



MEMORANDUM

TO: Governor Bill Lee  
Governor of the State of Tennessee

Lieutenant Governor Randy McNally  
Speaker of the Senate

Speaker Cameron Sexton  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

FROM: David W. Salyers, P.E.  
Commissioner

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "DWS", positioned to the right of the "FROM:" line.

DATE: January 31, 2024

SUBJECT: Annual Report on Tennessee's Archaeological Advisory Council

Tennessee Code Annotated § 11-6-103 requires the Department of Environment and Conservation to prepare an annual report on the activities and results of the studies of the Archaeological Advisory Council and State Archaeologist. The report is to be submitted to the Governor and Tennessee General Assembly.

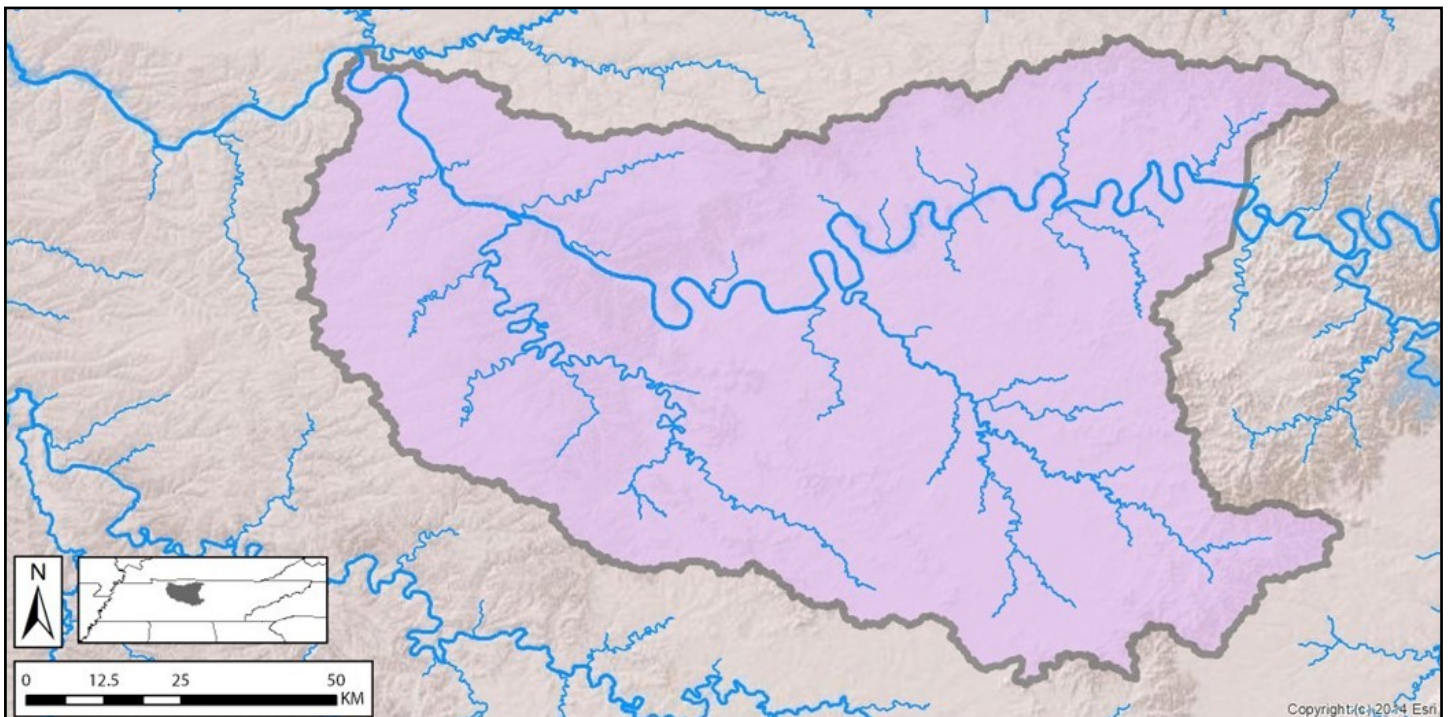
Attached is your copy of this year's report that covers Calendar Year 2023.

# Archaeological Advisory Council

## TDEC Division of Archaeology

### Annual Report for Calendar Year 2023

Submitted January 31, 2024



Department of  
**Environment &  
Conservation**

### Division of Archaeology

1216 Foster Ave., Cole Bldg. #3  
Nashville, TN 37243

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Archaeological Advisory Council (hereafter Council) is an eleven-member body created in 1970 pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated § 11-6-103. The Council consists of five anthropologists, three members of Native American descent, and three members representing archaeological associations, the Tennessee Historical Commission, and the public at large, respectively. The role of the Council is to advise the commissioner of the Department of Environment and Conservation (hereafter Department) and the State Archaeologist on all matters of policy related to the activities of the Division of Archaeology (hereafter Division) and to the employment of professional personnel. Its current composition reflects the diversity encouraged on state boards with five women, three members of a racial minority, and one member of the public. The 2023 Council meeting was held January 27, 2023 at the Tennessee State Library and Archives in Nashville.

The Division received two new positions in Fiscal Year 2024, bringing the total staff size to twelve, including the State Archaeologist. The Division met its budget goal for fiscal year 2023 (ending June 30, 2023) and, with an appropriation for fiscal year 2024 of \$1,299,400, is on track to do so again. Two federal grants totaling \$85,733 were completed in 2023 and two additional federal grants were awarded in the amount of \$88,533 for federal FY 2024.

