2016 ISAS Annual Report

Beaded Burial
Mound 72
Cahokia Mounds, Illinois

Skeletal Remains
- B11: Female burial
- B12: Male burial
- B13: Central male burial
- B14: Central female burial
- B14ab: Male/female bundle
- B15a: Female bundle
- B15b: Male/female bundle (sex unknown)
- B16: Male buried face down
- B17: Individual burial (sex unknown)

Bones of male child commingled with B11 and B17

Ceramics
Contents

From the Director .................................................................................................................. 1
Partnerships & Progress ...................................................................................................... 2
Excellence in Archaeology ................................................................................................. 3–4
Project Spotlights ................................................................................................................ 5–6
  Cahokia .............................................................................................................................. 5
  Remote Sensing Technology ............................................................................................... 6
The Archaeological Process ................................................................................................. 7
From Our Field Stations ..................................................................................................... 8–9
Historic Architecture Section .......................................................................................... 10
Office of the State Archaeologist ...................................................................................... 11
  Data and Curation ............................................................................................................ 12
  Archaeological Research ................................................................................................. 13–14
Public Engagement ........................................................................................................... 15–18
  Partnership Spotlight .................................................................................................... 16–17
  Publications ..................................................................................................................... 18
Staff Recognition ................................................................................................................ 19
Looking Ahead .................................................................................................................... 20
Staff Bibliography ............................................................................................................ 21

On the following pages, please refer to this key:
◆ = ISAS funded; ◆ = IDOT funded; ◆ = Grant funded; ◆ = PRI funded; ◆ = FPDCC funded; ◆ = ISTC funded.
2016 proved to be an award-winning year for the Illinois State Archaeological Survey (ISAS). Despite the state’s fiscal challenges, we were able to make great advances in archaeological research. These advances were due in large part to our dedicated staff and the support of the Prairie Research Institute and the University of Illinois. Cahokia was at the forefront of our research efforts. Even though it has been over a quarter century since major excavations occurred at Cahokia, these collections are yielding new findings because of advances in technology and methodology. These discoveries are transforming our understanding of Cahokia and Illinois’s collective past.

Several senior archaeologists were recognized for their contributions to Illinois archaeology and cultural resource management. These staff have dedicated their careers to Illinois archaeology and their awards were well deserved. ISAS continues to work around the state ahead of Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) roadwork and construction. The ISAS and IDOT partnership plays a critical role in facilitating the development of the state’s infrastructure and economy while mitigating impacts to cultural resources.

I am very pleased with all ISAS has accomplished in 2016. I look forward to 2017 as we continue important archaeological work while staying committed to our mission and vision values. It is this commitment that sets us apart from other transportation archaeology programs and is the reason ISAS is a nationally and internationally recognized survey.
The Illinois State Archaeological Survey (ISAS) is a division of the Prairie Research Institute at the University of Illinois. For 60 years, the University of Illinois and ISAS have partnered with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) on thousands of projects that have advanced Illinois’s transportation goals while also managing impacts on the state’s past. Today ISAS is recognized as housing one of the premier transportation archaeology programs in the United States. The ISAS-IDOT partnership preserves Illinois’s important archaeological and historic resources while supporting transportation infrastructure.

ISAS hopes to expand its successful partnership model to serve the broad business community and archaeological contractors of Illinois to smooth development and preservation processes. Modeling resources can help stakeholders make informed decisions and craft solutions at the earliest planning stages of a project. ISAS can do this by using the latest technology and predictive resource modeling information not currently available to planners here in Illinois. ISAS is uniquely positioned to use tools such as lidar and landscape evolution models that forecast land-use changes against resource sensitivities in areas of rapid urban development. These models contribute to “smart development” and benefit everyone—planners, landscape managers, zoning professionals, preservation-minded groups, and developers—all of whom stand to gain a great deal from predictive evaluations of the cultural resources they may encounter.
ISAS Director Awarded for Cultural Resource Management Excellence

The Society for American Archaeology (SAA) named Dr. Thomas E. Emerson the recipient of the 2016 Excellence in Cultural Resource Management award. The SAA award recognizes Dr. Emerson’s long career in cultural resource management (CRM) and that his work in archaeological preservation has set the standard for archaeology methodology and research.

