

Dr. BENJAMIN C. PYKLES
Assistant Professor

Home: 39 Lawrence Ave.
Potsdam, NY 13676
Phone: 315-268-0010 (H)
315-244-5460 (cell)

Work: Department of Anthropology
44 Pierrepoint Ave.
Potsdam, NY 13676
Email: pyklesbc@potsdam.edu

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia, PA

Ph.D., Anthropology, emphasis in Historical Archaeology, 2006.

Dissertation Title: “The Archaeology of the Mormons Themselves”: The Restoration of Nauvoo and the Rise of Historical Archaeology in America.

Advisor: Robert L. Schuyler

Honors:

- Department Fellowships, Department of Anthropology, 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003.
- Research Stipend, Department of Anthropology, Summer 2002.

Research interests: historical archaeology; archaeology of the historic American West; Mormon history; history of archaeology; public archaeology; issues of culture contact, identity formation, and religious communities on the frontier.

Languages: fluent in Spanish.

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY, Provo, UT

B.A., Anthropology, emphasis in Archaeology, 2000, Magna Cum Laude.

Senior Thesis: “Historic Glass from Block 49” (the first pioneer cemetery in the Salt Lake Valley)

Advisor: Dale L. Berge

Honors:

- Valedictorian, Department of Anthropology, graduating class of April 2000; cumulative GPA: 3.95
- Dean’s List, College of Social Science, Fall 1994, Winter 1999.
- University Scholarships for academic achievement, Spring 1995, Fall 1998, Winter 1999, Fall 1999, Winter 2000.
- Senior thesis awarded Outstanding Senior Paper by the BYU chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, 2000.

EXPERIENCE

University and College Teaching

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK COLLEGE AT POTSDAM

Assistant Professor, Fall 2006 – present

Courses: “Archaeology”, with Lab (ANTA 204); “Historical Archaeology” (ANTA 362); “Anthropological Teaching Methods” (ANTH 392); “Ancient Peoples and Places” (ANTA 106); “Public and Private Archaeology” (ANTH 319); “Advanced Archaeological Research” (ANTA 410).

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia, PA

Instructor, Fall 2005

Course: “American Civilization—20th Century” (ANTH 102)

- An introduction to the twentieth century cultural and social history of the United States.

WIDENER UNIVERSITY, Chester, PA

Adjunct Instructor, Summer 2005

Course: “Cultural Anthropology” (ANTH 105E)

- An introduction to the basic and fundamental principles, methodologies, and concepts of cultural anthropology, drawing on examples from a number of peoples and cultures throughout the world. (Evaluations and syllabus available upon request).

URSINUS COLLEGE, Collegeville, PA

Adjunct Instructor, Spring 2005

Course: “Archaeology” (World Prehistory) (ANTH 251)

- An introduction to the discipline of archaeology through an examination of contemporary methods, the nature of the archaeological record, the history of archaeology, and its contributions to our knowledge and understanding of human cultural developments from 7 million years ago to the present. (Evaluations and syllabus available upon request).

WIDENER UNIVERSITY, Wilmington, DE

Adjunct Instructor, Summer 2004

Course: “Cultural Anthropology” (ANTH 105U)

- An introduction to the basic and fundamental principles, methodologies, and concepts of cultural anthropology, drawing on examples from a number of peoples and cultures throughout the world. (Evaluations and syllabus available upon request).

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia, PA

Field Assistant, Department of Anthropology, Fall 2003, Fall 2004, Fall 2005

Course: “Archaeology Field Project” (ANTH 219/719); Instructor: Robert L. Schuyler.

- Instruct and supervise both undergraduate and graduate students in archaeological field methods and techniques; keep detailed records of excavation procedures and results; assist in management of site.

Laboratory Assistant, Department of Anthropology, Spring 2004, Spring 2005

Course: “Historical Archaeology Laboratory” (ANTH 220/720); Instructor: Robert L. Schuyler.

- Instruct and supervise both undergraduate and graduate students in archaeological laboratory methods; assist in management and care of laboratory and artifacts.

Teacher’s Assistant, Department of Anthropology, Spring 2003

Course: “Conquest and Culture of the American West” (ANTH 109); Instructor: Melvyn Hammarberg.

