

SOCIETY FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY
2026 Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology



PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

**59th Annual Conference On
Historical and Underwater Archaeology
Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A.
7–10 January 2026**

The 2026 SHA conference will be held at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, located on the riverfront in downtown Detroit, just across the Detroit River from Windsor, Canada. The conference hotel's prime location in downtown Detroit provides direct access to public transportation and world-class restaurants, museums, architecture, cultural institutions, and archaeology that speak to the city's vibrant history of innovation, industry, and creativity.

The conference theme of "Mobility" is inspired by Detroit's coastal location, industrial heritage, diverse cultural communities and history as a city of cultural and protest movements. Central to the Great Lakes region, Detroit's history has been shaped by Anishinaabeg, Wendat/Wyandot, and French Canadians who traversed the Detroit River in canoes, by African Americans who self-emancipated via the Underground Railroad, by laborers who made Detroit the "Arsenal of Democracy" building tanks and planes during World War II, by generations of local activists who led national civil rights and labor movements, and now by automotive companies developing self-driving and electric cars in an increasingly revitalized city. Detroit's livelihood has long depended upon its successes (and failures) in moving people, ideas, and goods from one place to another across the Great Lakes and the world.

The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the U.S. Declaration of Independence, as well as the 325th anniversary of the French settlement of Detroit by Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac. The year will not only be a monumental time for the city as it reflects upon its storied past, but an opportunity for historical archaeology to speak to the public and intersect with commemorative celebrations.

Michigan is home to a longstanding, vibrant, and collegial tradition of collaborative and community-engaged historical archaeologists who have made important contributions to the development of the field over the past 60 years. Michigan archaeologists were at the forefront of organizing SHA in 1967 and the society has deep roots in Detroit. Arnold R. Pilling of Wayne State University was one of SHA's founders, served as its first secretary/treasurer, and conducted urban historical archaeology in downtown Detroit during the 1960s. Other first-generation SHA members established the field's theoretical and methodological practices, including David Brose, Ira Butterfield, Charles Cleland, James Fitting, George L. Miller, Vergil Noble, and Lyle Stone. Educational institutions across the state, especially Western Michigan University, Wayne State University, Michigan State University, and Michigan Technological University, have been at the forefront of public, urban, contact-period and industrial archaeological scholarship since the 1960s (producing at least three Harrington Medal recipients in the process).

Michigan boasts more than 20,000 archaeological sites. Among the most prominent is Fort Michilimackinac, an 18th-century fortified trading village at the northern tip of Michigan's Lower Peninsula that is home to the longest continuously operating historical archaeological excavation project in the United States. Fort Michilimackinac, Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary, River Raisin National Battlefield Park, and other heritage sites operate exemplary archaeological research and interpretive programs. Archaeologists working in Detroit and across the metropolitan region continue to be at the forefront of cutting-edge archaeological scholarship, with their current focus on sites associated with the Civil Rights movement, Underground Railroad, Native American boarding schools, music heritage, and postindustrial urban transformations.

The organizing committee is proud to host the first SHA conference to be held in the Upper Midwest of the United States since 1973 and we look forward to showcasing the phenomenal archaeology and cultural heritage of the city of Detroit, the state of Michigan, and the Great Lakes region.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Conference Co-Chairs

Krysta Ryzewski

Professor and Chair of Anthropology, Wayne State University

John M. Chenoweth

Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Program Chair

Lynn Evans
Curator of Archaeology, Mackinac State Historic Parks, Michigan

Program Chair – Terrestrial

Rebecca Graff
Associate Professor of Anthropology, Lake Forest College

Program Chair – Underwater

Wayne Lusardi
State Maritime Archaeologist of Michigan

Local Events Chair

Amy Krull
Federal Projects Archaeologist, Michigan State Historic Preservation Office

Workshop and Roundtable Luncheon Director

Jade Luiz
Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Metropolitan State University of Denver

Volunteer Coordinators

Samantha Ellens
Archaeology Collections Manager, Michigan State University Museum

Sarah Pounders
Preservation Associate, Preservation Detroit

Social Media Coordinator

Nathan Nietering
Project Coordinator, Michigan State Historic Preservation Office

THE VENUE: DETROIT MARRIOTT AT THE RENAISSANCE CENTER

All conference sessions will be held at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center at 400 Renaissance Drive. The riverfront hotel welcomes you with a contemporary design, a newly renovated modern lobby, and the Fuell restaurant. The 73-story conference hotel offers rooms with spectacular views of the city, Detroit River, and Canada. SHA has reserved a limited number of rooms for the conference at a rate of \$180 per night (plus state and local taxes—15%) for single or double occupancy. Subject to the availability of rooms in the SHA block, this rate will be available from Monday, 5 January through Sunday, 11 January 2026, and will expire if not booked before **15 December 2025**. Please note that any changes in departure date made after check-in may result in an early departure fee.

Reserve your room at the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center:
<https://book.passkey.com/go/SHAAnnualConference>

Guests may park in Beaubien Garage, which offers in-and-out privileges to hotel guests for a flat rate of \$25 per day and can be charged to guestrooms. Valet parking is also available for \$30 daily/\$40 overnight.

Check-In: Check-in time is 4:00 P.M., and check-out time is 11:00 A.M. For contactless arrival, use Mobile Check-In and Mobile Key through the Marriott Bonvoy app if you are a Bonvoy member.

Food and Beverage: The hotel restaurant and bar, Fuell, is currently open daily for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The Motor City Pantry opens daily from 6:00 A.M.–midnight and offers grab-and-go options. Illy Cafe is currently open daily from 6:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M.

Housekeeping: The hotel has resumed providing daily stay-over housekeeping service. If you need extra towels or any additional amenities, they are available at the front desk for pick up, or you may dial “0” from any house phone to request these items be delivered to your hotel room.

Wi-Fi: \$14.95 a day. Complimentary basic internet is available in guest rooms with individual Bonvoy membership. You can join by using this link: <http://www.joinmarriottbonvoy.com/DTWDT>.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations must be made 48 hours prior to arrival. Please note that the hotel will assess a one-night fee if you cancel after the deadline.

GETTING TO AND AROUND DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Airport

Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW)—DTW is located 21 miles from the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center. The airport has two separate terminals: the McNamara Terminal and the Evans Terminal. DTW is a hub for Delta (and Sky Team alliance) airlines and is also accessible by most major U.S. commercial airlines and several international airlines (Air France, Lufthansa, KLM, Virgin, Royal Jordanian). An airport shuttle bus connects DTW to downtown Detroit. Rideshare and taxi services are also readily available. (Details below.)

Ground Transportation (from DTW)

Public Transportation—Detroit Air Xpress (DAX) www.dax-bus.com/ connects downtown Detroit and DTW. DAX operates from 3:30 A.M. to 11 P.M. every day, including holidays. Amenities of the service include room for luggage storage, comfortable seating, charging ports and Wi-Fi. The DAX bus services the Evans Terminal at the Ground Transportation Center and the McNamara Terminal on the Departures Level. Tickets are available for \$8 at the door or \$6 in advance.

