

# KATHRYN L. NESS SWANSON, PH.D.

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## EDUCATION

### **BOSTON UNIVERSITY, Boston, Mass.**

Doctorate of Philosophy, Department of Archaeology, May 2015

Graduate Certificate of Teaching College Writing, The Writing Program, 2014

Certificate of Responsible Conduct in Research, 2014

### **THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY, Williamsburg, Va.**

Bachelor's Degree, Double Major in Anthropology (High Honors) and Art History (Honors),

Summa Cum Laude, May 2008

## EXPERIENCE

### **CURRENT**

7/2020—Present **Assistant Professor**, History Department, Principia College, Elmhurst, Ill.

- Offers undergraduate history courses
- Mentors undergraduate students

06/2018—Present **Education and Museum Consultant**, Boston, Mass.

- Offers undergraduate and graduate curriculum development and course assistance
- Provides historical research, curatorial and collections management, grant writing, and exhibit development

### **SELECTED EXPERIENCE**

02/2016—12/2018 **Curator of Collections**, Plimoth Plantation, Plymouth, Mass.

- Managed the Collections and Archives departments, including student interns and fellows
- Designed and implemented collections digitization initiatives, programs, research, and exhibits
- Wrote grants and worked with donors

02/2011—02/2016 **Collections Assistant**, Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

- Inventoried, researched, analyzed, and digitized collections and archives
- Supervised and trained students from the Harvard University Extension School

01/2012—05/2014 **Graduate Writing Fellow**, The Writing Program, Boston University, Boston, Mass.

- Designed and taught history-themed academic writing and research skills courses

08/2009—05/2010 **Teaching Fellow**, Department of Archaeology, Boston University, Boston, Mass.

- Lectured, graded, and assisted students in introductory-level courses

07/2004—08/2008 **Curatorial Assistant**, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Williamsburg, Va.

- Inventoried, photographed, and cataloged collections
- Assisted with domestic and international loan and exhibit preparations

## **COURSES**

Archaeology 100: Great Discoveries in Archaeology (Boston University)  
Archaeology 101: Introduction to Archaeology (Boston University)  
Colonial Latin America (Principia College)  
Foundations of a Globalized World (Principia College)  
Historiography (Principia College)  
Latin America (Principia College)  
Material Culture (Principia College)  
Research and writing skills courses (Boston University and Principia College)  
Pirates of the Atlantic!: History, Archaeology, and Pop-Culture (Boston University and Principia College)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **BOOKS**

Ness, Kathryn L. 2017. *Setting the Table: Ceramics, Dining, and Cultural Exchange in Andalucía and La Florida*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida.

### **BOOK CHAPTERS**

Swanson, Kathryn L. Ness. 2020 “Stuff, Not Nonsense: Using Material Culture in Historical Research and Interpretation.” In Heuvel, Lisa Liberati (ed.), *Living History in the Classroom: Performance and Pedagogy*, Bingley: Emerald Publishing.

Ness, Kathryn L. 2018. “Plimoth Plantation: Public Archaeology.” In Smith, Claire (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Global Archaeology*, New York: Springer-Verlag.

Ness, Kathryn L. 2015. “Globalization and Luxury Ceramics of the 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Spanish-Atlantic World.” In Buxeda i Garrigós, J., Madrid i Fernández, M. i Iñáñez, J.G., (eds.), *GlobalPottery. Historical Archaeology and Archaeometry for Societies in Contact*, 263—272, BAR International Series, Archeopress, Oxford.

### **PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES**

Ness, Kathryn L. 2015. “Classification Systems With a Plot: Vessel Forms and Ceramic Typologies in the Spanish Atlantic.” *International Journal of Historical Archaeology*, 19(2), 309—333.

### **POPULAR ARTICLES**

Ness, Kathryn L. 2018. “Murder, Mystery, and a Lost Spoon: Reconsidering Excavations at the RM Site.” *Plimoth Life*, 41—44.

Ness, Kate and White Perry. 2017. “What Would Hew Do? Wood Preservation and the *Mayflower II*.” *Plimoth Life*, 14—17.

Ness, Kathryn L. 2016. “Archaeology Comes to Life in the New Plimoth ArchLab.” *Plimoth Life*, 10—19.