“As director of ISAS, Tom has established and maintained an award-winning CRM transportation archaeology program in coordination with IDOT. This program recently received high marks during a Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 process review. Moreover, ISAS and IDOT received from FHWA a 2011 Environmental Excellence Award for the multiyear data-recovery excavations for the New Mississippi River Bridge project in East St. Louis. This project was one of the largest and most complex excavations ever completed in the region.”

— Brad Koldehoff, Chief Archaeologist/Cultural Resources Unit Chief

ISAS Senior Archaeologists Receive Charles J. Bareis Award

Kenneth Farnsworth and David Nolan, ISAS senior archaeologists, received the Illinois Archaeological Survey's Charles J. Bareis Distinguished Service Award during the 60th Annual Midwest Archaeological Conference held in Iowa City, Iowa. The award honors those individuals who have made significant contributions to Illinois archaeology.

“Farnsworth and Nolan exemplify the best characteristics of the discipline and of our survey in their dedication to protecting, preserving, and interpreting the endangered archaeological resources of the state, in engaging with local communities and the public, and in their enthusiastic promotion and participation in ISAS’s collaborative, team-based, research efforts.”

— Dr. Thomas E. Emerson

Dr. Thomas Emerson analyzes the Exchange Avenue figurine found during the New Mississippi River Bridge project.

Kenneth Farnsworth (left) and David Nolan (right).
The East St. Louis Archaeological Project

The East St. Louis Archaeological project was part of the Illinois Department of Transportation's New Mississippi River Bridge project (NMRB). From 2009 to 2012, ISAS conducted the largest archaeological excavation in the nation ahead of construction for the Stan Musial Veterans Memorial Bridge. Analysis of the site is ongoing; however, our first volume was published this year: Main Street Mound: A Ridgetop Monument at the East St. Louis Mound Complex. This report details the discovery of the remnants of a previously undocumented Mississippian mound partially preserved beneath the historic overburden of industrial East St. Louis.

The discovery of Main Street Mound afforded two rare opportunities: detailed professional investigations into one of the few extant monuments at East St. Louis and the chance to preserve this and related features in perpetuity through a redesign of the NMRB project corridor. The decision to set aside this thousand-year-old sacred site as a preserve creates a physical link to a long-forgotten landscape, acknowledging the significance of the distant past to the present.

ISAS Wins International Award for Excavations in East St. Louis

Shanghai Archaeological Forum (SAF) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, named the Illinois State Archaeological Survey's (ISAS) East St. Louis Archaeological project as one of the top ten archaeological field discoveries in the world.

The SAF Field Discovery awards are presented for archaeological excavations or surveys that have yielded major discoveries significantly furthering or even altering our knowledge of the human past, locally and/or globally. To be eligible for this award, the nominated work must be a scientific archaeological excavation or survey, legally authorized in the country where it was undertaken. The principal investigator responsible for the nominated work must hold an internationally recognized qualification for archaeological excavation or survey in the country where the nominated work was carried out.

“I am extremely proud that the accomplishments of all our staff are receiving recognition in this international forum. . . . It is a tribute to the teamwork of all ISAS’s staff across the organization that this was possible. I truly appreciate it and the opportunity to be part of this process.”

—Dr. Thomas E. Emerson
Cahokia

2016 was a big year for Cahokia. From new discoveries about Mound 72 to documentaries being produced about the ancient city, there was no shortage of media coverage of Cahokia. There was even a movement to make Cahokia a unit of the National Park Service, and we hope the momentum of those efforts continues. ISAS was pleased to be featured or play a role in all of these connecting events.

Mound 72

The “Beaded Burial” of Cahokia was long believed to be a symbol of male dominance and power. New research published in *American Antiquity*, “Paradigms Lost: Reconfiguring Cahokia’s Mound 72 Beaded Burial,” revealed it was not a monument to male power but rather included both males and females of high status. ◆

Cahokia’s Dissolution

ISAS researchers presented a new theory for Cahokia’s demise. This research was published in Southern Illinois University Press’s volume, *Beyond Collapse: Archaeological Perspectives on Resilience, Revitalization, and Transformation in Complex Societies*. Dr. Thomas E. Emerson and Dr. Kristin M. Hedman contributed a chapter entitled “The Dangers of Diversity: The Consolidation and Dissolution of Cahokia, North America’s First Urban Polity” to the volume. This research explores internal divisions that led to the collapse of Cahokia. ◆

Isotope Research

Dozens of people buried in mass graves in an ancient mound in Cahokia, likely lived in or near Cahokia most of their lives, researchers report in the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*.

