

# SIGNE ASPENGTREN

Santa Barbara, California  
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## **EDUCATION:**

### **University of California, Santa Barbara**

SEPTEMBER 2024 – PRESENT

- Ph.D. Student in the Department of Anthropology
  - Mediterranean Prehistory and Paleoecology Laboratory (<https://sarahbmclure.mystrikingly.com/>)
  - Research Interests:
    - Zooarchaeology; complex societies; status and inequality; Eastern European Prehistory; Foodways
- Teaching Assistant
  - Introduction to Archaeology (Fall 2024)
  - Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Winter 2025)

### **University of Wisconsin – La Crosse**

SEPTEMBER 2018 – MAY 2022

- **Bachelor of Science in Archaeology with Highest Honors and Departmental Honors**
  - GPA: 3.97
  - **Senior honors thesis:** *A Zooarchaeological Analysis of Inequality at the Bronze Age Sites of Rabe Anka Siget, Serbia, and Pecica-Șanțul Mare, Romania*
- **Minors in Biology and French**
- Teaching Assistant
  - Human Osteology (Spring 2022)
  - Laboratory Methods (Fall 2021)
  - Introduction to Archaeology (Fall 2020)
  - Physical Anthropology (Fall 2019; Spring 2020)
- Internships
  - **Internship in 3D Photogrammetry - Dr. David Anderson** (Spring 2022) - Used Agisoft Metashape to create 3D models of archaeological artifacts. Successfully created 3D models of lithic, ceramic, plastic, bronze, wood, and bone objects in studio and outdoor settings. Created digital portfolio viewable on [sketchfab.com/signeaspengren](https://sketchfab.com/signeaspengren).
  - **Zooarchaeology Internship – Dr. Amy Nicodemus** (Fall 2021) - Analyzed faunal remains from a Bronze Age archaeological site in Rabe, Serbia. Used comparative collection to determine species, age, sex, element, side, and cultural or taphonomic modifications. Studied differences in inequality among the Maros Culture based on differential food usage between different-sized Bronze Age sites for senior honors thesis.
  - **Archaeology Lab and Museum Methods Internship – Dr. Constance Arzigian** (Fall 2021) - Organized and curated teaching collection donated by Emory University. Performed restoration and repair of Mesopotamian ceramics using museum-quality techniques.

- **Physical Anthropology Internship - Dr. Constance Arzigian and Dr. Heather Walder** (Spring 2020) - Converted in-person labs to an online format to accommodate Covid 19 restrictions. Worked as a teaching assistant during in-person classes and prepared materials for and graded weekly labs.
- **Honors and Awards**
  - Graduated with Highest Honors and Department of Archaeology and Anthropology Honors (2022)
  - John E. Magerus Award for Outstanding Senior in the College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities (2022)
  - Dean's List (Fall 2018 – Spring 2022)
  - UW La Crosse Eagle Apprenticeship (Fall 2018 – Spring 2020)
  - Oren E. Frazee Community Scholarship (2020)
  - iEngage Study Abroad Scholarship (Summer 2019)
  - Archaeology Scholarship (2018)
  - Soaring Eagle Scholarship (2018)

**Northwood Technical College – New Richmond, Wisconsin**

JANUARY 2017 – MAY 2018

- **General education courses**

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**Teaching Assistant | Rabe Anka Siget Archaeological Field School - Kanjiža, Serbia**

**University of Wisconsin – La Crosse**

JUNE 2024 – AUGUST 2024

- Teaching assistant for an archaeological field school to teach excavation and laboratory techniques to American and Serbian undergraduate students.
- Supervised students in the field and helped to teach excavation methods, documentation procedures, mapping, and artifact identification skills.
- Responsible for assigning lot/context numbers and flotation sample numbers. Ensured that all artifacts and samples were accounted for each day.
- Mentored student in conducting a final research project to explore questions about food scarcity/abundance. Taught and supervised the analysis of shell faunal data from the 2024 field season. Explained how to use an Excel database and pivot tables to compile the data. Helped the student compare shell taxa between different areas of the site and to compare average shell size between Rabe and another nearby Bronze Age tell site to Performed Chi-Square and T-tests to determine statistical significance. Aided the student in preparing a summary of the findings to present to fellow field school students and staff.

