

Part I. Instructions:

1. Between now and the end of the semester, visit one of the museums, archaeology exhibits, or historic heritage sites listed below in Part II.A. View the exhibit, archaeology site, or historic heritage site in relation to one or more of the general subjects and themes we have addressed in our readings and discussions of the historical archaeology of the Americas. If you prefer to focus on a museum or site for this project other than those listed below in Part II.A, obtain prior approval from the instructor.
2. When viewing the exhibit, identify a topic to study further. You should not select an entire site itself, or a time period in general, as a topic. A topic for your analysis paper can include:
 - (a) a specific kind of artifact (such as items used for food service, clothing, household wares, furnishings, architectural materials, personal possessions, implements, weapons, or consumption goods);
or
 - (b) the interpretation or reconstruction of past social relationships (such as past relationships influenced by kinship, ethnic, class, gender, or racial dynamics);
or
 - (c) a specific cultural symbol (such as material expressions of symbols used in particular religious, cosmological, or political systems).

The instructor must approve any other type of topic.
3. Back home, find at least one major published print source and at least one internet source that present data about, or interpret, your topic.
4. Write a 5-page paper, double spaced, with 12 point font and 1 inch margins. The first full page should provide a description of the exhibit, explaining how the artifact, social relationship, or cultural symbol was explained in the context of the exhibit. The following four pages should provide a comparison of what you saw in the exhibit versus what you read about it and an explanation of why it is important relative to archaeological and historical studies. List your references at the end of the paper on a sixth page -- list the URL for an internet site, and for published works list the author, date of publication, chapter or article title, book or journal title, and the publisher and place of publication.
5. When preparing assignments, be careful that you do not plagiarize the works of another; that is, do not present the work or words of another author in a verbatim manner as your own. Consult the UIUC regulations for more information on the hazards of plagiarism, <http://studentcode.illinois.edu/>. Assignments handed in late will lose 10% of the possible credit after the class in which they are due, and 10% more for each subsequent day late. No make-ups are provided for missed assignments in the absence of documented and legitimate

medical or family emergencies. Hand in your completed paper in class on Dec. 5, 2023. This assignment counts for 25% of your course grade.

Part II.A. One of the museums, archaeology sites, or heritage sites listed below can be used as the focus for this project. Be sure to contact the museum or heritage site in advance of your visit to confirm the dates and times that they are open for visitors. If you prefer to focus on a museum or site for this project other than those listed here in Part II.A, obtain prior approval from the instructor.

Museum of the Grand Prairie. [950 North Lombard](http://www.museumofthegrandprairie.org/), Mahomet IL 61853. Daily 1pm-5pm. 217-586-2612. This museum has an emphasis on local history, early settlement, and the material culture of the Midwest and prairie frontier, with exhibits on topics such as blacksmithing, African American heritage, regional railroads, and farm life.
<http://www.museumofthegrandprairie.org/>.

DuSable Museum of African American History. 740 East 56th Place, Chicago, IL. Wednesday through Sunday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Named after Jean Baptist Pointe DuSable, a Haitian fur trader who was the first permanent settler in Chicago, this museum presents exhibits on African American history and heritage. Check their web site for new exhibits that may relate to subjects such as racial dynamics and material culture of African cultures and African Americans. <http://www.dusablemuseum.org/>.

Pullman National Historic Park. 11001 S. Cottage Grove Ave., Chicago, IL 60628. Open daily, 9am to 5pm. 773 928-7257. “The park tells the story of one of the first planned industrial communities in the United States, the sleeping car magnate who helped create it, and the workers who lived there. The district is significant for its influence on urban planning and design, as well as its role in American labor history, including the 1894 Pullman Strike and Boycott. Located in what is now the Pullman neighborhood of Chicago, the historic district includes the site of the former Pullman Palace Car Works shops and administration building, the Hotel Florence, Arcade Park and the Greenstone Church. Also within the district is the A. Philip Randolph Pullman Porter Museum, named for the prominent leader A. Philip Randolph, which recognizes and explores African American labor history.”
<https://www.nps.gov/pull/index.htm>

Lincoln’s New Salem State Historic Site. 15588 History Lane, Petersburg, Illinois 62675. Tuesdays through Saturday, 9am to 4pm. 217-632-4000. Abraham Lincoln lived in New Salem from 1831 to 1837. While the cooper shop is the only original building still standing, numerous buildings including a carding mill, gristmill, tavern, shops, a school, sawmill and cabins have been reconstructed to their 1830s appearance. Signs for an “archaeology walk” show places excavated during archaeological investigations.
<http://www.lincolnsnewsalem.com>.

Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site. 8 miles south of Charleston, Lerna, IL 62440. Wednesday to Sunday, 9am to 4pm. 217-345-6489. 86-acre historic site that is owned and operated by the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, Division of Historic Sites. The site includes a reproduction of the Lincolns’ two-room cabin that was constructed on the original

cabin site in 1935 as a Civilian Conservation Corps project. A working living history farm has been developed around the cabin, and a second farmstead, the Stephen Sargent Farm, has been moved to the site to help broaden visitors' understanding of 1840s rural life in Illinois. <http://www.lincolnlogcabin.org/>.