In Detroit, the DAX shuttle picks up and drops off passengers at 1119 Washington Boulevard, between Michigan Avenue and State Street. Travelers may then board the free People Mover monorail at the adjacent Michigan Avenue station for direct service to the Marriott at the Renaissance Center. Uber/Lyft service is also available from the bus station to the hotel or one can walk safely to the Marriott along the riverfront (0.8 miles away).

SMART www.smartbus.org provides service to and from DTW. SMART offers a high-frequency service called FAST, which has limited stops and connects downtown Detroit with the suburbs quickly. FAST Route 261 (Michigan Avenue) makes stops at both DTW terminals. [Check the SMART schedule for times](#). At the Evans Terminal, SMART picks up and drops off in the Ground Transportation Center. At the McNamara Terminal, SMART picks up and drops off on the north end of the Departures Level (Ticketing Level) near Door #1. In Detroit, depending on the day and time of the route, the FAST Route 261 bus stops at Larned and Brush Streets, one block north of the Marriott at the Renaissance Center, or at Jefferson and Beaubien Streets, directly across the street from the hotel.

In both terminals, please follow signs for Municipal Transportation/Regular Scheduled Bus Service.

Rideshare (Uber/Lyft/etc.)—Use rideshare service apps to book a ride to and from DTW. Passengers can only meet their driver within the designated rideshare areas that are located inside the Big Blue Deck for the Evans Terminal on Level 1 and on Level 4 of the McNamara Parking Garage.

McNamara Terminal: Once across the Skybridge, continue to the bank of elevators located on Level 6 of the Ground Transportation Center. Take the elevator down to Level 4 to locate the rideshare staging area.

Evans Terminal: Once across the Skybridge, continue through the sliding glass doors. Take the elevator or escalator on the right down to Level 1 to locate the Rideshare staging area.

Taxis and Luxury Sedans—Convenient, on-demand transportation is minutes away with Metro Cars and Metro Cab. Request transportation from the airport to other points in the region, day or night. Vehicles that are accessible for persons with disabilities are available upon request. To make a reservation, contact Metro Cars or Metro Cab or visit the Metro Cars/Metro Cab kiosks located in the Ground Transportation Centers at each terminal.

- Metro Cars: [800.456.1701](tel:800.456.1701)
- Metro Cab: [734.997.6500](tel:734.997.6500)

From McNamara Terminal—Taxi and luxury sedan services dispatch in the middle of the Ground Transportation Center, located on Level 4. Upon arrival at DTW and once all baggage has been claimed, follow signs to Ground Transportation to catch a ride.

From Evans Terminal—Taxi and luxury sedan services dispatch from the upper level of the Ground Transportation Center. Upon arrival at DTW and once all baggage has been claimed, follow signs to Ground Transportation on Level 4 to catch a ride.

Car Rental—DTW provides access to most major rental car agencies, which offer a wide selection of vehicles. Once you have claimed your baggage, follow signs to Ground Transportation and take a courtesy shuttle to the rental car campus, located at the northeast corner of the airport along Lucas Drive. Rental car shuttle bus stops can be found in the Ground Transportation Centers of both the McNamara Terminal Parking Garage and the Big Blue Deck of the Evans Terminal.

Note: If you are renting from an off-airport rental car agency, shuttle pickup may be at a separate location. Please follow signs for Off-Airport Rental Car Shuttles.

Windsor International Airport (YQG)—YQG is located in Windsor, Ontario, 12 miles from the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, and it may be a more affordable option for Canadian attendees who wish to avoid international air travel fees. Multiple flights to/from Toronto operate daily at YQG. Taxis and rideshare services (Uber, Lyft) are available, as well as Avis, Budget, and National Car Rental. Bus and rideshare services operate across the international border between Windsor and downtown Detroit (see below).

Train

Detroit Train Station (DET)—Detroit is served by Amtrak. The train station is located at 11 West Baltimore Street, 5 miles from the conference hotel. Note this is NOT the recently beautifully renovated Michigan Central Station. Rideshare services and the QLine streetcar operate from the Amtrak station.

Windsor Train Station in Windsor, Ontario, is served by VIA Rail Canada, with regional service to Toronto. The train station is located 4 miles from the conference hotel. Bus and rideshare services operate across the international border between Windsor and downtown Detroit (see below).

Bus

Detroit is served by Greyhound. The bus station is located at 1001 Howard Street, 2 miles from the conference hotel. The Greyhound Bus also stops at the Detroit Train Station.

Ground Transportation (around the city)

Detroit People Mover—The Detroit People Mover is an elevated monorail loop that connects riders to restaurants and entertainment and provides unmatched views of the city and the riverfront. It winds through downtown seven days a week. Some of the top destinations along the loop include Huntington Place, GM Renaissance Center, Hollywood Casino and Hotel, Greektown, YMCA, Detroit Opera, Detroit Athletic Club, Music Hall, Gem

Theatre, Ford Field, Comerica Park, The Fillmore, Fox Theatre, Little Caesars Arena, and too many bars and restaurants to list here.

Schedule: 7:00 A.M.–10:30 P.M. weekdays, with an extension to 12 A.M. on Friday, 10 A.M.–12 A.M. Saturday, 10 A.M.–8 P.M. Sunday

Cost: Free!

QLINE Detroit—The QLINE streetcar is a versatile free way to get up and down Detroit's main thoroughfare, Woodward Avenue, without a car. The comfortable glass stations will keep you out of the weather and stops are located near lower Woodward's best attractions like Hart Plaza, Spirit Plaza, Campus Martius, Grand Circus Park, District Detroit, Midtown, Wayne State University, College for Creative Studies, Cultural Center Museums, New Center, Amtrak, and the Fisher Building. There are over 100 places to dine and shop along the QLINE and it connects to several crosstown bus routes and the People Mover at Grand Circus Park. Extend your trip up Woodward on DDOT or FAST Woodward.

Schedule: Mon–Sat (8 A.M.–12 A.M.), Sun (8 A.M.–9 P.M.)

Cost: *Free!*

Detroit Department of Transportation (DDOT): You can ride DDOT's buses to just about anywhere in the city! Wherever you are downtown, you are not far from a DDOT stop. Use the TransitApp to plan your trip, locate the nearest stop and track your bus.

Schedule: DDOT has 12 24-hour routes and 30 regular routes.

Cost: \$2 = 4-hour pass; \$5 = 24-hour pass. (Pay with cash or use the Token Transit App.)

*Reduced fares available for kids (6–18), seniors, and persons with disabilities. Kids 5 and under FREE.

Rideshare—Uber and Lyft operate in the city and rides are easy to access.

Taxicabs—Taxicabs are available and can be hailed by the hotel staff.

Windsor, Ontario, is located directly across the river from downtown Detroit. It is a quick border crossing by either the Ambassador Bridge or Detroit-Windsor Tunnel. The Gordie Howe International Bridge is scheduled to open in late 2025.

FLiXBUS operates three trips a day between Detroit and Windsor. See [Bus from Detroit, MI to Windsor, ON—Affordable bus tickets](https://www.flixbus.com/bus-routes/bus-detroit-mi-windsor-on) (<https://www.flixbus.com/bus-routes/bus-detroit-mi-windsor-on>) for more information.

