

Laura E. Masur
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Department of Anthropology
The Catholic University of America

101 Hannan Hall
Washington, DC 20064

CURRENT POSITION

The Catholic University of America Washington, D.C. 2019-Present
Assistant Professor of Anthropology

EDUCATION

Boston University Ph.D. Anthropology, 2019

Dissertation: "Priestly Plantations: An Archaeology of Capitalism and Community in British North America"

Committee: Mary Beaudry, Catherine West, Maura Jane Farrelly, Kimberly Arkin

The College of William and Mary M.A. Anthropology, 2013

Thesis: "Virginia Indians, NAGPRA, and Cultural Affiliation: Revisiting Identities and Boundaries in the Chesapeake"

Committee: Danielle Moretti-Langholtz, Martin Gallivan, Michael Blakey

The Pennsylvania State University Certificate in Geographic Information Systems, 2011

The College of William and Mary B.A. Anthropology and History *Summa Cum Laude*, 2010

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Articles

Laura E. Masur, "Symbol or Presence? Archaeology and the Materiality of Catholic Devotions," *U.S. Catholic Historian* 38, no. 2 (2020): 1-21, doi:10.1353/cht.2020.0009.

Forthcoming Peer-Reviewed Articles

In press Laura E. Masur and Aaron F. Miller, "Tempering Our Expectations: Drinking, Smoking, and the Economy of a Western Massachusetts 'Farmstead-Tavern,'" *Northeast Historical Archaeology* 49 (2019), 148-170.

In press Laura E. Masur, "A Spiritual Inheritance: Black Catholics in Southern Maryland." In *Engaging Sources: The Tradition and Future of Collecting History in the Society of Jesus* (Chestnut Hill: Institute for Advanced Jesuit Studies, 2020). <https://jesuitportal.bc.edu/>.

In press Laura E. Masur, "Plantation as Mission: American Indians, Enslaved Africans, and Jesuit Missionaries in Maryland," *Journal of Jesuit Studies* 8, no. 2 (2021).

In press Stephan T. Lenik and Laura E. Masur, "Introduction: The Archaeology of Jesuit Sites in the Americas." *Journal of Jesuit Studies* 8, no. 2 (2021).

Forthcoming Edited Journal Issue

Stephan T. Lenik and Laura E. Masur, eds., "The Archaeology of Jesuit Sites in the Americas," *Journal of Jesuit Studies* 8, no. 2 (2021)

Manuscripts under Review

"Taking the Discipline and Wearing the Chain: Corporal Penance on a Maryland Plantation," under review at *Northeast Historical Archaeology*

Manuscripts in Preparation

"The Susquehanna Mission: Jesuit-Indigenous interaction in Pennsylvania, 1634—1763," in preparation for submission to *American Anthropologist* in 2021

Book Manuscript in Preparation

"Priestly Plantations: Landscapes of Enslavement and Conversion in the Middle Atlantic," prospectus in preparation for submission to University of Alabama Press in 2021

Technical Reports

"Archaeological Site Examination of the Sanford Tavern: Report of the 2014 Field Season." Report presented to the Massachusetts Historical Commission. December 2015. Report on file at the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

"Kaw Nation of Oklahoma Request for Repatriation of Pipe bowl and Pipestem: Preliminary Assessment." Report on file at the Repatriation Department, National Museum of the American Indian. July 2011. (as Laura E. Buchanan)

"Makah Indian Tribe of Washington Request for Repatriation of Twenty-four Whaling and Fishing Items: Preliminary Assessment." June 2011. Report on file at the Repatriation Department, National Museum of the American Indian. (as Laura E. Buchanan)

GRANTS

FY 2021 "Investigating Jesuit Plantation Landscapes in Maryland: Archaeological and Geophysical Survey," Maryland Historical Trust Historic Preservation Non-Capital Grant (co-PI with Steve Lenik), \$64,000

