

ALISON BELL

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EDUCATION

- 2000 Ph.D. University of Virginia Department of Anthropology
Dissertation – *Conspicuous Production: Agricultural and Domestic Material Culture in Virginia, 1700-1900*
- 1993 M.A. University of California at Berkeley Department of Anthropology
- 1991 B.A. Washington and Lee University
Majors in Anthropology/Archaeology and English
Summa cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa
Honors Thesis in Anthropology/Archaeology – *Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Remembered: African-American Patterns of Adaptation to Plantation Life in the New World*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

COURSES

Introduction to Anthropology
Archaeology
Field Methods in Archaeology
Laboratory Methods in Archaeology
Historical Archaeology
North American Archaeology
Archaeologies of Race and Class
Anthropology of American History
Ethnohistory
Oral History

Biological Anthropology
Human Origins
Language, Culture & Communication
Economic Anthropology
Consumer Cultures
World Cultures
Anthropologies of Cemeteries
Anthropology of Death
Qualitative Methods
Senior Seminar in Anthropological Analysis

2018 Summer, Visiting Associate Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, University of Virginia, Charlottesville

2010 – Present, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Washington and Lee University, Lexington

2002 – 2010, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Washington and Lee University

2000 – 2002, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, State University of New York, College at Oneonta

1998 Summer, Instructor, Department of Historic Preservation, Mary Washington College Fredericksburg, Virginia. Archaeological field methods at Stratford Hall Plantation

1996 – 1999, Instructor (part-time adjunct), Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Washington and Lee University

1995 – 1997, Instructor, Department of Anthropology, University of Virginia, spring-term and summer-session courses

1991 – 1992, Instructor (part-time adjunct), Department of English, Armstrong State University, Savannah, Georgia. *Introductory English*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2010 – 2012, Associate Dean of the College, Washington and Lee University. Primary responsibilities included chairing the Automatic Rule and Reinstatement Committee, working with students on academic probation and suspension, and chairing the Graduate Fellowship Committee

2000, Acting Archaeology Laboratory Manager, Monticello (Thomas Jefferson Foundation), Charlottesville. Processing, cataloguing, and analysis of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century artifacts excavated at Monticello. April–June

1999, Intern, Institute for Public History and Ash Lawn-Highland, nineteenth-century farm of President James Monroe in Charlottesville. Researched historic communities through archival sources and archaeological and architectural reports. July-September

1995, Coordinator of University of Virginia's archaeological survey for a colonial domestic site in Louisa County, Virginia. Fall semester

1995, Coordinator of University of Virginia's archaeological and ethnohistoric investigation of the Moore and Martin Houses, two nineteenth-century domestic sites in Louisa County, Spring semester

1994, Field Assistant, Flowerdew Hundred Foundation in Hopewell, Virginia during the joint University of Virginia and University of California at Berkeley field schools. Under the direction of James Deetz, excavation of a seventeenth-century industrial and domestic site. Summer session

1994, Coordinator of University of Virginia's archaeological and ethnohistoric investigations of the Dabney House, a domestic site c. 1770s-1920s in Louisa County. Spring semester

1993, Field Technician, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Williamsburg, Virginia. Testing and excavation of seventeenth-century sites on Jamestown Island. July–August

1993, Field Assistant, Flowerdew Hundred Foundation, during the University of California at Berkeley field school. Excavated an eighteenth-century domestic yard and garden. June

1992, Interpreter and Ranger, South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, Lancaster, South Carolina. Renovated historical museum, developed interpretive programs, and aided in maintenance at Andrew Jackson State Park

1991, Survey Archaeologist, Savannah River Project, Savannah, Georgia. Survey of Savannah River banks for archaeological sites. November–December

1990, Laboratory Assistant, Lubbock Lake Landmark, Museum of Texas Tech, Lubbock, Texas. Identified, preserved, and catalogued artifacts from bison slaughter site (7000 y.b.p.). July–August

1990, Field Archaeologist, Andrew Jackson's Hermitage, Hermitage, Tennessee. Excavation of nineteenth-century home sites of enslaved laborers. June

1988, Survey Archaeologist, Kootenai National Forest, Libby, Montana. Surveyed federal land to identify archaeological sites; tested and recorded sites found; prepared site reports. June–August