For the first quarter of 2023, the Division focused on repair and remediation of its main office building from flooding that was the result of a ruptured water pipe during severe cold weather on December 26, 2022. While inconvenient, this provided an opportunity to reimagine the layout of this building and create a workspace more responsive to customer needs, programming and meeting requests, and hybrid/remote work. Parallel to this, the Division maintained progress on major initiatives including work related to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, digitization of the Site File, and advancement of the Division's GIS capabilities, including launch of a mobile field data collector application for staff.

The Division carried out a robust program to promote Tennessee archaeology in 2023, which included tours of state-owned archaeological sites, educational events, presentations, digital and print publications, online engagement through the Division's website and Facebook page, and resource management in Tennessee State Parks and State Historic Sites.

### The Division of Archaeology by the numbers:

Budget	Staff	Project Reviews (State & Federal)	Permits Issued	Site File Requests	New Sites	Technical Assistance	Promote TN Archaeology*
\$1,299,400	12	2,006	108	1,291	204	994	50

\*Promote Tennessee Archaeology (Conferences, Tours, Publications, Presentations, Interviews, Outreach/Education)

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*Cover Photo: The image on the cover is a screenshot of a georeferenced shapefile for the Mississippian period Middle Cumberland Region of Tennessee created by current Division archaeologist Aaron Deter-Wolf and former Division archaeologist Sarah Levithol Eckhardt. This data set was presented at the 2023 Current Research in Tennessee Archaeology conference and was created as an open access project hosted on the open data site FigShare.*

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

## PURPOSE & COMPOSITION

The Council is charged with the duty to advise the commissioner of the Department and the State Archaeologist on all matters of policy related to the activities of the Division and to the employment of professional personnel. Members of the Council are appointed by the governor to overlapping five-year terms. The Council consists of five anthropologists, one each representing the University of Tennessee, the University of Memphis, Vanderbilt University, Middle Tennessee State University, and East Tennessee State University, respectively; three members of Native American descent, one representative from the Tennessee Historical Commission, one representative from a recognized archaeological association in Tennessee, and one member from the public at large. The Council’s composition reflects the diversity encouraged on state boards including: five women, three members of a racial minority, and one member of the public.

Current Membership of the Archaeological Advisory Council (\*appointed to a partial term)

<b>Member</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Appointed</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
Dr. Kevin E. Smith, Chair	Middle Tennessee State University	8/22/2017	6/30/2022
Dr. David Dye, Vice-Chair	University of Memphis	10/8/2020	6/30/2025
Dr. Jan Simek	University of Tennessee System	7/19/2019	6/30/2023
Vacant	East Tennessee State University	-	-
Dr. Betsey Robinson*	Vanderbilt University	6/24/2019	6/30/2022
Ms. Ann Toplovich	Tennessee Historical Commission	1/29/2021	11/15/2025
Ms. Georgia Dennis	Archaeological Associations	1/25/2017	12/31/2022
Mr. Jeremy Kaunisto	Native American	1/8/2018	6/30/2022
Mr. Charles Robinson	Native American	11/23/2020	6/30/2025
Ms. Cindy Yahola	Native American	8/21/2018	6/30/2023
Ms. Lauren Webb	Public-at-Large	7/1/2018	6/30/2023

The Council generates no revenue. Its expenses are included in the Division’s state appropriations and used to reimburse Council members for travel to meetings. Public notice of meetings are posted on the Department’s website for Boards and Commissions. Each meeting is recorded, archived at the Division, and subject to public inspection.

## COUNCIL MEETING – CALENDAR YEAR 2022

The Council met on January 27, 2023 at the Tennessee State Library and Archives in Nashville. Board members present included Chair, Dr. Kevin Smith, Dr. Jan Simek, Dr. Chris Widga, Dr. Betsey Robinson, Mr. Charles Robinson, Ms. Georgia Dennis, and Ms. Ann Toplovich. The meeting was audio recorded and both the recording and written member reports are on file with the Division and open to public inspection. State Archaeologist Phil Hodge provided a report on the activities of the Division. No public comments were received nor were any votes taken.

# DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY – 2023 REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

Prepared by State Archaeologist & Director, Phillip Hodge

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## ADMINISTRATIVE

### Budget

The Division’s total spending plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 (beginning July 1, 2023) is \$1,299,400, of which, 83% is appropriated for salaries and benefits, with the balance allocated for operational expenses. Through December 31, 2023, the Division has expended 51% of its overall FY 2024 appropriation, is meeting monthly budget goals, and is on track to complete FY 2024 on budget.

### Grants

The Division completed two federal grants from the Tennessee Historical Commission in calendar year 2023 totaling \$85,733. These grants were provided from the federal historic preservation fund and include the state’s 40% match. As these are federal grants, they are managed on the federal FY which runs each year from October 1 to September 30.

Summary of Federal Grants Received for Federal FYs 2023 and 2024.

Grants	Federal Share (60%)	State Match (40%)	Total
Review and Compliance (SHPO; FY 23)	\$50,000	\$33,333	\$83,333
Current Research (CRITA; FY 23)	\$1,440	\$960	\$2,400
Review and Compliance (SHPO; FY 24)	\$50,000	\$33,333	\$83,333
Current Research (CRITA; FY 24)	\$3,120	\$2,080	\$5,200

### Personnel

The Division began 2023 with one vacancy, which was filled in April by Hannah Guidry. Hannah is an alum of MTSU and the University of Memphis where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Anthropology and Master of Science in Earth Sciences degrees, respectively. She comes to the Division with 20 years of experience in the archaeology of Tennessee and the Mid-South region from both the public and private sectors. While in the private sector, Hannah led several high visibility projects, including the relocation of a historic cemetery for enslaved persons at the new entrance to the Nashville Zoo and excavations of late pre-contact features discovered at the location of the Nashville Sounds stadium in downtown Nashville. Before transferring to the Division, she worked for five years as an archaeologist for the Tennessee Department of Transportation. Hannah has presented research at state, regional, and national levels and her

most recent publication includes a co-authored chapter the edited volume “Salt in Eastern North America and the Caribbean.” Hannah is currently fulfilling her second elected term on the Board of the Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology.