If you are a U.S. citizen, you will need one of the following identification documents to return to the United States by car: U.S. Passport Book, U.S. Passport Card, Enhanced Driver's License, Trusted Traveler Program Cards NEXUS, SENTRI, or FAST. Check with the U.S. Department of State and Canada Border Services Agency for the most up-to-date information.

WORKSHOPS

All workshops will be held on Wednesday, 7 January 2026.

WKS-1 Historic Button Identification

Instructor: Lindsay Bloch, Tempered Archaeological Services, LLC

Half-Day Workshop: 1:00 P.M.–5:00 P.M.

Maximum Enrollment: 30

Cost: \$40 for SHA members, \$50 for nonmembers, \$25 for SHA student members, and \$35 for student nonmembers

Buttons are charismatic “small finds” and often offer useful dating or contextual information. However, their relative rarity and poor preservation in archaeological contexts makes them difficult to identify. Furthermore, most historic button guides emphasize ornate or specialty buttons, not the everyday buttons that most people wore. Using a material and technological approach, in this workshop we will cover how to identify 18th–20th-century buttons of metal, glass, porcelain, organic materials, and synthetics. We will discuss chronological change in button manufacture and decoration, as well as gendered aspects of button use. Through lecture and hands-on practice, participants will learn to identify button composition, date, and use context. Participants will work with real antique, nonarchaeological buttons throughout the workshop, and will receive a small study collection to keep. Digital resources will be provided.

WKS-2 Water, Water, Everywhere; Hey, What’s That in the Drink? Submerged Cultural Resources Awareness

Instructors: Kendra Kennedy, RPA (Wisconsin Historical Society); Garry Momber (Maritime Archaeology Trust), Joseph Grinnan (AECOM)

Half-Day Workshop: 9:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M.

Maximum Enrollment: 25

Cost: \$50 for SHA members, \$60 for nonmembers, \$25 for SHA student members, and \$35 for student nonmembers

Do you manage submerged resources, but you are not an underwater archaeologist? Are you a land-based professional looking to broaden your skill set and knowledge of cultural resources? Do you just want to know what all the diving fuss is about? Land managers, archaeologists, cultural resources specialists, and historic preservation professionals are often tasked with managing, interpreting, and reviewing archaeological assessments of submerged cultural resources. This seminar, which is designed to introduce nonspecialists to issues specific to underwater archaeology, is primarily focused on North America but also offers case studies from Europe. Participants will learn about different types of underwater cultural heritage (UCH) and some of the methods employed to help protect those sites. This seminar is not intended to teach participants how to do underwater archaeology, but instead will briefly introduce different investigative techniques and international best practices. The purpose of this seminar is to assist nonspecialists in recognizing the potential for UCH resources in their areas of impact. Come find out what waits in the deep and what to do about it! Objectives: Help terrestrial archaeologists and land managers to (1) identify the potential for UCH resources in affected areas, (2)

recognize best practices for treatment of UCH, and (3) understand basic qualifications required for proper documentation of UCH.

WKS-3 Everything You Wanted to Know about Archaeometry but Were Afraid to Ask: Tips and Guidelines for Collaborating with the Archaeometry Lab at MURR

Instructors: Matthew C. Greer (Southern Illinois University), Whitney A. Goodwin (University of Missouri Research Reactor), James A. Davenport (University of Missouri Research Reactor), Alejandro J. Figueroa (University of Missouri), Brandi L. MacDonald (University of Missouri Research Reactor), Virginie Renson (University of Missouri Research Reactor), Chad Rankle (University of California, San Diego), Wesley D. Stoner (University of Missouri Research Reactor), Jeffrey R. Ferguson (University of Missouri Research Reactor)

Half-Day Workshop: 1:00 P.M.–5:00 P.M.

Maximum Enrollment: 40

Cost: \$40 for SHA members, \$50 for nonmembers, \$25 for SHA student members, and \$35 for student nonmembers

Do you have questions about provenance research? Have you ever considered undertaking chemical analysis but are not sure where to start? Are you curious about what techniques and training opportunities are available to students and early career researchers or to those looking to broaden their use of archaeological science? Come join the team of experts from the Archaeometry Laboratory at MURR for a workshop that will cover a wide range of provenance topics and collaborative research opportunities. We will discuss the use of methods including neutron activation analysis (NAA), X-ray fluorescence (XRF), and elemental and isotopic analysis by mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS, MC-ICP-MS) and how these can be applied to varied archaeological materials—from ceramics to glasses, metals, and bone. We will also discuss aspects of our legacy NAA databases and the lab's data management policies, our NSF-funded opportunities for education and training, and our NSF subsidy program for researchers in academic and nonprofit organizations.

WKS-4 Archaeological Illustration

Instructor: Jack Scott, Jack Scott Archaeological Illustration

Full-day Workshop: 9:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

Maximum Enrollment: 30

Cost: \$90 for SHA members, \$110 for nonmembers, \$55 for SHA student members, and \$75 for student nonmembers

Do you want your pen-and-ink drawings to look like the good ones? Pen and ink is all basically a matter of skill and technique, which can be easily taught, and the results can be done faster and cheaper and are considerably more attractive than the black-and-white illustrations done on computer. Workshop participants will learn about materials and techniques, page design and layout, maps, lettering, scientific illustration conventions, problems posed by different kinds of artifacts, working size, reproduction concerns, ethics, and dealing with authors and publishers. A reading list and pen and paper (tracing vellum) will be provided, but feel free to bring your own pens, tools, books and, of course, questions. Be ready to work!

WKS-5 Reconstructing Past Life from Bones: Introduction to Skeletal Pathology and Trauma Recognition

Instructor: Jaymelee J. Kim, Ph.D., RPA, D-ABFA, Department of Anthropology, Wayne State University

Three-hour workshop: 9:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M.

Maximum Enrollment: 20

Cost: \$50 for members, \$60 for nonmembers, \$25 for student members, and \$35 for student nonmembers

This workshop is designed for those with basic osteological knowledge who wish to expand their understanding of skeletal trauma and pathology. Participants will engage in detailed examination and interpretation of skeletal remains and high-quality replicas to reconstruct aspects of past lives, focusing on common pathologies and trauma patterns in historical populations. Through a combination of lecture and practical application, attendees will gain skills in identifying and diagnosing skeletal trauma, diseases, and stress indicators to interpret how physical conditions and injuries impacted the lives of individuals in the past. Case studies will also be reviewed. While no advanced osteological training is required, participants should be familiar with basic human skeletal anatomy. There will also be a Q&A portion during which participants can ask biological anthropology-related questions.

WKS-6 An Archaeology of Firearms and Ammunition Components

Instructor: Douglas D. Scott, Applied Anthropology and Geography Program, Colorado Mesa University

Half-Day Workshop: 1:00 P.M.–5:00 P.M.

