

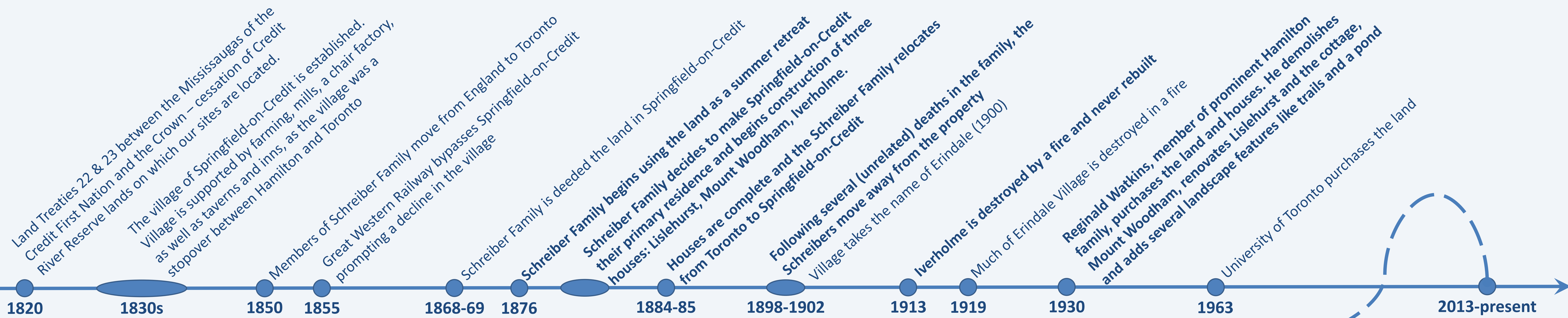


The Schreiber Wood Project: Facilitating Student Research on Field School Collections

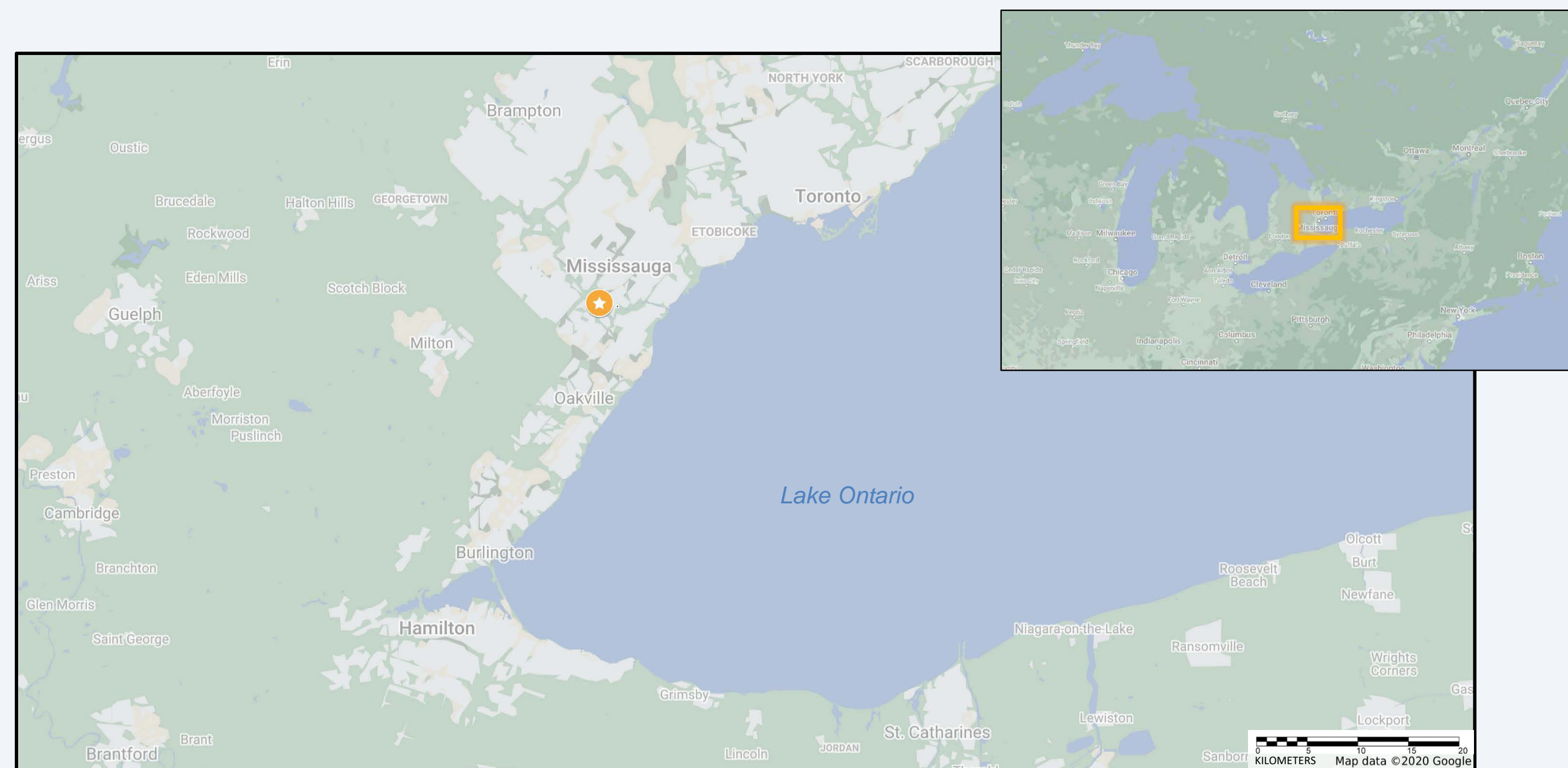
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We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.



