

# Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology NEWSLETTER

March 1997

NUMBER 36

CALL FOR PAPERS,  
1997 CNEHA ANNUAL MEETING

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Papers are now requested for the 1997 Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology Annual Meeting in Altoona, Pennsylvania. The dual themes of the meeting are industrial archaeology and the role of archaeologists in heritage tourism. Authors are encouraged to submit abstracts for 25-minute papers on these topics. Papers on current research in the historical archaeology of the northeastern United States and the eastern provinces of Canada are also requested. Send abstracts (150 words or fewer) to the Program Chair by May 1, 1997: Karen Bescherer Metheny, Program Chair, 44 Stedman St., Brookline, MA 02146.

Or, for more information about the conference, contact: Paula Zitzler, RR 2, Box 325, Williamsburg, PA 16693-9736. Tel. (814) 832-9224.

## JUST A NOTE OF THANKS!

Reported by: Sara F. Mascia, Executive Vice-Chair

Your membership in CNEHA is important. Earlier this year, the CNEHA renewal forms were sent out to our membership, and I hope that all of you will support the Council by renewing for 1997. At our 1996 Annual Meeting in Albany, I was happy to report that our membership is now the largest we have had to date.

The Council is committed to encouraging archaeological scholarship in the Northeast and to the dissemination of information about the practice of archaeology on historical sites. Our commitment has enabled us to keep our membership fees at the same low rate while still maintaining the quality of our publications and meetings. In 1997 the Council plans to continue to publish our Newsletter and Journal as well as to offer to our members the new Monograph series *STUDIES IN NORTHEAST HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY*. The 1997 annual meeting, the Council's thirty-first, will be held in central Pennsylvania, and we hope to have an exciting program for all who attend.

This is now the time when I am fortunate to say thank you for your continued support of the Council in our endeavors. With your help I believe the Council can continue to grow and provide the membership with a unique opportunity to participate in an international organization dedicated to the field of historical archaeology.

### COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

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

*Northeast Historical Archaeology* seeks manuscripts dealing with historical archaeology in the Northeast region, including field reports, artifact studies, and analytical presentations (e.g., physical anthropology, palynology, faunal analysis, etc.). We also welcome commentary and opinion pieces. To submit a manuscript or request preparation of manuscript guidelines, write to Ann-Eliza Lewis, Department of Archaeology, Boston University, 675 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215.

## PRESS RELEASE FROM THE NEW YORK ARCHAEOLOGICAL COUNCIL

*Albany, February 10, 1997:* The New York Archaeological Council (NYAC) today announced that it found it necessary to begin legal proceedings to hold the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) in contempt for its recent actions at a downtown Albany archaeological site. An Order to Show Cause was issued on February 7, 1997. NYAC contends that DASNY destroyed portions of the Dutch community of Beverwyck dating from the mid-17th century. NYAC had commenced a proceeding in October 1996 challenging DASNY's failure to comply with legal requirements concerning the study and mitigation of Albany's priceless historical site. The case was settled by a stipulation among the parties which was ordered by Justice Teresi on October 21, 1996. The agreement required DASNY to give preference to archaeology during construction of its headquarters.

NYAC claims that DASNY constructed its sewer lines in what archaeologists consider an extraordinarily rich area of the site, in clear violation of Justice Teresi's Order. The value of this resource is confirmed by the archaeological work done to date by DASNY's consultant. Charles Cobb, NYAC's former President who closely monitors progress at the site, stated: "This unique site contained well preserved archaeological remains from Native American and Dutch settlers living in and around the 17th century settlements of Beverwyck and Fort Orange." Archaeologists agree that this site is one of the most important sites in the early European settlement of North America. The site represents the only Dutch residential and commercial area which has been investigated during this period in the United States. Preservation and promotion of Albany's early Dutch heritage can have a positive effect on economic development by producing an attractive and unique tourist destination.

Cobb, who serves as NYAC's lead representative for this site, stated, "These areas of the site have been irreparably damaged by this latest construction. DASNY's actions, which were entirely unnecessary, warrant the imposition of a substantial penalty. The loss to the public and to the scientific community is immeasurable. Archaeological investigation, research and analysis of our nation's heritage can and must be incorporated into the design and planning of development projects at the earliest practical time in order to allow both to proceed responsibly. NYAC hopes this measure will be received and understood by DASNY." NYAC is seeking fines and damages in the amount of \$200,000 to punish DASNY for its actions. Archaeological deposits are fragile resources and, once removed, can never be reconstructed. Unfortunately, Albany has again lost an irreplaceable portion of its unique heritage.

NYAC is represented by Carl G. Dworkin and Marc S. Gerstman. For more information, contact Charles Cobb at (607) 777-2487.

### UPDATE—

#### *Northeast Historical Archaeology*

Reported by: Mary C. Beaudry, Editor

I am pleased to report that production of Volume 25 is now well in hand. We have an interesting mix of articles and reviews that should have wide appeal. These range from a forum on archaeologists' involvement in relocation of historic burials, a report on a

19th-century medical deposit, an overview of remote sensing in National Parks, a research note on Colono ware, and a report on brickyards at the John Jay Homestead. We expect to have the 1996 issue of the journal in the mail to you by late spring.

Another bit of extremely good news concerns the Council's new monograph series. Lorinda Goodwin is making excellent progress on production of our first offering: *Mocha, Banded, Cat's Eye, and Other Factory-Made Slipware* by Lynne Sussman. This work is a major contribution to ceramic history and will be of great interest to all of our members as well as to many non-archaeologists. We are very excited, very pleased to inaugurate our monograph series with Lynne's wonderful monograph.

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT

Reported by: David Starbuck, Newsletter Editor

Please send news for the next issue of the CNEHA Newsletter by June 1 to the appropriate provincial or state editor:

### 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.

### State Editors:

CONNECTICUT: Cece Saunders, Historical Perspectives, P.O. Box 3037, Westport, CT 06880-9998.

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

MAINE: Emerson Baker, RR#3, 219 River Road, Biddeford, ME 04005.

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

MASSACHUSETTS: Karen Bescherer Metheny, 44 Stedman St., Brookline, MA 02146

NEW HAMPSHIRE: David R. Starbuck, P.O. Box 147, Fort Edward, NY 12828.

NEW JERSEY: Lynn Rakos, US Army Corps of Engineers, CENAN-PL-EA, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10278.

NEW YORK CITY: Diane Dallal, Archaeological Director of New York Unearthed, The City Archaeology Museum (A Program of the South Street Seaport Museum), 17 State St., New York, NY 10004.

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

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

RHODE ISLAND: James Garman, The Public Archaeology Laboratory Inc., 210 Lonsdale Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860.

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

VIRGINIA: Barbara Heath, The Corporation for Jefferson's Poplar Forest, P.O. Box 419, Forest, VA 24551.

WEST VIRGINIA: John T. Eddins, 7154 Meadow Lane, Gainesville, VA 22065-2557.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

### CNEA

The Conference on New England Archaeology (CNEA) invites new and current members to join us for our 16th annual conference, "Creating and Interpreting New England's Environments." The conference will be held on April 26, 1997, at Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, Massachusetts, beginning at 8:30 A.M. CNEA membership annual dues (US \$12) include the conference registration fee and subscription to the CNEA Newsletter. Non-members' conference registration is US \$8. Dues or the non-member conference registration fee may be paid at the door, or sent in advance to Paul Robinson, Treasurer, RI Historic Preservation Commission, 150 Benefit Street, Providence, RI 02903 (Tel. 401 277-2678).

The CNEA was founded in 1979 to foster communication among archaeologists, preservationists, and historians, and to bridge the subdisciplines of prehistoric, historical, and industrial archaeology by examining common themes and approaches to New England's past. The CNEA holds an annual conference and publishes the biannual CNEA Newsletter, containing insightful articles, summaries of current research, announcements, requests for information, and listings of new publications. Submissions to the CNEA Newsletter may be sent to Eric Johnson, Editor, Department of Anthropology, UMass Amherst, Amherst, MA 01003 (Tel. 413 545-1552).

### Treasures to Trash

Portsmouth, New Hampshire, promises to be a mecca this summer for ceramics collectors and lovers of antique tableware.

June 18 through October 31, fifteen historic house museums will cooperate in an unprecedented, region-wide exhibition and series of lectures to tell the story of this area's household ceramics as imported from 1690 to 1870.

Entitled "Treasures to Trash; Early Ceramics of the Portsmouth Region", these special displays will be based on extensive archaeological evidence which matches many "below-ground" broken bowls, plates, etc. to their "above-ground" surviving intact ceramic treasures.

As designed by well-known ceramic historians, Carl L. Crossman and Louise Richardson, each museum's display will shed its own special light on the China Trade, ceramic technology and on changing social and cultural attitudes.

This unique collaboration is sponsored by Historic Associates—a collection of six independent house museums—and is being carried out in cooperation with Strawberry Banke Museum, SPNEA (The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities), and the historic houses of Old York Historical Society in Maine.

Also unusual will be the neighborly interloaning of choice ceramic pieces among the fifteen historic houses so that all displays will achieve a high degree of excellence and historical appropriateness. Strawberry Banke's archaeological department will lend hundreds of sherds and some reconstructed pieces. A number of seldom-seen historical ceramics will also be on loan from private collectors.

An exhibition such as this will serve to further enhance a group of historical Portsmouth and York houses which are already famous for their architecture and superb antiques collections.

As an added feature of this project, there will be two different lecture series on early ceramics to be held this summer in Portsmouth and in York. In the fall, Strawberry Banke will offer a comprehensive ceramics symposium.

For more details, contact: Patricia Q. Wall, P.O. Box 39, Kittery Point, ME 03905. Tel. (207) 439-2878.

## INTERNET URLs

Reported by: Paul R. Huey

Two Internet URLs that may be of interest to CNEHA readers are, first, the New York State Library homepage through which one can access the complete texts (minus illustrations and indexes) of a number of recent archaeological reports and bibliographies relating to research at the New York State Historic Sites. There are reports on Philipse Manor Hall, Schuylar Mansion, Crown Point, Olan, John Jay Homestead, Johnson Hall, and Peebles Island. The address is: <ftp://unix2.nysed.gov/pub/nys.agency.pubs/parks>

Also, there is a homepage for the (Dutch) Dormitory Authority site in Albany: <http://www.wizvax.net/lynjax/dasny.html>

## CURRENT RESEARCH

### Connecticut

Reported by: Cece Saunders

#### Town Studies I

Stuart Reeve has conducted archaeological assessment surveys of the Raymond Family burial ground, Darien, and at the Dodgingtown Cemetery, Newtown. He is also active in Redding where public interest in cultural resource preservation has increased as a result of subdivision proposals in the vicinity of the Revolutionary War encampments in the town, the reopening of the Putnam Memorial State Park, and the proposed expansion plans of the Congregational Church on the Redding Green. The Town of Redding is presently considering an amendment to their subdivision ordinance to require cultural resources surveys.

#### Town Studies II

Archaeological Research Specialists (ARS) has completed preliminary investigation of the L. D. Alexander Brickyard in Killingly (late 19th/early 20th century). ARS is currently con-

ducting intensive investigations of cartographic, documentary and archaeological resources related to as many as four 19th century farmsteads in Ansonia. In Meriden, ARS has recently monitored construction activities to ensure the preservation of 19th century human burials at the former Connecticut State School for Boys. For more details, contact ARS: Tel. (203) 237-4777; Fax (203) 237-4667; e-mail archres@ct1.nai.net

## Massachusetts

Reported by: Karen Bescherer Metheny

### Spencer-Peirce-Little Farm, Newbury

As part of the 1996 field season, volunteers and students enrolled in a Boston University field school and a workshop run cooperatively with the Lincoln-Sudbury High School explored the northern perimeter of the farmyard and conducted extensive testing in an adjacent field. The field work was directed by Mary Beaudry, and Carolyn White served as assistant director and teaching fellow; the project is co-sponsored and partly funded by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities. A number of interesting features were discovered, among them several stone-and-clay pads whose purpose remains unclear. The northern boundary of the yard is depicted in 19th-century photographs as a solid board fence that served as a windbreak and support for grapevines. The fence was one element of an extensive reshaping of the farmyard by longtime tenant-turned-owner Edward Henry Little, seemingly begun shortly after he and his wife Catherine paid off their mortgage in 1865. Subsurface evidence of this fence consisted of a shallow trench into which the boards had been set vertically, side-by-side. Only one posthole was found in the units that crossed the fence line; this was placed several feet behind the fence and, if associated with it, represents a buttress type of support rather than a post incorporated into the run of the fence. The wood of the fence was partially preserved in the ditch. The back-fill of the trench consisted of masses of household debris, mainly glass and ceramics, all dating to the 1860s or earlier. It seems likely that the artifacts were incorporated into the trench fill deliberately, to promote drainage; this is the second feature at the site that points to a deliberate accumulation of household rubbish (a "resource pile" rather than a trash heap?) for use in construction. (The other example is a crocking deposit in a privy constructed ca. 1800.)