The Division received two new positions in FY 2024, both of which were created as TDEC Cultural Resources Consultant 3’s. The TDEC CRC 3 is the lead classification within the Cultural Resource Consultant series and is responsible for cultural resources work of considerable scope and complexity. The Division anticipates being able to fill these positions in the first quarter of 2024. A current organizational chart, including the new positions, is included on page 6.

Staff development in 2023 consisted of annual training required of all state employees (e.g., Ethics, Cyber Security, Title VI, and Respectful Workplace), the Society for American Archaeology’s fall webinar series, and wilderness first aid training provided by the Chief Ranger’s office within Tennessee State Parks.

This year also saw an important personal achievement for Division Site File archaeologist Paige Silcox, who completed an intensive six-week Spatial Data Science online course offered by ESRI. This course provided Paige with an overview of modern spatial analysis and data science capabilities of ArcGIS with a focus on data engineering, exploration, and visualization.

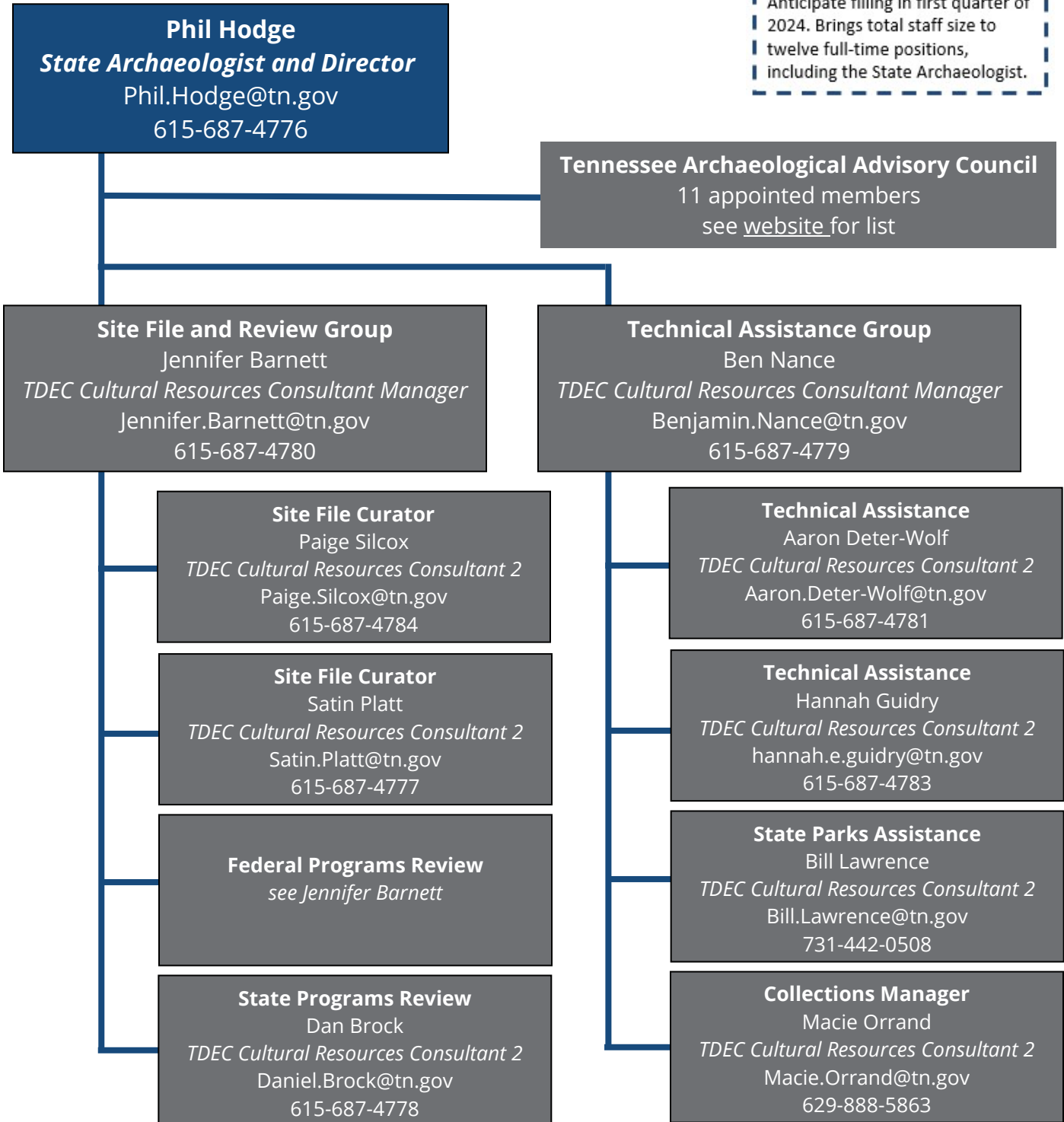
## **Facilities**

The Division began 2023 in a state of crisis regarding its facilities, as severe cold weather the last week of 2022 caused water pipes to freeze and then rupture in Cole Building 3, the Division’s primary office building. Saturated with water, the ceiling in the kitchen area collapsed and water subsequently flooded the entire building. Damage was limited to the kitchen ceiling, flooring, and other building fixtures. Cole Building 3 houses the Site File, which was not damaged. The repair and remediation process required the entire building to be emptied. While inconvenient, the Division saw this as an opportunity to re-imagine this space, how it functions relative to the state’s transition to hybrid/remote work, demands for public programs, meetings or workshops, and the chance to solve some long-standing file storage and access challenges.