To determine whether those buried in Mound 72 were from Cahokia or somewhere else, the researchers analyzed strontium isotopes in the teeth. Strontium isotopes are derived from local geologic formations and, since they are incorporated into bones and teeth through food and water, can serve as fingerprints of specific locales.

Evidence from the burial mounds is helping researchers understand what happened at Cahokia. ◆
Remote Sensing Technology

Fort Ouiatenon

ISAS conducted a large geophysical survey at six eighteenth-century Native American sites on and in the vicinity of the French fort Ouiatenon, in West Lafayette, Indiana. The surveys consisted of magnetometry and soil resistivity. This project was funded by an Indiana Department of Natural Resources–Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology Natural Preservation Fund grant and conducted in partnership with Michael Strezewski from the University of Southern Indiana.

Nadine Mounds

ISAS conducted geophysical surveys using magnetometry, soil resistivity, and magnetic susceptibility at the Middle Woodland Nadine Mounds in advance of roadway improvement for US 34 in Henderson County, Illinois. While the mounds will not be directly affected by road construction, the surveys were conducted to evaluate the integrity of these important nearby resources. All three methods indicated that significant archaeological resources were still present within this IDOT owned wayside.

Magnetic susceptibility results showing rings of soil zones (red) and an elongated central pit (blue) present at one of the Nadine Mounds.

Key: Blue = Potential structures detected by magnetometry survey only; Red = Potential structures detected by magnetic susceptibility survey only; and Orange = Potential structures detected by both magnetic susceptibility and magnetometer surveys.
ISAS archaeologists conduct surveys, testing, and data-recovery excavations in advance of infrastructure projects to protect culturally sensitive resources and ensure compliance with federal and state laws that protect our nation’s cultural heritage. After ISAS receives a project, we begin three stages or “phases” in the archaeological fieldwork process.

**The Archaeological Process**

**Phase I**
*Locates archaeological sites in the project area.*
- Pedestrian Survey
- Remote Sensing
- Shovel Testing

**Phase II**
*Collects additional information about the sites to determine if they are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.*
- Hand Units
- Limited Excavation

**Phase III**
*Mitigates adverse impacts to significant sites when they cannot be avoided.*
- Machine-Aided Excavation
- Feature Excavation

**Accompanying Processes**
- Archival records research looking for previous investigations and possible significance.
- Clean, catalog, and analyze the artifacts to assign a time period to the site (historic, prehistoric, etc.).
- When appropriate, images and info about archaeological work and preservation efforts are shared with public, partners, and other constituents.

**Report Submission**
*When fieldwork is finished, ISAS archaeologists submit a report that documents the results to IDOT’s chief archaeologist, who assesses site significance and potential impacts and coordinates with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Illinois State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).*
Every year, ISAS field station personnel complete hundreds of field surveys across Illinois. These surveys are part of our ongoing partnership with IDOT. During survey work, ISAS archaeologists and staff oftentimes find remnants of prehistoric Native American and historic Euro- and African-American settlements, information from which helps further our understanding of our collective past.

The American Bottom Field Station (ABFS)

ABFS continued drafting reports detailing the results and interpretations from work completed on the NMRB project and the East St. Louis Mound Complex—including lithic, ceramic, floral, faunal, and historic materials. They are also analyzing important information about the diet, origin, and health of the site’s pre-Columbian residents. The information gathered from these analyses contributes to our understanding of the history of East St. Louis. It also helps reveal some of the sociopolitical dynamics of Greater Cahokia. See page 4 for more about our first NMRB report.

The Central Illinois Field Station (CIFS)

CIFS applied new technologies to streamline the archaeological survey process by combining traditional archaeological survey methods with new metal-detecting protocols and state-of-the-art geophysical remote sensing. Earlier identification of cultural resources helps interested parties avoid project delays, minimize costs, and balance the need to preserve Illinois cultural heritage with the need to modernize the state’s infrastructure—a win-win situation for the people of Illinois.

CIFS discovered the remains of an early nineteenth-century Native American village located in east-central Illinois. CIFS archaeologists used gridded metal detecting, controlled surface collecting, pedestrian surveying, and geophysical remote sensing to determine the boundaries and density of this important site.
The Northern Illinois Field Station (NIFS)

NIFS surveyed a portion of Battle Ground Memorial Park, home to the Stillman’s Run Monument commemorating what was likely the first engagement of the Black Hawk War and location of the common grave of 12 militiamen killed by Black Hawk and his warriors during the 1832 Battle of Stillman’s Run. While the park holds much history, NIFS crews found no cultural material within the survey area.