Apart from white granite or ironstone and many fragments from a 3rd quarter of the 18th century Westerwald-type stoneware wide-mouthed storage jar, the deposit also has most of the fragments from a rather grotesque teapot. It is a dry-bodied stoneware with clots of dark brown glaze (an effect achieved by oiling the pot before the glaze was applied). It seems likely the teapot is a Japanese product whose design is in keeping with the 19th-century "cult of rusticity." Analysis of the materials in the trench back-fill is in progress.

Up against the tenant farmer's house at SPL we found undisturbed 18th-century strata sealed beneath the sandy soil thrown up during the cellar excavation for the tenant house, which was built in 1797 as a stable or brewhouse. These layers do not exist across most of the back yard because of all of Edward Henry Little's heavy-handed alterations to the farmyard. [submitted by Mary C. Beaudry]

### New England Redware Symposium

Archaeologists, collectors, and others interested in New England

redware pottery gathered at Old Sturbridge Village on November 16, 1996, for a day-long program entitled "Following the Slip Trail: An Investigation of New England Redware Pottery." The symposium featured speakers and presentations on various aspects of this common historical household artifact. Malcolm Watkins, Curator Emeritus of the Department of Cultural History, Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, and the first curator at Old Sturbridge Village, presented an illustrated lecture on New England redware pottery, drawing on years of extensive research and collecting. He also highlighted the work of his mother, Lura Woodside Watkins, whose book, *Early New England Potters and Their Wares*, remains a landmark study today. Part of Ms. Watkins' research into redware manufacture included archaeological excavation and/or the examination of kiln sites that were being destroyed by construction. This part of Malcolm Watkins' lecture was particularly illuminating for archaeologists in the audience since so little of this aspect of Ms. Watkins' work has been published.

John Worrell, who was for many years the Director of Research and Staff Archaeologist at Old Sturbridge Village, made a presentation on one of his centerpiece projects at OSV: the recreation of the Hervey Brooks redware pottery shop and kiln. His lecture illustrated how many aspects of this redware potter's work environment were recreated, drawing on an anthropological scrutiny of documents, archaeological artifacts, comparative research, and experimental redware production, and then brought to life with the help of costumed interpreters at the Village.

Douglas Hawes, the curator of Historical Collections at the Maine State Museum in Augusta, presented his research on the potter Joseph Philbrick, who plied his trade in the rural community of Skowhegan, Maine, from 1830-1860. Using Philbrick's day-book as a guide, Doug provided an excellent documentation of economic relationships within the community and showed how the specifics of Philbrick's production practices fit into them. The forms of redware made by Philbrick closely reflected changes in dairying practices, changes in attitude about the use of redware versus tinware and saltglaze, as well as the endurance of traditional redware forms (such as milk pans) into the second half of the 19th century.

Workshops offered a close look at a sampling of redware vessels in the collections of OSV, with discussion provided by OSV curators Nan Franklin and Frank White; a demonstration of slip trailing by OSV Museum Interpreter Mary Ellen Radziewicz; and a close look at materials excavated by OSV staff at several redware pottery sites, by John Worrell and by David Simmons, OSV Archaeologist and Director of Visitor Services. To top off the day's program, interpreters fired up the reproduction redware kiln at the Hervey Brooks pottery exhibit and turned pots in the Brooks shop. [Submitted by Ed Hood, OSV]

### UMass Archaeological Services

Eric Johnson of UMass Archaeological Services recently submitted to the National Park Service a draft report entitled *Archaeological Overview and Assessment of Cape Cod National Seashore*. The report reviews historical and prehistoric resources within the park and provides summaries of previous work, as well as evaluations and recommendations for the future. The report will serve as an overall document for management purposes and as an aid to researchers. A draft report/management document for Lowell National Historic Park, completed this past summer, is under review as well.

## **Boston Citywide Comprehensive Industrial Survey**

Phase I of the Citywide Comprehensive Industrial Survey of the City of Boston's historical industrial resources is being performed by The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (PAL) for the Boston Landmarks Commission (BLC). The project is funded jointly by the City of Boston, a Certified Local Government, and by Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Survey and Planning Grant funds administered by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC).

Virginia H. Adams, Senior Architectural Historian and Director of Architectural Projects at PAL, is responsible for overseeing the project. She is assisted by PAL staff members Matthew Kierstead, Industrial Historian; Nicholas Avery, Architectural Historian; Mary Kate Harrington and Joshua Safdie, Project Assistants; and Kirk Van Dyke, photographer and researcher. Project Coordinator for the City is Maura FitzPatrick of the BLC.

The objective of this project is to complete a comprehensive survey of Boston's historical industrial-architectural resources to assist the City with the incorporation of historic preservation planning into a variety of overall planning concerns and areas. The project scope involves the preparation of MHC Area forms for 12 industrial districts and MHC Individual Building forms for 3 individual properties located in the city of Boston. So far, 211 properties have been identified for survey throughout Charlestown, East Boston, South Boston, the Reserved Channel Area, Boston Proper, Roxbury, Hyde Park, and the Neponset River Corridor Area. Half of the 12 survey areas are associated with Boston's role as a seaport. These areas include facilities for the trans-shipment and processing of raw bulk materials, food production, storage, warehouses, and rail-ship intermodal transportation. The majority of identified sites date from 1875-1945, with masonry and concrete construction predominating.

The project scope includes research to determine the archaeological potential of two locations. The "Boston East" site is a vacant lot on Border Street in East Boston, in what is being called the Inner Harbor Area. This lot was the site of two mid-19th-century clipper ship yards, Samuel Hall's 1847 East Boston Drydock Company, and possibly a portion of Donald McKay's 1863 shipyard. Hall and McKay were two of the most important clipper ship builders in an industry that saw its peak on this waterfront in the early 1850s. The Neponset River Area is a section of the Lower Neponset River between Mattapan Square and Sturbridge Street. Research indicates the existence of late 18th- and 19th-century mills along this stretch of the river.

At this time, 6 districts and 2 individual sites have been surveyed and photographed, one draft MHC Area form has been completed for the Inner Harbor Area in East Boston, and documentary research has been performed to some extent for all 12 districts. Field survey and research are ongoing, with the final product due at the end of June 1997. [Submitted by Matthew Kierstead, PAL, Inc.]

### **Central Artery Project, Boston**

Reports of Phase III investigations conducted by Timelines, Inc., for the Central Artery project in Boston are still under review at the MHC (see November 1996 newsletter). Final reports on the Mill Pond Site (MAS# BOS-HA-14) and Paddy's Alley/Cross Street Backlot (MAS# BOS-HA-12/13), when available, may be obtained by contacting One South Station, Boston, MA 02110. Dr. Robert Hasentab, of Bechtel, Parsons, and Brinckerhoff, reports that no significant features were identified over the winter

months while monitoring construction areas. Documentation continues of high seawalls along the Fort Point Channel that are being destroyed by Central Artery construction (one major section was recently demolished after documentation). Surveys continue on Spectacle Island and Long Island along proposed utility lines. Intensive survey of the northern terminus of the Central Artery project area is also underway.

Artifacts from the Central Artery Project are being transferred to the University of Massachusetts-Boston for permanent curation and storage. According to Steve Mrozowski, Associate Professor of Anthropology at UMass-Boston, the collections will be jointly curated by the State Archaeologist, Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC), and by UMass-Boston at the Massachusetts State Archives and Commonwealth Museum. The collections contain materials dating from the 17th to 19th centuries, as well as prehistoric materials from the Harbor Islands. A conservation lab will be established at UMass, and the collections will eventually be developed for research purposes and for the benefit of graduate and undergraduate students in the historical archaeology program at UMass-Boston.

### **City Archaeology Program, Boston**

The Education and Curation Center of the City Archaeology Laboratory, located at 152 North Street, Boston, has been upgraded and stabilized. It is open for tours and field trips Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., by appointment, and on weekends for special occasions. Call Ellen Berkland at (617) 635-3850.

Many new projects are underway at the City Archaeology Program (CAP). If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for the program, please contact Ellen at the number listed above. Exhibits are being planned and projects developed for a Preservation Week (May 11-May 17) Open House, scheduled for Thursday, May 15 at the North End lab. Plans are also underway for a City Archaeology Program Web Page, as well as a virtual museum. CAP is also responsible for the management of the gravestones collected from historic cemeteries in Boston by the Historic Burying Grounds Initiative, Parks and Recreation Department. Volunteers are presently documenting recently acquired markers. [Submitted by Ellen Berkland]

### **Massachusetts Archaeological Society, Boston Chapter**

The Boston Chapter of the MAS met several times this past winter. On November 20, Program Chair Dave Treemarcki presented a slide-illustrated talk on "Old Railroad Stations in New England." Michael Gibbons of UMass-Boston presented a program entitled "Forensic Evidence From Human Burials" on December 18. On January 15, Jim Garman of The Public Archaeology Lab, Inc. presented a talk entitled "The Providence Place Mall Site." Summaries of these presentations can be found in the monthly *Newsletter of the Boston Chapter, Massachusetts Archaeological Society*, which is available to members. For membership information, contact Toni Wallace at (617) 965-4431, or Polly Stevens at (617) 623-0953. If you would like to present a talk to the Boston chapter, please call David Treemarcki at (617) 289-5607. Chapter meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at Harvard University's Van Serg Hall at 7:30 P.M. New members are welcome. [Submitted by Ellen Berkland]

### **Lowell**

The Overseer's Block of the Lawrence Manufacturing Company

was investigated last summer by The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (PAL) and Stephen Mrozowski of UMass-Boston. The data recovery project was conducted for the City of Lowell in preparation for construction of a hockey rink. Archaeologists uncovered intact landscape and architectural features spanning the period ca. 1845-1920, as well as intact prehistoric remains beneath 19th-century fill layers brought in by the company for landscaping prior to the construction of the boarding house. A report has been completed and an article describing the project will appear in a book edited by Jim Dell, Robert Paynter, and Steve Mrozowski.

The University of Massachusetts Press and the Lowell Historic Preservation Commission recently released a publication that serves as both an introduction to the field of historical archaeology and a summary of the archaeological investigations undertaken at the Boott Mills in Lowell in the 1980s. Entitled *Living on the Boott: Historical Archaeology at the Boott Mills Boardinghouses, Lowell, Massachusetts*, by Stephen A. Mrozowski, Grace H. Zeising, and Mary C. Beaudry (1996), the book is a distillation of the three-volume site report generated by investigations of the boardinghouses and the Kirk Street Agents' House by the National Park Service and the Center for Archaeological Studies at Boston University.

## New Hampshire

Reported by: Carolyn White

### Strawbery Banke:

**James House:** The James House Archaeology Project is a cooperative program between the James House Association of Hampton, New Hampshire, a group of community volunteers who seek to restore and preserve the building for the future, and Strawbery Banke Museum of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Funding for the James House Archaeology Project was provided through a grant by the New Hampshire State Office of Planning and the Coastal Zone Management Program. The James House was constructed ca. 1720 and the site contains deposits relating to the continuous occupation by the James and Campbell families from the early 1700s to 1974. Phase I and II excavations took place during August 1996 under the direction of Principal Investigator Martha Pinello and Co-project Archaeologists Terrance LaPointe, Steve Bayley, and Peggy Wishart, with the assistance of 25 volunteers. Archaeological testing was conducted around the main house and ell to evaluate the perimeter and surrounding area for installment of a drainage system. The excavations revealed architectural and landscape features including several foundations, a chimney base, a stone wall, yard surfaces, post-holes, a planting area, and a trash midden. The artifacts recovered range in date from the 17th to 20th centuries and reflect the daily activities of the occupants, particularly in relation to food preparation, serving, and storage. Carolyn White and Allison Corning are currently analyzing the materials from the excavation at Strawbery Banke Museum. Additional work at the James House is planned for the upcoming year. [submitted by Carolyn White]

**Shapiro House and Warner House:** The Archaeology Division of Strawbery Banke Museum has undertaken the Shapiro project. Becoming American places emphasis on the adaptation and acculturation of a Russian Jewish immigrant family at the beginning of this century. The Shapiros lived in a house located on Strawbery Banke grounds during the years 1908 to 1928, a time period when Puddle Dock was occupied by a vibrant Jewish Community. The

team excavated during the 1995 and 1996 seasons, and has used the finds to research the ways that the family adjusted to their new country and home. Examples of artifacts found relate to leisure time, such as game pieces and toys, and to the furnishings of the house, such as lamps, food service and table wares. The Shapiros kept a Kosher kitchen, educated their child, Mollie, in the ways of the Jewish people, and physically placed mezuzahs, one found in the house, on each door frame to constantly remind them of their culture. They also incorporated western education, clothing, and other traditions into their lives. The house, interpreted to the year 1919, opens July 4, 1997.