The Schreiber Wood Project Cultural Landscape



The Schreiber Wood Project (SWP) investigates a cultural landscape that includes the historical (late 1800s) residences of the Schreiber Family:

- Lislehurst (UTM Principle's House)
- Mount Woodham (AjGw-534 ?)
- Iverholme (AjGw-535)
- Cottage (UTM Artist's Cottage / Forensics Crime Scene House)

The timeline above highlights some important dates relevant to the Schreiber's occupation of this landscape.

Today, the sites are located in the northwest corner of the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) campus, in the Erindale neighborhood (formerly known as Springfield-on-Credit and Erindale Village) of the City of Mississauga, Ontario, Canada.

Archaeological Excavation of Schreiber Wood Project Sites

- 2013-present: Excavations conducted in the context of the UTM Anthropology Archaeological Field School, under direction of Dr. Michael Brand
 - Shovel test pits, controlled excavation, and surface collection at two primary sites (AjGw-535 and AjGw-534) as well as other localities
 - Artifact processing and cataloging done by students in the Lab during the Fall academic semester
- Artifact disposition at end of field school: washed, catalogued, labeled, artifacts bagged in bulk by context (Unit, Layer/Level) and stored by year

Reading the Collections For Research

GOAL: Create an intuitive organizational scheme that...