Fall 2018 Boston University College of Arts and Sciences Research Grant \$750

Spring 2018 Boston University Archaeology Conference Presentation Grant \$400

Fall 2016 Boston University Archaeology Conference Presentation Grant \$400

Spring 2016 Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference Meeting Attendance Grant \$50

Fall 2015 Boston University Archaeology Conference Presentation Grant, Fall 2015 \$100

Summer 2015 Boston University Archaeology Chad DiGregorio Grant-in-aid \$750

Spring 2014 Boston University Archaeology Conference Presentation Grant \$100

Fall 2012 William and Mary Student Activities Conference Attendance Grant \$285

Spring 2012 William and Mary Arts and Sciences Graduate Research Grant \$270

Spring 2012 William and Mary Student Activities Conference Attendance Grant \$100

FELLOWSHIPS

Fall 2018 Historic St. Mary's City and the Society of the Ark and the Dove Scholar in Residence \$5000

Summer 2018 Boston University Graduate School Summer Research Fellowship \$6000

Summer 2016 Boston University Graduate School Summer Research Fellowship \$6000

Fall 2015-Spring 2016 Teaching as Research (TAR) Fellowship, Center for Integration, Research, Teaching, and Learning, Boston University \$1000

Summer 2015 Gloria S. King Research Fellowship in Archaeology, Maryland Archaeological Conservation (MAC) Laboratory \$500

Fall 2013-Spring 2018 Dean's Fellowship, Boston University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences \$20,000/year

AWARDS

May 2016 Boston University Center for the Humanities Alice M. Brennan Humanities Award and Angela J. and James J. Rallis Memorial Award \$2000

May 2013 William and Mary Graduate Studies Advisory Board Distinguished Master's Thesis Award in the Social Sciences \$250

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

"'Household Stuffe sufficient to furnish plentifully 2 large houses': The material world of Jesuit plantations in colonial Maryland." Society for Historical Archaeology Annual Conference. Boston, Massachusetts. January 2020.

"The Untold Story of Jesuit Priests, Piscataway Indians, and a Forgotten Mission." Phi Beta Kappa Keys to Action TED Talks. Catholic University of America. December 2019.

"The English Jesuit Mission at 'Sesquahanock.'" Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology Annual Conference. Lake George, New York. November 2019.

"Priestly Plantations: Agriculture, Labor, and Landscape in the Middle Atlantic." Investigating Mid-Atlantic

Plantations: Slavery, Economies, and Space. McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. October 2019.

"A Spiritual Inheritance: African American Catholicism in Southern Maryland." International Symposium on Jesuit Studies, Boston, MA. June 2019.

"Sacred Objects in the Archaeological Record of the Maryland Mission." Material Cultures of Devotion in Early Modern Jesuit Missions: A Roundtable Discussion. Institute for Advanced Jesuit Studies. Boston, Massachusetts. April 2019.

"Farmer Priests: Capitalism, Slavery, and the Middle Atlantic Jesuit Mission." Society for Historical Archaeology Annual Conference, St. Charles, MO. January 2019.

"'They were dying in such great quantity': An archaeology of human burials at Gloucester Point." Society for Historical Archaeology Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA. January 2018.

"'Taking the discipline' at St. Ingoes Plantation: A Cilice from Priest's Point." Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology Annual Conference, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. October 2016.

"Tempering our Expectations: Archaeology at William Sanford's Farmstead-Tavern in Hawley, Massachusetts." Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference, Ocean City, Maryland. March 2016.

"Reimagining Methods in Historical Zooarchaeology: Methods and Themes in Recent Literature." Poster presentation. Society for Historical Archaeology Annual Conference, Washington, D.C. January 2016.

"'The best place to buy New England rum': Archaeology at William Sanford's Farmstead-Tavern in Hawley, Massachusetts." Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology Annual Conference, Fredericksburg, VA. November 2015.

"Revisiting American Indian Identities and Boundaries in Late Woodland Virginia: A View from Repatriation." Boston University Archaeology Biennial Graduate Student Conference, Breaking Boundaries: Perspectives on Identity and Conflict, Boston, MA. February 2014.

