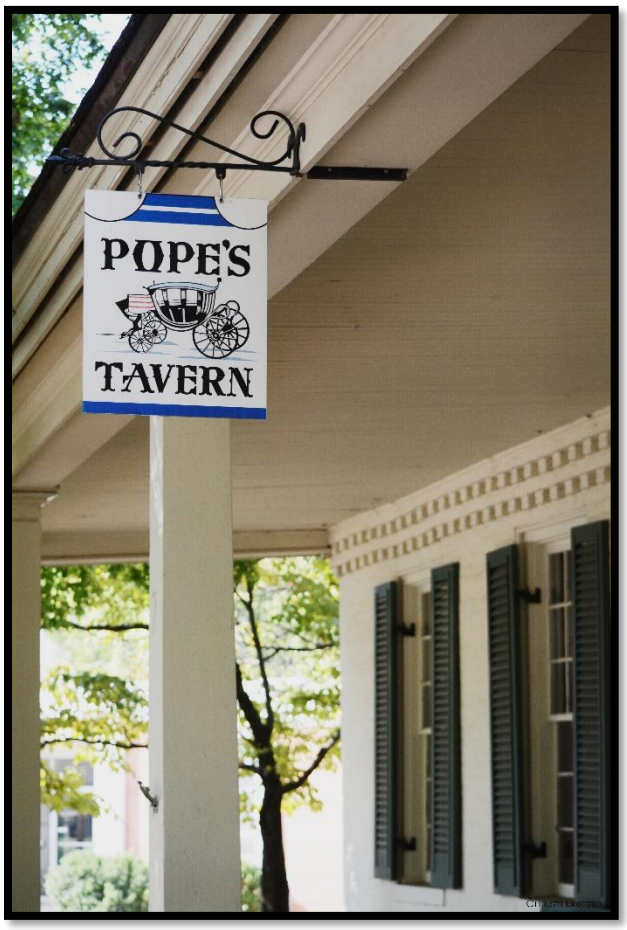
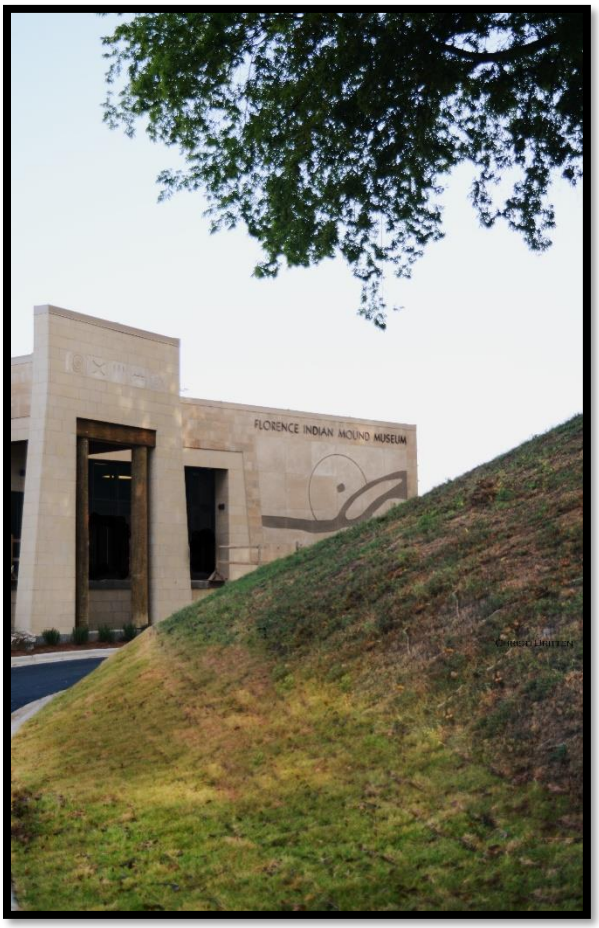
Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area
The Florence Indian Mound Museum
& Pope's Tavern Museum Archaeological Resource Guide

Daniel Rhodes, UNA Public History Graduate Student



Pope's Tavern Museum
203 Hermitage Dr, Florence, AL 35630
https://www.florencealmuseums.com/



Florence Indian Mound Museum
1028 S Court St, Florence, AL 35630
https://www.florencealmuseums.com/

Table of Contents

What is a National Heritage Area? National Heritage Areas (NHAs) are designated by Congress as places where natural, cultural, and historic resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally important landscape. Through their resources, NHAs tell nationally important stories that celebrate our nation's diverse heritage. NHAs are lived-in landscapes. Consequently, NHA entities collaborate with communities to determine how to make heritage relevant to local interests and needs.

