

Annabel Roberts-McMichael (she/they)
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EDUCATION

Master of Forestry

State University of NY College of Environmental Science & Forestry (SUNY ESF): Dec 2020

Forestry Field Studies

Ranger School, SUNY-ESF: Summer 2019

Master of Environmental Science

SUNY ESF: May 2022

- Thesis Research: Indigenous Peoples Hunting, Fishing & Gathering Rights & State Managed Forestlands

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, NY: May 2010

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Forester

Tend & Gather Forestry, Columbia County, NY: Sept 2021-Present

- Developing & implementing forest & ecosystem/land management plans for 12 private landowners.
- Consulted for the Family Forest Carbon Program: conducted site visits to assess forestlands for eligibility in the program based on mapping & delineating stands/acreage, forest type, size class, stocking & merchantable volume. Discussed forest goals with landowners. Produced reports on eligibility & management recommendations. Developing management plans for landowners in the program.
- For Wally Farms in Columbia County with 1000-acres of forest land, developing a “Model Forest” for educational purposes including ecological forestry, non-timber forest products & agroforestry.
- Ongoing discussion of forest goals of landowners: climate resilience, carbon sequestration, public education. Consulting with stakeholders: neighbors, wider community, and Indigenous Peoples in the area.
- Conducting deed research, land use & Indigenous history research.
- Leading public education programs: tree selection for shiitake mushroom production, managing deer impacts on regeneration, foraging & cooking wild edible plants for youth, etc.

- Mapping: county tax parcels, georeferenced 1942 aerial imagery, color-infrared aeriels, digitizing land cover types, contours, geologic survey data, soil survey data, watersheds, wetlands inventories, Water Quality Classifications & PWL, unconsolidated aquifers, NY Natural Heritage Program data, Matrix Forest Blocks & Forest Linkage Zones.
- Delineating forest stands.
- Conducting forest inventory: eg. overstory, understory & ground data including insect & disease & deer browse data at randomized points within stands to set up permanent inventory plots for measuring carbon sequestration over time/rapid inventory overstory plots.
- Developed data-based hunting program to reduce deer browse impacts.
- Property boundary marking
- Applying for Regenerate NY funding for 3 landowners.
- Previously developed & implemented a management plan for 70 forested acres of primarily uneven-aged sugar maple northern hardwoods for landowners in Tompkins County.

Conservation Easement Steward

Finger Lakes Land Trust, NY: May 2020-Aug 2021

- Reviewed about 10 forest management plans, assessed their implementation & harvest/clean-up to meet standards required by conservation easements held by Finger Lakes Land Trust.
- Monitored forestlands in post-harvest years.
- Monitored and worked with over 200 landowners & 12 volunteers to ensure over 10,000 acres of farms & forests are conserved in perpetuity.
- Developed and executed a management plan for white ash affected by emerald ash borer on a nature preserve.
- Ensured management met town, county and state requirements regarding protected streams on nature preserve and regarding seasonal access road where harvest was conducted.
- Consulted with landowners on what to expect with forest management & ensuring management was consistent with conservation.
- Ensured operations at private properties with conservation easements met NYS Best Management Practices.
- Wrote & designed ecology newsletters.
- Assisted land trust to begin building relationships with indigenous Haudenosaunee Nations.

Forestry Technician/Assistant Forester

Finger Lakes Forestry, NY (owner, Mike DeMunn): Mar 2019-Aug 2021

- Created property maps & implemented new use of field GIS technology.
- Conducted forest inventories for private landowners and Finger Lakes Land Trust, focused on forest health assessment/insect & disease.
- Conducted stand analysis.
- Assisted with calculating timber appraisals.
- Assisted with writing silvicultural prescriptions and forest management plans. Wrote a plan for 70 acre property independently.
- Reviewed management options with landowners, provided cost & revenue estimates.
- Boundary layouts.
- Conducted selective tree marking/variable density thinning for commercial timber stand improvements.
- Assisted with skid trail & landing layouts.