SERVICE

At Washington and Lee University

- Advisory Committee, Elected Member (2015-2017)
- Historic Preservation and Archaeological Conservation Advisory Board, Chair (2010-2016), Member (2008-2010)
- Writing Program Advisory Committee, Member (2013-2016)
- Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees, Elected Position (2013-2015)
- Automatic Rule and Reinstatement Committee, Chair (2010-2012)
- Graduate Fellowship Committee, Chair (2010-2012)
- University Collections of Art and History Committee, Chair (2010-2012), Member (2008-2010)
- International Education Committee, Member (2010-2012)
- Student Financial Aid Committee, Member (2010-2012)
- University Preservation Master Plan Advisory Committee, Member (2004-2005)
- Getty Campus Heritage Grant Steering Committee, Member (2004-2005)
- University Presidential Search and Screening Committee, Member (August-October 2005)
- Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees (October 2005)
- Shepherd Program for the Interdisciplinary Study of Poverty and Human Capability

- Program Faculty/Student Advisory Committee, Member (2004-2006)
- Freshman and Major Adviser (2003-present)
- Faculty advisor to Kappa Delta (2002-2004) and Omicron Delta Pi (2008-2011) sororities
- Invited speaker, “Honorable Scholarship: Social Responsibility, Critique, and Confidence,” at the Phi Eta Sigma induction ceremony (2005)
- Invited speaker, Sexual Health Awareness Week (2015, 2016, 2017)

At the State University of New York, College at Oneonta

- Provost’s Advisory Group, Member (2000-2002)
- Search Committee for a Dean of Behavioral and Applied Science (2000-2002)
- Faculty Advisor to Anthropology Club (2000-2002)
- College Library Committee, Member (2000-2002)

Community and Professional Service

- Friends of the McDowell Cemetery, Co-director (2013-present)
- Historic Lexington Foundation, Board and Executive Council Member (2013-2015)
- Rockbridge Historical Society, Volunteer (2013-present)
- Jordan’s Point Museum Advisory Committee, Member (2013-2014)
- Historical Archaeology Collective, Co-director (2012-present)
- Reviewer of manuscript submissions to *Historical Archaeology*, *Australian Historical Archaeology*, *American Anthropologist*, *Advances in Research: Museum Worlds*, etc. (2008-present)
- Digital Archaeological Archive of Comparative Slavery, Steering Committee Member <http://www.daacs.org/> (2000-2005)
- Associate Editor, *Journal of the Jamestown Rediscovery Center* (2000-2003)

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2017-2018	Residential Fellowship, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities
2015-2018	Lenfest Summer Fellowships, Washington and Lee University
2013	Delaplaine Foundation for support of archaeology at Robinson Hall at W&L
2013	National Science Foundation Major Research Instrumentation Grant. Fiber Optic Reflectance Spectrometer. PI/PD Erich S. Uffelman; Alison Bell among the Co-PI/PDs
2013	National Science Foundation Major Research Instrumentation Grant. Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometer. PI/PD Bill Hamilton; Alison Bell among the “users.”
2012	Lenfest Summer Fellowship, Washington and Lee University
2011	Lenfest Summer Fellowship, Washington and Lee University
2009	Mednick Memorial Fellowship, Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges
2009	Lenfest Summer Fellowship, Washington and Lee University
2009	National Science Foundation Major Research Instrumentation Grant. Portable X-Ray Fluorescence, Digital IR Photography, and Stereomicroscopy Applied to the University Collections of Art and History at Washington and Lee University. PI/PD Erich S. Uffelman; Alison Bell among the Co-PI/PDs
2008	Lambda Alpha Anthropology Honors Society

- 2003 Council on Undergraduate Research Summer Research Fellowship in Science and Math to support research with Washington and Lee student
- 2003 Robert E. Lee Research Grant to support summer archaeological research with Washington and Lee student
- 2000 State University of New York, College at Oneonta Faculty Development Grant
- 2000 State University of New York, College at Oneonta Outstanding Faculty Service Award, Pan-Hellenic Association
- 1997, 1999 University of Virginia Dissertation Grant
- 1993-1996 National Science Foundation Pre-Dissertation Graduate Fellowship
- 1992-1993 University of California at Berkeley Non-Resident Tuition Scholarship
- 1987-1991 As an undergraduate at Washington and Lee University:
 University Scholars Academic Honors Program, 1988-1991
 Maxwell P. Wilkinson Scholarship, 1991
 Francis P. Gaines Scholarship, 1988-1991
 Emory J. Kimbrough Award in Anthropology/Sociology, 1991
 Academy of American Poets' Award, 1990 and 1991
 Mahan Award for Writing, 1991

SELECTION OF PROFESSIONAL PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

(single-authored unless otherwise noted)