**Field Staff | Körös Consortium – Vésztő, Hungary**

**University of Illinois at Chicago/University of Georgia/University of Kiel**

MAY 2024 – JUNE 2024

- Assisted at the excavation of of Békés-Várdomb, a Bronze Age tell site in Eastern Hungary.
- Documented excavation results through intensive notetaking, photography, flotation/soil sampling, and spatial documentation with a total station.
- Conducted lab work to wash, sort, and catalog artifacts. Floated and sorted flotation samples. Helped to organize photos, samples, and artifacts at the field house/lab space.

## **Archaeological Field Technician | Beaver Creek Archaeology – Bismarck, North Dakota**

MAY 2022 – MAY 2024

- Utilized Trimble GPS with ArcPad and ArcGIS to conduct pedestrian surveys for Section 106 compliance.
- Identified, documented, and updated archaeological, historical, and architectural sites across the Great Plains for a variety of clients and governmental agencies.
  - Sites consisted of various stone features, burial mounds, lithic cultural material scatters, historic cultural material scatters, depression features, foundations, standing structures, bridges, historic farmsteads, and historical districts.
  - Evaluated significance and eligibility for nomination to the NRHP by applying National Register Criterion.
- Excavated evaluative testing units and conducted shovel test probes to determine site boundaries and the presence or absence of intact subsurface deposits.
- Collaborated with Tribal Cultural Specialists from various tribes in the Northern Plains.
- Conducted archaeological monitoring to ensure avoidance measures were followed and no new subsurface deposits or cultural materials appeared.
- Wrote reports including site forms, existing site updates, Class I and Class III Cultural Resources Inventories, and monitoring reports for submission to the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.
- Conducted deed searches at county courthouses using physical and digitized records.
- Performed lithic analysis and cataloged artifacts into a database.

## **Research Assistant | Archaeology Laboratory**

**University of Wisconsin – La Crosse**

SEPTEMBER 2018 – MAY 2022

- Assisted faculty in running and organizing weekly open lab times for the archaeology department. Trained students on cataloging practices and organized lab materials.
- Cataloged and organized osteological teaching collections using Excel.
- Washed, sorted, and cataloged assemblages from the local field school.
- Worked on conserving and curating lithic and ceramic collections using museum-quality materials and techniques.

## **Participant | Geté Anishinaabe Izhichigéwin Community Archaeology Project**

**North Dakota State University**

JUNE 2021 – AUGUST 2021

- Collaborative Indigenous archaeology field school, working for the Red Cliff, WI Tribal Historic Preservation Office and the local Ojibwe community.
- Learned excavation and survey techniques as well as cataloging and curation procedures.
- Excavated shovel test probes and units.
  - Drew profile and plan maps of units to scale. Documented soil types and colors using a Munsell. Utilized a total station and Trimble for GPS coordinates.
- Assisted through service-learning at the annual powwow, language camp, tribal monitor training, and other community events.

- Participated in Curation Weekend (11/2021) to curate and organize assemblages. Helped to run community outreach programs on archaeological excavations for local high schoolers and introduction to archaeology for elementary students.

## **VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

### **Theban Mapping Project (January 2021) | American Research Center in Egypt**

- Tested and provided feedback on the user interface of the new educational website.

### **French Conversation Partner (Spring 2020) | UW – La Crosse Learning Resource Center**

- Worked one-one with students in introductory French classes to practice conversational speaking skills.
- Tracked and reported progress to LRC and professors.

### **Kids' College Program (February 2019, June 2019) | UW – La Crosse**

- Helped Dr. Constance Arzigian run the program for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders to teach them about forensic science, the human skeleton, and careers in science.