Repairs were completed in February and the building was subsequently set-up with an entirely different layout that relocated the Site File to repurposed office spaces, incorporated the research library from another building, and moved the large conference table into the main room, which is now equipped with a 65” flat screen television and white boards for meetings, presentations, workshops, and other programs. The vision for the new layout was to create a large, open communal space for staff and users of the Site File, a comfortable and accessible space to accommodate meetings and programs, and to provide a convenient off-site meeting location for Bureau of Conservation or other partners.

**Organization Chart**

FY 2024 - two new positions,  
both classified as TDEC Cultural  
Resource Consultant 3's.  
Anticipate filling in first quarter of  
2024. Brings total staff size to  
twelve full-time positions,  
including the State Archaeologist.





New layout for the Division's main office.



Relocation and reorganization of Site Records.

The flood and reorganization of Cole Building 3 provided an opportunity to sort through accumulated records, equipment, supplies, and other materials for recycling, repurposing, surplus, or discard. The momentum toward this end in Cole Building 3 was carried forward across all Divisions facilities, including lab space in Cole Building 2, temporary storage in the TPS warehouse, and at the Pinson repository. The net result of this work is that at the end of 2023, the Division's facilities are better organized, leaner, and responsive to current and future needs, all of which will create new opportunities to fulfill our mandate and mission.

## **SITE FILE & REVIEW GROUP**

The Site File and Review Group is led by Jennifer Barnett and responsible for maintaining records of archaeological sites within the state, reviewing projects subject to state and federal archaeological laws, and issuing archaeological permits for research on lands owned or controlled by the state.

### **Site File**

The launch of the Division's Site File HUB in November 2022 brought with it comprehensive changes to the way the Site File conducts business. Rather than in-office appointments or emailed requests for background research, archaeologists working in Tennessee can now request access to online tools with which to conduct their research. The Site File HUB map viewer, with customized tools for facilitating federally compliant background research, allows approved users to search Site File data for archaeological information within a specific geographic area or to query the data tables to filter by a wide range of variables such as cultural affiliation, historic date range, or site type. The Site File HUB also has a Document Request form with which researchers can request PDF copies of Site Records, Survey Reports, or other publications from the Division's archives.

The Site File HUB has 249 users at the end of calendar year 2023, 68% of whom are professional archaeologists employed by private consulting or contracting firms. The balance consists of qualified professional archaeologists in state and federal agencies (22%), universities (7%), and tribal historic preservation officers (3%).

In 2023, 545 site records were submitted for review, with 188 previously recorded sites updated and 204 new sites recorded. That brings the statewide total of recorded archaeological sites to 28,117. The average turnaround time on site record review and response is eleven days. The Site File received 498 individual requests for original site records, reports, or other documentation from the Division's archives. Of these, 480 were completed by the end of calendar year 2023, with 18 remaining in progress. More than 350 new reports were added to the Division's report library and 134 new survey areas were drawn into GIS.

The Site File continues to be managed adeptly by Paige Silcox and Satin Platt. The Division also extends appreciation to our volunteers and partners, both institutions and individuals that have assisted the Site File. Dr. Brooke Persons, Director of the Jeffrey L. Brown Institute at the

University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, facilitated an internship for UTC Anthropology student, Sammi Moore. Sammi focused on Site File tasks, including finalizing site records for more than 300 Rosenwald Schools and scanning site records. Special appreciation is also due to AnnaLevi Chavis, a Public History graduate student at MTSU, who has assisted with a variety of curation and Site File tasks.

### **Federal Programs Review**

In addition to her managerial duties, Jennifer Barnett also serves as the sole archaeological reviewer for federally funded, licensed, or permitted projects subject to the National Historic Preservation Act. The Division provides archaeological review services to the Tennessee Historical Commission's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) through an intra-agency contract. In 2023, Jennifer received and completed reviews for 1,450 requests, which is a 14% increase over 2022. Despite the increase in projects reviewed, Jennifer maintained an average completion time of 1.49 days, which included the review of 314 reports.

Jennifer also attended the Southeastern State Historic Preservation Office Conference in Franklin, Tennessee where she participated in discussions focused on current issues and common challenges faced by state historic preservation officers in the region. In Tennessee, such challenges this year included work on a variety of programmatic agreements for cultural resources compliance programs at Fort Campbell, Arnold Air Force Base, and FEMA. Additional project specific agreements included the Corps of Engineers' Hatchie-Loosahatchie River Ecosystem Restoration Study, The Westhaven Residential Development Expansion in Williamson County, and a Tennessee Department of Transportation excess land sale in Townsend, Blount County.

