

Cara Roure Johnson, Ph.D.

Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut

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Curriculum Vitae

Professional Preparation:

University of Connecticut, Department of Anthropology, B.A., 1998

University of Connecticut, Department of Anthropology, M.A., 2002

University of Connecticut, Department of Anthropology, Ph.D., 2007.

Current Position:

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut.

Dissertation Title: Middle Pleistocene Archaeology and Paleohabitats of the Lacustrine Facies, Kapthurin Formation, Kenya.

Publications:

Johnson, C. Roure; Ashley, G.M.; de Wet, Carol B.; Dvoretzky, R.; Park, L.; Hover, V.C.;

McBrearty, S.A. (2009) Tufa as record of perennial freshwater in semi-arid rift basin, Kapthurin Formation, Central Kenya. *Sedimentology* 56: 1115-1137.

Johnson, C. Roure (2009) Book Review: *First Africans: African Archaeology From the Earliest Toolmakers to Most Recent Foragers* by Lawrence Barham & Peter Mitchell, 2008, Cambridge University Press. *African Studies Review* 54(2).

Johnson, C. R., & McBrearty, S. (*in press*) 500,000 year old blades from the Kapthurin Formation, Kenya. *Journal of Human Evolution*.

Abstracts Published:

Ashley, G.M., Goman, M.F., Park, L.E., Owen, R.B., **Johnson**, C.R. (2007) Groundwater-Fed Wetlands As An Archive Of Milankovitch And Millennial-Scale Climate Variability In Arid East Africa. Geological Society of America *Abstracts with Programs* 39: 604.

Roure, C.A. McBrearty, S.A. (*in press*) Paleoenvironments and archaeological traces in the Early Middle Pleistocene of the Kapthurin Formation, Kenya. *Nyame Akuma*.

Ashley, G.M.; Hover, V. C.; Driese, S.G.; **Roure**, C.A., McBrearty, S.; Owen, R.B.; Renaut, R.W. (2006) A changing landscape in the semi-arid tropics: insights from paleosols, East Africa Rift, Kenya. Geological Society of America *Abstracts with Programs* 38(7): 531.

Roure, C.A.; McBrearty, S.A. (2006) Paleoenvironments and archaeological traces in the Early Middle Pleistocene of the Kapthurin Formation, Kenya. *Paleoanthropology* 4:A40
Given at the Annual Proceedings of the Paleoanthropology Society

Ashley, G.M.; **Roure**, C.A.; de Wet, C.B.; Hover, V.C. (2004) A tufa "event" in an arid rift valley (Kenya); climate or tectonics? Geological Society of America *Abstracts with Programs* 36:250

Papers and Colloquia Presented:

2009. *Cutting Edge: A New Date for the Earliest Blade Technology*. With Sally McBrearty, For Norwalk Archaeology Club. Norwalk, CT, 8 October.

- Cutting Edge: A New Date for the Earliest Blade Technology*. With Sally McBrearty. Paleanthropology Society, Annual Meetings, Chicago, 1 April.
2006. *Paleoenvironments and archaeological traces in the Early Middle Pleistocene of the Kapthurin Formation, Kenya*. With Sally McBrearty. Society for Africanist Archaeologists, Calgary, 23 June.
2006. *Paleoenvironments and archaeological traces in the Early Middle Pleistocene of the Kapthurin Formation, Kenya*. With Sally McBrearty. Annual Proceedings of the Paleanthropology Society, 25 April
2006. *Paleoenvironments and archaeological traces in the Early Middle Pleistocene of the Kapthurin Formation, Kenya*. With Sally McBrearty. Informal colloquia, Old World Prehistory Program, University of Connecticut, 14 April
2005. *A Middle Pleistocene Landscape Archaeology Project in the Kapthurin Formation, Kenya*. Invited Lecturer, Connecticut Alpha Delta Kappa Chapter, 13 April
2004. *A Middle Pleistocene Landscape Archaeology Project in the Kapthurin Formation, Kenya*. New England Biological Anthropology Symposium, Yale University, 21 February
2004. *A Middle Pleistocene Landscape Archaeology Project in the Kapthurin Formation, Kenya*. Informal Colloquia, Old World Prehistory Program, University of Connecticut, 12 February
2004. *Middle Pleistocene Landscape Archaeology in the Kapthurin Formation, Kenya*. Invited address, Connecticut Natural History Museum, 14 November
2003. *Middle Pleistocene Landscape Archaeology in the Kapthurin Formation, Kenya*. Informal Colloquia, Old World Prehistory Program, University of Connecticut, 30 April
1997. *Non-uniform sedimentation on the Connecticut River floodplain; an example from the Burnham-Sheppard Site, South Windsor, Connecticut*. Contributor, Seminar on Geoarchaeology Department of Geology & Geophysics, University of Connecticut.

