

## Caitlin G. Rankin, PhD, RPA

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### EDUCATION

- May 2020 **PhD Anthropology** Washington University in St. Louis  
*Advisors:* T.R. Kidder and John Kelly  
*Dissertation:* "Testing Assumptions on the Relationship between Humans and their Environment: Case Studies from Cahokia Mounds, Illinois"  
[https://openscholarship.wustl.edu/art\\_sci\\_etds/2235](https://openscholarship.wustl.edu/art_sci_etds/2235)
- 2018 **PhD Training in Micromorphology** University of Tübingen, Germany  
2016 **M.A. Anthropology** Washington University in St. Louis  
*Master's Paper:* "Sediments of the North Plaza at Cahokia Mounds, IL: An Exploratory Study for Future Archaeological Investigations"
- 2014 **B.A. Anthropology; Geology, cum laude** Beloit College  
*Anthropology Thesis:* "Site Catchment Analysis of Broken Kettle and Broken Kettle West, Northwestern Iowa"  
*Geology Thesis:* "Micromorphological Analysis of Liquefaction Features and Human Occupation Layers in Mound F at Angel Mounds, Evansville, Indiana"
- 2013 **Student Exchange; Department of Earth Sciences** University of Iceland

### PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2020-Present **Assistant Scientist - Research Geoarchaeologist**  
Illinois State Archaeological Survey, American Bottom Field Station  
Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois
- 2017-2020 **Instructor**  
Department of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri
- 2016-2017 **Geoarchaeology Laboratory Manager**  
Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri
- 2016 **George Melendez Wright Climate Change Fellow**  
Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, Skagway, Alaska
- 2015-2016 **Teaching Assistant**  
Department of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri
- 2014-2015 **Archaeology Field Supervisor**  
Cahokia Mounds Museum Society, Collinsville, Illinois
- 2012-2014 **Archaeology Laboratory Assistant**  
Logan Museum of Anthropology, Beloit College, Wisconsin
- 2011 **Archaeology Technician**  
AECOM (formerly URS Corporation), Burlington, New Jersey

### TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

- 2020 **Instructor**, Anthro 3796: Ecocide and Climate Change: The Collapse of Societies. Washington University in St. Louis. Designed and implemented a new interdisciplinary course for 4 undergraduate students. Class evaluations available on request.
- 2019 **Instructor**, Anthro 3609: From Hazard to Catastrophe: Case Studies in Environmental Disasters. Washington University in St. Louis. Designed and implemented a new interdisciplinary course for 21 undergraduate students. Class evaluations available on request.
- 2018 **Field Supervisor**, Cahokia Mounds North Plaza Project. Washington University in St. Louis. Trained 4 undergraduate students in archaeological field techniques.
- 2017 **Instructor**, Anthro 190: Introduction Archaeology. Washington University in St. Louis Summer Program. Class evaluations available on request.
- 2017 **Field Supervisor**, Cahokia Mounds North Plaza Project. Washington University in St. Louis. Trained 5 undergraduate students in archaeological field techniques. Organized housing and transportation for 5 undergraduate students.
- 2016 **Lab Supervisor**, Geoarchaeology Laboratory. Washington University in St. Louis. Trained and supervised 2 undergraduate student workers in laboratory methods. Mentored 1 undergraduate student in LDPSA experimental design and implementation.
- 2015 **Lab Supervisor**, Geoarchaeology Laboratory. Washington University in St. Louis. Trained and supervised 2 undergraduate student workers in laboratory methods.
- 2016 **Teaching Assistant**, Anthro 160: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology. Washington University in St. Louis. Responsible for management and assistance in teaching 191 undergraduate students.
- 2015 **Teaching Assistant**, Anthro 209: World Archaeology: Global Perspectives on the Past. Washington University in St. Louis. Responsible for management and assistance in teaching 44 undergraduate students.

### OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

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|---------------------|--|
| July 2020           | Excavation Safety for Construction Training, ClickSafety   |
| April – August 2018 | Training in Micromorphological Analysis for Archaeology, University of Tübingen, Germany. Instructor: Dr. Chris Miller |
| 2016                | GPS Trimble Pathfinder Systems Certification, NPS  |
| 2016                | Bear Safety Certification, NPS   |
| 2016                | CPR/AED/First Aid Certification, American Red Cross  |

### PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

#### ***Peer-Reviewed Articles***

In Press – **Caitlin Rankin**, Casey Barringer, and Timothy Horsley. Evaluating Narratives of Ecocide with the Stratigraphic Record at Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, Illinois, USA. *Geoarchaeology*.

2019 – Samuel Munoz, Liviu Giosan, Jerzy Blusztajn, **Caitlin Rankin**, and Gary Stinchcomb. Radiogenic fingerprinting reveals anthropogenic and buffering controls on sediment dynamics of the Mississippi River system. *Geology* 47(3): 271-274.

2017 – **Rankin, C.**, Mog, C., & Jones, S. Parkaeology and Climate Change: Assessing the Vulnerability of Archaeological Resources at Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, Alaska. *Archaeological Reviews from Cambridge*, 32(2), 56-77.

### ***Unpublished Reports and Report Contributions***

2020 – **Rankin, C** and Michael Kolb. Geomorphic Investigations for the Proposed Repaving Project of Highway 84 in Colona, Henry County, Illinois. Geomorphic Report Prepared for the Illinois State Archaeological Survey.

2020 – Betzenhauser, Alleen and Michael Lansdell (eds) with contributions by Steven Boles, John Klein, Isabelle Lulewicz, and **Caitlin Rankin**. Archaeological and Geomorphic Testing for the Dupo Interchange Project: Report #1 Area West of I-255.

### **PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

#### ***Conference Symposia***

2020 – *Local Manifestations of Climate Change for Archaeological Research*. Virtual symposium co-organized with Isabelle Lulewicz for the Amerind Foundation.

#### ***Conference Papers***

2020 – **Caitlin Rankin** *The Resilience of Floodplains to Sustained Regional Drought: Implications for the Vacant Quarter*. Paper Presented at the Virtual symposium for the Amerind Foundation.

2019 – **Caitlin Rankin** *The North Plaza at Cahokia Mounds as a Water Shrine*. Paper Presented at the 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Southeastern Archaeology Conference, Jackson, Mississippi.

2019 – **Caitlin Rankin** *Testing Narratives of Ecocide with the Stratigraphic Record at Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, Illinois, USA*. Paper Presented at the Annual Geological Society of American Meeting, Phoenix, Arizona. **Awarded Richard Hay Student Paper Award**

2016 – **Caitlin Rankin** *A Concealed Landscape: New Evidence from the North Plaza, Cahokia Mounds*. Paper presented at the 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Society for American Archaeology Conference, Vancouver, BC.

2015 – **Caitlin Rankin** *Landscape Modification in the North/East Plaza Boundary at Cahokia Mounds*. Paper presented at the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Southeastern Archaeology Conference, Nashville, TN.

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2012 – Green, W. and **Caitlin Rankin** *Great Oasis Plant Use: New Data from Broken Kettle West (13PM25), Northwest Iowa*. Paper presented at the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Plains Anthropological Conference, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

**Poster Presentations**

2019 – **Caitlin Rankin** *Re-Envisioning the Past using Geoarchaeological Data at Cahokia Mounds, Illinois*. Poster Presented at the 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Society for American Archaeology Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

2017 – **Caitlin Rankin** *Sub-Mound Platform Construction at Cahokia Mounds: New Evidence from 2017 Excavations*. Poster Presented at the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Midwest Archaeological Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana.

2015 – **Caitlin Rankin**, John E. Kelly, and T.R. Kidder *Geochemical and Physical Characteristics of Anthropogenic Sediments from Cahokia*. Poster presented at the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Society for American Archaeology Conference, San Francisco, CA.

2013 – **Caitlin Rankin** *Micromorphology: A Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Recognize Past Human Activities on Buried Mound Surfaces and Fills at Angel Mounds*. Poster presented at the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Archaeological Conference, Columbus, Ohio.