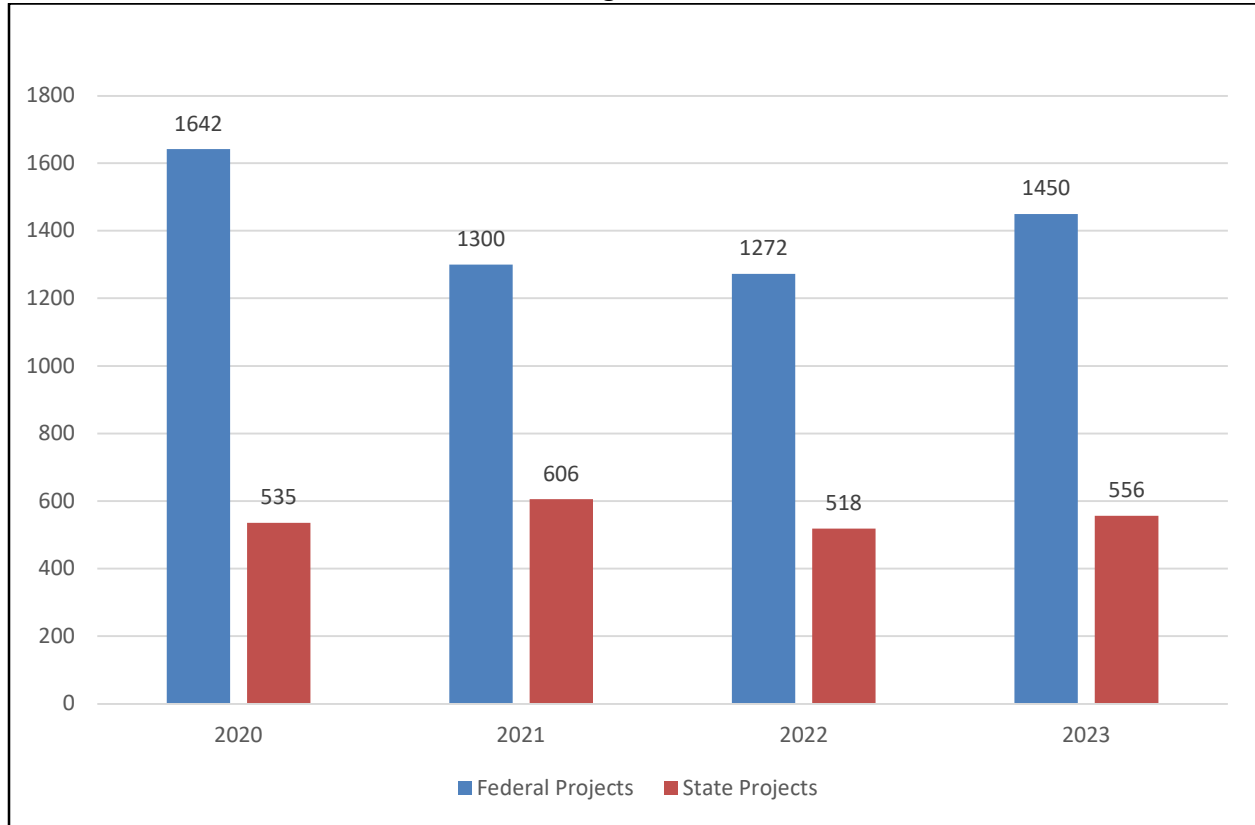
The Tennessee Historical Commission and Department of Finance and Administration's Strategic Technology Solutions (STS) team continue to collaborate on refinements and improvements to the e-106 review portal, of which Jennifer has been a key part. One such improvement to the e-106 portal and digital workflow for NRHP Section 106/110 reviews is a function that allows partners who submit documents to track the status of their reviews in real time. The e-106 portal has consistently received positive feedback from our federal, state, tribal, and private partners.

### **State Programs Review**

State Programs archaeologist Daniel Brock provides archaeological resource reviews for state projects and coordinates issuance of permits on land owned or controlled by the state. During 2023, Dan reviewed 556 state projects for the presence of previously recorded archaeological sites or for potential impacts. This represents a 7% increase over 2022. Daniel reviewed and approved 108 applications for permits to conduct archaeological work on state owned or controlled land, which is equivalent to that reviewed in 2022. He also digitized 176 survey areas from reports submitted to the Division, provided report updates to the Site File, and continued to audit expired permits to ensure that all stipulations were met. State Programs has also

expanded to include assistance to State Historic Sites owned by the Tennessee Historical Commission and review of TDOT’s state-funded projects.

State and Federal Programs Review 2020 - 2023



### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GROUP

The Technical Assistance Group is led by Ben Nance and provides information and guidance regarding archaeological sites and related issues to a wide range of interests, including landowners, government agencies, developers, universities, private consultants, law enforcement, and the public, among others. For calendar year 2023, Ben and his staff – Bill Lawrence, Aaron Deter-Wolf, Hannah Guidry, and Macie Orrand – responded to 994 requests for archaeological assistance with an average response time of one business day.

### Tennessee State Parks, State Archaeological Areas, and State Historic Sites

The Division supported management of archaeological and cultural resources within state parks by responding to requests for assistance from twenty-four state parks. Most requests were related to either resource and land management or a project review, which consisted of both desktop analysis and fieldwork. State Park requests also included archaeological reviews of TDEC lands that will be elevated to state park status as one part of Governor Lee’s Conservation Strategy: Scotts Gulf in White County, Middle Fork Bottoms in Madison County, North Chickamauga Creek in Hamilton and Sequatchie Counties, and Devil’s Backbone in Lewis

County. The Division likewise assisted the Tennessee Historical Commission with project reviews at five state historic sites, Clover Bottom Mansion, and two Civil War battlefields.



Locations across the state where Technical Assistance and other Division staff responded in the field to provide advice and guidance regarding archaeological resources or collections.