Coverage in the Popular Media:

2009. *Oldest Stone Blades Uncovered*. By Ann Gibbons on *ScienceNOW Daily News* (Science Magazine), 2 April 2009.
<http://sciencenow.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/2009/402/2>
2009. *Steinteknologi enda elder*. By Ingrid Spilde on *forskning.no* an internet newspaper with news from the Norwegian and international research, 6 April 2009.
<http://www.forskning.no/artikler/2009/april/216480>.
2009. *Oldest Stone Blades*. KIJK Magazine, Netherlands. Nr. 6 Juni 2009.
2009. *Oldest Stone Blades*. *Archaeology Magazine* 62 (4):11 (July/August, 2009)
2009. *Oldest Stone Blades*. *La Recherche*, France. June, 2009.

External Funding:

2004. National Science Foundation. *A Middle Pleistocene Landscape Archaeology Project in the Kapthurin formation, Kenya*. Award \$11,994.00
2003. Bill Bishop Memorial Trust. *Paleoenvironmental modeling of the Kapthurin Formation, Baringo, Kenya and its application to hominid evolution*. Award £100.

Awards:

2004. Edward Victor Gant Scholarship for outstanding academic performance and achievement, University of Connecticut. Award \$1500.00

2003. Nugget Research Award. Department of Geology and Geophysics, University of Connecticut. *Paleoenvironmental modeling of the Kapthurin Formation, Baringo, Kenya and its application to hominid evolution*. Award \$750.

Internal Funding:

2006. Pre-doctoral Fellowship, Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut, Fall Semester, Award \$3000.00
2006. Pre-doctoral Fellowship, Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut, Spring Semester, Award \$7000.00
2005. Pre-doctoral Fellowship, Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut, Award \$6000.00
2004. Pre-doctoral Fellowship. Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut. , Award \$5000.00.
2003. Summer Fellowship. Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut: *"Paleoenvironmental modeling of the Kapthurin Formation, Baringo, Kenya and its application to hominid evolution"* Award \$3229.00.
2001. Summer Fellowship. Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut: *"Summer of Intensive Study in African Middle Stone Age & Landscape Archaeology"* Also funded the Purchase of ArcView GIS, Award \$2303.50.
2000. Summer Fellowship. Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut: *"La Combette: Excavations at a Paleolithic Rockshelter"*. Award: \$900.00.

Full Courses Taught at the Undergraduate Level:

All courses taught in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Connecticut unless otherwise specified.

2009. "Paleoanthropology" Fall Semester (19 Students)
 "Human Forensic Osteology," Summer Session, Professional Science Masters Program, Center for Applied Genetics and Technology, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, University of Connecticut, May Semester (9 Students)
 "Introduction to Anthropology" Spring Semester (150 Students)
2008. "African Prehistory" Fall Semester (15 Students)
 "Human Forensic Osteology," Intersession & Summer Session, Professional Science Masters Program, Center for Applied Genetics and Technology, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, University of Connecticut, May Semester (18 Students)
 "Lithic Technology" Spring Semester (12 Students)
 "Social Anthropology" Spring Semester (41 Students)
2007. "Human Origins," Fall Semester, University of Rhode Island (23 Students)
 "Human Osteology" Fall Semester (18 Students)
 "Human Evolution" Spring Semester (100 Students)
 "Human Forensic Osteology," Intersession & Summer Session, Professional Science Masters Program, Center for Applied Genetics and Technology, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, University of Connecticut (18 Students)
 "Other People's Worlds," writing intensive course, Summer Session (14 Students)
2006. "Introduction to Anthropology" Fall Semester (235 Students)
 "Introduction to Anthropology" Intensive Summer Session (6 Students)

