

# Council For Northeast Historical Archaeology

## NEWSLETTER

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### 1992 ANNUAL MEETING GLENS FALLS, NEW YORK OCTOBER 2-4, 1992

The Board of CNEHA is pleased to announce that the 1992 Annual Meeting will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 2-4, in Glens Falls, New York. The conference will also be sponsored by Adirondack Community College which will be the location of the paper sessions. Accommodations will be at the Howard Johnson Lodge which is located just off Exit 19 of the New York State Northway (I-87); this is less than 50 miles north of Albany. The Lodge is within 10 minutes of the college campus, and rates promise to be extremely reasonable. (There is also a very large heated indoor pool, complete with jacuzzi!)

There will be a bus tour of local military sites on Friday afternoon, followed by a reception at the college on Friday evening. Papers will be held in Dearlove Hall at the college all day on Saturday, followed by a barbecue on nearby Rogers Island that evening. (This was the site of extensive military encampments during the 1750s.) Papers will then continue on Sunday morning, and optional tours are being contemplated for Sunday afternoon.

Pre-registration packets will be mailed to all CNEHA members in July. The packet will contain the preliminary program, and registration, hotel, and travel information. For further information on the conference, please contact David Starbuck, P.O. Box 147, Fort Edward, New York 12828 (518 747-2926).

### UPDATE—

#### *Northeast Historical Archaeology*

Reported by: Mary Beaudry, Editor

Volume 18 has at long last gone to the printer! And, there's an update on the contents. Last-minute receipt of a newly revised manuscript brings this issue up to six articles in all, and there is a fine variety of topics and areas covered.

#### BERT SALWEN

The Development of Contact Period Archaeology in Southern New England and Long Island: From "Gee Whiz!" to "So What?"

#### DOMINIQUE LALANDE

Archaeological Excavations at Bon-Desir: Basque Presence in the St. Lawrence Estuary

#### S. PFEIFFER, J.C. DUDAR, and S. AUSTIN

Prospect Hill: Skeletal Remains from a 19th-Century Methodist Cemetery, Newmarket, Ontario

### COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

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REBECCA YAMIN

Squeezing Ceramics for More Than Their Worth: Boundary Maintenance at an 18th-Century Port in New Jersey

GERALD K. KELSO and FAITH HARRINGTON

Pollen Record Formation Processes at the Isles of Shoals: Botanical Records of Human Behavior

HASKELL J. GREENFIELD

From Pork to Mutton: A Zooarchaeological Perspective on Colonial New Amsterdam and Early New York City

With Volume 18 all but in the mail to you, we are hoping to turn around another issue shortly. The Salwen memorial volume is still in the works, but we really need independent submissions to get on track and stay there. We need manuscripts in order to do that! Please consider *Northeast Historical Archaeology* as a publication outlet. We'd like to get the journal on schedule, and we know there is a great deal of fine work being done that simply isn't finding its way into print. Remember, the CNEHA journal is a wonderful outlet for publication of article-length summary site reports as well as special studies.

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT

Reported by: David Starbuck, Editor

George Miller does not have a ceramics column in this issue because he has just moved from Colonial Williamsburg to his new position as Material Culture Researcher at the Center for Archaeological Research, 101 Ewing Hall, Department of Anthropology, University of Delaware, Newark, DEL 19716 (302 451-1193). He will resume his column in the next issue.

If you have copy you would like to submit for the July 1992 issue, please send it either to me or to the appropriate state/provincial editor.

## REPORT ON THE 1991 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

NEWARK, DELAWARE  
OCTOBER 5-6, 1991

Reported by: Lu Ann De Cunzio  
Chair, 1991 Annual Meeting

The 1991 Annual Meeting of the Council was held on Saturday and Sunday, October 5 and 6, 1991, at the Sheraton Inn, just outside of Newark, Delaware. As a special feature of the meeting, the Council co-operated with the Winterthur Museum in their annual Conference in American Material Culture Studies. That Conference, with its theme, "Historical Archaeology and the Study of American Culture," commenced Thursday evening, October 3, and continued through Saturday morning, October 5, followed immediately by the start of the Council's Annual Meeting.

The organizers of the 1991 Annual Meeting have judged it a suc-

cess. Financially, it produced a net profit of \$1503.04 for the Council, which will hopefully assist in producing the next journal. One hundred forty-five individuals registered for the Conference (only 23 of those for one day), attending along with 24 volunteers from the University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research and other state agencies and organizations.

Twenty-six scholars presented papers at the Annual Meeting, organized into three major sessions. "City, Town, Country: Community as Context," "The Contexts of Research in Northeastern Historical Archaeology," and "Small Wonder There's Diversity!: Delaware Historical Archaeology." The organizers were especially pleased with the diversity and quality of the presented papers, which addressed topics ranging from a seventeenth-century fishing community to analysis of nineteenth-century human burials. Similarly, the geographic distribution reflected the whole of the Northeast, from Ontario, Canada to Mount Vernon in Virginia.

The Saturday evening Twilight Walking Tour of New Castle and Reception at the George Read II House and Garden proved a highlight of the Meetings, and we are indebted to Tim Mullin and Julia Hofer of the Historical Society of Delaware, and to Colleen Leithren and Lynn Riley and their committee from the University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research for the evening's success. Though dampened a bit by the weather, the tours to the John Dickinson Plantation, Fort Delaware State Park, and the Hagley Museum also added to the Meetings. Thanks to Chuck Fithian and Alice Guerrant of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, Cara Blume of the Delaware Division of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, and David Orr of the National Park Service and University of Delaware for their assistance in organizing and leading these tours.

A final note of thanks is due to the Department of Anthropology of the University of Delaware, which contributed financial and administrative support to the Meetings; to the University's Center for Archaeological Research, which organized the exhibit on Delaware in the Book Room, designed and sold the T-shirts, and from which many volunteers were drawn without whom the Meeting would not have been possible; to Wade Catts of the Center for Archaeological Research who served as Co-chair of the Meeting; to Chuck Fithian and Alice Guerrant, who also served on the Meeting committee; to Roselle Henn for once again organizing the Book Room; to the Winterthur Museum for their co-operation in co-ordinating the two conferences; and to the Sheraton Inn-Newark for complementary meeting space.

For those members unfortunately unable to attend the 1991 Meeting, copies of the Program and Abstracts are available. Make your check payable to the "Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology" and mail it to Lu Ann De Cunzio, Department of Anthropology, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware 19716.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

COVA Symposium VI  
*The Historical Archaeology of 18th-Century Virginia*

The Council of Virginia Archaeologists is pleased to announce the sixth in a series of symposia intended to provide the interested public and archaeological communities with a synthesis of the present state of archaeological research within the Commonwealth of

Virginia. This symposium will continue investigation of Virginia's historic period, focusing on what has been termed the "Golden Age" of Virginia history. COVA VI will be held on Friday and Saturday, May 22nd and 23rd, at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. A modest fee of \$15 will be charged for the whole event, while those wishing to attend either one day or the other may pay \$7.50. There are additional fees of \$5 for the Friday evening reception and \$10 for the Saturday picnic dinner. As with past symposia, the proceedings from COVA VI will be published by the Archaeological Society of Virginia. Organizations supporting the series include the ASV, the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy, and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. Primary supporters of COVA VI are the Department of Anthropology at the University of Virginia and Mary Washington College's Department of Historic Preservation.

For further information, contact Dennis J. Pogue at the Mount Vernon Archaeology Department, Mount Vernon Ladies Association, Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121. (703) 780-2000 x326.

#### *Association quebecoise pour le patrimoine industriel*

The next Aqpi conference will be held in Montreal, May 8 and 9, 1992. The theme of the meeting will be "Montreal portuaire et ferroviaire" (Montreal, its Port and Railroads). For further information write to Aqpi, C.P. 5225, Succursale "C", Montreal (Quebec), H2X 3N2.

#### *Association des archeologues du Quebec*

The Annual Meeting of the A.A.Q. will be held in Montreal from April 25 to 26, 1992. Several thematic workshops are tentatively planned. These include:

- The Development of Archaeological Sites: Recent Examples from Montreal;
- Archaeology and Communication;
- The History and Prehistory of the Montreal Region: Current Research;
- Working Conditions in Archaeology;

For more information contact Christian Belanger (514) 523-1960. All workshops will be held in French.

#### *Canadian Archaeological Association*

The C.A.A. (Canadian Archaeological Association) will hold its Annual Meeting at the London Centre Radisson Hotel, London, Ontario, from May 6 to 10, 1992. For further information contact: Neal Ferris  
55 Centre St  
London, Ontario N6J 1T4.  
Telephone: (519) 433-8401,  
Fax (519) 439-1696.

#### *Alternative Archaeology*

The Nova Scotia Archaeology Society and St. Mary's University will hold a symposium on Alternative Archaeology on May 1-2, 1992 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Speakers from the United States (John Cole, Kenneth Feder, Alice Kehoe, Wade Tarzia) and Canada

(Birgitta Wallace, David Kelley, Paddy Reid, Eric Mullen and Bernie Francis) will address such topics as claims for pre-Columbian Trans-Atlantic and Trans-Pacific contacts, Psychic Archaeology and Creationist Texts.

The symposium will also include a panel discussion, led by Michael Michlovic, on the controversial issue of how archaeologists should respond to explanations of the past that lie outside the mainstream of archaeology.

For further information on the conference, please contact Charles Lindsay, c/o Canadian Parks Service, Historic Properties, Upper Water St., Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 1S9 (902 426-6115).

### **CONFERENCE REPORT**

#### **"Ten Years of Post-Processual Archaeology" University of Massachusetts, Amherst February 29, 1992**

Reported by: Karen Bescherer Metheny  
Department of Archaeology, Boston University

Graduate students from the Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, recently sponsored a one-day conference on the occasion of the tenth year of post-processual archaeology. The conference opened with a mini-plenary address by Martin Wobst, followed by four longer sessions that were intended to address key issues of post-processual archaeology (see program below). Each session was composed of two to three panelists who responded to a series of prepared questions. Discussion was moderated by graduate students of the Department of Anthropology, UMass-Amherst. Questions from the audience were generally addressed at the end of each session, an exception to this was the session on "Post-processual archaeology: paradigm or theme?" (Dorothy Krass, moderator) where the discussion was interactive. A final group of panelists provided commentary on the day's discussions.

Not surprisingly, the conference was largely Marxist in tone. However, the Marxist perspective is only one of many that have gathered under the name of post-processual archaeology. The weighted selection of thirteen panelists (twelve Marxists or Marxians, one non-Marxist; nine men, four women) left many other post-processual perspectives underrepresented or unrepresented. Indeed, having acknowledged the diversity of perspectives and the lack of coherence within post-processualism during the sessions (Wobst, Keene, McGuire, Gero, Dincauze), the absence or muting of other voices (gender studies, contextualism, hermeneutics) was all the more apparent and disappointing. These other perspectives were often dismissed out of hand ("Hodder is a technician"). Nonetheless, the conference was both interesting and informative, not only for what was said, but for what was left unsaid.

The sessions focused discussion on four major topics: ten years of post-processual perspectives, "is Marxist archaeology post-processual?" "how can we write post-processual archaeology?" and post-processualism: paradigm or theme. By now familiar themes dominated the sessions: the historical contingency of archaeology, archaeology as a social construction, problems of labeling (e.g., prehistory versus history, or archaeology as the study of the past versus archaeology as the study of material culture). The broader issue of political correctness, which is implicit in the latter argu-

ment, was barely addressed (Dincauze, Kohl).

In the session "How Can We Write Post-Processual Archaeology?", Jacqueline Urla summarized recent trends within cultural anthropology, specifically the new ethnography (Clifford and Marcus 1986; Marcus and Fischer 1986), which has particular relevance to current debates within archaeology (the use of narrative, "objectivity" as a socially and historically contingent phenomenon, self-reflexivity). Stephen Mrozowski talked about the difficulties of writing under the constraint of archaeological data, and suggested that archaeologists might overcome these difficulties through the use of narrative, the acknowledgement of archaeological literature as an interpretation (and the explicit identification of the issues and interests informing the interpretation), and the separation of interpretation and data by making the data available in a separate volume (in an appendix or on microfiche, for example) for those who wish to examine the data for themselves.

During this session, criticism emerged of the new archaeology as jargon-laden and inaccessible. Panelists were questioned as to whether post-processualism is itself elitist and exclusionary given the deliberate use of obscure writing styles by some of its practitioners (cf. Shanks and Tilley 1987; Tilley 1990). Potter denied this, suggesting instead that this is an exercise in creativity (unimpressionistic versus photographic) that allows the reader to determine its meaning and is therefore inclusionary. While this particular point is arguable, Potter is correct in asserting the importance of providing to the audience different models of how to think about the past. While Potter argued for the inclusion of multiple audiences into the archaeological literature, and for addressing the questions or issues of particular interest to the audience, the related and politically-charged issue of just who can write (or do) gender archaeology or the archaeology of slavery, for example, was not addressed.

Attempts to define post-processualism during the conference were problematic. This is a salient point, one which speaks to the question of whether post-processualism constitutes the latest archaeological paradigm, or whether it is a theme or a variation, a radical reaction to the new archaeology, as suggested by Wobst. Dena Dincauze questioned whether post-processualism was a new revolt against determinism or an old and continuously resuscitated and validated position; innovation or reaction. Randy McGuire described post-processual archaeology as a catch-all for all non-processual perspectives. Towards the end of the conference, Art Keene volunteered the analogy of post-processualism as an umbrella. Many different views are represented beneath the umbrella, but all share a criticism of the new archaeology along four major points: epistemology (positivism versus relativism), reductionism, the absence of power (or the individual) from the ecological models of the new archaeology, and the lack of critical self-awareness.

While many will concur with this definition, it also seems evident from the discussion at the conference that post-processualism is as often a political reaction to the new archaeology and its power base in CRM. Much discussion centered on the problem of funding sources, seen as biased toward the new archaeologists and grant proposals written in processual language. This dialogue, which many would consider to be a digression from more pertinent issues of post-processual archaeology, fueled a spate of attacks on the new archaeology and Lewis Binford that had little in common with the criticisms outlined by Keene in the first session and again at the end of the conference.

Many of the panelists (Leone, Keene, Payer) constructed a picture of post-processual archaeology as marginal, as having no centers of influence outside of Cambridge University and UMass-Amherst. Keene, for example, talked about the liability of acting outside the mainstream. Colin, Lord Renfrew was subject to a number of attacks for his rise to the peerage and a seat in the House of Lords, and for his great success within the mainstream. Suggestions that post-processualism is elitist were again rejected. Patterson, citing the example of Lord Renfrew, noted that Shanks and Tilley are but itinerant scholars. Leone went so far as to deny the popularity of V. Gordon Childe's writings. ~~Keene, for example, talked about the liability of acting outside the mainstream.~~ One emerges with the sense that these attacks are politically motivated, that this is the means by which the next generation's archaeologists will gain entry into and control of the power structure. The portrayal of Marxist post-processualism (unquestionably the dominant perspective of the conference) as marginal is a deliberate denial of the success of many of the panelists and discussants (all have jobs, are well published, and are successful fundraisers) as well as a denial of the historical trajectory of its practitioners.

Another disturbing trend to emerge from the day's discussion is the move away from the archaeological record by those who see archaeology as a political tool. Michael Nasseny addressed this issue in the final session, asking the panelists what is the use of archaeological data if the agenda is political and subjective. Wobst argued that to say that archaeological discourse can only be conducted through archaeological data is restrictive. While this point has validity, and few would argue the historical contingency of archaeology and its construction in the present, the few voices which reminded conference participants of the uniqueness of the archaeological record to the study of the past (Beaudry) were drowned out by the louder voices of those who would see archaeology only as a tool for political purposes. To use Tom Patterson's phrase, the "center of gravity" has shifted from archaeology to political issues.

The pitfalls of a purely political agenda are evident. Kohl warned of the emerging national archaeologies in the former Soviet Union and the Central Bloc, and the danger that they will become racist archaeologies. This reminds us of the dangers that may lie in a multiplicity of perspectives, of hyper-relativism and its implied political correctness. Political correctness was raised as a serious problem by Dincauze, who argued that militant p.c. creates a multiplicity of frontier conflicts and diverts our attention from the substance of archaeology to political movements based on selfishness. As in other instances, the issue was unfortunately allowed to drop from discussion.

The graduate students are to be commended for organizing this event. The conference was well run, entertaining, and informative. Many constructive points emerged from the resulting dialogue. However, in many respects the conference represented a lost opportunity. The failure to address certain key issues (political correctness, gender), in what often seemed to be deliberate attempts by panelists to avoid controversy, was a disappointment. Even the question of how we should act on the problems within post-processual archaeology and how we can bring post-processualism to the archaeological record—in short, what the goals of post-processual archaeology should be after ten years—evoked little response from the panelists and the audience. This is perhaps the most critical point to emerge from the conference. Are some or

all post-processual perspectives so far removed from the archaeological record that these questions are unanswerable? Perhaps those who were not present at the conference can help to address this issue.

### Program

Mini-Plenary Address

Martin Wobst (UMass-Amherst)

Post-Processual Archaeologies. Ten Years of Perspectives  
Art Keene (UMass-Amherst) and Tom Patterson  
(Temple University)

Is Marxist Archaeology Post-Processual?

Philip Kohl (Wellesley) and Randy McGuire  
(SUNY-Binghamton)

How Can We Write Post-Processual Archaeologies?

Stephen Mrozowski (UMass-Boston), Parker Potter (N.H.  
Division of Historical Resources), and Jacqueline Urla  
(UMass-Amherst)

Post-Processual Archaeology: Paradigm or Theme?

Dena Dincauze (UMass-Amherst), Mark Leone  
(University of Maryland), and Robert Paynter  
(UMass-Amherst)

Symposium: Wrap-Up: Reaction and Response

Joan Gero (University of South Carolina), Mary Beaudry  
(Boston University), and Martin Wobst (UMass-Amherst)

### References

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1986 *Writing Culture: The Poetics and Politics of Ethnography*.  
University of California Press, Berkeley.
- Marcus, George E., and Michael M.J. Fischer  
1986 *Anthropology as Cultural Critique: An Experimental  
Moment in the Human Sciences*. University of Chicago  
Press, Chicago.
- Shanks, Michael, and Christopher Tilley  
1987 *Social Theory and Archaeology*. University of New  
Mexico Press, Albuquerque.
- Tilley, Christopher, editor  
1990 *Reading Material Culture: Structuralism, Hermeneutics,  
and Post-Structuralism*. Basil Blackwell, Cambridge,  
Mass.

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## Current Research

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### VERMONT

Reported by: Nora Sheehan and Robert Sloma

Construction of the Chittenden County Circumferential Highway has offered a rare opportunity for Vermont historical archaeology. Archaeological remains from four domestic sites in the town of Essex are now being analyzed. In addition to the customary intra-site analyses and inter-site comparisons that can be made, the excavated sites will be examined in the context of their roles in the larger rural community.

Three of the sites are located near a falls on Indian Brook which provided water power for a sawmill that was in operation by 1798. Land records indicate that one of the sites, VT-CH-491, may have been related to the sawmill complex, which is located about 70 meters west of the site. Excavation of VT-CH-491 identified 27 historic features. Of these features, 14 were excavated or partially excavated, including a house and outbuilding of post-in-ground construction. The house contained a cellar lined with wooden planks. Excavation of the cellar and related builder's trench unearthed artifacts which suggest occupation dates of 1802-1831. Other features include refuse pits and possible animal pens.

A cellar hole and stone foundation led to the identification of VT-CH-500. Excavation determined that a half cellar had existed, although many of the foundation stones were quarried after the building was abandoned. Artifacts were limited and disturbed in the western half of the cellar, while the eastern half remained intact. Preliminary analysis of the artifacts recovered and documentary evidence suggest short-term occupation during the latter half of the nineteenth century.

VT-CH-574 lay undetected beneath the lawn of a modern residence. An electromagnetometer survey recorded several anomalies in this area. Excavation and plow zone removal confirmed the presence of a residential building, which was also of post-in-ground construction. A log pipe leading from the excavated half-cellar may have acted as a drain. Preliminary analysis of the dense artifact deposits suggests a period of occupation between 1830-1860.

The fourth site, VT-CH-493, is located 1.2 miles east of the other sites, in a south-facing hayfield. Although there is now no road in the vicinity, historic maps indicate that a road passed here in the early nineteenth century. Another domestic site on the old road (VT-CH-247) was identified during the initial reconnaissance survey for the highway project.

VT-CH-493 consists of the remains of a small structure and several related features. The structure had a small fieldstone half-cellar with a wooden floor. The remains of a large end chimney had collapsed onto the chimney base. A wood-lined trash pit with a fairly dense deposit of refuse was found adjacent to the cellar. This may have originally been a bulkhead or storage pit that was later used for refuse disposal. A flat area north of the structure appears to have been used to contain animals, possibly pigs. The soils in this area contained relatively high phosphate levels, evidence of organic enrichment of the soil. Several pig teeth were recovered, and two organic-looking stains visible in the subsoil after stripping contained bone fragments and burned wood, indicating a possible compost pit or pig stop location. Several small post molds found

here may have marked the remains of a fence line.

Preliminary analysis of the artifacts recovered from VT-CH-493 indicate a late eighteenth to early nineteenth-century occupation during the first wave of settlement of the area. The date is based on the large amount of creamware recovered in relation to the other ceramic types in the assemblage; the presence of dry-bodied stoneware and Whieldon ware, both manufactured in the second half of the eighteenth century; and the recovery of coins with legible dates of 1805 and 1798, a token dated 1814, and a King George halfpenny with an illegible date (1760-1820). The absence of outbuildings suggests VT-CH-491 was not a farm; perhaps it functioned as a shop or tavern.

All four sites pose interesting questions which will be addressed with further artifact analysis and documentary research. They provide an excellent opportunity for inter-site comparative analysis, since they appear to each date from a different time period, and represent a continuum from the late eighteenth to the late nineteenth century. Analysis will address a variety of questions. Where did each site fit into the community, and how did that change through time? How did the community change? What does the material culture reveal about the inhabitants' occupations, social and economic status, habits and lifestyle at different time periods? Is there an identifiable change in gender-related spheres of influence around the households? Is there a change in the use of space? How do domestic construction methods change over time? For instance, when were wood-lined cellars and post-in-ground construction common, and why?

VT-CH-491, VT-CH-493, VT-CH-500 and VT-CH-574 represent small segments of a larger community. Examination of these sites, documentary records, historic standing structures, and other archaeological sites in the area will enable researchers to develop an understanding of the related components which constituted the aggregate community. The product of this study will be part of a growing data base which will contribute to understanding the nature of rural communities in Vermont and northern New England.

