

Madeleine McLeester

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EDUCATION

- 2017 PhD, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, Department of Anthropology
- 2008 MA, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, Department of Anthropology
- 2005 BA, The College, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, Department of Anthropology with College honors and honors in Anthropology

EMPLOYMENT

- 2020-present Postdoctoral Fellow and Lecturer, Department of Anthropology, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH
- 2017-2020 Postdoctoral Scholar, Department of Anthropology, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN

AREAS OF RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTEREST

Archaeological Theory; Human-Environment Entanglements; Agriculture; Colonialism; Political Ecology; Landscapes; Archaeobotanical Analysis; Paleoclimate; Stable Isotope Analysis; North American Archaeology; Eastern Woodlands Archaeology

PUBLICATIONS (EDITED VOLUMES)

- Forthcoming **McLeester, M.** and Casana, J. (eds.). *Finding Fields: The Archaeology of Agricultural Landscapes*, Archaeological Papers of the American Anthropological Association (AP3A) series; under contract, publication 2022.

PUBLICATIONS (PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES)

- 2021 **McLeester, M.** and Casana, J., Finding Fields: Locating Archaeological, Agricultural Landscapes using Historical Aerial Photography, *American Antiquity*, 86(2): 283-304.
- 2021 Schurr, M., **McLeester, M.**, and Countryman, J. A New Approach to Population: Using Multiple Measures to Estimate the Population of a Protohistoric Village in the Western Great Lakes Region, USA, *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology*, 64: 101338.
- 2021 Morrison, K., Hammer, E., Boles, O.,...**McLeester, M.**..., and Zanon, M. Mapping Past Human Land Use Using Archaeological Data: A New Classification for Global Land Use Synthesis and Data Harmonization, *PLOS One*, 16(4), e0246662.
- 2021 Schurr, M. and **McLeester, M.** The Old College Site (12SJ228), *Highlighting Hoosier Archaeological Sites*, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, web resource: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/bef333d994524e429f7df20b0581f4b6>.
- 2020 **McLeester, M.** and Schurr, M., Paleoclimate of the Little Ice Age to the Present in the Kankakee Valley of Illinois and Indiana, USA based on ¹⁸O/¹⁶O isotope ratios of freshwater shells, *Environmental Archaeology*, doi:10.1080/14614103.2020.1849487.
- 2020 **McLeester, M.** and Schurr, M., Expanding Huber: An Overview of Findings from Four Years of Excavations at Middle Grant Creek (11WI2739) in northern Illinois, *Midcontinental Journal of Archaeology* 45(2): 102-129.

- 2019 **McLeester, M.**, Schurr, M., Sterner, K., and Ahlrichs, R., Protohistoric Marine Shell Working: New Evidence from Northern Illinois, *American Antiquity* 87(3): 549-558.
- 2018 **McLeester, M.**, Storage, Seasonality, and Women's Labor in Northern Illinois: Reintroducing Pollen Analysis to Investigations of Protohistory, *North American Archaeologist* 39(4): 239-259.
- 2018 **McLeester, M.**, Casana, J., Schurr, M., Hill, A. and Wheeler, J., Detecting Prehistoric Landscape Features Using Thermal, Multispectral, and Historical Imagery Analysis at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Illinois, *Journal of Archaeological Science Reports* 21: 450-459.

TECHNICAL REPORTS

- 2021 Schurr, M. and **McLeester, M.** The 2020 Archaeological Investigations at the Old College Site (12SJ228) at the University of Notre Dame. Submitted to the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indianapolis, Indiana. Permit #2020022.
- 2020 **McLeester, M.** and Schurr, M. The 2019 Archaeological Investigations at the Old College Site (12SJ228) at the University of Notre Dame. Submitted to the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indianapolis, Indiana. Permit #2019033.
- 2019 Schurr, M. and **McLeester, M.** The 2018 Archaeological Investigations at the Old College Site (12SJ228) at the University of Notre Dame. Submitted to the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indianapolis, Indiana. Permit #2018025.

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2016 **McLeester, M.** Book Review of *Nature and Antiquities: Making of Nature in the Americas*, edited by Philip L. Kohl, Irina Podgorny, and Stefanie Ganger, *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, 35: 4.