- “Human Forensic Osteology,” Professional Science Masters Program, Center for Applied Genetics and Technology, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, University of Connecticut (18 Students)
2002. “Social Anthropology,” writing intensive course, Fall semester (20 Students)

Teaching Assistantships:

2008. Teaching Assistant for “Human Evolution”
2006. Teaching Assistant for “Human Evolution”
2005. Teaching Assistant for “Other People’s Worlds”
2004. Teaching Assistant for “Old World Prehistory,” “Introduction to Anthropology,” honors section, & “Human Evolution”
- 1999-2003. Teaching Assistant for “Introduction to Anthropology,” “Human Evolution,” “Human Osteology,” and “Social Anthropology”

Field Projects & Excavation Experience:

2008. **“Middle Pleistocene Human and Chimpanzee Adaptations”**
Directed by Sally McBrearty and funded through the Wenner Gren Foundation. Fossils of Pan and Homo occur in spatially contiguous sites within in the same stratigraphic interval of the Middle Pleistocene Kapthurin Formation. Previous work has been done to establish the paleohabitat at Kapthurin Formation Loc. 99, where fossils of Pan were recovered. The goals of this project include the reconstruction the paleohabitat at nearby Loc. 3 and JKS, where fossil traces of Homo have been found. This information will be compared with the existing data for Loc. 99 in order to determine whether different microhabitats and resources were utilized by Middle Pleistocene Pan and Homo in this region of East Africa. Methods included excavation, examination of the associated fossil fauna, and the analysis of the carbon isotopic content of fossil soils. During the five week field season, I was in charge of detailed geological and topographic mapping. I also assisted McBrearty in the excavation and documentation geological trenches, and participated in daily fossil recovery.
2006. **“First fossil chimpanzee”**
Directed by Sally McBrearty and funded through NSF. This project seeks to further describe the paleoenvironment at Loc. 99, where the first fossils of chimpanzee (Pan) were discovered. Methods included excavation of geological trenches, detailed mapping of topography and geology, and further fossil recovery. Examination of the associated fossil fauna was also done to establish the habitat and dietary preferences of Pan. The fossils of Pan are derived from the same time interval and general vicinity as fossils of Homo and several archaeological localities. My primary responsibility on this project was to correlate Loc. 99 with the paleoenvironmental reconstruction of this portion of the member done as part of my dissertation work as well as participating in daily fossil recovery activities.
2005. **“Middle Pleistocene Archaeology and Paleohabitats of the Lacustrine Facies, Kapthurin Formation, Kenya.”**
Directed by Johnson (Dissertation Research) and funded by a NSF doctoral dissertation improvement grant and Uconn pre-doctoral fellowship. This project was two-fold in focus. First, this project sought to continue identifying microhabitat and modeling paleoenvironmental change during a

target interval from ~509-550 ka (Middle Pleistocene) in the Middle Silts and Gravels Member of the Kapthurin Formation, Kenya. Second, a program of excavation was undertaken to understand the nature of the archaeological record in the target interval and its distribution with relation to paleohabitat. During a three month field season, Johnson directed the excavation and mapping at three archeological sites: GnJh-23, GnJh-50 and continued excavation at GnJh-42. These sites are associated with freshwater spring and saline lake paleohabitats. Geological exploration continued with the excavation and documentation of geological trenches. Additional work was carried out on recovered artifacts and fauna at the National Museum of Kenya, Nairobi.

2005. **Field Archaeologist**

Heritage Consultants, L.L.C. Cultural Resource Management.

Acted as a field archaeologist for CRM projects & carried out documentary research.

2004. **"Paleoenvironmental modeling of the Kapthurin Formation, Baringo, Kenya and its application to hominid evolution."**

Joint project with Gail Ashley, Rutgers University; Victoria Hover of Louisiana State University, and Sally McBrearty of the University of Connecticut.

