

Curriculum Vitae

Alexandria T. Mitchem

PhD Candidate, Department of Anthropology, Columbia University
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AREAS OF RESEARCH

Environmental History, History and Philosophy of Science, Natural History, Colonialism, Gardens, Archaeobotany, Placemaking

EDUCATION

Columbia University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, New York NY

Ph.D. in Anthropology expected 2024

M.Phil. in Anthropology earned 2020

M.A. in Anthropology earned 2019

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia PA

Bachelor of Arts with Distinction in Anthropology, Summa Cum Laude earned 2016

Thesis: *Ritual and Subsistence: Paleobotany at the Smith Creek Site (22WK526)*

PUBLICATIONS

Guest Edited Publications

In prep Chantel E. White, Emily Dawson, and **Alexandria Mitchem**. Thematic issue: New Avenues in the Study of Plant Remains from Historical Sites. *Historical Archaeology*, Summer 2023 issue.

Peer Reviewed Articles

In prep Naomi F. Miller, Chantel E. White, and **Alexandria Mitchem**. “Extracting Information from Concentrations of Desiccated Plant Remains” to be submitted to Thematic issue: New Avenues in the Study of Plant Remains from Historical Sites. *Historical Archaeology*

In prep Jennifer Todaro, **Alexandria Mitchem**, Madison Aubey, Huiru Lian, Zoë Crossland, and Sarah Walshaw. “A Morphometric Analysis of Carbonized Rice from Highland Madagascar” to be submitted to *Archaeological Science*

In prep **Alexandria Mitchem** and Megan Kassabaum. “Odd Deposits: Interpreting Sweetgum Use at Coles Creek Mound Centers” to be submitted to *Southeastern Archaeology*

2020 **Alexandria Mitchem** “Unearthing the Roots of the Past: Archaeology at Historic Bartram’s Garden”, *Expedition* 62(2).

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2023-2024 François André Michaux Fund American Philosophical Society Short Term Resident Research Fellowship

2023-2024 Friends of the American Philosophical Society Predoctoral Fellowship (Declined)

2022-2023 Friends Dissertation Fellow, McNeil Center for Early American Studies

2022 Fothergill Award, Bartram Trail Conference

2021-2022 Department of Anthropology Fieldwork Research Grant, Columbia University

2021	Society for Historical Archaeology Dissertation Research Award
2021	Society of Ethnobiology Urban Ethnobiology Fellowship
2021	Rust Family Foundation Grant
2020	The Explorers Club 2020 Mamont Scholar's Grant
2018-2019	Morton H. Fried Memorial Fellowship, Columbia University
2019	Robert Stigler Fund for Archaeological Fieldwork, Dept. of Anthropology, Columbia University
2019	Travel Fund, Dept. of Anthropology, Columbia University
2018	Robert Stigler Fund for Archaeological Fieldwork, Dept. of Anthropology, Columbia University
2018	Travel Fund, Dept. of Anthropology, Columbia University
2015-2016	Penn Museum Fellowship
2015-2016	Macks Family Scholarship, University of Pennsylvania
2016, 2015	University of Pennsylvania Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology Student Field Research Grant

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Conference Organization

2022	New Avenues in the Study of Plant Remains from Historical Sites Chantel E. White, Emily Dawson, Alexandria Mitchem Symposium organized at the Society for Historical Archaeology Conference
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Oral Presentations

2023	Historical Ecologies of Botanical Gardens: Archaeobotany at Bartram's Garden (Philadelphia, PA) Alexandria Mitchem Paper presented at the 2023 Society for American Archaeology Conference
2023	Local and Global Ecologies: Macrobotanical Evidence from Bartram's Garden Alexandria Mitchem Paper presented at the 2023 Society for Historical Archaeology Conference
2022	The Garden and the Globe: Thinking through scale, scape, and ecological change in botanical knowledge production at Bartram's Garden Alexandria Mitchem 2022 Theoretical Archaeology Group Workshop "Archaeology of transformation: Changing Scapes"
2022	Plants in and out of Place: Preliminary Macrobotanical Evidence from Bartram's Garden Alexandria Mitchem 2022 Columbia Center for Archaeology Conference
2022	Cultivating the American Wilderness: Macrobotanical Evidence from Bartram's Garden Alexandria Mitchem Society for Historical Archaeology Conference
2021	Recovering Rice: Field Methods at Ambohidahy Madagascar

- Alexandria Mitchem**, Sarah Walshaw, Zoë Crossland, and Chantal Radimilahy
- 2021 **A Morphometric Analysis of Carbonized Rice from Highland Madagascar**
Jennifer Todaro, **Alexandria Mitchem**, Madison Aubey, Huiru Lian, Zoë Crossland, and Sarah Walshaw
- 2021 **Exploring rodent caches as sources of archaeobotanical data: Investigations from Bartram's Garden, Philadelphia**
Alexandria Michem, Chantel E. White, and Naomi F. Miller
Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference
Society for Ethnobiology Conference
- 2021 **Archaeology and Ableism: Using Disability Scholarship to Rethink Archaeological Fieldwork**
Alexandria Mitchem
Society for Historical Archaeology Conference, Symposium "Where Accessibility and Inclusion Meet: Archaeology in the Age of COVID and Beyond" organized by Margaret Hames.
- 2018 **Sacred Rice: Toward an archaeology of rice in Highland Madagascar**
Mitchem, Alexandria, Zoë Crossland
Madagascar Workshop at Rutgers University
- 2016 **Across Space and Time: Plant Use at the Smith Creek Site**
Graham, Anna, **Alexandria Mitchem**, and Justin Reamer
Southeastern Archaeological Conference
- 2016 **Ritual and Subsistence: Paleobotany at the Smith Creek Site (22WK526)**
Mitchem, Alexandria
Joint meeting of the Mississippi Archaeological Association and the Louisiana Archaeological Society

