Elena Teeter ’23 - Anthropology and Archaeology Double Major
Field and Academic Supervisor: Astrid Lindenlauf
Fieldwork Site: Bryn Mawr College's Ella Riegel Memorial Collection

**PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN ARCHAEOLOGY**

**INTRODUCTION**
- While I interacted with several forms of artifacts, my project centered on pottery sherds from the archaeological site of Naukratis in Egypt.
- I have participated in excavations but I also wanted to learn about what happens to artifacts after they leave an archaeological site. I am also a ceramicist so it was the perfect project!

**NAUKRATIS**
- Ancient Greek merchant colony in Egypt that was discovered in 1884 by the archaeologist Flinders Petrie.
- Herodotus wrote that Naukratis became a Greek settlement in the 6th century BCE and was officially given to the Greeks by the Pharaoh, Amasis II, in 570 BCE.
- More recent survey and excavations (beginning in the 70's) were conducted by William Coulson and Albert Leonard.
- Excavations have lead to the discovery that there was a Greek presence earlier than Herodotus claimed (7th century BCE).
- A variety of artifacts types (from ceramics to geological samples) now belong to Bryn Mawr as part of a study collection.

**GOALS**
- Acquire factual knowledge about the archaeological material held in the Ella Riegel Collection.
- Learn how to document archaeological material.
- Learn the basics principles of preservation of cultural heritage.

**MY TASKS**
- Photography
- Photo editing (and naming)
- Measurements
- Munsell readings
- Rehousing objects
- Label scanning
- Research for the database
- Final paper on reuse and repair of ceramics in antiquity.

**WHAT I LEARNED**
- Taking proper photos of sherds.
- Using Adobe Bridge and Camera Raw to edit photos.
- Naming the photos for EmbARK.
- Measuring sherds including rim diameters.
- Taking Munsell readings of fired pottery.
- Using the overhead book scanner.
- General technology troubleshooting.
- How to store sherds.
- What materials to use in a collections setting to house objects.
- How to add accession numbers to artifacts.
- General pottery terms (ie fine ware vs coarse ware).

**FINAL PAPER**
- Topic: Reuse and repair conducted in antiquity.
- I used the object biography format to discuss different sherds that showed evidence of being reused or repaired rather than being discarded after being broken.
- To collect evidence I went through boxes of Naukratis pottery sherds looking for signs of reuse and repair.
- One of the most obvious signs of repairs are drill holes (after being fired).
- Unusual wear patterns (rounded edges and rough surfaces) indicate reuse.

**ASK ME ABOUT THESE TERMS!**
- Accession Number
- Sherd
- TriArte
- Fabric
- Munsell
- EmBARK

**ACQUIRE FACTUAL KNOWLEDGE**
- Learn about the archaeological material held in the Ella Riegel Collection.

**LEARN HOW TO DOCUMENT**
- Learn the basics principles of preservation of cultural heritage.

**LEARN THE BASICS PRINCIPLES**
- Learn how to document archaeological material.