

Mary Elizabeth Fitts
marybeth.fitts@unc.edu

EDUCATION

2015	Ph.D., Anthropology	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC
2001	M.A., Applied Anthropology	University of South Florida, Tampa, FL
1998	B.A., Anthropology	Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT

RESEARCH INTERESTS AND SPECIALIZATIONS

American Indian Communities of the Southeastern U.S., Public Archaeology, GIS, Archaeobotany, Historic Archaeology

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Archaeology Research and Management

2022 – present *Research Archaeologist, Adjunct Teaching Assistant Professor*

Research Laboratories of Archaeology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
Support UNC students and faculty in their research, provide hands-on training opportunities through archaeological research projects, conduct public outreach, assist in management of the North Carolina Archaeological Collection.

2016 – 2022 *Assistant State Archaeologist*

Office of State Archaeology, NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.
Review project plans and technical archaeological reports, consult with federal and state agencies, Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, and contractors regarding effects on historic properties; provide technical assistance and public education; review federal and local historic nominations and grant proposals; conduct archaeological survey and public archaeology excavations on state lands; write technical reports and papers.

1/2016 – 5/2016 *Cultural Resource Specialist*

Contact to the USDA National Forests in North Carolina.
Prepared GIS data and edited National Register of Historic Places nominations for Trail of Tears sites in North Carolina.

8/2015 – 12/2015 *Archaeological Laboratory Supervisor*

Research Laboratories of Archaeology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
Managed 8-10 work-study students and volunteers in the cleaning, sorting, and cataloging of artifacts, and other tasks related to the management and preservation of materials in the collection of the Research Laboratories of Archaeology's North Carolina Archaeological collection.

2013 – 2014, *Research Assistant*

2006 – 2012 Research Laboratories of Archaeology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Supervised undergraduates in collections inventory and processing; directed archaeological surveys of university properties and prepared reports of findings; analyzed archaeobotanical collections; wrote sections of mitigation and research reports.

- 2003 – 2004 *Archeologist (GS-0193-07)*
USDA Forest Service, Apalachicola National Forest, Florida.
Conducted archaeological surveys and site evaluations in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act. Summarized results for submission to Forest managers, the State Historic Preservation Office, and Tribal representatives.
- 2001 – 2003 *Historic Sites Specialist*
Bureau of Historic Preservation, Florida Division of Historical Resources.
Reviewed reports conducted in accordance with federal, state, and local government cultural resource laws for compliance with state regulations. Employed archaeological site probability criteria and researched property records to assess the effect of federal and state managed projects on cultural resources.
- 2001 *Archaeological Technician / Crew Chief*
Panamerican Consultants, Inc., Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Identified, mapped, and excavated features exposed by mechanical stripping, and supervised crew members engaged in documenting and excavating features during mitigation of a historic Creek Indian village site at Fort Benning, Georgia.
- 2001 *Archaeological Technician*
Archaeological Consultants, Inc., Sarasota, Florida. Excavated shovel tests and recorded field notes for Phase I surveys in Sarasota, Sumter, and Volusia Counties, Florida.
- 2000 *Crew Chief and Lab Director*
Anthropology Department, University of South Florida, Tampa. Made logistical preparations, supervised field school students in excavation and documentation of work, maintained catalog of recovered materials, supervised laboratory activities, tabulated and analyzed data, co-authored final report for Apalachicola Valley Archaeology Project.
- 1999 – 2000 *Laboratory Assistant and Archaeological Technician*
Panamerican Consultants, Inc., Tampa, Florida. Excavated shovel tests and recorded field notes for Phase I and II survey and assessment projects throughout Peninsular Florida. Processed, documented, and cataloged artifacts.
- 1998 – 2000 *Research Assistant*
Anthropology Department, University of South Florida, Tampa.
Conducted library research, organized archives and collections, assisted various stages of publication, trained undergraduate assistants, participated in public outreach, drew archaeological illustrations.

Teaching Experience

- 2016 *Lecturer*
Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
Instructor of record for Habitat and Humanity.