## MASSACHUSETTS

Reported by: Suzanne Spencer-Wood

### *Massachusetts Archaeology Week/Events at Boston University*

The Massachusetts Historical Commission has designated the week of June 6-14 as Massachusetts Archaeology Week, and the Office of Public Archaeology at Boston University has a number of events planned.

On June 8, 1992, Dr. Mary C. Beaudry, Associate Professor of Archaeology, Boston University, will present a lecture entitled "Historical Archaeology and the Lives of Women". The lecture begins at 7 PM and will be held at the George Sherman Union Building, 775 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA, in the Terrace Lounge. A reception in the George Sherman Union Gallery immediately follows the lecture.

On June 10, 1992, Al B. Weslowsky, Managing Editor, *Journal of Field Archaeology*, will present a lecture entitled "Paupers' Bones: Excavation and Analysis at the Uxbridge Almshouse Cemetery, Massachusetts." The lecture begins at 7 PM and will be held in the Stone Science Building, 675 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA., in Room B50 (Basement).

The public is welcome, and the lectures are free.

## CONNECTICUT

Reported by: Cece Kirkorian

When designing its new office complex located on the Berlin Turnpike in Newington, Connecticut, the Connecticut Department of Transportation applied for permission to demolish the early 19th century farmhouse which stood on the grounds. This farmhouse - the Benjamin Hopkins House - had been deemed irreplaceable by historians and local residents because it remained largely unaltered and was the only surviving remnant of the village which arose around the Hartford-New Haven Turnpike ca. 1799. Therefore, the DOT decided it to the Town of Newington, and preparations were made for its relocation out of the construction area.

In March of 1990, the Newington Historical Society and Trust, Inc. (NHST), with the assistance of Archaeological Research Specialists (Oxford, CT) and the Albert Morgan Archaeological Society (Rocky Hill, CT), initiated the Benjamin Hopkins (a.k.a. Amos Fairchild) House Archaeology Project. The investigations to date have included salvage archaeological procedures at the original site prior to the structure's relocation; a thorough documentary study of the original property and occupants; and the on-going analysis and correlation of artifactual and documentary evidence. Marina Mozzi, Director/Curator of the NHST, (203) 661-7118, is coordinating the Project.

A major artifactual deposit was located adjacent to the east foundation wall of the original structure. The later addition of a woodshed and buttery which lacked a subsurface foundation, completely sealed the deposit sometime before 1834. As a result, the deposit was largely undisturbed, and the preservation of faunal remains was exceptional. Dates of manufacture of the recovered artifacts tightly cluster between 1790 and 1820-30, and the probate inventory of Benjamin Hopkins (1835) lists several of the recovered artifact types. An exhibit on the Archaeology Project has been mounted at the NHST.

## NEW YORK STATE

Reported by: Lois Feister

### *New York State Archaeology Week*

The New York Archaeological Council (NYAC), a state-wide organization of professional archaeologists, has decided to organize an Archaeology Week to be celebrated during National Preservation Week in May. A planning committee under the leadership of Dr. Ellis McDowell-Loudan has been established. Plans include production of a large-format poster, open houses and lectures, and attendant publicity to call attention to the contributions of archaeology to the quality of life in New York State.

### *Publications Available*

New publications have become available to interested clients. These include: The Field Services Bureau of the New York State

Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation offers a group of five brochures which briefly explain the various programs administered by that office. These include the Certified Local Government Program, Environmental Review, Historic Resources Survey, National Register of Historic Places, and the Historic Preservation Tax Credit. For copies contact Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12230. Coming in December 1992 is the three-volume *Encyclopedia of the North American Colonies*. Over 260 original essays treat all areas of the northeast and are organized into seventeen sections designed to promote broad historical orientation. Prepublication price is \$285 from Charles Scribner's Sons, 866 Third Avenue, New York City, New York 10022.

#### *New Research Center at Fort Ticonderoga*

A nearby modern brick building has been adapted to serve as headquarters for offices and the historical collection at Fort Ticonderoga, a privately owned site on the New York side of Lake Champlain. The new space will provide climate-controlled storage for the fort's outstanding collection of military artifacts, journals, and books. Two new staff members, a curator and marketing director, have been hired to work under director Nicholas Westbrook. A reading room will be included for those using the extensive collection of mostly 18th century objects.

#### *Student Research Awards from New York State Archives*

The New York State Archives and Records Administration is offering prizes to promote and recognize student research based on primary documents. Two awards are available: one for a student or group of students grades 6 through 8, one for grades 9-12. The purpose of the monetary awards is to encourage use of archival materials anywhere in the state. The product can be a research paper, an exhibit, an audiovisual presentation, a performance, a work of fiction, or a curriculum packet for use by other students. This interesting idea produced a winner last year who used records from a county clerk's office to research family history and one that used records from a county historical society to research 19th century private schools.

#### *Archaeological Research at the Centre House Tavern Site, Amherst*

Archaeological research has been completed and a report written on excavations at the Centre House Tavern Site in the town of Amherst, Erie County, New York. The work included a combination of test units and interviews with local informants to better understand the role of this structure in the life of the community. Originally built in 1836, the building underwent many changes over time. The archaeologists, led by Dr. Elaine Herold and Lyn Kraus Cowan, uncovered evidence of these architectural changes, including a wood-lined cellar hole, the first found in western New York State. In addition, a late nineteenth century barrel-privy was located and excavated. An interesting collection of nineteenth century artifacts were recovered which helped to demonstrate the types of ceramics, glass and other items that members of this German-American household preferred. All of the

collections, notes, records, photographs, and the report are on file at the Marian E. White Research Museum at the Department of Anthropology, State University of New York at Buffalo.

## NEW YORK CITY

Reported by: Daniel Pagano

Reprinted from *The New York Times Metro*, Thursday, December 26, 1991:

After what mean years they had on earth — enslaved, impoverished and ostracized — black New Yorkers in the 18th century were consigned to a desolate graveyard beyond the city walls. The next light they were to see was the rising sun on Judgment Day.

Archeologists got there first.

Since October, more than 100 skeletons have been discovered, intricately measured and delicately removed from the land just north of City Hall that was known in the 1700's as the Negro Burial Ground. With each coffin, a bridge is being built back to a people whose history was all but ignored for more than two centuries.

"My God, how things have changed," Mayor David N. Dinkins recalled thinking to himself as he visited the graveyard earlier this month. "Negroes were buried there because that was without the city. Here I stood, the first African-American mayor of the city of New York, examining the place where I would have had to have been buried. I couldn't have been buried in the city."

Today, the locale is at the heart of the civic center. Archeologists have been working in a pit more than 20 feet below street level, under a roof of translucent plastic sheets, surrounded by the rumbling tumult of backhoes excavating the site. A 34-story Federal office tower is to rise on the block, bounded by Broadway and Duane, Reade and Elk streets.

#### Site Again Overshadowed

Recently, the archeology was overshadowed by fears about City Planning Department headquarters, at 22 Reade Street, which adjoins the site and has settled because of underpinnings being dug beneath its foundation. (The structure has been deemed "safe for occupancy" and "not in danger of collapse" by the executive engineer of the city's Buildings Department, David Sobel.)

Barring some catastrophe, however, the archeological dig is what is most likely to be remembered.

"We will never look at colonial times and African-American history again in the same way," said Laurie Beckelman, chairwoman of the city's Landmarks Preservation Commission. "This will add so much to our cultural heritage."

Perhaps most telling is what the archeologists have not found: worldly goods of almost any kind.

#### Buttons, and Maybe Flowers

"One brass finger ring was the only example of any possession that went into the grave," said Michael Parrington, an archeologist who leads the cemetery team under the direction of Edward S. Rutsch.

"These people came into the world with nothing and certainly took very little out," Mr. Parrington said. Military buttons were found in two coffins. Three coffins contained what may have been

flowers.

All the bodies were buried with their heads to the west, allowing them to sit up and face the rising sun on Judgment Day, Mr. Parrington said.

Twenty-seven infants have been found. Many died before the age of 6 months and were buried in coffins 12 to 18 inches long. Fifteen older children have also been found.

Of the adults whose sex could be determined, 20 were men and 14 were women. About 90 percent of the people were black, Ms. Beckelman said.

"Most adults had died in their 30's but had dental profiles of people in their 90's," Ms. Beckelman said, underscoring how short and stressful their lives had been.

A number of people suffered from rickets, arthritis and syphilis. But archeologists have not found any broken bones. "That may be an indication that there wasn't much violence among this community," Mr. Parrington said. One person, however, had a musket ball in the rib area.

Nothing would seem connected to the "Negro Plot" of 1741, in which white New Yorkers, imagining a conspiracy among the slaves, hanged or burned dozens of people.

Mr. Parrington said those who were executed may have been buried elsewhere in the cemetery, which might have contained 10,000 bodies when it was closed in 1790. Much was dug up in the 19th century.

Based on the density of the burials found so far, Mr. Parrington said an unexplored part of the site might contain 25 or 30 more bodies.

William J. Diamond, the regional administrator of the General Services Administration, which is overseeing development of the office tower, has promised that the archeological work will not be hastened, even if it means a delay in construction. Nonetheless, State Senator David A. Paterson of Manhattan is assembling a task force to monitor the dig.

## MARYLAND

Reported by: Silas D. Hurry

### St. Mary's City

Historic St. Mary's City (HSMC) is pleased to announce its 1992 field school in historical archaeology. The course will run from June 10 through August 16, 1992. Excavations will focus on two occupational sites with associated brick foundations. The first may be the site of the Jesuit school in St. Mary's during the last quarter of the 17th century and was used as a house into the 18th century. The second may be a rectory associated with the brick chapel built ca. 1667 and still in use following the destruction of the chapel after 1704. Both sites promise to be rich in artifacts. This work is part of an ongoing research project on religion in Colonial Maryland. The program will be an intensive experience in Colonial archaeology. The first week of the class is devoted to lectures on history, archaeology and material culture. During the following nine weeks, students participate in excavation, recording and analysis. Field trips to nearby archaeological sites and historic houses in Maryland and Virginia are planned. Students will also have the chance to help sail the *Maryland Dove*, a replica of a 17th-century, square-rigged ship.

The course is designed for students in American Studies, Anthropology, History, or Museum Studies. Prior coursework is preferred but not required. A total of eight (8) credit hours are offered through St. Mary's College of Maryland, an accredited state college dedicated to the Liberal Arts. Credit is transferable to other institutions. The program costs \$800 which covers tuition, fees and the major field trip. Housing is provided by HSMC at a minimal cost. Transportation, food and entertainment are the responsibility of the student.

To apply send a letter stating your interest in the course, prior classes, special skills, phone number and the names of two academic references. Housing is limited so apply early. For specific questions about the course call (301) 862-0974. Send applications to: Archaeology Program, Department of Research, HSMC, P.O. Box 39, St. Mary's City, Maryland 20686.

### Anne Arundel County

The Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning began the Cumberstone Road Preservation Planning Project in July of 1991. This project, funded by a matching survey and planning grant from the Maryland Historical Trust, is under the direction of Dr. Al Luokenbach, County Archaeologist, and his assistant, Esther Doyle Read. The Cumberstone Road project area is an approximately 2000 acre area characterized by wooded and open rolling farmland. Fifty-four known archaeological sites, including the West River Adena site and the ruins of Ivy Neck, an important 18th century Georgian house, indicate the importance of this area in prehistoric and historic times. Twenty-four standing historic structures, such as Tulip Hill (a National Landmark which was built in 1756) and Cedar Park (a 1702 post in the ground structure which is listed on the National Register) include some of the most important buildings in Maryland and the Chesapeake. Few 20th century improvements have intruded on the historic rural character of this roadway and surrounding farmland, no doubt due to the continuous ownership of large tracts of land by a few families for generations.

The Cumberstone project has three main goals. The first goal is to assess all known and potential historic structures and archaeological properties in order to determine their level of significance and integrity. The second goal is to produce a multiple property nomination to the National Register of Historic Places to create a rural district including both archaeological sites and historic structures. The final goal is to investigate existing preservation and environmental protections already in place for the area, and to attempt to design better protection mechanisms for use by Anne Arundel County Planners.

Since July, work toward meeting all three goals has been in progress. The assessment phase of the project has been particularly successful in attracting volunteer participation. The County has been able to sponsor four field days in conjunction with the Archaeological Society of Maryland, Inc. (ASM). During these four days, 34 amateurs participated in field and shoreline survey and in limited shovel testing of wooded areas. Thanks to the efforts of these volunteers 15 new sites were added to the previously known 54 sites. In addition, the volunteers were able to better define 7 sites which had been recorded in the late 1960s.

Several significant historic sites have been located. One is associated with the 1662 "Ewen upon Ewenton" land patent. This 400 acre tract was the home of Richard Ewen during the 1660s.

and 1670s. Today the site is part of Cedar Park Farm, which is still owned by Ewen descendants. Also located at Cedar Park was a plantation landing which may date to the 17th century. In addition to the two sites found at Cedar Park, several 19th century African American slave or tenant house sites were also located. Work on the project will continue through the spring.

### *Baltimore City*

During 1991 MAAR Associates, Inc., of Newark, Delaware, was contracted by Whitman, Reardon and Associates to provide a HABS/HAER recording of the dam and gatehouse located at Lake Roland, Baltimore County, Maryland. Built during 1858-1860 in response to a growing need for adequate water supplies within the City of Baltimore, the Baltimore Aqueduct was constructed encompassing Lake Roland, Hampden Reservoir, Mount Royal Reservoir, connecting pipelines and a city-wide system of distribution mains. This system was one of the early major urban water supply projects in America, but proved to be a failure because of the lack of controls on construction along the waterways feeding into the system. The inflow of waste products, siltation, and a slaughterhouse built on the banks of Lake Roland led to a number of typhoid outbreaks and eventually to the closing of the water supply system in 1915.

The Lake Roland Dam, completed in August 1861, was built of rubble stone construction and faced with limestone quarried at the Texas, Maryland quarries. Measuring 125 feet across, and 60 feet thick at the base, the dam is only now beginning to exhibit signs of decay, and is being replaced to avoid collapse. The Lake Roland gatehouse, a marble on brick structure with Greek Revival design, housed the floodgates that controlled waterflow, and included one of the first hypochlorite systems, added in 1911, utilizing chlorine to control bacteria in the system. This structure is being restored and is part of the scenery of Lake Roland Park.

The dam and gatehouse were recorded architecturally by Ms. Sheryl Huck, and photographed with large format cameras by Marge and Richard Green. Historical information was largely taken from an article written by John McGrain, Baltimore County Landmarks Preservation Society, in the Maryland Historical Magazine, and supplemented by research by Kenneth Baumgardt.

### *Annapolis*

Archaeology in Annapolis completed its fifth season of excavations at the St. Mary's site (18AP45) during the summer of 1991. This season focused on the ground story rooms within the existing house and was deemed necessary because most intact archaeological remains were to be removed during the current restoration/modernization project. Research questions initially focused on the house's many architectural changes spanning the late 17th through the late 20th centuries, so observations of architectural details and anomalies guided the placements of initial excavation units in each room. However, clarifying the nature of specific architectural developments was only one aspect of the archaeological research. A second concern was to identify and interpret discreet activity areas in the ground story, as well as to identify changes in uses of space over time.

In general, the late 18th-century East Wing and the 19th-century West Wing had more undisturbed archaeological deposits than did

the early 18th-century house core. In several areas it appears that Redeptionists' (owner's from 1852 to the present) activities disturbed earlier deposits. However, in the majority of the East Wing, Redeptionist-period deposits had covered late 18th and early 19th-century deposits associated with Charles Carroll of Carrollton's ownership. A large rectangular, mortared pit was discovered to have existed west of the house prior to West Wing construction (pre-1856). This feature is thought to have been a Carroll-period cistern or water catchment basin, based on water-lain sediments discovered in two areas of the pit and on its location at the west end of the house nearest an underground spring. This early feature was almost completely destroyed by the mid-19th century construction of the West Wing and by later construction of another similarly-shaped pit. The intended use for this later pit is still unknown. Evidence of a Carroll-period wooden floor laid over brick footers was found in the East Wing.

Stratified late 18th- and early 19th-century deposits existed across the entire room near the bases of the floor footers. The current interpretation is that these deposits are material remains associated with slaves' work space and possibly domestic space.

This sealed East Wing assemblage contains several distinctive objects, including an extremely tight concentration of fourteen separate clear to smokey quartz crystals, a clear, cut glass bead, a polished black stone and the base of a handpainted pearlware bowl exhibiting a blue asterisk mark on its base. The bowl was found upside down, at a slightly higher elevation, and immediately south of the crystals, bead and stone. Other notable artifact groups include: large numbers of assorted buttons, straight pins, scissor fragments and a bodkin; Chinese porcelain and refined English earthenwares (but few utilitarian wares); several coins (including one disk or possible worn coin that had been pierced); and large amounts of butchered animal bones (including fish, poultry and several species of mammal bones).

According to Frederick Lamp, Curator of African Art at the Baltimore Museum of Art, a number of these objects may have functioned as part of a divination system. The assemblage may provide material evidence that African slaves were able to maintain native beliefs and values in America and, under some circumstances, were able to keep at least a recognizable form of associated religious expressions alive as well.

A final site report of the 1991 excavations is now available (a fee will be charged for the costs of reproduction). Recommended research still to be undertaken includes faunal analysis, additional documentary research in light of the unexpected archaeological discoveries and continuing collaboration with interested archaeologists and scholars in other disciplines. For information, please contact George Logan, Site Supervisor, or Marian Creveling, Laboratory Supervisor, at (410) 268-7770 or (301) 405-1429.

### *Prince George's County*

The History Division Archaeology Program of The Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission is working on several projects in Prince George's County, Maryland. These include the investigations of the Northampton slaves quarters, the restoration of the Cherry Hill Cemetery, excavations in the basement of Marietta (early 19th century home of Supreme Court Judge Gabriel Duvall), and an 18th century burial vault at Darvall's Chance. During the summer and fall of 1991 excavations continued at the Northampton

slaves quarters in Mitchellville, Maryland. Two slaves quarters are being investigated. A brick structure was investigated by Louis Berger & Associates in 1989 and 1990. The MNCPPC History Division is currently in the process of excavating the ruins of a late 18th century frame slaves quarter. Following the archaeological investigations the foundation of the frame quarter will be reconstructed, and the two quarters will become the focus of an archaeological and historical community park.

From March 1991 until June 1991, Archaeology Program staff and volunteers undertook test excavations at the Cherry Hill Cemetery in the Beacon Heights neighborhood of Riverdale, MD. Cherry Hill Cemetery is a late 19th century black family farm cemetery established by Joshua Adams in 1887. Excavations revealed twelve unmarked grave shafts. No human remains were excavated as the focus of the project was to locate unmarked graves so they could be remarked. A unique aspect of the cemetery is that the graves were marked with locally available iron bearing stones (limonite). Park Planners are working with the Cherry Hill Cemetery Restoration Committee and the History Division to produce a landscaping plan that will exhibit the cemetery's original plans and plantings as dictated by Joshua Adams in his will of 1887. Interpretive signage will be installed, and the restored cemetery will then become a small community park.

Analysis of artifacts and human remains recovered from a mid to late 18th century burial vault at Darnall's Chance continues. The remains of nine individuals were recovered beneath six feet of rubble fill. Preliminary artifact analysis indicate that the burial vault was filled by the first quarter of the 19th century. Douglas Owsley of the Smithsonian Institution has conducted analysis of the human remains. The remains of the nine individuals recovered from the vault represented all age groups that could be expected to occupy an 18th century household. They include a middle aged male, a late middle aged female, a young female, an adolescent, a female child, and three infants. While they appear to represent the elements of one family, at the present level of historical, genealogical, and skeletal analysis, it is not clear whether the individuals were a single family unit. Further historical research is required to enumerate all possibilities of relation between these individuals.

In addition to the burial vault studies, excavations have begun on an outbuilding discovered during repairs to the driveway leading to Darnall's Chance. In January, archaeology program staff and volunteers began emergency excavations of the 14 by 17 foot brick foundation. All four corners of the structure were intact, and at least two courses of brick remain. Excavations will continue in an effort to determine the integrity and original function of the building.

#### *Late News Worth Reporting*

On March 9, 1991, the Council for Maryland Archaeology hosted a one day "Common Ground Conference" at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum in St. Leonard, Maryland. The conference was organized by Hettie Ballweber, Carol Ebright, and Louise Akerson, and was designed to bring together representatives from various state professional archaeological organizations to compare functions, organizational structures, and common goals and problems. Sixty archaeologists attended, representing the Pennsylvania Archaeological Council, the Council on West Virginia Archaeology, the New York Archaeological Council, the Council of Virginia Archaeologists, the Council for Maryland Archaeology, the

Washington D.C. Council for Public Archaeologists, and the Delaware Bureau of Archaeology, History, and Museums.

The morning session consisted of presentations by each of the state organizations on their membership composition and requirements: past, present, and future activities; and issues of special interest. The afternoon session consisted of moderated discussion groups on current archaeological legislation, CRM standards and guidelines, state plans, human remains, public education, synthesis and predictive modeling, agency review and lobbying. The discussion groups were aimed at problem definition. Each moderator subsequently presented a synopsis of the discussion results to the group at large. Summation of the discussions indicated that while each issue had its unique aspects, there was a clear need for interaction with the general public to gain their understanding and support on nearly all issues.

## **NEWFOUNDLAND/LABRADOR**

Reported by: Rob Ferguson

### *Jacques Whitford Environment Limited*

JWEL archaeologist Callum Thomson directed four historic resources-related projects in the province in 1991. Surveys and mitigation activities continued for the Department of National Defence at four short range radar sites on the north coast of Labrador, resulting in the discovery and protection of ten new historic and prehistoric sites.

Six proposed tourist lodge sites on the north coast, including one near the early 19th century Moravian Mission station at Hebron, were assessed for impacts on archaeological sites and potential for natural and cultural interpretation.

A draft museum plan, developed in conjunction with Jane Sproull Thomson, Dartmouth, was submitted to the Torngasok Cultural Centre in Nain to help guide the establishment of a museum and related outreach programs in north coast communities.

In Newfoundland, contributions were made to the Canadian Heritage Rivers System Management Plan for the Main River. Archaeological potential in the Main River/White Bay area includes development of Maritime Archaic and Palaeo-Eskimo sites in Sop's Arm and archaeological investigation of documented disagreements over land ownership and fishing rights between French and English settlers in the late 18th century.

