



Zooarchaeology BEYOND FOOD

2nd Faunal Interest Group Symposium

University of Toronto

Online

March 19th to 20th, 2021



Keynote: T. Max Friesen, University of Toronto

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Land Acknowledgement

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

The Land Acknowledgement is a formal statement recognizing the unique and enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories. This statement was developed in consultation with First Nations House and its Elders Circle, some scholars in the field, and senior University officials. The statement is applicable to all three campuses—UTM, UTSC, and St. George—as well as the Koffler Scientific Reserve at Jokers Hill, the Institute for Aerospace Studies (UTIAS), and is available to all members of the University community for use at University events as appropriate.

For more information about Land Acknowledgements, visit the Indigenous Initiatives U of T “Land Acknowledgement” page, <https://indigenous.utoronto.ca/about/land-acknowledgement/>, or the University of Guelph video resource “Land Acknowledgements and Why They Matter,” <https://vimeo.com/517181293>.

Welcome, Overview, and Howard G. Savage

Welcome to the second **Faunal Interest Group (FIG)** zooarchaeology symposium, hosted online by the Archaeology Centre and the Department of Anthropology at the University of Toronto, **March 19th and 20th, 2021**. The theme this year is **Zooarchaeology BEYOND FOOD**, meaning all the interactions between humans and other animals which are not just about eating, such as relationships, rituals, raw material, and more. We are also celebrating **50 years** of zooarchaeology at the **Howard G. Savage Faunal Archaeo-Osteology Laboratory** at University of Toronto, and this symposium pays tribute to the founder of the program, Dr. Howard G. Savage, with a *Stories about Howard* social.



Dr. Howard Gordon Savage (December 28, 1913–March 16, 1998) received his MD from the University of Toronto in 1937 and worked as a pediatrician from 1938 to 1969. He served in the Second World War as a Medical Officer with the Royal Canadian Air Force, from 1942 to 1945. For most of the 1960s, Dr. Savage worked with Jim Baillie, of the Department of Ornithology at the Royal Ontario Museum, helping to expand the collection of ornithological specimens. The work at the ROM led to his interest in osteo-zooarchaeology, and in 1969, Dr. Savage was hired as a Research Associate by the Department of Anthropology at University of Toronto. Thus began the creation of one of the largest and most diverse zooarchaeology collections in Canada, with a wide range of North American and exotic specimens, including *Panthera leo*, *Panthera tigris*, and several *Ursus*. The following year, Dr. Savage started teaching zooarchaeology, and in 1973, he taught the first of many ANT415: Faunal Archaeo-Osteology classes. Through Howard's dedication and commitment, and many years of students preparing their own specimens, the collection grew quickly. In 1979, the University designated the comparative collection as the Howard G. Savage Faunal Archaeo-Osteology Laboratory.

Many students passed through the faunal lab in the old South Borden Building, and several ultimately pursued careers in zooarchaeology. Many of these scholars continue to shape zooarchaeology today, with dozens of their students contributing to the discipline all over the world. Dr. Savage brought a deep love of learning about animals to the class and inspired many with his knowledge and good humour. He was also a festive individual, who enjoyed throwing Thanksgiving and Halloween celebrations in

the lab, with a roasted turkey processioned in with bagpipes. He remained in the lab until his retirement, in 1997, and today, Dr. Max Friesen (a student of Howard's) continues ANT415 in a new space, but with the same collection and many of the same teachings.

From this strong tradition of zooarchaeological research, scholarship, and training, the Faunal Interest Group was created in 2007 as a graduate-student initiative to provide a productive forum for discussion around research in zooarchaeology. We discuss new and old issues of zooarchaeological method and theory, host guest lecturers, and provide a casual and supportive arena for our group members to present and receive input on their own research. In 2017, we hosted our first FIG symposium, entitled Landscape Interaction and Zooarchaeology, and we subsequently published many of the conference papers in a 2019–2020 *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* Special Issue with the same title, <https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-archaeological-science-reports/special-issue/10TT1MRXSK7>, guest-edited by Adam Allentuck, Suzanne Needs-Howarth, Aleksa K. Alaica, Danielle Desmarais, and Stephen Rhodes.