NHAs are a grassroots, community-driven approach to heritage conservation and economic development. Through public-private partnerships, NHA entities support historic preservation, natural resource conservation, recreation, heritage tourism, and educational projects. Leveraging funds and long-term support for projects, NHA partnerships foster pride of place and an enduring stewardship ethic. Click the link to learn more about National Heritage Areas.[1]

The Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area: The Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area occupies the northwestern corner of Alabama. The MSNHA is made up of six counties: Lauderdale, Colbert, Franklin, Lawrence, Limestone, and Morgan. This region of Alabama is connected to the story of the Muscle Shoals stretch of the Tennessee River. This part of the river was shallow and rocky, and travel along it was difficult. It wasn't until TVA dammed the Tennessee River that the Muscle Shoals region became easily navigable. The region has a rich Native American heritage. Some of the earliest sites of human habitation in the southeast are in the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area. The region also includes the Natchez Trace (which was an important travel and trading route for indigenous people), earthen mounds, and a significant story connected to the Trail of Tears. The region is also well known for its music history and is home to the world-famous Muscle Shoals Sound Studio and FAME Recording Studio.

[1] "What Is a National Heritage Area? (U.S. National Park Service)." National Parks Service. U.S. Department of the Interior. Accessed July 8, 2022. https://www.nps.gov/articles/what-is-a-national-heritage-area.htm.

Laws Related to Archeology

The purpose of this guide is to aid in the identification of archaeological and historical artifacts often found in the MSNHA. This guide in no way advocates for the removal or looting of heritage or historic sites, as that constitutes a crime in the United States. The Native American Graves Protection Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) stipulate the following:

NAGPRA Criminal Provisions

A person who knowingly commits any of the following may be punished by imprisonment, a fine, or both:

1. Sells, purchases, uses for profit, or transports for sale or profit the human remains of a Native American.

2. Sells, purchases, uses for profit, or transports for sale or profit any Native American cultural item obtained in violation of NAGPRA.

All violations or suspected violations of NAGPRA should be reported to your local Federal Bureau of Investigation Office.

Archaeological Resources Protection Act

ARPA prohibits sale, purchase, exchange, transport, receipt, or offering to do any of these actions any artifacts obtained in violation of a law, even if they were acquired on private land

An ARPA violation can be a felony if the cost of damage or value of artifacts is over $500 or as a second offense

The public can help by complying with the laws, reporting looting, and volunteering for outreach projects such as the Tennessee Valley Authority's "Thousand Eyes Program"

Glossary

In the field of archaeology, a lot of terms are used that beginners may not be familiar with. The list of terms below is taken from the Archaeological Institute of America and makes navigating archaeological site reports and texts much easier.

Archaeology – The scientific excavation and study of ancient human material remains.

Artifact – A portable object manufactured, modified, or used by humans.

Ceramics – Objects, often pottery, made of fired or baked clay.

Cultural Resource Management (CRM) – Profession that focuses on the management and preservation of cultural resources, such as archaeological sites or artifacts, protecting them for future generations.

Debitage – Small pieces of stone debris that break off during the manufacturing of stone tools. These are usually considered waste and are a by-product of production.

Excavation- The digging up and recording of archaeological sites, including uncovering and recording the provenance, context, and three-dimensional location of archaeological finds.

Fabric – Term used to describe the composition of the clay used in the manufacture of a ceramic pot or artifact; it includes temper, texture, hardness, and other characteristics.

Feature – Any physical structure or element, such as a wall, post hole, pit, or floor, that is made or altered by humans but (unlike an artifact) is not portable and cannot be removed from a site.