### *St. John's*

Peter Pope, of the Department of History, Memorial University of Newfoundland, completed phase I of an archaeological inventory and analysis for the City of St. John's. The 146 page study, entitled *St. John's Harbour Area Archaeological Potential*, was presented to the Heritage Advisory Committee in late fall and recommends, among other things, that Water Street be designated a sensitive area, in which archaeological assessments would be required before redevelopment. Copies are on file at the City Archives, the Centre for Newfoundland Studies and the Centre for Material Culture Studies at MUN.

## NEW BRUNSWICK

Reported by: Rob Ferguson

### *Jacques Whitford Environment Limited*

Callum Thomson and Chris Blair, Fredericton, conducted five historic resources-related projects in the province in 1991. Two sections of the proposed new Trans Canada Highway near Moncton and a new NB Power transmission line on the upper reaches of the Saint John River were surveyed. Principal findings included several 19th century farm house remains and old fence/wall lines and abandoned fields, testimony to the changing economy and social structure of both regions.

A proposed Department of National Defence armoury on the shore of Saint John Harbour was assessed for archaeological remains. It was found that the area is situated between an 18th century mast dock, used to contain pine and other logs floated down the river and destined for use as masts on British naval vessels, and the site of Fort Latour (1631-1645). The original floor of the harbour was reached at 5 meters below the present surface of infilled debris and an assemblage of mid-late 19th century and 20th century artifacts recovered. The site is surrounded by several other areas of archaeological interest including prehistoric Indian sites, 17th century Indian villages recorded by Champlain, a portage route, 17th-18th century forts and other military establishments, and 19th century trading posts, dwellings and wharves.

A review was conducted of historic and prehistoric sites and areas of heritage resources potential on Campobello Island, the late 19th - early 20th century summer home of Franklin Roosevelt. The project involved an initial environmental assessment of impacts from park activities for the Canadian Parks Service, on behalf of the Department of External Affairs for the Roosevelt Campobello International Park Commission.

### *Fundy National Park*

A conductivity survey of the Point Wolfe Cemetery failed to clarify the location of unmarked 19th- and 20th-century graves. Interpretation was hampered by the presence of a large chain-link fence around the site. This was compensated for by using data filtered at 1.5 and 3.0 meters for the production of computer maps by *Geomar Geophysics*. Major anomalies indicated drainage areas and most known grave locations, suggesting that unmarked graves were either very rudimentary or were located outside the fenced area.

## NOVA SCOTIA

Reported by: Rob Ferguson

### *Jacques Whitford Environment Limited*

Callum Thomson and Helen Sheldon managed six archaeological projects in 1991. The 1991 gathering of field, informant and archival data on sites of heritage interest which might be affected by the proposed sewage collection and treatment facilities in the Halifax-Dartmouth area continues in 1992 into the mitigation recom-

mendations and final report stage. Associated archaeologists, Roy Skanes of LeDrew Fudge and Associates Limited, St. John's and Bruce Stewart of Porter Dillon Limited, Halifax, worked with JWEL recording underwater and terrestrial sites from the past three centuries of historic settlement in the vicinity of the harbour.

A team of archaeologists was provided by JWEL to the Canadian Parks Service for excavations of 18th century military emplacements on Georges Island in Halifax Harbour under the field direction of Earl Luffman. The mid-19th century Wellington Lock, part of the short-lived (1861-1871) Shubenacadie Canal system between Dartmouth and the Bay of Fundy, is being restored by the Shubenacadie Canal Commission. JWEL provided archaeological monitoring and excavation services during geotechnical testing operations. Material recovered included historic artifacts post-dating the use of the Canal, which was abandoned in favor of railway links across the province to the Bay of Fundy. Some prehistoric material was also found re-deposited in construction fill and around the margin of Grand Lake.

Surveys were conducted for Nova Scotia Power of a new transmission line in New Glasgow and a proposed industrial plant on the Strait of Canso. Nineteenth century farm sites were recorded in the latter area.

During a survey for Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Communications of a new section of the Trans Canada Highway between Salt Springs and Alsea, Pictou County, the foundations of an 1822 church and an associated graveyard were recorded and mitigation measures proposed.

### *Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Park*

Archaeological testing was conducted at three locations along the North Shore of Louisbourg Harbour during the fall of 1991. The project was undertaken to evaluate the historical resource potential of three areas identified during surveys in 1986 and 1987. Two of the locations were found to contain substantial eighteenth-century cultural deposits associated with fish processing and agricultural activities. A dispersed eighteenth-century deposit was identified at the third locality, a property also associated with the cod fishery. Nineteenth-century land use has disturbed much of this earlier component. Coastal erosion was found to be a major force in the destruction of historical resources in this sector of the park.

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Reported by: Rob Ferguson

### *Jacques Whitford Environment Limited*

Several 18th century Acadian and 19th century Scottish farm sites were recorded during an assessment by JWEL archaeologist, Callum Thomson, of a proposed golf course at Lakeside on the northeast coast of Prince Edward Island. Mitigation measures were provided for avoidance of these features during course construction, managed by James C. Johnson Associates, Charlottetown.

Callum Thomson participated in the Resource Description and Analysis of environmental features in the Prince Edward Island National Park for Canadian Parks Service. The location, nature and significance of more than thirty historic and prehistoric sites in the park were described for park management purposes.

Callum Thomson, assisted by Regan Paquet, Curator of the Basin Head Fisheries Museum and Reginald Porter, Charlottetown, surveyed Lots 45-47 at the northeastern tip of Prince Edward Island. Ten new prehistoric and historic sites were recorded, including the remains of a late 19th century hotel. Most of the previously recorded sites in the area were re-visited, and attrition from marine erosion, development, agriculture, and unauthorized collecting was noted. The final report to the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs will include recommendations on site management.

## ONTARIO

Reported by: Stephen Mills

The staff from the Archaeological Research Section of the Canadian Parks Service, Ontario Region, experienced a busy year in 1991 with field projects undertaken in National Parks and Historic Sites across the province. Due to the wide variety of cultural resources located within Ontario's National Parks system, the Archaeological Research Section is divided into three Units: National Parks and Native Sites; Canals, Domestic and Fur Trade Sites; and Military Sites. The following summary covers all the historic projects undertaken in 1991 by all three Units.

### *National Parks and Native Sites Projects*

Under the direction of project archaeologist Brian Ross, two historic Ojibway cemeteries on Beausoleil Island in Georgian Bay Islands National Park were investigated and documented this summer. One cemetery has been well maintained; while the other had been completely forgotten until its re-discovery in 1990. The intent of this project was to gather as much information as possible on the true extent and orientation of these cemeteries without any site intrusion. Each cemetery was first mapped using standard surveying techniques and then mapped by remote sensing, using a Geonic's EM-38 ground conductivity meter. A comparison between the two mapping techniques indicates that such remote sensing is a valuable predictive tool in locating archaeological resources and can be useful for the management of cemeteries such as those on Beausoleil Island.

The pattern of anomalies at the well maintained cemetery suggests that other graves and/or the remains of earlier fences now lie outside its perimeter. Also, a significant number of graves appear to exist that have not been identified; and many grave markers have in areas devoid of actual graves. The strongest anomalies tend to be grouped in asymmetrical clusters rather than in neat rows. This seems to indicate a burial pattern foreign to the Euro-Canadian norm; perhaps indicative of Native kinship groupings. And yet, at the abandoned cemetery, the distribution of anomalies runs in three broad bands oriented diagonally across the site. Here, too, major anomalies extend beyond the limits of our grid, suggesting that it is very likely that the actual cemetery is much larger than our survey area.

### *Canals, Domestic and Fur Trade Site Projects*

The Canals, Domestic and Fur Trade Sites Unit, under the direction of project archaeologist Caroline Phillips, conducted excavations and archaeological monitoring at six sites in Ontario during 1991.

Excavations were conducted at Bethune Memorial House in Gravenhurst, as part of a continuing historic landscape project. An area of the garden which was disturbed by a construction crew during the fall of 1990 was investigated as the possible location of a well. A pit was located, but it was not possible to complete its investigation; this will be done in the spring of 1992. Two school programs were included with the field work. Children from two grade seven classes took part in the excavation, and they prepared drawings and text for a display in the Visitor Centre at the site.

A mitigation project was conducted at Sir John Johnson House in Williamstown, Ont. (built 1784-1792). This project proceeded the removal of shrubs and bushes around an outbuilding, believed to be the ice-house (built ca. 1830). The area was tested for the presence of a midden and artifacts that could positively date the construction of the building. A small number of 19th and 20th century domestic artifacts were recovered; however, there was no indication that the area was used as a midden. Nothing was found that could positively date the construction of the building.

Archaeological testing took place at the Kingston Mills lockstation on the Rideau Canal in preparation for an upcoming landscaping project. Units were excavated around the Anglin Centre lockmaster's house and the 19th century blockhouse. At the Anglin Centre the excavation revealed evidence of the original roadbed and several modern service lines. At the blockhouse a large quantity of late-19th century artifacts were recovered from fill layers that had accumulated along the south side of the building. Further work is planned for the blockhouse area in 1992.

Archaeological test excavations were conducted at Bellevue House National Historic Site in preparation for a repointing and regrading project and the construction of a wheelchair lift for the house. Excavations around the House foundation, in the driveway and stable yard, revealed important information on the original grades, including past surface treatments of the driveway and stable yard. During the excavations, the interpretation staff from the site, in cooperation with the Kingston-based Cataraqui Archaeological Research Foundation, ran a public archaeology program with students from the Kingston area.

Monitoring of construction projects was undertaken during 1991 at Inverarden House in Cornwall and at a landscape restoration project at Woodside National Historic Site in Kitchener.

### *Military Sites Projects*

Under the direction of project archaeologist Joseph Last and the supervision of David Christianson, Arnold Feast and Suzanne Piousos the Military Sites Unit concluded a three year investigation of the 1839 latrine at Fort Wellington National Historic Site in Prescott, Ontario. The twelve week excavation documented the structural history of the latrine as well as the stratigraphic sequence associated with its use. The aims of the excavations were to obtain structural and spatial information relevant to the stabilization and restoration of the latrine and its associated features. Further goals were to provide data pertinent to the interpretive themes for Fort Wellington National Historic Site.

The latrine is unique as it represents the only known wood framed, military privy of its age in Canada. Although a single structure, its interior was partitioned to accommodate the needs of Officers, Enlisted men, their wives and children. This spatial segregation is reflected in the cess-pit deposit, providing an unequalled oppor-

tunity to compare material culture, dietary differences and taste among military ranks and between single males and garrison families. Initial inventory of the artifacts reveals a seriation of 19th century materials including ammunition, industrial slipware, and tobacco pipes (with a good representative sample of Montreal manufacturers). Transitional forms in footwear from straight last to left/right designs were also present. Preservation of other organic material, such as knitted gloves and human hair clippings, was also high. Artifact research by the Historic Parks Headquarters Material Culture Research staff has just commenced. Presently, floral, faunal and parasitic samples are being prepared for future research. Even at this preliminary stage, the immense potential of the assemblage is evident.

While rich in artifacts, the real significance of the latrine is the undisturbed deposit. Stratigraphic analysis indicates that 30.4 cubic metres of the cess-pit was never emptied. Over 200 discrete layers were observed representing 88 years of continuous deposition.

In addition, the latrine demonstrates the evolution of Canadian waste management. In 1927 the cess-pit was replaced by Waterbury chemical toilets and then, in the 1940s, a flush toilet system was introduced.

The analysis of the findings from this project will surely enhance our understanding of British garrisons in Canada, and more specifically, the material and social history of the Royal Canadian Rifle Regiment which garrisoned Fort Wellington between 1843 and 1854.

Also during 1991, the Military Sites Unit carried out several short duration mitigation projects at the Niagara Historic Sites Complex in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario. While monitoring the excavation of a new service line for Navy Hall, a building foundation and a probable drain feature were recorded. The building may date to the mid-19th century, while the drain may relate to the original Navy Hall which was destroyed during the War of 1812. A series of small shovel tests for a service line on the property of the 19th century Butler's Barracks complex provided more information on a series of roadbeds & pathways. Finally, a monitoring program associated with tree planting at Fort Mississauga recorded additional evidence of a native component at the site.

## QUEBEC

Reported by: Monique Elie

### *The Petit Séminaire Site, Quebec City*

Daniel Simoneau reports that the City of Quebec, in cooperation with the Quebec Ministry of Cultural Affairs, undertook in the fall of 1991 the selective investigation of two specific sectors of the Séminaire de Québec complex. This action resulted from the planned expansion of the Musée du Séminaire in a courtyard and passageway where significant archaeological resources were believed to be located. Research was carried out by a twenty-five person team, including Daniel Simoneau as principal investigator, a physical anthropologist (Robert Larocque), a material culture researcher (Celine Cloutier), an historian (Andre Vachon), a prehistoric period archaeologist (Bernard Hébert), a collections manager (Lucie Boivin) and three site assistants (Serge Rouleau, Rene Belanger and Carl Lavoie). William Moss ensured the general coordination of the project.

The Séminaire de Québec was founded by Mgr François de Laval in 1668. It stands today on its original site, a farmstead first owned and occupied by the Hébert/Couillard family from ca. 1617 until its purchase for the needs of the Séminaire. Significant remains of both these early occupations were found as well as elements relating to a former cemetery and later transformations of the site.

### The Hébert/Couillard Farmstead

The partially excavated masonry foundations of a building dating from the first half of the 17th century and its associated material culture remains constitute the principal witness to the pre-seminary phase of occupation of the site. The structure, which is believed to have served both domestic and utilitarian functions, was found over a meter below the paved surface of the courtyard. It comprised two adjoining areas, one of which presents all the characteristics of domestic use: wood flooring, possible remains of a hearth as well as several domestic artifacts including numerous sewing pins. Levels associated with this period of occupation in the vicinity of the building also provided an appreciable quantity of artifacts related to trade (glass beads and lead shot), as well as coins and numerous ceramic sherds and bone fragments. Analysis of data and artifacts associated with this early farmstead will certainly provide valuable information concerning the lifeways and foodways of these early settlers.

### The Petit Séminaire Period

Several features relating to this period of occupation were found. They include the remains of a well cistern of a long rectangular building and of two mid-19th century handball courts. The substantial circular masonry lining of the well cistern was located close to the surface of the courtyard. Measuring 5 meters in diameter, its large circumference and thick masonry walls make it an imposing structure. Even though it contained relatively few artifacts for this type of feature, related structural and stratigraphical data constitute excellent indicators of function and period of use.

The same area also revealed the partial foundations of a long rectangular structure. They represent the remains of a building present on the site as early as 1714. Its function or period of use have yet to be determined, but the quality of its foundations suggests a relatively permanent structure of some importance. It is hoped that the analysis of associated data and artifacts will make it possible to identify this poorly documented construction.

The remains of two former handball courts consisting of the masonry foundations of a first structure built in 1854 and the pillars of a second structure erected in 1862 were also found in the courtyard. Both served until their demolition in 1925.

### The Ste-Anne Cemetery

Research in the area of a former cemetery (1691 - mid-19th century) was designed to collect, through selective excavations, a representative sample of burials. This sample would provide, according to the research design, data relating to the physical identity of the individuals buried there (age, sex, physical condition and so on), as well as information relating to burial practices, and to the use of the cemetery through time. Two successive (and super-imposed) periods of use were identified. The earliest involved the

inhumation of mostly adults in coffins, while the more recent was characterized by the multiple and disorderly interment of children without coffins. Of the approximately one hundred burials recovered, the earliest are the best preserved.

### *The Fleming Mill: A Listed Pre-industrial Archaeological Site*

Anne-Marie Balac, of the Quebec Ministry of Cultural Affairs, reports that the Fleming Mill Interpretation Center located in Ville de LaSalle on the island of Montreal opened its doors in July 1991. It results from two years of close cooperation between the City of LaSalle and the Montreal office of the Heritage branch of the Quebec Ministry of Cultural Affairs. A multidisciplinary team approach, where historians, archaeologists, museum curators, landscape specialists and architects interact, made this major project possible.

Built in 1812 by a Scott named William Fleming, the mill is the only remaining witness, in Quebec, of a particular English form of mill architecture and technology: conical form and wheel activated winding-gear.

Aside from historical research, development plans called for the evaluation and inventory of the archaeological resources of the site, as well as the monitoring of excavations related to its restoration. These activities made it possible to determine the importance of this pre-industrial mill which continued to operate until 1885. Cultural resources identified include the remains of two houses, those of an earlier mill, of a blacksmith shop and of a stable as well as numerous artifacts which bear witness to the everyday life of the Flemings. Several of these artifacts are presented in the site's new interpretation center. While most buildings no longer exist, the foundations of some of them are still present in the vicinity of the restored mill. Remains uncovered during field operations have since been reburied. Further investigations are planned in the context of the site's future development.

The exterior silhouette of the mill has been carefully restored on the basis of a combination of period illustrations and archaeological data. The interior of the building, on the other hand, was given a contemporary treatment, in the absence of its former layout. It now hosts various interpretative components arranged around a staircase. The components include tactile screens, scale models, theatrical activities, video and slide projections, and artifact displays. Overlooking the Saint Lawrence River, this original mill, listed as a protected archaeological site since 1983, now receives numerous visitors eager to discover their pre-industrial past.

## SUMMER FIELD SCHOOLS

### Family, Farm, Field & Garden Boston University Summer Term Archaeological Field School June 22 - July 31, 1992

Location: Newbury, Massachusetts  
Site: Spencer-Pierce-Little Farm  
Period of Site Occupation: Historical

Field Project, Significance of Site: The site is the Spencer-Pierce-Little Farm in Newbury, Massachusetts. The Spencer-Pierce-Little

house is a late first-period (ca. 1680) brick-and-stone dwelling with cruciform plan—the only one of its kind in New England. The site is owned by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, which also owns the ca. 230 acres that remains of the original farm. The archaeology is only one element of the multi-faceted research focused on the house and its occupants and their use of land over time. Archaeological deposits and features at the site are well-preserved, rich in artifactual, faunal, and floral material, and highly informative regarding changing patterns of land use.

Emphasis of Program: Field instruction will include all of the techniques involved in routine survey and excavation in addition to lectures on field conservation, zooarchaeology, environmental archaeology, architectural history, and local history. This intensive course is primarily intended to provide students with detailed instruction in excavation techniques and interpretation of the archaeological record at a site with complex soil stratification and a wide variety of sealed features dating to different time periods. The 1992 field season will continue intensive excavations on the houselot/farmyard immediately surrounding the house. Survey efforts will be aimed at delineating early field patterns and on locating additional sites.

Participant Pays for: Tuition and Room and Board. Student enrolled will be housed in a private residence on nearby Plum Island, only a few minutes from the site. Room and board will include three meals a day 5 days a week and a shared room. Travel to and from site included.

Tuition/Fees: \$1300.00

Room and Board: \$850.00

Academic Credit: 8 credits, graduate or undergraduate.

Application Deadline: May 31, 1992

Contact Address/Telephone: Dr. Mary Beaudry, Boston University, Department of Archaeology, 675 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02215. (617) 353-3415.

### 1992 Old Sturbridge Village Field School in Historical Archaeology and Excavation of the James Johnson Sawmill and Dwelling

Recently, Old Sturbridge Village archaeologists discovered an impressive sawmill site with storage pond, dams, and mill foundations perched between rocky ledges on museum property in Sturbridge, Massachusetts. The site occupied by local sawmill owner James Johnson from 1820 to 1857 and nearby remains of a dwelling will be the focus of the 1992 Old Sturbridge Village Field School in Historical Archaeology. The field school runs from June 22 - August 7, 1992 and is under the direction of John Worrell, Director of Research and Martha Lance, Research Fellow in Historical Archaeology. Excavation of the mill site and dwelling will enrich research already underway on rural sawmilling and the timber trade as part of a grant study partially funded by NEH entitled, "Tradition and Transformation: Rural Economic Life in Central New England 1790 - 1850." Curriculum this year will emphasize the effects of industrialization on the countryside and rural industries.

Field school participants are involved in excavation, survey, measured drawing, conservation, computer, and other field, lab

and recording activities. Lectures and workshops by village staff and trips to historic sites and museums complement field and lab work. Students participating in the Field School will be able to register for academic credit, the equivalent of a two-semester undergraduate or graduate course. No previous archaeological experience is required of applicants, although it is expected that they will have completed at least one year of college.

For more information please write or call: Martha Lance, Archaeology Field School, Old Sturbridge Village, 1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge, MA 01566. (508) 347-3362.

### Harvard University Summer School Excavations at Brook Farm June 19 - August 21, 1992

Brook Farm in West Roxbury, Massachusetts, is a site of particular significance because of the diversity and preservation of its archaeological resources ranging in time from prehistoric to modern periods. Founded by former Unitarian minister George Ripley in 1841, it is nationally known as the location of a utopian community that embraced Transcendentalism and Fourierism. Notable Brook Farm members and/or sympathizers included Nathaniel Hawthorne, Mariane Dwight, Charles Dana, Margaret Fuller, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Bronson Alcott. The site was later used as a Civil War camp (Camp Andrew), an almshouse, and an orphanage.

High school, college, and graduate students are offered the opportunity to participate in an ongoing cultural resource management project in cooperation with the Metropolitan District Commission, the Boston Landmarks Commission, and the Harvard Summer School. Previous archaeological surveys and testing have successfully located the sites of the Pilgrim House, the Eyrie, and the Phalanstery. This summer's project investigates the ruins of Brook Farm's main building, the Hive, and its various outbuildings and gardens. The class offers eight units of undergraduate or graduate credit.

Instruction will be provided by Dr. Robert W. Preucel, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Harvard University, and Dr. Steven R. Pender, Visiting Lecturer on Anthropology, Harvard University, and Boston City Archaeologist.

Admission to the program is by regular Harvard Summer School application and special Brook Farm supplementary application. For further information, write to Harvard Summer School, Attn: Promotions/BF, 51 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA 02138 or call (617) 495-4024.

### NEW PUBLICATIONS

*Actes du congrès de l'Association québécoise pour le patrimoine industriel* January 1992, Montreal, Aqpi, 73 pages (in French).

The Quebec Association for Industrial Heritage (Aqpi) has just published the proceedings of its meeting held in Hull on May 3rd and 4th, 1991. Several contributions specifically concern historical archaeology. These include "La conservation des objets industriels archéologiques" (Conservation of Industrial Archaeology Objects) by Elizabeth Joy and "L'archéologie de l'industrie du bois à Hull: les fouilles Edy" (Archaeology of the Hull Wood Industry: Excavations at the Eddy Site) by Pierre Nadon.

Bergeron, Andre and France Remillard  
*L'archéologie et la conservation* (Archaeology and Conservation). 1991. Quebec, Publications du Quebec, 183 pages.  
ISBN: 2-551-14758-1 (in French)

This is a pocket size conservation manual prepared by the Quebec Ministry of Cultural Affairs for the use of archaeologists working in the field. Printed on water resistant paper, it briefly discusses the interaction between natural context and archaeological remains and provides detailed information on how best to preserve all types of materials during and following their recovery.