We are fortunate to have even greater interest for this symposium; so much so that an extra day was added to accommodate the many submissions. If you're a zooarchaeologist, you know there is so much more to zooarchaeology than saying "What's for dinner?" and we wanted to provide a gathering where colleagues can share their research into the diverse range of human–non-human relationships that have been inferred from the past. The 26 papers have been loosely sorted into 7 sessions: Feasting and Aesthetics; Adaptations and Species Introductions; Shaping Bone and Forming Legacies; Animal Life Histories; Emerging Technologies; Beyond Food in the Wild; and Gender, Ritual, and Symbolism. On the first day we will have three sessions, followed by a talk from our keynote speaker, Dr. Max Friesen, who will also start off our socializing session, *Stories about Howard*. On the second day we will have the remaining four sessions, and Dr. Genevieve Dewar will moderate the final discussion and provide closing comments.

Additionally, FIG is putting together an *Academic Phylogeny of Howard G. Savage*, and we welcome colleagues to add names and information to our database during lunch break via Zoom, or by visiting <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sQtdwXTqe1RJdzbHixjIAeGpnOrpFVuz/view?usp=sharing>. This academic family tree will serve to better understand the impact of the Howard Savage legacy on wider zooarchaeological practice.

We welcome anyone interested in non-human animal research and understandings to attend any and all of the presentations and discussions over the two days, participate in the *Stories about Howard* social ... and **Have a Great Bone Day!**

Conference Procedures

This symposium will take place completely online using the platform of Zoom. Please click on the link you received after registering and follow the on-screen instructions. All presenters and attendees are free to join the meeting at any time. Presenters should arrive in advance of the start of their session and remain for its duration to ensure that any questions posed can be addressed in the discussion period. This symposium is **not recorded**, and it is **not permitted to record any session** as the appropriate permissions have not been obtained.

We ask that you identify yourself with a full name to ensure that you are properly admitted to the webinar and break-out room sessions. We also ask that you set your profile picture to something related to zooarchaeology, archaeology, or animals, thus making it easier for us to recognize the difference between those intending on joining the meeting and interlopers.

We ask that all audience members have their microphones on mute and deactivate their cameras during the presentations to save on bandwidth. However, participants are free to turn on their camera for questions after the presentation, and participants will be able to unmute to ask questions once they have been called upon after raising their “digital hand.”

There are seven sessions, and each session is chaired by a moderator. All communication can be directed to this person by all presenters and attendees. In each session, presentations will be 12–15 minutes in length. If time is available, participants can pose questions posed at the end of the paper; if not, they can pose them in the discussion period for the session. We ask that all questions and discussions be approached in a constructive but supportive manner.

During the lunchbreaks we invite participants to share any names or information that can be added to the Howard G. Savage academic phylogeny tree. The Zoom platform will move to a general meeting to allow for break-out rooms and to easily collect information. The lunchbreak Zoom link will be sent to registrants on Thursday, March 18th. We ask you to log in with your cameras off and microphones muted unless you would like to engage in dialogue with others.

NOTE: All interactions are to be collegial. Any misconduct will result in any attendee being ejected from the meeting.

Important notice regarding times, time zones, and daylight savings time

Our schedule was developed by considering as many possible time zones as we could, to accommodate as many researchers as possible. Please note that daylight savings time will be in effect in Canada (except Saskatchewan, Yukon, and parts of Quebec, B.C., and Ontario) and the United States during the symposium, but it will not be in effect for any other country in the northern hemisphere; it varies in the Southern Hemisphere.

All times listed in this programmed reference Eastern Standard Time (EST). **Doors will open at 10:30 am EST** each day of the symposium. Please check your time zone in relation to EST to ensure you arrive on time (<https://www.thetimezoneconverter.com/>).

Contributors

Organizing Committee

Aleksa K. Alaica
Danii Desmarais
Dr. Radovan Kabatiar
Louis-Vincent Laperrière-Désorcy
Dr. Suzanne Needs-Howarth
Dr. Trevor Orchard
Dr. Katherine Patton
Stephen Rhodes
John Vandergugten
Fan Zhang

Moderators

Aleksa K. Alaica
Danii Desmarais
Dr. Genevieve Dewar
Courtney Hopper
Dr. Trevor Orchard
Stephen Rhodes
John Vandergugten

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Archaeology Centre, University of Toronto
Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto

Symposium Schedule

Friday, March 19		
Time EST	Authors	Paper Title
11:10 AM	Organizing Committee	Introduction and Land Acknowledgement (Danii Desmarais)
Session 1: Feasting and Aesthetics Moderator: Danii Desmarais		
11:30 AM	Abu B. Siddiq	Fear, Feast, Cult, and Taboo: Aurochs in Neolithic Anatolia
11:45 AM	Freydis Ehrlich, Giedrė Piličiauskienė, Miglė Urbonaitė-Ubė, Eve Rannamäe	Multiple Ways to Use Eagles: A Case Study from the Castle of the Teutonic Order in Klaipėda, Lithuania (thirteenth–fourteenth century CE)
12:00 PM	Selena Vitezović	Animal Beauty: Use of Skeletal Elements for Decorative Purposes in the Neolithic in Southeastern Europe
12:15 PM	Discussion/Break	
Session 2: Adaptations and Species Introductions Moderator: Courtney Hopper		
12:30 PM	Nayeli Jimenez Cano	Coastal Exploitation in the Northern Maya Lowlands: Zooarchaeology and Current Marine Concerns
12:45 PM	Safoora Kamjan, Donna de Groene, Youri van den Hurk, Petar Zidarov, Nedko Elenski, William P. Patterson, Canan Çakırlar	The Emergence and Evolution of Neolithic Cattle Farming in Southeastern Europe: New Zooarchaeological and Stable Isotope Data from Džuljunica-Smārdeš, Northeastern Bulgaria (ca. 6200–5500 cal BCE)
1:00 PM	Sophie Rabinow	An Investigation of Agouti (<i>Dasyprocta</i>) Introduction to the Precontact Lesser Antilles
1:15 PM	Radovan Kabatiar	Toothless Sheep and Scrawny Cows: An Examination of Potential Links between Skeletal Pathologies and Environment Deterioration in South-eastern Turkey
1:30 PM	Discussion/Break	
Lunch/Break/Family Tree		
Session 3: Shaping Bone and Forming Legacies Moderator: Trevor Orchard		
3:00 PM	Erika Ebel and Genevieve LeMoine	Using ZooMS to Identify Sources of Osseous Raw Material at Iita, Northwestern Greenland
3:15 PM	Stephen Rhodes	Exploring Variability in Neolithic Bone Awls from Georgia, Southern Caucasus
3:30 PM	Trevor J. Orchard, Suzanne Needs-Howarth, Alicia Hawkins	Mining Howard Savage's Legacy: Assessing Zooarchaeological Data Quality in Undergraduate Student Faunal Reports
3:45 PM	Discussion/Break	
Keynote: Max Friesen Moderator: Danii Desmarais		
4:00 PM	T. Max Friesen	Glimpses of the Non-Economic in Arctic Zooarchaeology
5:00ish	Multiple	Stories about Howard