- 2015 *Teaching Assistant*
Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
Responsible for teaching recitation sections and grading exams, essays, and group projects in Global Health.
- 2015 *Archaeological Laboratory Supervisor*
Research Laboratories of Archaeology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
Instructed 8-10 work-study students and volunteers in the cleaning, sorting, and cataloging of artifacts, and other tasks related to the management and preservation of materials in the collection of the Research Laboratories of Archaeology's North Carolina Archaeological collection.
- 2014 *Teaching Assistant*
North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching, Cullowhee, NC.
"Beyond the Trail of Tears" NEH Institute organized by Elaine Franklin.
Produced educational materials, supervised teachers in archaeological excavation at the Boundary Tree site (31Sw494).
- 2013 *Graduate Teaching Fellow*
Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
Instructor of record for General Anthropology.
- 2012 *Teaching Assistant*
Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
Responsible for teaching recitation sections, assisting in the development of exams, and grading exams and essays in the Nature of Moral Consciousness.
- 2007 – 2011 *Field School Teaching Assistant*
Research Laboratories of Archaeology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
Catawba Project (R.P. Stephen Davis and Brett Riggs, PIs)
- 2004 – 2006 *Teaching Assistant*
Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
Responsible for teaching recitation sections, assisting in the development of exams, and grading exams and essays in General Anthropology, the Nature of Moral Consciousness, and Anthropological Perspectives on Food and Culture.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2017 Graduate Education Advancement Board Impact Award, Graduate School, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- 2012 Mooney Fellowship Award, Research Laboratories of Archaeology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- 2010 Graduate Summer Research Grant, Center for the Study of the American South, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- 2009 Graduate Mentor Award, Office of Undergraduate Research, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

- 2010 Graduate Summer Research Grant, Center for the Study of the American South, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- 2006 First Place, Student Paper Competition, Southeastern Archaeological Conference.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- 2017 *Fit for War: Sustenance and Order in the Mid-18th Century Catawba Nation*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida.

Refereed Book Chapters

- 2015 The Indian Slave Trade and Catawba History. IN *The Archaeology of Slavery: A Comparative Approach to Captivity and Coercion*, edited by Lydia Marshall. Occasional Paper No. 41, Center for Archaeological Investigations, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.
- 2009 (with Charles L. Heath) "Indians Refusing to Carry Burdens": Understanding the Success of Catawba Political, Military, and Settlement Strategies in Colonial Carolina. IN *Mapping the Mississippian Shatter Zone: The Colonial Indian Slave Trade and Regional Instability in the American South*, edited by Robbie Ethridge and Sheri Shuck-Hall. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press.

Book Reviews

- 2020 Solicited review of *Contact, Colonialism, and Native Communities in the Southeastern United States*, edited by Edmond A. Boudreaux III, Maureen Meyers, and Jay K. Johnson. *Midcontinental Journal of Archaeology Book Reviews* Volume 45.
- 2016 Review of *Making and Growing: Anthropological Studies of Organisms and Artefacts*, edited by Elizabeth Hallam and Tim Ingold. *Historical Archaeology* 50(4):158-160.
- 2007 Review of *Practicing Ethnohistory: Mining Archives, Hearing Testimony, Constructing Narrative*, by Patricia Galloway. *Southeastern Archaeology* 26(2):339-341.

Non-Refereed Publications

- 2006 Mapping Catawba Coalescence. *North Carolina Archaeology* 55:1-59.

Technical Reports

- 2016 *Archaeological Monitoring Report for the Battle Grove Regenerative Stormwater Conveyance Project, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Orange County, North Carolina*. Research Laboratories of Archaeology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
- 2015 Archaeobotanical Analysis. IN *Archaeology at Ayers Town, An Early Federal Period Community in the Catawba Nation*, by R. P. S. Davis Jr, Brett H. Riggs and David Cranford, pp. 228-249. Research Report 37, Research Laboratories of Archaeology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
- 2014 (with Brett H. Riggs) *National Historic Landmark Nomination for Fort Armistead*, prepared for USDA Cherokee National Forest, Cleveland, TN. Manuscript on file, Research Laboratories of Archaeology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and USDA Cherokee National Forest, Cleveland, TN.

- 2014 (with Brett H. Riggs and Andrius Valiunas) *Archaeological Survey and Testing at the Fort Armistead Site (40MR708), Coker Creek, Monroe County, Tennessee*. Chapel Hill: UNC Research Laboratories of Archaeology.
- 2012 (with Ashley Peles and R. P. Stephen Davis Jr.) *Archaeological Investigations at the Vance Site on the University of North Carolina Campus, Chapel Hill, North Carolina*. Chapel Hill: UNC Research Laboratories of Archaeology.
- 2010 *An Archaeological Assessment of the Crow Branch North Site (31Or633), the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Orange County, North Carolina*. Chapel Hill: UNC Research Laboratories of Archaeology.
- 2009 *An Archaeological Assessment of the Carolina North Duct Corridor, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Orange County, North Carolina*. Chapel Hill: UNC Research Laboratories of Archaeology.
- 2007 (with Brett H. Riggs and R. P. Stephen Davis Jr.) *Summary Report of 2007 Archaeological Investigations at Catawba Nassaw Town (38Yk434), York County, South Carolina*. Chapel Hill: UNC Research Laboratories of Archaeology.
- 2007 *An Archaeological Assessment of the Carolina Commons Tract*. Research Laboratories of Archaeology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND INVITED TALKS