Available from:

Publications du Quebec, C.P. 1005  
Quebec, Quebec G1K 7B5  
Fax: (418) 643-6177 (\$29.95 CDN)

Cote, Alain and Carl Lavoie

*La Poterie de Cap-Rouge. 1860-1892* (The Cap-Rouge Pottery) 1991, Quebec, La Societe historique de Cap-Rouge, 64 pages.  
ISBN 2-920680-00-7 (in French)

The Societe historique de Cap-Rouge has recently published the results of extensive historical and archaeological research relating to the Cap-Rouge Pottery (1860-1892). The authors not only discuss the archaeological data relating to the means of production and products (yellow-ware and Rockingham) but also provide a glimpse into the rich primary sources (account books, inventories, advertisements...) available for the study of this industry. Abundantly illustrated with photographs, plans and drawings.

Available from:

La Societe historique de Cap-Rouge  
1435 rue Provancher  
Cap-Rouge, Quebec G1Y 1R9  
(\$14.50 CDN) Phone orders: (418) 650-7785

Michel Fortin

*Elements de topometrie archeologique* 1991, Quebec, CELAT, Hors serie no. 4 (in French).

This abundantly illustrated booklet is intended to serve as a reference tool for the field archaeologist. It explains all the elements of topometry usually required to set up an excavation and to locate its findings when working without electronic measuring instruments.

Available from:

CELAT - Faculte des lettres  
Universite Laval  
Quebec, Quebec G1K 7P4  
Fax: (418) 656-2019 (\$9.25 CDN)

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I feel constrained to rebut Julia King's not-impartial review of the COVA symposium on historical archaeology. (See Number 20, July 1991.)

Most important, and most deserving of rebuttal, was her statement that "Chesapeake historical archaeologists are adopting more mainstream methodologies, including the standard use of screens

and the recovery of data from plow zone contexts."

I am alarmed to learn that the "standard use of screens" is "mainstream" methodology. On the contrary, the use of screens is a parochial characteristic of North American prehistoric archaeology. In the rest of the world, screens are unknown or frowned upon.

Studies have shown that screening is not as effective as troweling, when one seeks to recover small artifacts and nuances of context. It had been my impression that Noel Hume effectively discredited screening. His argument against reliance on the screen is just as valid as when it was published 22 years ago:

My reason for rejecting these devices loudly and unequivocally is simply this: if the artifacts are not seen *in situ*, where their stratigraphic significance can be determined, two-thirds of the site's story is being lost. Artifacts recovered from a screen must be classed as unstratified, and their only merits are in their ability to join to other objects that are stratified or as individual museum objects (Noel Hume 1969:104).

On a typical deeply-stratified prehistoric site, objects may be embedded in a bulky matrix, in which nothing is *in situ*, except where former ground surfaces have been covered by later soil deposits. The intervening soil layers can be shovelled and sifted without loss of data. I am currently digging such a prehistoric site, using sifters.

On historic sites, and on old ground surfaces or features within stratified prehistoric sites, the situation is entirely different. The exact position of artifacts in the ground is important data, and many of the artifacts are less than a quarter-inch across. On a typical historic site, where cultural layers are measured in millimeters, screens are useless, if not a positive threat to the resource.

Moreover, the presence of a screen on a site tends to give diggers a false sense of security, thinking that the screen will catch what they miss. This is not the case; artifact recovery at screened sites is perceptibly lower than sites where screens are absent.

Screening is inappropriate in most instances, and is second-best in those instances when allowable.

Let us hope that the screen never becomes a "mainstream" tool to the exclusion of careful, professional trowel work that, by definition, renders screens redundant.

Sincerely,  
Edward F. Heite

*Reply to Heite:*

I appreciate the opportunity to reply to Mr. Edward F. Heite's letter. Like most archaeologists, I share Mr. Heite's concern that as much data as possible be recovered from the archaeological record, including "small artifacts and nuances of context." I also agree that the careful troweling of undisturbed, stratified deposits is a basic rule in historical archaeology. However, and I suspect most archaeologists agree, careful troweling alone is not enough. The use of screens serves to standardize and to enhance data recovery. Otherwise, too much archaeological data run the risk of being lost (cf. Thomas 1990:215-217; Reitz 1982).

Careful troweling, thoughtful recordation and screening are *not* mutually exclusive. While Mr. Heite doubts the value of archaeological screening, he should consider using screens even when soils are carefully troweled to increase the value of his data sets for other archaeologists.

Sincerely,  
Julia A. King

Reitz, Elizabeth J.

1982 Availability and Use of Fish in Coastal Georgia and Florida. *Southeastern Archaeology* 1(1):65-88.

Thomas, David

1990 *Archaeology*. Philadelphia: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Inc.

[Editor's Note: Additional comments on this topic are welcome.]

## THE COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP / DEMANDE D'ADHESION

	U.S.	CDN
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\*\* For those who feel a primary commitment to Northeast Historical Archaeology and wish to support the Council's activities at a higher voluntary membership rate.

\*\* Pour ceux qui s'intéressent hautement à l'archéologie historique du Nord-Est américain et qui veulent aider à soutenir l'action du Conseil en versant une cotisation plus élevée.

Mail to / Poster à l'adresse ci-dessous: Susan Henry  
Treasurer, CNEHA  
113 E. Raymond Ave.  
Alexandria, VA 22301

# Council For Northeast Historical Archaeology

## NEWSLETTER

JULY 1992

NUMBER 22

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### 1992 ANNUAL MEETING GLENS FALLS, NEW YORK OCTOBER 2-4, 1992

Pre-registration packets for the 1992 Annual Meeting will be mailed out to all members with this newsletter. If you would like to submit a paper but have not yet submitted your title and abstract, there may still be time if you act immediately. Please contact David Starbuck, the 1992 conference organizer, at P.O. Box 147, Fort Edward, New York 12828 (518 747-2926).

The southern Adirondacks are beautiful in the early fall, accommodations are reasonably priced, and the papers should prove interesting!

### COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Chairman: Pierre Beaudet  
Newsletter Editor:  
David Starbuck  
P.O. Box 147  
Fort Edward, New York 12828  
(518) 747-2926

### UPDATE—

#### *Northeast Historical Archaeology*

Reported by: Mary Beaudry, Editor

By now I hope you have received your copy of Volume 18. This volume was mailed to current members as well as to everyone who was a member in 1988-89, 1989-90, 1990, and 1991. Normally we send the journal only to the people who were members in the year the journal was supposed to appear—in this case, 1988-89. [You will recall we switched from our traditional October-October membership year to a calendar year membership in 1990—much simpler for all of us!] The CNEHA Executive Board decided that we were losing too many members because new members would join and go for years and years without receiving any journals. The size of this cumulative mailing (over 500) proves beyond a doubt this is true; our present membership is right around 300. So as journal editor I am all too aware of the problems caused by delay in journal production; the major result is that we lose members!

So I'm pleased to report that activity on the journal front has been at an all-time high this spring. We have had a total of 7 manuscripts submitted for review; several have been returned to authors for revision. What's more, we are expecting to receive a revised version of at least one manuscript returned for revision (though there's more than one out there) last fall. So Volume 19 is taking shape; we are ambitiously looking forward to having it ready by the fall meeting in Glens Falls. The Salwen memorial volume is still in the works and should, we hope, reach production stage by the fall and, with luck, will be sent to you in early 1993.

Volume 18 had a few glitches but, we think, looks very good overall. I do have to offer my apologies for a mistake I made in my Editor's Introduction. This is the first time I've written an introduction to an issue of the journal, and wouldn't you know I'd make a glaring error! My apologies to Pfeiffer, Dudar, and Austin for saying that Prospect Hill cemetery was in Windsor instead of Newmarket, Ontario, and I am grateful to Dena Doroszenko for pointing this out to me. If only I had showed her the intro before we went to press, I could have avoided making such a stupid blunder (and I have no idea why I thought the site was in Windsor!). But since I didn't transfer my confusion to the article itself, I hope little harm was done!

Comments, suggestions, and, of course, manuscripts are welcomed! Please help us succeed in our struggle to bring the journal up to date by sending in that article you've promised yourself you'd see in print someday!

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT

Reported by: David Starbuck, Editor

Most of our members are probably in the field right now, but it's never too early to submit copy for the next issue of the newsletter. All copy should be in to either me or the appropriate state/provincial editor by September so that the next issue will come out soon after the annual meeting in October.

I'm looking forward to seeing most of you in Glens Falls — send in your paper title and abstract right away if you haven't already!

### ROYALTY CHECK FROM BAYWOOD PUBLISHING COMPANY

The Council is pleased to announce receipt of the 14th royalty check for \$214.58 from sales of *Historical Archaeology: A Guide to Substantive and Theoretical Contributions*, Edited by Robert L. Schuyler. (\$24.95 + \$2.50 postage, Baywood Publishing Company, Inc., Amityville, New York 11701).

### THOUGHTS TOWARDS A USERS' GUIDE TO CERAMIC ASSEMBLAGES

by George L. Miller

The University of Delaware Center for Archaeological Research

#### PART THREE

Part two of this series on "Thoughts Towards a Users' Guide to Ceramic Assemblages" drew a long letter of response and just criticism from Bill Kelso. I had hoped that Bill would send his letter stating his views on the subject to the Newsletter to add to the discussion of ways in which we present data and excavate sites. I shall take the liberty of presenting this summary of some of Bill's comments.

Kelso's comments on the way in which I presented my case for the importance of the plow zone were right on target. Clearly, in the real world, the excavation of a site represents a contest between limited funding and available time versus the compromises made in getting the most information from a site given those constraints. My bemoaning what is lost when the plow zone is "bladed away" is not a solution to the problem of the information loss and the compromises that have to be made, particularly in environmental archaeology. Bill also objected to my use of the terms "bulldozed" and "blown away". These terms are value laden and were not necessary to the discussion of the need to have a description of what an excavated sample represents. I thank Bill for pointing out my use of these value laden terms.

Another point Kelso raised was that plow zone from the Pettis site was screened, but off site. The site was to be graded down twenty feet to make a marina and time was limited, so the plow zone, which was "loaded" with artifacts was trucked back to the lab yard (16 truckloads) where it was screened over the next four years. Therefore, the recovered sample from that site was a very high proportion of the archaeological population.

My use of Pettis and Utopia collections for a comparison of two

assemblages was not aimed at making a comment on the quality of the archaeology. I merely wanted to suggest how other artifact categories such as food bone can sometimes shed some light on the ceramic samples in terms of how well they represent the population from which they were recovered. I hope that Bill Kelso and others will respond in letters to the CNEHA Newsletter because we need open discussions of the issues involving archaeological research. Before leaving this topic, I would like to restate that the main thrust of part two of the "Thoughts towards a Users' Guide to Ceramic Assemblages" was to encourage archaeologists and others using their data to provide much more information on just what their excavated samples represent and to provide their readers with some suggestive estimate of what proportion of the archaeological population was recovered.

Before going on with the discussion of use of ceramic assemblages, I would like to comment on Edward F. Heite's letter in the April issue of the Newsletter. Mr. Heite's letter was in response to Julia King's review of the COVA Symposium on Historical Archaeology in which she stated that "Chesapeake historical archaeologists are adopting more mainstream methodologies, including the standard use of screens and the recovery of data from plow zone contexts."

Mr. Heite took a strong stand against screening which he supported with a quote from Ivor Noel Hume published in 1969 on the loss of artifacts and information by relying on the screen. It should be pointed out that Colonial Williamsburg's Department of Archaeological Research has made the screen a standard tool of their excavations since Marley Brown came to Williamsburg in 1982. I have had eight years of looking at assemblages in the Colonial Williamsburg collections from both screened and unscreened contexts, and it is my impression that the screened contexts have higher counts of small finds such as straight pins, small bone fragments, and mini-sherds. In the field, I have seen the finely troweled soil taken to the screen which resulted in the recovery of additional artifacts. I would add that this impression has not been put to any tests because few of us working in Williamsburg questioned the value of screening. Given that Julia King's above statement also mentions the recovery of data from the plow zone, one wonders if Mr. Heite trowels the plow zone of the sites he excavates. The screen is a tool, just as is the gradall, and all have their place in the excavation of sites. We may have different opinions on when and how to use them, but to suggest that screens are not an appropriate tool for historical archaeology is going a bit far.

#### Breaking Archaeological Assemblages into Functional Groups

The analysis of ceramic assemblages has come a long way in the last couple of decades. Early site reports often included doll parts, marbles, and floor tiles in their listing of ceramic counts which were duly calculated into the percentage tables of recovered ceramics. We are still looking for meaningful functional breakdowns for the analysis of archaeological assemblages. Anne Yentsch, in an article titled "Minimal Vessel Lists as Evidence of Change in Folk and Courty Traditions of Food Use", provided a useful breakdown for food related vessels into the following classes: 1. Food Preparation and Storage, 2. Kitchen, and Food Consumption, 3. Food Distribution, 4. Beverage Distribution, and 5. Beverage Consumption (Yentsch, *Historical Archaeology*, 1990). Organizing assemblages along these lines will begin to bring order to the data

that will greatly facilitate the comparison among collections. Yentsch's breakdown covers most of the food related types of vessels typically found in archaeological assemblages and appears to work very well for assemblages from the 17th and 18th centuries.

I have been using a simpler functional breakdown for ceramic assemblages in an attempt to establish the "market basket" of ceramics typically available in country stores for the period 1780 to 1880. The market basket research grew out of a project titled "English Ceramics in America, 1760 to 1860: Marketing, Prices and Availability" that was funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (RO-21158-86). Additional funding for this research was provided by two fellowships to Winterthur Museum which has an incredible collection of invoices, account books. The "market basket" is being generated from invoices for ceramics imported to the American market and invoices for ceramics purchased by country merchants. Economists use the "market basket" concept as a tool in establishing the consumer price index. The "market basket" represents the best estimate of what the American consumers were purchasing at a given point in time. For the ceramic "market basket", I have used invoices to establish the make up of wares. These wares have been broken down into four basic functional groups which are: 1. Tableware, 2. Tea ware, 3. Kitchenware, and 4. Toilet ware. Most of the available invoices were limited to refined English or American wares and did not include the coarse wares such as would have been used in storage and dairying. The classification system being used is the one used by the Staffordshire potters in their price fixing lists and the categories hold together very well when compared over a long period of time. There are some choices which some would question. For example, the potters had a grouping titled "Mugs and Jugs ware" which included bowls. In this classification, jugs are pitchers. The English still call pitchers "jugs." These wares all came in dip decorations such as mocha, common cable, annular bands and other types of decoration which are rarely found on table or tea wares. Therefore, bowls in this classification, unless they are clearly identified as tea wares such

as slop bowls, have been classified as kitchen ware. Bakers and nappies on the other hand, have been classified as tableware because they have been classified as such by the potters. Clearly some bakers would have been used to prepare food in the kitchen, just as some bowls would have been used to serve food at the table. No classification system is perfect, and one is reminded of recorded incidents where chamber pots have been used as soup tureens. Table One presents the percentage of these functional types for invoices dating from 1783 to 1858.

From the distributions shown in Table One, it can be seen that there was a high level of consistency among these groups from 1783 to 1858. Over half of the vessels in all of the above assemblages was tea ware. Tableware seems to gradually increase through this period which probably is a reflection of the declining use of pewter. The surprising category is toilet ware which seems rather low. This may be because a large number of chamber pots would have been made in red wares and salt-glazed stonewares. Toilet wares were on the increase by the 1850s which seems to be related to the introduction of white granite wares.

#### Most Common Types of Vessels

Some archaeologists feel intimidated in their identification of vessels because of the great variety that were produced. For example, the 1789 Whitehead pattern book lists 57 different types of vessels, while the 1814 Leeds pattern book lists 86 different vessel forms. The number of available forms was expanding as ceramic prices dropped during the first half of the 19th century. For example, the 1796 Staffordshire potters' price fixing agreement only lists 35 vessel types. The potters had expanded the types of vessels available to 93 types by the 1846 price fixing list. This seems like a lot of forms to attempt to identify; however, most of these vessel types are rarely found listed in invoices or in archaeological assemblages.

TABLE ONE  
Percentages of Vessels by Major Functional Groups

YEAR	VESSELS	TEA	TABLE	KITCHEN	TOILET
1783	5,058	68.0	22.1	8.5	1.4
1806	39,018	52.8	27.0	18.6	1.6
1824	1,475	60.2	30.0	9.8	NONE
1825	893	57.4	35.5	5.7	1.3
1826	2,244	59.1	25.7	13.5	1.7
1827	2,715	53.9	34.0	10.7	1.3
1828	1,917	55.8	26.7	16.9	0.6
1829	1,371	58.6	31.1	9.4	0.9
1830	564	62.2	34.0	1.6	2.1
1856	2,463	63.5	26.7	6.0	3.8
1857	4,344	54.8	33.5	7.7	4.0
1858	6,725	53.1	38.3	6.1	2.4

**TABLE TWO**  
Forms and Percentages of Vessels for Five Assemblages, 1783-1858

VESSEL FORM	1783	1806	1826	1828	1856	1858
<b>TEA WARE</b>						
cups & saucers	42.7	41.7	52.9	52.6	57.5	48.2
coffees	17.1				2.9	0.7
bowls & saucers		6.2				
teapots	4.3	3.2	3.5	0.8	3.2	0.6
<b>TABLE WARE</b>						
platters	1.4	0.8	2.7	1.0	1.0	2.4
plates & twiflers	14.2	16.9	13.9	7.5	14.1	14.6
muffins	none	7.4	7.1	16.3	10.2	17.8
bakers & nappies	none	0.5	1.6	0.6	1.0	1.8
<b>KITCHEN WARE</b>						
bowls	5.7	14.2	11.1	13.8	3.9	3.4
mugs	2.8	1.8	none	1.3	0.7	0.4
pitchers	none	2.0	2.3	1.9	1.3	2.2
<b>TOILET WARE</b>						
chambers	1.4	1.0	1.1	0.6	0.6	0.7
ewers & basins	none	0.7	0.6	none	3.1	1.3
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>89.6%</b>	<b>96.4%</b>	<b>96.8%</b>	<b>96.4%</b>	<b>99.5%</b>	<b>94.1%</b>
other vessels	10.4%	3.65%	3.2%	3.6%	0.5%	5.9%

Fortunately, over ninety percent of the vessels in our assemblages can be accounted for by just 16 types of vessels. Table Two lists these forms and the percentages of the vessels that they account for in five assemblages from 1783 to 1858. These are simple forms that most archaeologists can identify from small sherds. If you are willing to break down your assemblages into these basic simple vessels, then you will have greater interplay between documentary and archaeological assemblages.

The information presented here is from the project on establishing the "market basket" of ceramics available in country stores from the 1780s on to 1900. If you have any invoices for ceramics that you would care to share, I would appreciate having a xerox copy. I will be more than willing to pay the cost of reproduction. Once again, responses to this column are encouraged and welcomed.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

### Dutch History Conference Scheduled

The annual Reenselaerswijck Seminar will be held on Saturday, September 19, 1992 at the New York State Museum in Albany, New York. The theme of this year's meeting is "The Dutch in the Age of Exploration" and will feature speakers from the Netherlands as well as archaeologist Robert Grumet of the National Park Service. In addition, members of the New York State Library staff will put together an exhibit on early atlases and maps for the seminar. Registration is \$20 and will open at 8:30 on the day of the meeting.

To pre-register or receive a brochure, write The New Netherland Project, NYSL, CEC 8th Floor, Albany, NY 12230.

### "Computers in Conservation"

ICOMOS Canada will hold its 4th Recording and Documentation Committee Symposium in Quebec City, August 17-19, 1992. The general theme of the meeting will be "Desk-top Heritage Recording and Cultural Resource Information Management". Topics to be covered, several of which are directly pertinent to archaeological research and recording, include:

- \* Computer Aided Drafting
- \* PC based Photogrammetry

- Scaled Photo Rectification on your PC
- Laptop Field Recording
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- 3D Modeling
- Graphic Databases
- Global Positioning

If you wish to present a paper (in French or English) or to attend the symposium please contact the following:

Recording and Documentation Committee  
 Comité de relevés et de Documentation  
 ICOMOS CANADA  
 6022-A St-Laurent  
 Case postale 582  
 Lévis, Québec G6V 7E5

## CURRENT RESEARCH

### Maine

Reported by: Emerson Baker

#### Pemaquid

Nearly a mile from the mouth of the Pemaquid River are the ruins of a fortified hamlet possibly owned by merchant/fur traders Nicholas Davison and Thomas Gardner between 1658 and 1676. Since 1985 Neill DePaoli has led excavations that have focused on the site of a probably third quarter seventeenth century dwelling/truckhouse. Fieldwork has revealed a structure (S-1) exhibiting a blend of earthfast and masonry construction. S-1 measured a minimum of 37.5' by 13.5'. The building's northern section was post-in-ground and measured 13.5' by 17'. It was divided into two rooms. The western "room" may have been little more than a cross passage. An off-center doorway provided access to the adjoining unheated northern room.

The 20.5' by 13.5' southern section of the building was more substantial, as it appears to have sat on a masonry footing/foundation. The cellar was stone walled and stone floored, with the eastern wall 2.5' thick (roughly double the thickness of the other three walls). A later building episode was represented by a second massive stone footing immediately east of the first, and a series of trench set and driven posts east of S-1's "cross passage." The two masonry features likely supported a heavy timber superstructure, possibly a protected firing platform. The posts may be a variant of the "paucheon buildings" of early Virginia. Excavation continues this summer.

#### Conference

On May 19 the York Institute Museum (in Saco) hosted its third annual conference for Maine historical archaeologists. In paper presentations, research updates, and group discussions, the day provides an opportunity for the community to present new ideas, collaborate on research projects, and visit with friends. In the past red clay tobacco pipes and earthfast architecture have been the focus of discussion. Both topics have gone on to be major research projects by groups of archaeologists. Indeed, this year Emerson Baker,

Robert Bradley, Leon Cranmer, and Neill DePaoli presented "Earthfast Architecture in Early Maine," a paper presented just several days before at the Vernacular Architecture Forum's annual meeting. This paper described a wide-ranging and long lasting tradition of earthfast architecture in colonial Maine, which is quite similar to construction techniques in the Chesapeake. Initial discussion was also made of settlement patterns in Maine, and this topic will be a focus of next year's conference.