SERVICE

2020 – Reviewer for *American Antiquity*

2019 – Observing Delegate on Loss and Damage Issues for Research and Independent Non-Government Organizations (RINGO) at the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP25) in Madrid, Spain

2018 – Desk reviewer for the International Council on Monuments and Sites

2015-2016 – Housing Committee Member for the Washington University Graduate Student Senate

OUTREACH

2020 – Presented ISAS Webinar entitled “Using Geoarchaeology to Reconstruct Past Landscapes” [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9\\_yOsmZaXHA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_yOsmZaXHA)

2019 – Interviewed for *National Parks Conservation Association Magazine*  
<https://www.npca.org/articles/2287-exposed>

2019 – Write article for the Winter edition of *The Cahokian Magazine* entitled “Final Investigations at the North Plaza”

2018 – Wrote article for the Summer edition of *The Cahokian Magazine* entitled “Ongoing Investigations of the North Plaza”

2018 – Volunteer for Archaeology Day at Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site

2017 – Public presentation on field investigations for the Cahokia Archaeological Society

2017 – Volunteer for Archaeology Day at Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site

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2016 – Presented Webinar for the North Pacific LCC entitled “Assessing Cultural Resource Vulnerability to Climate Change” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=85iy8ixe7Bw>  
2016 – Wrote blogs and resource briefs for public outreach on archaeology and climate change for the National Park Service <https://www.nps.gov/klgo/learn/climate-change-and-archeology.htm>

GRANTS

***In Review***

2020 DISES (Senior Personal) - \$1,459,452 National Science Foundation  
2020 Enduring Impacts: Archaeology of Sustainability (PI) - \$66,339 National Geographic

***Research – Awarded***

2017 Dissertation Improvement Grant - \$20,359 National Science Foundation  
2017 Young Explorers Grant - \$4,600 National Geographic Society  
2017 Throop Endowment Award - \$1,200 Washington University in St. Louis

***Education – Awarded***

2016 George Melendez Wright Fellowship NPS Climate Change Response Program  
2014 Lynne Copper Harvey Fellowship WashU American Culture Studies  
2014 Geology Field School Scholarship - \$2000 Beloit College  
2013 Gilman International Scholarship- \$5000 Fulbright Foundation  
2012 Sustainability Fellowship Beloit College  
2010 Presidential Scholarship - \$80,000 Beloit College

AWARDS

2019 Richard Hay Award -\$500 Geologic Society of America  
2019 Student Travel Award - \$500 Geologic Society of America  
2019 Dissertation Travel Award - \$1000 Washington University in St. Louis

SELECTED ARCHAEOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

November 2018 – March 2019. **Micromorphologist**. The Pulcher Mounds Ditch Project. Lunsford-Pulcher Archeological Site (11S34). St. Clair Co., IL. Department of Anthropology, Bryn Mawr. Principal Investigator: Dr. Casey Barrier.

August – November 2013 National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates, Angel Mounds Geoarchaeology Project, **Micromorphology** Research, Angel Mounds State Historic Site (12VG1), Evansville Indiana. Department of Anthropology, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. Director: Dr. Jeremy Wilson

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September 2012 – May 2014 **Paleoethnobotany** Research Assistant, various museum samples from the Midwest, Logan Museum of Anthropology, Beloit College. Supervisor: Dr. William Green

June-August 2012 Sustainability Fellowship in **Paleoethnobotany**, Great Oasis, Broken Kettle West (13PM25), Iowa. Department of Anthropology, Beloit College. Supervisor: Dr. William Green

SELECTED ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELDWORK

***Surveys and Testing***

June 2020 – Present. **Geoarchaeologist**, Illinois State Archaeological Survey. The Dupo Interchange Project. St. Clair Co., Illinois. Principal Investigator: Dr. Thomas Loebel.

May 2020 – Present. **Geoarchaeologist**, Illinois State Archaeological Survey. The Mitchell 270 Interchange Project. Madison Co., Illinois. Principal Investigator: Dr. Robert McCullough. Colona

August 2020 – **Geoarchaeologist**. Illinois State Archaeological Survey. Highway 84 repaving Project. Henry Co., Illinois.