## SELECTED EXHIBITS

- 2020 "Unearthed Voices of Plymouth/Patuxet" at Plimoth Plantation, Plymouth, Mass.; Served as Guest Curator/Consultant
- 2020 Archaeology Exhibit, Hingham Historical Society, Hingham, Mass.; Served as Advisor/Consultant
- 2017—2018 "Ships Tiny and Towering" at Plimoth Plantation, Plymouth, Mass.; Served as Curator
- 2016—2017 "Plimoth ArchLab" at Plimoth Plantation, Plymouth, Mass.; Served as Curator
- 2007 "The World of 1607" at the Jamestown Settlement Museum, Williamsburg, Va.; Served as Curatorial Assistant
- 2005 "Noble Metals: Stories Told by Bronzes of Ancient China" at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va.; Served as Co-Curator with Alaina Harmon
- 2001—2002 "Student Case" at the School of Nations Museum, The Principia, St. Louis, Mo.; Served as Student Volunteer Curator

## SELECTED CONFERENCE POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2021 "Teaching about Atlantic Piracy: Easier Said Than Done." Paper to be presented at the Problem with Piracy Network's conference, ZOOM, August 4—6, 2021.
- 2021 "Dinner at the Spanish Bourbon Table: Eating Practices in the 18th-Century Spanish Atlantic." Paper presented at the European University Institute's 2nd Conference in Visual and Material Culture Studies, Florence/ZOOM, May 25—26, 2021.
- 2017 "The Digital RM Site: A New Resource in Colonial New England Archaeology." Paper presented at the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology annual conference, Portsmouth, N.H., November 9—12, 2017.
- 2016 " 'Reverse Colonialism': The Multi-Directional Nature of Cultural Exchange in the Spanish Atlantic." Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology annual conference, Orlando, Fla., April 6—10, 2016.
- 2016 "Productive Partnerships: Municipal Cultural Resource Management (CRM) and Student Research." Paper co-authored with Carl Halbirt, City of St. Augustine Archaeologist, presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology annual conference, Washington, D.C., January 6—9, 2016.
- 2015 "Using Collections for Trans-Atlantic Studies: A Case Study in the Spanish Atlantic." Paper presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology annual conference, Seattle, Wash., January 6—11, 2015.
- 2014 "Classification Systems with a Plot: Vessel Forms and Ceramic Typologies in the Spanish Atlantic." Paper presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology annual conference, Quebec, Canada, January 8—12, 2014.
- 2012 "Ceramics of the Late Spanish-Atlantic World." Paper presented at Global Pottery: First International Congress on Historical Archaeology and Archaeometry for Societies in Contact, Barcelona, Spain, May 7—9, 2012.
- 2011 "Boundaries of Trade and Identity." Paper presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology annual conference, Austin, Tex., January 5—9, 2011.
- 2010 "Luxury Ceramics in Colonial Spanish-America." Paper presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology annual conference, Amelia Island, Fla., January 6—9, 2010.