## Massachusetts

Reported by: Lorinda Goodwin

From May to September 1991, Lorinda Goodwin of the University of Pennsylvania and Christy Vogt of the College of William and Mary conducted archaeological research at the Turner House in Salem, Massachusetts. Although known as the "House of the Seven Gables" and most frequently associated with Nathaniel Hawthorne, the house and property is significant because its first owner, Captain John Turner, played a major role in Salem's West Indian trade, and his descendants were prominent in local and colonial political and military affairs. While the house itself was built in 1668 and occupied continuously since then, the site was inhabited by Europeans for thirty years before that. The area was probably used by Native Americans prior to the English settlement as a camp site to utilize the marine resources of what is now Salem Harbor.

The volunteer crew unearthed about 12,000 - 15,000 artifacts including local and imported ceramics, glass, pipestem fragments, butchered animal bone, window leads, a gunflint, architectural debris, a brass scale weight, fish hooks, and personal objects. The historical artifacts covered the 17th to the 20th century, but the most significant component seems to range from c. 1720 - 1780. The materials are presently being studied at the Peabody Museum, Salem.

## Connecticut

Reported by: Cece Kirkorian

The Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation has presented a special merit award to the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe for its preservation of an unmarked Pequot cemetery. The Long Pond Cemetery is located along the west side of Long Pond in Ledyard, CT. Following the Pequot War of 1636-1637, the remaining members of the Pequot Tribe were dispersed, and placed on a series of reservations in southeastern Connecticut and southwestern Rhode Island. The Mashantucket band of Pequots were granted the Mashantucket Reservation in 1667. Over the years the original 3,000 acre reservation was reduced several times. In 1721, the tribe lost approximately 500 - 1,000 acres of land, which included the cemetery and lands along the west side of Long Pond. By 1856 only 214 acres remained of the original reservation. Both documentary evidence and funerary objects associated with the cemetery indicate the cemetery was in use between 1667 and 1721.

Following the subdivision of a large parcel of land along the west side of Long Pond in the early 1980s, foundation excavations revealed human remains and funerary objects. Following notification of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, representatives from the tribe met

on site with the landowner and archaeologists from the University of Connecticut, including Dr. Nick Bellantoni from the Office of State Archaeology. Further field examinations have indicated that 15-25 graves were destroyed by construction work, an additional 10 graves were immediately adjacent to the side walls of the excavations, and other graves (perhaps as many as 25-30) were identified elsewhere on the property.

The Long Pond Cemetery clearly contained the remains of ancestors of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, and preservation of the remaining portions of the cemetery was considered a priority by the Tribe. The Tribe also recognized that an opportunity existed to set a precedent for the future. The Tribe decided to work with the landowner, town officials and the State Archaeologist to allow the construction of the home to continue, while at the same time ensure that the remaining portions of the cemetery would be preserved. The Tribe also recognized that an opportunity existed to learn a great deal about the heritage and past of the Mashantucket people.

To this end, the Tribe funded a professional archaeological excavation/removal of the remaining portions of the cemetery that were in immediate danger of being destroyed through erosion or collapse of the side wall of the excavation. These detailed studies were carried out by the Public Archaeological Survey Team of the University of Connecticut. As part of this process additional graves located on the property were identified in order to ensure their future in situ protection and preservation. The Tribe also removed approximately 600 yards of fill from the foundation excavation that contained human remains and funerary objects. All costs associated with the removal/excavation of graves and grave fill were assumed by the Tribe.

Based on the Long Pond Cemetery incident, the Town of Ledyard Planning Commission proceeded to amend its subdivision regulations to require cultural resource inventories of all newly proposed subdivisions, and that all subdivisions shall be laid out to preserve significant cultural resources. The identification, rescue, and preservation procedures that were worked out between these various groups is serving as a model for other situations of a similar nature throughout the Northeast.

## New York State

Reported by: Lois Feister

### New York Archaeology Week Held

In conjunction with National Preservation Week, the New York Archaeological Council together with other New York State groups such as the Preservation League, the State Museum, and the State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation sponsored programs designed to call attention to the importance of archaeology in the lives of New Yorkers. Various members of the Council gave talks and sponsored Open House events across the state during the week. A poster was produced as well as a schedule that listed all of the events planned. The week was a great success, and plans call for a repeat of Archaeology Week on an annual basis.

### Iroquois Museum Opens

Newly built and newly opened is the Iroquois Museum located

near Howe's Cavern, a well known tourist attraction in Schoharie County, New York. The new museum features a collection of anthropological exhibits and contemporary Iroquois art housed in a building resembling an Iroquois longhouse. Native craftsmen will be working at the museum during the summer, and the 4.5 acre site will include a 1.5 mile long nature trail and a small outdoor auditorium which will permit dance exhibitions and similar events. The new museum is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. It is located on Caverns Road off Route 7 just west of Central Bridge, New York.

### Lake George Shipwrecks Nominated to National Register

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation has placed the underwater remains of seven vessels in Lake George on the National Register of Historic Places. The vessels are 18th century military bateaux, a flat-bottomed utility boat used on inland waterways throughout the Northeast. The bateaux in Lake George were seven of a fleet of 900 assembled by General Bradstreet in 1758 to transport troops on a failed assault on Fort Ticonderoga. Some of the boats were deliberately scuttled in Lake George for later recovery by the troops. An unknown number of these were never recovered. Reconnaissance work at the site beginning in 1987 by a not-for-profit group resulted in their being studied and now protected. Long-term programs of public education and inter-governmental planning will now proceed to help ensure the survival of this fragile resource.

## Maryland

Reported by: Silas D. Hurry

### Historic St. Mary's City

Plans for the examination and study of the three lead coffins discovered in the Brick Chapel in St. Mary's City in 1990 are being finalized. Current projections are for excavations to begin in October of this year with actual opening of the coffins in early November. As part of the planning for the investigations, archaeologists from Historic St. Mary's, with the permission and support of the Vestry of Trinity Parish, recently examined the only other lead coffins known to exist in Maryland from the 17th century. These two other lead coffins contain the remains of Sir Lionel Copley, first Royal Governor of the Maryland colony, and his wife Anne. The Copley coffins are interred in a massive brick subterranean vault adjacent to the site of Maryland's 1676 brick Statehouse. After the removal of the colony's capital to Annapolis in 1695, the brick Statehouse was given to the Anglican parish for use as a church. Its site is located in what is now the graveyard of Trinity Church. The brick vault at Trinity had been entered several times in the past. The first recorded entry was made in the 1790s by local medical students. At that time, they reported that Mrs. Copley's body was extremely well preserved, owing to its interment in an air tight lead coffin. An additional poorly documented entry was made in the nineteenth century, and a final entry occurred in the 1920s by the Rector of Trinity Parish.

The recent examination of the Copley coffins by the Research staff of Historic St. Mary's will aid immeasurably in our understanding of lead coffin construction and in planning the examination of

the lead coffins in the Brick Chapel. While examining the Copley coffins, the opportunity was taken to document the skeletal remains of both Sir Lionel and his wife Anne. Forensic experts from the Smithsonian Institution and the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology recorded the remains, and a report on their findings is being prepared. One surprising aspect of the Copley burials was evidence of early embalming efforts undertaken on the Copleys. All human remains were reinterred following the examination.

The examination of the lead coffins has aided immeasurably in the planning for the study of the three coffins at the Brick Chapel by providing details concerning construction and the stability of the objects. Mark Moore of the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, took a complex series of measurements using a radioactive source and special recording devices to typify the lead thickness. The results of the Copley coffin examination are under analysis and will be included in planned reports concerning the entire project.

## Atlantic Canada

Reported by: Rob Ferguson

### Jacques Whitford Environment Limited

Archaeologists from the Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, office are currently involved in several projects which have potential to contribute significantly to knowledge of historic archaeology in the Atlantic region. Further details will be provided in the next newsletter.

As part of the environment impact assessment of the proposed sewage treatment facilities in Halifax and Dartmouth, archival research has revealed the presence of several eighteenth and nineteenth century military batteries and fortifications constructed for the defence of Halifax Harbour. Mitigation recommendations include the need to conduct archaeological investigations in these areas to determine whether any of these features have survived the subsequent century or more of modern development and infilling, and, if so, how further impacts can be minimized or controlled.

A research proposal has been submitted to conduct a multi-disciplinary study of Ile Haute, a small island in the Bay of Fundy famed as one of the ubiquitous sites of cached pirate treasure in the Maritimes. Of more mundane but archaeological relevance is its history of occupation by Micmac who held summer gatherings on the island and are reported to have considered the summit to be of sacred importance. Several prehistoric artifacts and a copper mine are also reported to have been found. The study will investigate the archaeology, geology and natural history of the island.

A planned survey on Ile Rouge, off the west coast of Newfoundland, will be aimed at evaluating the archaeological potential of the island, known to have been used for shelter and habitation by Basque fishermen in the sixteenth century and subsequently by French and Acadian fishermen. The descendants of these people form the major population of francophones in Newfoundland today. It is hoped that continuing archaeological and archival research will result in the formation of a community museum and increased educational and tourism opportunities.

### Grassy Island National Historic Park, Nova Scotia

On June 2, Robert Ferguson of the Canadian Parks Service con-

ducted an emergency excavation on an 18th-century burial eroding from the 20m-high cliffs on the east end of Grassy Island. The presence of a coffin was noted by local residents following serious collapse of the bank in this area. The excavation confirms previous reports of coffins eroding from this area before the development of the park. The cemetery would have served the New England fishing community and British garrison of the town of Canso between 1720 and 1744.

The excavation was difficult and hurried. The coffin remains were removed within 6 hours by an archaeologist dangling from a rope over the cliff edge. The coffin is of traditional hexagonal shape. The lid and sides had collapsed inwards, leaving only the base relatively intact. Only three nails were found, all associated with one upper corner. The base was constructed of a single board. Width at the head was 30cm, expanding to 48cm at the shoulders (50cm from the head) and tapering to about 20cm at the toe. Total length was just over 158cm (5'2"). Soil impressions indicate a coffin height of 26cm.

The body had been buried in an east-west trench, with its head at the west end. The grave was shallow, only 102cm below surface to the base. Two brass buttons were found on either side of the coffin at the location of the wrists, suggesting some form of clothing on the corpse. No other remains were found in the coffin. Two white glass seed beads were found in the fill above the coffin. A conductivity survey of the area will be proposed for 1993 to locate possible remaining grave sites which can be monitored to avoid future damage.

## Quebec

Reported by: Monique Elie

### Bastion Saint-Jean, Fortifications of Quebec National Historic Site

Robert Gauvin of the Canadian Parks Service is currently conducting a fourth and last season of archaeological recording and monitoring at the Bastion Saint-Jean, a component of the Fortifications of Quebec National Historic Site. All significant structural elements of the defense works built during the 18th century as well as the traces of the site's occupation are being recorded as they emerge through the excavations conducted as part of the restoration process. Results will form an analytical data bank which will enrich our knowledge and understanding of the construction and use of the western front of the city's fortifications.

### Jardin des Gouverneurs, Fortifications of Quebec National Historic Site

Robert Gauvin of the Canadian Parks Service has completed an archaeological potential study of the Jardin des Gouverneurs, a component of the Fortifications of Quebec N.H.S. His study, based mostly on iconographic and written documents, provides information on the changing layout of one of North America's earliest gardens as well as data concerning the various built features whose remains may be found on the site. Though leaving many questions unanswered, results of this research will help to protect this extremely vulnerable historic resource and to guide archaeologists in the further investigation of the site.

## The Saguenay Marine Park

Cap-de-Bon-Désir and Pointe-Noire, two navigational aid stations located along the north shore of the St. Lawrence River some 250 km east of Quebec City, were the object of archaeological testing during the fall of 1991. The historic archaeology component of the project was conducted for the Canadian Park Service by Celine Cloutier. Both sites revealed a somewhat limited historic period archaeological potential. Identified resources relate mostly to the use of the two sites as early light house stations.

## The Museum of Archaeology and History of Montreal

Montreal has a new museum of archaeology and history. Overlooking the St. Lawrence River on the actual site of the city's first Catholic cemetery, the \$27.5-million museum is intended as a showcase for more than 300 years of history. Not by coincidence, it is opening as part of the city's 350th-anniversary celebrations.

Museum visitors will get to see, *in situ*, the architectural remains of several buildings as well as the outline of caskets in their original resting place. Significant artifacts are also on view.

The museum, located in Old Montreal at the corner of Place d'Youville and de la Commune St., is open every day but Monday.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

### A New Historical Archaeology Journal

The first issue of a new historical archaeology journal from Quebec, *Mémoires Vives*, was recently launched in Montreal. Published three times a year, *Mémoires Vives* presents articles, notes and comments as well as book reviews concerning historical archaeology and its related disciplines. Fellow CNEHA members Jacques Guimond and Louise Pothier, as well as François Veronneau, are to be congratulated for their most promising initiative. The present issue contains several articles focusing on recent research in Montreal. One of these presents aspects of everyday life in the fort of Ville-Marie, while another takes us to the western part of the city, where traces of the late 17th century Sulpician Mission of Saint-Louis-du-Haut-de-l'Île are believed to have been found. Another article brings together archaeology and museology as practiced at the new archaeology and history museum.

For information concerning single issues or subscriptions:

Groupe PGV Diffusion de l'archéologie  
C.P. 664, Place d'Armes  
Montreal, Quebec H2Y 3H8

Pauline Desjardins and Genevieve Duguay  
*Pointe-a-Calliere, from Ville-Marie to Montreal*  
1992, Sillery, Les Editions du Septentrion, 134 pages  
ISBN 2-921114-74-7 (English)/ISBN 2-921114-72-0 (French)

This abundantly illustrated book presents the results of major archaeological investigations conducted at Pointe-a-Calliere by the Old Port of Montreal Corporation. Originally a spur of land formed by alluvial deposits, Pointe-a-Calliere once marked the meeting place of the St. Lawrence River with a small affluent which has since disappeared. Tested in 1988 and excavated in 1989, this site

has revealed evidence of almost 350 years of history. The remains uncovered bear witness not only to its gradual transformation from a natural site into an urban landscape, but also to the burial practices of the city's earliest settlers, to the material culture of those who later lived there, and to its use for trade and business.

Available from:

Les Editions du Septentrion  
1300, av. Maguire  
Sillery (Quebec) G1T 1Z3  
29.95 \$ CDN

*Heritage Preservation: A Catalog of Charters and Other Guides.*  
ICOMOS Canada, 1991 (available in French and English).

A most useful reference work for archaeologists and archaeological resource managers! Several major conservation charters and declarations in one document:

- Athens Charter (1934),
- Venice Charter (ICOMOS, 1964),
- Declaration de Deschambault (Quebec, 1982)
- Appleton Charter (ICOMOS Canada, 1983)
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards (USA, 1983)
- Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Council of Europe, 1985)
- The International Institute for Conservation (IIC/CC) Code of Ethics and Guidance for Practice (Ottawa 1985)
- International Charter for Archaeological Heritage Management (ICOMOS, 1990)
- and others

Available from:  
ICOMOS Canada  
P.O. Box 737, Station B  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Canada K1P 5R4 Tel. and Fax: (613) 749-0971  
(10.00 \$ CDN plus 2.00 \$ handling charges)

*Archeologiques*, numbers 3-4, 1990 and *Archeologiques*, numbers 5-6, 1992  
Association des archeologues du Quebec

The Association des archeologues du Quebec has recently published (in French) two double numbers of its journal *Archeologiques*. Both these issues contain the partial proceedings of past annual meetings. Several contributions are of interest to historical archaeologists:

*Archeologiques*, numbers 3-4 (1988 and 1989 Meetings)

- "Impact du développement urbain sur les ressources archéologiques" ("The Impact of Urban Development on Archaeological Resources") with contributions by P. Cressey (Alexandria), R. L. Stromberg (Toronto), W. Moss (Quebec City) and M. Barriault.
- "Comment s'insere l'archeologie dans le cadre administratif de la planification urbaine a Montreal" ("The Place of Archaeology in the Management Framework of Urban Planning in Montreal") with contributions by P. Quellet, R. Fortin, H. Desrosiers and J. Belisle.
- "L'interpretation de la culture materielle en archeologie" ("In-

terpretation of Material Culture in Archaeology") with contributions in prehistoric and historic archaeology by D. Arsenault, J.-Y. Pinal, C. Chapdelaine, M. Savard, G. Duguay and F. Miville-Deschenes.

*Archeologiques*, numbers 5-6 (1990 and 1991 Meetings)

- D. Lebrun, "L'artefact, ressource vive"
- F. Veronneau and J. Bergeron, "Établissement des sequences chronologiques de l'evolution des services publics montrealais"
- C. Poulin, "Etudes et expertises ou la planification des interventions archeologiques dans le Vieux Montreal"
- J. Halle and M.-H. Provençal, "Des origines de Montreal: une experience de synthese multidisciplinaire"
- P. Desrosiers, "Les permis de recherche archeologique: bilan des activites de 1985 a 1989"
- F. Lelievre, "Pointe-a-Calliere. Musee d'archeologie et d'histoire de Montreal"
- J. Guumont, "La notion de contact, essai de definition"
- P. Drouin, "L'occupation francaise de Pointe-Penouille"

Available from:

L'Association des archeologues du Quebec  
 C.P. 322, succursale Haute-Ville  
 Quebec, Quebec G1R 4P8  
 (10.00 \$ CDN per volume)

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\*\* For those who feel a primary commitment to Northeast Historical Archaeology and wish to support the Council's activities at a higher voluntary membership rate.

\*\* Pour ceux qui s'interessent hautement a l'archeologie historique du Nord-Est americain et qui veulent aider a soutenir l'action du Conseil en versant une cotisation plus elevee.

Mail to / Poster a l'adresse ci-dessous:

Susan Henry  
 Treasurer, CNEHA  
 113 E. Raymond Ave.  
 Alexandria, VA 22301

## BACK ISSUES OF *Northeast Historical Archaeology*

1983 Symposium on Archaeology of the Revolutionary War Period  
1983 Volume 12 (\$10)

Introduction to Archaeology of the Revolutionary War Period.....	Charles L. Fisher
Introduction to Symposium on Archaeology of the Revolutionary War Period.....	Paul R. Huey
Has Historical Archaeology Survived the Bicentennial?.....	Bert Salwen
An Inquiry into the Development of Historical Archaeology in the United States	
Archaeological Research at the 1778-79 Winter Cantonment of the Continental Artillery, Pluckemin, New Jersey .....	John L. Seidel
Geophysical and Soil Chemical Investigations at New Windsor Cantonment.....	Joseph Sopko
Drinking Practices and Glassware of the British Military, ca. 1755-85.....	E. Ann Smith
Evidence of Children at Revolutionary War Sites.....	Michael Cohn
The Excavation of the Privateer <i>Defence</i> .....	David C. Switzer

### Additional Back Issues

Volume 1, No. 1 Spring 1971	(\$5)	Volumes 7, 8, 9 1978-80	(\$10)
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Volume 4, Nos. 1-2 Spring 1975	(\$10)	Special 10th Anniversary Issue	
Special Issue: Symposium on Industrial Archaeology		Volume 16 1987	(\$12)
Volume 5, Nos. 1-2 Spring 1976	(\$10)	Volume 17 1988	(\$12)
Volume 6, Nos. 1 and 2 Spring 1977	(\$10)		

Volumes 1-6 are available as xerox copies only

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Department of Archaeology  
Boston University  
675 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts 02215

# Council For Northeast Historical Archaeology

## NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 1992

NUMBER 23

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### COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

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### UPDATE—

#### *Northeast Historical Archaeology*

Reported by: Mary Beaudry, Editor

The major news item from the editorial office is that Volume 19 is nearly ready to go to the printer. Its table of contents is as follows:

#### LU ANN DE CUNZO and WADE P. CATTS

Building a Framework for Research: Delaware's Management Plan for Historical Archaeological Resources

#### DAVID R. STARBUCK

The General Hospital on Mount Independence: 18th-Century Health Care at a Revolutionary War Cantonment

#### AL B. WESOLOWSKY

Who Edits the Editors? *Snake Hill* and Archaeological Reports

#### MARSHALL JOSEPH BECKER

The Origins of Trade Silver Among the Lenape: Pewter Objects from Southeastern Pennsylvania as Possible Precursors

Once again I think we have an interesting mix of articles that will appeal to a wide range of readers. We welcome feedback from our readers on our new attempt to include commentary in the journal (in the form of the review essay by Al Wesolowsky), as well as to the article by De Cunzo and Catts presenting the Delaware state plan for historical archaeology.

We have a number of additional manuscripts in the mill, but we need more submissions if we are to get on track. Last year we solicited papers from many of the people who presented papers at the Newark meetings — the result was submission of ONE manuscript! I'm sure we can do better this time around! Please, all of you who gave papers at Glens Falls — and there were many fine papers — give serious thought to submitting a version of your paper to the journal. The encouraging news is that our one submission from the 1991 meeting is appearing in Vol. 19, which indicates that we can promise fairly prompt turn-around on getting your article in print! Help yourself with a speedy publication, and help us get the journal on schedule!

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT

Reported by: David Starbuck, Editor

It has been a few years since we last printed the names and addresses of our state and provincial editors so I am listing them below. As most of our readers know, this newsletter is published three times a year, in March/April, in June/July, and in October/November. (The exact months of publication vary a bit, depending upon the receipt of sufficient copy.) Each editor is expected to contact researchers in his/her state/province with requests for news, and then to deliver all copy to me by March 1, June 1, and October 1. If you believe that you are routinely being overlooked, then please contact your local editor directly and ask to be placed on his/her mailing list. Alternatively, you may send copy to me directly if you miss your local editor's deadline.

Unfortunately, we continue to have some states from which copy is almost never submitted. If this is the case in your state, then please contact me, and we can discuss how to obtain more copy from your area. And, if you feel strongly enough about it, then perhaps you can become the next editor in your state!

### *Current Provincial Editors:*

ATLANTIC CANADA: Rob Ferguson, Parks Canada, Upper Water Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 1S9.

ONTARIO: Dena Doroszenko, C-173 Delaware Ave., Toronto, Ontario M6H 2T2.

QUEBEC: Monique Elie, 840 Sir Adolphe Routhier, Quebec, Quebec G1S 3P3.

### *Current State Editors:*

CONNECTICUT: Cece Kirkorian, Historical Perspectives, P.O. Box 331, Riverside, CT 06878.

DELAWARE: Lu Ann De Cunzio, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Delaware, Newark, DEL 19716.

MAINE: Emerson Baker, York Institute Museum, 371 Main Street, Saco, ME 04072.

MARYLAND: Silas Hurry, Box 39, St. Mary's City, MD 20686.

MASSACHUSETTS: Suzanne Spencer-Wood, 81 Highland Ave., Arlington, MA 02174.

NEW HAMPSHIRE: Martha Pinello, Strawberry Banke Inc., Archaeology Dept., P.O. Box 300, Portsmouth, NH 03801.