May-August 2016 **Geoarchaeologist**. Phase I Site Identification and Monitoring: Historic, Chilkoot Trail Unit, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, AK. National Park Service. Supervisor: Shawn Jones

August-November 2015. **Principal Investigator**. The North Plaza Project – Sediment Coring for Future Archaeological Investigations, Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site (11MS2/5), Madison Co., IL. Department of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis.

June-July 2015 **Geoarchaeologist**. The Tashbulak Medieval Project – Sediment Coring for Future Archaeological Investigations, Uzbekistan. Department of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis. Supervisor: Dr. T.R. Kidder

January 2013 **Archaeology Field Assistant**, Phase I Site Identification: Historic, St. John US Virgin Island, National Park Service. Supervisor: Ken Wild

July 2012 **Archaeology Field Assistant**, Phase I Site Identification: Protohistoric Turtle Village Site, Beloit WI. Department of Anthropology, Beloit College. Director: Dr. William Green

August 2011 **Archaeology Field Technician**, AECOM (formerly URS Corporation), Phase II NRHP Evaluation: Historic, Gunnar's Run (36PH162), Philadelphia Co., PA. Principal Investigator: Doug Mooney

July 2011 **Archaeology Field Technician**, AECOM (formerly URS Corporation), Phase I Site Identification: Marshall Co., WV. Principal Investigator: Doug Mooney

***Data-Recovery Excavations***

May – June 2020. **Archaeologist**, Illinois State Archaeological Survey. Phase III Data Recovery: Late Woodland/Mississippian, Danny Site (11S870), St. Clair Co., Illinois. Principal Investigator: Dr. Alleen Betzenhauser

December 2018. **Geoarchaeologist**. The Himenkou Project – Sediment Coring for Environmental Reconstruction of Neolithic Lake Levels, China. Supervisor: Dr. T.R. Kidder

August-October 2018. **Principal Investigator**. The North Plaza Project – Excavations at Mound 16, Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site (11MS2/5), Madison Co., IL. Department of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis.

June-November 2017. **Principal Investigator**. The North Plaza Project – Excavations at Mound 5, and Sediment Coring of Mound 14 and the North Plaza, Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site (11MS2/5), Madison Co., IL. Department of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis.

May 2015 **Field Supervisor**. Excavations in the West Plaza, Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site(11MS2/5), Madison Co., IL. Cahokia Mounds Museum Society. Director: Dr. John Kelly

August 2014 **Field Supervisor**. Excavations of the Feature X Magnetic Anomaly, Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site (11MS2/5), Madison Co., IL. Department of Anthropology, Washington University in St. Louis. Director: Dr. John Kelly

May-July 2013 **Geoarchaeology Field Assistant**, Angel Mounds NSF REU Project - Excavations of Mound F and Sediment Coring of Mound A, Angel Mounds State Historic Site (12VG1), Evansville Indiana. Department of Anthropology, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. Director: Dr. Jeremy Wilson

July 2011 **Archaeology Field Technician**, AECOM (formerly URS Corporation), Phase III Data Recovery: Historic/Prehistoric, Red Bank Battlefield Park (28GL137), Gloucester Co., NJ. Principal Investigator: Doug Mooney

July 2011 **Archaeology Field Technician**, AECOM (formerly URS Corporation), Phase III Data Recovery: Historic/Prehistoric, Dyottville Glassworks (36PH037), Philadelphia Co., PA. Principal Investigator: Doug Mooney

June 2011 **Archaeology Laboratory Technician**, AECOM (formerly URS Corporation), Phase III Data Recovery: Historic, Dyottville Glassworks (36PH037), Philadelphia Co., PA. Principal Investigator: Doug Mooney

June-August 2009 **Archaeology Field Assistant**, Clarion University and Allegheny National Forest, Phase III Data Recovery: Historic, Millstone Site (36EL204), Elk Co., PA. Principal Investigator: Susan Prezzano

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Register of Profession Archaeologists

Geological Society of America

Midwest Archaeological Conference

Southeastern Archaeological Conference

Association for Environmental Archaeology

Society for American Archaeology