**ABSTRACT** 

DISSERTATION/THESIS/RESEARCH PAPER/CREATIVE PROJECT: The

Significance of Bear Canine Artifacts in Hopewell Context

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**DEGREE:** Master of Arts

**COLLEGE:** Sciences and Humanities

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**PAGES:** 68

This study has presented a comprehensive overview of the context and

significance of real and effigy bear canine artifacts in Hopewell context. The

evidence suggests that burials with bear canine artifacts and additional grave goods in

an extended position contained high status individuals. These burials contained the

remains of males or male children, with status differences evident in both burial

position and quantity of grave goods. Bear canine artifacts found in bon-contexts

were primarily found in "ceremonial caches". The inclusion of bear canine artifacts

in such caches is indicative of their spiritual importance in Hopewell culture.

Modification, including drilling, splitting and piercing of bear canine artifacts

occurred in all five regions where these artifacts were found.

\*The date should be that of the date on which the candidate will be certified for the degree.