Maximum Enrollment: 25

Cost: \$80 for SHA members, \$100 for nonmembers, \$50 for SHA student members, and \$70 for student nonmembers

Archaeology of Firearms. Over the past several centuries, firearms technology burst onto world history. Guns brought about massive changes in the scope and nature of human conflict and subsistence practices. Firearms dramatically altered economic adjustments and behavioral patterns across the world. Firearms became distinctive elements of regional material culture. It is not surprising that gun parts and ammunition are nearly ubiquitous in North American historical archaeological assemblages. With thoughtful consideration, archaeological residues of firearms usage can provide insights into the human past.

Objectives: This workshop is being offered to discuss and demonstrate methods for studying firearms, firearm parts and ammunition components found in archaeological contexts. The archaeology of firearms refers to the information, analytical techniques, and conceptual approaches that archaeologists can use to understand the material residues of guns and in turn investigate important human behaviors that involved firearms use. A workshop component will discuss the safe handling of live ammunition and lead bullets.

WKS-7A&B Conservation Challenges in Archaeological Collections: A Practical Workshop

Instructors: Christina Bisulca and Liz Homberger, Conservation Department, Detroit Institute of Arts

Quarter-Day Workshop: 7A 10:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M.; 7B 2:00 P.M.–4:00 P.M.

Maximum Enrollment: 10 per workshop

Cost: \$15

Archaeological collections frequently present complex conservation challenges. This workshop introduces participants to the fundamental conservation concerns archaeologists are likely to encounter in both field and museum contexts. Through case-based discussion, we will address issues such as soluble salt contamination in ceramics, identification of active corrosion and strategies for mitigating, problematic restoration materials from historic treatments, and appropriate storage and housing materials for various archaeological objects. Participants will also gain hands-on experience with basic microchemical tests that can help identify common materials and degradation products. The goal of this workshop is to provide archaeologists with a practical understanding of conservation concerns, enabling more-effective collaboration with conservators and more-informed stewardship of collections.

This workshop will be held at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Avenue.

TOURS

Tours T-1, T-2, T-3, and T-4 will be on Wednesday, 7 January 2026 and Tour T-5 will be on Saturday, 10 January 2026.

T-1 Paris of the Midwest Tour

Date: Wednesday, 7 January 2026

Time: 12:00 P.M.–5:00 P.M.

Maximum Number of Participants: 40

Cost: \$42 per person

Showcasing the splendor of late 19th- and early 20th-century Detroit, this daytime tour will visit Belle Isle Park, affectionately known as the “Jewel of Detroit.” Designed in the 1880s, this Frederick Law Olmstead park is on an island positioned in the international waters of the Detroit River. The park contains several historic public landmarks, including the Dossin Great Lakes Museum.

Back on the mainland, we will tour Pewabic Pottery. Founded by Mary Chase Perry Stratton in 1903, Pewabic is one of the country's oldest continuously operating potteries. Pewabic tiles can be found adorning the exteriors and interiors of many buildings and homes throughout Detroit. We will then visit Michigan Central Station, a former passenger rail station and former iconic “ruin” of Detroit, in the city's historic Corktown neighborhood. Originally constructed in 1912, Michigan Central recently emerged as a historic preservation success after a massive 10-year renovation that included contributions from skilled carpenters, masons, and craftspeople from across the globe.

This daytime tour is by bus and will leave from the conference hotel, the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, at 12:00 P.M. and will return to the hotel at approximately 5:00 P.M. Lunch is not provided on this tour. Light snacks and beverages will be provided on the bus.

T-2 Detroit Military History

Date: Wednesday, 7 January 2026

Time: 10:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

Maximum Number of Participants: 50

Cost: \$60 per person

Lunch Menu Choices (select one):

- Hammin' Around the River—Spiral sliced ham, rosemary garlic aioli, smoked provolone cheese, spring mixed greens, and tomato on whole grain bread.
- Gobblin' Up the Goodness—Smoked turkey, garlic aioli, pesto, cheddar cheese, spring mixed greens, and tomato on whole grain bread.
- Gouda Garden—Spring mixed greens, tomato, cucumber, whole grain mustard, pesto, and smoked gouda cheese on whole grain bread.
- Michigan Salad—Spring mixed greens, dried berries, dried apples, walnuts, salad blend cheese with raspberry walnut vinaigrette.
- ½ Michigan Salad + ½ Hammin' Around the River
- ½ Michigan Salad + ½ Gobblin' Up the Goodness
- ½ Michigan Salad + ½ Gouda Garden

This daytime tour will highlight areas of Detroit's military history. The first stop will be River Raisin National Battlefield Park, the scene of two costly War of 1812 battles, as well as a settlement of French-descended farmers on the "long lot" or "ribbon farm" model. Extensive indoor exhibits and films cover what has been called the "60 year war for the Old Northwest" between Native, British, French, and American forces, as well as the War of 1812 and its aftermath, and will be supplemented by comments from the archaeologist who has been excavating the site since 2019, John Chenoweth.

The tour will continue to Detroit's Historic Fort Wayne. This site, now a city park, contains an original limestone "star fort," which was constructed in 1845. The significance of the Fort Wayne site predates military use, as Native American communities have utilized this space along the Detroit River for millennia. The site continues to serve as a place of importance for Potawatomi communities and other Native American groups. The site was also once a colonial trading site, a diplomatic meeting ground, a center of military logistics, a stop on the Underground Railroad, and a home to military troops and civilians.

Our tour will conclude with a visit to the Gordon L. Grosscup Museum of Anthropology at Wayne State University in the campus's historic Old Main Building to view an exhibit about the archaeology of forts across Michigan (including collections from Fort Michilimackinac, Fort St. Joseph, and Fort Lernoult).

This tour is by motor coach and will leave from the conference hotel, the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, promptly at 10:00 A.M. and will return to the hotel at approximately 5:00 P.M. A sit-down lunch stop is included as part of the tour.

T-3 Detroit Music Heritage

Date: Wednesday, 7 January 2026

Time: 12:00 P.M.–4:30 P.M.

Maximum Number of Participants: 24

Cost: \$71 per person

This exciting daytime tour will feature sites around the city important to the cultural identity of Detroit and its unique musical heritage. Stops will include the recently-renovated Blue Bird Inn jazz club and the ruins of the former Grande Ballroom. The tour will conclude with a visit to Third Man Records in Detroit's historic Cass Corridor. At Third Man, tour participants will learn about the vinyl record pressing process and watch as records are actually being pressed.

This tour is by bus and will leave from the conference hotel, the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, at 12:00 P.M. and will return to the hotel at approximately 4:30 P.M. Closed-toe shoes are required for this tour. Lunch is not provided on this tour. Light snacks and beverages will be provided on the bus. During the stop at Third Man, there will be an opportunity to grab refreshments from adjacent businesses.

T-4 Walking Tour of Historic Downtown Detroit

Date: Wednesday, 7 January 2026

Time: 1:00 P.M.–3:00 P.M.

Maximum Number of Participants: 15

Cost: \$25 per person

This daytime walking tour hosted by Preservation Detroit will feature historic spaces and buildings (including indoor stops!) around downtown Detroit.