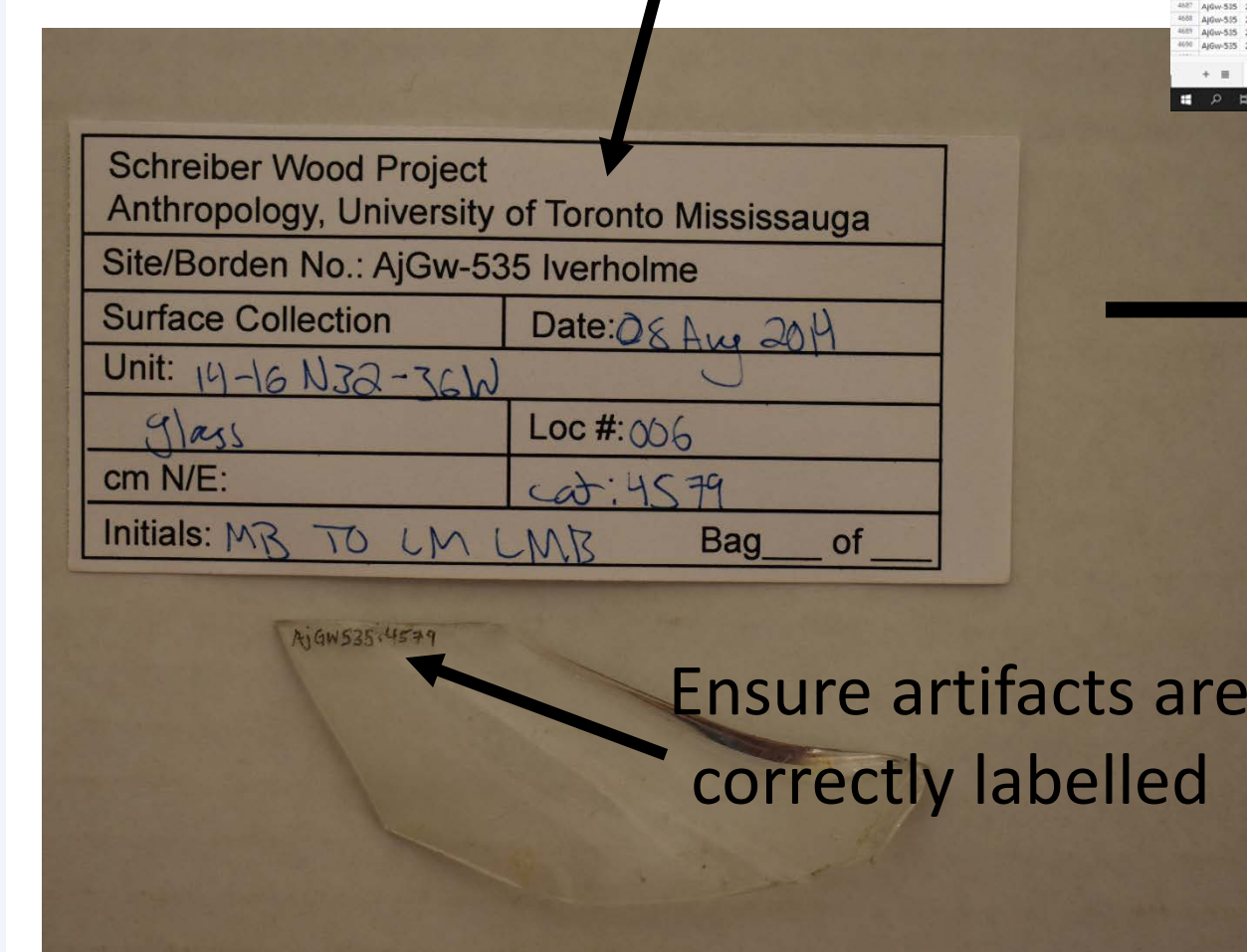
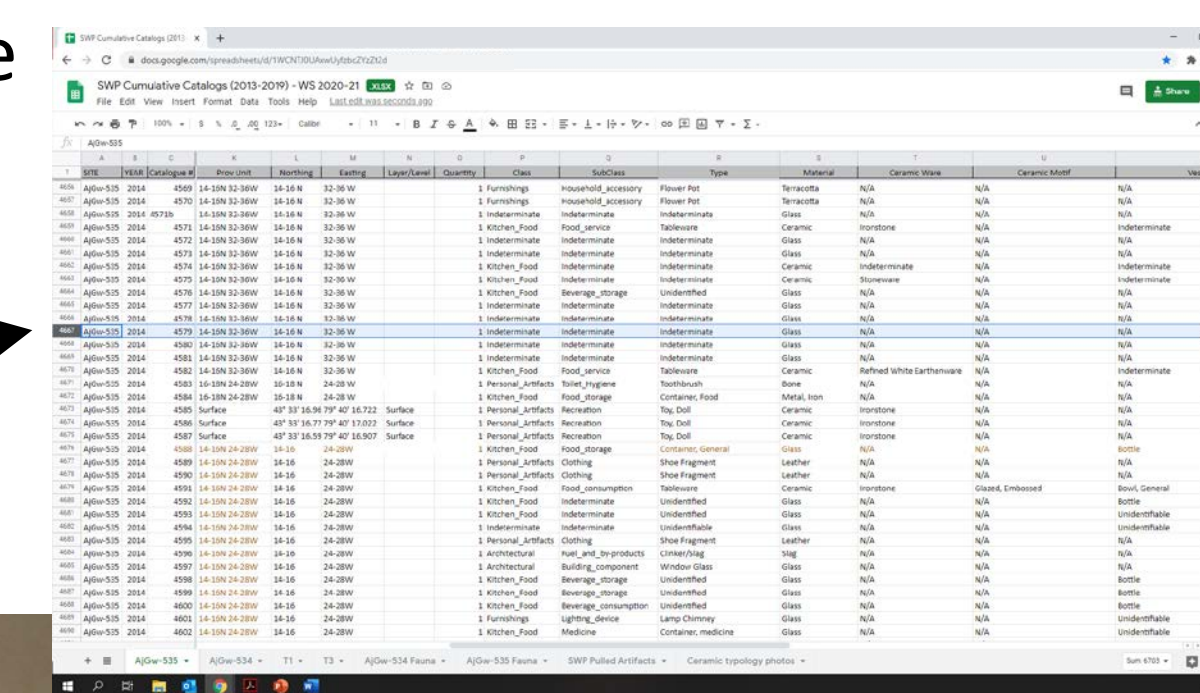
- (1) enables easy retrieval and reintegration of artifacts to facilitate research projects.
- (2) corresponds to an accurate electronic catalogue, but makes sense even in the absence of that catalogue.
- (3) does not inhibit future reorganizations in response to changing curatorial needs.

