

KAREN BELLINGER WEHNER

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Post-medieval historical archaeology of the United Kingdom and colonial North America. Nineteenth-century Southern plantation households. Victorian London. Uses of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) analysis in historical and archaeological research. Craft production and technologies. Building cross-cultural awareness and understanding through playful encounters with the past.

EDUCATION

New York University, New York, NY

Ph.D., Anthropology/Historical Archaeology September 2006

Dissertation: "Crafting lives, crafting society in seventeenth-century Jamestown, Virginia."

The dissertation built on decades of prior research at Jamestown (the first permanent English settlement in North America) by combining a new approach to the historical record with the first GIS analysis of more than 200,000 artifacts distributed over the fifty-acre town site. The study challenged standard historiography that tobacco's dominance precluded town-based artisanship in early colonial Virginia.

Committee: Dr. Rita P. Wright, Dr. Karen O. Kupperman, Dr. Pamela J. Crabtree.

M.A., Anthropology/Historical Archaeology

May 1999

Thesis: "Through the lens of the built environment: Material life and social organization in a nineteenth-century Chesapeake plantation household."

Yale University, New Haven, CT

B.A., English Literature

May 1991

Awarded *magna cum laude* and with Distinction in the Major.

Thesis: "The symbolic and religious meanings of color in James Joyce's *Ulysses*."

APPOINTED POSITIONS

South Shore Conservatory Board of Trustees, Hingham, MA Oct 2011 – present

World Leadership Foundation, Denver, CO Feb 2011 - present

Yale Alumni Fund Board of Directors June 2008 – present

HONORS AND GRANTS

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Queen Mary University, London, funded by the U.K. Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) 2007 – 2008

Best Annual Student Paper Prize, Society for Historical Archaeology 2005

Jamestown Scholars Dissertation Fellowship, awarded jointly by the Organization of American Historians and U.S. National Park Service 2001

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, NYU College of Arts and Science 2000

Claire G. Goodman Summer Research Fellowship, NYU Anthropology Department 1999, 2000

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, Honorable Mention 1994

WORK EXPERIENCE

Founder and CEO, The Time Tribe, LLC 2010 – present
We are developing a transmedia time travel game for kids that blends online adventure, offline play, and genuine engagement with the history and current state of humankind and our world.

Freelance Researcher 2009 - 2010
Completed archival and archaeological research projects as commissioned by Queen Mary, University of London and Museum of London Archaeology Service.

BBC Television, London
On-camera History Expert 2008 – 2009
Presented original archival research in two episodes of prime time television documentary *Inside Out*.

Queen Mary University, London, Department of Geography
Postdoctoral Research Fellow 2007 – 2008
Designed and completed archival research program for “Living in Victorian London: Material Histories of Everyday Life in the Nineteenth-Century Metropolis,” an interdisciplinary project funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)’s speculative award scheme. Joint project with Museum of London Archaeology Service.

Museum of London Archaeology Service
Finds Analysis Assistant – Volunteer 2005
Supported post-medieval finds analysis and report generation under the direction of Dr. Geoff Egan.

Arnell Group Brand Consulting and Advertising, New York, NY
Strategy and Market Research Analyst - Freelance 1995 – 2000
Completed independent research projects from design through data collection, analysis, and report generation to aid marketing and advertising campaign development for agency clients in the fashion, cosmetics, consumer electronics, and retail industries. Projects covered specific industries, technologies and social trends, consumer behavior, and focus group analysis and interpretation.

Arnell Group Brand Consulting and Advertising, New York, NY
Account Executive 1994 – 1995
Oversaw marketing and advertising programs for Ray-Ban and Hanes Hosiery accounts, managing budgets, staffing, production schedules, and agency-client communications.

TEACHING AND FIELDWORK

Archaeology Workshops for Elementary School Students 2007 – present
Design and lead workshops introducing students aged 6 – 12 to the study of the past, incorporating hands-on activities approximating the discovery processes used by archaeologists and historians.

College of William & Mary/Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Summer Field School
Chatham Plantation Site Survey, Eastern Shore of Virginia
Field School Instructor Summer 2000
Directed Phase I site survey seeking eighteenth- and nineteenth-century plantation outbuildings while instructing undergraduate and graduate students in historical archaeology theory and methods.

**Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Department of Archaeological Research
Jamestown Shoreline Archaeological Assessment, Jamestown Island, Virginia**

Field Crew

Winter 2000

Aided Phase II survey to assess current erosion threats to the seventeenth-century town site.

NYU Morse Academic Program - World Cultures: Ancient Near East and Egypt

Preceptor

Fall 1999

Presented new material and led discussion twice weekly for two undergraduate course sections.

**College of William & Mary/Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Summer Field School
Structure 24 site, Jamestown Island, Virginia.**

Field School Instructor and Site Supervisor

Summer 1999

Led student crew in Phase II excavation of a seventeenth-century gunsmith's house and workshop while instructing them in historical archaeology theory and methods.

NYU Anthropology Department - Archaeology: Early Societies and Cultures

Teaching Assistant to Dr. Randall White

Spring 1999

Introduction to archaeological theory, methods, and world prehistory. Planned and led weekly lab activities and discussion with two undergraduate course sections.