The Western Illinois Field Station (WIFS)

WIFS investigated a portion of a large prehistoric habitation complex located on the grounds of the Quad Cities International Airport in Rock Island County. Interestingly, the site had very few formed tools or time-sensitive artifacts; the bulk of the artifacts were tool-production failures. Piles of waste flakes and debris resulting from the production of blanks and tools were found.

NIFS excavated portions of a pre–Civil War era site in Lake County, Illinois. The site produced several features containing an amazing sample of artifacts dating from the early 1800s to the 1840s, including a British farthing (1808), a Van Buren Hard Times token (1837–1841), an infantry officer’s button (1798–1802, shown right), and four prehistoric projectile points.

WIFS identified a large terminal Late Woodland Tampico variant habitation site overlooking the LaMoine River valley during a survey for a bridge improvement project. WIFS archaeologists tested the Van Fleet site (11HA1001) to collect information about this little-known period in Illinois prehistory and found Late Woodland ceramic sherds, flaking debris, burned rock, a Middle Archaic Matanzas point, and possible evidence for five terminal Late Woodland pit features.

A small amount of carbonized corn (Zea mays) found at the site was radiocarbon dated (to ca. A.D. 1030–1155) as part of an important ongoing ISAS study to determine when maize agriculture was first introduced to western Illinois. Curiously, a single tobacco seed was also found at the site, suggesting perhaps that some kind of ritual smoking was occurring in the habitation area.
This year, ISAS created the Historic Architecture Section, expanding its repertoire of projects. With the inclusion of historic architecture, ISAS is helping preserve Illinois’s architecture and historic cultural identity for generations to come. Historic Architecture Section staff document, research, and evaluate historic and architectural resources across the state of Illinois in partnership with IDOT, including historic sites, buildings, districts, and bridges. ISAS compliance specialists are uncovering evidence about the fabric, density, construction methodologies, and even occupants of many of Illinois’s historic buildings. In 2016, ISAS participated in multiple compliance assessments for over 600 IDOT projects.

---

**Did You Know?**

The Unity Temple in Oak Park, built by Frank Lloyd Wright, retains its original form and most of its original material except for two repairs/renovations, that took place in 1961. The exterior surface has been smoothed with a pebble aggregate and the auditorium repainted in a brighter palette.

---

**Historic Architecture Spotlight Project**

The Armour and Company Packing Plant in East St. Louis was extraordinarily intertwined in the history and progressive growth of not only the local area but also the United States meat packing industry. The Illinois State Historic Preservation Office deemed the Boiler House/Refrigeration Plant Building of the Armour and Company Packing Plant eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places during 2016. During this time, however, the private owner demolished the Boiler House/Refrigeration Plant along with the remaining structures on the property.

Though the buildings have been destroyed, the history of the buildings, company, and property were preserved through documentation performed by ISAS and the Preservation Research Office, based out of St. Louis, Missouri. Without our combined efforts, the history of this magnificent building complex would have been gone forever.

---

The ruins of the Armour and Company Packing Plant prior to demolition.
In 2013, the Office of the Illinois State Archaeologist (OISA) was created as part of ISAS. Tasked with advocating for the public importance of the archaeological record in Illinois, the state archaeologist is considered the authoritative spokesperson on matters of archaeological fact and policy for Illinois. OISA is also responsible for providing information about Illinois’s archaeology and research to the public at large, communities, scientists, industry, and government agencies.

**Data Management**
- Retaining and managing archaeological databases featuring records of survey and excavation reports, photographs, burial mounds, and artifacts.
- Acting as a repository of knowledge and a clearinghouse for distributing information about Illinois’s rich resources.

**Preservation**
- Identifying, evaluating, and planning for the management and preservation of public and private archaeological sites and cultural landscapes in Illinois.
- Working with public and private entities in order to preserve significant cultural resources in Illinois.

**Education**
- Educating the people of Illinois through public engagement events, school programs, museum exhibits, and lectures.
- Informing other agencies about current legislative changes and programs, regulatory information, and best practices in cultural resource management.