Funded by the Departments of Anthropology and Geology and the Bill Bishop Memorial Trust.

Project seeks to identify microhabitats and paleoenvironmental change during a target interval from ~509-550 ka (Middle Pleistocene) in the Middle Silts and Gravels Member of the Kapthurin Formation, Kenya.

During a four week field season, a series of geological trenches were excavated in a northeast-southwest transect across the formation and precisely documented. Samples were taken for analysis and geological reconnaissance continued. Data from trenches will be analyzed to create a history of microhabitat and paleoenvironmental change in this part of the formation during the target interval.

2002-2004. **"A landscape approach to archaeological variability at the Acheulian to MSA transition in the Kapthurin Formation, Kenya."**

Directed by Sally McBrearty and funded by NSF.

This project endeavors understand hominid adaptive changes in the Middle Pleistocene of East Africa. It is focused on comparing Acheulian and MSA ranging patterns and habitat preferences within the Kapthurin Formation. Over three field seasons, seven weeks in summer of 2002, eight weeks in Spring of 2003, and nine weeks in Summer of 2004 field work consisted of paleontological and archaeological survey, extensive collection of detailed geological information, preliminary mapping, and excavation at GnJh-63, GnJh-41, GnJh-23, GnJh-42 and Location 23.

2002. **Field Archaeologist**

Keegan's Associates, L.L.C., Cultural Resource Management.

Excavator for various CRM projects.

2000. **"Excavations of a Mousterian Rockshelter at La Combette à Bonnieux (Vaucluse, France)."**

Directed by Pierre-Jean Texier, Chargé de recherch  CRA-CNRS, ERA 28 *Pr histoire et Technologie*.

Excavations were conducted at a Middle Paleolithic hunting stand dating to >57 Ka. Five weeks were spent in excavation as well as the cleaning and conservation of artifacts.

1999-Present

Volunteer

Connecticut Office of State Archaeology, Nicholas Bellantoni, State Archaeologist.

Participation in excavation & identification of human remains at local sites such as exhumation of Samuel & Martha Huntington, Norwich, CT and the identification and recovery of disturbed human remains at the Mashantucket Pequot Cemetery, Mason's Island, CT.

1996.

"Test Excavations at Camp Rowland, Camp Hartell & Stone's Ranch"

Directed by Nicholas Bellantoni & David George.

In a CRM project under contract from the Connecticut National Guard, three CNG bases were surveyed to assess archaeological sensitivity.

Other Service:

2009.

Publisher's Review. Kottak, C.P. (2009) *Anthropology: The Exploration of Human Diversity*, 13th edition. Boston: McGraw Hill Publishers. (\$300.00 Honorarium)
Organizer of Old World Archaeology Colloquium Series.

Editorial review board for Pearson/Prentice Hall on the Pearson Biological Anthropology Lab

Community Outreach:

2003 – 2008.

Loberer Primary School, Marigat, Kenya. Joint project with Sally McBrearty, to supply books and basic supplies to the local primary school. In an expansion of the project during 2006 we raised funds to build a one room school house for the pre-school.

2000 – 2006.

Rectory School, Pomfret, Connecticut. Invited lecturer on archaeology and human evolution. Participation in experiential learning program.

Teaching Development:

EDCI 326(01). Fundamentals of Teaching and Learning, One semester course. With the Institute for Teaching and Learning. Spring 2007.

EDCI 326(02). Reflections on Teaching Practices, Semester long seminar. With the Institute for Teaching and Learning. Fall 2007.

Looking Ahead: Designing Your Next W Course, Seminar. Hosted by the University Writing Center. Spring 2007.

Responding to (and Grading) Student Writing, Seminar. Hosted by the University Writing Center. Spring 2006

Teaching Assistant Workshop. Institute for Teaching and Learning. Fall 1999.

Webpage:

<http://www.anth.uconn.edu/faculty/croure/index.htm>

Memberships:

Paleoanthropology Society

British Institute of East Africa

American Association of Physical Anthropologists

Society of African Archaeologists
Phi Beta Kappa
Lambda Alpha