PUBLICATIONS IN PREPARATION

- McLeester, M.**, Schurr, M., Bush, L., and Countryman, J. Farmers of the Little Ice Age, preparing for *PNAS*.
- McLeester, M.**, Schurr, M., Martin, T., and Wheeler, J. Wet Lands to Dry Spaces (And Back Again): Archaeological Perspectives on Use, Drainage, and Restoration of the Kankakee Wetlands, USA, preparing for a special edition of *Wetland Archaeology*.
- McLeester, M.**, "Every Plant is Medicine:" The Role of the Individual and Secrecy in Land Use Systems, preparing for *American Anthropologist*.
- McLeester, M.**, Kuijt, I., and Schurr, M., Losing Control: Late Woodland Foodways and Village Layout Reveal the Foundations of Intensive Maize Agriculture, preparing for the *Journal of Anthropological Archaeology*.

RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- In Review Archaeological and Ethnographic Field Research grant, National Endowment for the Humanities. *Perennial Places: The Archaeology of Agricultural Landscapes at the Menominee Reservation*. (\$149,826).

- 2021 Goodman Fund, Dartmouth College Anthropology Department. *Entangled Earth: Exploring Past Indigenous Agricultural Landscapes in the Western Great Lakes*. (with Jesse Casana; \$9,793).
- 2019 Spatial Archaeometry Research Collaboration (SPARC) Award, NSF-funded program administered by the University of Arkansas. *Locating the Oneota Landscape at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie*.
- 2018 Faculty Research Support Program Regular Grant, University of Notre Dame. *Midewin Historical Ecology Project*. (with Mark Schurr; \$90,176).
- 2017 Challenge Cost-Share Agreement, U.S. Forest Service. *Middle Grant Creek Archaeological Project at the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie (MNTP)*. 17-CS-11091500-003. (with Mark Schurr; \$60,215).
- 2015 Mark Hanna Watkins Dissertation Fellowship, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago. (\$20,000).
- 2013 Wenner-Gren Foundation, Dissertation Fieldwork Grant. *Reconstructing the Calumet: Landscape Formation and Transformation During the Protohistoric and Historic Periods*. (\$20,000).
- 2013 Mark Hanna Watkins Post-Field Fellow, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago. (\$6,000; Competitive).
- 2009 Leiffer Pre-Field Fellowship for pollen analysis, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago. (\$3,000; Competitive).
- 2008 Provost Summer Award Fellowship for pollen analytical training, University of Chicago. (\$3,000; Competitive).
- 2005 Foreign Language and Area Studies (Title VI) Fellowship for Russian language study, University of Chicago. (\$14,000).

COURSES TAUGHT

- 2020-2022 Dartmouth College, Department of Anthropology
- *Ancient Native Americans* (2020, 2021)
 - *Environmental Archaeology* (2021, 2022)
 - *Reconstructing the Past: Introduction to Archaeology* (2021)
- 2018-2021 University of Notre Dame, Summer Scholars Program
- *Archaeology: Exploring the Foundations of Notre Dame*, archaeological field school, co-taught with Mark Schurr (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021)
- 2008-2017 University of Chicago, Environmental Studies Department, Graham School, Writing Program, and College Core
- *What is Nature?: Approaches to the Natural World*, co-taught with Aviva Rothman (2016, 2017)
 - *Making the Natural World: Foundations of Human Ecology* (2017)
 - *BA Thesis Colloquium* (2010, 2011, 2014)
 - *Integrative Research Seminar: Calumet* (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014)
 - *Academic and Professional Writing* (2009, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016)
 - *Power, Identity and Resistance* (2008)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND PALEOBOTANICAL RESEARCH