- Presented lectures at professor’s request; created, administered, and graded exams; assisted students outside of class. (Evaluations available upon request).

Teacher’s Assistant, Department of Anthropology, Fall 2002

Course: “Introduction to Archaeology” (ANTH 001); Instructors: Harold L. Dibble, Deborah Olszewski, Robert L. Schuyler.

- Led weekly recitations during which course material was reviewed and students’ questions were answered; created, administered, and graded exams; kept regular office hours during which students’ out-of-class needs were met. (Evaluations available upon request).

Fieldwork and Research

MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Bibliographer, Publications Department, Summer 2004

- Researched and compiled a comprehensive, searchable database and bibliography of literature published by the University Museum from 1893 to 2004; generated a comprehensive, searchable database and bibliography of *Expedition* magazine, published by the University Museum from 1958 to 2004.

WALNUT STREET THEATRE, Philadelphia, PA

Samuel S. Fels Fellow, Walnut Street Theatre Historical Archives Project, Summer 2003

- Catalogued and labeled over a thousand items of historical memorabilia associated with the oldest, continuously operated theatre in the U.S., and entered each into a computer-based, searchable database, which I created specifically for this collection of artifacts.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia, PA

Student Archaeologist, South Jersey Project, Fall & Spring 2001, Fall & Spring 2002

- Participated in archaeological excavation and laboratory analysis of artifacts recovered from a late nineteenth century/early twentieth century domestic site in Vineland, NJ.

JOSEPH FIELDING SMITH INSTITUTE FOR LATTER-DAY SAINT HISTORY, BYU, Provo, UT

Research Fellow, Summer 2002

- Participated in weekly seminars with Richard Bushman, professor of history at Columbia University, and other research faculty of the Smith Institute; conducted active research on the cultural context of Mormonism's origins; compiled data and sources documenting the plural wives of Joseph Smith, Jr.; wrote an essay dealing with anti-Mormon sentiment in the nineteenth century and contemporary views of the American West, and presented it in a symposium at the close of the summer fellow program.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, Philadelphia, PA

Research Stipend, Department of Anthropology, Summer 2002

- Conducted preliminary and exploratory archival and archaeological research on Camp Floyd, UT, the mid nineteenth-century military establishment where the U.S. Army was stationed during the Utah War.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, Valley Forge, PA

Archaeologist, Valley Forge National Historical Park, Summer 2001

- Participated in excavations of the Pennsylvania Brigade's encampment, while instructing and supervising public volunteers in archaeological field methods and techniques.

MUSEUM OF CHURCH HISTORY AND ART, Salt Lake City, UT

Historical Archaeologist Intern, Summer 2000

- Compiled research on the American potash industry and nineteenth-century asheries prior to assisting in the excavation of the Mormon ashery in Kirtland, Ohio, which has since been reconstructed.

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY, Provo, UT

Student, Department of Anthropology, Fall 1999

- Researched and analyzed over 1,500 pieces of glass excavated at the Block 49 cemetery—the first Euro-American cemetery in the Salt Lake Valley—in order to reconstruct past consumption and economic behaviors of nineteenth-century Mormon pioneers.

Field School Participant, Department of Anthropology, May 1999

- Excavated Nabataen and Natufian sites in Petra, Jordan, and processed the artifacts uncovered therein.

MUSEUM OF PEOPLES AND CULTURES, BYU, Provo, UT

Student Volunteer, Office of Public Archaeology, 1999

- Assisted with archaeological reconnaissance at the site of the Mountain Meadows Massacre in southern Utah, and later helped process and document the human remains uncovered at the site. Also helped process the artifacts uncovered at the nineteenth-century site of Ft. Utah, a Mormon fortress in Provo, Utah.

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY, Department of Anthropology, Provo, UT

Ethnographic Field School Participant, Namibia, Africa, 1995

- Lived with the Ova Himba—indigenous peoples of northwest Namibia—while documenting and studying various aspects of their culture (e.g. architecture, division of work and space, descent rules, etc.).

PUBLICATIONS

“An Early Example of Public Archaeology in the United States: Nauvoo, Illinois, 1962-1969,” submitted to *North American Archaeologist*, November 2006.

