

Asia Alsgaard
Curriculum Vitae
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Postdoctoral Fellow
SFF Centre for Early Sapiens Behaviour (SapienCE) University of Bergen,
Bergen, Norway
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Archaeology, University of New Mexico

Education

2022	Ph.D. Anthropology, University of New Mexico
2017	M.S. Anthropology, University of New Mexico
2015	B.A. Archaeology, Boston University

Dissertation: The Role of Coastal Resource Stability in the Transition to Agriculture, Soconusco, Mexico (chair: Dr. Emily Lena Jones)

Areal/Temporal Foci

MSA and LSA in South Africa, Prehistoric Mesoamerica, Classic period and Historic period Maya, Colonial period eastern United States, Neolithic Europe

Research Foci

Zooarchaeology, isotopic analysis, niche construction, traditional ecological knowledge, human-environment relationships

Current Research Projects

The impact of changing environmental conditions on fish harvesting practices during the MSA and LSA in South Africa.

Human niche construction of aquatic resources prior to the agricultural transition, Soconusco, Mexico.

Awards and Fellowships

2019-2021	Latin American and Iberian Institute, Ph.D. Fellowship, University of New Mexico.
2015-2017	Binford Fellowship, University of New Mexico

Grants

- 2020 National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Research: The Role of Coastal Resource Stability in the Transition to Agriculture, Soconusco, Mexico. PIs: Dr. Emily Lena Jones and Asia Alsgaard. \$28,086
- 2019 University of New Mexico, Graduate and Professional Student Association, Student Research Grant. \$500
- 2019 University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology, Moore Travel Grant. \$500
- 2018 University of New Mexico, Graduate and Professional Student Association, Student Research Grant. \$468
- 2017 University of New Mexico, Graduate and Professional Student Association, Student Research Grant. \$500
- 2016 University of New Mexico, Graduate and Professional Student Association, Professional Development Grant. \$110
- 2016 University of New Mexico, Graduate and Professional Student Association, Student Research Grant. \$475

Publications

Refereed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

Alsgaard, Asia and Emily Lena Jones

(In Press) Animales Salvaje y Domésticos: the Environmental Consequences of Spanish Colonization in the Maya Region. Chapter in *Questioning Rebound: People and Environmental Change in the Protohistoric and Early Historic Americas*, Jacob L. Fisher and Emily Lena Jones, editors. University of Utah Press.

Jones, Emily Lena, Scott Kirk, Caitlin S. Ainsworth, Asia Alsgaard, Jana Valesca Meyer, and Cyler Conrad

2021 The Community at the Crossroads: Mammalian Exploitation and Connectivity at Tijeras Pueblo (LA 581). *KIVA*.

Alsgaard, Asia

2020 A Meta-analysis Approach to Understanding Maya Fish Use on the Yucatán Peninsula. *Journal of Ethnobiology* 40(4): 499-518.

Kennett, Douglas J., Keith M. Prufer, Brendan J. Culleton, Richard J. George, Mark Robinson, Willa R. Trask, Gina M. Buckley, Emily Moes, Emily J. Kate, Thomas K. Harper, Lexi O'Donnell, Erin E. Ray, Ethan C. Hill, Asia Alsgaard, Christopher Merriman, Clayton Meredith, Heather J. H. Edgar, Jaime A. Awe, and Said M. Gutierrez

2020 Early Isotopic Evidence for Maize as a Staple Grain in the Americas. *Science Advances* 6(23): eaba3245.

Prufer, K. M., A. V. Alsgaard, M. Robinson, C. R. Meredith, B. J. Culleton, T. Dennehy, S. Magee, B. B. Huckell, W. J. Stemp, J. J. Awe, J. M. Capriles, D. J. Kennett

2019 Linking late Paleoindian stone tool technologies and populations in North, Central, and South America. *PLoS ONE* 14(7): e0219812.

