

SOCIETY FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY
2027 Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology



PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

**60th Annual Conference On
Historical and Underwater Archaeology
Austin, Texas, U.S.A
6–9 January 2027**

The 2027 SHA conference will be held at the Downtown Austin Marriott, located in the heart of downtown Austin, Texas, and overlooking Lady Bird Lake. The conference hotel is as close as it gets to some of the city's best features, including historic institutions such as the state capitol, the haunted Driskill Hotel, the walking trails of Lady Bird Lake and the Greenbelt, the much-beloved Barton Springs, celebrated restaurants, live music, and vibrant nightlife, all of which come together to define Austin's "weird," slightly edgy cultural identity. The conference's central location in the city is accessible by car, bike share, and public transportation.

Our conference theme of "Reflections on the Power of Place" invites you to consider how locations both create and conversely are shaped by culture. Through various forms of

storytelling, collective action, and events, places can become powerful expressions of identity. In exploring this theme, we recognize that our inquiries are deeply rooted in the unique and diverse histories and identities of the places we study. The vast region that we today call Texas has served as a powerful anchor to Indigenous communities' cultural and spiritual practices. Communities such as the Alabama-Coushatta, Caddo, Carrizo/Comecrudo, Coahuiltecan, Comanche, Karankawa, Kickapoo, Lipan Apache, Tonkawa, and Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo have and continue to define its cultural landscape.

Beyond that, Texas has seen many flags shape and reshape its culture and history. Between the Spanish and French Empires, the Mexican and Texas Republics, the United States, and the Confederacy, the geographic region that is Texas has long served as a backdrop through which global history has played out. Texas's sense of place is embodied through its symbolism, architecture, and iconic landscapes. Its material record reflects the place-bound stories of those who experienced, responded to, and negotiated life within its boundaries.

Historical archaeology in Texas is an ever-growing and vibrant community of professionals who bring wide-ranging perspectives and expertise to the field. Educational institutions across the state, such as the University of Texas at Austin and San Antonio, Texas Tech University, Texas State University, Southern Methodist University, and Rice University have long histories of pushing the frontiers of engaged research with descendant communities, answering important questions of early colonial encounters and addressing more-recent issues of diasporic experiences. Texas A&M University boasts one of the oldest degree-granting programs in the United States for nautical archaeology. The Texas Historical Commission provides immense statewide support to research and preservation efforts through the documentation of over 88,000 archaeological sites across the state. Building on this foundation, CRM and academic archaeologists have launched numerous projects across the state, with recent and current projects at the Antioch Colony and Bolivar Archaeological Project, Washington-on-the-Brazos, the Alamo, and various Spanish-colonial missions. With regard to earlier Indigenous histories in precolonial Texas, Caddo Mounds State Historic Site celebrates the rich lives of ancestral Caddo in northeast Texas.

Next year, 2027, marks the 60th anniversary of the SHA annual conference, an event that was born deep in the heart of Texas. Texas has played a role in some important firsts in the society's history: the first annual conference was held at Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas in 1967. Then in 1978, Kathleen Gilmore, an SMU-trained historical archaeologist specializing in Spanish-colonial Texas missions, became the society's first female president, paving the way to further inclusivity in the society. These milestones continue to inspire our current efforts to foster diversity and innovation within the field. As historical archaeology continues to confront the ever-changing cultural climate, we invite you to look back to our own historical roots as the Society for Historical Archaeology. Through this conference's sessions, social events, and field trips, we look forward to drawing on our disciplinary history to envision a better future together.

The organizing committee is excited to host the SHA conference back where it all began in Texas, and we look forward to reflecting on the powerful influence that Austin and the state of Texas have on the future of archaeological praxis.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Conference Chair

Rachel Feit, Acacia Heritage Consulting

Program Chair

Kelton Sheridan, Southern Methodist University

Terrestrial Co-Chairs

Tamra Walter, Texas Tech University

Aina Dodge, Texas Parks and Wildlife

Underwater Co-Chairs

Amy Borgens, Texas Historical Commission

Hunter Whitehead, Bearcat Maritime Heritage

Aleck Tan, Pacific Legacy, Inc.

