

**Wisconsin Archeological Society**  
**Awards Committee**  
**Increase A Lapham Research Medal**  
**Purpose, Process, and Criteria for Evaluation**  
**December 2012**

The Increase A. Lapham Research Medal recognizes significant contributions to Wisconsin archaeology and anthropology in honoring the memory of Increase Lapham a renowned pioneering antiquarian of this state. The award has been presented by the Wisconsin Archaeological Society on a periodic basis since 1926 and for decades was acknowledged as the Society's highest recognition. The award consists of a circular copper medal with the embossed likeness of Lapham on one face and the recipient's name and date of award engraved between a bird effigy and paired horned panthers on the reverse.

The primary purpose of the Lapham Award is to recognize outstanding research efforts in Wisconsin archaeology/anthropology. In recognition of the historically diverse nature of the Society membership base, this award is open to both vocational and avocational individuals and organizations. Award recipients do not need to be or have been a member of the Society, but membership is encouraged and membership history will be considered by the Awards Committee.

Any member of the Society may submit a Lapham Research Award nomination at any time. The nomination should follow the attached format and be submitted to the current chair of the Society's Awards Committee (contact information on the form). The Awards Committee will review the nomination packet within 45 days of receipt of a complete packet. The Committee may request additional information from the nominator during the evaluation process. Unanimous consensus of the Award Committee members is required for approval.

Upon approval of award designation, the Awards Committee Chair will notify the Board of the decision. The Committee Chair will also then coordinate with the current Society President to have a Lapham Research Medal engraved with the name of the recipient and date of award, and to plan for a presentation at a Society function, preferably either the spring or fall meeting.