Field notes – Detailed, written accounts of archaeological research, excavation, and interpretation made while in the field at an ongoing project.

Ground-penetrating radar – An instrument used to find sub-surface anomalies (features) by recording differential reflection of radar pulses.

Knapping – A technique for making stone tools and weapons by striking flakes from a core with a hard (stone) or soft (antler) percussion instrument. Individual flakes or cores can be further modified to create tools. Also called **flintknapping.**

Radiocarbon dating – An absolute dating technique used to determine the age of organic materials less than 50,000 years old. Age is determined by examining the loss of the unstable carbon-14 isotope, which is absorbed by all living organisms during their lifespan. The rate of decay of this unstable isotope after the organism has died is assumed to be constant, and is measured in half-lives of 5730 + 40 years, meaning that the amount of carbon-14 is reduced to half the amount after about 5730 years. Dates generated by radiocarbon dating have to be calibrated using dates derived from other absolute dating methods, such as dendrochronology and ice cores.

Sherd- The term used for a piece of broken pottery from an archaeological context.

Site – Any place where human material remains are found; an area of human activity represented by material culture.

Stratigraphy – The study of the layers (strata) of sediments, soils, and material culture at an archaeological site (also used in geology for the study of geological layers).

Style – Characteristics of appearance used to classify objects. Style helps to identify cultural and chronological changes and connections.

Surface Survey – The process of searching for archaeological remains by physically examining the landscape, usually on foot.[2]

[2]Kevin Mullen. "Glossary." *Archaeological Institute of America*, 23 Feb. 2022, www.archaeological.org/programs/educators/introduction-to-archaeology/glossary/.

Introduction

Welcome to the wonderful world of the Muscle Shoals Heritage Area! There is so much history here, but history isn't just what is in front of you, it is also buried in the ground under your feet. The MSNHA is home to a variety of historical sites connected to the long history of human habitation in the region. While many sites have been uncovered and researched, there remain many that we don't know about. This guide will help you to understand the history of the region and the artifact types often found at historic sites here.

There are many different kinds of artifacts found throughout the world. Not all of them are found here in the MSNHA. Also, artifact types may have been common to the region, but they may not remain a part of the archaeological record today. Artifacts made of glass, stone, ceramics, bone, or metal maintain very well especially after being buried in the ground for hundreds or even thousands of years. Artifacts made of fabrics, leather, or wood usually dissolve or become unrecoverable due to environmental conditions.

The following sections will explore the types of artifacts that are often found in the MSNHA, their historical background (how they were made and used), and most importantly how to identify them.

Indigenous Artifacts

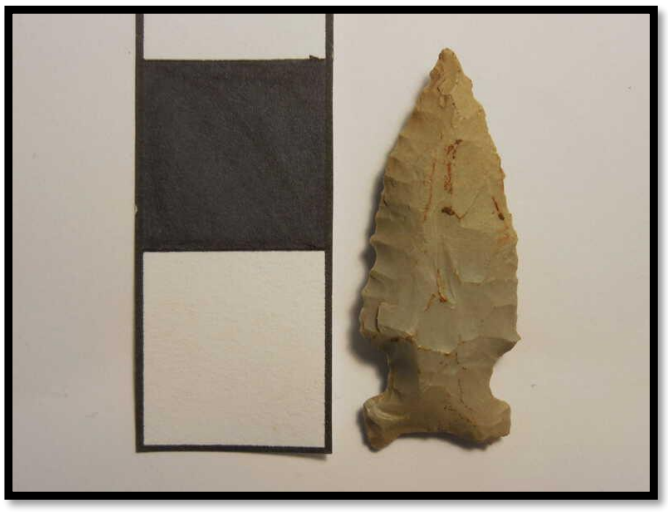
Native culture and, by extension, artifacts differ greatly depending on the region. The color, texture, and even the materials used are as varied and unique as the people who made them. Not every artifact you encounter in the field is going to very old, and without extensive testing, there is no real way of knowing exactly how old many artifacts are. The following section has been divided into different archaeological and historical periods and includes an overview of artifacts that are associated with sites from that Period.