Local Arrangements Committee

Maximilian Hall, Texas Parks and Wildlife

Brad Jones, Texas Historical Commission

Sarah Chesney, Texas Historical Commission

Bob Ward, Travis County Historical Commission

Jordan Davis, University of Texas at Austin

Workshops and Roundtable Lunch Coordinator

Jade Luiz, MSU Denver

Volunteer Coordinator

Nathaniel Guzman, Texas Tech University

Public Archaeology Day Coordinator

Brad Jones, Texas Historical Commission

THE VENUE: AUSTIN MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN

All conference sessions will be held at the Austin Marriott Downtown at 304 E. Cesar Chavez Street. The Austin Marriott Downtown has over 600 guest rooms as well as a business center, a fitness center, a rooftop pool with breathtaking views of Lady Bird Lake and the city, a two-level lobby bar, a restaurant (Corinne), and a popular tropical-themed rooftop bar, Zanzibar. All facilities are wheelchair accessible.

SHA has reserved a limited number of rooms for the conference at a rate of US\$199 per night (plus state and local taxes—17%) for single or double occupancy. Subject to the availability of rooms in the SHA block, this rate will be available from Monday 4 January through Sunday 10 January 2027, and will expire if not booked before **14 December 2026**. Please note that any changes in departure date made after check-in may result in an early departure fee.

Reserve your room at the Austin Marriott Downtown:

<https://book.passkey.com/go/SHAAnnualConference2027>

The hotel offers valet only parking for guests at the following rates:

- 0–3 hrs: \$30
- 3–6 hrs: \$40
- 6–24 hrs (overnight): \$59

Alternately, area garages such as the Austin Convention Center Overflow Garage offer self-parking options a few blocks from the hotel.

Check-In: Check-in time is 3:00 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, Corinne, is currently open daily for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The restaurant specializes in New American and local cuisine. Dining is also available at Zanzibar, the hotel's rooftop, poolside bar and lounge. In addition, the hotel has a coffee shop and a snack bar/deli. The Marriott's downtown location is within walking distance to many other restaurants, coffee shops, small grocers, and delis.

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 pickup, or you may dial "0" from any house phone to request that these items be delivered to your hotel room.

Wi-Fi: Complimentary basic internet in guest rooms is available. Wi-fi will also be available to conference guests in the hotel.

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 AUSTIN, TEXAS

From Austin Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA)

ABIA is conveniently situated about 7 miles from the conference hotel. The airport offers car, taxi, rideshare, and public bus services for getting to downtown Austin and other destinations. There is no train line service connecting the airport to downtown. (Details below.)

Ground Transportation (from ABIA)

Public Transportation: CapMetro connects downtown Austin to ABIA. CapMetro (<https://www.capmetro.org/airport/>) runs convenient, frequent bus service to and from ABIA from its [neon guitar bus stop](#). The bus stop is on the lower level just outside baggage claim; you can't miss it! Take the [Route 20 Manor Road/Riverside](#) bus from the airport. It operates every 15–30 minutes, 7 days a week, and travels along Riverside Drive before stopping downtown and at the University of Texas campus. The fare is \$1.25. Tap to pay with your phone or credit/debit card—your daily fare is capped at two rides! This means you can ride as much as you want in a service day for just \$2.50.

Rideshare (Uber/Lyft/etc.): <https://www.flyaustin.com/ground-transportation-barbara-jordan-terminal> **Rideshare and taxi drop-off for passengers flying out use the upper level/departures curbside for passenger drop-off.** Rideshare and taxi pick-up for passengers flying into Austin is located under the Consolidated Rental Car Facility, just north or behind the Red Garage. **View a map of rideshare pick-up from baggage claim.**

Taxi Service Numbers:

- ATX Co-Op Taxi: 512.333.5555
- Central City Taxi: 512.400.4044
- Z-Trip: 512.452.9999

Car Rental: ABIA provides access to most major rental car agencies, offering a wide selection of vehicles. Once you've claimed your baggage, take the upper level and follow signs to car rentals, on the far side of the short-term parking garage.

Bus

Austin is served by Greyhound. The closest bus station is located at 703 E. 9th Street, within walking distance of the conference hotel. For more information about getting to Austin by bus, go to: <https://www.greyhound.com/bus/austin-tx>.

Ground Transportation (around the city)

CapMetro: CapMetro operates buses and trains to access most parts of the city. Visit their website to access routes and schedule at <https://www.capmetro.org/>.

Rideshare: Uber and Lyft operate in the city and rides are easy to access. You can also choose a Waymo, an electric, autonomous car, through those apps.

