



The Office of the State Archaeologist

The mission of the Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) is to develop, disseminate, and preserve knowledge of Iowa's human past through Midwestern and Plains archaeological research, scientific discovery, public stewardship, service, and education.



Archaeologists from OSA have been an integral part of the archaeological work and research at Toolesboro.

OSA's **Bioarcheology Program** is responsible for the proper treatment of ancient human remains and burial sites (at least 150 years old) in Iowa. The human remains from Toolesboro were transferred from the Putnam Museum to OSA in 2001 for study and reburial by the Bioarcheology Program.

The Bioarcheology Program maintains records of burial mounds in the state. If you have questions about burial mounds or potential burial mounds on your property, [please reach out to the Bioarcheology Program Director](#)

OSA's **Education Program** produces articles and brochures, all available online. Some highlights include:

[Ancient Technology Brochure Series](#)

Archery technology, flintknapping, bone tools, ground stone artifacts, pottery

[Crops of Ancient Iowa](#)

[A Brief Cultural History of Iowa publication](#)

[Woodland Period publication](#)