"Navigating the 'thorny theoretical thicket': Ethical codes and archaeological models under NAGPRA." Society for Historical Archaeology Annual Conference, Québec City, Quebec, Canada. January 2014.

"Life and Limb in Early America: A synthesis of mortuary archaeology and skeletal analysis from Historic Gloucester Point, Virginia." William and Mary Graduate Research Symposium, Williamsburg, VA. March 2013.

"How NOT to Bulldoze a Burial: Creating a geodatabase of human interments at Gloucester Point." Archaeological Society of Virginia Annual Meeting, Wytheville, VA. October 2012.

"The Representation and Analysis of Archaeological and Historic Landscapes Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS)." William and Mary Graduate Research Symposium, Williamsburg, VA. March 2012.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

"Beyond the Urban-Rural Divide: The Archaeological 'Signature' of American Taverns." Lecture at Charles County Archaeological Society of Maryland, December 2020 (Lecture held via zoom due to COVID-19).

<https://ccarchsoc.blogspot.com/2020/12/archaeological-signature-of-american.html>

"Priestly Plantations: What we know (and want to find out) about the archaeology of Jesuit sites in Maryland." Maryland Historical Trust/Archaeological Society of Maryland Spring Symposium. Crownsville, Maryland, August 2020 (delayed and moved to online format due to COVID-19).

<https://youtu.be/t8kyHt92Exg>.

"Why Maryland? A Curious Tale of Jesuit Priests and an Unlikely Mission." Public Lecture at Historic St. Mary's City. St. Mary's City, Maryland. September 19, 2019. <https://youtu.be/IRe6fj03iLw>.

"'The best place to buy New England rum': Archaeology at William Sanford's Farmstead-Tavern in Hawley, Massachusetts." Invited presentation, Saugus in Context: The 2015 Saugus Iron Works Lecture Series. Saugus, MA. June 2015.

"Tavern and Community: Archaeology in Hawley." Public presentation on the 2014 field season at the Sanford Tavern in Hawley, Massachusetts. Shelburne Falls, MA. October 2014.

COURSES TAUGHT

Historical Archaeology Spring 2020, 2021

Cultural Heritage of Native Americans Spring 2020, 2021

Introduction to Archaeology Fall 2019
Anthropology of Religion Fall 2019
Jamestown through the American Revolution William and Mary 2016-2018
Zooarchaeology (TA) Boston University 2015

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Boston University Boston, MA
 Research Assistant, Zooarchaeology Laboratory 2017-2018
 Manager, Zooarchaeology Laboratory 2015-2016
 Teaching Fellow, Zooarchaeology 2015
 Zooarchaeology Lab Technician 2014
The College of William and Mary Williamsburg, VA 2016-2018
 Instructor, National Institute for American History and Democracy Pre-Collegiate Program in Early American History
Sanford Tavern Archaeological Excavation and Education Project Hawley, MA 2014-2015
 Project Archaeologist
Digital Archaeological Archive of Comparative Slavery (DAACS) Charlottesville, VA 2014-2015
 Research Assistant, DAACS Research Consortium
The College of William and Mary Williamsburg, VA 2012-2013
 Research Assistant, Center for Geospatial Analysis
DATA Investigations Gloucester Courthouse, VA 2011-2013
 Field and Lab Technician
The Fairfield Foundation White Marsh, VA 2012
 Archaeologist/Intern Coordinator
The College of William and Mary Williamsburg, VA 2010-2011
 Resident Program Assistant, National Institute for American History and Democracy Pre-Collegiate Program in Early American History
National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution Washington, D.C.
 Contractor, Repatriation Department 2011
 Intern, Repatriation Department 2010
Crow Canyon Archaeological Center Cortez, CO 2010
 Research Intern
Alexandria Archaeology Museum Alexandria, VA 2009
 Intern (unpaid)
Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Williamsburg, VA 2008
 Participant, Field School in Public Archaeology