2005 “Mormon Heritage and Archaeological Sites,” *Archaeology Southwest* 19(2): 2.

- 2005 “‘Look Well to the West!’: Anti-Mormon Rhetoric and Nineteenth Century Views of the American West,” in *Archive of Restoration Culture: Summer Fellows’ Papers, 2000-2002*. Joseph Fielding Smith Institute for Latter-day Saint History, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT: 187-195.
- 2004 “Historic Glass” in *The Right Place—Fremont and Early Pioneer Archaeology in Salt Lake City*. Brigham Young University Museum of Peoples and Cultures Technical Series, No. 03-07: 265-281.
- 2002 “An Introduction to the Kirtland Flats Ashery,” *BYU Studies* 41(1): 158-186.
- 2002 “Summer Work Opportunities for Students,” *SHA Newsletter* 35(1): 16-17.
- 2001 “Historic Glass from Block 49: A Mormon Site in the Salt Lake Valley,” *Expedition* 43(3): 7-8.

PRESENTATIONS

- 2006 “Do You Remember Clyde Dollar?” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology, Sacramento, CA.
- 2005 “‘The Archaeology of the Mormons Themselves’: A History of Historical Archaeology at Mormon-occupied Sites.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Salt Lake City, UT
- 2005 “Public Archaeology in Nauvoo, Illinois, 1965 – 1969.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology, York, England.
- 2004 “‘The Archaeology of the Mormons Themselves’: Historical Archaeology and the Mormon Material Past.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Mormon History Association, Provo, UT.
- 2004 “The Archaeology of the Saints Themselves: A History of Historical Archaeology at Mormon-occupied Sites.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology, St. Louis, MO.
- 2002 “‘Look Well to the West!’: Anti-Mormon Rhetoric and Nineteenth Century Views of the American West.” Presented at the sixth annual symposium on Joseph Smith and His Times, sponsored by the Joseph Fielding Smith Institute for Latter-day Saint History, Provo, UT.
- 2002 “The American Potash Industry: History and Technology.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology, Mobile, AL.
- 2000 “Historic Glass from Block 49.” Presented at a symposium sponsored by the Brigham Young University chapter of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.
- 1999 “Relationships Between the Latter-day Saints and Native Americans in Nauvoo.” Presented at the Religious Education Student Symposium, BYU.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

Symposium Organizer, “Historical Archaeology Of, By, and About the Mormons,” 2005 Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Salt Lake City, UT.

Member, Society for Historical Archaeology History Committee, 2004-present.

Guest Speaker, Dimensions in Living Day, Strath Haven Middle School, Wallingford, PA, 2004, 2005.

Member, Self-Study Graduate Group Committee, Department of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania, 2004.

Member, Society for Historical Archaeology Student Sub-Committee, 2001-2004.

Guest Speaker, Rosemont Presbyterian Village, Rosemont, PA, 9 August 2004.

Guest Speaker, Philadelphia Free Library, Philadelphia, PA.

Discussant, Symposium on Missionary Work in the New American Century, Rutgers University, 21 April 2004.

Discussant, Roundtable on Historic Sites, Department of Anthropology, SUNY Geneseo, 5 April 2004.

Symposium Organizer, "Historical Archaeology of the Mormon Domain," 2004 Annual Meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeology, St. Louis, MO.

Guest Speaker, International Week, Strath Haven Middle School, Wallingford, PA, 2000-2003.

Professional Societies:

Society for Historical Archaeology, 1999-present.

Society for American Archaeology, 2004-present.

Mormon History Association, 2003-present.

Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, inducted in 2000 (lifetime member)

Golden Key National Honor Society, inducted in 1999 (lifetime member)

REFERENCES

Robert L. Schuyler, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania.
phone: 215-898-6965; *email:* schuyler@sas.upenn.edu

Karen Johnson-Weiner, Associate Professor of Anthropology, State University of New York at Potsdam.
phone: 315-267-2041; *email:* johnsokm@potdam.edu

Robert W. Preucel, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania.
phone: 215-898-9017; *email:* rpreucel@sas.upenn.edu

Melvyn Hammarberg, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania.
phone: 215-898-0981; *email:* mhammarb@ccat.sas.upenn.edu