This leisurely paced tour is by foot and will leave from the conference hotel, the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, at 1:00 P.M. and return to the hotel at approximately 3:00 P.M.

T-5 Detroit “Bar” chaeology with Mickey Lyons

Date: Saturday, 10 January 2026

Time: 6:30 P.M.–9:30 P.M.

Maximum Number of Participants: 35

Cost: \$83 per person

From frontier saloons to verified Prohibition-era speakeasies, Detroit's bars and taverns tell the stories of the people and events that shaped life during the 19th and 20th centuries. Join Detroit cultural historian and “barchaeologist” Mickey Lyons on this evening tour for a

deep dive into some actual dives, as well as some family-run centenary saloons and lounges.

Mickey Lyons is a James Beard-nominated journalist, historian, and author living in Detroit. Her work has been featured in NBC News, Lonely Planet, and the Discovery Channel. She explores the intersection of beverage culture and American history in the industrial Midwest, especially in Detroit. Her current project is to map and research the history of all of Detroit's surviving Prohibition-era speakeasies.

This evening tour will be by bus and will leave from the conference hotel, the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, at 6:30 P.M. and will return to the hotel at 9:30 P.M. This bus tour includes transportation to and from all venues but does not include drinks purchased. Participants must be 21 years of age or older and must bring appropriate identification on this tour to verify age.

ROUNDTABLE LUNCHEONS

Roundtable luncheons are scheduled from 12:00 P.M. to 1:15 P.M. on Thursday, 8 January 2026 and Friday, 9 January 2026. Maximum of 10 people per roundtable luncheon.

Luncheon choices (select one):

- House roasted turkey with vine-ripe tomato, arugula, and avocado purée on a multigrain bun
- Vegan/gluten-free option: Grilled balsamic marinated vegetables, tahini hummus, fresh spinach, oven-roasted tomatoes in an herb wrap

Thursday, 8 January 2026

RL-1 Living Museums in the Sea

Host: Charles Beeker, Indiana University

Living Museums in the Sea is an internationally recognized model for the protection, preservation, and public interpretation of submerged cultural heritage, specifically historic shipwrecks. This model integrates conservation science, maritime archaeology, and sustainable tourism to safeguard shipwreck sites while promoting their educational and cultural value.

RL-2 Publishing for Early Career Researchers and Students

Hosts: Alasdair Brooks, Editor-in-Chief, *Historical Archaeology*; Sarah Holland, SHA Co-Publications Editor; and Mary Sue Daoud, Publisher, Springer

You have done the research and synthesized the results. Now you need to share your findings with the community. What are your options? SHA provides many ways to publish your results: our journal *Historical Archaeology*, books co-published with academic presses, and print-on-demand special publications. This roundtable luncheon offers a relaxed environment for early career researchers and students to ask questions about the SHA

publication program specifically or the academic publishing landscape in historical archaeology more generally.

RL-3 Words and Things: Textual and Linguistic Methods in Historical Archaeology

Host: Stephen Chrisomalis, Wayne State University

Because historical archaeologists engage with archival and textual material, inevitably they must draw on words in context as well as things in context. This workshop introduces text analysis as a set of approaches from linguistic anthropology to expand the range of questions that can be asked and answered. Using two case studies from early 20th-century American newspapers, we will explore concepts such as audience, semantics, stance, formality, and metaphor to allow a richer understanding of historical texts. This is an interactive, hands-on event that requires no prior expertise in textual analysis or linguistic methods.

Friday, 9 January 2026

RL-4 Reforming an Urban Archaeology Network #1

Hosts: Urban Archaeology Working Group—Kelly Britt, CUNY-Brooklyn College; Eleanor Breen, City Archaeologist at City of Alexandria, Virginia; Sarah Platt, College of Charleston; and Krysta Ryzewski, Wayne State University

In the 1980s, a working group of urban archaeologists organized within SHA to survey the state of the field, compile enabling legislation and program information, highlight important research emerging from cities, and discuss the challenges posed by working in this environment. The practice of archaeology in densely populated and dynamic urban environments continues to require collective energy. This roundtable is intended to be a reflection upon the challenges, goals, and themes of and in urban archaeology as it stands in 2025 with the intent of building an Urban Archaeology Working Group in the spirit of this previous collective, geared toward collaborating on issues—in both theory and praxis—faced in cities today. Researchers invested in these questions working both in the United States and abroad are encouraged to attend for open discussion.

RL-5 Reforming an Urban Archaeology Network #2

Hosts: Urban Archaeology Working Group—Kelly Britt, CUNY-Brooklyn College; Eleanor Breen, City Archaeologist at City of Alexandria, Virginia; Sarah Platt, College of Charleston; and Krysta Ryzewski, Wayne State University

In the 1980s, a working group of urban archaeologists organized within SHA to survey the state of the field, compile enabling legislation and program information, highlight important research emerging from cities, and discuss the challenges posed by working in this environment. The practice of archaeology in densely populated and dynamic urban environments continues to require collective energy. This roundtable is intended to be a reflection upon the challenges, goals, and themes of and in urban archaeology as it stands in 2025 with the intent of building an Urban Archaeology Working Group in the spirit of this previous collective, geared toward collaborating on issues—in both theory and

praxis—faced in cities today. Researchers invested in these questions working both in the United States and abroad are encouraged to attend for open discussion.

RL-6 Funding on Fire: Finding Support for Marginalized Archaeologies under Threat

Hosts: Alicia Odewale, Archaeology Rewritten and National Geographic Explorer; and Brendane Tynes, Wenner-Gren Foundation

In a moment when marginalized communities and the archaeological sites connected to them are increasingly under threat, from environmental disasters to political upheaval and massive antidiversity defunding campaigns to modern development and gentrification, the need for sustainable, private, and value-aligned funding has never been more urgent. This roundtable invites archaeologists, community collaborators, and grant writers to come together for a candid conversation about what it takes to support marginalized archaeologies and communities in crisis. Building on the previous year's discussion of community-centered publication strategies, this session will focus on how to navigate shrinking resources, shifting priorities, and the often-invisible barriers to access for archaeologists writing grants in 2026. Participants will hear from scholars who have secured support for historic sites under threat, research projects that proudly connect to Black descendant communities, and grassroots efforts for social justice and global repair and also get a peek inside two of the largest granters for community-based archaeology in the world, The Wenner-Gren Foundation and The National Geographic Society. Whether you are applying for your first grant or seeking to sustain a long-term project or recently had your grant award rescinded or terminated, this roundtable will offer practical tools, honest dialog, and space to imagine a more equitable funding future before we let the fire burn us all out.

RL-7 Collections and Curation

Host: Elizabeth Bollwerk, Thomas Jefferson Foundation, Inc./DAACS

Sponsor: SHA Collections and Curation Committee

The SHA Collections and Curation Committee offers this roundtable as a forum for discussing current and ongoing issues surrounding the long-term care of collections, the data generated by the work that we do, and how to encourage/facilitate collections-based research. The discussion will be driven by participant concerns and topics.