2018, "The Bivouac of the Dead": Preserving Veterans' Burying Places in the Valley of Virginia. Historic Preservation Month presentation, Historic Lexington Foundation and W&L Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Lexington

2018, Confederate Memorials: Considering Ways Forward. Invited panelist, Wofford College, Spartanburg, South Carolina

2018, The Vital Dead: Making Meaning, Identity, and Community through Cemeteries. Presented at the Archaeology Brown Bag Speaker Series, University of Virginia, Charlottesville

2018, The Vital Dead: Making Meaning, Identity, and Community through Cemeteries. Presented to the Upper James River Chapter of the Archaeological Society of Virginia, Lexington

2018, The "Colored Dead": African American Burying Grounds in a Confederate Stronghold. Paper presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology meetings, New Orleans, Louisiana. Symposium organized by Alison Bell, *Reckoning: Landscapes and Legacies of Slavery*

2017, The Vital Dead: Making Meaning, Identity, and Community through Cemeteries. Residential Fellow Presentation at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, Charlottesville

2017, The "Colored Dead": African American Burying Grounds in Lexington and Rockbridge County. Historic Preservation Month presentation, Historic Lexington Foundation and W&L Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Lexington

2016, Transcendental Conversations: “He Being Dead Yet Speaketh.” Paper presented at the Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture meetings, Atlantic City, New Jersey

2016, The Dead’s Vitality: Maintaining Souls in Virginia Communities. Paper presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology meetings. Washington, D.C.

2015, “I am the Spirit of the Corpse You Buried at the Crossroads”: Contextualizing Current Cemetery Trends. Paper presented at the Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture meetings. Session organized by Alison Bell, *Memento Mori, Memento Vivere: Rapprochement of the Dead and the Living*, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2014, The Ludic and The Liminoid: Understanding Creative Commemoration on Gravesites in the Valley of Virginia. Paper presented at the Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture meetings. Baltimore, Maryland

2014, Don Gaylord and Alison Bell, Reading Ceramic Use Wear: A Twist in the Plot. Paper presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology meetings, Quebec City, Canada

2013, Constituting Personhood among “The Middling” in 18th- and 19th-Century Virginia. Paper presented at the Society for American Archaeology meetings, Honolulu, Hawaii

2013, Chelsea Dudley, Karen Lyle, Donald Gaylord and Alison Bell, Measuring Diversity to Identify Residential Group Types: Buttons from Longdale Mining Community. Poster presented at the Virginia Social Science Association meetings, Richmond, Virginia

2012, Consuming Bacon and Theorizing Thrift: A Reading of Early 19th-Century Rural Virginians’ Indifference to Conspicuous Display. Paper presented at the University of Virginia’s Department of Anthropology, Charlottesville

2012, Laura Voisin George and Alison Bell, “A Good Life: Material Strategies of Virginia Tenant Farmers, 1775-1825.” Paper presented at the Upland Archaeology in the East: Archaeology and History of the Blue Ridge and Beyond Symposium XI, Roanoke, Virginia

2012, Donald Gaylord, Alison Bell and Erika Vaughn, Site Dating and Ceramic Use Wear: Factors Contributing to Variation. Poster presented at the Society for American Archaeology meeting, Memphis, Tennessee

2012, Recent Findings: Non-Elite Euro-Virginians' Material Record and Morven's Site D. Invited presenter/panelist. Morven Farm, University of Virginia, Charlottesville

2012, Donald Gaylord, Erika Vaughn and Alison Bell, Quantifying Use Wear on Early 19th-Century Refined Earthenwares: Implications for Interpreting Mean Ceramic Dates and Variability in Consumer Behavior. Paper presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology meeting, Baltimore, Maryland

2010, Digging Deeper at Morven: Recent Archaeological Investigations, invited speaker/panelist. Morven Farm, University of Virginia, Charlottesville

2010, Alison Bell, Alexandra Massey, and Karen Y. Smith, Material Culture and Social Liminality: Variation in Ceramic Consumption among Monticello Residents. Poster presented at the Society for American Archaeology meeting. Poster session organized by Alison Bell and Sara Bon-Harper, Site Structure and Consumption: Exploring Social Dimensions of Artifact Variation at Monticello Plantation, St. Louis, Missouri.