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

WORKSHOPS

All workshops will be held on Wednesday, 6 January 2027.

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- to 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 determine 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 Workshop

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’re 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 underwater cultural heritage resources in

affected areas, (2) recognize best practices for treatment of underwater cultural heritage, and (3) understand basic qualifications required for proper documentation of underwater cultural heritage.

WKS-3 An Introduction to Firearms and Ammunition

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: 30

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, the 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 employ to understand the material residues of guns and use them to investigate important human behaviors that involved firearms use. A workshop component will discuss the safe handling of live ammunition and lead bullets.

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 Bones, Butchering, and Basic Identification of Faunal Material from Historic Sites

Instructor: Jodi Jacobson, Center for Archaeological Studies, Texas State University

Half-day Workshop: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Maximum Enrollment: 25

Cost: \$60 for SHA members, \$80 for non-members, \$25 for SHA student members, and \$40 for student non-members

This workshop is set for a skill level range of general professional archaeologists and students or early-career individuals pursuing faunal analysis. Basics of differentiating between classes of animals (mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian, and fish), focusing on species more likely to be present at historic North American archaeological sites will be presented, along with some added focus on common domesticated species. In addition, the workshop covers identifying commonly present skeletal elements, common meat cuts, home-processed vs. market-purchased remains, and typical butchery marks (saw, chop, cut, etc.). The workshop will be hands-on with group activities.

TOURS

Tours T-1, T-2, T-3, T-4, and T-5 will be on Wednesday, 6 January 2027.

T-1 East Austin Black History Walk

Date: Wednesday, 6 January 2027

Time: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Maximum Number of Participants: 45

Cost: \$50 per person

This historic walking tour takes guests through the beginnings of Austin's Black community through the present. Guests will learn about early civic leaders and settlement, the City of Austin's 1928 Master Plan, which created a "Negro District" that was centered around E. 11th Street. We will visit important historic sites, Black businesses, and institutions throughout our one-mile journey. Guests will also be able to engage in dialogue about the changing landscape of East Austin and the city's Black community. A large part of this experience is to support local Black-owned businesses in the neighborhood.

Getting There: Participants will be required to reach the tour meeting point at the AA Cultural Heritage Facility at 913 E. 11th Street on their own. Options for accessing the meeting point from the Austin Marriott Downtown at 304 E. Cesar Chavez are

- *Walking*—1.1 miles, 25 minutes
- *Driving (by car, ride share, or taxi)*—4 minutes
- *Bike/Scooter*—9 minutes
- *Bus*—15–20 minutes one way (cost \$1.25). Depart: Get on at 400 Cesar Chavez/Trinity, take Bus #2 Springdale NB, get off at 907 11th/Branch. Return: Get on at 904 11th/Branch, take Bus #2 Eastside Bus Plaza SB, get off at 421 Cesar Chavez/Trinity.

Food and Beverage: Food and beverages are not included in the tour price, but this vibrant East Austin neighborhood has many restaurants and cafes where tour goers can stop afterward for bite to eat. A list of local restaurants around the Carver Museum and along 11th Street will be available to participants.

T-2 A Legacy of Austro-Hungarian Europe: The Painted Churches and Kreische Brewery/Monument Hill

Date: Wednesday, 6 January 2027

Time: 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Maximum Number of Participants: 40

Cost: \$42.00. *Lunch on your own in historic Schulenburg, Texas.*

Join us for a tour exploring the German and Czech culture in Central Texas! Beginning in the 1840s, waves of German and Czech immigrants arrived in Texas, seeking economic opportunity, religious liberty, and social freedom. Once in Texas, they settled in tight-knit religious and ethnic enclaves stretching from Houston to Fredericksburg. Social life in these rural farming communities generally centered around the church and the grange hall. This tour will take you on a visit to two of the world-renowned “painted churches” in the heart of Texas’s German Belt, lunch in historic Schulenburg, and a visit to Kreische Brewery/Monument Hill State Historic Site in La Grange with a special beer tasting! This will be a full-day tour leaving the conference hotel at 9 a.m. and returning by 5 p.m. We will visit two of the famous painted churches in the area before driving to downtown Schulenburg. Lunch will be on your own in any of the several restaurants in the downtown area. After lunch we will head to La Grange to visit the historic Kreische Brewery/Monument Hill State Historic Site to learn more about the history of beer brewing in the area and enjoy some local brews. Be sure to wear comfortable clothing for touring sites and visiting downtown Schulenburg.