CONFERENCE WELCOME AND PLENARY SESSION

Welcome and Awards Ceremony

Wednesday, 7 January 2026

Time: 6:00 P.M.–6:30 P.M.

Join us Wednesday evening for the opening session of the SHA 2026 conference for presentation of the Kathleen Kirk Gilmore Dissertation Award, the James Deetz Book Award, and the SHA Awards of Merit.

Plenary Session

Time: 6:30 P.M.–8:00 P.M.

Celebrating Michigan Archaeology: Tales of Innovation, Movement, and Mobility

Michigan is recognized internationally as an incubator for invention, technology, music, and social movements. This spirit of innovation carries over into the realm of historical archaeology. This year's SHA Detroit conference plenary session celebrates the contributions and legacies of Michigan's historical archaeologists, who have long held a reputation in the discipline as innovators. For nearly 70 years, archaeologists in Michigan have had leading roles in developing the field of historical archaeology. Inspired by assemblages of the past as much as they are motivated to mobilize future opportunities for growth and change, Michigan's archaeologists are skilled practitioners and proud stewards of the region's historical archaeological record.

Plenary speakers will introduce a range of archaeological projects and community-involved initiatives in Michigan, from the decades-long excavations at Fort Michilimackinac to the recent restoration project at the one-time home of Malcolm X, highlighting connections with the conference theme of mobility. Over the past four centuries, Michigan and the Great Lakes that border it have been the nexus of multiple forms of mobility and movements, all of which are visible in the historical archaeological record: shipping, mining, trade, migration, manufacturing, escape, and protest. Indigenous communities changed in response to the 17th-century arrival of European goods and alliances brought by missionaries, fur traders, and French settlers to the "Old Northwest," but they also remained. The opening of the Erie Canal in 1825 created a conduit for migrants, who catalyzed the growth of major industrial cities like Detroit. Cities and towns across southeast Michigan, just across the river from Canada, were key stops on the Underground Railroad. The automotive industry's manufacturing centers and laborers made Michigan the "Arsenal of Democracy," producing trucks and planes for the U.S. military and allies during World War II. Major figures such as Rosa Parks, Malcolm X, Grace Lee Boggs, and Rev. C. L. Franklin rooted their civil rights and social justice movements in Detroit.

The plenary is designed to welcome SHA attendees to the region by familiarizing them with important research and collaborative efforts led by archaeologists who work in a range of professional sectors. Short presentations by plenary speakers will be followed by an interactive discussion involving speakers and the audience.

Confirmed speakers include

- Dr. Lynn Evans, curator of archaeology, Mackinac State Historic Parks
- Dr. Misty Jackson, owner and principal investigator, Arbre Croche Cultural Resources LLC
- Dr. Tareq Ramadan, project manager, Malcolm X House Historic Preservation Project, and adjunct professor of anthropology, Wayne State University

PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY DAY

Sponsored by the Michigan History Center and the Gordon L. Grosscup Museum of Anthropology

Date: Saturday, 10 January 2026

Time: 10:00 A.M.–4:00 P.M.

Location: Wayne State University, G. L. Grosscup Museum of Anthropology, Old Main Building, 4841 Cass Avenue

Cost: Free

Have you ever wondered what it is like to be an archaeologist? Attend Public Archaeology Day on Saturday, 10 January 2026, for your chance to talk with archaeologists about investigations and artifacts, tour Wayne State University anthropology and mineral museums, and enjoy hands-on activities, lab visits, demonstrations, and lectures. Also, visit the museum's new exhibit on the archaeology of forts and fortified sites in Michigan, featuring artifacts from major excavation projects at Fort Michilimackinac, Fort St. Joseph, and Fort Lernoult. This **free** all-ages special event is brought to you by SHA, the WSU Gordon L. Grosscup Museum of Anthropology, and the Michigan History Center.

Getting to the Grosscup Museum at Wayne State University:

SHA volunteers will be available to escort conference attendees to and from the Marriott Renaissance Center to Wayne State University from a designated location every 30 minutes. The short journey will involve a free trip on the People Mover and a transfer to the (also free) QLine streetcar. Participants will then walk one block to the Old Main building where the Grosscup Museum is housed. Those who prefer not to take public transportation can arrange a 10-minute Uber/Lyft ride on their own for ~\$10. Attendees may wish to stay in the Midtown area to visit some of the many nearby restaurants/bars or museums within walking distance (Detroit Institute of Arts, Wright Museum of African American History, Detroit Historical Museum).

SHA BUSINESS MEETING

Friday, 9 January 2026

5:00 P.M.–6:00 P.M.

SHA will hold its annual business meeting on Friday, 9 January 2026, from 5:00 to 6:00 P.M. Join the SHA board and congratulate the winners of the Robert L. Schuyler Student Travel Awards; the Ed and Judy Jelks Student Travel Award; the Harriet Tubman Student Travel Grant; the ACUA George Fischer Student Travel Award; the ACUA and Recon Offshore Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Student Travel Conference Award; the GMAC Diversity Field School Competition; the Jamie Chad Brandon Student Paper Prize; the 2026 Mark E. Mack Community Engagement Award and the ACUA Annual Photo and Video Competition.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Wednesday, 7 January 2026

Opening Reception

Time: 8:00 P.M.–10:00 P.M.

Cost: No fee for conference registrants

Following the Plenary Session, meet up with old friends and make new ones at the Opening Reception. There will be complimentary appetizers and a cash bar.

Thursday, 8 January 2026

Past Presidents' Student Reception

Time: 4:30 P.M.–6:00 P.M.

Cost: No fee for student conference registrants

The Past Presidents' Student Reception will take place on Thursday, 8 January 2026, from 4:30 to 6:00 P.M. Students will have an opportunity to talk to senior professionals.

Thursday, 8 January 2026

The "Streets of Old Detroit" Reception at the Detroit Historical Museum

Location: 5401 Woodward Ave

Time: 6:00 P.M.–9:00 P.M.

Maximum Number of Participants: 150

Cost: \$100 per person

The annual Thursday night conference reception will take place at the Detroit Historical Museum, located in the heart of the city's Cultural Center in the Midtown neighborhood. Attendees will enjoy heavy appetizers, alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages, and live music within a large-scale installation that features an immersive experience of life in the streets of old Detroit. Reception guests will also have the opportunity to explore three floors of exhibits in this wonderful museum, which chronicles the rich history of Detroit and the surrounding region. Round-trip bus transportation will be provided from the conference hotel to the museum and ample seating will be available at the museum. Please join us for this memorable event!

Friday, 9 January 2026

Pre-Awards Cocktail Hour

Time: 6:30 P.M.–7:30 P.M.

Cost: No fee for conference registrants; there will be a cash bar.

Friday, 9 January 2026

Awards Banquet

Time: 7:30 P.M.–8:30 P.M.

Cost: \$70 per person

Choice of Entrée: Chicken or braised beef short ribs or Better Made crusted cauliflower steak (vegan/gluten-free)

Enjoy a three-course dinner with the 2026 recipients of the John L. Cotter Award, the Daniel G. Roberts Award for Excellence in Public Historical Archaeology, the Carol V. Ruppé Distinguished Service Award, and the J. C. Harrington Medal in Historical Archaeology.