2008, Alison Bell and Elisa Turner, Autonomy and Structure: Exploring Personal and Institutional Power at Longdale Mining Community. Presented to the Upper James River Chapter of the Archaeological Society of Virginia, Lexington

2008, Alison Bell and Parker Wolf, Memorialization and Living History in Chartering the Nation: Perspectives on the Frontier Culture Museum in Staunton, Virginia. Presented at the Southern Anthropological Society meetings, Staunton, Virginia

2005, Anthropological Perspectives on Autism in the United States: Authority, Dogma, and “Controlling Processes.” Presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings, Washington, D.C..

2005, Laura J. Galke and Alison Bell, Contest and Control in a Corporate Village: Anthropological Perspectives on the Praxis of Labor and Management in a Nineteenth-Century Virginia Iron-Mining Community. Presented at the American Anthropological Association meetings, Washington D.C..

2005, Alison Bell and Laura J. Galke, Traces of Negotiation: Archaeological, Archival and Oral Historical Investigations into the Dynamics of Labor and Management at the Longdale Mining Complex, c. 1827-1911. Presented at the Shenandoah Valley Regional Studies Seminar, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia

2004, Alison Bell and Laura J. Galke with Joe Franzen and Jill Waity, Forging Quality Iron, Forging a Quality of Life: Strategies of Company Agents and of Laborers in the Longdale Iron Mining Community of Western Virginia. Invited lecture, Council of Virginia Archaeologists’ meeting, Lexington

2004, Alison Bell and Laura J. Galke, Conspicuous Consumption Evident Restraint: Material Culture and Social Dynamics at Longdale: a 19th-Century Iron-Mining Community in Alleghany County, Virginia. Presented at the Uplands Symposium, James Madison University, Harrisonburg

2004, Laura J. Galke and Alison Bell, The Corporate Mine Set: Material Culture and Social Dynamics within the Longdale Iron Mining Community in Alleghany County, Virginia. Presented at the Mid-Atlantic Archaeological Conference, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware

2004, Alison Bell and Laura J. Galke, Consumption in a Company Town: Conspicuous Display, Restraint, and Pleasure in a Nineteenth-Century Virginia Iron-Mining Community. Presented at the Society for American Archaeology meeting, Montreal, Canada

2003, Articulations of Ceramic Use and Socio-Economic Circumstance: Investigations of Late 18th-century Virginia Sites using the Digital Archaeological Archive of Chesapeake Slavery. Presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology meeting, Providence, Rhode Island

2003, Assessing Ceramic Variability on African- and European-American Historic Sites Using the Digital Archaeological Archive of Chesapeake Slavery: Methodological and Substantive Considerations, presented at the Mid-Atlantic Archaeological Conference, Virginia Beach, Virginia

2003, “Clines are Everywhere”: An 18th-Century Virginia Domestic Site as a Moment in the Formation of Capitalist Cultural and Socio-Economic Systems, presented at the Society for American Archaeology meetings, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

2002, *In Medias Res*: An Early Eighteenth-Century Chesapeake Domestic Site in Long-Term Material and Socio-Economic Context. Presented at the Council for Northeastern Historical Archaeology meeting, Wilmington, Delaware

2001, Emulation and Social Identity: Perspectives from Historic Virginia. Presented at the Society for American Archaeology meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana

2001, “The Strong Prejudice of Propinquity”: Inheritance Patterns and Women’s Empowerment in 19th-Century Virginia.” Presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology meeting, Long Beach, California

2001, Introduction to Historic Ceramics, invited speaker, Cooperstown Graduate Program, Cooperstown, New York

2000, Consumption and Production in Historic Virginia. Invited speaker, Cooperstown Graduate Program, Cooperstown

1999, Contextualizing Post-Colonial “Conspicuous Consumption.” Presented at the American Anthropological Association meeting, Chicago, Illinois

1999, Material Culture on the Virginia Piedmont Frontier: Archaeological and Archival Comparisons with Tidewater Settlements. Presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology meeting. Derek Wheeler and Alison Bell organizers of session, Material Life and Social Relations in Eastern Frontier Settlements, Salt Lake City, Utah

1999, Invited panelist in workshop Communication and Consultation: Working toward an Informed Archaeology, sponsored by the Student Affairs Committee. Society for American Archaeology meeting, Chicago, Illinois

1998, “The Nature of Trophy”: Conspicuous Consumption and Plantation Architecture in Early Virginia, presented at the Eleventh Annual Symposium on Architectural History sponsored by the Department of Architectural History and the Institute for Public History, University of Virginia, Charlottesville

1998, Space and Status, Time and Form: Issues from Recent Investigations of Historic Virginia Sites, presented at the Society for American Archaeology meeting, Seattle, Washington