NEW JERSEY: Marie-Lorraine Pipes, Louis Berger & Associates, 100 Halsted St., P.O. Box 270, East Orange, NJ 07019.

NEW YORK CITY: Daniel Pagano, City of New York, Landmarks Preservation Commission, 225 Broadway, New York, NY 10007.

NEW YORK STATE: Lois Feister, New York State Bureau of Historic Sites, Pebbles Island, Waterford, NY 12188.

PENNSYLVANIA: Paula Zitzler, 45 Aspen Ct., Cresson, PA 16630.

RHODE ISLAND: Rick Greenwood, The Rhode Island Historic Preservation Commission, 150 Benefit St., Providence, RI 02903.

VERMONT: William Murphy, P.O. Box 28, East Middlebury, VT 05740.

VIRGINIA: Lysbeth B. Acuff, Dept. of Historic Resources, 221 Governor St., Richmond, VA 23219.

WEST VIRGINIA: Susan Frye, P.O. Box 355, Harpers Ferry, WVA 25425.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

The Institute of Early American History and Culture and the Newberry Library will co-sponsor a research conference on the American frontier for fall 1994, concentrating on the period ca. 1750-1820. The meeting will focus on English, French and Spanish expansion east of the Mississippi. Among themes to be addressed include use of land, ethnic and cultural diversity, and issues of war and peace. Interested scholars are invited to submit proposals and a vitae to: Frontiers Conference Committee, c/o Fredrika J. Teute, IEAHC, Box 220, Williamsburg, VA 23187 by January 15, 1993.

### *Historic Gardens and Sites*

An international symposium on historic gardens and sites will be held in Montreal from the 12th to the 15th of May 1993. The meeting is being organized by the Canadian and Quebec associations of landscape architects, ICOMOS Canada and Heritage Montreal. The theme of the symposium will be "The conservation of parks and urban squares". Presentations will touch upon the history of parks; the philosophy, the technology and the upkeep; new layout and evaluation concepts; the environmental problems; planning; and archaeology. For information contact: Coplanor Congres Inc., 511 Place d'Armes, 6e etage, Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 2W7. Tel. (514) 848-1133. Fax: (514) 288-8469. NEW GRADUATE PROGRAM

## Announcing a New Graduate Program in INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY at Michigan Technological University

The Department of Social Sciences at Michigan Technological University has initiated a Master of Science degree in Industrial Archaeology (IA). This graduate program, one of the few in the world to focus explicitly on IA, emphasizes a truly interdisciplinary approach and fuses the individual perspectives of archaeology, history of technology, and anthropology.

Students take courses in the history of technology, historical and industrial archaeology, cultural resource management, and other related areas. Full time graduate students can complete the pro-

gram in a single academic year and two summers, using the summers to fulfill archaeological fieldwork and thesis/internship requirements.

Michigan Technological University, established in 1885 as the Michigan School of Mines, resides in the heart of a significant copper mining area that operated from the 1840s until 1970. The university is surrounded by industrial sites that comprise a local laboratory for the study of IA. The university library, in addition to its extensive holdings related to industrial history, maintains a Copper Country Archives containing an important collection of original materials concerning the history of many copper mining companies and communities.

The Department of Social Sciences has an Archaeology Laboratory, actively involved in local and regional archaeological field projects. Teams from Michigan Tech have recently excavated at a variety of sites on the Upper Peninsula, including a 19th-century U.S. Army fort, the iron smelting village of Fayette, Michigan, and Bay Furnace, a blast-furnace complex on the National Register of Historic Places. The historians in the department have also been actively involved in projects studying the industrial history of the area, including copper mining, iron mining, and infrastructure development. Some financial support for graduate students is provided through these types of on-going projects and through university funded assistantships. An internship option is also available to interested students, and the department maintains close ties with the U.S. Forest Service and the Michigan Bureau of History.

The application deadline is March 1. For additional information or an application please contact:

Dr. Larry Lankton, Chair IA Graduate Committee  
Department of Social Sciences  
Michigan Technological University  
1400 Townsend Drive  
Houghton, MI 49931-1295  
(906) 487-2113 BITNET:PEM-194 MTUS5

## Current Research

### VERMONT

Reported by: William Murphy

#### *Mount Independence*

A 1992 field school sponsored by Castleton State College and the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation completed five weeks of an excavation at Mount Independence in Orwell, Vt. The Mount, the largest Revolutionary encampment in the Northeast, was instrumental in stemming the British invasion from Canada in 1776. It was abandoned by the Americans a year later, and British and German forces occupied the site for four months before retreating northward after the Battle of Saratoga.

Led by David Starbuck, the excavation concentrated on two specific sites, a battery at the southern end of the Mount that was one of three constructed by the Americans to guard the southern flank, and a complex of large foundations that may have been part of the Third Brigade encampment.

At the battery, which had been partially excavated during the '90 season, this year's attention was placed on the soldiers' huts that

abuted the side of a cliff behind the battery itself. Butchered animal bones, musket balls, and nails were uncovered in most of the huts, but in one the finds were more numerous and varied. This singular site (Site 122) contained fragments from two canteens, nearly all of the sherds from a buff-bodied, slip-decorated cup, two lead musket balls which had holes drilled through the center, a great many nails and animal bones, and a fragmented (but nearly complete) wine bottle with the name "James Hill 1777" carefully etched into two sides. Early research has uncovered many James Hills from the New England area, and it will take further investigation, probably at the National Archives, to try and isolate the soldier who occupied the crude hut 215 years ago.

The complex of large foundations that was believed to be in the Third Brigade area yielded several thousand animal bones as well as military items -- broken bayonets, buttons, musket balls -- but nothing definitive to positively identify the units that were there. Especially perplexing were the five projectile points of different types and time periods (Archaic and Woodland) that were uncovered in separate areas of the site, mixed in with the historic debris; it would appear that soldiers had been collecting these and taking them back to their barracks complex.

## MASSACHUSETTS

Reported by John Worrell and Martha Lance

#### *Old Sturbridge Village: The James Johnson Sawmill Sites*

Old Sturbridge Village has conducted an extensive archaeological and historical analysis of 38 sawmill sites located in the upper Quinebaug River watershed in the central Massachusetts towns of Sturbridge and Southbridge. Funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the project is a component of a long-term multi-disciplinary study of the "Tradition and Transformation" of rural New England. Martha Lance headed the Quinebaug mills investigation, with C. J. Pelletier as surveyor and Greg Hill as field archaeologist and computer analyst. John Worrell directed the overall project.

The transformation of the timber economy, a process in which woods became goods, is one consequence of industrialization and an essential element in the economic and environmental change that pervaded the 19th century New England countryside. Another natural resource, waterpower, similarly became a commodity to be bought, sold and controlled as industrialization and commercialization altered everyday life in rural neighborhoods, town centers, and industrial villages. The ability to control water, improve technology, acquire woodlots or timber, and hire labor determined who would profit most in the burgeoning lumber and fuelwood trade. Expanded market opportunities encouraged sawmill owners to move mill structures and equipment to new locations, and to create and enlarge elaborate hydrological systems including dams capable of holding many acre-feet of water in extensive mill ponds.

During the past year the focus of this study has been on the holdings of James Johnson who had two mill sites and related features in a large, remote timber stand presently owned by Old Sturbridge Village. Although Johnson was one of the wealthiest landowners in Sturbridge in the early decades of the 19th century

and had a large residence near the center, these mills and a nearby small residence do not appear in tax lists, censuses or other public documents. Furthermore, the elevated rough topography, small hydrological potential, and the distance from public roads and centers of development made the presence of sawmills there most puzzling. Deeds revealed little specific information about the sites' successive owners, developers, or the phases of use and occupation, making archaeological investigation all the more valuable. The story that has unfolded typifies the local transition from agrarian to commercial wood-related industry, as vast acres that were virtually worthless to 18th century cultivators became sufficiently valuable to warrant difficult and ingenious exploitive strategies during the early 19th century.

The 1992 excavations by the OSV Field School and staff focused on the upper of two adjacent sawmill sites and on the site of a small residence nearby. It was determined that the mills were in use sequentially. Although there was little difference in the size of the two sawing floors, the situation and power system of the earlier (upper) mill and its simpler power system took far less effort and engineering to set in motion. The extreme heat alteration surrounding the site showed the mill to have burned early in the 19th century. Its successor was situated less than 100' downstream, but below a fall which allowed nearly 30' of head — sufficient to power a large overshot wheel. That siting demanded more sophisticated technology and a great amount of site preparation for access and yard space, but it allowed timber to be sawn with as little as 25% of the water flow required by the earlier mill. The small upland brook is seasonal and has little flow, and water conservation and efficiency were crucial for the larger ambitions of Johnson. The irregular terrain denied the development of a large millpond, but a series of seven or more small ponds was created and linked together to provide the needed storage capacity. This combined to allow Johnson to exploit hundreds of acres of remote timberlot at the height of the demand created by three developing textile villages in the vicinity.

Excavation at the dwelling site revealed three phases of occupation. The first appears to have been a simple, temporary residence, perhaps the movable cabin of timber choppers and sawyers similar to one documented in the papers of a neighboring timbering family. The second and third stages of residence at this site were increasingly permanent and included a cellar and massive hearth, indicating year-round residence. Only the final stage provided clear evidence of female presence in the household, however. Material evidence indicates that the site was abandoned by the end of the 1830s, apparently at the time that Johnson constructed a sawmill on a larger stream nearer to roads and development, and probably also coinciding with the exhaustion of timber on this remote complex of land.

## NEW YORK STATE

Reported by: Lois Feisler

### *New York Archaeological Council Celebrates 20th Anniversary*

The New York Archaeological Council (NYAC) celebrated its 20th anniversary on September 19, 1992. The group was organized in September 1972 at the Syracuse Airport Inn under the leadership of Dr. Marian White of SUNY-Buffalo. The archaeologists helped found the group because of a shared concern over the rapid

loss of archaeological resources in New York State. The 1992 meeting also was held at the Syracuse Airport Inn. Chairs of the major working committees presented a history of the development of their various charges. Retrospectives were presented by Robert Kuhn on behalf of the SHPO office, Sarah Bridges, past vice-president, Bruce Rippeteau, past-vice president, and Al Dekin, past-president. The archives committee presented Karen Hartgen, current president, with a complete set of minutes of NYAC general and board meetings.

### *NYAC Presents First Founders Award*

As part of the first New York State Archeology Week (May 10-16, 1992), NYAC presented a new award, called the "Founders Award," designed to honor people outside the archaeology profession for contributions to the preservation of archeological resources. The first presentation was to Amherst, New York, developer Dominic B. Pistrak whose co-operation in the protection of archaeological sites on his lands has been outstanding.

### *Society for Industrial Archeology Meets in Buffalo*

The SIA met in early June in Buffalo, New York, a noteworthy city for the study of American industrial development. Lectures, slide shows, and tours were part of the weekend-long program. Tours of Niagara Falls industries, the canal locks at Lockport, and the Buffalo waterfront also were included.

### *Two Projects at the New York State Museum*

By August 1992, a study of New York's earliest canal system, the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company, resulted in the building of a reproduction of an 18th century bateau. The new boat was launched in August and was used for a historical reenactment of Albany's General Philip Schuyler's first trip to explore the wilderness between Schenectady and Lake Ontario for potential navigation routes to be included in the first canal system. This first canal system dated to the 1790s, many years before the more famous Erie Canal opened in the 1820s.

Opening at the State Museum on October 3, 1992 is a lifesize reconstruction of a Mohawk Iroquois longhouse. Believed to be the most accurate ever produced, the longhouse is the centerpiece of a new exhibit created with the input of historians, anthropologists, archaeologists, and other scholars. The longhouse will be combined with dioramas of life-like human figures, a scale model of a Mohawk village, archaeological artifacts from the Museum's collections, and audio-visual components designed to take visitors back nearly 400 years to Upstate New York's Mohawk Valley.

### *Excavations at Johnson Hall State Historic Site*

During the month of July, members of the archaeology staff of the New York State Bureau of Historic Sites conducted excavations at Johnson Hall in the Mohawk Valley for the installation of a natural gas line. The project also included an Archeology Open House held on Sunday July 19th. Housed under a large tent were displays of artifacts from past excavations at the site, publications available to the public, large exhibit panels, and two interpreters to explain the over-all project. Other archaeologists stationed at the excavation area explained the interpretation of the soil layers and

wall features to visitors. Despite occasional rainfall, about 150 people attended.

## NEW YORK CITY

Reported by: Daniel Pagano

### *Black Burial Ground (Reprinted from the Daily News, 9/2/92):*

Mayor Dinkins led an emotional plea yesterday to landmark the old Negroes Burial Ground unearthed in lower Manhattan last year after nearly two centuries. "The silence of the historical record was yet another link in the long chain of indignities to which this important segment of our mosaic was subjected," said Dinkins, one of about 50 people who testified in favor of creating a historic district.

"Documenting this burial ground will help us break these shackles of pain and prejudice," Dinkins told the City Landmarks Preservation Commission.

The proposed 8-acre site, which would be called the "Negroes Burying Ground and the Commons Historic District," would be bounded by Broadway on the west, Duane and Pearl Sts. on the north, Centre St. on the east and Park Row on the southeast.

The site contains the earliest major, documented African-American burial ground in the United States and appears to be the largest Colonial-era cemetery of any kind in the city, according to the landmarks commission.

The 18th-century cemetery was uncovered when the federal government began excavation for a 34-story office building and pavilion last year.

Former commission chairman Gene Norman called the site "the most important in our entire city left undesignated."

"It represents a recovered virtual time capsule of the early history of our history and our nation's cultural roots," he said.

Landmarks chairwoman Laurie Beckelman said she hoped the planned pavilion would be scuttled in favor of a "proper memorial" at the burial site.

William Diamond, regional administrator of the federal General Services Administration, which oversees the property, said in a letter to Beckelman that GSA "has no objection" to the proposed Historic District.

## NEW JERSEY

Reported by: Marie-Lorraine Pipes

### *D and R Canal, Trenton, New Jersey*

Louis Berger and Associates (LBA) of East Orange, New Jersey, is conducting investigations and monitoring at Canal Lock 6, in Trenton, New Jersey, as part of an ongoing cultural resources study of the D&R Canal. The present work adds to previous studies of the canal completed by LBA. The previous study included archaeological and historical research of Locks 4 and 6A. This research documented technological changes that were incorporated into the canal during a span of over 50 years. The present archaeological investigations and monitoring in the vicinity of Lock 6 indicated that only portions of the lock's western wall remained

intact. This wall was comparable in construction to Lock 4, which was built during the same period. The present investigations have also documented remaining portions of the weir and twentieth century wing wall associated with Lock 4. Perhaps the most interesting discovery of this investigation are remains of a residential structure that apparently dated to the early period of the canal's operation. Tightly-dated early to mid-nineteenth century deposits were associated with this structure and have the potential to provide information on the lifeways associated with the early operation of the canal. This work is being completed for the Bureau of Environmental Analysis, New Jersey Department of Transportation.

### *Lord Stirling Manor, Basking Ridge, New Jersey*

The Lord Stirling Manor Excavation is a public archaeology program sponsored by the Somerset County (NJ) Park Commission with Alan Cooper of the Morristown-Beard School acting as Principal Investigator. Since the program's inception in 1984, over three hundred participants under professional supervision have excavated the manor house and grounds of William Alexander's (Lord Stirling's) estate in Basking Ridge, NJ.

The site consists of a ca. 1923 mail order house on part of the original manor foundation and two small mid-nineteenth century dependencies. Excavation to date has revealed a cistern from the mid to late eighteenth century, the manor's servants' entrance and porch foundation, and a grey water disposal trough which empties into a basin/privy(?) with an exit drain. Other finds included foundations from dependencies and a mid-nineteenth century well.

Artifact material has been plentiful and representative of the 230 year history of the site. Native American occupation has been assumed but not proven. The excavation is currently in a documentation and analysis phase before proceeding to delineate the exit drain to its terminus and continuing excavation around the site of the manor itself.

### *Tabernacle 18th Century Site, Burlington County, New Jersey*

MAAR Associates, Inc. conducted archaeological field investigations at an eighteenth century domestic site from March 17th to April 8, 1992. A backhoe was used to remove the overburden in a three-foot-wide trench extending for a distance of 25 feet along the south side shoulder of County Route 532, slated for improvements.

A large cultural feature was found beneath the road shoulder fill containing, among other items, burned planks or beams, lying flat and at various angles. The feature was determined to be bowl-shaped, containing several strata and including structural plank sections, a hearth area and burned clay nodules, all of which either fell into or were discarded within a recently abandoned and open pit. The feature itself does not appear to be a traditional European domestic structure. Its bottom contours are flat to slightly rounded, with a gradually-sloping eastern and more sharply-dipping western edge. The feature's north and south boundaries are under the pavement of Route 532 and outside of the highway ROW, respectively.

The various strata of the pit fill contain only items of probable eighteenth century derivation, specifically from the period beginning around 1750 and ending about 1765. Excavation recovered a rich variety of artifacts, consisting of domestic items of European and local American-Indian manufacture. Among the items of special interest were a series of gunflints of both French flints and

flint types derived from traditional Indian quarries in Pennsylvania. The workmanship on these flints indicated that they were used to the utmost and that many were being "sharpened" with methods more common to aboriginal than to European flint knappers. Other items supporting an interpretation of Indian/European occupants found within this feature included a deer antler "flaking" tine, several aboriginal projectile point tips of local stone types, and possible glass trade beads.

The structural and artifactual archaeological resources uncovered at this site (18Bu414) have been interpreted as representing the remains and cultural debris of a semi-subterranean domicile occupied by an Amerindian family living during the years preceding and perhaps overlapping the Brodhead Indian Reservation (ca. 1750). It is known that the lumbering industry in eighteenth century New Jersey, especially those pulling cedar trees from buried swamp deposits, utilized the services of Native Americans. It seems that the occupants were heavily acculturated, probably through contact with and possibly employment in industrial or agricultural pursuits of the Burr or Haynes families of the area. Evidence such as the existence in the area of Mary Carisle, the Amerindian wife of a Haynes family member during the period in question, support the interpretations made above. It appears that the site is unique among New Jersey archaeological sites.

## PENNSYLVANIA

Reported by: Paula Zitzler

### *Excavations at the Joseph Priestley House and the Fort Augusta Magazine Site*

During June and July 1992, Stephen G. Warfel, Senior Curator of Archaeology, The State Museum of Pennsylvania, directed Penn State University archaeological field school investigations at the Joseph Priestley House in Northumberland, PA., and at the Fort Augusta Powder Magazine Site in Sunbury, PA. Work at the Priestley House, 1797-1804 home and laboratory of the renowned English scientist credited with discovering oxygen, continued explorations begun in 1986. Yard areas adjacent to the late Georgian/early Federal style structure were dug to recover evidence of original landscape features, depicted on an 1800 plan of the property, and objects reflecting the Priestley family's adaptation to rural life in America. An earthen floor of the house's "Back Kitchen" and a stone-lined well in the floor were also investigated.

Excavations against the main block foundation revealed that free-standing stone foundation walls were constructed inside a full cellar hole. This practice deviates from that which is customarily seen where foundation elements are laid against interior walls of a cellar hole. It is not known if the observed practice is the artifact of an ethnic building tradition or simply the result of idiosyncratic construction technique. Numerous late 18th/early 19th century ceramics and glasswares were recovered from the earthen floor of the Back Kitchen. These will be used to evaluate the socioeconomic standing of the Priestley family in Northumberland as well as adherence to traditional foodway preparation and service. Excavation of the Back Kitchen well revealed a 31' 2" shaft which cut into a shale bedrock aquifer only 11 feet below the opening. Consequently, saturated fills produced remarkably well preserved organic objects such as fruit pits, wood and leather. Regrettably, the well yielded

no artifacts dating to the Priestley period; instead, all appear to reflect life in the house during the second quarter of the 20th century when it was owned by the Pennsylvania State University!

Investigations at the Fort Augusta Powder Magazine Site revealed original structural evidence of this French and Indian War Period feature which has survived intact to the present day. Few objects of the mid-18th century use were found, however, indicating the powder magazine bastion was kept free of debris. Of great interest was the discovery of a stone foundation for a three and one-half story Italianate tower built on top of the magazine, apparently commemorating the site at the time of the 1876 Centennial Celebration. Although its location was suggested in an 1876 lithograph, construction directly on the magazine's vertical walls was unexpected.

Finally, both sites revealed buried prehistoric land surfaces containing diagnostic artifacts and features. Collected carbonized wood will be radiocarbon-dated to determine the chronology of Native American occupations on both sides of the Susquehanna River near its confluence with the West Branch.

### *PA's Archaeology Week*

Archaeology Week was celebrated November 14 through 22, 1992. This year's theme was "Save Our Past for the Future." Many events, including lectures, site visits, school programs, and exhibits were held throughout the state. For more information, contact Beverly Mitchum, Bushy Run Battlefield, PO Box 468, Harrison City, PA 15636 (Phone: 412 527-5584).

### *Pennsylvania Archaeological Council*

The Pennsylvania Archaeological Council (PAC) is an organization of professional archaeologists dedicated to maintaining the highest level of professional work and providing public education about archaeology and the prehistoric and historic past of Pennsylvania. For membership information, contact R. Michael Stewart, Department of Anthropology, Gladfelter Hall, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA 19122 (Phone: 215 787-6188).

### *America's Industrial Heritage Project Public Archaeology*

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Heritage Preservation Commission funded two public archaeology projects during 1991-92 through grants to the Johnstown Area Heritage Association and the Fort Roberdeau Association. Both projects are being conducted by trained volunteers working with professional archaeologists from the National Park Service (Paula Zitzler) and Louis Berger and Associates (Karen Orrence and Dale Sadler). To date the volunteers have donated 4,000 hours doing research, excavation and labwork.

The Johnstown Area Heritage Association (JAHA) received a grant to conduct an archaeological investigation at the Wagner-Ritter House in the Cambria City neighborhood of Johnstown. The house was built in the 1850s and originally occupied by George Wagner, a German immigrant and furnaceman at the Cambria Iron Works. The house survived all of Johnstown's floods (1889, 1907, 1936, 1977), including the infamous 1889 flood that destroyed most of the city and claimed 2,200 lives. Wagner's descendants occupied the house until 1990, when it was donated to JAHA. The house will eventually become a museum to interpret 19th century life in this working-class neighborhood. Several insurance maps from the late 19th through 20th centuries suggested locations of ar-

archaeological features, such as an oven and a building labelled "Pop Manufacturing" and later "Club House." The piers of the oven have been uncovered, and about 5,000 pop bottle fragments have been recovered, most with Hutchison stopper closures. Flood deposits were readily discernible and provide good temporal markers in the site's stratigraphy. Fieldwork will be completed this fall.