- 2020-present **Principal Investigator** and **Director**, Perennial Places of the Midwest. Co-Director: Jesse Casana
- 2016-present **Principal Investigator** and **Field Director**, Kankakee Protohistory Project, excavation of Middle Grant Creek at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie. Co-Director: Mark Schurr
- 2020-present **Co-Principal Investigator**, Upper Valley Archaeological Project. Co-Director: Jesse Casana
- 2018-present **Principal Investigator**, Foundations of Notre Dame, excavation and campus field school at the University of Notre Dame. Co-Director: Mark Schurr
- 2019 **Survey Team Member**, Dartmouth Second Grant Survey, New Hampshire. Director: Jesse Casana
- 2014-2016 **Director**, Chicago Prairie Protohistory Project, University of Chicago
- 2012 **Ceramic Analyst**, University of Chicago, Pa'ako, New Mexico. Director: Mark T. Lycett
- 2009 **Field Assistant**, Midwest Archaeological Center, excavation and survey of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Director: Jay Sturdevant
- 2008 **Field Assistant**, University of Chicago, excavation and survey of Campbell Ranch, New Mexico. Director: Mark T. Lycett
- 2007 **Excavation Supervisor**, Field Museum of Chicago, excavation of El Pamillo in Matatlan, Mexico. Directors: Gary M. Feinman and Linda Nicholas
- 2006 **Archaeobotanical Specialist and Excavation Supervisor**, Project Aragats, University of Chicago, joint Armenian-American excavation Gegharot and Tsaghkahovit in Western Armenia. Directors: Adam T. Smith and Ruben Badalyan
- 2004 **Field Assistant and Macrobotanical Specialist**, University of Chicago, joint Russian-American excavation at Kibit 1 in Baitugan, Northeastern Samara, Russian Federation. Directors: Laura Popova, Pavel Kyznetsov, and Oleg Mochalov.
- 2003 **Field Assistant**, Field Museum of Chicago, geological, paleobotanical study across California. Director: Jennifer McElwain

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 Perennial Places: Archaeological Approaches to the Past Indigenous Agricultural Landscapes of Wisconsin, with Jesse Casana (Dartmouth College), Alison Anastasio (UChicago), and Pete Geraci (UW-Milwaukee), Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April.
- 2022 Entangled Earth: Exploring Past Indigenous Agricultural Landscapes of Wisconsin, with Jesse Casana (Dartmouth College) and Alison Anastasio (University of Chicago), Society of Historical Archaeology Annual Meeting in the symposium *New Avenues in the Study of Plant Remains from Historical Sites*, Philadelphia, PA, January.
- 2020 Uncovering the (sometimes) Unclear Past of Midewin: A Report on the Summer 2019 Archaeological Excavations at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, with Mark Schurr (Notre Dame), Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Wilmington, IL, August (presented online).
- 2020 Finding Fields: Landscape scale approaches and aerial imagery, Field Conference, College of the Menominee Nation, Keshena, WI, August, (presented online).

- 2020 Cultivated Spaces: Rethinking Place at the Cusp of Colonialism in Illinois, *A. Watson Armour III Research Seminar*, Field Museum, Chicago, May, canceled due to Covid-19.
- 2019 Uncovering the Unknown, Unique, and (sometimes) Unclear Past: A Report on the Summer 2018 Archaeological Excavations at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, with Mark Schurr (Notre Dame) and Terry Martin (Illinois State Museum), Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Wilmington, IL, March.
- 2019 Ritual Traces: Unpacking the Challenges of Late Precontact Rituals at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, IL, with Mark Schurr, Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting in the session *Silenced Rituals in Indigenous North American Archaeology*, Albuquerque, April.
- 2018 Coastal Trade and Human-Environment Entanglements in Illinois, Wisconsin Archaeological Society, Milwaukee, WI, May.
- 2018 Every Plant is Medicine: Overlapping Categories in Food Production and Ritual, Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting in the session *Ritual Ecologies of Food Production in the Ancient World*, Washington DC, April.
- 2018 Exotic Expectations: Protohistoric Landscapes and Lifeways at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, IL, Department of Anthropology Colloquium, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, January.
- 2018 Exotic Expectations: Protohistoric Landscapes and Lifeways at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, IL, Department of Anthropology, Wichita State University, Wichita, February.
- 2018 Long Before the Arsenal: Archaeological Explorations at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, with Mark Schurr (Notre Dame), Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Wilmington, IL, January.
- 2017 Guest Lecturer, Notre Dame Summer Scholars Program, Notre Dame, IN, July.
- 2017 Prehistory on the Prairie: Archaeological Explorations at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, with Mark Schurr (Notre Dame), Wisconsin Archaeological Society [Three Rivers], Rockton, IL, March.
- 2017 Prehistory on the Prairie: Archaeological Explorations at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, with Mark Schurr (Notre Dame), Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Wilmington, IL, March.
- 2016 Guest Lecturer, Notre Dame Summer Scholars Program, Notre Dame, IN, July.
- 2016 Longhouses on the Prairie: Late Prehistoric Archaeology of the Chicago Region, South Suburban Archaeological Society, Homewood, IL, March.
- 2015 Longhouses on the Prairie: Late Prehistoric Archaeology of the Chicago Region, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Wilmington, IL, February.
- 2015 Archaeobotanical Guest Lecturer, Notre Dame Summer Scholars Program, Notre Dame, IN, July.
- 2014 Leaving the Longhouse: Palynological Evidence for Seasonal Mobility and Historical Connections in Prairie Protohistory, Illinois State Museum Brown Bag series, Springfield, IL, December.
- 2014 Pollen on the Prairie: Environmental Reconstructions, Resource Use, and Site Dynamics at Oak Forest, Midwest Archaeological Conference in the session *Recent Research in Paleoethnobotany*, Urbana-Champaign, October.