The Warner Project will be led by Archaeologists Martha Pinello, of Strawbery Banke and Rick Morris, of the University of Maine, Orono. The Warner House, located near the center of Portsmouth, was built in 1716. The house was occupied from 1742 to 1814 by members of the mercantile and political elite, which included Colonial Governor Benning Wentworth and Merchant Warner. The work that began in 1996 will continue with this year's field school from July 21 to August 1, 1997. The project continues to investigate 18th and 19th century landscape as well as to help solve the moisture problem that the building is facing. Carl L. Crossman has been able to match sherds found at the site to whole and reconstructed vessels, which adds great dimension to the knowledge of the ceramics used by the residents of the house and the larger community of Portsmouth. Carl Crossman and Louise Richardson are Co-Curators of the ceramics exhibit, *Treasures to Trash*, which will incorporate all of the historic houses in Portsmouth. This exhibit will open June 18, 1997. [submitted by Rebecca McKernan and Catherine H. Lapsley]

For more information on these projects and *Treasures to Trash*, contact the Archaeology Division, PO Box 300, Portsmouth NH 03801; call (603) 422-7521 or visit our website at <http://wwwsc.library.unh.edu/specoll/Sbanke/homepagec.html>.

## New York State

Reported by: Lois Feister

### Controversy over Dutch Site in Downtown Albany

An empty lot in the official "Archeological Historic District" of downtown Albany was chosen as the location for a new state office building by the New York State Dormitory Authority. Preliminary archaeological work there by Hartgen Archeological Associates of Troy, New York, revealed the presence of 17th and 18th century cultural deposits. Hartgen's report, submitted in July 1996, recommended further archaeological investigations at the site. In September, the Dormitory Authority without consultation with the SHPO Office gave Hartgen only a few days to complete the Stage II work and instructed her to work only on a small part of the original site. Hartgen refused the project, and Collamer & Associates of Albany, New York, was given the work.

The New York Archaeological Council (NYAC) then filed a suit against the state to block the project. In State Supreme Court, the judge ordered construction halted until both sides could reach agreement. The outcome was that Collamer & Associates has continued working at the site, monitoring the digging of numerous pilings, but with the authorization to halt construction and excavate whenever such action seemed warranted. Robert Kuhn of the SHPO Office was appointed as court representative. He or his representative visited the site twice a day to ensure the archaeologists were able to carry out their function. As a result, a drainage feature dating to the 17th century and filled with late 17th century

artifacts was found and excavated. Privies dating to the 18th century also were recorded and excavated, one belonging to prominent Albanian Abraham Yates. In addition, numerous artifacts from both time periods were discovered.

Collamer & Associates is now analyzing the results of the project in order to produce a report. Meanwhile, great interest in the project has continued both in Albany and as far away as the Netherlands where the story has been featured in major newspapers. That nation's secretary of education and culture visited the site along with a delegation of Dutch journalists and other dignitaries. And the Dormitory Authority has been instructed by the Supreme Court judge to re-examine its preservation procedures.

#### **Fort Edward Project Continues to Yield Artifacts**

The Adirondack Community College field school, under the direction of David Starbuck, continued its six-year-long project of excavations at the site of 18th-century Fort Edward. The estimated 60 volunteers and students who worked this year discovered many artifacts dating to the first half of the 18th century, as well as a 2-foot-diameter stone well. Three fireplaces in a row, each situated exactly 34 feet apart, have been uncovered. Starbuck's theory is that these were used to heat the fort's western barracks, a long building housing hundreds of soldiers. If his theory proves correct, the hospital building, a particular interest of Starbuck's, should be uncovered next. The excavation also is proving attractive to tourists.

#### **Old Forts Ferry and Remnants of the Erie Canal Found**

An archaeological study in the Vischers Ferry Nature Preserve along the Mohawk River for a water improvement project has revealed parts of the walls of the original, early 19th century Erie Canal and the remains of an outbuilding associated with the Esther and Rachel Fort houses. The Fort family settled in the area in 1728; the area first was settled in 1672. The project was directed by Andre Krievs of Hartgen Archeological Associates. The water lines will be realigned so as not to cause further damage to the resources.

#### **Black Soldiers Exhumed at Fort William Henry**

Of three bodies exhumed at 18th-century Fort William Henry, one proved to be that of a black soldier and the other of mixed race. Brenda Baker, forensic anthropologist at the New York State Museum, supervised the exhumation and is doing the analysis. Volunteer archaeologist Scott Padani also is researching an article on black soldiers in the French and Indian War, discovering in the process that blacks served in great numbers in the war in capacities such as boatman, ranger, and company clerk, not just as laborers and servants. Baker says that none of the three show signs of traumatic injury so they probably did not die in battle. All were between the ages of 25 and 40 and showed wear and tear from infections and broken limbs. The black man was about 5-foot-6, 25 to 30 years old, and once suffered from a severe case of osteomyelitis. The second man was 5-foot-3 with extremely well-developed muscle attachments, suggesting he was used to lifting heavy loads. Small fragments of woolen cloth found in the graves contained dessicated fly larvae, suggesting the bodies were buried after they'd begun to decompose.

#### **Searching for Greenhouse Remains at Mills Mansion State Historic Site**

A mapping and limited excavation project was undertaken by Chris Lindner of Bard College at Mills Mansion State Historic Site in Staatsburg, New York. The work was funded by the site's Friends group. The purpose was to locate the buried walls of the extensive 20th-century greenhouse complex. This was accomplished by the use of informants, probes, and limited testing. Clusters of greenhouses used by Ogden Mills and his wife to grow violets, cantaloupes, and other species of flowers were known to exist in a terraced area between the house and the Hudson River. Before excavation began, Lindner and assistants Barbara Majovski and Mary Burns conducted documentary research. Burns, a graduate student, located the 1931 survey map of the property. With the help of the map, the crew was able to stake out two clusters of five greenhouses each. However, they also located more than the 1931 map showed. A third cluster of two greenhouses and an apparent furnace house also were found.

#### **Underwater Projects in the Lake Champlain Area**

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum at Basin Harbor Inc. reports progress on several fronts during 1996. As previously reported here, the group, under the leadership of LCMM Director Art Cohn, continued its involvement with the Port Henry Iron Mines project. Investigations into the flooded mines revealed the existence of an ore cart and other artifacts. With the help of Port Henry town officials, the project received a technical assistance grant from the Lake Champlain Basin Program, and a series of dives began. The cavern was mapped and its contents, using photographic and video documentation, were recorded. Drawings of the ore cart are being finished, so that the high school can build an exact replica. Port Henry, located in the center of the Adirondack iron mining area, is planning a new museum.

The LCMM also continued its systematic examination of the entire bottom of Lake Champlain. The team used state-of-the-art remote sensing equipment to survey more than forty square miles of lake bottom. Working on the specially equipped R/V Neptune owned by veteran lake researcher Fred Fayette, the survey team used side-scanning sonar, guided by Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS). The data gathering process utilized new systems of data-capture and post processing computer programs so that the information was stored in multiple forms for immediate as well as future analysis. At least ten additional shipwrecks were discovered and a huge volume of information collected about the lake's geology. The accelerated survey was planned in response to the invasion of zebra mussels. The survey was supported by the Lake Champlain Basin Program, funding from the EPA and the National Park Service, and by the Lintilhac Foundation and a second Vermont foundation which wishes to remain anonymous. Analysis has begun, and plans are underway for the 1997 season which will focus on three specific areas.

The LCMM also continued its involvement with the City of Burlington's Barge Canal, the city's controversial Superfund site. The basin had become the location of 20th-century industrial dumping, but a study was needed to locate and identify submerged cultural resources from earlier time periods. Art Cohn, using special protective contaminated-water diving equipment with the help of Scott McLaughlin and David Andrews, staged a series of dives to determine what the submerged resources were. Five intact late 19th century canal boats in remarkably good condition and two marine railways for hauling boats out of the water were found

using a side-scan survey. Documentation by measurement and videotape of all targets was undertaken. A comprehensive historical research study to evaluate the site's significance is planned.

## **New Jersey**

Reported by: Lynn Rakos

### **Baker-Brearley House, Township of Lawrence, Mercer County**

In the fall of 1996, in connection with proposed renovation work, Hunter Research, Inc., under contract to the Township of Lawrence and the Lawrenceville Historical Society, conducted archaeological investigations at the 1761 Baker-Brearley House with the prime objective of locating foundations of the kitchen wing. The house, a National Register property, is one of the more northerly examples of the substantial Georgian brick farmhouses which are typical of the counties of 18th century West Jersey. Following a preliminary survey and remote sensing investigation, which employed metal-detecting and ground-penetrating radar technology, a total of ten excavation units were examined at different locations around the house. The well-preserved kitchen wing, a two-room structure 15 by 30 feet in plan, had substantial stone foundations and was attached to the main house at the south end of the east gable wall. The date of construction of the kitchen cannot be precisely determined, but clearly took place sometime after the main house and prior to 1845. A date in the second decade of the 19th century is favored on general historical grounds. Other excavation explored the possibility of other doorways and of an earlier kitchen structure. Neither of these possibilities was confirmed, but a short length of walling predating the kitchen was found to the south of the main house, which might be related to a house documented on the property by 1722. Over 1200 artifacts were recovered, including a small quantity of prehistoric material. The historic collection provides a useful sample of the material culture of the occupants from 1761 onwards. [Submitted by Hunter Research, Inc., Trenton, NJ.]

### **Thomas Edison State College, City of Trenton, Mercer County**

In the fall of 1996, Hunter Research, Inc., in connection with upcoming expansion and renovation work, under contract to Gibson Architects, for the New Jersey Division of Building and Construction, conducted an archaeological data recovery at Thomas Edison State College. Archaeological work uncovered substantial remains of one of the first colonial iron and steel working complexes in New Jersey, the Harrow/Yard plating mill. This mill, established between 1731 and 1734 by Isaac Harrow, an English blacksmith and Quaker from Philadelphia, was apparently the first plating mill in the colony of New Jersey and one of the earliest metal fabricating operations in the region. It was located on the edge of Petty's Run, a minor tributary of the Delaware River, that is now buried in a culvert beneath Mahlon Stacy Park. The northeast corner of the plating mill building, approximately 45 by 25 feet in plan, was exposed by the excavations. The foundations survive to a depth of over 12 feet, and the base of a first floor window was identified in the east gable end of the building. The interior walls of the mill were plastered. The excavations also revealed useful detail on the prehistoric and pre-urban topography in this section of Trenton, showing that the contours of the colonial landscape bore little resemblance to the ground surface that is

visible today. Analysis of the elevation data indicates that the mill was probably powered by an undershot wheel that was most likely positioned on the west wall of the building, possibly directly within the channel of Petty's Run. These discoveries imply that much of the remainder of the plating mill may be well preserved within Mahlon Stacy Park. The layout of the entire building and locations of the waterwheel and interior features, such as hearths, anvils, doors, etc., may all be recoverable. [Submitted by Hunter Research, Inc., Trenton, NJ.]

## **Delaware**

Reported by: Lu Ann De Cunzio

### **Phase I Archaeological Survey, County Route 64, Smyrna Landing, Duck Creek Hundred, Kent County**

In the fall of 1996, Hunter Research, Inc., under contract to the Delaware Department of Transportation, conducted a Phase I archaeological survey in connection with the proposed bridge replacement in Smyrna Landing, on the Kent County side of Duck Creek, Delaware. The community of Smyrna Landing was a significant transshipment point for grain and other produce for the coastal trade in the late 18th through late 19th centuries, later supplemented by shipbuilding and chemical products. Subsurface testing encountered the remains of a well-preserved corduroy ford which extends from the south to north banks of Duck Creek. The twenty-five-foot-wide ford appears to be intact and made up of 6-foot to 8-foot quartered logs. The angular ends of the logs were cut with an axe. Although a variety of artifacts were recovered from the upper contexts of most of the shovel tests and both excavation units, none were directly related to the corduroy ford; only a few fragments of redware and brick drain pipe in the fill above the ford were found. The ford probably pre-dates the adjacent bridge, constructed in 1833. [Submitted by Hunter Research, Inc., Trenton, NJ.]

### **Opportunities for Students Unearthing New Castle's Past: A Program in Public Historical Archaeology**

*Unearthing New Castle's Past*, a joint program in public historical archaeology sponsored by the Department of Anthropology, University of Delaware, and the Historical Society of Delaware, is enriching our understanding of New Castle's history and culture in important and exciting ways. Project archaeologists are literally uncovering details of past life in New Castle, sharing our findings with the public, and training students like you in archaeological research and interpretation. The first phase of the project, a multi-year study of the Historical Society of Delaware's Read property, began in 1992. The research centers on several interwoven contexts: people (as individuals and in groups), place (Read property to global context), history (1650s to the present), and cultures (encompassing themes such as family, social and economic life, community, and urbanization). Many sources of evidence (documents, landscape, archaeological deposits, artifacts, and oral histories) are aiding team members' efforts to reconstitute and comprehend the material world created by the property's residents over the centuries.