The Paleoindian Period: The Paleoindian Period began in North America around 13,000 BCE and lasted until around 9,000 BCE. While it is still a topic of some debate, there is substantial evidence that suggests people came from Asia on a land bridge across what is now the Bering Sea. It is not currently known when and how people first arrived in the southeast, although their occupation is thought to have begun about 14,000 years ago. Many believe that people at this time migrated extensively, following the major rivers and other water sources to locate food sources. [3] This period is divided into two subsections, The Early Period (11,500 BC to 10,500 BC) and the Middle/Late (10,500 BC to 9,500 BC).

[3]David M. Johnson, 2019. *Alabama's Prehistoric Indians and Artifacts*. Tuscaloosa, Alabama: Borgo Publishing. P. 75-76

Clovis Points, like the example provided, have been, found in several locations in the Shoals area including Colbert and Lauderdale counties. This image is from the collection at the Florence Indian Mound Museum

The Archaic Period: The Archaic Period occurred between 8,000 and 3,000 BCE. Archaeologists have divided this period into three separate subperiods. Each period has its own characteristics, which follow a trend that leads to people forming more complex societies. Tools used during the time were made of various stones and minerals found throughout the region. Around 8,500 years ago, the climate began to change, thus changing the resources, plants, and animals that were readily available. At the beginning of the Archaic Period, the climate was much cooler than what we see today. In the Middle Period, it began to grow warmer, and at the end of the late Archaic Period, the climate became close to what we have today. People at this time were largely nomadic and moved throughout the year following food sources. Sites from this period are often defined by stone tools and animal bones such as those from deer, squirrels, and other mammals.



The image featured at the left is a Big Sandy point named for the site it was recovered in Henry County, Tennessee, and is an excellent example of an Early Archaic point. This point is from the Florence Indian Mound Museum collection.

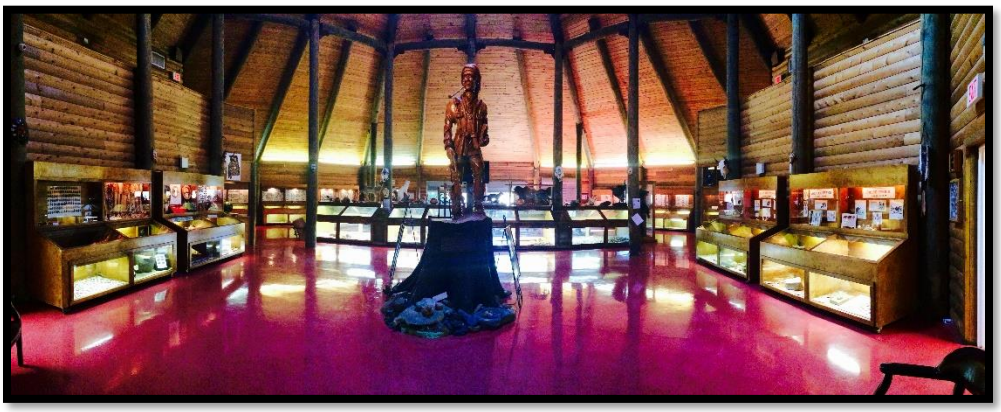
The Benton point to the left is an example of Middle Archaic Points from the Florence Indian Mound Museum Collection. It is named after the Benton site in Benton County, Tennessee.

The point featured to the left is a Cotaco Creek Point, named after the Cotaco Creek site in Morgan County, Alabama, and is an excellent example of a late Archaic Point. Image from the collection at the Florence Indian Mound Museum.

Mussel shells from the Tennessee River and tributaries are often found at Archaic Period sites

The Woodland Period: The Woodland Period occurred between 700 BCE and 1100CE. This period is characterized by regionalism. Regionalism refers to the development of partially self-sustaining communities, each with its own unique customs and culture. While people of this time still hunted and foraged like people of the Archaic Period, they also began to tend their own plants. Maize, Sunflowers, beans, and squash were among the most successful crops and were more reliable as food sources than nuts and acorns. As you can imagine, the development of agriculture led to a more stationary lifestyle, meaning people no longer had to follow herds of animals throughout the year for survival. This also led to the wider adaption of a mortuary (funeral) ceremonies and the wider use of pottery. [4] The Oakville Indian Mounds Museum and Education Center and The Florence Indian Mound Museum both include mounds from this Period.