- 2014 Chicago Area Archaeology, Lake Forest University, Lake Forest, IL, November.
- 2014 Archaeobotanical Guest Lecturer, Notre Dame Field School, The Bailly Homestead and Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Chesterton, IN, July.
- 2013 Chicago Area Archaeology, Lake Forest University, Lake Forest, IL, November.
- 2012 Archaeobotanical Guest Lecturer, Notre Dame Field School, Collier Lodge, Chesterton, IN, July.

OTHER PRESENTED PAPERS AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

- 2018 Native Prairie: The Kankakee Protohistory Project and Ongoing Excavations at the Terminal Prehistoric Middle Grant Creek Site in Northern Illinois, with Mark Schurr, 83rd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Washington DC, April
- 2017 Marine Shell, Painted Pottery, and a Curious Point: A Report on Ongoing Excavations at the very late prehistoric Middle Grant Creek site in Northern Illinois, with Mark Schurr, Midwest Archaeological Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana, October
- 2017 Middle Grant Creek: A Rare Example of a Single Component Huber Phase Site on the Illinois Prairie, with Mark Schurr, 82nd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Vancouver, BC, April
- 2016 Middle Grant Creek: A Rare Example of a Single Component Huber Phase Site on the Illinois Prairie, with Mark Schurr, Midwest Archaeological Conference, Iowa City, Iowa, October
- 2015 Beyond Burning, Midwest Archaeological Conference, Milwaukee, WI, November
- 2015 Navigating Nature Narratives: Chicago's Natural Past, Present, and Future, 114th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Denver, November
- 2015 Leaving the Longhouse: 17th Century Pollen Evidence for Native American Mobility and the Seasonal Round, 38th Annual Meeting of the Society of Ethnobiology, May
- 2014 People, Prairies, and History: Rethinking Environmental Reconstructions, 113th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington D.C., December
- 2012 Reconstructing the Protohistoric Landscape: Restoration, Land Use, and Environmental Change, 77th Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archaeology, Memphis, April
- 2012 Valuing Wetlands: An Archaeological Perspective on the Past and Present Use of Wetlands, 17th Annual conference of the Wisconsin Wetland Association, February
- 2011 The Archaeology of an Industrialized Environment: Tackling the Environmental Archaeology of the Hidden, Obscured, and Erased Past of the Calumet Region, 76th Annual Meeting of Society of American Archaeology Conference, Sacramento, April
- 2010 Site Specific Vegetation History of Northern Indiana," with Kathleen D. Morrison, presented at the Calumet Summit 2010: A Call to Connect, Whiting, IN, April
- 2010 The Power of Environment: Approaching Archaeological Investigations from a Political Ecology Framework, with Melissa Rosenzweig, 75th Annual Society of American Archaeology Conference, St. Louis, April
- 2005 Living and Working in the Forest-Steppe during the Late Bronze Age: An In-Depth Look at Kibit 1, with L. Popova, P. Kuznetsov, O. Mochalov, and E. Brown, European Association of Archaeologists 11th Annual Conference, Cork, Ireland, September
- 2005 Late Bronze Age Settlement: A Study of Site Usage and Macrobotanical Remains in Russia, 2nd University of Chicago Eurasian Archaeology Conference, Chicago, April

2005 Rich Homeland: A Paleobotanical Study of a Late Bronze Age Settlement in the Forest Steppe—Baitugan, Russia, (Poster) with Laura M.S. Popova, 75th Annual Society of American Archaeology Conference, Salt Lake City, April