- Collection comprises over 17,000 glass, metal, ceramic and misc. artifacts, the vast majority from AjGw-535 and AjGw-534
- Collection was organized over the course of 2200 hours of student work in the context of a university work-study program from 2018-2020

The following work was undertaken in both the DIGITAL CATALOGUE and the PHYSICAL COLLECTIONS:

Use of cloud-based software (Google Sheets) enabled multiple people to be working on the live catalogue at the same time

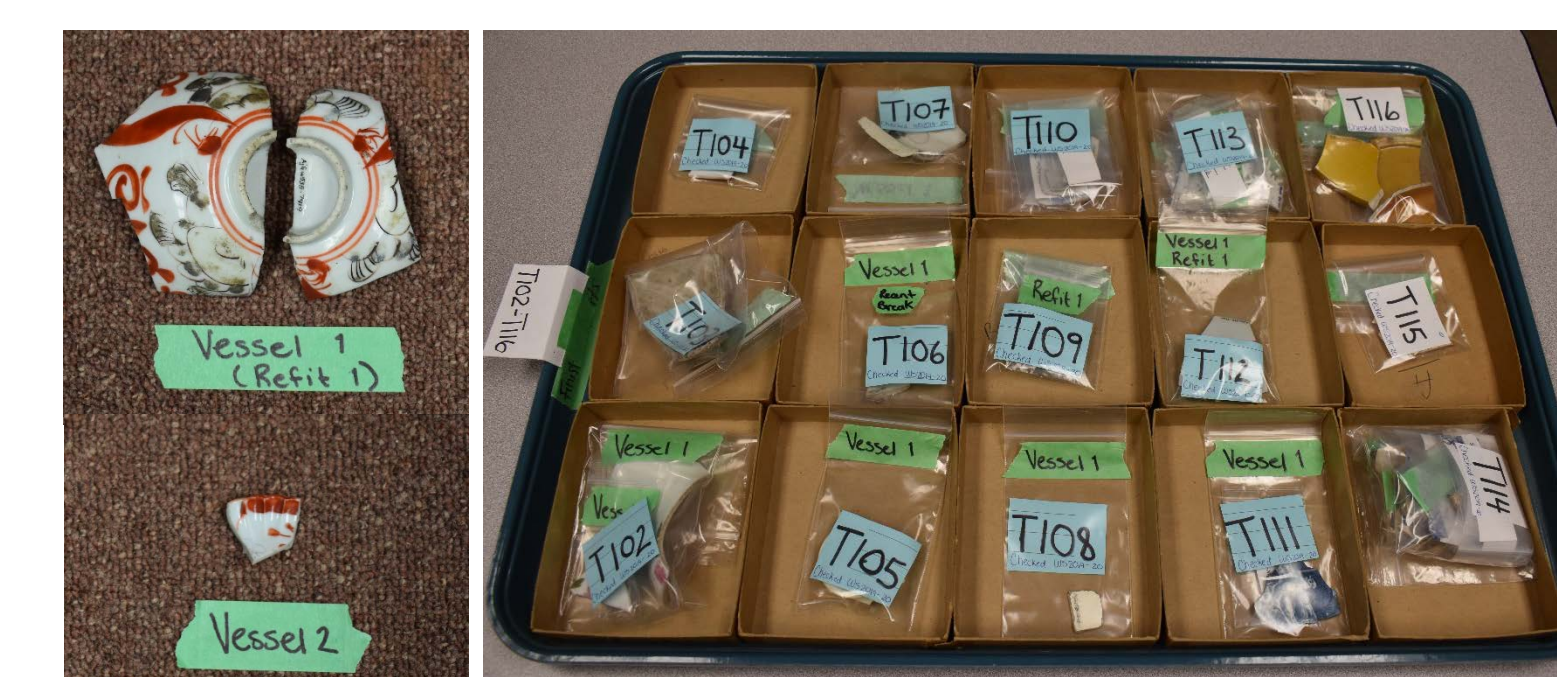
Verify the accuracy of the catalogue against physical collection