Fort de Chartres State Historic Site. 1350 State Route 155, Prairie du Rocher, IL 62277. This site is four miles west of Prairie du Rocher, IL on Ill. Rt. 155. Visitor hours vary during year, so call for current information; Wednesday to Sunday, 9am to 4pm. 618-284-7230. The Peithman Museum at Fort de Chartres displays many 18th-century archaeological artifacts relating to the French occupation of Randolph County. Following archaeological excavations in the 1970s, visitors today can view a partially rebuilt 18th-century fort. <http://www.fortdechartres.us/>.

New Philadelphia National Historic Park. Located 2 miles east of Barry, Illinois, off Interstate Route 72 in Pike County, Illinois. Open daily dawn to dusk. "New Philadelphia was the first known town planned and legally registered by an African American before the Civil War. Today, historical documents, oral histories from town descendants and community members, and artifacts keep the town's story alive." Currently, a large kiosk exhibit space presents a series of signs discussing the town's history, archaeology, and national significance. Archaeological excavations were covered over to protect them. Posts with QR codes have been erected around the town site at locations of past structures that were investigated archaeologically. Free WiFi is available at the town site, and you can explore the site with an Augmented Reality application on your smart phone or tablet. Get the phone/tablet application on Apple's app store or via Google Play for android devices. For information on the Augmented Reality app: <http://newphiladelphiail.org/explore-new-philadelphia/augmented-reality/>. The National Park Service web site: <https://www.nps.gov/places/new-philadelphia-nhs.htm>

Part II.B. The museums and historical societies listed below might be able to provide a focus for your project, depending upon the exhibits offered at any given time. If you wish to make a particular exhibit at one of these museums or historical societies (or at some other museum or site not listed above in Part II.A) the focus of your project, obtain prior approval from the instructor.

Spurlock Museum of World Cultures. 600 S. Gregory St., Urbana, IL. Open Tuesdays through Sundays with varying hours. Check their web site for new exhibits that may relate to the material culture of the historic period. <https://www.spurlock.illinois.edu/>.

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, 212 N. Sixth Street, Springfield, IL. Open daily, 9am to 5pm. Check their web site for new exhibits that may relate to the material culture of the historic period. <https://presidentlincoln.illinois.gov/>.

Illinois State Museum. 502 South Spring St., Springfield, IL. Open Mondays through Saturdays, 9am to 4:30pm, Sundays, 12pm to 4:30pm. Check their web site for new exhibits

that may relate to the material culture of the historic period.

<https://www.illinoisstatemuseum.org/>.

Lincoln Home National Historic Site. 426 S. 7th St. (Visitor Center) Springfield, IL 62701. Daily 8:30am to 5:00pm. 217-492-4241. In the four-block neighborhood of Abraham Lincoln's family home, the Dean House and Arnold House occasionally have exhibits that include information from excavations at the National Historic Site.

<https://www.nps.gov/liho/index.htm>.

Jacksonville's Historic Underground Railroad Heritage Sites. Jacksonville, IL. The Underground Railroad Committee of the Morgan County Historical Society provides tours, arranged by appointment, of homes believed to have been involved in escape routes, including Woodlawn Plantation and other locations in Jacksonville.

<https://jacksonvilleil.org/get-away/underground-railroad/>.

Chicago History Museum (formerly the Chicago Historical Society Museum). 1601 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL (312) 642-4600. Check their web site for new exhibits that may relate to the material culture of the historic period. <https://home.chicagohistory.org/>.

The Field Museum. 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL. Check their web site for new exhibits that may relate to our course subjects. <https://www.fieldmuseum.org/>. For example, the exhibit on African cultures includes elements by which visitors can "Contemplate how African traditions endured the tragedy of slavery to become interwoven in American culture today" (<https://www.fieldmuseum.org/exhibitions/africa>). Another exhibit focuses on Native American cultures (<https://www.fieldmuseum.org/exhibitions/native-truths-our-voices-our-stories>).

Colonial Cahokia State Historic Sites. Cahokia Courthouse, 107 Elm St. Cahokia, IL 62206. (618) 332-1782. Visitor hours vary during year; call for current information. Built by the French about 1730-1740, the Cahokia Courthouse served as the center of political activity in the Northwest Territory in the late 18th century. The building was dismantled in 1901 and reconstructed on its original site in 1939. WPA excavations in the 1930s have been included in the courthouse exhibits. <https://www.nps.gov/places/cahokia-courthouse-state-historic-site.htm>.

Customs House Museum. 1400 Washington Ave., Cairo, IL 62914. (618) 734-9632. Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 12pm, and 1pm to 3pm. The Federal Customs House, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is a three-story limestone building with an extensive collection of African American heritage, information on the Civil War era iron clad ship, the USS Cairo. <https://www.nps.gov/places/cairo-custom-house-museum.htm>.

Missouri History Museum. Lindell and DeBaliviere, in Forest Park, St. Louis, MO. (314) 746-4599. Check their web site for new exhibits that may relate to the material culture of the historic period. <https://mohistory.org/society>.

Museum of Westward Expansion, at the Jefferson National Memorial and Gateway Arch, St. Louis, MO. “The Museum of Westward Expansion preserves some of the rarest artifacts from the days of Lewis and Clark. Through our exciting exhibits, you can explore the world of the American Indians and the 19th century pioneers who helped shape the history of the American West.” <https://www.nps.gov/articles/jefferson-national-expansion-memorial.htm>.

Indiana State Museum. 650 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN. (317) 232-1637. Check their web site for new exhibits that may relate to the material culture of the historic period. <https://www.indianamuseum.org/>.

[Last updated Aug. 7, 2023]