Oakville Indian Mound
Platform Mound



Inside the Oakville Museum and Education Center

Photo Courtesy of Anna Mullican

[4] Johnson, David M, 2019. *Alabama's Prehistoric Indians and Artifacts*. Tuscaloosa, Alabama: Borgo Publishing. P. 225

The Mississippian Period: The Mississippian Period began around 1000 CE and came to an end around 1550 CE. The Mississippian Period is not defined by any one culture or group, but by many groups or peoples who had a similar culture. People of this period built fortified towns and homesteads. They farmed, hunted, fished, and grew their own crops. Their settlements tended to be in and around river valleys and other sources of fresh water. Another achievement of the Mississippian Period was both the rise of social class and the wider adoption of mound building. In some cases, people of a higher class or status lived at the top of mounds while those of more common status lived on the ground. While a majority of the occupation of the Florence Indian Mound dates to the Woodland Period, there is also evidence that occupation continued well into the Mississippian Period. This period came to an end with the arrival of Europeans

The Mississippian Period Display at the Florence Indian Mound Museum includes various beads, pottery, gun flints, and other artifacts associated with the Period.

Historic Ceramics and Indigenous Pottery

Ceramics and pottery play a pivotal role in the analysis of historic sites. Pottery making was among the earliest American crafts. Everything needed for the production of pottery was present in America: clay, abundant wood for firing kilns, and capable craftsmen.[5] Ceramics and pottery can be used to provide a semi-accurate range of dates, as well as information on the occupant's social and economic status.[6] The words ceramic and pottery are often used interchangeably. But while there is some overlap, they are different things. Both terms refer to materials that are fired at high heat to make them insoluble. Pottery is a type of ceramic but not all ceramic is pottery,

[5] "Pottery from the Index of American Design" (National Gallery of Art), accessed August 4, 2022, https://www.nga.gov/features/slideshows/pottery-from-the-index-of-american-design.html#:~:text=Pottery%20making%20was%20among%20the,firing%20kilns%2C%20and%20capable%20craftsmen

[6] Bower, Amy. 2009. "A Guide to Historic Ceramics in The Antebellum South". Rhodes Institute for Regional Studies.P.1

and not all ceramics are made of clay.[7] Pottery also refers to a container of some sort, while ceramics are not all containers. While both types of artifacts break and fall apart easily, the materials are also surprisingly durable, meaning they can still be found at sites in identifiable condition. In some cases, there might be enough of pieces to reassemble a vessel.[8] Before the 1700s, American colonists depended on England to acquire ceramic wares. There are three types of European or imported types of ceramics found on American sites: earthenware, stoneware, and porcelain.

Earthenware was manufactured in England before the Medieval Period but wasn't produced in America until the 1620s. Earthenware can be identified by its soft, impermeable body that is made absorbent by glazing. The glaze most commonly used was made of either lead sulfide or lead oxide with additives to allow for color or opacity, as a purely lead glaze would be transparent.[9]

These earthenware ceramic sherds were discovered during an excavation on the grounds of the Pope's Tavern Museum in 2021.

Stoneware is hard-bodied ceramic that does not require a glaze to be impermeable, A salt glaze was frequently added, however, to give the ceramic a smoother, glassier shell. [10]

[7] "Ceramics, Pottery, Potties, and Clay," Seattle Artist League, May 12, 2022, https://seattleartistleague.com/2022/05/11/ceramics-pottery-potties-and-clay/.
[8] Bower, Amy. 2009. "A Guide to Historic Ceramics in The Antebellum South". P.2
[9] *Ibid* P.12
[10] *Ibid* P.12

Various stoneware jugs like the example to the left are a great example of the type of stoneware, however they are rarely found in as good of condition as the example provided. Tom Haaf's segregated bar in Florence, which operated in the city in the 1890s, was the result of legal segregation, upheld by the Supreme Court in Plessy v. Ferguson in 1896. Segregation restricted African Americans' access to public spaces. Image in the collection of the Pope's Tavern Museum

Porcelain is an extremely vitrified (exposed to heat becoming a glass-like substance) white ceramic composed of kaolin, a special type of clay.