Prufer, K. M., C. R. Meredith, A. Alsgaard, T. Dennehy and D. Kennett

2017 The Paleoindian Chronology of Tzib Te Yux Rockshelter in the Rio Blanco Valley of Southern Belize. In *Research Reports in Belizean Archaeology*, pp. 321-326. vol. 14. Institute of Archaeology, NICH, Belize.

Archaeological Reports: Chapter Contributions

Alsgaard, Asia, and Robin Cordero

2021 Analysis of Faunal Remains from LA 47821 and LA 127051, Grant County, New Mexico. In *Excavations at the Lake Roberts Site (LA 47821) and the Hooker Site (LA 127051), Grant County, New Mexico*, edited by Thatcher A. Rogers and Alexander Kurota, pp. 17-1-1728. OCA/UNM Report No. 185-1097. Office of Contract Archeology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque.

Alsgaard, A.

2021 Finding the Wind Jewel: Excavations in the Southern Structure of E14, Las Cuevas, Belize 2019. Edited by Holley Moyes and Erin Ray. *Report of the Las Cuevas Archaeological Reconnaissance Project: The 2019 Field Season*. Prepared for the Institute of Archaeology, National Institute of Culture and History, Belize.

Alsgaard, A.

2019 Chapter 4: Household Level Excavation: New Investigations at H09 and F10, Las Cuevas, Belize 2018. Edited by Holley Moyes and Erin Ray 2019. *Report of the Las Cuevas Archaeological Reconnaissance Project: The 2018 Field Season*. Prepared for the Institute of Archaeology, National Institute of Culture and History, Belize.

Edited by Keith Prufer and Amy Thompson

2017 *Bladen Paleoindian and Archaic Archaeological Project and Uxbenká Archaeological Project: Report of the 2017 Field Season*. Prepared for the Institute of Archaeology, National Institute of Culture and History, Belize, the Alphawood Foundation, and the National Science Foundation.

Edited by Keith Prufer and Amy Thompson

2016 *Bladen Paleoindian and Archaic Archaeological Project and Uxbenká Archaeological Project: Report of the 2016 Field Season*. Prepared for the Institute of Archaeology, National Institute of Culture and History, Belize, the Alphawood Foundation, and the National Science Foundation.

Edited by Keith Prufer and Amy Thompson

2015 *Uxbenká Archaeological Project: Report of the 2016 Field Season*. Prepared for the Institute of Archaeology, National Institute of Culture and History, Belize, the Alphawood Foundation, and the National Science Foundation.

Saturno, William, Boris Beltrán, Elisa Mencos, Paulo Medina, Asia Alsgaard, Timothy Foadre, and Adam Vitale

2014 Excavaciones en el Cojunto Los Arboles, Operación Xul 12F19. In *Informe 2014. Proyecto Arqueológico Regional San Bartolo- Xultun*.

Scholarly Presentation

Sessions organized at professional meetings

2019 (with Erin E. Ray) Advances in Interdisciplinary Isotopic Research. Symposium organized for the 2019 Society for American Archaeology Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico, April 10th-14th.

Presentations and Posters

Prufer, K. M., M. Robinson, A. Alsgaard, and D. Kennett

2019 Rethinking the Age of Lowe and Regional Links to Lower Central and South America during the Late Paleoindian Period. Paper presented at the annual Belize Archaeology Symposium, San Ignacio, Belize, 26th-28th June, 2019.

Asia Alsgaard, Carolyn Freiwald, Stephanie Orsini, Douglas Kennett, and Keith Prufer 2018 Quantifying the Exploitation of Faunal Remains by Preceramic Societies in Southern Belize. Poster presented at the 83rd Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archaeology, Washington D.C., USA, April 11th-April 15th.

Alsgaard, Asia

2016 The Utilization of Fish Resources in the Yucatán Peninsula. Poster presented at the 7th Annual South-Central Conference on Mesoamerica, Tyler, Texas, November 4th-6th.