In the first two years of fieldwork, teams of University students, area high school students, and volunteers began exploring the nature of the archaeological remains surviving on the Read property. Excavations focused on the yard of a late 17th-century house that burned in 1824; two decades later, the family residing in the

surviving, ca. 1800, house laid out a formal garden over the remains of the old house and yard. The excavations revealed that layer upon layer of archaeological deposits extend at least four feet deep in this area. These layers contain material dating from well before the Dutch first arrived at New Amstel (later New Castle) in the 1650s through the present. They combine especially well-preserved evidence of the early house and its yard, the occupants' possessions and daily lives, and the later gardening activities. The archaeology has also generated much public interest. In 1995 and 1996, more than 800 visitors viewed the excavations and lab during daily tours and special *Beneath our Feet* archaeology days at the site.

**The 1997 program will run Tuesdays - Saturdays, June 17 - July 26.** In addition to training a new corps of University students, the program will again feature an archaeological camp for high school students and a daily program of tours. The *Beneath our Feet* tour will be held on Saturday, July 19. Excavations will focus on two areas of the property: the mid-19th century formal garden cum late 17th-century house yard, and the central and back portions of the property occupying higher ground above the Delaware River. [submitted by Lu Ann De Cunzo]

## Maryland

Reported by: Silas D. Hurry

### St. Mary's City, Maryland

Excavations were started this winter on the campus of St. Mary's College of Maryland, in a cooperative effort between the Historic St. Mary's City Research Department and the College Facilities Department. The college improvement plans include primarily disturbance from the burial of utility lines, construction of brick walls and pathways, and the burial of a fuel tank. The archaeological mitigation occurring is limited to areas of proposed disturbance. During January, excavations were completed on the northern portion of campus. Data was recovered showing the location of the eastern edge of a relict ravine. This evidence will contribute to the identification of the location of the 1676 Brick Prison, as well as 17th century North and Middle Streets. At present, the archaeology is concentrating on the William Hicks/John Mackall plantation (18ST1-110), an 18th century site. The excavations in this area will hopefully provide some insight into when the occupation of the site began and ended, in addition to clarifying 17th century roadways and land use which occurred in this vicinity. The archaeology on the College campus will continue until April.

### Annapolis

Archaeology in Annapolis, a joint project of the University of Maryland, College Park, and Historic Annapolis Foundation, has conducted two seasons of field work at the Slayton House in Annapolis, Maryland. Slayton House, owned by Historic Annapolis Foundation, is the center section of a three-part brick townhouse built by John Ridout in 1774. These three high-style townhouses are rare examples of 18th-century, upper class rental properties extant in the Chesapeake area.

Archaeological excavation, begun in the summer of 1995, was continued in the summer of 1996 with the University of Maryland's Field School in Urban Archaeology. Excavations took place in the garden as well as in the ground floor of the house. Research questions focused on the changes in the landscape of the garden and investigation into the lives of African-American slaves

who would have lived and worked in the ground floor rooms of the house and in the garden. Changes in the use of the garden space through the centuries from an 18th-century utilitarian area with outbuildings and vegetable gardens to the early 20th-century formal garden, parts of which are visible today, were discovered.

Inside the house archaeologists found a number of artifacts which have been interpreted as relating to African-American ritual practices. In the northeast corner of a small storage area under the stairs a Chinese coin and several straight pins were found. In a unit placed at the hearth of the main kitchen fireplace, straight pins, a small ring, parts of a ceramic doll, and a peanut shell and hand-faceted bead, both pierced with a straight pin, were found. Another unit contained 6 white buttons, straight pins, and a small bead. Such items could have been used together in a charmed bundle known as an nkisi which African-Americans believed could direct the power of ancestors for the purposes of conjuring, curing or divination. These beliefs came to the New World with Africans and were carefully nurtured in private, surviving the rigors of slave life in colonial America. The collections of items are similar to the nkisi found by the Archaeology in Annapolis project during excavation of the ground floor of the Carroll House site, located across Duke of Gloucester Street from Slayton House.

Excavation at Slayton House site will continue during the summer of 1997, as the University of Maryland Summer field school in Urban Archaeology will return for a third season of excavation. Students will be trained in aspects of field work and laboratory processing, including the use of a transit, excavation techniques, and artifact identification. For further information, contact Professor Mark P. Leone or Laura Galke: 1111 Woods Hall, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742, or call us at (301) 405-1423. For a copy of the University of Maryland's Summer School catalog, call 1 (800) 711-UMCP.

### Prince George's County

The archaeology program of The Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) of Prince George's County, Maryland, is currently in the initial stages of developing a multi-year archaeological project at Mt. Calvert, located in Eastern Prince George's County, along the Patuxent River. The M-NCPPC has received a Non-Capital grant from the Maryland Historical Trust to begin background research and Phase I archaeological investigations during the spring and summer of 1997. In addition, the M-NCPPC archaeology program will be hosting the 1997 Archeological Society of Maryland annual field session at Mt. Calvert from May 2nd through May 12th. Preliminary background research and archaeological testing indicate the potential for a wide variety of intact archaeological resources.

Mt. Calvert was the site of an English colonial port town from 1683 to the 1720s and the first seat of government for Prince George's County beginning in 1696. Several ordinaries, dwellings, a courthouse, jail, and church were established in the town. The town rapidly declined after the county seat was moved to Upper Marlboro in 1721. The tract was maintained as a working tobacco plantation from the 1720s through the 20th century. Mt. Calvert is also the site of a multi-component prehistoric site (18PR9).

An archaeological survey of Billingsley Point (18PR9), located at the confluence of Western Branch and the Patuxent River directly north of Mt. Calvert, was completed in the spring of 1996. 18PR9 is a well-documented prehistoric site visited by local avocational archaeologists for many years prior to M-NCPPC management of the property and was noted by Richard Sterns in his

1951 survey of Patuxent River archaeological sites.

Phase I investigations were carried out in two stages. First, a controlled surface collection was conducted to identify discrete areas of cultural materials. The second stage involved limited subsurface testing in areas threatened by erosion. Preliminary analysis identified 18PR9 as a multicomponent site with artifacts from the Late Archaic through the Late Woodland and historic materials dating from the early 18th through 20th century associated with Billingsley Point Plantation. A final report is currently being prepared.

Phase II and III investigations are planned for Riversdale Mansion, the early 19th century neo-classical home of Charles and Rosalie Calvert. The M-NCPPC is in the process of planning the restoration of an extant outbuilding, construction of a new parking area, and development of a comprehensive landscape plan.

Phase II investigations conducted by James G. Gibb and Associates in 1995 located the remains of nine structures and over 110 discrete features. Some of these archaeological resources will be impacted by the restoration of the existing outbuilding. Features uncovered by Gibb include the foundations of a water tower, a wash house, a brick garden wall, and an octagonal structure which may have been a conservatory. An 1853 map of Riversdale showing the locations of many of these landscape features was recently donated to the Riversdale Historical Society. The M-NCPPC is currently reviewing contract bids to conduct Phase II and III investigations.

#### **Anne Arundel County**

The Lost Towns Project, directed by Al Luchenbach and James G. Gibb, received a \$19,000 grant from the National Geographic Society to purchase a cesium magnetometer. Remote sensing technician C. Jane Cox and Liz West will integrate the magnetometer with a Global Positioning System (GPS), enabling the team to determine the exact coordinates of detected anomalies. The magnetometer survey results, along with those from ground penetrating radar, will be downloaded into a base map using GIS. The GIS map facilitates evaluation of archaeological features on a regional and local scale.

Combining magnetometer, ground penetrating radar, GPS and ground truthing, the Lost Towns Project explores the colonial Maryland settlements of Providence (1649-1680) and London (1683-1783). Both town sites extend into residential communities. Remote sensing facilitates survey on these properties, greatly benefiting public outreach.

### **Virginia**

Reported by: Barbara Heath

#### **Department of Archaeological Research, The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation [submitted by Andrew Edwards]**

The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation's Department of Archaeological Research has been involved in several projects during the past year. Many of these are long-term projects such as the Jamestown Archaeological Assessment, the Rich Neck Project, St. George Tucker's Garden, the Peyton Randolph Outbuildings Project, and the Cary Peyton Armistead Archaeological Project. The Foundation has also expanded its environmental archaeology capabilities and collections management facilities during the past year.

#### **Project Areas:**

##### **Yorktown:**

**Waterfront:** The National Park Service Colonial National Historical Park, the Yorktown Foundation, and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation's Department of Archaeological Research entered into an agreement to conduct a site identification survey over a portion of the Yorktown, Virginia, waterfront, specifically the area between the Archer Cottage and Read Streets, near the northern terminus of Great Valley Road (town lots 117 through 123). The National Park Service provided the land and laboratory facilities, the Yorktown Foundation provided the funding for the site and laboratory supervisors, and laboratory supplies, and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation provided project direction and students from its annual William & Mary archaeological field school.

Under the direction of staff archaeologist Andrew Edwards, the purpose of the survey was to locate the remains of 18th- and 19th-century warehouses and other buildings on the tract, to determine the archaeological potential of the project area, and to provide a focus for the interpretation of archaeology to the many summer visitors to historic Yorktown.

The survey located the brick foundations of two buildings believed to be either warehouses or stores, probably destroyed in the 1814 fire which ravaged the waterfront. Additional test pits recorded very complex and deep stratigraphy caused by erosion of the hills to the south of the site and by wind/water-borne sand and debris from the York River, bordering the northern part of the project area. The project was conducted between May 28 and August 2, 1996, corresponding with the 10-week summer session of the annual William & Mary archaeological field school. This phase of work was supervised by Robert Galgano, a doctoral candidate in early American history at the College of William & Mary. After the field school, the project was continued on weekends using volunteers recruited by the Yorktown Foundation supervised by Colonial Williamsburg staff.

**Pate House:** In April, 1996, a Phase I survey, conducted at the Thomas Pate House in Yorktown, Virginia, uncovered deep stratigraphic layers and features dating from the early 18th-century to the present. Currently under the management of the National Park Service, the property is being considered for reuse as a restaurant. This will require waterproofing the basement and may later disturb a portion of the back yard. In October 1996, Phase III excavations began in advance of waterproofing activities. A six-foot-wide trench was excavated around undisturbed portions of the house's foundation. This project was directed by staff archaeologist Andrew Edwards and supervised by project archaeologist Dwayne Pickett.

One of the oldest standing houses in Yorktown, the Pate House was built between 1699 and 1703 by Thomas Pate, a part-time ordinary keeper and York River ferryman. Between 1713 and 1784 the property was owned by the prominent Digges family. Although he still owned the Pate House, Dudley Digges moved to a new house around 1755. Between that date and 1784, two shops were constructed on the property, one of which was occupied by a tailor, and the house appears to have been leased as a store.

During the course of excavations several architectural features and a large number of artifacts were found. On the back of the house a large bulkhead entrance was discovered that contained the remnants of brick steps and holes in the walls for wood nosings. Artifacts recovered from the builders' trench indicated the bulk-

head was constructed in the first quarter of the 18th century. On the front of the house six small post holes demarcated the presence of an early 19th-century porch, and five larger holes with molds were also discovered that date to the second quarter of the 18th century. The exact function of the earlier post holes has not yet been determined.

Artifacts have helped in assessing the use of the property during the second half of the 18th century. A number of animal bones bearing circular cut outs and impressions from button manufacturing, along with large amounts of pins, have been discovered. These items most likely relate to the tailor who had a shop on the property. Several items possibly related to the use of the house as a store have also been discovered. Several coins, a coin weight and several bale seals dating to the second half of the 18th-century were unearthed. Evidence of activities associated with the Revolutionary War include a military button from the 64th French regiment along with thousands of oyster shells, a large amount of animal bones, and a variety of domestic artifacts. Those items possibly represent refuse from soldiers occupying the Pate House in 1781.

#### **Williamsburg Area:**

**Peyton Randolph House:** The Department of Archaeological Research conducted extensive excavations in the back yard of the Peyton Randolph House in Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area during the early 1980s. Another 18th century outbuilding was investigated in 1995 as was a fence line in the summer of 1996. The latter work was carried out with the aid of a portion of the William & Mary Anthropology Department's annual field school in historical archaeology. The purpose of the 10-week project was to locate and determine the nature of a fence that existed between the Randolph house and the adjoining tenant structure. This particular fence was an important landscape feature that will be reconstructed along with several dependencies in the Randolph backyard beginning in 1997. The small project afforded the students an opportunity to learn how to sort out and record complex stratigraphy in a semiurban environment, as well as to interpret archaeological excavation to many summer visitors. Paul Moyer, a doctoral candidate in the College of William & Mary's History Department directed the project under the overall supervision of staff archaeologist Andrew Edwards.

**Cary Peyton Armistead Site:** In 1995, following acquisition of the Victorian-period Cary Peyton Armistead house, the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation moved the structure from the property to a location outside the Historic Area. This allowed a full-scale research project, culminating in the reconstruction of an 18th-century structure, to begin.

The property was first acquired in 1717 but not developed until ca. 1749 when merchant Nathaniel Walthoe built a storehouse on a 35' by 35' section of the lot. By 1765 the records indicate that the site was home first to a coffee house and later, in 1767, to a tavern. Both were popular establishments — due in no small part to their location adjacent to the Capitol — and both Thomas Jefferson and George Washington accounts reveal that they were frequent visitors.