Friday, 9 January 2026

Awards Ceremony and Dance

Time: 8:30 P.M.–12:00 A.M.

Cost: No fee for conference registrants; there will be a cash bar.

Join us for the presentation of the SHA's John L. Cotter Award, the Daniel G. Roberts Award for Excellence in Public Historical Archaeology, the Carol V. Ruppé Distinguished Service Award, and the J. C. Harrington Medal in Historical Archaeology. Following the awards ceremony, plan to dance the night away with your friends—new and old!

SHA TECHNOLOGY ROOM

Hours: Thursday, 8 January 2026 9:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

Friday, 9 January 2026 9:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

The SHA Technology Room will feature a number of presentations of various underwater and terrestrial technologies on Thursday, 8 January 2026, and Friday, 9 January 2026. At minimum, presenters will be there for a 2-hour block to engage with SHA members and showcase technology usage in historical archaeology scenarios. Some presenters may be there longer.

SHA BOOK ROOM

Hours: Thursday, 8 January 2026 8:30 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

Friday, 9 January 2026 8:30 A.M.–5:00 P.M.

Saturday, 10 January 2026 8:30 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

The SHA Book Room is a marketplace for exhibitors of products, services, and publications from a variety of companies, agencies, and organizations in the archaeological community. Exhibit space is available on a first-come, first-served basis until *1 November 2025*. All exhibitors will be listed in the final conference program. Fees and the Exhibitor Contract can be found online at <https://secure-sha.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/2026-SHA-Conference-Exhibitor-Prospectus.pdf>.

Contact the SHA Business Office at 914.588.3720 or hq@sha.org for further information.

2026 Archaeological Photo and Video Competition Call for Entries

SHA members and conference attendees are invited to participate in the annual Archaeological Photo and Video Competition and People's Choice Awards. We want to remind you that we have a new category, "60 Seconds or Less", for video shorts. Reminder, this is an ALL DIGITAL contest; no printed and mounted images are required.

Images will be posted to the ACUA website and shared on our social media sites and winners announced during the conference. For more information, download the updated Call for Entries and new guidelines at [ACUA Photo Contest Call for Entries and Guidelines](#).

Start the process here [ACUA Archaeological Photo Festival Competition \(https://acuaonline.org/archaeological-photo-festival-competition/\)](https://acuaonline.org/archaeological-photo-festival-competition/).

Categories:

- A. Color Archaeological Site Images
- B. Color Archaeological Field work in Progress Images
- C. Color Archaeological Lab work in Progress Images
- D. Color Artifact Images
- E. Black and White Artifact Images
- F. Color Archaeological Portraits
- G. Diversity
- H. Artist's Perspective (illustration of site or artifact)
- I. Video (Archaeology in 3 Minutes)
- J. Video (60 Seconds or Less) NEW CATEGORY!

Deadline for online application and final digital uploads is midnight 1 December Central Standard Time.

For questions about the revised Call for Entries and submission process, please contact us at photocontest@acuaonline.org.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The following schedule is preliminary and is subject to change. The newsletter only carries the general outline of conference-event scheduling.

Tuesday, 6 January 2026

3:00 P.M.–6:00 P.M. Registration Open

Wednesday, 7 January 2026

7:30 A.M.–9:00 P.M. Registration Open

8:30 A.M.–5:00 P.M. SHA Board of Directors Meeting

9:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M. WKS-5 Reconstructing Past Life from Bones:
Introduction to Skeletal Pathology and Trauma
Recognition

9:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M. WKS-2 Water, Water, Everywhere: Hey,
What's That in the Drink?" Submerged
Cultural Resources Awareness

9:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M. WKS-4 Archaeological Illustration
Workshop

10:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M. WKS-7A Conservation Challenges in Archaeological
Collections: A Practical Workshop

10:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M. Book Room Setup

10:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M. T-2 Detroit Military History Tour

12:00 P.M.–4:30 P.M. T-3 Detroit Music Heritage Tour

12:00 P.M.–5:00 P.M. T-1 Paris of the Midwest Tour

1:00 P.M.–3:00 P.M.	T-4 Walking Tour of Historic Downtown Detroit
1:00 P.M.–4:00 P.M.	Government Maritime Managers Forum: Batten Down the Hatches
1:00 P.M.–5:00 P.M.	WKS-1 Historic Button Identification
1:00 P.M.–5:00 P.M.	WKS-3 Everything You Wanted to Know about Archaeometry but Were Afraid to Ask: Tips and Guidelines for Collaborating with the Archaeometry Lab at MURR
1:00 P.M.–5:00 P.M.	WKS-6 An Archaeology of Firearms and Ammunition Components
2:00 P.M.–4:00 P.M.	WKS-7B Conservation Challenges in Archaeological Collections: A Practical Workshop
6:00 P.M.–8:00 P.M.	Conference Welcome, Awards Ceremony, and Plenary Session
8:00 P.M.–10:00 P.M.	Opening Reception

Thursday, 8 January 2026

7:30 A.M.–5:30 P.M.	Registration Open
7:00 A.M.–8:00 A.M.	Committee Meetings
9:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M.	Morning Sessions
8:30 A.M.–5:00 P.M.	Book Room
9:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.	Technology Room
12:00 P.M.–1:15 P.M.	Roundtable Luncheons RL-1, RL-2, RL-3
1:30 P.M.–5:00 P.M.	Afternoon Sessions
4:30 P.M.–6:00 P.M.	Past Presidents' Student Reception
6:00 P.M.–9:00 P.M.	The "Streets of Old Detroit" Reception at the Detroit Historical Museum

Friday, 9 January 2026

7:30 A.M.–5:30 P.M.	Registration Open
7:00 A.M.–8:00 A.M.	Committee Meetings
8:30 A.M.–12:00 P.M.	Morning Sessions
8:30 A.M.–5:00 P.M.	Book Room
9:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M.	Technology Room
12:00 P.M.–1:15 P.M.	Roundtable Luncheons RL 4, RL-5, RL-6, RL-7
1:30 P.M.–5:00 P.M.	Afternoon Sessions
2:00 P.M.–4:00 P.M.	ACUA Open Meeting
5:00 P.M.–6:00 P.M.	SHA Business Meeting
6:00 P.M.–8:00 P.M.	SBA Meeting
6:30 P.M.–7:30 P.M.	Pre-Awards Cocktail Hour
7:30 P.M.–8:30 P.M.	Awards Banquet
8:30 P.M.–12:00 A.M.	Awards Ceremony and Dance

Saturday, 10 January 2026

7:30 A.M.–1:00 P.M.	Registration Open
8:30 A.M.–12:00 P.M.	Morning Sessions

8:30 A.M.–2:00 P.M.	Book Room
10:00 A.M.–4:00 P.M.	Public Archaeology Day
1:30 P.M.–4:15 P.M.	Afternoon Sessions
6:30 P.M.–9:30 P.M.	T-5 Detroit “Bar” chaeology with Mickey Lyons

SHA CONFERENCE CODE OF CONDUCT

PREAMBLE

The Society for Historical Archaeology is committed to providing a safe, respectful environment for all attendees at its conferences. To that end, the SHA will work to provide a harassment-free experience for everyone, regardless of gender, gender identity and expression, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, race, ethnicity, religion (or lack thereof), or any other category. The SHA will not tolerate harassment in any form at any SHA-sponsored events. This policy applies to all SHA members and non-members who participate in an SHA activity.