The Fort Roberdeau Association also received a grant from the commission to conduct archaeological investigations on a recently acquired tract adjacent to the reconstructed fort. The fort, located in Sinking Valley (near Altoona, PA), was constructed in 1778 to protect miners working the local lead deposits in support of the patriot cause. Evidence of a late 18th/early 19th century farmstead has been discovered, including what may be the remains of a slaughterhouse or butchering area. About 15,000 artifacts, consisting primarily of redware sherds and animal bones, have been recovered during the excavation of fourteen 5-by-5 foot squares. Fieldwork will be completed this fall.

### *St. Marys, PA, Celebrates Sesquicentennial*

Archaeologists are working amid a year-long celebration of the 150th anniversary of St. Marys, PA, to uncover evidence of the town's first saw and grist mills. The town, located on the eastern continental divide in northwestern PA (Elk County), was founded by German Catholic immigrants in 1842; several Redemptorist priests from Baltimore arrived the following year to build and operate a sawmill. By 1845, a grist mill was in operation on the same or possibly adjacent site, using the waterpower of Elk Creek. At least one wall of the foundation has been discovered by the trained volunteer crew, working under the direction of Paula Zitzler. A volunteer research crew is collecting historical information about the site and the people who worked there. The project is sponsored by the Historical Society of St. Marys and Benzinger Township.

## MARYLAND

Reported by Silas D. Hurry

### *St. Mary's City*

The 1992 Historic St. Mary's City field school investigated two primarily late 17th/early 18th century sites this season. The first, ST1-116, was thought to be the location of a school run by the Jesuits in the 1680s. The site was discovered during a surface collection in 1984 which suggested the presence of a brick foundation. Excavation has revealed that this structure is most likely an earthfast building that had a brick veneer added. The building is approximately 30 x 20 ft and has a large (18 x 10?) cellar under its west end. Preliminary analysis suggests that the building was occupied ca. 1680-1740. The excavation also confirmed the presence of a ca. 1630s-1640s component on the same site. The abundance of metal working debris, lead shot and several gun parts suggests that this is the location of John Dandy's gunsmith shop ca. 1638-1643. However, the excavations were not extensive enough to locate the building.

The second site investigated was part of the Chapel Field site (ST1-103) and had been identified by Dr. H. C. Forman in 1938 as the Priests House associated with the brick chapel. This season's work has produced a distinctly 18th century assemblage and sug-

gests that this building dates primarily after the closing of the brick chapel in 1704. The structure may have been built as a residence with a chapel in it. Such a chapel would have been legal under the 1704 Act Against Popery which closed all public Catholic churches in Maryland. The foundation is 45 x 21 ft and has a complex architectural history. It was built in two distinctly different sections, one 29 ft long and the other 16 ft long, but which was the primary construction can not be determined yet. There is a full cellar under the southern section that is approximately 18 x 13 ft with a bulkhead entrance on the east side.

### *Lexington Park*

Archaeologists at the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, under the direction of Principal Investigator Julia King and Field Supervisor Edward Chaney, have recently undertaken investigations at Mattapany, located today on the Patuxent River Naval Air Station. Mattapany was initially founded as a Jesuit mission in the late 1630s. Indian attacks and Protestant rebellion had destroyed the mission by the mid-1640s. In the 1660s a plantation was established at Mattapany, which became the home of Charles Calvert, governor of Maryland and later the third Lord Baltimore. The plantation served as a frequent meeting place for the Colonial Assembly. In addition, the primary arsenal for the colony was erected at Mattapany, and a garrison of up to 30 men was at times stationed there. The site was abandoned in the early 18th century, but its ruins were still visible until the late 19th century.

Investigations at the site in the summer of 1991 uncovered no positive evidence of the early Jesuit settlement, but did find a large Late Woodland occupation on a bluff overlooking the Patuxent River, which could be the mission location. Extensive traces of the Calvert plantation were also revealed. Limited excavation in the early 1980s had found an area of 17th century artifacts and ditch-like features, which was identified as the Calvert house site. However, a second, larger area of 17th century domestic artifacts and dense brick concentrations was found nearby in 1991. The relationship of these two sites, as well as the presence of military items (shot, gun barrels, etc.) at the first site, suggests that the previous investigations had actually explored the arsenal, and that the Calvert house was located in 1991. The U. S. Navy is providing funds to test this hypothesis over the next several years.

### *St. Leonard*

During 1991-1992, excavations under the direction of Principal Investigator Julia King and Field Supervisor Edward Chaney were conducted at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum on the site of a Proposed Archaeological Conservation Facility and Museum Service Center for the State of Maryland. Previous investigations had revealed that the 17th century plantation of Richard Smith, Jr., Attorney General for the colony, was located in the area, so the new facility was situated so as to avoid that site. However, in 1991, an 18th century survey plat was discovered which showed both the Smith house site and their family graveyard. Projecting the plat onto a modern map of the property suggested that the cemetery was in the construction impact zone. Subsequent excavations revealed burials located exactly where they were predicted to be, demonstrating the degree of accuracy in the 18th century plat. Additional consultations resulted in the development of an extensive system of winding roads, landscaped plantings, and recrea-

tronal facilities.

The initial focus of archaeological research and historic restoration will be 56 acres surrounding the pre-revolutionary mansion. CPRF's preservation program will build on archaeological research that was sponsored by the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America since 1978 and conducted by the Baltimore Center for Urban Archaeology from 1984 through 1989. Its goal is to revitalize this historic City Park by renovating recreational areas, constructing a Visitor Center for the historic zone, and restoring 18th-century features that were once part of Carroll's "100".

In the summer of 1992, with a matching grant from Maryland Historical Trust, CPRF hired George Logan as Supervisory Archaeologist to develop an Archaeological Management Plan for Carroll Park. During the next year, Mr. Logan will assess current knowledge of the archaeological resources, make recommendations for further research under a comprehensive research design that relates past and planned work to the park's master plan, and develop recommended options for the public role of archaeology in interpretation and education. Dr. John Seidel, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Maryland, College Park, is coordinating CPRF's archaeological program. The work is being conducted at one of the University's archaeology laboratories through an agreement between the two institutions. For more information contact CPRF Executive Director, Pamela Charshée, at (410) 323-5236, or George Logan at (301) 405-1418.

#### *Harford County*

Karell Archeological Services performed a Phase I archaeological survey for the Maryland State Highway Administration at the intersection of Maryland Route 7 and Abingdon Road in the town of Abingdon, Harford County, Maryland. The survey recorded 19 archaeological sites, and one previously recorded archaeological site was relocated. All were associated with buildings shown on 19th century maps of Abingdon.

#### *Dorchester County*

John Milner Associates, Inc. conducted Phase II archaeological investigations at two related sites in Dorchester County, Maryland. The investigations were undertaken for the Maryland State Highway Administration in association with the expansion and partial realignment of Maryland Route 313 between Eldorado and Sharptown, Dorchester County, Maryland. The Wilson Mill (18DO177) is the submerged remains of a timber sawmill on Becky Taylor Branch, while the Taylor site (18DO182) includes two historic components and one prehistoric component. The investigations included historical and archaeological research. The Wilson Mill is a preserved example of an industrial structure associated with the development of the wood-products industry in late nineteenth-century Dorchester County and has the potential to yield important information on mill construction technology. None of the components of Site 18DO182 were found to be significant due to a lack of sub-surface integrity.

The Maryland newsletter coordinator wishes to thank Kate Dinnel for her assistance with this issue.

#### *Archaeology in Annapolis (Reported by: Mark Warner)*

Archaeology in Annapolis recently completed its eleventh year of excavations within the Historic District of the city of Annapolis. The project, which is directed by Dr. Mark Leone, is a collaborative endeavor between the University of Maryland, College Park and the Historic Annapolis Foundation. This past summer's excavations continued the project's investigation of the African-Americans in Annapolis. The experience of African American Annapolitans has been a major focus of the project since 1989 when Archaeology in Annapolis began an exploration of the histories of the city's large but relatively undocumented African American community through historical, archaeological, and oral history research.

The excavations undertaken by the University of Maryland's archaeological field school were conducted for a second successive season at the Maynard-Burgess site (18AP64). The site was a single family dwelling which had been occupied continuously by two African-American families, the Maynards and the Burgesses, from 1847 until approximately 1980. Excavations were led by Mark Warner of the University of Virginia and Paul Mullins of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and were undertaken with the support of Port of Annapolis, Inc., the current owners of the property who are using the archaeological data to assist in the preservation of the property.

The objective of this summer's excavations was to test specific areas of the property which had not been investigated during the previous summer and to expand upon the excavations which had begun in 1991. The excavations on the property during 1991 and 1992 have yielded a substantial artifact assemblage which is most notable for the large volume of faunal remains and bottle glass.

The analysis of the materials recovered is still in a very preliminary stage; however, several suggestions can be presented concerning the historic circumstances of African American Annapolitans as well as the history of the property. The first argument is that the material culture recovered reveals a pattern of behavior by African Americans which reflects both incorporation within and resistance to the market economy of Annapolis. The analysis of 88 glass vessels from a ca. 1880s root cellar and a partial analysis of the several thousand excavated animal bones serve to illustrate this tension. For instance, the glass vessel count from the root cellar reflects participation in the commercial economy of the city where alcohol, patent medicines, and fresh beverages were purchased. This suggests that there are no dramatic contrasts in the types of vessels recovered between the Maynard-Burgess site and other Annapolitan sites of similar class standing.

In contrast to this, the faunal assemblage suggests that African Americans, at least within the realm of foodways, may have been making culturally distinctive choices. The faunal assemblage recovered consists largely of domestic species such as cow, pig and chicken as well as fish and turtle, all of which could have been purchased in the marketplace. A significant difference, however, is that the assemblage contains very different percentages of poultry, fish and meat from what has been identified on sites occupied by whites in Annapolis. The faunal remains from the Maynard-Burgess site show a higher use of mammals and fish from those identified elsewhere on economically comparable sites. This difference in foodways may represent an avenue through which African Americans in Annapolis could identify themselves as a distinct community.

A final suggestion is that the archaeological evidence recovered supports the documentary research undertaken on the history of property which argues that the first occupation of the property was in the mid-19th century. Very few 18th-century artifacts were recovered, and they were always in 19th-century contexts. This contradicts arguments presented by several preservationists who have argued, based on the architectural characteristics of the existing structure, that the property was owned and occupied by whites as early as the early 18th century.

Although this research is still in a very preliminary stage, members of Archaeology in Annapolis are expecting to continue this initiative in African-American archaeology both in the laboratory and in the field during the summer of 1993. For further information on the excavations on the Maynard-Burgess site or any other aspect of our African-American project please contact Mark Leone at: Department of Anthropology, Woods Hall, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742 (301)405-1429 or (410) 268-7770.

## ATLANTIC CANADA

Reported by: Rob Ferguson

### NEW BRUNSWICK

#### *The Bliss Islands, Passamaquoddy Bay*

Archaeological excavations carried out in 1992 by David Black, Department of Anthropology, University of New Brunswick, focused on the historic period. Documentary research into the history of the Bliss (L'Etang) Islands has revealed the names of the individuals who owned the islands from 1783 to the present. This summer the archaeologists believe they have excavated part of the homestead of Samuel Bliss, the Loyalist lieutenant for whom the islands are named. With the exception of two later-dating nails, all artifacts (over 10,000) from the 20 square-meter area excavated date to the 1783-1803 period. The area has remained undisturbed since abandonment in the early 19th century. The faunal preservation is exceptional and indicates the exploitation of both marine and terrestrial resources.

Black will be assisted in the analysis by Christopher Blair, who is using this as a basis for an MA degree in history at UNB.

### NOVA SCOTIA

#### *Uniacke House*

Laird Niven, Nova Scotia Museum Complex, directed an archaeological investigation on the grounds of "Mount Uniacke" (ca. 1813-15), the estate of Richard John Uniacke, Attorney General for Nova Scotia from 1813 to 1817. The crew of three, plus volunteers, has focused on three features of the estate: the haka wall, a ca. 1817 outbuilding, and the hothouse. The excavations featured a volunteer program for the public and a short self-guided tour.

#### *Fort Anne National Historic Park, Annapolis Royal*

This was the fourth and final season of excavations directed by Birgitta Wallace Ferguson, Canadian Parks Service, Halifax, with chief crew supervisor Rion Microys. The excavations continued to focus on the earliest European components of the fort, known to the French as Port Royal after the original French habitation in the area.

The archaeological evidence is complex, reflecting the many changes and destructions that have taken place. The earliest structures were of wood. Palisade lines occur at several levels, one of which consists of holes rather than post molds. A fragmentary building of slate and a large midden date to the 1636-1654 habitation of Charles d'Aulnay. Preliminary analysis by Heather Henderson of the bones from the midden indicates that the French enjoyed a varied diet dominated by large beef roasts but which included shellfish and birds.

A full report on the site is expected in winter 1993/94.

#### *Cape Sable Post, Barrington*

An initial survey to evaluate site potential was conducted by George Hiseler. Seven small test pits were opened, revealing impressive remains of several 17th-century occupations.

The post was developed as a trading center on the south coast of Nova Scotia some time after the destruction of Port Royal in 1613. It was operated by Charles de Biencourt and Charles de La Tour for the La Rochelle-based company of David Lomeron. By 1627, La Tour had assumed control of the post. It was ceded to Charles de Menou d'Aulnay of Port Royal (see Fort Anne above) in 1642 and may have been destroyed at this time. From 1654 to 1670 it operated as an English post, initially under Thomas Temple. It may have seen further development following the subsequent British takeover of Acadia in 1713.

Hiseler's testing included three units in the existing earth ramparts and four outside the walls. The exterior pits were particularly productive and may be located in the area of the original French trading post. Of particular note was the recovery of over 700 trade beads, including 640 seed beads and 700 trade beads, including 640 seed beads and several dozen larger types, as well as a brass finger ring. Faunal and botanical remains from a hearth dump will be analyzed over the winter. Evidence of a squared timber post suggests structural remains.

Hiseler plans to return for more extensive excavation next summer as part of a Doctoral program.

#### *Grassy Island National Historic Park*

Denise Hansen, Material Culture Researcher, and Bruce Rickett, Communications Section, Canadian Parks Service, have produced an edu-kit for the park. The kit is entitled "Discovering Our Past - Through History and Archaeology" and is geared to the Nova Scotia Social Studies curriculum of Grades 4, 6 and 7. Five themes were developed, designed to communicate why and how we study the past, the partnership between historical and archaeological research, and the limitations of such research. Kit components consist of two videos, student activity sheets, maps, aerial photos, artifacts (reproduction and unprovenienced) and site brochures. The edu-kit is scheduled for completion in the fall of 1992. For further

information contact.

Denise Hansen, Archaeology  
Canadian Parks Service, Atlantic  
Historic Properties  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
Canada B3J-1S9

### Kejirakujik National Park

A team of conservators under the direction of Michael Harrington, Conservation Division, Canadian Parks Service, continued the moulding of 19th-century Micmac rock carvings in the park. Moulding of sites is a controversial and potentially destructive process. The team has, however, developed a process which results in virtually no permanent impact. The process includes the spreading of a thin coat of polyvinylalcohol as a prophylactic layer over the rock surface. This prevents contamination of the slate by the moulding compound, while retaining excellent detail. Copper electrotypes produced from the moulds provide a permanent record of these finely-incised images. Over 200 moulds were made this year. One more season is anticipated for completion of the project. Harrington cautions that the moulding of carvings is best handled by experienced conservators. He will be presenting details of the technique on completion of the project.

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

### *P.E.I. Coastal Survey*

This survey, by Scott Buchanan for the provincial government, is part of a multi-year plan for the identification and management of archaeological resources throughout the province. The present project is focused on the coastal and estuarine margins of the southeast coast, from Souris to Georgetown. The objectives of the survey are to provide an inventory of archaeological sites and to identify significant and threatened sites for protection under the guidelines of the Archaeological Sites Protection Act.

Although the survey is directed towards a fairly broad spectrum of archaeological sites, specific emphasis has been placed on the identification of areas of pre- and post-contact native occupation and several locations of early French and Acadian settlement. Background research has also indicated the location of numerous areas of early to late 19th-century industrial activity, and the identification of these sites will form an integral component of the survey.

## ONTARIO

Reported by: Dena Doroszenko

### *Ontario Heritage Foundation, Benares, Mississauga*

During 1991, the Ontario Heritage Foundation received \$1.2 million from the Ministry of Culture and Communications to restore the Benares estate in Mississauga. The first house at Benares was built of stone in 1835-36 and sold before completion to Captain James Harris, a retired British officer who settled as a gentleman farmer in Mississauga after five years of service in India and

Canada. The house was partially destroyed by fire in ca. 1855, and in 1856-57, the second house was also destroyed by fire. The present late Georgian red brick house was completed in 1857-59, and there have been few changes since that time. The residence commands a 5.7 acre site with four outbuildings. In the 1920s, Benares was the inspiration for "Jalna" in the Mazo de la Roche novels. The house, together with the outbuildings and collections, provides a significant understanding of the evolution of a 19th and 20th century Ontario lifestyle.

Prior to the start of the intensive restoration work, the archaeological project began. The field season ran from late May to late November, with twelve staff involved in the project. The Foundation's Senior Archaeologist, Dena Doroszenko, directed the project with Assistant Archaeologist, Mary Catherine Garden.

Excavations were conducted around the perimeter of the 1857 house and the attached 1836 kitchen, around two extant outbuildings (the potting shed and the dairy), the area of the carriage shed, in the basement of the house and under the floor of the summer kitchen.

Limited excavations, conducted in the summer kitchen, revealed a number of significant features. Of particular note was a large stone foundation for a fireplace. This feature which runs through the middle of the room was likely in place between 1855 and 1857. A number of foundations for partition walls were also discovered, suggesting that the room has undergone a series of renovations through time. A small stone box sitting adjacent to the north wall of the building is curious, and at present it is believed to be a stone drain.

A burn layer was found 1.5 meters under the present floorboards. As many of the above mentioned walls and features sit on top of or cut through the layer, they can be dated to after the 1855 fire. This burn layer seems to be comparable to that found on the exterior; it is at approximately the same height (MASL) and is physically similar.

Due to discrepancies in the oral tradition and the written record it was necessary for the archaeologists to determine whether there were two episodes of burning on the site of the extant house. The discovery of a single layer around the house suggests that only one fire occurred on the present site. This burn stratum was found on all four sides of the house and kitchen. In some areas the layer was found to extend 5+ meters out from the house. The stone foundations of the original Benares (1836) were identified extending north and south from the stone kitchen. Although these foundations have been interrupted by modern utility lines, they are mostly intact. It is now known that the stone house measured just over 14 meters across the back (east) wall. This makes the stone building slightly wider than the existing brick house and indeed, on the north side, the 1835 foundation meets up with the 1857 foundation. In total, portions of the north, south and east walls were picked up, thereby enabling the archaeologists to determine the foot print of the original house.

The 1835 entrance to the cellar was excavated. This was a substantial structure with two limestone retaining walls on either side of the door. Evidence of the wooden steps leading to the entrance could be seen as soil stains in the profile.

Several of the extant outbuildings were investigated. Of interest is the stone dairy/ice house. This small stone structure is semi-subterranean, and excavations revealed that the building is surrounded by a rock-filled trench. This trench has been identified as a modified "French Drain" which would not only aid in drainage

of the building but would also keep it cool in the summer months. The French Drain cuts through the burn layer, suggesting that the construction of the building would postdate the 1855 fire.

A grid measuring 10 meters by 13 meters was excavated in the area of the twentieth century garden in order to determine the location of the 19th century carriage shed. This building, which appears in historic photos, was built sometime in the mid-nineteenth century and is believed to have stood until the mid-twentieth century. The archaeological remains of the carriage shed are insubstantial, consisting only of shallow dark soil stains and post moulds in the lighter sandy subsoil. This type of construction would be comparable to the extant potting shed. The archaeological data suggest that the carriage shed would have measured approximately 3.5 meters by 8.5 meters. Evidence of earlier gardens and fence lines related to the structure were also discovered in this suboperation.

Excavations were initiated in the stone privy. Unfortunately, due to financial and time constraints, the excavation was halted at a depth of approximately 1.5 meters. Previously unidentified in earlier assessment testing on the site, the stone foundations of this privy were located for the archaeologists by Mr. Geoffrey Sayers, the great-grandson of Captain Harris. The excavation yielded a high concentration of artifacts. Most of this assemblage dates to the 1940s and 1950s and probably relates to the destruction of the building and dates to the filling of the privy itself. The privy is reputed to be a "three-holer" which is 4 to 5.5 meters deep. The privy foundations, which are dry-laid limestone, have an interior measurement of 1.5 meters by 1.8 meters. Although the date of the construction of the privy is unknown, it is possible that it could date to the earliest years of occupation (ca. 1836).

The area to the north of the potting shed had been identified as a midden area in the course of test excavations conducted by Archaeological Services Inc. (ASI) in 1988. Further work showed that there are two middens in this area. The first is close to the surface and lies to the west end of the potting shed. The second midden is deeper and sits primarily within a large rubble-filled depression. Also associated with the artifacts and found within the depression are pockets of charcoal and fire-reddened soil. Portions of burnt planks were found lying on top and within the soil. Unlike the first midden, almost all of the artifacts from this area showed signs of heat alteration. It appears that there was a building located to the north of the potting shed which was destroyed by fire. A portion of the western edge of this building was identified at a point 3 meters east of the northwest corner of the building. Possibly, this is the location of the second frame house to which the Harris family oral tradition relates as the site of the second fire on the property.

To date, a total of approximately 60,000 artifacts have been inventoried. It is estimated that the collection from this domestic site will reach 100,000 by the spring of 1993. Further work is planned for 1993 as part of the Jobs Ontario Program.

### *Dundurn Castle, Hamilton*

Dundurn Castle, located in Hamilton, Ontario, is the site of the estate of Sir Allan MacNab, Prime Minister of Upper Canada from 1854-1856. Built in the early 1830s, this regency villa and the surrounding grounds now stand as Hamilton's foremost historical museum where visitors can experience life in a gentleman's household in the 1850s.

Beginning in 1991 a program of research and mitigation archaeology was initiated as part of a larger project aimed at the

restoration of the castle, outbuildings and grounds. To date, archaeological research has provided information on the structural evolution of the house complex from ca. 1795-1899 as well as insight into the types of activities at the site as reflected by the excavated material culture. These results as reported by Triggs (1992) are viewed as essential for the restoration of the below grade architecture and equally important as an additional source of information for the interpretative program at the museum. In this sense archaeological research is not viewed as a mere adjunct to historical research; collaboration among museum curators, historical architects and archaeologists is providing a rich and varied picture of the past.