Saturday, March 20

Time EST	Authors	Paper Title
10:45 AM	Organizing Committee	Land Acknowledgement (Aleksa Alaica)
Session 4: Animal Life Histories Moderator: Aleksa Alaica		
11:00 AM	Ningning Dong	Animal Classification in Ancient China from the Late Neolithic to the Early Bronze Age
11:15 AM	Nemanja Marković, Jelena Bulatović, Velibor Katić, Miroslav Marić	Zooarchaeology Beyond Food: Osteobiographies of Early Medieval Dog and Pig Skeletons at the Divičmeđ site (Serbia)
11:30 AM	Helene Benkert, Carly Ameen, Alan Outram, Oliver Creighton	The Zooarchaeology of the Medieval Warhorse
11:45 AM	Katherine S. Kanne	Sizing Up Selection: Exploring the Evidence for Horse Types in the Hungarian Bronze Age
12:00 PM	Discussion/Break	
Session 5: Emerging Technologies Moderator: Stephen Rhodes		
12:15 PM	Johanna Sigl and Peter Kopp	When Leftovers Become a Tool
12:30 PM	Greenfield et al.	Narrowing the Gap: The Origins of Bronze Metallurgy for Daily Life Activities in the Southern Levant, with Zooarchaeological Data from Tall Zira'a
12:45 PM	Patrick Keenan	Come One, Come Awl: An Analysis of Tempering Methods of Bone Awls in Neolithic Europe and Western Asia
1:00 PM	Shelby Patrick	The Making of an Antler Harpoon Head: Iron vs. Slate and Implications for Production
1:15 PM	Discussion/Break	
Lunch/Break/Family Tree		
Session 6: Beyond Food in the Wild Moderator: John Vandergugten		
2:30 PM	Edward Shepherd	Exploring Human–Fox Relationships During the Early Neolithic in Yorkshire, England
2:45 PM	Stephanie Dolenz, Karis Baker, Naomi Sykes, Holly Miller	Dama Mia: Investigating the Origins and Game Activity of European Fallow Deer in Sicily and Sardinia
3:00 PM	Simon-Pierre Gilson and Andrea Lessa	Sharks and Precolonial Brazilian Coastal Groups: Let's Start to Think about Sociocultural Implications
3:15 PM	Aubrey Farrell	You're Gonna Need a Bigger Boat: An Analysis of Shark Tooth Artifacts from Precontact Florida
3:30 PM	Discussion/Break	
Session 7: Gender, Ritual, and Symbolism Moderator: Genevieve Dewar		
3:45 PM	Aleksa K. Alaica	Hunting, Herding, and Ritual: Dogs in Moche Daily and Ceremonial Practices of Northern Peru (200–950 CE)
4:00 PM	Norbert Stanchly and Kitty Emery	Testing the Theory of Animal Left–Right Symbolism in Ancient Maya Ritual Practice
4:15 PM	Zoe Helleiner	What Forces Shape Dorset Bone Needle Production in the Arctic?
4:30 PM	Discussion/Closing Comments	

Norbert Stanchly graduated from the University of Toronto with a degree in archaeology. Immediately after completing Dr. Savage's course in 1990, he was invited to participate in the Trent University archaeological field school in Belize, Central America, as a faunal research assistant. Norbert has conducted zooarchaeological research in Belize since 1990 and is currently the project zooarchaeologist for the Belize Valley Archaeological Reconnaissance Project and the Pacbitun Regional Archaeological Project. He has analyzed faunal assemblages from more than two dozen Maya sites in Belize.

Animal Beauty: Use of Skeletal Elements for Decorative Purposes in the Neolithic in Southeastern Europe

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Diverse skeletal elements (bones, antler, teeth, mollusc shells) were widely used for the production of diverse artefacts since Palaeolithic times. They were used for everyday tools and hunting and fishing weapons, but they were also frequently selected for making decorative items, both because of their physical and mechanical properties, and because they had some symbolic value. This paper will present decorative items made from animal skeletal elements from the Neolithic period in the Balkan area, with a special focus on the Early and Middle Neolithic Starčevo culture and the Late Neolithic Vinča culture. Although stone and clay were used for jewellery as well, the main raw materials were those of animal origin. Analyses of the raw material selection, typological repertoire, and symbolic aspects will be explored. Teeth from both wild and domestic species were used for making simple pendants. Bone and antler were used for making diverse buckles, decorative pins, pendants, and some of the ornamental pieces produced are quite extraordinary in terms of labour, skill, and time invested in their production. Particularly interesting is the presence of ornaments made from imported mollusc shells, which were certainly symbols of status and prestige. Ornaments made from osseous raw materials were usually used for a long time and sometimes repaired and recycled. Osseous raw materials were chosen for their physical properties—hardness, smooth surfaces, and bright, shiny white colour. They also had symbolic value, perhaps linked with these properties, rarity and/or origin from certain animal species. This symbolic value is difficult to reconstruct; it is possible they were used to display individual status and prestige.

Thank Yous

We would like to thank our keynote speaker, Dr. Max Friesen, for carrying on Howard's traditions, sharing his bone stories (and Howard's), and supporting FIG. Thank you to all the presenters for sharing their time and research, and to our moderators for helping to facilitate the presentations. We would also like to thank our sponsors, the Archaeology Centre and the Department of Anthropology at University of Toronto, for their generous support. We would like to thank Dr. Hilary Duke and Ken Holyoke in particular, for their time, effort, and skills in helping us put together what we hope will be an engaging experience for all our faunal friends. Many thanks as well to Dr. Lesley Howse and Dr. Genevieve Dewar for first establishing the FIG in 2007. Most of all, a HUGE thank you to the Organizing Committee for countless volunteer hours to get us all together for a couple of great bone days!