This single sherd of porcelain was recovered from the 2021 excavation of Pope's Tavern. It most likely was part of a dish or a cup.

Indigenous Pottery

Indigenous pottery was created using locally sourced clay or mud, mostly likely from a nearby water source such as a river or stream. The Tennessee River, which flows through the region, would have been an excellent source of clay. To make a pottery vessel, indigenous peoples would roll out long pieces of clay, form them into circles and stack those circles on top of one another. Once they were put together, the creator would smooth out the coils by hand and then scrape the clay to remove any signs of them, forming a smooth facade. Pottery was heavy and

breakable so most tribes who used it lived in a permanent settlement. [11] Pottery made by indigenous people was made for artistic expression as well as storage or cooking. Images of clubs, axes, bows, and arrows on pottery pieces are fairly common. Severed heads, skulls, bones, and scalps are also quite common. Some vessels feature birds of prey such as hawks or eagles. Warriors, monsters, and winged snakes also appear. Pots and cups were also made into the shape of different animals such as frogs, fish, and birds.[12] Images like these appear often on vessels from the Mississippian Period but are quite rare in the Tennessee Valley.

The various pots and vessels in this image are part of the collection of the Florence Indian Mound Museum.

[11] Michael Faust, "3 Things You Probably Didn't Know about Native American Pottery," Faust Gallery, January 21, 2020, https://www.faustgallery.com/3-things-you-probably-didnt-know-about-native-american-pottery/#:~:text=To%20build%20a%20piece%2C%20early,remove%20any%20signs%20of%20them.
[12] Johnson, David M, 2019. *Alabama's Prehistoric Indians and Artifacts*. Tuscaloosa, Alabama: Borgo Publishing. P. 355

Contemporary Artifacts

Metal Artifacts

Metal artifacts are among some of the easiest in the field to identify. Metal artifacts that predate the arrival of Europeans are rare. Until the Industrial Revolution began in the United States in the 1790s, metal artifacts were still being made by hand by a blacksmith. Blacksmithing tools varied across different regions of the country, but they were generally divided into three groups: the hearth and bellows, the anvil and tongs, and a shoeing box.[13] Blacksmiths made everything from nails to horseshoes. A majority of artifacts were made of iron because it was durable, inexpensive, and readily available.

Recreation of a blacksmith shop at Constitution Village in Huntsville, Alabama.

.

The large nail on the left was excavated during the Pope's Tavern 2021. The nail on the right is a modern roofing nail. Note the oxidation on the older nail.

[13] Henry Kauffman, "The Tools and Trade Techniques of the Blacksmith," *Metalworking Trades in Early America*, 1995, 1.

Metal artifacts give excellent insight into the use or occupation of an archaeological site. Artifacts such as nails and horseshoes can lead to the conclusion that the site was mostly residential or agricultural. In sites of former military occupation, pieces of firearms and bullets are quite common. The images below are a sample of a lead shot, a bullet from around the time of the American Civil War, and a series of modern bullets that give an idea of the evolution of firearms artifacts.

This is a piece of lead shot that was excavated from the site of George Washington's home in Mount Vernon. This type of shot was used in a variety of firearms throughout the eighteenth century. Photo credit to George Washington's Mount Vernon in Virginia

The image featured at the left is a lead sprue. This artifact recovered from the 2021 excavation at Pope's Tavern was used in the creation of lead ammunition. Sprue is the opening in which lead is poured into a bullet mold and is also the left-over lead used in the casting, which is either thrown out or reused in making more ammunition.

The bullet casings featured here are the calibers used most commonly in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries from a 9MM handgun to a 5.56MM round used by an AR15 rifle. Shells were collected from Bullet & Barrel in Huntsville, Alabama.