Alsgaard, Asia

2017 The Difficulties of Identifying Trade in the Zooarchaeological Record: A Study from the Northern Maya Lowlands. Poster presented at the 82nd Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archaeology, Vancouver, Canada, March 29th- April 2nd.

Alsgaard, Asia

2017 The Difficulties of Identifying Trade in the Zooarchaeological Record:

A Study from the Northern Maya Lowlands. Poster will be presented at the 82nd Annual Shared Knowledge Conference at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, April 8th.

Alsgaard, Asia

2015 A Difference in Local Involvement: Comparing Scotland and Guatemala. Presented at the AIA and APA Joint Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA, January 8-11, 2015.

Alsgaard, Asia

2015 The Role of Offerings in Interpreting Architecture: Evaluating Human remains at Xultun, Petén, Guatemala. Presented at the 80th annual SAA Meeting in San Francisco, CA, April 15-19, 2015.

Teaching

Fall 2021 University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology, Teaching Assistant, Archaeological Method and Theory 1211 Lecture 001, Asia Alsgaard

Spring 2021 University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology, Teaching Assistant, Archaeological Method and Theory 1211 Lab section 003/005, Asia Alsgaard

Fall 2020 University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology, Teaching Assistant, Archaeological Method and Theory 1211 Lab section 003/004, Asia Alsgaard

Spring 2020 University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology, Teaching Assistant, Archaeological Method and Theory 1211 Lab section 003/005, Asia Alsgaard

Fall 2019 University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology, Teaching Assistant, Archaeological Method and Theory 1211 Lab section 002/004, Asia Alsgaard

Spring 2019 University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology, Graduate Assistant, Anthropology 101, Dr. Keith Prufer

Fall 2018 University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology, Graduate Assistant, Archaeological Method and Theory, Scott Kirk

University of New Mexico, Department of Biology, Teaching Assistant, Anatomy and Physiology I lab section, course taught by Dr. Dorothy Scholl

Spring 2018 University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology, Graduate Assistant, Online Course, Stone Age Europe, Dr. Emily Jones

Fall 2017 University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology, Graduate Assistant, Anthropology 101, Dr. Jocelyn DeHaas

Spring 2017 University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology, Graduate Assistance, Anthropology 101, Dr. Les Field

- Fall 2016 University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology, Graduate Assistant, Online Course, Anthropology 101, Dr. Keith Prufer
- Spring 2016 University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology, Graduate Assistant, Anthropology 101, Caroline Gabe
- Fall 2015 University of New Mexico, Department of Anthropology, Graduate Assistant, Anthropology 101, Dr. Tanya Mueller

Other Work Experience (University of New Mexico)

- 2021 Office of Contract Archaeology, On-call, report writing and faunal analysis
Supervisor: Alex Kurota
- 2019 Zooarchaeology Lab Faunal Analyst, Supervisor: Dr. Emily Lena Jones, Assisted in the identification of zooarchaeological remains from the archaeological site of Tijeras, New Mexico.
- 2018—2019 Environmental Archaeology Lab, Research Assistant Supervisor: Dr. Keith Prufer, Assist in radiocarbon preparation, stable isotope preparation of carbon and nitrogen from osteological material, and zooarchaeological analysis.
- 2018 STEM Collaborative Center Graduate Assistant Supervisor: Dr. Tim Schroder Assist in the preparation of trips related to the STEM collaborative center at UNM; responsible for transportation to remote locations, maintaining the field camp, and obtaining and maintaining necessary equipment; assist in promoting the STEM fields.