1997, *Folk Housing Revisited: The Search for Piedmont Virginia's Colonials*, presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology meeting, Corpus Christi, Texas

1997, Archaeology and Local Memory: Examples from Louisa County, Virginia, invited speaker, Hereford College, University of Virginia, Charlottesville

1996, On Virginia's Colonial Piedmont: Archaeological Investigations in Louisa County, Virginia, presented at the Archaeology Society of Virginia meeting, Ashland, Virginia

1996, Alison Bell and James Deetz, Houses as Cultural Chronicles: Anthropological Approaches to Buildings, presented to the University of Virginia's Society of Architectural Historians, Charlottesville

1994, Maria Franklin and Alison Bell: On the Medieval Side of the Georgian Threshold: Excavations of an Eighteenth-Century Post Building at Flowerdew Hundred, Virginia, presented at the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference, Ocean City, Maryland

1994, Logics of the Dead: Shapes, Spaces and Structures at Flowerdew Hundred's Site 98, presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology Conference, Washington, D.C.

1993, "Widows, Free Sisters, and 'Independent Girls'": Female Workers in England, 1600 – 1920, presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia

1993, “The Ruins, The Lost Cities, and The Bones”: Constructing Historical Archaeological Sites as Texts, presented at the Cultural Bodies/Cultural Texts Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference, University of Virginia, Charlottesville

1991, African-American Patterns of Adaptation to Plantation Life in the New World, presented at the Society for Historical Archaeology Conference, Kingston, Jamaica

PUBLICATIONS

In Preparation, *The Vital Dead: Making Meaning, Community, and Personhood through Cemeteries*. Book manuscript under advance contract with the University of Tennessee Press

In Press, Alison Bell, Donald Gaylord, and Kristin Sharman. "All My Little Might of Money": Signaling, Structure, and Mobility among the Middling in 19th-century Virginia and Kentucky. *Historical Archaeology*

2017, Charleston: An Archaeology of Life in a Coastal Community, Martha A. Zierden and Elizabeth J. Reitz. *Journal of Southern History* 83(4):932-933 (Book Review)

2014, Laura Voisin George and Alison Bell, A Good Life: Material Strategies of Virginia Tenant Farmers, 1775-1825. In *Instances of Prehistoric and Historic Archaeology in the Mountainous Areas of the Eastern United States: Papers from Uplands Archaeology in the East Symposium XI*, Clarence R. Geier, editor. James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia

2008, On the Politics and Possibilities for Operationalizing Vindicationist Historical Archaeologies. *Historical Archaeology* 42(2):138-146 (Invited commentary)

2008, Moment and Metaphor: Reflections on Ivor Noël Hume's Address at the 2007 Society for Historical Archaeology Meetings. *The San Diego State University Occasional Archaeological Papers Vol. 2*, pp. 26-30 (Invited commentary)

2005, White Ethnogenesis and Gradual Capitalism: Perspectives from Colonial Archaeological Sites in the Chesapeake. *American Anthropologist* 107(3):446-460

2004, *Dropped and Fired: Archaeological Patterns of Militaria from Two Civil War Battles, Manassas National Battlefield Park, Manassas, Virginia*, Matthew B. Reeves (Occasional Report Series of the Regional Archaeology Program, National Capital Region, National Park Service, 2001). *Historical Archaeology* 38(4):115-116 (Book review)

2003, *Encyclopedia of Historical Archaeology*, edited by Charles Orser (Routledge, 2002). *Historical Archaeology* 37(4):115-117 (Book review)

2002, Emulation and Empowerment: Material, Social and Economic Dynamics in Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Virginia. *International Journal of Historical Archaeology* 6(4):253-298

2000, Culture of Food Consumption. *Anthropology News* 41(4):22

2000, Post-Colonial Conspicuous Consumption. *Anthropology News* 41(3):17-18

1996, Historic Sites Archaeology in Louisa County: Recent Investigations, *Louisa County Historical Magazine* 27(2): 57-70

1995, James Deetz and Alison Bell, *Folk Housing Revisited*, *Louisa County Historical Magazine*, 26(2):59-71

1995, Widows, 'Free Sisters,' and 'Independent Girls': Historic Models and an Archaeology of Post-Medieval English Gender Systems, *The Written and the Wrought: Complementary Sources in Historical Anthropology - Essays in Honor of James Deetz*, eds. Mary Ellin D'Agostino, et al. University of California at Berkeley's Kroeber Anthropological Society Papers 79 (1995):17-32