Identifying metal artifacts is fairly simple. Metal detecting is common practice at archaeological sites, especially those of a military nature, and is very useful for detecting small metallic objects. Ground penetrating radar is used for detecting larger metallic objects far more effective and less destructive means of locating metal artifacts. Keep in mind that neither of these methods is allowed on historic sites or private property without the expressed permission of the site's owner. An easy way to identify metal artifacts in the field is by using a simple magnet, which can be found at most hardware stores. Note, however, that not all metal artifacts are magnetic. Objects made of lead or aluminum, for example, are not.

Glassware

Until the 1700s, most glass in the colonies was imported from England. In 1739, Caspar Wistor founded the first successful glass company in New Jersey, making it one of America's first industries. Glassmaking continued to grow as an industry during the nineteenth century. In the 1820s, Americans created a way of pressing glass, making glass tableware cheaper to produce, and allowing the growing middle class to purchase decorative plates and bowls. [14] Other common glass artifacts include bottles and jars. Bottles have been used to hold preserved fruit and soda to various forms of medicines and, of course, alcohol.

One of the more interesting aspects of studying or examining glass artifacts is the various colors they come in. The information provided by the Society for Historical Archaeology outlines the various colors and uses for the different kinds of bottles and other glass artifacts that can be found in the field. It can be difficult to identify the use of a bottle or jar given how small the fragments or "shards" may be. On larger fragments, it can be possible to find a maker's stamp or determine the original use of the artifact.

[14] "Glass in America," Corning Museum of Glass, accessed July 17, 2022, https://whatson.cmog.org/exhibitions-galleries/glass-america#:~:text=Glassmaking%20was%20America's%20first%20industry,as%20bottles%2C%20mostly%20from%20England.

The clear glass bottle shown above is from the Arnold Fite Drug Company of Florence, Alabama and dates to the early 1900s. Finding a complete bottle like this one is a rarity in the field, but it does happen. The darker brown shards are the more common condition of glass artifacts found in the field. They are believed to be from what used to be a Clorox bottle. Both are part of the collection at the Pope's Tavern Museum

Additional Resources

The sources below provide additional information about archeology in general, as well as more in-depth explorations of the artifact types included in this manual and other artifact types.

Archaeological Societies and Networks

Alabama Archaeological Society- https://alabamaarchaeology.org/

Archaeological Institute of America- https://www.archaeological.org/

Southeastern Archaeological Conference- https://www.southeasternarchaeology.org/

Society for Historical Archaeology- https://sha.org/

Buildings and Architecture

Harvey J. McKee. *Amateur's Guide to Terms Commonly Used in Describing Historic Buildings*. The Landmark Society, Rochester, New York. 1970

Jim Rock. *Log Cabin Identification*. USDA Forest Service, Region 6, Mt. Baker- Snoqualmie National Forest.

Ceramic Artifacts

John W. Conrad. *Studio Ceramic Dictionary.* Falcon Company Publishers. 1990.

Geoffrey A. Gooden. *Encyclopaedia of British Pottery and Porcelain Marks.* Bonanza Books, New York. 1964.

Rexford Newcomb Jr. *Ceramic Whitewares: History, Technology, and Application.* Pitman Publishing Corporation, New York. 1964.

Jordan C. Thom. *Handbook of Old Pottery and Porcelain Marks.* Tudor Publishing Company, New York. 1947.

Glass Artifacts

Richard. E. Fike. *Handbook for the Bottle-ologist* Ogdfen, Utah. 1965.

Richard E. Fike. *Guide to Old Bottles, Contents, and Prices. Vol. II* Pioneer Arizona Museum, Phoenix 1967.

Richard E. Fike. *The Bottle Book: A Guide to Historical Medicine Bottles.* Peregrine Smith Books. Salt Lake City. 1987.

General Archaeology

David Brauner. *Approaches to Material Culture Research for Historical Archaeologists: A Reader from Historical Archaeology.* The Society for Historical Archaeology, California, Pennsylvania. 2000.

James Deetz. *In Small Things Forgotten: An Archaeology of Early American Life*. Indiana University. 1996.

Karlis Karklins. *Studies in Material Culture.* The Society for Historical Archaeology, California, Pennsylvania. 2000.