T-3 The Michael Collins Experience: Touring A Lifetime of Archaeological and Historical Preservation

Date: Wednesday, 6 January 2027

Time: 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Maximum Number of Participants: 40

Cost: \$60 per person

Tour Guides: Ashley Lemke (Bus), GSAR Staff (Gault Site), and Karen Collins (Moore-Hancock Homesite).

A box lunch is included in the cost of the tour. Sandwiches come with a mixed salad, pasta salad, or mixed berries and a chocolate chunk cookie. Salads come with a mini baguette and chocolate chunk cookie.

Menu options will include a choice of

- Chicken salad on nine-grain bread
- Roast beef and cheddar on sourdough
- Turkey and Havarti on nine-grain bread
- Cobb salad
- Kale, cranberry, and pepita salad

This tour will celebrate the incredible contributions to the preservation of Texas archaeology that University of Texas Professor Emeritus Dr. Michael Collins has made. From one of the earliest sites in North America—the Gault Site—to the preservation of the historic Moore-Hancock homesite in central Austin, Dr. Collins and his wife Karen have ensured that the history of the state and the region is preserved, and in so doing touched the lives of the many students, colleagues, and the public. Our tour will begin with a visit to the Gault Archeological Site near Florence, Texas, managed by the Gault School of Archaeological Research and the Archaeological Conservancy. Originally a pay dig site, as a result of Collins's persistence and kindness it was eventually recognized as one of the most investigated pre-Clovis sites in the Americas, a story chronicled in Olive Talley's documentary *The Stones Are Speaking*. After a guided tour of the site, we will travel back to Austin to visit the Collins' family home, the historic Moore-Hancock Homesite. Karen Collins recognized that beneath the modern cladding lay the bones of a mid-19th-century home that through meticulous research and preservation is now visible. More than just conducting an architectural preservation project, the family has opened the property to archaeological collaboration with the Travis County Historical Commission, the Travis County Archeological Society, and the UT-Austin Anthropology Department (and allegedly Matthew McConaughey).

T-4 Spanish-Colonial Heritage Tour

Date: Wednesday, 6 January 2027

Time: 10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Maximum Number of Participants: 35

Cost: \$46 per person.

A box lunch is included in the cost of the tour. Sandwiches come with a mixed salad, pasta salad, or mixed berries, and a chocolate chunk cookie. Salads come with a mini baguette and chocolate chunk cookie.

Menu options will include a choice of

- Chicken salad on nine-grain bread
- Roast beef and cheddar on sourdough
- Turkey and havarti on nine-grain bread
- Cobb salad
- Kale, cranberry and pepita salad

This tour visits several sites along the Camino Real de los Tejas that served as important waypoints for early travel and settlement in the Austin area. The tour will visit Manchaca Springs on Onion Creek off today's Old San Antonio Road in southern Travis County. The springs were named for Jose Menchaca of the Army of the Texas Republic. In 1709 the Spanish expedition under Espinosa, Olivares, and Aguirre is believed to have stopped here. There is also evidence of use in prehistoric times and as an historic stagecoach stop.

The tour then explores several other archaeological sites and swales associated with early Spanish entradas before heading to McKinney Falls State Park, named for Thomas McKinney, an early Travis County settler who in the 1850s built a homestead and mill

along Onion Creek near the old Camino Real. Steven Gonzales, the Executive Director of the ElCat Association and an expert on trails and swales. and Texas Parks and Wildlife staff will guide the tour.

T-5 General Land Office Tour Followed by a Scholz Garten Happy Hour

Date: Wednesday, 6 January 2027

Time: 1:30 p.m.–5 :00 p.m.

Maximum Number of Participants: 35

Cost: Free

Established in 1836, the Texas General Land Office (GLO) Archives cares for historical records and maps dating back to the sixteenth century. The core of this collection revolves around land ownership and uses under Spanish, Mexican, and Texas governments. Additional strengths include archival materials related to European and U.S. exploration and colonization of the Americas, the development of railway networks and cities, and military history. The tour includes a visit to our map vault containing documents from the Spanish Colonial through the present day, and display of nineteenth-century land surveying equipment. 1.5 hour tour will be led by Archivist Mike Miller. The tour will be followed by an optional happy hour at Scholz Garten, a historic German-Texan beer hall which has been in operation since 1866.