**Research**
- Directing and conducting archaeological research in Illinois, the ISAS Ancient Technologies and Archaeological Materials (ATAM) program facilitates interdisciplinary research within the Prairie Research Institute and the University of Illinois.
- Focusing on research with a direct economic impact on Illinois’s citizens, emphasizing smart development, and helping preservationists and developers cooperate in achieving their goals.
Databases

ISAS maintains a number of databases, used by internal staff as well as outside agency personnel and professional archaeologists working within the state. In 2016, our focus has been to improve data consistency and integrity as well as to make many databases more user-friendly.

Late in 2016, a newly developed archaeological-project tracking database was rolled out. Much more than a simple face-lift, this new database replaced the ISAS Statewide Database and incorporated the old data in a redesigned structure, streamlining data entry and reporting. This reconfigured ISAS Archaeological Projects and Reporting Database will make querying data fast, easy, and accurate, saving researchers time while increasing accuracy of results and improving usability.

- The Illinois Inventory of Burial Sites Database (IIBS): 3,173 burial sites recorded; 3,539 records detailing revisits. In 2016: 195 documented revisits; 39 sites added to the database.

- The Illinois CRM Archive Database: 24,000 archaeological reports. 1,831 new documents were added in 2016.

GIS

GIS staff continued assessing the more than 9,500 prehistoric mounds across Illinois using lidar made possible by the Illinois State Geological Survey’s Illinois Height Modernization Program. The data produced highly detailed, spatially accurate digital models of the Illinois landscape and revealed numerous burial mounds, which will help us manage and protect these invaluable cultural resources.

Curation

Why do ISAS archaeologists analyze artifacts instead of simply putting them on a shelf or donating them to a museum? Why save these material vestiges of human culture at all?

“Artifacts are the touchstones that bring memories and meanings to life. They make history real. Moreover, it is a reality that can and should be viewed from different perspectives. . . . Think like a curator: Use the artifacts to understand, explain, and present history.”

Curation Quick Facts!

It takes 5.5 minutes to inventory an artifact for our electronic catalog.

There are currently 392,029 entries in that catalog...

Representing 30,710 hours of work...

Which equals 16 years of full-time work!

GIS cataloged 430 boxes and 135 hours were spent handling collection requests. ◆◆
Under the general management of the ATAM program, ISAS and the OISA sponsor, direct, and conduct research in the archaeology of Illinois, encouraging smart development and helping preservationists and developers cooperatively achieve their goals. Using a variety of techniques, ISAS scientists analyze materials from every facet of human life—food, housing, personal belongings, travel, and burial practice.

**The Archæobotany Section** studies the remains of plants found in archaeological contexts.

- 1,000+ samples analyzed from 13 sites.

**The Bioarchaeology Section** studies human remains and mortuary features from archaeological contexts.

- Ongoing isotope studies of tooth enamel from approximately 270 small, nonmigratory animals found at archaeological sites or regions with evidence for interaction with Cahokia provide baseline regional strontium (87Sr/86Sr) information for the midcontinent. Due to overlap in strontium ratios across the region studied, the origin of Cahokian immigrants cannot be identified using strontium isotopes alone.

**The Ceramics Section** analyzes and interprets Native American ceramics from archaeological sites.

- Work continues on the ceramic collection from the protohistoric Huber phase (sixteenth to early seventeenth century) of the Palos site (11CK26).
The Faunal Section identifies and studies animal remains (bone, teeth, antler, fish scale, mollusk shell, and eggshell) found at archaeological sites across Illinois. Amazing amounts of faunal material were analyzed this year!

- Marseton II site = 500,000–1 million
- East St. Louis site = 69,000
- Crawford Farm site = 23,000

The Historics Section evaluates and documents historic period archaeological resources (e.g., bottles, plate ware, farming equipment, etc.).

- The circa 1840 and 1860 occupation of the Burning Sands site (11MG491), located in Meredosia, Illinois, is unusual in several ways: It is located within the public square that was platted in 1833, suggesting the inhabitants were squatters who had no legal claim to the land, but the artifact assemblage indicates the occupants may have had a higher socioeconomic status than many of the other Meredosia residents.

The Lithics Section documents and analyzes archaeological materials made of stone and other minerals from Illinois sites, primarily from prehistoric time periods.

- 47,000+ lithics analyzed weighing ~900,000 grams, roughly equal to 2,000 pounds!
- The Edging site, occupied intermittently from 4300 to 3300 cal. B.C., promises to illuminate a poorly understood segment of the American Bottom culture history during which the area appears to have served as a buffer zone for cultural groups with more permanent settlements in surrounding areas.
An important part of the ISAS mission is public education and outreach. While promoting archaeology and environmental programs, ISAS staff volunteered 732 hours of their own time to inform and engage the general public about the archaeology of Illinois as well as our role in preserving that past.

