The cryosphere is the area of the earth that remains perennially frozen in the form of permafrost, glaciers and sea ice. As climates continue to warm and sea ice and permafrost retreats pole-ward, glaciers are receding and ice patches are shrinking. Some of these features contain unique archaeological finds that have remained frozen and well preserved for hundreds and even thousands of years. These frozen sites and finds, as well as the methods and theories involved in their identification, excavation, conservation and display, are the subjects of Journal of Glacial Archaeology.

Journal of Glacial Archaeology presents an exciting forum for this complex branch of archaeology, and encompasses all topics concerning archaeological discoveries from glacial, permafrost, polar and high-altitude frozen contexts across the world and presents the latest discoveries and research from frozen sites. The journal’s main themes are archaeological analyses of recovered frozen artefacts, interpretations of frozen finds in relation to past and present climates, problems and solutions related to managing, monitoring and rescuing frozen deposits, as well as the social, political and ethical issues related to these discoveries. Frozen discoveries are often the focus of complex, multidisciplinary research but at the same time often retain strong connections with indigenous people and their life ways. Archaeological discoveries in these environments have led to international partnerships and collaboration with indigenous people and local residents. Glacial archaeology also provides a platform for interdisciplinary research into environmental science that is closely linked to the politics of science, nationalism, and climate change. The goal of Journal of Glacial Archaeology is to produce a publication that is inclusive, multi-vocal and of a high scholarly standard. It includes original research papers, short reports and reviews including archaeology, anthropology, ethnography, glaciology, geography, palaeobotany, indigenous knowledge, conservation science and climatology.

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