONS

11:00 am–3:00 pm

Archaic Hunting Skills *(Between the parking lot and the front entrance)*

Presenter: Ron Burk and Mike Mauer, Michigan Archaeological Society

Practice hitting a deer target using darts and an atlatl (spear thrower) like those used in Michigan forests thousands of years ago.

Flintknapping *(Museum, 2nd Floor)*

Presenter: Bob Love, Michigan Archaeological Society

How did people hunt and butcher game before there were guns and steel knives? How did they tan hides or chop down trees using only tools made of bone and stone? Watch how people made stone tools to get the job done.

ARCHAEOLOGY INFORMATION STATION

11:00 am–3:00 pm Museum, 1st Floor

- Archaeology Day Information
- Chris Stephenson, Conference on Michigan Archaeology, will share information about that organization as well as the Michigan Archaeological Society and the State Archaeologist, State Historic Preservation Office
- Elaine Robinson, Michigan Historic Preservation Network

EXHIBITORS

Museum 2nd Floor, 11:00 am–3:00 pm

Artifacts from Fayette Historic Townsite
Dr. John Halsey, State Archaeologist (Retired)

Artifacts from the Michigan Archaeological Society
Don Simons, Michigan Archaeological Society

*Grand Valley State University
Archaeological Field School*
Dr. Jan Brashler, GVSU

Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Project
Field School Students, Western Michigan University

Archaeology of Colonial Michilimackinac
Dr. Lynn Evans, Mackinac State Historic Parks

Artifacts of the War of 1812
Eric Perkins, Michigan Historical Center

*Underwater Archaeology at the
Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary*
Wayne Lusardi, Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Nautical Archaeology of Northwestern Michigan
Dr. Mark Holley, Northwestern Michigan College

Archaeology of the Warner Farmstead
Tim Bennett, Michigan Archaeological Society

Archaeology at the Liberty Hyde Bailey Museum
Dr. LouAnn Wurst, Western Michigan University

Archaeology of One-Room Schoolhouses
Dency Terrell, Val Valoppi, Ann Zinn, Michigan Archaeological Society; and Dr. April Beisaw, Vassar College

*Central Michigan University
Archaeological Field School*
Dr. Sarah Surface-Evans, CMU

Michigan State University Campus Archaeology
Katy Meyers, MSU

*From Michigan to the Mediterranean—
Archaeology of the Ancient World*
Dottie Sims, Kelsey Museum of Archaeology,
University of Michigan



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MICHIGAN ARCHAEOLOGY

Visit the State Archaeologist online at michigan.gov/archaeology. From there you will find links to information about archaeological projects in Michigan, including some of the projects featured at Archaeology Day.

Join the Michigan Archaeological Society as it explores the past. There are local chapters across the state and meetings are open to the public. Many libraries carry the society's journal, *The*

Michigan Archaeologist. Visit the MAS website for details at miarch.org.

Check out *Retrieving Michigan's Buried Past: The Archaeology of the Great Lakes State*, edited by John R. Halsey and Michael D. Stafford (1999). This book is a comprehensive overview of our state's archaeological heritage.

Look at *Beneath the Inland Seas: Michigan's Underwater Archaeological Heritage*, edited by John R. Halsey and Wayne Lusardi (2008). This book looks at the archaeology of shipwrecks and other maritime resources on the bottomlands of the Great Lakes.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PRESERVATION OF ABOVE-GROUND HISTORIC RESOURCES

Visit the State Historic Preservation Office at michigan.gov/shpo. From there you will find information about recognition and financial incentive programs, such as the National Register of Historic Places, the Michigan Lighthouse Assistance Program and the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credits, that assist with the preservation of Michigan's historic sites.



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Please take our survey about Michigan Archaeology Day 2012. You can take it one of three ways:

Go to our website: Michigan.gov/archaeology

Go to Archaeology Day Information on the First Floor and take it on paper, or use the QR code.

Thank you in advance for your feedback.



The State Archaeologist is part of the State Historic Preservation Office, Michigan State Housing Development Authority.

The Michigan Historical Center is part of the Department of Natural Resources. Archaeology Day is sponsored by the State Historic Preservation Office, Michigan State Housing Development Authority and the Michigan Historical Center, Department of Natural Resources.

The activity that is the subject of this event has been financed in part with federal funds from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Department of the Interior. This program receives federal financial assistance for identification and protection of historic properties. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Acts of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, or age in its federally assisted programs. Michigan law prohibits discrimination on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, marital status, or disability. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: Office for Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20240.