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# Archaeology in Fiction: The Impact of Perception

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ARCHAEOLOGY IN FICTION:  
THE IMPACT OF PERCEPTION

A Thesis

Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies and Research

in Partial Fulfillment of the

Requirements for the Degree

Masters of Arts

Laura Marie Adams

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December 2011

Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
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Title: Archaeology in Fiction: The Impact of Perception

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This study examines the influence that archaeological-fiction has on the general public's perception of archaeology by examining how, if at all, that perspective is influenced. The analysis will examine meaning in the representations of archaeology in contemporary popular culture. This project proposes that the role of these fictional accounts is an important avenue toward public archaeology. The meanings of these representations accurately portrayed or not, have influences over the general public that are worth investigation.

Through this research, archaeologists can move toward a clearer understanding of the impact archaeological-fiction has and how archaeologists can communicate more productively with the general public. This project will examine the role of archaeology in the world of fiction, the influence this role has on culture, and why this role is important to the field of archaeology.