Ensure artifacts are correctly labelled

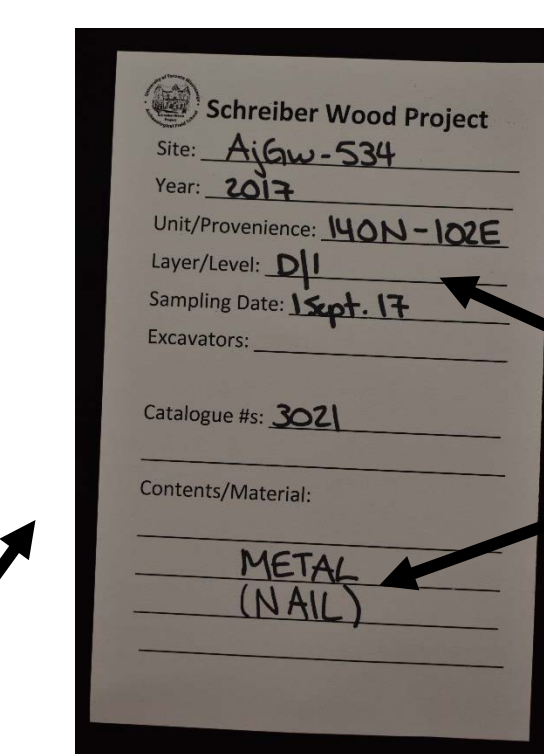
Artifacts rehoused individually...

...and, in the case of vessel ceramics, were classified and sorted by **Decorative Type**, then bagged by **Vessel** (based on refits)



...then organized to be stored according to the following hierarchy:

- Material Type
- Catalogue Number
- Context



Artifacts can be easily retrieved by **CONTEXT** or **MATERIAL** type, based on project demands

We chose this organizational scheme (over one that prioritized catalog number order) because of

- (1) standard material and typological divisions within the practice of historical archaeology, and
- (2) foreseeing that the type of short-term student projects undertaken would likely fall entirely within one of those divisions.

Performing that material-based (or type-based, in the case of ceramic vessels) triage at the main organizational level makes it easier to pull research assemblages and re-integrate them once the project is finished.

See some of the research that has been done with these collections in the other Schreiber Wood Project posters in this session!

TIMELINE SOURCES

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