Professional Service

- 2017—2018 President, Anthropology Graduate Student Union 2016—2017 Vice-President, Anthropology Graduate Student Union
- 2018 "Initial Analysis of Animal Remains from Preceramic Rockshelters in Southern Belize," Guest Lecture at Central New Mexico Community College, 12th March 2018.
- 2017 Statement of Research for public science book, "Empirical World" (in press) by Geoffrey Notkins

Archaeological Excavation Experience

- May—June 2019 *Bladen Paleoindian and Archaic Project*
- May—June 2017 Mayahak Cab Pek and Saki Tzul, Toledo District, Belize
- June—Aug 2016

Supervisor: University of New Mexico, Anthropology Department, Dr. Keith Prufer

Conducted archaeological excavations in the Bladen Nature Reserve, Toledo District, Belize; responsible for transportation to remote locations, maintaining the field camp, and obtaining and maintaining necessary equipment; collected and recorded human bone, faunal bone, ceramics, lithics and paleobotanical materials at two rockshelters from Paleoindian, Archaic and Maya period contexts; checked and created inventories of laboratory collections; prepared laboratory collections for transport and storage; created spreadsheets and artifact forms using Excel; contributed to report chapter submitted to the Belize Archaeological Institute.

July 2019

Las Cuevas Archaeological Reconnaissance

May—July 2018

Las Cuevas, Cayo District, Belize

Supervisor: University of California, Merced, Anthropology Department, Dr. Holley Moyes

Led archaeological excavations at two household settlements at the surface site of Las Cuevas, Cayo District, Belize; conducted supervised excavation and testing of archaeological sites; chapter report written for site excavations.

June 2019

Belize River Valley Archaeological Project

Barton Ramie, Cayo District, Belize

Supervisor: University of Pennsylvania, John Walden Assisted in excavations of Barton Ramie site core. Excavated materials included architecture and human remains.

June—Aug 2015

Uxbenká Archaeological Project

Tzibte Yux and Uxbenká Toledo District, Belize

Supervisor: University of New Mexico, Anthropology Department, Dr. Keith Prufer

Conducted archaeological excavations at Tzib'te Yux, a rockshelter in Toledo District, Belize and San José, a Maya site in Toledo District Belize; collected and recorded human bone, faunal bone, ceramics, lithics, and paleobotanical materials from Paleoindian, Archaic and Maya period contexts; surveyed and recorded archaeological sites; mapped and excavated building structures; prepared laboratory collections for transport and storage; contributed to chapter submitted to the Belize Archaeological Institute.

June 2014

Ness of Brodgar

Orkney Islands, Scotland Supervisor: Dr. Nick Card

Excavations at a Neolithic site; collected and bagged non-local stone and lithic materials; traced, excavated and mapped building masonry; used GPS for point plotting materials.

- June—July 2014 *Alexandria Archaeology*
Alexandria, Virginia Supervisor: Dr. Garrett R. Fesler
Contributed to on-going excavations at Shutter’s Hill,
an 18th century plantation; collected and bagged historical materials;
mapped and recorded excavation units.
- Jan—May 2014 *San Bartolo-Xultún Proyecto Arqueologico*
Xultun, Petén forest, Guatemala
Supervisors: Dr. William Saturno and Dr. Patricia Castillo
Enrolled in a month-long Spanish language intensive course; excavated at
Xultún, a classic-period Maya site involving tunneling in
through masonry and classic excavations through floors; recovered and
recorded ceramics, lithics, human bone and special materials; recorded
information using a total station; assisted in plan view drawings and
human skeletal remain drawings throughout the site; assisted in the report
submitted to the Instituto de Antropología e Historia de Guatemala.
- June—August 2013 *Fairfield Archaeology*
June—July 2012
Fairfield plantation, Gloucester, VA
Supervisors: Dr. David Brown and Thane Harpole
Assisted with excavations of 17th century town hall in Gloucester, VA and
18th century Fairfield plantation; excavated and recorded field plots and
recovered artifacts using a total station; researched and identified pottery,
glassware, seals, and other tavern related artifacts; researched the history
of the tavern lot and the past owners of the tavern; assisted in researching
other lots surrounding the Gloucester Court house; contributed to local
outreach by training visiting boy scout groups and assisting in the building
of the Fairfield archaeology local outreach building.

Certifications

Spring 2018 “3D Morphometrics for Archaeologists,” SAA Online Seminar

Languages

English (Native); Spanish (Conversational)