Under the direction of staff archaeologist David Muraca and supervised in the field by project archaeologist Mary Cate Garden, excavation was carried out between May and December of 1996 focusing in the areas south and west of the cellar foundations and within the interior of the basement.

Little documentary evidence exists to indicate what these build-

ings looked like or how many buildings actually stood on the site. With the exception of a 1765 reference to a porch on the coffee house, there is little other information about their appearance. In conjunction with the departments of Architectural Research and Historical Research, the Department of Archaeological Research is currently engaged in the process of reconstructing the history of the site and buildings which stood there during the 18th and early 19th centuries.

Evidence for three separate porches, two 18th and one 19th century, has now been uncovered in the area to the south of the foundations. The earliest of these foundations appears to have been constructed shortly after the coffee house began operations and remained in place at least through the tavern period. A large assemblage of artifacts associated with the earliest of these foundations was also recovered. Numbering in excess of 10,000 artifacts, this assemblage is made up almost entirely of wine bottle fragments and pipe stems.

To the west of the foundation a second group of tavern-related artifacts was recovered. While similar in many ways to the first, this one is considerably later and postdates the coffee-house/tavern period. Possibly, this is refuse from one of the neighboring taverns which was dumped over the property line.

Finally, continued excavations in the east yard uncovered a small outbuilding which measures 10' x 10'. Artifacts recovered from this structure suggest that it may have been contemporaneous with the coffee house/tavern period.

Excavations concluded in December 1996, and artifacts are currently undergoing analysis.

**Third Theatre Site:** In May, 1996, staff archaeologist David Muraca and project archaeologist Dwayne Pickett began test excavation in block eight of Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area in order to uncover evidence that would help in the reconstruction of Williamsburg's Third Theatre. This playhouse appears to have been in existence from 1760 until sometime between 1775 and 1780. People of notoriety such as George Washington and Thomas Jefferson attended shows there, as well as members of the middling and lower orders. Although seated according to their social position in the boxes, pit and gallery, everyone watched the same show.

During the cross trenching of block eight in 1942, three fragmentary sections of brick foundation and a large rectangular depression were discovered. Those features are suspected of being the remains of the Third Theatre. Two sections of the brick foundation were re-exposed in hopes of uncovering features such as robber trenches and post holes not normally observed during cross trenching. No robbers' trenches were found, but six large post holes were discovered that appear to connect to one of the sections of brick foundation. Together, they form the outline of a building measuring 42 feet 7 inches wide and over 64 feet long. This building's construction technique and long, narrow layout corresponds to other colonial theatres, while the large rectangular depression discovered in 1942 closely matches the configurations of the seating pit in front of the stage. Further excavations will determine whether or not this building is indeed the Third Theatre.

**Rich Neck (17th-Century Site):** Directed by staff archaeologist David Muraca and Phillip Levy, Ph.D. candidate in History at the College of William & Mary, the 1996 field season was spent excavating the remains of the 17th-century kitchen/quarter. Originally built by Richard Kemp ca. 1640, this structure underwent a major renovation sometime around 1660. The original structure measured 24' x 20', and surviving elements include a large brick fire-

place, the base of a bake oven and a large root cellar. When Thomas Ludwell acquired the property in 1660, he added matching wings to the structure making it 46' x 24' and roofed the entire building with ceramic pan tiles. Each of the wings had a full cellar and a glazed tile floor.

In addition to excavating the cellars, the area between the dwelling and the kitchen was also explored. This area contained the remains of a formal garden. Demarcated by fences forming the shape of a pentagon, this area contained bush holes, tree holes and planting furrows. Soil samples taken from the features are currently being processed for phytolith analysis.

**Rich Neck Slave Quarter (18th-Century Site):** The study of the 18th-century duplex slave quarter at Rich Neck is providing more information about the nature of African-American life in Williamsburg, Virginia. The excavations from 1993 to 1995 produced data on a substantial brick chimney foundation, fifteen pit features, numerous domestic and personal objects and other archaeological remains. This evidence is currently being interpreted by Maria Franklin, a doctoral candidate in Anthropology at the University of California at Berkeley who directed the slave quarter excavations. The Rich Neck quarter forms the basis of her dissertation which she will complete in May of this year. Further faunal, botanical, artifactual and documentary studies continue for the Rich Neck project. This project has attracted several volunteers from nearby communities and the College of William & Mary. The slave quarter data is being used in interpretive programs in Colonial Williamsburg and other external public education programs.

#### **Environmental Laboratories:**

**Zooarchaeology:** As part of an NEH grant, the faunal laboratory is engaged in a zooarchaeological and historical analysis of an urban provisioning system as it evolved within a plantation economy. Recently, laboratory personnel have completed analyzing over a dozen major faunal assemblages from throughout the region and combining these with data from assemblages previously analyzed by Joanne Bowen, Henry Miller, Elizabeth Reitz and others. Through the analysis of diversity estimates, body part distributions, and kill-off patterns, we have begun to reconstruct the emergence of specialized husbandry and distribution practices as they evolved to feed urban communities. The most comprehensive attempt yet at synthesizing data from an entire region, this project is already demonstrating that as early as 1725 plantation owners began to produce livestock for the urban market.

Additionally, during the past year the faunal laboratory continued to build on to this database by working on several projects, including an 18th-century slave quarter from the Rich Neck Plantation and the Armistead House. These two projects, along with projects funded through contracts with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and the College of William & Mary's Center for Archaeological Research, will help strengthen our assessment of specialized practices.

**Archaeobotany:** Over the last year, the Department of Archaeological Research has expanded its environmental laboratories to include phytolith analysis. Under the direction of Dr. Lisa Kealof, who has a joint appointment with William & Mary's Anthropology department, the research goals for this laboratory include understanding regional landscape and land use changes from the Late Prehistoric through Colonial periods in Virginia. Issues related to agricultural intensification, animal husbandry,

gardens and shifting economies are of specific interest. Research began by starting a reference collection that incorporates both exotic garden plants of the 18th century and local plants from Virginia. In addition, several preliminary sediment analyses have been initiated, including work at St. George Tucker's garden in Williamsburg, a mid-Holocene to present environmental sequence from Jamestown, slave quarter samples from Monticello, and garden and slave quarter samples from Poplar Forest. Despite the preliminary nature of this research the results thus far have proved not only that phytoliths are present and abundant in all these contexts, but that they are distributed in archaeologically meaningful ways.

**Mary Washington College, Center for Historic Preservation**  
[Submitted by Michael J. Klein and Douglas W. Sanford]

#### **Stratford Hall Plantation, Westmoreland County**

Summer 1996 marked the fourth annual field school in historical archaeology at Stratford, best known as the home plantation for generations of the Lee family. The field school represents a cooperative research and public education project between the Department of and the Center for Historic Preservation at Mary Washington College, and the Robert E. Lee Memorial Association which owns and operates Stratford as a historic house museum. Additional support for the project comes from the Jane & Lloyd Pettit Foundation. Dr. Douglas W. Sanford directs the field school and is assisted by Anita Dodd and Deidre McCarthy. Other crew members included Kristen Thorsen and Jennifer Davis.

This year's efforts put the finishing stages on the multi-year program of landscape study begun in 1993. Employing a mixed strategy of systematic sampling and purposive excavations based on past research and on predictions concerning landscape divisions, the program has achieved a rigorous examination of the evolving structure of the area surrounding the Great House that formed the setting for the broader plantation community. The resultant product is a strong working knowledge of historic land use within the core of the plantation complex.

For instance, students and crew members finished investigating a large clay borrow pit by completing a cross trench for this 25 x 35 foot feature. Its ca. 1740-1760+ history contains an important sequence of evidence for how the surrounding area changed in use and appearance. The borrow pit first served as a source for clay used in brick making, and then became a general trash receptacle for nearby activities such as masonry work, animal butchery, and the food and beverage practices of plantation workers. Lastly, the pit received a series of clay fills that sealed it in preparation for the construction of an 18 x 50 foot outbuilding. These dense clay soils greatly preserved artifacts and organic materials, including botanical evidence that will be the subject of future specialized studies. The bones from the pit provide a good collection for comparison with other faunal assemblages at Stratford, and are undergoing analysis at present.

The East Garden formed another area of completed testing. Here excavation units revealed an earlier, mid-eighteenth-century landscape more formal in nature. Major elements included bowed brickwork on axis with the house and the pathway into the terraced East Garden, and a hedge or "green" barrier of plantings that demarcated a dividing line that stretched from the east side of the Great House to dependencies to the north and south. Later this area of formal pleasure gardens gave way to an extensive trash midden that developed between the American Revolution and the 1820s, and presumably a more utilitarian pattern of land use. Building debris within the midden likely indicates modifications to

the main house as ownership changed from one Lee generation to the next.

The main focus of the 1996 season was the Reconstructed Slave Quarters, stone structures built by restoration architect Fiske Kimball in 1939 and based on information taken from an 1801 fire insurance plat. Previous test units established that these reconstructions were not placed on earlier, supposedly original foundations as suspected. Thus, part of the testing scheme in this area constituted searching for evidence of the original quarters' locations. Test units north of the reconstructed quarters have revealed a large depression measuring over 80 feet east-west, and as of yet, an undetermined distance north-south. The depression contains rich deposits of domestic and architectural debris that extend up to four and five feet deep. Initially interpreted as a ravine or swale, the feature may have involved clay removal for brick making as well, perhaps for the probable brick kiln found by 1930s' archaeologists farther west of the quarters site.

The artifacts from this vicinity presumably are associated with a slave quarters context dating from the mid-eighteenth century to the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Besides occupation refuse, the fill materials contain work yard debris from a nearby brick making operation and from cutting and carving sandstone. Distinctive sand and clay soils also were used to fill the depression, likely in preparation for area to become a plowed field sometime in the late nineteenth century. Further investigation of the area north of the Reconstructed Slave Quarters, and the continued search for the original quarters' foundations will mark the center of archaeological attention during the forthcoming 1997 field school season.

#### **Dahlgren Archaeological Survey**

Since 1994, the Center for Historic Preservation, Mary Washington College (CHP/MWC), has been conducting archaeological, archival, and oral history research at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Laboratory (NSWCDL). Archaeological survey has proceeded in two stages. Stage 1 involved the excavation of shovel test pits placed along randomly-selected transects which cross-cut the environmental variation of the survey universe. Based on the results of this survey, the project area was divided into zones of high, moderate, and low probability. Stage 2 of the Phase 1 survey is testing the stratification developed during the analysis of the results of the Stage 1 survey. This analysis was conducted by student interns from the Department of Historic Preservation and by CHP personnel. Analysis of the correlation between archaeological sites and soil characteristics conducted by intern Jennifer Poore and a study of the relation between the location of sites and hydrological variables conducted by intern Renae Barnes and CHP employee Kerri Barile allowed the division of the Main Range of the NSWCDL into high, moderate, and low probability areas. High probability areas were located on well-drained, fertile soils adjacent to the Potomac River and its tributaries. Low probability areas were more than 300 meters from streams and in areas of poorly-drained, relatively unproductive, homogeneous soils. Areas of moderate probability contained several, but not all, of the attributes of the high probability areas. Eighteenth through twentieth-century sites have been discovered through archaeological survey. Notable among these is a dense midden containing the bones of domesticated animals, primarily pig, which dated between 1780 and 1840.

In addition, we have conducted historical research on the eighteenth- through early twentieth-century history of the base. We have identified the major plantations which comprised portions of

the NSWCDL, and begun to search the documents for information on the inhabitants of these plantations. Furthermore, an oral history project focusing on residents of the Gambo Creek area has begun. This area, which was the seat of an African-American community prior to its incorporation into the base, is the focus of oral history research undertaken by Ms. Patricia Knock. This project seeks to reconstruct the cultural landscape and social life of the African-American community during the 1920s and 1930s.

## **Nova Scotia**

Reported by: Rob Ferguson

### **Fort Anne National Historic Site**

During July and August of 1996, Canadian Heritage archaeologists Birgitta Wallace and John Guilfoyle led a crew in excavating large portions of an 18th-century building at Fort Anne National Historic Site. Originally built by the French in 1702, the building served several functions. It was first used as an emergency residence for the *lieutenant de roy*, but later housed the chapel (complete with clock-tower), and eventually (in 1707) became the permanent residence of Simon-Pierre Denys de Bonaventure, the acting lieutenant governor.

When the British officially seized control of Acadia in 1713, many of the buildings at Fort Anne that once housed French military and political personnel were now inhabited by their longtime foes. This was the case with the building known to the English as "the Lieutenant Governor's House."

We know from historic records (thanks to historian Brenda Dunn) that Acadians from the town supplied the labor to construct the building, and one of the goals of the excavation is to determine what, if any, vernacular building techniques were used on such an "official" building. Several repairs and no fewer than three additions were made to the house by the English — were these done to British engineer specifications, or did the townsfolk again employ their traditional methods? Below-ground structural remains are our best hope for answering such questions.