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2021 "The Past Isn't Done Yet! Reevaluating Old Evidence to Find New Stories of Place." Invited Presentation for the Center for Guided Montessori Studies, ZOOM, June 22, 2021.
- 2020 "The RM Site: A History Mystery." Invited presentation for Plimoth Patuxet's 2020 National Endowment for the Humanities Teachers Institute, Plymouth, M.A., August 6, 2020.
- 2020 "Archaeology is Kinda the Superpower of History", Episode for the Florida Public Archaeology Network's *Tea and Trowels* video series, June 2020.
- 2018 "New Work with Old Stuff: Working with Collections at Plimoth Plantation." Invited talk given to the Department of Archaeology Brown Bag Lecture Series, Boston University, Boston, Mass., April 25, 2018.
- 2018 "All About that Stuff." Podcast episode for *Interwoven*, January 2018.
- 2017 "Ceramics, Dining, and Cultural Exchange in Andalucía and La Florida." Invited talk given to the Fiske Center for Archaeological Research, University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston, Mass., March 1, 2017.
- 2017 "Setting the Table: Ceramics and Cultural Identity in the 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Spanish-Atlantic World." Invited talk given to Mission San Luis Lecture Series, Tallahassee, Fla., February 23, 2017.
- 2017 " 'Setting the Table:' Ceramics and Culture Exchange in the 17<sup>th</sup>-Century Atlantic World." Invited talk given to the Plimoth Plantation Lunch and Learn Series, Plimoth Plantation, Plymouth, Mass., January 5, 2017.
- 2015 "Living and Dining in 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Spain and Spanish St. Augustine: Trans-Atlantic Household Archaeology." Invited talk given to the Florida Public Archaeology Network and the St. Augustine Archaeological Association, St. Augustine, Fla., November 3, 2015.
- 2015 "Spanish-Atlantic Identity in the 18<sup>th</sup>-Century: A Case Study from Spain and Spanish Florida." Invited talk given to the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology Brown Bag Lecture Series, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., September 17, 2015.
- 2014 "Classification Systems with a Plot: Vessel Forms and Ceramic Typologies in the Spanish Atlantic." Invited poster presented at the Archaeology of Iberia: State of the Field Conference, Brown University, Providence, R.I., February 28—March 1, 2014.
- 2014 "Classification Systems with a Plot: Vessel Forms and Ceramic Typologies in the Spanish Atlantic." Invited talk given to the Department of Archaeology Brown Bag Lecture Series, Boston University, Boston, Mass., February 12, 2014.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2021 Summer Research Assistant, Principia College
- 2019 Mass Humanities Project Grant, Plimoth Plantation
- 2018 Anonymous Donation for Digitizing Plimoth Plantation's Collections
- 2018 Humanities Collections and Reference Resources Grant, National Endowment for the Humanities (Plimoth Plantation and University of Massachusetts Boston)
- 2014—2015 Graduate Scholarship, Department of Archaeology, Boston University
- 2014 Cora du Bois Fellowship, Cora du Bois Charitable Trust
- 2013 Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, National Science Foundation
- 2012 Angela J. and James J. Rallis Memorial Award and the Helen G. Allen Humanities Award, Center for the Humanities, Boston University
- 2011—2014 Graduate Writing Fellowship, Writing Program, Boston University
- 2009—2010 Two Teaching Fellowships, Department of Archaeology, Boston University
- 2008 Phi Beta Kappa
- 2008 Virginia Northcott Brinkley Award for Excellence in Writing, Alpha Chapter of Virginia, Phi Beta Kappa
- 2008 Honors for Art History Honors Thesis: "John Steuart Curry: A Pictorial Autobiography," Department of Art and Art History, College of William and Mary
- 2007 High Honors for Anthropology Honors Thesis: "Ceramics of the Spanish-Atlantic World," Department of Anthropology, College of William and Mary
- 2006 Monroe Scholar, College of William and Mary

## SERVICE POSITIONS

- 2020—2021 Co-Parliamentarian, Faculty Senate, Principia College
- 2018—Present Member, Exhibit Advisory Committee, Hingham Historical Society
- 2017—2020 Terrestrial Committee Co-Chair for Society for Historical Archaeology's 2020 annual conference in Boston
- 2016 Co-chaired session with Kaoru Ueda, "Multi-Directional Colonialism: Approaches to Studying Global Interactions," at the Society for American Archaeology annual conference, Orlando, Fla., April 6—10, 2016.
- 2016 Chaired session, "General Sessions: CRM Studies," at the Society for Historical Archaeology annual conference, Washington, D.C., January 6—9, 2016.
- 2014, 2015 Volunteer, Society for Historical Archaeology Annual Conference
- 2013—2015 Undergraduate Mentor, Department of Archaeology, Boston University
- 2010—2015 Department of Archaeology Outreach and Lecture Committees, Boston University
- 2009—2010 President, Archaeology Graduate Student Association, Boston University
- 2005—2008 President, Christian Science Organization, College of William and Mary
- 2005—2008 Chairperson and Parliamentarian, Gamma Psi Chapter of Phi Sigma Pi, National Honor Fraternity, College of William and Mary

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Alliance of Museums  
Lambda Alpha, National Anthropology Honors Society  
Phi Beta Kappa

**LANGUAGES**

French: Intermediate-Advanced  
Spanish: Intermediate  
German: Beginner-Intermediate

**INTERESTS**

Art (Photography, drawing, painting, fiber arts)  
Creative Writing  
Reading  
Music (Piano, flute)