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND OUTREACH

- 2022 **Session Chair**, Archaeological Division of the AAA Sponsored Symposium, *Finding Fields: The Archaeology of Agricultural Landscapes*, 86th Annual Society of American Archaeology Conference, Chicago, April
- 2021 **Session Chair**, *Finding Fields: Locating and Interpreting Ancient Agricultural Landscapes*, co-chair: Jesse Casana, 85th Annual Society of American Archaeology Conference, Austin, April
- 2019 **Student Paper Prize Committee Member**, Midwestern Archaeology Conference Annual Meeting, Mankato, MN October
- 2019 **Session Chair**, *Silenced Rituals in Indigenous North American Archaeology*, 84th Annual Society of American Archaeology Conference, Albuquerque, April
- 2018 **Student Paper Prize Committee Chair**, Midwestern Archaeology Conference Annual Meeting, South Bend, Indiana, October
- 2018 **Conference Organizer**, Midwestern Archaeology Conference Annual Meeting, South Bend, Indiana, October
- 2017 **Volunteer**, *Midewin for Kids “Can You Dig it?” Program*, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Wilmington, IL, August
- 2016 **Volunteer**, *Midewin for Kids “Can You Dig it?” Program*, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, Wilmington, IL, August
- 2015 **Conference Organizer**, *LandUse6K: Putting History to Work on Climate Change*, a PAGES (Past Global Changes) working group, Paris, France, October
- 2014-2015 **Undergraduate Research Mentor**, directed an undergraduate student research project at the Paleoecology Laboratory, University of Chicago
- 2014 **Workshop and Journal Reading Group Organizer**, Human-Environment Interactions Workshop, University of Chicago
- 2013 **Conference Organizer**, Theoretical Archaeology Group (TAG) Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL
- 2013 **Conference Organizer**, *Conserving More Than Carbon: Valuing Biodiversity in a Changing World*, University of Chicago, May
- 2010 **Session Chair**, *The Power of Environment: Approaching Archaeological Investigations from a Political Ecology Framework*, 75th Annual Society of American Archaeology Conference, St. Louis, April
- 2010 **Coordinator, Organizer, and Judge**, *Green Governance*, Program on the Global Environment Student Conference and Competition, April
- 2006-2010 **Graduate Student Coordinator**, Workshop on the Global Environment, Program for the Global Environment, University of Chicago
- 2009 **Coordinator, Organizer, and Judge**, *Does the Environment Have a Right? Critical Perspectives on Environmentalism and the Left*, University of Chicago, Program on the Global Environment Student Conference and Competition, May

- 2005 **Organizer**, *Social Orders and Social Landscapes: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Eurasian Archaeology*, 2nd University of Chicago Eurasian Archaeology Conference, April
- 2005 **Mentor**, Venture to Adventure Program, University of Chicago
- 2004 **Mentor**, Metcalf Intern Program, University of Chicago

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

- 2012-2017 **Program Administrator**, Program on the Global Environment and Environmental Studies, University of Chicago; duties included: organizing logistics for speaker series, conferences, and distinguished lectures; scheduling courses; faculty support; and communications
- 2006-2007 **Lab Manager**, University of Chicago Paleoecology Laboratory, organized and ordered lab supplies, trained undergraduate and graduate volunteers in macrobotanical analysis. Director: Kathleen Morrison
- 2003-2006 **Lab Assistant**, University of Chicago Paleoecology Laboratory, analyzed, cataloged, processed, and identified macrobotanical and palynological remains from Russia and Armenia. Director: Kathleen Morrison
- 2003-2005 **Lab Assistant**, Field Museum of Natural History, identified physiological responses of California Black Oak (*Quercus kelloggii*) leaves to CO₂ changes to determine paleoelevation. Director: Jennifer McElwain

PEER REVIEWER

Current Anthropology; Plains Anthropologist; Journal of Anthropological Archaeology; International Journal of Osteoarchaeology

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Qualified Burial Sites Archaeologist, Wisconsin (includes PI permissions); Qualified Principal Investigator (prehistoric and historic), Indiana

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Illinois Archaeological Survey; Society for American Archaeology; American Anthropological Association; Midwest Archaeology Conference; Palynological Society; Society of Ethnobiology