In 2016, ISAS outreach efforts directly reached thousands of people and professional organizations across the state and throughout the Midwest. ISAS engaged the public by using guided tours of ongoing site excavations and by giving talks at several museums and other civic societies and organizations in Illinois. Staff also presented archaeology-themed programs to K–12 students and participated in several Archaeology Day programs at museums and organizations around Illinois. ISAS also provided University of Illinois students taking introductory courses in archaeology with guided tours of ISAS offices, labs, and curation facilities. ISAS also successfully worked alongside people from many Illinois communities and Native American tribes to bring awareness to archaeological site preservation efforts throughout Illinois.

Click the logos below for more.
Partnership Spotlight

Illinois Sustainable Technology Center (ISTC)

ISTC and ISAS partnered to conduct a chemical analysis of a Thomson’s Compound Syrup of Tar and Wood Naphtha patent medicine bottle recovered from archaeological excavations of a circa 1850s house cellar in Meredosia, Illinois.

Illinois State Geological Survey (ISGS)

ISAS and ISGS staff traveled to the Saint Louis Art Museum to perform geochemical analyses of several Mississippian flint clay figurines and pipes using PIMA and XRF technology. These analyses are part of a larger project, spanning the last two decades, to trace prehistoric pipestone use and trade in the Eastern Woodlands.

Social Media

Facebook Followers
1,695

Most People Reached by a Facebook Post
13,000+

Twitter Followers
1,073

Instagram Followers
473

YouTube Videos
25+ produced with over 20,000 views
Partnership Spotlight

The Forest Preserves of Cook County

Greencorps Chicago/FPDCC Youth Ambassador Program

From early July through the end of September 2016, NIFS staff completed an archaeological survey of over 180 acres of land located along the Des Plaines River in the Thatcher Woods Preserve, a part of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (FPDCC). Much of the work was completed in partnership with Greencorps Chicago and the FPDCC Youth Outdoor Ambassador programs.

NIFS participated in the Nature Block Party with the Forest Preserves of Cook County (FPCC). Flintknapping, atlatl, and learning about the prehistory of Cook County were part of the public outreach. Like always, the atlatl throw was a big hit!

ISAS, PRI, and FPCC partnered to bring Culture History in the Forest Preserves of Cook County to the Field Museum. ISAS staff gave lectures covering the 10,000-year history of the land included in the FPCC. Pictured here is Clare Tolmie talking with Toni Preckwinkle and Arnold Randall.
ISAS Publications Catalog

This year, the ISAS production office introduced our first publications catalog. The catalog is interactive: Clicking on page numbers in the table-of-contents will take you directly to the page you are looking for. Order information is included in the catalog.

The catalog is available at https://isas.illinois.edu/publications to view or download as a PDF.

ISAS Supplemental Materials Program

ISAS has created a new Supplemental Materials Program intended to help familiarize archaeology students with report writing and current research in Illinois archaeology all at a greatly reduced price. This program offers steep discounts on any ISAS publication adopted as a required course text/reading in undergraduate- or graduate-level courses. This discount may be used by all students enrolled in the course and is available only on books ordered directly from ISAS.

Please contact Sarah Boyer at sboyer3@illinois.edu for more information.

New Titles from 2016!

Research Report 36: Main Street Mound: A Ridgetop Monument at the East St. Louis Mound Complex
Edited by Tamira K. Brennan

Research Report 38: The Tree Row Site: A Late Archaic Habitation and Mortuary Site in the Central Illinois Valley
Edited by Dale L. McElrath and Madeleine G. Evans

Research Report 39: The Kane Village Site: A Terminal Late Woodland Habitation in Madison County, Illinois
Edited by Brad H. Koldehoff and Charles R. Moffat

Publications Promotion

40% off all SIA series publications
50% of all other print publications

Enter promo code ISAS2017SIA and ISAS2017 for online orders at https://shop.inrs.illinois.edu/shop-isas.html

Offer good until July 1, 2017 while supplies last.
Ken Farnsworth Retires

Ken Farnsworth’s career spanned nearly 50 years in Illinois. His archaeology career began with the IDOT FAI-408 project in western Illinois. He was a director of the Contract Archaeology Program from 1974 until he joined ISAS in 1998. Farnsworth served as senior research editor and senior research archaeologist until his retirement in 2016.