Poster Presentations

- 2019 **Exploring the Unexpected Early Woodland Occupation at Smith Creek, Wilkinson County**
Kassabaum, Megan, Anna Graham, **Alexandria Mitchem**, Arielle Pierson, and Rebecca Dolan
Society for American Archaeology Conference
- 2017 **Daily Life in a Classical Port City: Archaeobotanical Evidence from Northern Greece**
Dawson, Emily, **Alexandria Mitchem**, Fabian Toro, and Chantel White
Society for American Archaeology Conference

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

Publications

- 2022 **Alexandria Mitchem**, "Archaeobotanical Research at Bartram's Garden," *Mitchelliana*: 33(4)

Tours and Lectures

- 2022 **Archaeological Tour of Bartram's Garden**, tour series

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2018 **Sacred Rice Project**, Archaeobotanical Researcher
Sampling and recovery of archaeobotanical remains, analysis of flotation samples for botanical remains and microartifacts. Project Directors: Dr. Zoë Crossland (Columbia University) Dr. Chantal Radimilahy (University of Antananarivo)
- 2018 **Smith Creek Archaeological Project**, Trench Supervisor
Supervision of undergraduate students. Excavation and documentation of a prehistoric Native American mound site. Project Director: Dr. Megan Kassabaum (University of Pennsylvania)
- 2017 **Thomas Jefferson Foundation at Monticello**, Field Technician
Excavation and analysis of deposits from a historic plantation, education of visitors to the site. Supervisor: Crystal Ptacek (Monticello Dept. of Archaeology)
- 2017 **Center for the Analysis of Archaeological Materials (Penn Museum)**, Archaeobotanist
Archaeobotanical sampling and recovery at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst field school on behalf of CAAM. Creation of a teaching collection of archaeobotanical samples for University of Pennsylvania Dept. of Anthropology.
- 2016 **Molyvoti Thrace Archaeological Project**, Archaeobotanical Laboratory Assistant,
Analysis of flotation samples for botanical remains, conduction of comparative experiments, integration of botanical material with broader archaeological research questions. Supervisor: Dr. Chantel White (University of Pennsylvania)
- 2016 **Lechion Harbor Settlement and Land Project**, Archaeobotanical Field Assistant
Conduction of modern botanical survey, participation in sampling and recovery of archaeobotanical remains. Supervisor: Dr. Chantel White (University of Pennsylvania)
- 2015- 2016 **University of Pennsylvania Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology**, Museum Research Fellow
Independent archaeological research, serving as an ambassador between the Museum and the rest of the University Community. Supervisors: Dr. Megan Kassabaum (University of Pennsylvania), Dr. Sarah Linn (University of Pennsylvania)
- 2013-2016 **University of Pennsylvania Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology**, Work Study
Independent preparation of data for publication, utilization Adobe Creative Suite and ArcGIS. Supervisor: Dr. Lauren Ristvet (University of Pennsylvania)
- 2015 **Thomas Jefferson Foundation at Monticello**, Field and Laboratory Intern
Cleaning, labeling, and sorting of artifacts in the laboratory, editing photos of artifacts using Adobe Creative Suite. Assisting with excavation and paperwork in the field. Supervisors: Crystal O’Conner (Monticello Dept. of Archaeology),

- 2015 Dr. Beatrix Arendt (Monticello Dept. of Archaeology)
Smith Creek Archaeological Project, Volunteer Researcher
Excavation and documentation a precontact Native American mound site, cleaning and preparation of artifacts for study, archaeobotanical sampling. Undergraduate Thesis Research. Project Director: Dr. Megan Kassabaum (University of Pennsylvania)

INVITED GUEST LECTURES

- 2022 **University of Pennsylvania** Plants and Society ANTH 440
2022 **University of Pennsylvania** Archaeology in the City of Brotherly Love ANTH 219
2020 **Columbia University** Origins of Human Society ANTH UN 1007
2019 **Columbia University** Origins of Human Society ANTH UN 1007
Columbia University The Ancient Table ANTH UN 3663

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

- 2020-2021 **Anthropology Graduate Student Association**
Member of the Anthropology Graduate Student Association. Serve as a liaison between department faculty and graduate students. Organize events and distribute funding for graduate student initiatives.
- 2019 **Open Laboratory Manager**
Facilitate the use of laboratory space for undergraduate and graduate students working on archaeological research. Provide training for students on archaeobotanical analysis. 4 hours/week.
- 2019 **Columbia Center for Archaeology**
Columbia Center for Archaeology initiative for graduate students. Coordinated seminars and professional development workshops for graduate students across departments. Schedule and host meetings
- 2018-2019 **Fields in Translation**
Columbia University Dept. of Anthropology graduate student lead initiative to facilitate dialogue between faculty and students about aspects of graduate school and career outside of coursework. Schedule and host meetings, collect RSVPs from students
- 2017-2018 **Columbia Center for Archaeology**
Columbia Center for Archaeology initiative for graduate students. Coordinated seminars and professional development workshops for graduate students across departments. Schedule and host meetings.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2018-2021 Graduate Teaching Fellow, Columbia University Dept. of Anthropology

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCIES

- Spanish
reading, writing- good, speaking- fair
Passed Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (Columbia University) Proficiency exam

October 2019

French

reading, writing, speaking- fair

Passed Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (Columbia University) Proficiency exam

April 2019

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Historical Archaeology

Mid-Atlantic Archaeological Conference

Society for Ethnobiology

Society for American Archaeology

Disabled Archaeologists Network (Founding Committee)