

ADVANCES IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRACTICE

Volume 14 • Issue 2 • May 2026



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SOCIETY FOR AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY

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Volume 14, No. 2 ■ May 2026

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On the Cover: Archaeologists and parents conducting community-based projects often find that family and fieldwork intersect in surprising ways. In “Without a Roadmap: Reflections on the Emergent Methods of Community-Based Archaeology,” Patricia Markert traces the ways that the methods, questions, and trajectories of the Old D’Hanis Archaeological Mapping Project were shaped through dialogue and relationships within community. Markert first came to Medina County, Texas, in 2015–2016 with her advisor Ruth Van Dyke to work on a community archaeology project at the future site of the Castro Colonies Living History Center (LHC) in Castroville, a sister town to Markert’s main field site in D’Hanis. A few years later, as a PhD candidate, Markert curated an archaeology exhibit at the LHC that included a sandbox activity for kids, with a custom table built by descendant-community member Ken Koch. Markert’s team installed the exhibit and held an opening in March 2022, when she was seven months pregnant. Markert took this photo at the LHC in August 2023, when her daughter Thea was 16 months old. Now three, Thea has come along to Texas on three research trips and has begun to form her own relationships and memories with people, places, and community there.

Advances in Archaeological Practice (AAP) is an open-access journal for all archaeologists. AAP aims to provide a vibrant venue for a global community of archaeologists to share knowledge about what it means to do archaeology well. The scope of the journal includes, but is not limited to, contributions on the practice of archaeological methods; science; theory; policy; advocacy; curation; heritage management and interpretation; pedagogy; disciplinary culture; and an examination of the ways in which we engage with colleagues, partners, and policymakers.

This journal aims to broaden the range of people reading and writing about or contributing to archaeological practice. AAP acknowledges that academic journals are culturally and socially situated and that the scale of systemic inequalities and inequities is both large and deeply historical. To the extent that it is possible within the structure of academic publishing, AAP aims to provide both ethical and equitable access to voices that are not typically amplified, and to facilitate the discovery and use of new research in scholarly, applied, and educational contexts.

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ISSN 2326-3768