We were able to locate the general position and orientation of the building using both historic plans and air photos. Located in the west corner of the parade, the building has suffered little from considerable later British activities and more modern disturbances. In all, more than sixty buildings were built by the French and English in the parade, most during the 18th century. The Governor's House has the distinction of being the only recorded structure in the western corner.

The historic record is unclear as to exactly when the building fell into disuse and disrepair, but by 1763 it was in poor condition, and it was knocked down some time in the 1770s. In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, a number of new structures were built by the British as the fort was modernized. It appears that the cellar holes of the Lieutenant Governor's House were filled in during this time.

Existing plans, made in the 18th century, differ greatly from what has been uncovered so far. Perhaps next season will see the two better reconciled, but it is more likely that the plans are less than accurate. At least one cellar, two additions and one outbuilding have been identified. Next season it should be possible to define the limits of most of the structure, and to see how a second cellar relates to the main structure. Also planned for next season is the investigation of a potential 17th-century feature located to the west of the cellar.

There are few sites in the province that offer such an intimate

look into the dynamics of the British-Acadian relationship. Will the material culture closely resemble other British domestic and military sites of the 18th century, or will there be a visible French component? Nova Scotia in the middle of the 18th century is a very volatile place, and that is precisely when the building is in its heyday.

It should also be noted that the excavation is located in a highly visible area, and the number of tourists that stopped to inquire about the site was incredible. Next season we will continue to offer visitors an experience in the archaeology of Fort Anne. [submitted by John P. Guilfoyle]

## **Newfoundland and Labrador**

Reported by: Rob Ferguson

### **Ferryland**

Excavation at Ferryland took place between mid-June and mid-October, 1996, under the continuing direction of Jim Tuck, Archaeology Unit, Memorial University of Newfoundland. Work was continued at Site C, the waterfront complex, where additional footage of the early seventeenth-century sea wall was revealed, including good evidence that the wall turns toward the north and encompasses more of The Pool, or inner harbor, than was previously evident. In the last week of excavation, traces of a second slate-roofed structure were uncovered in a test excavation at the western edge of this site.

The major effort took place in a new area, on the former Arch Williams property, acquired in 1996 by the Department of Tourism and Culture, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Arch first introduced Tuck to the archaeology of Ferryland in 1968 and spent most of his life looking for Lord Baltimore's Mansion House. Ironically, it now appears more and more likely that Mr. Williams' house occupied the same spot as the Mansion House. The eastern end of the cobblestone road, first discovered in 1995, was revealed on this property during 1996. To the east of the end of the road a burned structure dating from the late seventeenth century was partly exposed. Below this are layers containing a wealth of early seventeenth-century material.

On the south side of the road, almost adjacent to the Williams house, a remarkably rich deposit of building stone and artifacts suggests the presence of a structure, and probably one occupied by the gentry. Tin-glazed ceramics, *terra sigillata* earthenware, and fragments of ornate leaded glass windows all suggest an upper class dwelling, perhaps that of the Calverts and, later, Sir David Kirke and his family. Plans for 1997 include further explorations in this area. The Colony of Avalon Foundation obtained funds to renovate a large structure near the site where a new archaeology laboratory and exhibits will be open to the public in 1997. The first volume of *Avalon Chronicles*, a journal dedicated to the early European presence in North America, appeared in 1996. [submitted by Jim Tuck]

## **Quebec**

Reported by: Monique Elie

### **The New Barracks Tenaille**

Jacques Guimont and Mario Savard report that the excavations carried out by Parks Canada in 1995 and 1996 at the site of the New Barracks tenaille in Old Quebec (the first two in a series of

three campaigns) brought to light many architectural remains associated with military works and the fortifications of Quebec City from 1693 to 1871 and with the Dominion Arsenal or cartridge factory which occupied the site from 1880 to 1962. These remains, as well as a very large number of artifacts, testify to the military occupation of the site — both French and British — and to the industrial activities which were carried out there from the end of the 19th century to the beginning of the 1960s.

Among the military works, the most significant finds were elements associated with the earth-banked palisade built by Boisberthelot de Beaujours in 1693, a masonry fortification wall erected by the same engineer in 1712 and the imposing masonry works (*fausse-braye* and curtain wall) built by Joseph Gaspard Chaussegros de Lery between 1745 and 1751. The remains of a number of service buildings constructed by British soldiers during the 19th century were also uncovered, including a workshop, cook house and structurally impressive latrines.

The excavations have uncovered a number of remains associated with the occupation of the site by the federal cartridge factory after 1880, including items related to the manufacture of shells (hydraulic press infrastructures, hydraulic pump foundations, etc.) and others indicative of the brass foundry (annealing furnaces, brass furnaces, etc.) as well as some remains from the room that housed the steam boilers used to manufacture shells (boiler foundations, water reservoir, etc.). This plant was later redesigned for the manufacture of cartridges. Among the very numerous artifacts found on the site, a large percentage testify to the various stages in the manufacture of these, mainly .303, cartridges.

### **Public Archaeology at Fort-Lennox National Historic Site**

Consulting archaeologist Pierre Cloutier reports that from July 15 to August 16, 1996, he supervised the fourth consecutive year of public archaeology carried out at Fort-Lennox NHS. More than 125 amateur archaeologists, varying in age from 10 to 75 years, took part in these excavations which were carried by Parks Canada in cooperation with the Musée du Haut-Richelieu. Aside from giving the public a hands on contact with buried heritage resources, the investigations were intended to document the occupation of part of the Fort's parade ground, formerly the site of the garrison prison yard.

Built during a reform of the British military prison system in 1850, nearly 30 years after the initial construction of the Fort and its prisons, the yard was surrounded by a wooden palisade which completely isolated the inmates from other soldiers at the garrison. Inside the yard, a cook house and latrines were built for the exclusive use of the prisoners. The cells themselves were also completely transformed.

Investigations conducted during the summer of 1996 uncovered the foundations of the cook house and its stove, and helped to identify the location of the latrines, that of the palisade as well as the occupation level of the yard. The archaeological information collected and the historic data available, when combined with a reading of the architectural elements in the cells, open the way for an analysis which will illustrate certain aspects of prison reform in the British army in the mid-19th century.

### **Archaeological Monitoring at Grosse-Ile-and-Memorial-to-the-Irish National Historic Site**

Pierre Cloutier reports that Robert Gauvin and himself successively conducted the archaeological monitoring and recording required to mitigate the impact of laying of new water and sewer

lines at Grosse-Ile-and-Memorial-to-the-Irish NHS. The island, located some 50 kilometers east of Quebec City in the St. Lawrence River, served as a human quarantine station from 1832 to 1937. Monitoring was conducted to better document and understand the development of public services on Grosse-Ile and to identify other archaeological remains located in areas to be impacted.

Analysis of data has provided a chronological sequence regarding several of the island's public utilities. These include water supply and waste disposal systems, transportation and communications as well as energy supplies set up to service the island's occupants from the 1830s to the present. Archaeological monitoring has also provided information relating to other aspects of the island's occupation. Of particular interest is the discovery of a significant deposit of artifacts and other material culture remains dating to the mid-19th century, a very significant period of occupation of the island as a human quarantine station. Preliminary examination of data and remains is still ongoing.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

***Landscape Archaeology: Reading and Interpreting the American Historical Landscape***, Edited by Rebecca Yamin and Karen Bescherer Metheny

The essays collected in this volume represent new directions in the study of America's landscapes. Written from a post-processualist viewpoint, these analyses go beyond directly observable phenomena to explain the particular significance that people have attached to the environments they create for themselves. As the editors note, "This volume includes many searching looks at the landscape, not just to understand ourselves, but to understand the context for other peoples' lives in other times, to unravel the landscapes they created and explain the meanings embedded in them."

The book's overall approach is interpretive and interdisciplinary, drawing not simply on archaeological evidence but on oral history, written sources, ethnographic data, and human experience. The contributors examine a variety of questions and methods for recovering and interpreting past landscapes. How, for example, did an elite family in eighteenth-century New Jersey express its status and values through its manipulation of the landscape and how, indeed, do archaeologists derive that information from remains in the ground? What do the ruins left standing in a rural landscape say about attitudes toward time and family? How do the fields and yards of small farms reveal sociopolitical forces affecting the society at large?

The essays in Part I study gardens belonging to elite men and women, while the essays in Part II look beyond the confines of single properties to reveal broader patterns in the historical landscape. The preface and introductory essay provide a theoretical framework for the volume and an overview of the current state of research in the field.

336 pages, 8" x 10" trim size, 104 black & white illustrations, 5 tables, ISBN 0-87049-920-3, \$48.00, The University of Tennessee Press, Chicago

Available from Distribution Center, 11030 South Langley Avenue, Chicago, IL 60628. Tel. 1-800-621-2736, Fax. (312) 660-2235.

***Iron Mine Trails: Seeing Highlands History with an Archaeologist's Eye***, by Edward J. Lenik

*Iron Mine Trails*, written by local archaeologist Edward J. Lenik and published by the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, turns the archaeologist's eye on the terrain of the Highlands. This book directs the reader and hiker to more than forty abandoned iron mines. Trail directions accompany descriptions of the features and ruins present at each site. Historic background on each mine is provided.

The book's preface proclaims, "We are historical hikers....we watch the ground the way birders watch the sky." This is a trail book that searches out and explains the shafts, pits, holes, rock piles, platforms and foundations left behind by the Highlands' first industry, ironmaking.

Iron was paramount in the colonial settlement of the Highlands. The first settlers were drawn not by any fertile, tillable soils or vast, open pasture lands. This hostile, rockbound land offered a rich challenge. Iron ore was here to be mined, vast forests provided wood for charcoal and wild mountain rivers power to run mines, forges and furnaces. Deep in the quiet forests of today lie the remains of this earth-shattering industry of the past.

Edward J. Lenik, an archaeologist with over 30 years of experience exploring and documenting the ironmaking industry of the Highlands, personally visited — in many cases, rediscovered — each of these sites. With his crew of hikers and archaeologists, he measured, recorded and interpreted each mine site. Illustrator Tom Fitzpatrick sketched features on site and prepared maps for the book. Lenik's photographs and numerous historic illustrations contrast the present and the past. Introductory chapters trace the history of mining in the Highlands and explore the technical, economic and social settings of this Highlands industry.

Edward J. Lenik is president of Sheffield Archaeological Consultants of Butler, N.J. He is a member of the Society of Professional Archaeologists, and a recognized expert in the regional archaeology of the Northeast. He has investigated many prehistoric, historic and industrial sites in this area. He is a past president of the Archaeological Society of New Jersey, the Eastern States Archaeological Federation, and the North Jersey Highlands Historical Society. A resident of Wayne, N.J., Lenik has served on the Wayne Township Historical Commission for over twenty-five years and is director (volunteer) of the Archaeological Research Laboratory located at the Van Ripr-Hopper (Wayne) Museum. He also serves as the Honorary Curator of Archaeology at the Trailside Museums of Bear Mountain/Harriman State Parks (New York).

*Iron Mine Trails* is available at local bookstores or can be ordered from the NY-NJ Trail Conference. Pocket-sized for ease of carrying, the book is priced at \$8.95.

***In Remembrance: Archaeology and Death***, by Nicholas Bellantoni and David A. Poirier

Nicholas Bellantoni, State Archaeologist, and David A. Poirier, Staff Archaeologist and Environmental Review coordinator for the Connecticut Historical Commission, have edited a new book on the study of human remains, *In Remembrance: Archaeology and Death*. (Greenwood Publishing Group, 1996). Bellantoni and Poirier have also recently co-edited an issue of the journal *CRM: Cultural Resource Management*. Published by the National Park Service, this issue is devoted to forensic archaeology with articles that discuss both technical and ethical issues.

## SUMMER FIELD SCHOOLS

### St. Mary's City, Maryland

Historic St. Mary's City (HSMC) is pleased to announce its 1997 field school in historical archaeology from June 4 - August 10, 1997. HSMC is a state-supported, outdoor museum located at the site of Maryland's first capital. Excavations will be conducted at a recently discovered, late 17th-century, domestic structure (ST1-126) and will be focused on answering important research questions concerning the use and architecture of the building.

For the student, the program will be an intensive experience in Colonial archaeology. The first week of the class is devoted to lectures on history, archaeological methods and material culture studies. Students will learn artifact identification by working with one of the best archaeological collections of Colonial material in the country. During the following nine weeks, students participate in the excavation, recording and analysis of sites in an internationally famous archaeological district. Guest lecturers will speak on the history and architecture of the Chesapeake region. Field trips to nearby archaeological sites 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 tobacco ship.

The course is designed for students in American Studies, Anthropology, Archaeology, History and Museum Studies. Prior coursework is preferred but not required. The ability to engage in active physical labor is essential. 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 \$840 which covers tuition and fees. There is a \$45 fee to cover the cost of the major field trips. Housing is available at a reduced cost through St. Mary's College. Transportation, food and entertainment are the responsibility of the student.