Getting there: Participants will be required to reach the tour meeting point at the General Land Office at 1700 Congress Avenue on their own. Options for accessing the meeting point from the Austin Marriott at 304 East Cesar Chavez are:

- *Walking* - 1.5 Miles, 30 minutes
- *Driving (by car, ride share, or taxi)* – 5 minutes
- *Bike/Scooter* – 10 minutes
- *Bus Transit* - 15-20 minutes one way (cost \$1.25). From the hotel you can take the No. 3 bus. Walk 0.5 miles to Republic Square Station metro bus stop and pick up the No. 3 bus to 1609 Lavaca Street stop. Walk 810 feet to 1700 N. Congress St.

ROUNDTABLE LUNCHEONS

Roundtable luncheons are scheduled from 12:00 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. on Thursday, 7 January 2027, and Friday, 8 January 2027. Maximum of 10 people per roundtable luncheon.

RL-1 Collections and Curation: Bring Your Wins and Your Worries

Host: Elizabeth Bollwerk, Monticello/DAACS and TBD,

Sponsor: SHA Collections and Curation Committee

Collections don't take care of themselves and neither do the data they generate. This SHA Collections and Curation Committee roundtable is an open forum for the concerns you're actually dealing with: long-term ethical stewardship of physical collections, the data infrastructure required to organize and curate them, and what it really takes to make collections usable for research, education, and outreach. There's no fixed agenda—the discussion goes where participants take it, so come ready to raise challenges and share successes, knowing you'll have an empathetic group to help you work through possible solutions and celebrate wins.

RL-2 Many Backgrounds, One Society: Inclusion Makes for a Richer Organization

Hosts: Isabelle Guerrero, University of Nevada, Reno and Audrey Andrews, Southern Ute Indian Tribe

The SHA's Gender and Minority Committee (GMAC) strives toward diversity in order to develop the society as a socially just, anti-racist, nonsexist, and equal organization. GMAC recognizes that a diverse SHA is only possible if we collectively address structural issues that remain present in historical archaeology. The GMAC invites all members to join this event, get to know the committee, and discuss their own ideas for diversity in SHA. Whether you are a present or past member, a student interested in getting to know SHA committees, or are interested in promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, all are welcome to join.

RL-3 Over My Dead Body: Current Trends in Cemetery Studies

Host: Richard Veit, Monmouth University

This roundtable lunch looks at current trends in the study of historic cemeteries and burial places in the United States and abroad. Suggestions will be made regarding the documentation, study, and interpretation of historic burial grounds.

RL-4 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've 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-5 Funding on Fire: Finding Support for Marginalized Archaeologies under Threat

Host: Alicia Odewale, Archaeology Rewritten and National Geographic Explorer

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 anti-diversity 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 dialogue, and space to imagine a more equitable funding future before we let the fire burn us all out.

RL-6 Slow-Cooked vs. Fast Food: Digital Archaeology Ethics in the Age of AI and Assaults on Deliberative Process

Hosts: Brian Crane, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission and Lisa Fisher, Historic St. Mary's City

Join members of the SHA Technology Committee and the North American Chapter of Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology (CAA-NA) in a conversation about ethical issues in contemporary digital archaeology. Facilitators will provide an introduction to guiding principles, such as FAIR, CARE, and the London Charter for Computer-Based Visualization of Cultural Heritage. Conversations will consider ethics in relation to topics from digital project design through curation according to participant interest and discuss some of the potential ethical pitfalls that may require navigation in the current environment.

RL-7 Lunch and Learn: The FAIR+CARE Cultural Heritage Network

Hosts: Elizabeth Bollwerk, Monticello/DAACS and Edward Gonzalez-Tenant, Texas State University

Sponsor: Sponsored by the FAIR + CARE Committee

Join us for an informal, open lunch discussion introducing the FAIR+CARE Cultural Heritage Network—a collaborative effort integrating FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) and CARE (Collective Benefit, Authority to Control, Responsibility, Ethics) data principles across the cultural heritage sector. No prior familiarity with FAIR+CARE is required—all SHA members and conference attendees are welcome. We'll give a brief overview of the network and its goals, then open the floor to brainstorm how SHA might support this work going forward with its newly established FAIR+CARE Committee.

CONFERENCE WELCOME AND PLENARY SESSION

Welcome and Awards Ceremony

Wednesday, 6 January 2027

Time: 6:00 p.m.–6:30 p.m.