DEFINITION AND EXAMPLES OF IMPERMISSIBLE CONDUCT

Harassment includes offensive comments or behavior related to gender, gender identity and expression, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, ethnicity, religion, technology choices, sexual images in public space, deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, harassing photography or recording, sustained disruption of talks or other events, inappropriate physical contact, and unwelcome sexual attention.

Outside of research presentations that include specific considerations of sexuality or sexual representations in the past, sexual language and imagery is not appropriate for any conference setting, including talks, workshops, parties, social media and other online media. Harassment under this Policy refers to any behavior by an individual or group that contributes to a hostile, intimidating and/or unwelcoming environment. Such conduct is harmful, disrespectful, and unprofessional.

OBLIGATION

All participants and attendees at the conference accept the obligation to treat everyone with respect and civility and to uphold the rights of all participants and attendees, including SHA staff, temporary staff, contractors, volunteers and hotel staff, to be free from harassment.

Attendees are bound by the SHA Ethics Principles, the SHA Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Policy, and this Conference Code of Conduct. Attendees should be aware that they are also bound by the codes of conduct at their home institution(s). This policy, which is consistent with the professional ethics statement of the SHA, does not supersede institutional codes but is intended to reinforce their message.

By obtaining SHA membership, registering to present or attend SHA meetings, members and participants commit to maintaining respectful and ethical relationships in accordance with this policy. The SHA reserves the right to remove an individual violating this policy from the SHA annual conference without warning or refund and prohibit attendance at future SHA conferences and/or activities.

Should the SHA have concerns regarding an individual's attendance at its conference creating a safety issue, the SHA can bar the individual from registering and attending the conference. In the case of proven violations that took place prior to the annual meeting and that have been reported and documented prior to pre-registration, proven harassers/assailants will be barred from participation. Late and on-site registrations will be rescinded immediately should information be received documenting a proven violation.

The SHA will not conduct its own investigations but will accept the investigations of law enforcement agencies, RPA, universities, EEOC and employers. Documented harassers/assailants should be identified to SHA staff or leadership by survivors or other reporters as early as possible. Identification with documentation of adjudication needs to be provided to bar participation in SHA events.

REPORTING AT THE CONFERENCE

Conference attendees, who experience or witness harassment as defined by this policy, or who are aware that a conference participant is currently or has been sanctioned for assault or harassment by an adjudicating body and can provide documentation of the outcome, are encouraged to contact one of the following:

1. SHA Executive Director directly at 914-588-3720.
2. A member of the SHA Board of Directors; or
3. A member SHA Code of Conduct Committee, whose name and contact information will be listed in the conference program.

These individuals will provide appropriate support to those who witnessed or who have experienced harassment or feel unsafe for any reason at the conference. The Executive Director or a member of the SHA Code of Conduct Committee will advise on the formal complaints process and, if requested, forward complaints to the full SHA Code of Conduct Committee for resolution.

Formal complaints should be as specific as possible about how alleged behavior constitutes harassment, as defined in this SHA policy. Any report received will remain confidential to the maximum extent possible when the SHA Code of Conduct Committee considers and investigates the complaint.

REGISTRATION

All presenters, discussants, panelists, and exhibitors participating in the SHA 2026 conference must agree with the SHA Ethics Principles (ha.org/sha-ethics-principles/), the

SHA Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Policy (<https://sha.org/sha-sexual-harassment-and-discrimination-policy/>), and the Conference Code of Conduct (<https://sha.org/conferences/>) and signify their agreement by submission of their registration.

Submission of your conference registration also signifies your permission that SHA may capture and store photographs or recorded media of you during meeting events for use in the SHA's publications, on the website, and in other media.

Conference Preregistration

Registration will open on Wednesday, 1 October 2025. Advance registration rates will be available until Monday, 1 December 2025. After 1 December registration rates will increase. Preconference registration will close at 5:00 P.M. Pacific Standard Time on Monday, 15 December 2025. On-site registration will be available beginning Tuesday, 7 January 2026, in Detroit.

IMPORTANT: All presenters, discussant, forum participants, and session organizers at the SHA 2026 conference are required to register for the conference at the full conference rate by 1 November 2025. Those who fail to register by 1 November 2025 will not be allowed to present their paper/poster or have their paper/poster presented for them. This policy will be strictly enforced. For papers or posters with multiple authors, only one of the paper's/poster's authors must register for the conference by the 1 November deadline. All panelists and discussants must also register by 1 November 2025 at the full conference registration rate in order to participate in a session.

Anyone planning to attend the SHA 2026 conference must register for the conference.

Rates:

	Until 1/12/2025	After 1/12/2025
SHA Member.....	\$200	\$250
Nonmember.....	\$300	\$350
SHA Student Member....	\$50*	\$75*
Student Nonmember.....	\$140	\$165
Guest.....	\$70	\$95

*The significantly discounted SHA Student Member registration rate is made possible by the Robert L. Schuyler Fund.

How to Register:

Online

www.conftool.com/sha2026

Online registration will open on 1 October 2025. Online registrations will close on 15 December 2025. After that date, registration must be done on-site in Detroit at the 2026 conference.

E-mail or Mail

E-mail your completed registration form and payment information to SHA at hq@sha.org or mail your registration and payment **postmarked by 15 December 2025** to

Society for Historical Archaeology
72 N State Road, Suite 161
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510

Cancellation Policy

All registration refund requests must be received in writing by SHA no later than Monday, 8 December 2025. You will be refunded fees paid minus a \$50 processing fee. No refunds will be given after 8 December 2025. Please note this cancellation policy applies in all circumstances (including medical) and as such we strongly recommend all registrants ensure they have purchased sufficient and appropriate travel insurance coverage. Refund requests should be e-mailed to SHA at hq@sha.org or mailed to SHA at the address above and received by 8 December 2025.

On-site Registration

Registration will be at the conference registration desk in the Ambassador Foyer on the third floor of the Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center.

The registration desk will be open:

Tuesday, 6 January 2026	3:00 P.M.–6:00 P.M.
Wednesday, 7 January 2026	7:30 A.M.–9:00 P.M.
Thursday, 8 January 2026	7:30 A.M.–5:30 P.M.
Friday, 9 January 2026	7:30 A.M.–5:30 P.M.
Saturday, 10 January 2026	7:30 A.M.–1:00 P.M.

Further Information and Updates

Detailed, regularly updated information will be available on the conference website at www.sha.org/conferences. Be sure to follow SHA 2026 on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SocietyforHistoricalArchaeology and the SHA blog at www.sha.org/blog. Any questions about the SHA 2026 conference should be sent to SHA Headquarters at hq@sha.org.