HSMC is located two hours south of Washington, D.C. in Southern Maryland. Although rural, Southern Maryland is within easy driving distance of major urban areas for entertainment and sightseeing.

To apply, send a letter stating your interest in the course, prior classes, experience, special skills, and the names of two academic references. Please include a phone number both at school and where you can be reached after the semester is over. 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.

### Fort William Henry, Lake George, New York

Fort William Henry is one of the most remarkable sites of the French and Indian War, made famous through the book (and movie) *The Last of the Mohicans*. This log fort was constructed in 1755 at the southern end of Lake George, and it marked the northernmost outpost of the British advance into the interior of North America. Garrisoned by about 2,000 British Regulars, provincial soldiers and civilians, the fort came under siege by the French in August of 1757, and the subsequent "massacre" of many of the occupants made this the most infamous event of the war. In the 1950s, part of the fort was excavated and then rebuilt as a tourist attraction within the popular resort community of Lake George.

From June 16-July 25, 1997, Adirondack Community College will offer the first archaeological field school ever held at the fort, and both 3 and 6 credits are available from the college (for 2 and

4 weeks, respectively).

For additional information, please contact: Fort William Henry Field School, Adirondack Community College, c/o Dr. William Gehring, Bay Road, Queensbury, NY 12804. Tel: (518) 743-2236. Or call Dr. David Starbuck at (518) 747-2926.

### Fort Edward, New York

This will be the seventh season of excavation in the town of Fort Edward, fifteen miles south of Lake George. Fort Edward was commenced in 1755 as the companion fort to Fort William Henry, yet it was far larger and was the principal base for British forces in the north. By the late 1750s, a total of 15-16,000 British and provincial soldiers lived either on Rogers Island (in the middle of the Hudson River) or in Fort Edward (on the east bank of the river), and from here the British launched their attacks upon the French in the north. Over the past six years, Adirondack Community College has exposed huts, barracks, dumps, a small-pox hospital, and many other features inside this major encampment. The 1997 work will continue to expose the well-preserved sites inside the fort and on the island.

The 1997 archaeology field school will run from July 28 to August 22, and both 3 and 6 credits are available from Adirondack Community College (for 2 and 4 weeks, respectively). For additional information, please contact: Fort Edward Archaeology Field School, Adirondack Community College, c/o Dr. William Gehring, Bay Road, Queensbury, NY 12804. Tel: (518) 743-2236. Or call Dr. David Starbuck at (518) 747-2926.

## Application for Membership

### The Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology

Name/Nom \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Adresse \_\_\_\_\_

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#### Rates

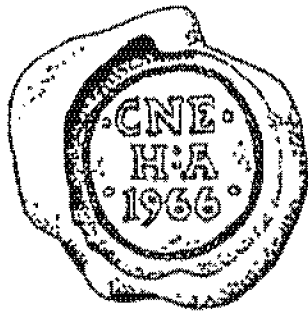
	U.S.	CDN
___ Individual/ordinaire	\$20.00	\$23.00
___ Student/etudiant	\$12.00	\$13.00
___ Joint*/conjoint*	\$25.00	\$28.75
___ Fellow**/Associe**	\$35.00	\$40.00
___ Life/a vie	\$500.00	\$575.00
___ Business/entreprise	\$40.00	\$46.00
___ Non-Profit Organization/organisme sans but lucraif	\$30.00	\$35.50

\*For any two people at the same mailing address. / Pour deux personnes de la même adresse postale. Elles ne reçoivent qu'un exemplaire des publications.

\*\*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:

Lysbeth B. Acuff  
Treasurer, CNEHA  
Department of Historic Resources  
221 Governor St.  
Richmond, VA 23219



# Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology NEWSLETTER

July 1997

NUMBER 37

1997 CNEHA ANNUAL MEETING  
Altoona, Pennsylvania  
October 17-19, 1997

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Preparations are well underway for the 31st annual meeting of CNEHA. Join us in Altoona, PA, for the weekend of October 17-19, 1997. The dual themes of this year's meeting are industrial archaeology and the role of archaeologists in heritage tourism. The conference will be held at the Ramada Inn (formerly the Sheraton hotel), and rooms will be available at the rate of \$62/night. Look for the conference program and pre-registration packets in mid to late July.

We will be offering a full and very exciting program over the weekend. On Friday there will be two workshops and an industrial archaeology walking tour. The first workshop sets the theme for the weekend: the role of archaeologists in heritage tourism. A folklife specialist, an archivist, a historian, and an archaeologist who have all become involved in heritage tourism here in southwestern PA have agreed to talk about how they have brought their professional disciplines to the tourism table and what their experiences have been, and provide suggestions for getting involved in heritage tourism in your own backyard. Part of this session will be an overview of heritage, or cultural, tourism — what is it, what visitors expect, issues of "leisure learning," visitor profiles — the basic background we need so we can speak knowledgeably with tourism and travel professionals.

A second workshop, to be held at Fort Roberdeau, will focus on 19th-century farmsteads. The workshop is being organized by Terry Klein, George Miller, Mark Shaffer, Mary Beaudry, and Wade Catts, and will include several "brainstorming sessions" on the evaluation, preservation, and interpretation of these sites, as well as problems with current approaches to the investigation of 19th-century farmsteads. This workshop will be of interest to archaeologists, cultural resource managers, and state and federal preservation agencies and organizations. We note that the setting seems particularly apt for the discussion, since Fort Roberdeau is not only the site of a Revolutionary War fort but also the site of a 19th century farmstead. The fort offers a new meeting facility in a beautiful agricultural/wooded setting. Or we may be able to meet on the big screened porch if it's a warm day. If it's cold, we'll just fire up the wood stove in the big room. It will be wonderful!

For those interested in industrial archaeology, the third workshop will offer members a "workshop on foot" using the "Rails-to-Trails" tour in Blair County. We will follow the 11-mile-long Lower Trail along the Frankstown Branch of the Juniata River for an intensive "course" in our industrial heritage. Enjoy the fall foliage while touring the locks and dams, iron furnaces, quarries,

### COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Chairman: Pierre Beaudet

Newsletter Editor:

David Starbuck

P.O. Box 147

Fort Edward, New York 12828

(518) 747-2926

Northeast Historical Archaeology seeks manuscripts dealing with historical archaeology in the Northeast region, including field reports, artifact studies, and analytical presentations (e.g., physical anthropology, palynology, faunal analysis, etc.). We also welcome commentary and opinion pieces. To submit a manuscript or request preparation of manuscript guidelines, write to Mary C. Beaudry, Department of Archaeology, Boston University, 675 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215.

and railroads that are located on the trail.

The conference officially opens on Saturday with a full slate of papers. The program will offer four thematic sessions related to industrial archaeology or heritage tourism, a session exploring different aspects of a 19th-century Delaware farmstead, as well as several sessions of contributed research papers. In all, we have received 49 abstracts: seven from members in Canada (including one from Jean-Guy Brossard, director of archaeology for the Musée d'archéologie et d'histoire de Montréal, Pointe-a-Callière, Montréal, site of the 1998 annual meeting — a preview of coming attractions); two from Sheffield, England; and the remainder from members in the northeastern United States.

Additionally, eight students have entered CNEHA's second student paper competition. Papers will be judged by a panel based on content, presentation, and contribution to the field of historical archaeology. Prizes will be awarded for the best graduate and best undergraduate papers. The two winners will receive a year's membership in CNEHA free and will have their papers published in *Northeast Historical Archaeology*.

Other items of interest throughout the weekend will include demonstrations of CNEHA's newly designed web site and a GIS workstation, as well as the book room, which we hope will again feature the pottery of Don Carpentier.

Saturday's banquet is tentatively planned as a progressive church supper sponsored by a number of folks in Johnstown. The Bottle Works Ethnic Arts Center has agreed to be our host either for a reception before dinner, or for dessert after dinner. They will have a number of local artisans demonstrating ethnic and traditional arts and crafts, such as pysanky, wheat weaving, etc., and maybe even some folk performers (Polish dancers, musicians). Other possible venues for a reception Friday evening include the Railroaders Memorial Museum and the Horseshoe Curve National Historic Landmark in Altoona.

We also hope to offer conference attendees a chance to experience the East Broad Top Railroad (EBT). The EBT is a narrow-gauge steam railroad that operates a short excursion near the town of Orbisonia (about an hour's drive east of Altoona). The EBT operates out of its original shops and yards, the same ones it has been using for more than 100 years. We hope to arrange a tour of the facilities, which include the roundhouse, a hand-operated turntable, and belt-driven machinery. The EBT is also right next door to the Trolley Museum.

We anticipate a strong turnout for the meeting, which has been scheduled to coincide with both Pennsylvania Archaeology Month (the PA Archaeology Month poster will feature Industrial Archaeology as its theme, and the poster will be available to everyone coming to the CNEHA meeting. It should be a really great souvenir!) and the yearly meeting of the Pennsylvania Archaeology Council (PAC). Locally, many of the museums and historical organizations also have been made aware of the meeting through newsletters and word-of-mouth. Several chapters of the Society for Industrial Archeology have also been invited to join us.

We look forward to seeing you in Altoona! For further information on the conference, please contact:

Paula Zitzler, Conference Chair  
RR 2, Box 325  
Williamsburg, PA 16692-9736  
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## UPDATE—

### *Northeast Historical Archaeology*

Reported by: Mary C. Beaudry, Editor

In the last issue of the newsletter I mentioned that we hoped to have Volume 25 ready by late spring; it is now summer and we are just about to reach the final stages of production. So I confess to being overly optimistic about how quickly we could move forward. At this point we can say that we hope to have the volume to you by the end of the summer. We're looking forward to Volume 26 and have at least two articles lined up for it already, but our production schedule for that will depend on how quickly we get revised manuscripts back from authors. We've got only one manuscript out for review at the moment, so we're hoping that a few articles that have been reviewed and returned to authors for revision will find their way back to us in the upcoming months so that Volume 26 will come together before the end of 1997.

This spring Ann-Eliza Lewis announced she will step down as my Assistant Editor, as she intends to complete her PhD shortly and move on to other things. She's been a wonderful mainstay of the editorial office and simply invaluable to me. I thank her wholeheartedly for her unparalleled contribution to CNEHA over the past few years. Since March, Ann-Eliza has been training Cassandra Michaud as an editorial assistant. Cassandra will take over as Assistant Editor beginning in September, but Ann-Eliza has indicated she will continue to serve the Council by maintaining the all-important (and ever-changing!) mailing list of members.

It was with great pride that this spring we mailed to our members the first in our monograph series. Lorinda Goodwin deserves a vote of appreciation for her redoubtable efforts in ushering this splendid volume into print, and Lynne Sussman has our eternal thanks for providing us with an in-depth study of what until now was a relatively little-known category of ceramics. We hope that CNEHA members have found *Mocha, Banded, Cal's Eye, and Other Factory-Made Slipware* to be as useful and informative as we have! We have a generous supply of copies available for purchase by non-members, libraries, archaeology labs, museums, etc.: please see the order form elsewhere in this newsletter and please share it with anyone you think might be interested in obtaining a copy.

## FOR SALE

Airbrasive dust collector and work chamber, ten years old, very good condition; also approx. 100 lbs. #3 Airbrasive Powder. All for \$500. Contact Leslie McFaden, c/o Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, P.O. Box 316, Charlottesville, VA 22902. (804 984-9871) (FAX 804 977-7757).

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT

Reported by: David Starbuck, Newsletter Editor

Please send news for the next issue of the CNEHA Newsletter by September 15 to the appropriate provincial or state editor:

### 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 Rouhier, Quebec, Quebec G1S 3P3.

### State Editors:

CONNECTICUT: Ceco Saunders, Historical Perspectives, P.O. Box 3037, Westport, CT 06880-9996.

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

MAINE: Emerson Baker, RR#3, 219 River Road, Biddeford, ME 04005.

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

MASSACHUSETTS: Karen Bescherer Metheny, 44 Stedman St., Brookline, MA 02146

NEW HAMPSHIRE: David R. Starbuck, P.O. Box 147, Fort Edward, NY 12828.

NEW JERSEY: Lynn Rakos, US Army Corps of Engineers, CENAN-PL/EA, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10278.

NEW YORK CITY: Diane Dallal, Archaeological Director of New York Unearthed, The City Archaeology Museum (A Program of the South Street Seaport Museum), 17 State St., New York, NY 10004.

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: James Garman, The Public Archaeology Laboratory Inc., 210 Lonsdale Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860.

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

VIRGINIA: Barbara Heath, The Corporation for Jefferson's Poplar Forest, P.O. Box 419, Forest, VA 24551.

WEST VIRGINIA: John T. Eddins, 7154 Meadow Lane, Gainesville, VA 22065-2557.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

### 1998 Annual CNEHA Meeting

We are waiting for you in Montreal, Quebec!

We are pleased to announce that the 1998 Annual Conference of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology will be held in Montreal, Quebec, from Friday to Sunday, October 16-18, 1998. Pointe-a-Calliere, the Montreal Museum of Archaeology and History, will be the host. The Conference will include site visits and workshops (Friday), paper sessions (all day Saturday and Sunday morning) as well as functions designed to bring members together in a most pleasant and congenial way. The general theme of the 1998 conference will center on Urban Archaeology, with particular emphasis on cities with a colonial origin.

