Monongahela Bone Technology: A Zooarchaeological Approach to Identity

Lisa M. Dugas
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
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Lisa M. Dugas
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
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Indiana University of Pennsylvania
School of Graduate Studies and Research
Department of Anthropology

We hereby approve the thesis of

Lisa M. Dugas

Candidate for the degree of Master of Arts

Sarah W. Neusius, Ph. D., RPA,
Professor of Archaeology, Advisor
Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Beverly A. Chiarulli, Ph. D., RPA
Professor of Archaeology,
Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Sandra L. Olsen, Ph. D.
Curator and Head of Section of Anthropology,
Carnegie Museum of Natural History

Benjamin Resnick, M.A., RPA
Cultural Resources Group Manager,
GAI Consultants, Inc.

ACCEPTED
Timothy P. Mack, Ph.D.
Dean
School of Graduate Studies and Research
Title: Monongahela Bone Technology: A Zooarchaeological Approach to Identity

Author: Lisa M. Dugas

Thesis Chair: Sarah W. Neusius, Ph. D., RPA

Thesis Committee: Beverly A. Chiarulli, Ph. D., RPA

Sandra L. Olsen, Ph. D.

Benjamin Resnick, M.A., RPA

ABSTRACT

This research addresses two large gaps in the archaeological record. The first involves the lack of detailed analysis for bone artifacts from Late Prehistoric Monongahela sites in southwestern Pennsylvania. The second concerns evaluating evidence for social identity within Middle Monongahela phases in southwestern Pennsylvania. This research provides a systematic and scholarly approach addressing both issues. This study examines bone artifacts for evidence of ethnic attributes and compares inter-site distribution of bone artifacts with shared stylistic qualities in order to assess social identity among Middle Monongahela phases.