## Research Projects

The Division has seven active research projects, three of which are publication projects. The first focuses on the completion of a National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nomination for the Aittafama’ archaeological site (40WM10). Aaron Deter-Wolf has led this project for the last two years and has recently submitted the nomination to the Tennessee Historical Commission for review. Hannah Guidry is leading two projects that grew out of what were initially requests for project reviews at Sellars Farm State Archaeological Area and Red Clay State Historic Park. At Sellars, Hannah is synthesizing all of the known archaeological features into a GIS data set that can be used to inform research, planning, and interpretation at the site. For Red Clay, she is assessing archival records and artifacts recovered by the Division in the 1970s when Red Clay was established as a park. The Division’s research of Civilian Conservation Corps camps within Tennessee State Parks continued this year with Ben Nance’s survey and testing of Camp Kinchen at Norris Dam State Park. The focus on CCC camps emerged from Daniel Brock’s research on a CCC camp at Montgomery Bell State Park.

For publications, work to complete the report on the Division’s statewide survey of Rosenwald Schools continues, and retired Tennessee State Archaeologist Michael Moore is the lead author for a report on ceramics from the Averbuch site (40DV60). A completion date for the Rosenwald report is to be determined, while the Averbuch report is expected to be finalized in 2024. Finally, Aaron Deter-Wolf, with former Division archaeologist Sarah Levithol Eckhardt, created an open-access, georeferenced shapefile for the Mississippian period Middle Cumberland Region of Tennessee. That work was presented at the 2023 Current Research in Tennessee Archaeology event and is now hosted on the open data site FigShare.

## Collections

For 2023, the Division's Curation and NAGPRA Specialist Macie Orrand assigned 18 new accession numbers for collections originating from state agencies, private citizens, law enforcement, the Tennessee State Museum, and universities. Ms. Orrand also developed and implemented new procedures related to intake of new collections, which are available on the Division's website.

With Tennessee State Parks' Division of Facilities and Land Management, the Division initiated a four-phase renovation of the repository at Pinson Mounds State Archaeological Park. The first phase was completed this year and focused on environmental improvements, including removal of asbestos-containing furnishings, adjustment of the HVAC system and duct work to improve air flow, installation of an industrial dehumidification system, and plumbing improvements. Humidity in the repository now consistently ranges from 35-40% with these improvements. Phase two is anticipated to begin in the first quarter of 2024 and will include new flooring and painting, electrical improvements, installation of LED lighting and UV filters, rerouting of overhead plumbing, renovations of existing restrooms to create an ADA accessible facility, and improvements to the exterior entrance. A final phase will be required to complete finishing work.



Pinson repository renovations – note the dehumidifier frame left and grates in the glass wall and doors between the lab and repository to improve air flow throughout the facility.

The Division is also working with park management to install new security equipment throughout the facility. High speed broadband internet and phone service are also part of the overall improvements to the repository.

As with the remediation work for Cole Building 3 in Nashville, the renovation project at Pinson provided an opportunity to clean offices and storage spaces in the repository. Office furnishings, defunct field equipment, and other materials were discarded, repurposed, or transferred to state surplus.

The Division is also partnering with Dr. Kathryn Sikes in MTSU's Department of History whereby Public History students will re-bag and re-box archaeological materials from 40WM101 (Roper's Knob). Such partnerships provide a hands-on opportunity to emphasize the importance of curation in archaeological education while also achieving Division goals related to the improvement of existing collections. A similar curation project will be initiated in 2024 with MTSU's Department of Sociology and Anthropology focused on collections from Red Clay State Historic Park.

## **MAJOR PROJECTS & INITIATIVES**

### **Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act**

Under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and its implementing regulations, the Division is considered a museum and as such is required to inventory human remains and cultural items (funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony) in its possession or control and consult with federally recognized Native American nations, tribes, and tribal towns regarding repatriation.

In 2023, the Division worked with The Chickasaw Nation and Muscogee (Creek) Nation to complete two NAGPRA projects. Ancestral human remains and funerary objects from 40HR35, 40LN16, 40MD1, 40OB6, 40PY207, 40TP1, and 40WM33 were repatriated to The Chickasaw Nation and, with Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Division facilitated reburial of ancestral human remains and funerary objects from 40HA301 (see Notices of Inventory Completion 2023-04899 and 2019-05992, published in the Federal Register on 3/10/2023 and 3/28/2019, respectively). The Division has two active claims – one initiated by Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in 2021 for ancestral human remains from 40HA146, 40LN186, 40SV1, and 40SV53, and another from The Chickasaw Nation for ancestral remains removed from unknown proveniences in Benton County. Both are anticipated to be completed in 2024.

### **Digitization**

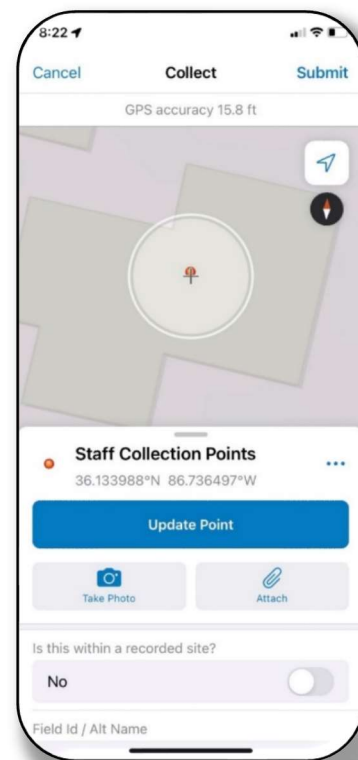
Efforts to digitize the Division's paper holdings continued in support of the Department's goal to reduce paper holdings and increase access to information. Aaron Deter-Wolf, Macie Orrand, and Hannah Guidry focused on the Site Information Files, while Jennifer Barnett, Paige Silcox, and Satin Platt digitized site records and reports either as part of fulfilling on-site or online

information requests or by ensuring that incoming documents were submitted digitally, logged, and filed according to established procedures. The Division has digitized approximately 86% of the Site Information Files (SIF) – approximately 80% of what remains comprises files from Sumner and Williamson Counties with the balance consisting of comparatively small files from Tipton through White Counties.