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Fairfield Foundation White Marsh, VA 2010-2013
 Field, Lab, and GIS Volunteer
Colchester Archaeological Research Team Fairfax, VA 2011-2012
 Field Volunteer
Alexandria Archaeology Museum Alexandria, VA 2009-2011
 Field and Lab Volunteer
Centro de Investigaciones Regionales de Mesoamérica Antigua, Guatemala, C.A. 2009
 Intern, Central American Social Sciences Library

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Professional Organizations
 Executive board member (elected), Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology, November 2015-present

- Chair, Archives Committee

- Member, Publications Committee, Subcommittee on Social Media
- Member, Education and Outreach Committee, Subcommittee on Students and Young Professionals
- Member, Ethics committee
- Newsletter editor, Virginia/D.C.

Member, Academic and Professional Training (APT) Committee, Society for Historical Archaeology, January 2020-present

President, Boston University Archaeology Graduate Student Association, Fall 2014-Spring 2015

Conferences and Symposia

Co-chair (with Travis Parno), “Enduring Legacies”: Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology Annual Conference, St. Mary’s City, Maryland, November 2021.

Co-organizer (with Steve Lenik), “Jesuit Missions, Plantations, and Industries.” Organized symposium at the Society for Historical Archaeology Annual Conference, St. Charles Missouri, January 2019.

Organizational committee, Boston University Digital Humanities Symposium, October 2015.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Registry of Professional Archaeologists	Council for Maryland Archaeology
Society for Historical Archaeology	Council of Virginia Archaeologists
Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology	Archaeological Society of Maryland
Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference	Archaeological Society of Virginia

PUBLIC OUTREACH

“Rosary Ring.” *Curator’s Choice Artifact Series*. Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory, Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. August 2019. <https://jefpat.maryland.gov/Pages/mac-lab/curators-choice/2019-curators-choice/2019-08-decade-ring.aspx>

“‘Taking the discipline’ at St. Inigoes Plantation: A Cilice from Priest’s Point.” *Curator’s Choice Artifact Series*. Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory, Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. January 2017. <https://jefpat.maryland.gov/Pages/mac-lab/curators-choice/2017-curators-choice/2017-01-taking-the-discipline-at-st-inigoes-plantation-a-cilice-from-priests-point.aspx>

“Teaching as Research.” Guest blog post on *Bones, bones, bones! Live from the Boston University Zooarchaeology Lab*. May 3, 2016. <http://blogs.bu.edu/cfwest/2016/05/03/teaching-as-research/>

“Building Collections at the Zooarchaeology Lab.” Guest blog post on *Bones, bones, bones! Live from the Boston University Zooarchaeology Lab*. April 22, 2016. <http://blogs.bu.edu/cfwest/2016/04/22/building-collections-at-the-zooarchaeology-lab/>

“The Boston University Zooarchaeology Lab.” Student interview on YouTube. March 5, 2016. <https://youtu.be/6kD5gasCwC0>

“Mapping Buildings and Burials at Gloucester Town.” Guest blog post for the *Fairfield Foundation*. July 16, 2013. <http://www.fairfieldfoundation.org/mapping-buildings-and-burials-at-gloucester-town/>

“Mapping and Excavating Features at Ravenscroft.” Guest blog post for the *Ravenscroft Archaeological Project*. July 31, 2008. (as Laura Buchanan)

<http://research.history.org/ravenscroft/blog/index.cfm/2008/7/31/Mapping-and-Excavating-Features-at-Ravenscroft>

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Language: Native English speaker; proficient in Spanish and French (reading/writing/speaking)

Technology: ArcGIS 10.8; Cascade; WordPress; Microsoft Word, Excel, and Access; DAACS web-based database; Navicat for PostgreSQL; KE EMu Collections Information System; Client Profiles Legal Case Management Software

REFERENCES

Prof. Joshua Samuels
Catholic University

David Brown, Ph.D.
Co-Director, The Fairfield Foundation

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