Ken Farnsworth in the field in the early days.

Dedicated Staff

ISAS prides itself on having a team of dedicated professionals who make up our survey. We wanted to recognize individuals who had 20 or more years of service with the University of Illinois or ISAS. These staff members represent the best qualities of our survey. Their contributions to our mission at the University of Illinois make it possible for ISAS to continue our archaeological, preservation, and research pursuits.

Janice Pankey
35 years

Linda Alexander
35 years

Dr. Brian Adams
28 years

Dr. Thomas E. Emerson
25 years

Michael Lewis
24 years

Dr. Kristin Hedman
24 years

Madeleine Evans
23 years

Eve Hargrave
22 years

Mera Hertel
21 years
Looking Ahead

The University of Illinois Celebrates Its 150th Anniversary

The University of Illinois has an extraordinary history as a land-grant university and looks to its promising future as the institution continues to have an impact on individual lives and society. February 2017–May 2018 the university will celebrate its sesquicentennial, with events throughout the year. ISAS will commemorate the University of Illinois’s 150th anniversary by hosting a conference entitled, “Ancient Cahokia: Future Visions.” This conference will bring renowned experts from all over the country to discuss the past and future of Cahokia, Illinois’s “First City.” While the conference isn’t until April 2018, ISAS will spend most of 2017 planning for it. Stay tuned for more details!

Maize Research

ISAS reevaluated research on maize fragments from the Middle Woodland Holding site (ca. A.D. 100) and determined it was not a cultivated crop plant in this part of the Midwest until about A.D. 900. This new finding undermines earlier research suggesting maize appeared in the archaeological record at an earlier date.

Results of this research are to be published as the following:


Geophysics at Allerton

Considered one of the Seven Wonders of Illinois, Allerton Park consists of over 1,500 acres and has long been recognized as one of Illinois’s most significant natural areas. Using geophysical survey, ISAS will be working with Allerton Park personnel to locate and preserve existing mounds at the park for preservation. This remote sensing technique allows archaeologists to see below ground surface without disturbing the site.

Strontium Isoscape Research

ISAS researchers are beginning the process of tracking human migration in the midcontinent by collecting samples of strontium isoscapes and creating a base for a library that will allow them to determine migration patterns in humans and animals.


Contact Us

Central Offices
23 E. Stadium Dr.
209 Nuclear Physics Lab
Champaign, IL 61820
Email: isas@illinois.edu
Phone: (217) 244-4244

Killarney Research Annex
726 W. Killarney St.
Urbana, IL 61801
Phone: (217) 607-5283

Springfield Research Office
1023 W. Dorlan Ave., Suite B
Springfield, IL 62702-2346
Phone: (217) 679-8141

American Bottom
Field Station
1510 N. 89th St.
Fairview Heights, IL 62208
Phone: (618) 394-0221

Central Illinois Field Station
732 W. Killarney St.
Urbana, IL 61801
Phone: (217) 607-0904

Northern Illinois Field Station
21 N. Union St.
Elgin, IL 60123
Phone: (224) 281-4730

Western Illinois Field Station–Macomb
1206 W. Jackson St.
Macomb, IL 61455
Phone: (309) 833-3097

Western Illinois Field Station–Jacksonville
604 E. Vandalia
Jacksonville, IL 62650
Phone: (217) 243-9491

Connect with Us

www.isas.illinois.edu
Illinois State Archaeological Survey
@ILStateArch
@illinoisarchaeology
@ilstatearchaeologist

© 2017 by the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois and the Illinois State Archaeological Survey
All rights reserved.
Printed in the United States of America.

Director: Dr. Thomas E. Emerson
Editors: Angela Patton and Rose Smith
Design and Publication: Rose Smith and Angela Patton

This annual report is designed to provide an overview of the survey's yearly activities. The content of this report reflects the views of the contributors, who are responsible for the facts and accuracy of the data presented herein, and does not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of IDOT, the Prairie Research Institute, or the University of Illinois.

Acknowledgments
Sincere appreciation to all the ISAS photographers and contributors. The annual report is a collaborative effort that would not be possible without their input.

Thanks to the Illinois Department of Transportation for their support of the Illinois State Archaeological Survey investigations.

Cover Image Credits
Lower: Mound 72 graphic. Courtesy of Julie McMahon, University of Illinois.