As reported in 2022, the Division partnered with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and the State Historic Preservation Office to digitize the report library and create shapefiles for survey areas from each report. This partnership is the result of a Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement between TVA and the SHPO that sought to identify a creative mitigation solution, one part of which was digitizing the Division’s report library. To date, all reports in the physical files have been scanned and processed with OCR. Next steps include digitizing survey areas as shapefiles for inclusion in the Division’s Site File GIS. Once this digitization project is completed, and once sufficient and secure online storage has been established, the library database and associated reports will improve research access.

### **Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**

Calendar year 2023 saw a continued investment of staff time, operational funds, and technology resources to advance and expand the use of GIS in the Division. Site File archaeologist Paige Silcox assisted staff with the creation of ArcGIS Online accounts and set up for ArcGIS Pro. Paige led an all-day training session on the use of these applications and also developed a mobile field mapping application (right) for staff to facilitate data collection and integration into the Master Site File GIS. These initiatives support the Division’s strategic goal to become a GIS-centric division such that all major programs are integrated and managed in a GIS environment. Investment in GIS and GPS will continue in 2024 to improve accessibility, capacity, and accuracy of field data collection.



### **PROMOTION OF TENNESSEE ARCHAEOLOGY**

#### **Online and Digital Engagement**

The Division promoted Tennessee archaeology online by maintaining its website and Facebook page and by participating in virtual events. The Division’s Facebook page is actively managed through posting original content and sharing information about Tennessee archaeology from other organizations to more than 4,000 followers.

## Conferences and Lectures

The *Current Research in Tennessee Archaeology* (CRITA) conference resumed in 2023 for the first time since the onset of the pandemic. CRITA was originally scheduled to take place at the Lodge at Montgomery Bell State Park, but damage from winter weather required locating to an alternative venue. Thanks to State Librarian and Archivist Jamie Ritter, the Division shifted CRITA to the Tennessee State Library and Archives in downtown Nashville. More than 250 people attended and enjoyed a program of 18 presentations and three posters covering a wide range of archaeological topics in Tennessee. The 2023 program also included a Friday training workshop for professional archaeologists on the Division's Site File HUB.



2023 Current Research in Tennessee Archaeology conference.

## Tours of State Archaeological Areas

The Division led 12 tours of state-owned archaeological sites, including Mound Bottom, Link Farm, and mounds at Reelfoot Lake. Each tour was advertised on the Division's events calendar and Facebook page, as well as Tennessee State Parks' calendar.

## Outreach and Educational Events

The Division participated in two archaeology day events in 2023, with the first at the James K. Polk Home and Museum in Columbia and the second at the Tennessee Council for Professional

Archaeology's event at Bells Bend in Nashville. Division staff played key roles in the planning of the event at Bells Bend. Likewise, the Division organized two artifact identification events, one each at Long Hunter State Park and Johnsonville State Historic Park. At the events, members of the public are invited to bring in artifacts for identification and conversation with Division archaeologists. These events are for identification and educational purposes only and not for the appraisal and authentication of artifacts for commercial purposes.

## **Staff Publications, Presentations, Conferences, and Service**

### ***Print and Digital Publications:***

- *"DStretch Tattoo Protocol: Full Step-by-Step Protocol for Identification and Visualization of Tattoos on Preserved Archaeological Remains Using the ImageJ Plugin DStretch,"* *Protocols.io*, (Aaron Deter-Wolf, co-author)
- *"The Beginning of the End: Abandonment Micro-histories in the Mississippian Vacant Quarter,"* *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* (Aaron Deter-Wolf, co-author)
- *"All that Glitters isn't Calcite: A Research Update on Crystalline Artifacts from the Middle Cumberland Region,"* *Southeastern Archaeology*, (Aaron Deter-Wolf, co-author)
- *"2023 TCPA Archaeology Day at Bells Bend Park,"* Day 15 in the Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology's 30 Days of Tennessee Archaeology BlogFest (Paige Silcox)
- *"Relationships and Resiliency,"* Day 18 in the Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology's 30 Days of Tennessee Archaeology BlogFest (Phil Hodge)
- *"Tennessee's Pit Cellars,"* Day 24 in the Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology's 30 Days of Tennessee Archaeology BlogFest (Dan Brock)

### ***Presentations & Interviews:***

- "The Materiality of Andean Body Marking: Perspectives from European and North American Mummy Collections" (Aaron Deter-Wolf)
- "Experimental Tattooing and Analysis of Preserved Skin Markings on Human Mummies" (Aaron Deter-Wolf)
- "A Survey of Pit Cellars in Tennessee" presented to the Current Research in Tennessee Archaeology conference (Dan Brock)
- "Pit Cellars in Tennessee," presented to the Southeastern Archaeological Conference in Chattanooga (Dan Brock)
- "Pit Cellars and Ethnic Identity in Tennessee," virtual presentation to the Society for Historical Archaeology (Dan Brock)
- "Archaeological Survey of Tennessee's Rosenwald Schools" presented at *Building Community, Continuing the Legacy: A Rosenwald Schools of Tennessee Symposium*, sponsored by the Tennessee State Museum and Fisk University (Ben Nance)
- "Archaeological and Historical Investigations at Camp Kinchen," presented at Legislative retreat at Norris Dam State Park. (Ben Nance)