- 2022 (with Allyson Ropp and Melissa Timo) Mapping the Shorescape: Developing a Holistic Approach to Assessing Storm Damages to North Carolina's Maritime Legacies. Society for Historical Archaeology 2022 Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2021 (with Chris Southerly and Kimberley Kenyon) Submerged North Carolina: Celebrating a Diverse Cultural Heritage. Symposium Organized for the 77th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Durham, NC.
- 2019 (with David Cranford) Silver and Sealing Wax: Catawba Fashion and Ceramic Innovation ca. 1750-1820. Paper presented at the 76th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Jackson, MS. [Symposium]
- 2019 (organized by Elizabeth Ellis) Violence in the Eighteenth-Century Southeast and Midwest: A Roundtable. Panel discussant at Annual Meeting of the American Society for Ethnohistory at Penn State University, State College, PA.
- 2019 (with Samuel Franklin) Adaptive Approaches to the Thingness of Institutional Datasets: A View from North Carolina. Paper presented at the 84th Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archaeology, Albuquerque, NM.
- 2018 (with Rosie Blewitt-Golsh and David Cranford) Peach-Loaves and Fishes: A Diachronic Study of Eighteenth-Century Catawba Indian Foodways. Paper presented at the 75th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Augusta, GA.
- 2018 (with Molefi Henderson) North Carolina American Indian Schools Project. Paper presented at the 2018 Southeastern Conference on Historic Site Archaeology, Charleston, SC.

- 2018 (with John Mintz) Transcending Borders: A New Approach to Archaeological Contexts in North Carolina. Paper presented at the 83rd Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archaeology, Washington, DC.
- 2018 Archaeology of the Mid-Eighteenth Century Catawba Towns near Nation Ford, Landmark Conference, Confederation of South Carolina Local Historical Societies, Fort Mill, SC.
- 2017 Yssa Reconsidered. Paper presented at the 74th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Tulsa, OK.
- 2016 Variability in Maize from Eighteenth-Century Catawba Towns. Poster presented at the 73rd Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Athens, GA.
- 2015 (with David Cranford) Trends in Catawba Architecture, ca. 1750-1820. Poster presented at the 80th Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archaeology, San Francisco, CA.
- 2014 “They scarcely plant any thing fit for the support of human life”: Intergenerational Stress and Catawba Foodways. Paper presented at the 71st Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Greenville, SC.
- 2014 The Indian Slave Trade and Archaeologies of Community Relocation: An Investigation of Scale and Motivation in Population Movements, 79th Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archaeology, Austin, Texas. [Symposium]
- 2013 (with Greg Kopsch) Experimental Intrasite Spatial Analysis Using GIS, 70th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Tampa, Florida.
- 2012 The Indian Slave Trade and Catawba History, 28th Annual Visiting Scholar Archaeology Conference Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois. [Invited]
- 2012 Guns, Peaches and Corn: The Archaeobotany of Mid-Eighteenth Century Catawba Households, Society for Historical Archaeology 2012 Conference, Baltimore, Maryland. [Symposium]
- 2011 Assessing Food Security Crises of Colonial Period American Indian Communities: An Example from the Mid-Eighteenth Century Catawba Nation, 68th Annual Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Jacksonville, Florida. [Symposium]
- 2011 Recipes for Clay and Community from Catawba Nassaw Town, Society for Historical Archaeology 2011 Conference, Austin, Texas. [Symposium]
- 2008 Sara to Cheraw: Community Relocation in the Carolinas, 65th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Charlotte, North Carolina.
- 2007 (with R.P. Stephen Davis Jr. and Brett Riggs) On the Eve of Change: The Discovery and Investigation of Catawba Nassaw Town, 64th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Knoxville, Tennessee.
- 2006 People of the River, People of the Trail: Mapping Catawba Coalescence, 63rd Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Little Rock, Arkansas.
- 2003 Where There’s Smoke, There’s Fire: Early and Middle Archaic Settlement in the Apalachicola National Forest, Northwest Florida, 60th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Charlotte, North Carolina.
- 2002 Warriors of the Alachua Savanna: Examining Seminole Ethnogenesis at the Zetrouer Site, 54th Annual Meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society, St. Petersburg, Florida.

SERVICE

- 2017-present Treasurer, North Carolina Archaeological Society
- 2017-present North Carolina Public Education Committee (PEC) State Coordinator,
Society for American Archaeology
- 2007-2008 Graduate Student Faculty Liaison
Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2007-2008 Admissions Committee
Department of Anthropology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2005-2006 Co-Chair, Society of Anthropology Graduate Students