

“*Doucement!*” Nadine shouted at me from a few centimeters away. *Slowly!* I could tell the director of the excavation wanted to climb into my unit and dig herself, but since I had found the object, she was granting me the honor of unearthing it myself. It was 5:30 in the evening, and we should have been cleaning up for the day, but I had found *something*, and because of problems with antiquities thieves, we had to excavate it before the sun set.

Once it had been painstakingly removed, my find was revealed to be the bronze hinge to a door opening on a *déesse de l’abondance* (goddess of abundance/mother goddess) statue. This, as well as other discoveries from site 79-2-13-230-008, nicknamed “*Le Bourg*”, would provide the basis for my senior thesis at Scripps College. From such hands-on experiences I cultivated a passion for archaeology, and while my interests have expanded from Gallo-Roman archaeology to the people of the Paleolithic and Neolithic, that excitement fuels my pursuit for a doctorate in Anthropology.

Receiving an Esterly Research Grant the summer of my junior year at Scripps enabled me to join the team of French archaeologists excavating *Le Bourg* in Rom, France. While in Rom, I volunteered at the *Musée de Rauranum* on weekends, helping translate their exhibition literature into English. I also worked in the pottery sherd laboratory, learning techniques in potsherd analysis, and in the flotation lab learning macrobotanical analysis. Upon returning to the States, I corresponded and collaborated with Nadine Dieudonné-Glad and Ludovic Melecot to write my thesis. I analyzed the *déesse de l’abondance* statue that we unearthed, which differed iconographically from all other such statues in Gaul. I am currently in the process of revising my senior thesis for publication.

As an undergraduate at Scripps College, I had many opportunities beyond my thesis research in Rom. While taking “Field Methods in Anthropology” I conducted my first ethnographic research project. Then, while studying abroad in Paris, I translated a 3-x-3-foot section of the *Mastaba d’Akhethetep* by comparison to other Old Kingdom stelae from Saqqara. My senior year I was awarded a Mellon Faculty/Student Research Grant together with Professor Susan Seizer and two other classmates. Together we organized the “Transmorphism: Gender Identity in Performance Art” conference. Later that year, I helped curate an exhibit on Anabaptist culture at the Nicholson Gallery. These experiences taught me the importance of developing research questions, working as a team, and how to cultivate effective outreach as part of anthropological research.

Conducting research in anthropology and archaeology fueled my appetite for international research. In 2004, I was awarded a Thomas J. Watson fellowship. Receiving this prestigious fellowship enabled me to conduct independent ethnographic fieldwork for one year. While this fellowship encouraged independent research, I often collaborated with leading figures in traditional knowledge around the world. I compared indigenous women from four countries: New Zealand, Samoa, India and Vietnam, and evaluated how their traditions had been shaped and changed with the influx of western medicine. This research resulted in two publications (Crabtree 2005, 2009) and I will be presenting findings from my research in Samoa at the June 2010 Human Behavior and Evolution Society meetings in Eugene, Oregon.

After moving to Colorado, I spent three years working in cultural resource management (CRM) at Cultural Resource Analysts (CRA) and then SWCA Environmental Consultants. My first project for CRA was an excavation of site 48SW2590, Maxon Ranch. Our excavation group teamed with Bill Eckerle, a geoarchaeologist from Western GeoArch, from whom I learned the fundamentals of geoarchaeology such as the interpretation of site context, provenance and paleoenvironment, and the application of dating methods. Working as an archaeologist increased

my knowledge of survey methods, as well as my familiarity with different depositional environments and the analysis of lithic technologies. I was responsible for investigating the area in which we worked before excavation or survey, expected to posit interesting and approachable research questions, and collect and analyze data. In addition, I worked in the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) department analyzing spatial data. My experiences at CRA and SWCA taught me fundamentals in working with a crew, helping hone skills as a team leader.

Since beginning my studies at Washington State University in August 2009, I have been working on the Village Ecodynamics Project (VEP) under the direction of Dr. Timothy Kohler. I am currently calculating spatial goodness-of-fit measures between VEP simulations and the archaeological record to assess the general fidelity of the simulation to the archaeological record of Mesa Verde. In addition, I am taking courses in molecular anthropology, anthropological statistics and advanced GIS. These courses will help ground me in the training I need to analyze the complex data I will help gather as a field researcher for the VEP project. I also intend to apply for the Santa Fe Institute's Summer School in Complex Systems, to further my knowledge of how to approach and understand complex behavior in mathematical, physical, living and social systems.

The diversity and depth of my experiences makes me uniquely qualified to undertake my own independent research. My experience in sociocultural anthropology means I will be able to effectively use ethnographic analogy for my studies in Mesa Verde. Working in Rom, France and curating a public outreach museum exhibit and organizing a conference in gender identity taught me the importance of communicating my results to both the broader scientific community as well as the public at large. My strong technical background, including experience in GIS, lithic analysis, macrobotanical and ceramic analysis, gives me a strong foundation for analyzing the complex data of the VEP project. The courses I am taking now, as well as the mentorship I receive from Dr. Kohler mean that I'm prepared to face any challenge that I may be faced with. I am well prepared to undertake the research I plan to do as a graduate student as well as in my professional career.

Conferences:

"Gallo Roman Archaeology at 'Le Bourg.'" Tuesday Noon Academy, Claremont, CA; September 9, 2003.

"La déesse de l'abondance: An iconographical analysis of a complex figure." Mary W. Johnson conference, Claremont, CA; April 20, 2004.

"Medicinal Matriarchs." Thomas J. Watson Fellowship conference. St. Paul, MN; August 9, 2005.

"Modeling or Simulation? Assessing settlement patterns—real and modeled—in the VEP world." Society for American Archaeology 75th anniversary conference; St. Louis, MO; April 15, 2010.

"The Evolution of Transvestitism: How Fa'afafines Shape the Samoan Landscape." Human Behavior and Evolution Society Meetings; Eugene, OR; June 2010.

Publications:

Crabtree, S. *Medicinal Matriarchs: Women and Traditional Medicine in Oceania and Asia*. Thomas J. Watson Foundation, 2005.

Crabtree, S. *Healing Secrets of the South Pacific: An anthropologist discovers Samoan tinctures you can sample right at home*. March 2009, "Natural Health Magazine", pp.89-90.

SWCA Environmental Associates. *A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory for the Ryan Gulch 3-D Geophysical Exploration Project, Rio Blanco County, Colorado*. November, 2008.