- Worked with independent loggers/assisted with operations.
- Assisted with timber sale administration.
- Assisted with log grading and scaling.

Senior Research Aide

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation: Summer 2018-19

- Led stakeholder analysis research project to develop recommendations for the process for DEC and Indigenous Nations to address shared natural resource concerns, through forest management plans meeting FSC certification.
- Produced 250 page thesis research document including recommendations for developing/improving forest management plan development in relationship with Indigenous Nations
- Studied existing cases of state forest co-management by DEC and Indigenous Nations, reviewing resource assessment, management planning and implementation processes.
- Inventoried existing data relevant to consultation & developed “cultural resources inventory” map database using all relevant state and federal GIS data layers.
- Performed GIS data analysis on resources of shared concern with Indigenous Nations including stand inventories, NY Natural Heritage Program data, archeological, environmental quality.

Graduate Teaching Assistant

SUNY-ESF Sustainable Harvesting Operations, GIS courses: Aug 2019-May 2020, Sept-Dec 2017 & Sept-Dec 2018

- Taught GIS labs to my 25 student section every week throughout the semester; provided academic support.
- Provided academic support to students, drove vehicles and managed equipment for “Sustainable Harvesting Operations”

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Society of American Foresters Member: 2019-present (currently enrolling as a Candidate Certified Forester)

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Carl M. Rise Fellowship in Forestry, SUNY-ESF FNRM: 2019 & 2020

P.E.O. International Continuing Education Grant: 2019

Alumni Memorial Scholarship, SUNY-ESF Alumni: 2018

Elliot Lash Memorial Prize for Sculpture: 2010

Full-Tuition Merit Scholarship, Cooper Union: 2006-10

AGRICULTURE & PLACE-BASED EDUCATION EXPERIENCE & SERVICE

Farmer/Crew Member, *Little Seed Gardens*: May-Aug 2017

Performed all stages of vegetable growing as a member of a 5-person crew on an established 97-acre organic vegetable & beef farm serving a CSA, co-op & markets. Worked in all weather & operated tractor.

Volunteer Co-Worker & Healing Plant Garden, *Camphill Village Copake*., NY Feb-Oct 2016

Volunteer for a farm-based community for adults with developmental differences. Coordinated garden crews in one of the most beautiful gardens in the region. Developed seed & herb inventory, growing charts & harvest records. Provided home care & support for elderly community members.

Farm Educator, *Hawthorne Valley Place-Based Learning Center*: Sept-Dec 2015 & May-Aug 2015

Taught hands-on farm curriculum for 12 week-long sessions for 3rd & 4th graders on working with animals, vegetable growing, cooking & nature education. Led 11-15 year old campers to gain real-world farming & farm product making experience.

Vegetable & Dairy Farm Apprentice, *Hawthorne Valley Farm* Harlemville, NY: Feb 2014-Mar 2015

Grew 12 acres of vegetables, milked & pastured 60-cow dairy herd as part of a highly successful crew for 350-member CSA & three large scale farmers' markets, year-round. Studied organic & biodynamic farming practices including regenerative soil care, low-stress animal management, planting by the moon & rotational grazing, while visiting many regional organic farms on weekends. Assisted with crew management. Operated tractors for all farm tasks. Developed farm business & planting plans. Coordinated volunteers.

Assistant Farm Manager, *Wassaic Community Farm*, Wassaic, NY: July 2012-Jan 2014

Co-managed vegetable & wild healing plant growing for Bronx CSA & markets. Took vegetables to market by bike trailer. Assisted with Victory Bus Rides Program for families to connect with loved ones in prisons & Harvest Day event for Bronx families to visit the farm on a vegetable-oil powered bus.

Farm Crew Member, *Six Circles Farm*, Lodi, NY: Aug-Nov 2011

Learned to plant, tend & harvest diverse vegetables using organic methods & natural insect management. Served as a curious, dependable, engaged & energetic crew member. Trucked & sold produce at Ithaca Farmers' Market. Assisted with forest garden.