## **SKILLS**

- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to learn quickly and pay attention to detail while working independently.
- Experience in cataloging and curation practices.
- Ability to read maps and navigate to survey areas using Google Earth aeriels and topographic maps.
- Adept in reading, writing, and spoken French
- Proficient in using Trimble GPS and ArcPad to conduct surveys and document locational data.
- Highly proficient in Microsoft Office software, including Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint.
- Skilled at Agisoft Metashape for 3D photogrammetry models.

## **COMMERCIAL ARCHAEOLOGY REPORTS**

Aspengren, Signe

*2023 A Class III Intensive Cultural Resources Inventory of the Tom Nitschke Tree Planting Project in McIntosh County, North Dakota.* Manuscript on file at the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.

Aspengren, Signe

*2023 A Class III Intensive Cultural Resources Survey of the Seibel FSA Trees Project in Burleigh County, North Dakota.* Manuscript on file at the North Dakota State Historic Preservation office.

Aspengren, Signe

*2023 A Class III Intensive Cultural Resources Inventory of the Glen Gullickson Tree Planting Project in Stark County, North Dakota.* Manuscript on file at the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.

Aspengren, Signe

*2023 A Class III Intensive Cultural Resources Inventory of the Braiden Obritsch Tree Planting Project in Billings County, North Dakota.* Manuscript on file at the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.

Aspengren, Signe

- 2023 *An Addendum to the Class III Intensive Cultural Resources Inventory of the Allotment #037 Project in Slope County, North Dakota*. Manuscript on file at the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.
- Aspengren, Signe  
2023 *A Class III Intensive Cultural Resources Inventory of the Jesse Jalbert Tree Planting Project in Stark County, North Dakota*. Manuscript on file at the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.
- Aspengren, Signe  
2023 *A Class III Intensive Cultural Resource Inventory of the Valley City Leak Repair – Mapleton Line Project in Barnes County, North Dakota*. Manuscript on file at the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.
- Aspengren, Signe  
2023 *Harms Quale 14 to 16 & 19 to 28 – Quale Federal 3 to 14 Archaeological Monitoring in McKenzie County, North Dakota*. Prepared for Continental Resources, Inc.
- Aspengren, Signe  
2023 *A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of the George Andrews 5304 12-24 Well Pad, Central Tank Battery, and Access Road in Williams County, North Dakota*. Manuscript on file at the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.
- Aspengren, Signe  
2022 *A Class I Cultural Resource Inventory of the Billy Ray Valentine #4-8-5H, #5-8-5-H, Clark Griswold Federal #4-17-20H, #5-17-20H and #6-17-20H Well Pad and Access Road in McKenzie County, North Dakota*. Manuscript on file at North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.
- Aspengren, Signe  
2022 *A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of the Hankinson Range Option 2 Project in Richland County, North Dakota*. Manuscript on file at North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.
- Aspengren, Signe  
2022 *A Class III Intensive Cultural Resource Inventory of the Allotment 84 Tank and Pipeline Project in Slope County, North Dakota*. Manuscript on file at the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.
- Aspengren, Signe  
2022 *Burlington Flood Control Monitoring in Ward County, North Dakota*. Prepared for Barr Engineering Company.
- Aspengren, Signe  
2022 *A Class III Intensive Cultural Resource Inventory for the Severson-Wambach Line Rebuild Project in McKenzie County, North Dakota*. Manuscript on file at North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.
- Aspengren, Signe  
2022 *FMM I-29 Grade Raise and Borrow Ditch Crossing Archaeological Monitoring in Cass County, North Dakota*. Prepared for Industrial Builders, Inc.
- Brooks, Brittany and Signe Aspengren  
2022 *A Class III Intensive Cultural Resource Inventory for the Dragon Fly Produced Water Gathering System Project in Dunn County, North Dakota*. Manuscript on file at the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office.