NYU Anthropology Department - Archaeology: Early Societies and Cultures

Teaching Assistant to Dr. Rita Wright

Fall 1998

Introduction to archaeological theory, methods, and world prehistory. Planned and led weekly lab activities and discussion with two undergraduate course sections.

**College of William & Mary/Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Summer Field School
Williamsburg and Jamestown, VA**

Field School Teaching Assistant

Summer 1998

Aided instruction of undergraduate and graduate students in Phase III excavation of the eighteenth-century Cary P. Armistead Coffee House site in Williamsburg and Phase I site survey at the seventeenth-century Structure 24 domestic/workshop site on Jamestown Island, VA.

NYU Anthropology Department

Finger Lakes National Forest Archaeology Project, Schuyler County, NY

Spring 1998

Field Crew

Directed by Dr James A. Delle, this GIS/GPS project surveyed and mapped 52 historic sites in the 15,000 acre Finger Lakes National Forest.

**College of William & Mary/Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Summer Field School
Williamsburg, VA**

Field School Teaching Assistant

Summer 1997

Aided instruction of undergraduate and graduate students in Phase III excavation of the eighteenth-century St. George Tucker garden site.

PUBLICATIONS

- Owens, A., Jeffries, N., Wehner, K. and Featherby, R. (2010). Fragments of the modern city: material culture and the rhythms of everyday life in Victorian London. *Journal of Victorian Culture*, 15(2), August 2010, 212-225.
- Owens, A., Jeffries, N., Featherby, R. and Wehner, K. (2009). From the unusual to the banal: The archaeology of everyday life in Victorian London. *Research Matters* No 4. London: Museum of London Archaeology Service.
- Jeffries, N., Owens, A., Hicks, D., Featherby, R. and Wehner, K. (2009). Rematerialising metropolitan histories? People, places and things in modern London. In A. Horning and M. Palmer (Eds), *Crossing Paths or Sharing Tracks?* Woodbridge: The Boydell Press.
- Wehner, K. and Holmberg, K. (2003), Analyzing the settlement pattern of the Burnt Hill study area. *Northeast Historical Archaeology*, Vol. 32, 57-78.
- Horning, A. and Wehner K. (2000), Archaeological Investigations at Jamestown's Structure 24. Report prepared for Colonial National Historical Park, National Park Service. Williamsburg, Virginia: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.
- Wehner, K. (1999), Context and conduct: The built environment and social life in a postbellum Chesapeake plantation household." In *The Entangled Past: Integrating History and Archaeology: Proceedings of the 30th Annual Chacoool Conference*. Calgary: The University of Calgary.

PRESENTATIONS

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| "Material Lives in Victorian London." | 2009 |
| Presentation with A. Owens, N. Jeffries and R. Featherby at Ruskin College, Oxford, England. | |
| "Transitions and Tradespeople: Artisans on the Road from Town to Colony." | 2007 |
| Presentation at the Society for Historical Archaeology annual meeting, Williamsburg, VA. | |
| "Men on the Make: Using GIS to Reframe Craft Production in Seventeenth-century Jamestown." | 2005 |
| Presentation at the Society for Historical Archaeology annual meeting, York, England. | |
| "Crafting Selves and Crafting Society in Seventeenth Century Jamestown." | 2004 |
| Presentation at The Atlantic World and Virginia 1550-1624 conference, sponsored by the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, Williamsburg, VA. | |
| "Artisanship and Social Mobility in Seventeenth-century Jamestown." | 2002 |
| Presentation at the Society for Historical Archaeology annual meeting, Mobile, AL. | |
| "Final Report on Fieldwork at Jamestown's Structure 24." | 2001 |
| Presentation at the 16 th annual Jamestown Archaeology Conference, Jamestown Island, VA. | |
| "Guns and Butter: Reconstructing Domestic Life at Jamestown's Structure 24." | 2000 |
| Presentation at the Society for American Archaeology annual meeting, Philadelphia, PA. | |
| "Settlement Pattern Analysis Using Historic Maps and GIS." | 2000 |
| Poster presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology annual meeting, Quebec City, Canada. | |
| "Interim Report on Fieldwork at Jamestown's Structure 24." | 1999 |

- Presentation at the 15th annual Jamestown Archaeology Conference, Jamestown Island, VA.
- "Changing Settlement Patterns in Hector Township, NY, 1857-1944." 1999
 Poster presented with Karen Holmberg at the Society for American Archaeology annual meeting, Chicago, IL.
- "GIS Settlement Pattern Analysis in the Hector Backbone of New York State." 1999
 Presentation at the Northeastern Anthropological Association annual meeting, Providence, RI.
- "Textual Materials, Material Texts: Reading Social Life in the Built Environment of a Nineteenth-century Chesapeake Plantation." 1998
 Presentation at the American Anthropological Association annual meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
- "Reconstructing Gender Relations in a Southern Plantation Household: A Case Study in Historical Archaeology." 1998
 Presentation at the Fifth Gender and Archaeology Conference, Milwaukee, WI.
- "Ways of Seeing, Ways of Being: Changes to the Built Environment and Social Organization in a Nineteenth-century Chesapeake Plantation Household." 1997
 Presentation at the 30th Annual Chacmool Conference, University of Calgary, Canada.

MEMBERSHIPS

Archaeological Institute of America
 American Schools of Oriental Research
 Society for Historical Archaeology