- “Historical and Archaeological Investigations of Fort Blount,” at Michael Birdwell and Calvin Dickinson Lecture Series sponsored by Friends of Cookeville History Museum. (Ben Nance)
- “Archaeology in Tennessee” for Pickett County Historical Society. (Ben Nance)
- “Sellars Farm State Archaeological Area” for the History Associates of Wilson County (Hannah Guidry)
- Curation Panel discussion at the Southeastern Archaeological Conference in Chattanooga (Macie Orrand, panelist)
- “Overview of the Site File HUB,” presented to TDEC Bureau of Conservation Directors. (Paige Silcox)
- “Overview of the Site File HUB,” presented to the Division of Natural Areas and Division of Archaeology’s staff retreat at Montgomery Bell State Park (Paige Silcox)
- “Archaeology and Tennessee State Parks,” presented in the Legacy of Tennessee State Parks Speaker Series, Tennessee State Library and Archives (Aaron Deter-Wolf)
- “The Archaeology of Cardwell Mountain,” presented to Tennessee State Parks virtual Resource Management Lecture Series (Phil Hodge)
- “Stewardship Beyond Our Boundaries,” presented to the Bureau of Conservation Management Meeting (Phil Hodge)
- “Reflections on Modern Archaeology,” Saturday program at Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park (Phil Hodge)
- “Current Trends in Archaeology: New Ways of Understanding the Past,” presented to the Rutherford County Archaeological Society (Phil Hodge)
- Archaeology Awareness Month and Archaeology Day at Bells Bend, interview on WKRN’s Local on 2 (Phil Hodge)
- “Overview of the Tennessee Division of Archaeology,” guest presentation in Dr. Sierra Bow’s archaeology class at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (Phil Hodge)

***Archaeology Outreach and Education:***

- Provided information and support for Tennessee State Museum’s exhibit “Building a Bright Future: Black Communities and Rosenwald Schools in Tennessee” (Ben Nance)
- Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology’s Archaeology Day at Bells Bend (Hannah Guidry and Paige Silcox)
- Artifact ID Events at Long Hunter State Park and Johnsonville State Historic Park (Ben Nance, Aaron Deter-Wolf, Macie Orrand, Bill Lawrence)
- HUB Workshop for Professional Archaeologists (Paige Silcox)

***Conferences, Workshops, and Development:***

- Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Chattanooga (Phil Hodge, Paige Silcox, Satin Platt, Dan Brock, Macie Orrand, Hannah Guidry)
- Southeastern SHPO/THPO Conference, Franklin, TN (Jennifer Barnett and Phil Hodge)

- 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Repatriation Conference: Building a New Fire (Macie Orrand)
- SAA Webinar “*Archaeological Database Creation and Management Basics*” (Hannah Guidry, Jennifer Barnett, Phil Hodge)
- SAA Webinar “*The Practice and Ethics of Skeletal Excavation and Conservation*” (Hannah Guidry, Paige Silcox, Macie Orrand, Phil Hodge)
- SAA Webinar “*More than Fill: Using GIS and Historical Documents in Urban Archaeology,*” (Hannah Guidry, Dan Brock, Jennifer Barnett, Ben Nance, Phil Hodge, Paige Silcox)
- SAA Webinar “Teaching Curation” (Macie Orrand, Phil Hodge, and Paige Silcox)
- Tennessee Geographic Information Council Middle TN Forum (Paige Silcox)
- ESRI Southeast User Conference (Paige Silcox)
- ESRI Training: AGOL Experience Builder, ArcPro Mapping and Visualization, Spatial Data Science (Paige Silcox)
- First Aid Training with TSP Chief Rangers Office (all Division staff and management)
- “*Career Paths in Archaeology,*” Panel discussion at the Society for American Archaeology conference, Portland, Oregon (Phil Hodge, panelist)

#### ***Committees and Service:***

- Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology Board Secretary, Social Media Committee Chair, Events Committee member (Paige Silcox)
- Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area Advisory Board. (Ben Nance)
- Organizer, Community of Practice for Southeastern Curation Care (Macie Orrand)
- Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology Board Member (At-Large), Events Committee Member (Hannah Guidry)
- Middle Tennessee State University, Friends of Liberal Arts Advisory Board (Phil Hodge)
- Wilson County Black History Committee, Archaeological Advisor (Phil Hodge)
- TDEC Data Governance Council (Paige Silcox)
- Tennessee Committee for Geographic Names (Jennifer Barnett)

#### **SUMMARY & GOALS FOR 2024**

Calendar year 2023 was a year of change and continued growth for the Division of Archaeology, albeit not in the directions planned at the end of calendar year 2022. The damage to the Division’s primary office building provided an unexpected opportunity to reimagine its layout and function to better serve Division staff, external customers, and partners inside the Department and beyond. The momentum from the cleaning and repair of this building carried forward to all of the Division’s facilities such that its physical presence is better organized and leaner than it was at the beginning of the year. The investment of deferred maintenance funding at the Pinson repository will ensure this facility is better equipped to care for the state’s archaeological collections. With the addition of two new positions, the Division’s staff grew to twelve full-time positions, which will create additional capacity in several key program areas.

In the coming year, the Site File and Review Group expects requests for site numbers, document requests, project reviews, and permit applications to remain equivalent to or within the range of that seen in recent years. Likewise, the Technical Assistance Group expects continued requests from external parties for advice and guidance regarding archaeological sites and collections, tours, and programs, including opportunities to work with Bureau of Conservation colleagues to achieve strategic goals related resource management and stewardship. Parallel to the Division's core work, internal strategic goals around NAGPRA, digitization, and expansion of GIS to other program areas will remain important areas of focus.

The Division of Archaeology looks forward to new opportunities to further its mission in 2024 and is well-positioned to continue its traditions of great archaeology, public engagement, service, and stewardship of archaeological sites in Tennessee.