Douglas Wilson, Ph.D., Robert Cromwell, M.A., Danielle Gembala, M.A., Theresa Langford, M.A., and Debra Semrau, M.A. *ARCHAEOLOGY LAB MANUAL*. Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. Dec. 2003. http://npshistory.com/publications/fova/archaeology-lab-manual-2003.pdf.

Metal artifacts

A. B. Johnson, Jr. *Durability of Metals from Archaeological Objects, Metal Meteorites, and Native Metals.* U.S. Department of Energy 1980. https://www.osti.gov/servlets/purl/5406419-ml0vcA/.

H.C. Logan. *Cartridges: A Pictorial Digest of Small Arms and Ammunition*. Bonanza Books, New York. 1959.

H.E. Williamson. *Winchester the Gun that Won the West.* A.S. Barnes, Washington, D.C. 1952.

Daniel M. Sivilich. *Musket Ball and Small Shot Identification: A Guide*. University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Oklahoma. 2016

Indigenous Artifacts

David M. Johnson, *Alabama's Prehistoric Indians and Artifacts*. Tuscaloosa, Alabama: Borgo Publishing. 2019.

Arthur Woodward. *Indian Trade Goods* Oregon Archaeological Society, Portland. 1993.

Underwater/Nautical Archaeology

East Carolina University Department of Maritime Studies- https://maritimestudies.ecu.edu/

Florida Public Network of Archaeology- https://www.fpan.us/

Florida's "Museums in the Sea."- https://museumsinthesea.com/

University of Texas A&M Underwater Archaeology Program- https://nautarch.tamu.edu/

References

Bower, Amy. "*A Guide to Historic Ceramics in The Antebellum South*". Rhodes Institute for Regional Studies, 2009

"Ceramics, Pottery, Potties, and Clay." Seattle Artist League, May 12, 2022. https://seattleartistleague.com/2022/05/11/ceramics-pottery-potties-and-clay/.

Faust, Michael. "3 Things You Probably Didn't Know about Native American Pottery." Faust Gallery, January 21, 2020. https://www.faustgallery.com/3-things-you-probably-didnt-know-

about-native-american-pottery/#:~:text=To%20build%20a%20piece%2C%20early,remove%20any%20signs%20of%20them.

"Glass in America." Corning Museum of Glass. Accessed July 17, 2022. https://whatson.cmog.org/exhibitions-galleries/glass-america#:~:text=Glassmaking%20was%20America's%20first%20industry,as%20bottles%2C%20mostly%20from%20England

"Glossary." Archaeological Institute of America, February 23, 2022. https://www.archaeological.org/programs/educators/introduction-to-archaeology/glossary/

Johnson, David M. *Alabama's Prehistoric Indians and Artifacts*. Seconded. Borgo Publishing, 2019.

Kauffman, Henry J. *Metalworking Trades in Early America: The Black- Smith, the Whitesmith, the Farrier, the Edge.* Astragal Press, 1995.

"Pottery from the Index of American Design." National Gallery of Art. Accessed August 4, 2022. https://www.nga.gov/features/slideshows/pottery-from-the-index-of-american-design.html#:~:text=Pottery%20making%20was%20among%20the,firing%20kilns%2C%20and%20capable%20craftsmen

"What Is a National Heritage Area? (U.S. National Park Service)." National Parks Service. U.S. Department of the Interior. Accessed July 25, 2022. https://www.nps.gov/articles/what-is-a-national-heritage-area.htm

Acknowledgments

I've learned a lot piecing all of this information together into this educational resource. One of most important things to remember in writing and research is that it is a collaborative effort. That being said, I would like to thank Brian Murphy Curator of the Florence Indian Mound and Pope's Tavern Museum for allowing me access to the collections and artifacts from the previous excavation. Anna Mullican, Cultural Resource Specialist of the Oakville Indian Education Center for an awesome tour and a wealth of information. Ben Hoksbergen, archaeologist of Redstone Arsenal for aiding my legal research. Dr. Carolyn M. Crawford, Director of the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area for her constant guidance and inspiration throughout this entire process. Finally, Dr. Ashley Dumas, Professor of Anthropology at the University of West Alabama for her endless patience in teaching me archaeology.