The results of the 1991 season as presented in *A Report Chronicling the Prehistoric, Military and Domestic Occupation of Dundurn Park* (Triggs 1992) include a re-interpretation of some of the extant features within Dundurn Castle and the outlying grounds. Of major importance was the discovery that the British entrenchment on the original homestead belonging to Richard Beasley was more substantial than previously thought. Based on the combined documentary and archaeological evidence, several features are now thought to be military in origin, and the role played by Richard Beasley's homestead in the defence of Burlington Heights in the War of 1812 has taken on added significance. In addition, changes to the landscape during the 1837 Rebellion and throughout Sir Allan MacNab's occupation were also documented. As a direct result of the excavations we now have a better understanding of the structural evolution of the site and the stages of development that the site has undergone from the late 18th century up to the end of the 19th century. An analysis of the material culture also provided insight into the types of behavior and activities that resulted in the deposition of artifacts in and around the site at various periods.

In the 1991 report the stratigraphic sequence for the site is analyzed using the Harris matrix (Harris 1989) where strata recorded from nine excavation units have been grouped into 65 phases representing eight major periods of occupation. The sequence of phases is based on historical documentation and a period by period reconstruction of the historic landscape as derived from the topographic data recorded during the excavation. Eight periods have been assigned absolute dates on the basis of a map analysis and by reference to various historical sources:

- I Prehistoric Occupation
- II British Military Occupation (1813-1815)
- III Richard Beasley on the Heights (1795-1832)
- IV MacNab and Dundurn (1835-1847)
- V MacNab Renovates Dundurn (1847-1862)
- VI The Deaf and Dumb Institute of Upper Canada/Senator McInnes (1865-1899)
- VII Dundurn Restored (1965)
- VIII Dundurn Castle as an Historical Museum (1980s-Present)

Field work currently in progress includes the investigation of an octagonal masonry structure built in the mid-1830s and used as a cockpit up until the mid-19th century. Excavation in the basement has yielded evidence of successive floor levels and architectural details useful for the reconstruction of this rare architectural style. Additional excavation in the 1.5 acre formal pleasure garden will be used to develop a research strategy for a larger scale project to be conducted as part of the grounds restoration in the near future. Further plans for the season include a detailed investigation of the water storage and retrieval system in use at various periods and

the excavation of the interior of what may be a re-used powder magazine constructed during the British military occupation of the house from 1813-1815.

In another cooperative venture, an archaeological field school offered by McMaster University was conducted on the grounds of Dundurn Castle during the summer of 1992. This six-week course instructed students in the techniques of excavating and recording data on a site with complex stratigraphy. The focus of the research project was on the summer kitchen associated with the first house on the property, a red brick Georgian dwelling constructed ca. 1795 by Richard Beasley. Based on the success of this collaboration, plans are being made to offer the field school each year as a credit course leading to a degree in anthropology.

Persons interested in viewing the excavations can visit the site between June and October each year. For further information, please direct inquiries to:

John R. Triggs  
Director of Archaeology  
Dundurn Castle  
610 York Blvd.  
Hamilton, Ontario  
(416) 522-5313

#### References

- Triggs, John R.  
1992 *Results of the 1991 Excavations at Dundurn Castle: A Report Chronicling the Prehistoric, Military and Domestic Occupation of Dundurn Park* Report submitted to the City of Hamilton, Parks and Recreation Department and the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Communications, Heritage Branch, Toronto.

## QUEBEC

Reported by: Monique Elie

### Fort-Lennox N.H.S.

The casemates at Fort-Lennox N.H.S. were the object of restoration work in 1992. Canadian Parks Service archaeologist Gisele Piedalue, who had conducted excavations in the planning stage of the project, monitored earth moving activities in order to record and (whenever possible) ensure the protection of the archaeological remains uncovered. Assisted by Pierre Cloutier, Piedalue has collected a large quantity of data relating to the structural evolution and use of the casemates. Of particular interest were the several techniques observed concerning the efforts made to render waterproof these earth covered constructions. Fort Temiscauingue N.H.S. Canadian Parks Service archaeologist Pierre Drouin, assisted by Anne Desgagne, has recently completed a two months excavation campaign at Fort Temiscauingue N.H.S. This 18th and 19th centuries trading post is situated on the Ottawa River, some 675 km northwest of Montreal, on the Quebec-Ontario border. The objectives of this investigation were twofold: to test the site of the future interpretation center for the presence of significant archaeological remains, and to locate structural elements of several 19th century buildings that are illustrated on a plan dating from 1888. Because the site of the future interpretation center was

somewhat removed from the trading post perimeter, few archaeological remains were found. As a result, only monitoring of construction will be recommended. For its part, the actual trading post site had been investigated in 1971. The remains of several buildings had then been exposed and later reburied. Numerous late 19th century and 20th century artifacts had also been recovered. Research conducted in 1992 revealed that the 1971 campaign had only unevenly scratched the surface, leaving the earlier contexts mostly untouched. Numerous artifacts including several beads and some prehistoric material were found, as well as certain previously unrecorded features. These remains will be taken into account according to the current resource management policies of the Canadian Parks Service. This discovery having required a change in excavation strategy — from "dig and find" to careful sieving — further investigations will have to be carried out in order to complete the research program outlined in the management plan of this national historic site.

## U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Reported by: Nancy J. Brighton

In July 1992, archaeologists from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, under the direction of Nancy Brighton, conducted a cultural resources investigation at Montauk Point Lighthouse, Montauk, New York. This work was undertaken as part of a reconnaissance study which will determine if measures to protect the bluff at Montauk Point from further erosion are economically and environmentally feasible. The goals of the Corps' fieldwork were to locate evidence of structures that are no longer extant, to determine the potential of the archaeological resources to provide information about lighthousekeeping, and to locate remains of Native American occupation. The Montauk Indians lived around Lake Montauk to the west and may have established fishing stations in the area of the lighthouse.

Twenty-seven shovel tests and twelve auger tests were excavated on the lighthouse grounds. In addition to these sub-surface tests, Corps archaeologists conducted pedestrian surveys in actively eroding areas and in locations adjacent to the edge of the bluff where shovel tests were not feasible or would damage the grasses needed to protect the bluff. Shovel tests placed in the location of the first keeper's house (ca. 1797), which is no longer standing, and the second keeper's house (ca. 1838), which is now used as a garage, uncovered a portion of a stone flooring which may have been associated with both of these houses. Other shovel tests placed to the west of the 1838 house recovered fragments of glass, brick and a variety of ceramics. Additional shovel tests placed on the bluff around the lighthouse and in the third keeper's house (ca. 1860) recovered what may be the remains of the old road which led to the lighthouse and artifacts pertaining to the later occupation of the lighthouse grounds.

A walk-over survey of the base of the exposed eastern edge of the bluff did not reveal any sites currently eroding out of the bluff. However, just off the hill to the north of the lighthouse, a concentration of oyster shell was located on either side of a paved path leading to the beach. These accumulations of shells may be the result of periodic occupation of the area by Montauk Indians for the purpose of processing shellfish. An additional prehistoric artifact, the tip of a quartz projectile point, was found lying on the ground on

the western slope of the bluff. A shovel test placed in the area of the find failed to recover additional artifacts, indicating that the point had probably eroded out of the hill.

The Montauk Point Lighthouse is one of the most popular attractions on Long Island. The lighthouse, built in 1797, is one of the first Federally authorized lighthouses to be constructed in the United States. Its significance as an historic site is derived from a number of features. The original, physical setting of the lighthouse, its placement on a tall, isolated, exposed hill, gives the tower its prominence, while its western slope provided the early keepers' houses with some protection from ocean storms. The structures that are currently present on the landscape, including the 1838 and 1860 keepers' houses, the lighthouse tower, storage buildings constructed between 1860 and 1900, and the World War II fire-control tower, which stands to the east of the lighthouse, provide a tangible connection to the lighthouse's continuous history: a link to the past experience of keeping the light at the Point as well as its modern role in the protection of the Atlantic Coast. The archaeological record at Montauk Point, as indicated by this field work, can only augment existing knowledge of lighthousekeeping and enhance the integrity and significance of this historic site.

The New York District has resumed cultural resources planning for the Passaic River Flood Protection Project after a hiatus of ten years. Under the direction of Wendy Harris, a program is being developed to address impacts to archaeological sites and historic structures resulting from the proposed construction of a 20-mile long, 40-foot wide tunnel and miles of associated levee systems, flood walls and channel modifications. Among the potentially affected resources are the Morris Canal, portions of the Pompton Ironworks, early Passaic Basin hydropower facilities and a series of prehistoric sites located at the confluences of the Wanaque, Pompton, Ramapo and Pequannock Rivers. The Archaeological Society of New Jersey, the State Archaeologist of New Jersey, the Canal Society of New Jersey, the Newark City Historian and the Roebbing Chapter of the Society for Industrial Archeology are participating in the effort as interested parties to a Programmatic Memorandum of Agreement between the New York District, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Office of New Jersey Heritage. The Programmatic Agreement document will guide cultural resources activities throughout the life of the project.

The New York District is pleased to report that the Office of New Jersey Heritage has recently concurred with the District's finding that the Belford, New Jersey, waterfront is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as an historic district to be called the "Shoal Harbor Historic District." The basis for the determination was a 1991 study conducted for the New York District by Wendy Harris and Eugene Reyes, documenting the relationship between the traditional lifeways of this historic Raritan Bay fishery and the waterfront's piers, walkways and other standing structures and activity areas.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

The Institute of Early American History and Culture (Williamsburg, VA) has announced the publication in October 1992 of *The Ordeal of the Longhouse: The Peoples of the Iroquois League in the Era of European Colonization* by Daniel K. Richter. The book presents a different perspective from within Iroquoia as the League used diplomacy to counter European encroachments. *Rub-*

*bish! the Archaeology of Garbage* by William Rathje and Cullen Murphy has been published by Harper-Collins for \$23. Based on the study at the University of Arizona of garbage collected from modern neighborhoods, the book presents a perspective on our modern patterns of food consumption and waste disposal. A different kind of publication is a CD disc released by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Contained on the disc are 850 separate maps of the entire state. For example, locations of hazardous-waste sites can be accessed as well as the location of such features as mines. The disc is designed for use with GIS systems and requires the use of a CD-ROM player. Priced at \$5, 300 copies were produced.

*Small Things Considered: Guidelines for Field Recording in Archaeological Excavation* by John Worrell, David Simons, Martha Lance, and Will Gates

*Small Things Considered . . .* has just been printed by Old Sturbridge Village. This 66 page archaeological field manual contains blank recording forms with the invitation for you to duplicate them and adapt them for your own use. Available for \$10.00 plus postage and handling from the Old Sturbridge Village New England Bookstore, 1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge, MA 01566.

### *Microfiche Reports from the Canadian Parks Service*

The Canadian Parks Service has recently added several titles to its Microfiche Report Series which may be of interest to CNEHA members. The following is a selection of those concerning archaeological research and related exhibits from Quebec.

Robert Gauvin, *Le jardin des gouverneurs a Quebec du XVIIe au XXe siecle* (The Governors Garden in Quebec City, from the 17th to the 20th Century). Environment Canada, Parks Service, Microfiche Report No. 451, 1991.

A study concerning one of Canada's earliest gardens, now part of the Fortifications of Quebec National Historic Site.

Gisele Piedaloe, *Repertoire des vestiges structuraux associes aux magasins du Fort Lennox* (Structural Remains Relating to the Fort Lennox Storehouses). Environment Canada, Parks Service, Microfiche Report No. 452, 1991.

A detailed descriptive analysis of structural remains uncovered during archaeological interventions conducted in the area of two British built masonry storehouses (early 19th century to present). Remains of a partially excavated late 18th century blockhouse are also discussed. Fort Lennox, a National Historic Site, is located on an island in the Richelieu river, only a few kilometers north of the American border.

Simon Courcy, *Les objets archéologiques exposes au haut fourneau des forges du Saint-Maurice: mur des artefacts* (Archaeological Objects on View at the Blast Furnace of the Saint-Maurice Ironworks: the Artifact Wall). Environment Canada, Parks Service, Microfiche Report No. 453, 1991.

*Les objets archéologiques exposes dans les caves de la grande maison des forges du Saint-Maurice* (Archaeological Objects on View at the Masters' House at the Saint-Maurice Ironworks). En-

vironment Canada, Parks Service, Microfiche Report No. 454, 1991.

*Les objets archéologiques exposés au haut fourneau des forges du Saint-Maurice: maison du fondateur* (Archaeological Objects on View at the Blast Furnace of the Saint-Maurice Ironworks: the Founders House). Environment Canada, Parks Service, Microfiche Report No. 455, 1991.

*Les objets archéologiques exposés au rez-de-chaussée de la grande maison des forges du Saint-Maurice* (Archaeological Objects on View on the Ground Floor of the Master's House at the Saint-Maurice Ironworks) Environment Canada, Parks Service, Microfiche Report No. 457, 1991.

Illustrated guides to artifacts on display in several interpretation modules at the Saint-Maurice Ironworks National Historic Site.

These microfiche reports may be consulted at Canadian Parks Service libraries, through inter-library loan or, exceptionally, obtained by writing to the following address:

Research Publications  
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CANADA

## **OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE FIELD SCHOOLS**

Old Sturbridge Village has conducted its Field School in Historical Archaeology annually since 1977, and in 1989 its first Field School in Architectural History was offered. These two programs help fulfill the educational mission of the museum, and they also form the core of its material culture research, as the above and below ground cultural history is studied in tandem. The home and shop sites of farmer-blacksmith Emerson Bixby and his family in Barre Four Corners, Mass., were studied in this way, leading to an entire new living history exhibit in the museum. More recently the home sites and neighborhoods of woodworker James Clark in West Brookfield and of the Pliny Freeman farm family have been similarly studied. These two field schools are now being offered on alternate years, with the OSV Field School in Architectural History to be conducted from June 14 to July 30, 1993, and the Archaeology Field School again in 1994.

The research focus of next summer's seven week program will be the historical and architectural context of the Salem Towne House, a large Federal-period dwelling that was moved to Old Sturbridge Village from Charlton, Mass. Participants will research similar structures and their builders and occupants, while documenting and recording several related buildings in the vicinity. The course will expose participants to principles and methods of evaluation, physical and historical documentation, and the interpretation of historic structures through combined instruction, field trips, and hands-on experience. Leading scholars in the field of vernacular architecture will lecture and conduct workshops on new research and analytical methods. Course credit for the program will be available.

For further information, please contact Myron O. Stachiw, Field School Director, Old Sturbridge Village, 1 Old Sturbridge Village Rd., Sturbridge, MA 01566; tel. (508) 347-3362.

## **LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

Dear Editor,

Julie King was very kind in her response to Edward Heite's seemingly not-impartial rebuttal of her statement that the use of screens has become standard practice in excavating sites in the Chesapeake (*CNEHA Newsletter* 21:15-16). Much too kind, in my opinion, for such antiquated thinking simply is inexcusable. Twenty years ago when Noel Hume wrote his by-now famous condemnation of the use of screens, the jury may have still been out on the matter. Two decades of work, and the resulting refinement of excavation methods, along with an increasing sophistication in the types of questions now being addressed, have provided conclusive evidence for

the value of screening, however. By the year 1992, those who still refuse to screen should be given the benefit of the doubt no longer. Rather, they should be condemned for unwarranted destruction of the archaeological record.

First, I want to point out that Julie King's statement is well documented in many different ways. For example, staff of the SHPO archaeology departments in both Maryland (Richard Hughes, Maryland Historical Trust) and Virginia (Tony Opperman, Virginia Department of Historic Resources) assured me that screening is routinely required for all types of archaeological investigations over which they exercise regulatory control. The VDHR is seeking to impose even greater uniformity on work done in that state and is currently revising its survey and excavation guidelines, which will include the stipulation that screening is to be carried out in all but extremely unusual circumstances. Staff of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Ron Anzalone and David Dutton) likewise assured me that screening is viewed by them as standard practice, which they routinely require for all levels of archaeological investigation.

But even more telling than these governmental strictures is the archaeological literature of the last two decades. First, any number of readily available texts aimed at teaching archaeological field techniques to students and to the lay public include discussions of the value of screening. Along with Thomas (1990), cited by Julie King, a completely subjective survey of sources that happen to be in my personal library revealed several, including one English (Barker 1977) and two American (Schiffer 1987, Sharer and Ashmore 1979). Note that Barker and Sharer and Ashmore published their books 15 and 13 years ago, respectively. They make it clear in their discussions that, in their opinions, screening is a generally accepted method of excavation that has important benefits.

Possibly even more compelling is that the pages of each issue of every reputable archaeological journal in America annually include articles and research notes that manipulate artifacts recovered by screening. These include both the journal of this society, *Northeast Historical Archaeology* — with a photo on the cover of the last issue of Bert Salwen's crew screening back in 1976 — and the major journal devoted to historical archaeology in this country, *Historical Archaeology*. The complete list of the other journals and of the articles involved would be enormous. But even this great mass of literature is dwarfed by the thousands of CRM reports generated over the last 25 years that routinely use data derived from screening. Tony Opperman of VDHR related that only a tiny percentage of the hundreds of CRM projects that he has reviewed over the last several years did not employ screening. To maintain that screening remains the concern of a small and wrongheaded group indicates a gross lack of awareness of what has been going on in American archaeology since the beginning of the Nixon administration.

As one of the organizers — and one of the paper presenters — for the COVA Symposium V, I am fully aware of what I believe to have been the major failing of the meeting. That is, the inability to provide adequate syntheses of the state of knowledge for many of the topics addressed. In some instances this was due to a lack of data tied specifically to an insufficient number of excavated sites. But much more often the gaps were caused by inadequacies in the archaeological documentation. Even after more than two decades of the relatively intensive excavation of 17th-century sites, very few reports of any quality on Chesapeake sites are available for

study. (This, of course, is a problem that, I am sorry to say, extends considerably farther afield than just the Chesapeake and just 17th-century archaeology.) Even more frustrating, and germane in terms of this issue, when data were available, intersite comparisons often were impossible to carry out due to important differences in excavation methods. The failure to screen (and/or to conduct even more rigorous recovery methods such as wet screening and flotation) at many Virginia sites over the last two decades has been a major cause of the latter problem.

This situation was commented upon by a number of the speakers at COVA V. My attempt to study standard of living in the 17th century Chesapeake is just one example of a paper that was hampered in that regard. But possibly the most compelling example of where decisions not to screen have made a major impact on analysis is in regard to faunal and floral studies. After analyzing faunal assemblages excavated from more than a score of Chesapeake sites, Henry Miller (1991) concluded that failure to screen feature fill at many sites has yielded archaeological assemblages that simply are not comparable. In short, the smaller bones are not recovered without screening, leading to an obvious bias in faunal assemblages. In addition, even dry screening is inadequate to retrieve the smallest of bones and botanical remains such as seeds, and wet screening through fine mesh and flotation is required. This is not a new finding, moreover. Schiffer (1987) cites Payne (1972) as arriving at the same general conclusion 20 years ago.

But to turn to the crux of Mr. Heite's, and Noel Hume's (1974:104-105), argument, i.e., that screening is somehow actually destructive in that it results in sloppier trowelling and inattention to detail because, "the presence of the screen . . . gives the digger a false sense of security." Twaddle! As Barker (1977) — who, I might point out, is English, and whose book is based completely on English excavations — in contradiction of Heite's contention that screening is solely a North American preoccupation — explains, screening is a necessary complement to careful excavation, not a substitute for it. "However competent the trowelling on an excavation some small objects such as coins, gems, intaglios, fragments of metal objects and other potentially important finds may be missed. It has been found that dry-sieving with ordinary garden sieves with a mesh of about 10 mm recovers a sufficiently large number of otherwise lost finds to make the extra work and time worthwhile" (Barker 1977:81). Finally, all of these studies, and every other of which I am aware, contradict Heite's contention that artifact recovery at screened sites is lower than at sites where screening was not conducted.

Whether or not Mr. Heite chooses to believe it, screening now is close to universally carried out by archaeologists in this country — in the excavation of both prehistoric and historic sites — and by many in England and elsewhere, when excavating nonplowed soils. In addition, by now most American archaeologists are aware of the benefits to be gained even in screening plowzone. Once again, a large and steadily growing literature on the subject is readily available for any doubters to examine (cf. Keeler 1978, King 1988, O'Brien and Lewarch 1981, Fogue 1988a). Even more convincing are the studies that have analyzed artifacts from plowed contexts to produce new and insightful findings (cf. King and Miller 1987, Yentsch 1990 and 1991). One of the best examples from the Chesapeake continues to be Neiman's (1978) early and influential treatment of spatial relationships at the 17th-century Clifts plantation. This, in turn, served as the starting point for a general reassess-

ment of Chesapeake impermanent architecture. The analysis of patterns in the distribution of artifacts recovered by screening plowzone — along with the extremely careful and intensive excavation of features and the screening of feature fill — served as the basis for this study.

At this time (for almost everyone) the issue clearly no longer is whether screening is valuable, but rather what level of rigor in screening is required, and cost-effective, to maximize artifact recovery for any given context. The expenditure of time and money has always been, and in the recessionary nineties will remain, a basic constraint imposed on how sites are excavated. But screening has been found to be an extremely cost-effective means of data collection. In my own 16-year career, I have never excavated a site without screening, and that activity never significantly hindered what was accomplished.

In addition, the decision to screen does not tie the excavator to unrealistic goals that cannot be modified as needed. Certainly, a 20th-century pipe trench generally does not warrant the same careful treatment as does a 17th-century filled cellar. Sliding scales for how different contexts are treated are becoming the norm, with that used in my work at Mount Vernon being one example. The topsoil, plowzone, and modern intrusions are dry-screened via 3/8-inch mesh. Unless special circumstances dictate, all other strata are routinely dry-screened with 1/4-inch mesh. In the case of unusually moist or dry/hard soils, wet screening through 1/4-inch or finer mesh may be employed. When any matrix offers evidence of containing significant amounts of small materials, they are wet-screened through window screen. Finally, when a deposit is perceived to have the potential to yield small faunal and/or botanical remains, all or a representative sample of the fill is processed via flotation, and the remainder is wet screened. Finally, samples of soil are retained from all strata to allow the possibility for chemical analyses (Keeler 1978, Pogue 1988b). This is not offered as a prescription for any other archaeologist to follow; rather, as an example of how screening, and different levels of rigor in screening, can be incorporated into an excavation strategy. I urge Edward Heite to give some thought to arriving at such a strategy before beginning his next excavation.

Yours,  
Dennis J. Pogue

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