Join us Wednesday evening for the opening session of the SHA 2027 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.

Texas: What Is This Place?

The idea of Texas is recognizable globally in myth, history, and the popular imagination. More than a point on a map, Texas functions almost as a brand: it is a powerful marker for independence, individualism, hardiness, and grit. Its open-range horizons and cattle trails, its belching oil fields and dusty borderlands; its cowboys and cowgirls; its dubious heroes and slippery politicians; and its music, foodways, and defiant slogans have helped create an iconic identity that is at once deeply local and widely familiar. Texas is a crossroads where Indigenous peoples, Spanish and Mexican communities, African Americans, European immigrants, Asian communities, and newcomers from across the United States and the world have met, adapted, clashed, and collaborated to create new hybrid identities. The Texas story is not only one of rugged self-reliance, but also one of exchange, movement, and most of all reinvention.

The plenary is designed to welcome SHA attendees to the state by familiarizing them with important research and collaborative efforts led by archaeologists who work in a range of professional sectors. The program will be introduced by Brad Jones, the state archeologist of Texas, whose remarks will be followed by three short talks on topics ranging from Spanish-colonial settlement to African American frontier blacksmithing to current archaeological collaborations with Indigenous peoples. Dr. Liz Ibarrola will offer concluding remarks.

Confirmed speakers include

- Dr. Tamra Walter, Texas Tech University
- Doug Boyd, Senior Archaeologist at Stantec
- Brad Jones, Texas State Archaeologist
- Dr. Liz Ibarrola, University of Texas at Austin

PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY DAY

Date: Saturday, 9 January 2027

Time: 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Location: Brush Square, 409 E. 5th Street (just four blocks from the conference hotel)

Cost: Free

Public Archaeology Day will be held on Saturday, 9 January 2027. This event, held at one of Austin's original public squares, will showcase stories and archaeology from some of Austin's most notorious historical figures. Visit the Hannig-Dickinson house to hear about the life of Susanna Dickinson, one of just a handful of known survivors of the Alamo siege in 1836. The house she lived in from 1869 to the late 1870s was moved from the block next door in 2003 and today houses historical and archaeological collections relating to her life

in Texas. Also visit the O. Henry House Museum, named after the pen name of William Sidney Porter who lived there from 1893 to 1895. O. Henry's notable stories include "The Gift of the Magi" and "The Ransom of Red Chief." Other activities, archaeological demonstrations, and artifact exhibits will be held outside on the square.

The park is a five-minute walk from the conference hotel. Volunteers will be able to direct you or can take groups there if needed.

SHA BUSINESS MEETING

Friday, 8 January 2027

Time: 5:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.

SHA will hold its annual business meeting on Friday, 8 January 2027, from 5:00 p.m. 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 Student Travel Award, the GMAC Diversity Field School Competition, the Jamie Chad Brandon Student Paper Prize, the 2027 Mark E. Mack Community Engagement Award, and the ACUA Annual Photo Competition.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Wednesday, 6 January 2027

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, 7 January 2027

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, 7 January 2027, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Students will have an opportunity to talk to senior professionals.

Thursday, 7 January 2027

A Walk through Austin Music History Reception at Liberty Lunch

Location: Liberty Lunch

Time: 6:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

Maximum Number of Participants: 150

Cost: \$100.00

The annual Thursday night conference reception will take place at Liberty Lunch, located in the beating heart of the city's celebrated indie music scene, the Red River Cultural District. Attendees will sample iconic Texas bites such as barbecue, queso and enchiladas, and cobblers

and alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages will also be available. Join us for a self-guided walking tour highlighting the history and heritage of the ever-edgy Red River Cultural District, where the likes of Janis Joplin, the 13th Floor Elevators, and Townes Van Zandt got their start. Learn also about the German, African American, and Lebanese American enclaves who thrived here in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Friday, 8 January 2027

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, 8 January 2027

Awards Banquet

Time: 7:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m.

Cost: \$85.00 per person

Entrée Choices: Roasted Crispy Chicken, Short Rib (GF), and *Seasonal Grill Vegetable Bundle* (V) will be available and will include salad and dessert.

Enjoy a three-course dinner with the 2027 recipients of the John L. Cotter Award, the Daniel G. Roberts Award for Excellence in Public Historical Archaeology, and the J. C. Harrington Medal in Historical Archaeology.

Friday, 9 January 2027

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. There will be a two-stepping lessons and a demonstration and a live band playing honky-tonk classics courtesy of Eric Moreno and Native Texan Two Step.

SHA TECHNOLOGY ROOM

Days and Hours:

Thursday, 7 January 2027	9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Friday, 8 January 2027	9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

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

SHA BOOK ROOM

Days and Hours:

Thursday, 7 January 2027	8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Friday, 8 January 2027	8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Saturday, 9 January 2027	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 2026*. All exhibitors will be listed in the final conference program. Fees and the Exhibitor Contract can be found online at <https://sha.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/2027-SHA-Conference-Exhibitor-Prospectus.pdf>.

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

2027 ACUA Archaeological Photo & Video Competition Call for Entries

SHA members and conference attendees are invited to participate in the annual ACUA Archaeological Photo & Video Competition and People's Choice Awards. We want to remind you that there is a new category, "60 Seconds or Less," for video shorts. As a 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 the ACUA 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 & White Artifact Images
- F. Color Archaeological Portraits
- G. Diversity
- H. Artist's Perspective (illustration of site or artifact)
- I. Archaeology in 3 Minutes (video)
- J. 60 Seconds or Less (video) NEW CATEGORY!

Deadline for online application and final digital uploads is midnight 1 December 2026 Central Time.

For questions about the revised Call for Entries and submission process, please contact 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, 5 January 2027

3:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m. Registration Open

Wednesday, 6 January 2027

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 pm	T-1 East Austin Black History Walking Tour
9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.	Morning Workshops
9:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.	T-2 Painted Churches and Kreische Brewery/Monument Hill Tour
9:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m.	Full-Day Workshop
10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.	Book Room Setup
10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	T-3 The Michael Collins Experience: A Lifetime in Preservation
10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.	T-4 Spanish-Colonial Heritage
1:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.	T-5 General Land Office Archives and Scholz Garten
1:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m.	Afternoon Workshops
5:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.	ACUA Mentoring Reception
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, 7 January 2027

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
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.	A Walk through Austin Music History

Friday, 8 January 2027

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
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, 9 January 2027

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

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. The SHA Executive Director directly at 914.588.3720;
2. A member of the SHA Board of Directors; or
3. A member of the 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 2027 Conference must agree with the SHA Ethics Principles (sha.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 or on the SHA's publications, website, and other media.

Conference Preregistration

Registration will open on Thursday, 1 October 2026. Advance registration rates will close at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on Monday, 15 December 2026. After 15 December registration rates will increase. On-site registration will be available beginning Tuesday, 5 January 2027, in Austin.

IMPORTANT: All presenters, discussants, forum participants, and session organizers at the SHA 2027 conference are required to register for the conference at the full conference rate by 1 November 2026. Those who fail to register by 1 November 2026 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 2026 at the full conference registration rate in order to participate in a session.

Anyone planning to attend the SHA 2027 conference must register for the conference.

Rates:

	Until 15/12/2026	After 15/12/2026 (on-site)
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 [SHA 2027 - ConfTool Pro - Login](https://www.conftool.com/sha2027/) (<https://www.conftool.com/sha2027/>)

Online registration will open on 1 October 2026. Online registrations will close on 15 December 2026. After that date, registration must be done on-site in Austin at the 2027 conference.

E-mail or Mail

E-mail your completed registration form and payment information to SHA at [**hq@sha.org**](mailto:hq@sha.org) or mail your registration and payment **postmarked by 14 December 2026** 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, 7 December 2026. You will be refunded fees paid minus a \$50 processing fee. No refunds will be given after 7 December 2026. 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**](mailto:hq@sha.org) or mailed to SHA at the address above and must be received by 7 December 2026.

On-site Registration

Registration will be at the Conference Registration desk in the conference hotel.

The Registration Desk will be open:

Tuesday, 5 January 2027	3:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 6 January 2027	7:30 a.m.–9:00 p.m.
Thursday, 7 January 2027	7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
Friday, 8 January 2027	7:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
Saturday, 9 January 2027	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 2027 on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SocietyforHistoricalArchaeology or the SHA blog at [**www.sha.org/blog**](http://www.sha.org/blog). Any questions about the SHA 2027 conference should be sent to SHA Headquarters at [**hq@sha.org**](mailto:hq@sha.org).