A Friday night reception will be held at Point-a-Calliere, and a Saturday night dinner is to be arranged in Old Montreal, a very well preserved historical sector of the city founded by the French in 1642. Pointe-a-Calliere, built on the city's specific birthplace, still holds significant remains witness to the earliest times of what will become, in time, the second French speaking city in the world.

Jean-Guy Brossard, Chair - Conference organizing committee  
Pointe-a-Calliere  
Musée d'archéologie et d'histoire de Montréal  
350, place Royale  
Montréal (Québec) H2Y 3Y5

### October 3-4, 1997. Winterthur, Delaware

The annual Winterthur Conference explores "Race and Ethnicity in American Material Life." Through a series of papers this conference examines the influence of race and ethnicity as formative factors in American material life from the 17th through the 19th centuries. Speakers will address such topics as objects as means of cultural accommodation and assimilation; slavery, segregation and material life, and Native Americans and expansionism. For information on registration fees or to be placed on the conference mailing list, contact Sandra Soule, Education, Public Programs and Visitor Service Division, Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, Winterthur, DE 19735, or call (302) 888-4600, (800) 448-3883, or TTY: (302) 888-4907.

### October 24-25, 1997. Winterthur, Delaware

"Ceramics in America, 1640-1860: A Seminar in Celebration of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the *Ceramics in America* Winterthur Conference, 1972" features papers presented by scholars about ceramics from East Coast archaeological sites and the availability of English and French ceramics in the colonies and young republic. Chaired by Patricia Halfpenny, curator of ceramics and glass at Winterthur, the two-day conference is of interest to a broad audience of specialists from curators and archaeologists, to collectors and ceramics enthusiasts. Pre-conference activities will include tours of the Winterthur Collection. For further information and fees, call (302) 888-4600, (800) 448-3883, or TTY: (302) 888-4907.

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library hosts a one-day conference that explores "Scientific Analysis for Art's Sake." This conference examines how analytical science has become an increasingly important tool for studying and authenticating museum objects. The conference will focus on the scientific research program at Winterthur and its projects, as well as current directions in object-related scientific research. Registration is \$75; members and students, \$65. To be placed on the conference mailing list, or for further information, contact Continuing Education, Winterthur, Winterthur DE 19735, or call (302) 838-4600, (800) 448-3883, or TTY: (302) 838-4907.

#### Winterthur Sponsors Annual Winter Institute

Winterthur's annual Winter Institute, a graduate-level course in early American decorative arts, will be offered January 18 - February 6, 1998. The course, titled "Perspectives on the Decorative Arts in Early America," surveys objects made or used in northeastern America during the colonial and early republican eras. Course work includes lectures, workshops, room studies and field trips, as well as introductory sessions on object study and handling, connoisseurship techniques, and the use of Winterthur's scholarly facilities. The Institute offers a chance to work with curators and guide specialists in workshops and period rooms. Weekend options include tours of nearby historic sites, special subject tours, research in the library and access to the garden.

Winter Institute, originally designed as an in-house training program for Winterthur staff, is open to museum and university professionals, as well as anyone seriously interested in American decorative arts. Applications will be mailed May 15, 1997 and must be returned by August 1, 1997.

Tuition is \$1400; discounts and partial scholarships available. For applications and housing information, call or write Cynthia Doty, Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, Winterthur, DE 19735, (302) 838-4923.

#### INTERNET URLs

Reported by: Pierre Beaudet

Another Internet URL that may be of interest to CNEHA readers is the discovery of a wreck that belonged to Phips' fleet. This fleet had left Boston in 1690 to attack Quebec City — unsuccessfully — and lost a few ships on its return to Boston. One of these ships, which could be the *Elizabeth and Mary*, was discovered in 1994 and has since been the object of archaeological salvage operations. The excavations should resume this summer (1997). The Internet address already offers considerable information and will soon be updated. For information, you may contact Pierre Desrosiers by phone (418 643-6211), by fax (418 643-4080), or by E-mail (Pierre.Desrosiers@mcc.gouv.qc.ca). This address is: <http://www.mcc.gouv.qc.ca/pamu/champs/archeo/ephiphs/wreck01.htm>

This article first appeared in *The Old Stone Wall*, a publication of the Division of Historical Resources, State of New Hampshire. Gary Hume has agreed to let us reprint it here. Please send articles or news of how your state or institution is handling the "Curation Challenge" to Beth Acuff, Department of Historic Resources, 221 Governor St., Richmond, VA 23219.

#### Meeting the Archaeological Curation Challenge by Gary W. Hume

For three years, the DHR has had as its priority facilitating a local solution to a problem of national concern — the long-term management of archaeological collections, especially those generated by government activity. Because of the historic preservation law, there has been an enormous growth in collections over 25 years, but during the same time little attention has been given to these collections by government agencies, or by repositories that were ill-equipped to receive them, or by the archaeological profession which, traditionally, has valued field research over collections management. Yet these collections are held as a public trust. Once a site has been excavated or destroyed, all that remains is the collection and its potential research and education values. Some materials of Native American origin are also subject to provisions of civil rights law requiring access by Native Americans and repatriation or management practices as requested by Native Americans. Only by making collections management a priority can we meet legal requirements, satisfy the needs of constituent groups, realize the public education potential of collections and, thereby, fulfill the public trust and build support for archaeology and historic preservation.

Our first step was to create an Archaeological Curation Task Force as part of our Strategic Development Program, bringing together in a small group representatives from a few government agencies and not-for-profit organizations with some responsibility or interest in curation. Out of this effort came the recommendation for creating a centralized curation facility. That led to the project funded through the NH Department of Transportation with federal funds set aside for "Archaeological Planning and Research" under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Enhancement Act (ISTEA), to bring our artifact collections and newly-leased space on Airport Road in Concord into compliance with federal standards. The project, initiated in 1996, provides for improvements to our interim curation facility, the stabilization of collections resulting from highway projects, measures to make collections more accessible to the public, training for DHR staff to better manage the collections and facility, and a feasibility study for a permanent curation and collections management facility.

The DHR's new 4,100-square-foot facility is now fully operational and provides for the consolidation of curation and collections management functions with the laboratory functions of our State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program (SCRAP). There is designated space for artifact storage, records storage (site files, site maps, field records, and photographs), laboratory work, long-term analytical projects, users of collections seeking research and exhibit items, and office management functions. It has been demonstrated elsewhere that public use and educational value of collections increases by as much as ten fold when collections are fully accessible. We hope for similar results now that we have an

adequate facility, and especially after we convert our materials to a single inventory and cataloguing system.

This year we convened a larger "Working Group" to succeed the Task Force, with an invitation from Commissioner Van McLeod to 26 government agencies and not-for-profit organizations. The "Group" met three times, with 15 participating, to develop a long-term strategy that will address the needs of all state, federal and other organizations with responsibilities for federally-associated collections. Our planning was enhanced by the opportunity for State Archaeologist Gary Hume, who serves as the ISTEPA Project Director, to participate in the national conference "Partnership Opportunities for Federally-associated Collections" and the "Pre-conference Workshop on Long-Range Planning for Federally-associated Museum Collections," cosponsored by the US Department of the Interior.

The conclusions of the "Working Group" are as follows:

1. Public education and the marketing of collections must be a cooperative effort in order to promote archaeology and to preserve both collections and ideas.
2. Unless federal curation standards can be met, future collections will be housed out-of-state.
3. The national trend is to balance centralization of collections with accessibility for Native Americans and other local users, and the State of New Hampshire is an optimal size to achieve that balance with a single centralized repository.
4. The Division's interim facility will substantially comply with federal standards.
5. Partnership is the only way to address the curation challenge; we need to develop the model of a centralized facility and its functions for the needs and services/support of government agencies, the not-for-profit archaeological organizations, and museums.

Our goal in FY1997 is to formalize the partnerships necessary to sustain the Division's interim curation agreement, and to begin long-term planning for archaeological curation and collections management.

**MINUTES**  
**COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST HISTORICAL**  
**ARCHAEOLOGY ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**  
**OCTOBER 18, 1996**  
**ALBANY, NEW YORK**

Meeting called to order by Pierre Beaudet at 8:31 a.m.

1. Motion to approve Minutes of the 1995 Annual Business Meeting on September 29, 1995 in Louisbourg, Nova Scotia, as reported by Dena Doroszenko in the July 1996 issue of the Newsletter (Vol. 34).

Moved by: Diana Wall  
Seconded by: Silas Hurry  
Carried

## 2. MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Individual Memberships: Reported by Sara Mascia

Membership stands at 405 individual members. This is the largest membership in the thirty years of CNEHA's history.

Institutional Memberships: Reported by Rebecca Yamin

Membership stands at 39 institutional members. RY aiming for 50.

Motion to approve reports:  
Moved by: Mary Beaudry  
Seconded by: Lorinda Goodwin

Discussion: Pierre Beaudet encouraged all colleagues to join and/or renew their memberships. Beaudet also noted the new membership brochure with the new logo.

Vote Carried

## 3. TREASURER'S REPORT: Lysbeth Acuff

As of October 1, 1996, the U.S. bank balance stands at \$7,370.00 and the Canadian bank balance at \$6,560.00. Overall, the financial picture looks very good.

Motion to approve Treasurer's report:  
Moved by: George Miller  
Seconded by: Peggy Fields  
Carried

## 4. JOURNAL EDITOR'S REPORT: Mary Beaudry

Volume 24 should be mailed out next week. Volume 25 is still in production, and this 1996 volume will allow CNEHA to be on schedule. Beaudry anticipated that more manuscripts would be submitted, and she encouraged people to submit. Beaudry reported that a flood in the storage area at Boston University resulted in the loss of \$12,000.00 of stock. Boston University will reimburse CNEHA for this loss.

Motion to approve Journal Editor's report:  
Moved by: Diana Wall  
Seconded by: Evelyn Tidlow

## 5. MONOGRAPH SERIES: Reported by Lorinda Goodwin

A manuscript is in hand and is on material culture research (ceramics). This monograph should be published in 1997. Lorinda Goodwin encouraged people to submit manuscripts for consideration in this series.

Motion to approve Monograph Series Editor's report:  
Moved by: Sara Mascia  
Seconded by: George Miller

## 6. LOGO: Reported by Lorinda Goodwin

The bottle seal log was the most popular choice by over 50% of

the ballots sent in. Michelle Terrell of Boston University designed the logo and is awarded the prize of 1 year's membership in CNEHA.

#### 7. CONFERENCE REPORTS:

1996 Albany, New York: Deferred, refer to #10.

1997 Altoona, Pennsylvania: Reported by Paula Zitzler

Plans are underway. Make your hotel reservations early due to Penn State's Football game which could be the same weekend. The dates for CNEHA are October 17-19, 1997.

1998 Montreal, Quebec: Reported by Pierre Beaudet

Pierre Beaudet is working on a possible meeting in Montreal in 1998 (Museum of Archaeology-Pointe a Calliere). This should be confirmed by January 1997.

1999 Maryland: Reported by Silas Hurry

Tentatively proposed by Silas Hurry for Southern Maryland. Ideas regarding the program include 17th century English material culture, field trip to Jefferson Patterson Museum.

#### 8. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS 1996-1999: Reported by Diana Wall

A call for nominees resulted in a slate of 9 nominees. Five Board members were elected:

Charles Burke  
Dena Doroszenko  
Silas Hurry  
Julia King  
Paula Zitzler

Over 130 ballots were cast, an excellent return.

#### 9. NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT: David Starbuck

Current issue is about to be sent to the printer. David Starbuck is awaiting final copy before it goes to press.

#### 10. 1996 CONFERENCE - ALBANY, NEW YORK : Reported by David Starbuck

David Starbuck noted that extra copies of the program are still available. During the Dutch Material Culture Workshop, one of the books on display was taken. David Starbuck requested that whoever has taken this volume to please return it to the registration desk and/or send him a check. The workshops had an outstanding attendance: Dutch Architecture: 22; Metals Workshop: 35; Dutch Material Culture Workshop: 55; and the Bead Workshop: 26. David Starbuck thanked Paul Huey for his assistance, as well as Meta Janowitz and Lois Feister, in organizing the Dutch program. Pierre Beaudet thanked David Starbuck for his work on the conference.

#### 11. RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS: Silas Hurry

Whereas the following individuals have completed their terms for the CNEHA board, Whereas John Sprinkle and Lorinda

Goodwin have served the Council as Board Members, Therefore be it resolved that the Council extends its sincere thanks to these individuals for their dedication and enthusiasm.

Motion presented by Silas Hurry  
Moved by: Diana Wall  
Seconded by: Mary Beaudry  
Carried

#### 12. RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO CONFERENCE 1996 ORGANIZERS: Paula Zitzler

Whereas the 30th Anniversary of the Founding of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology was celebrated in Albany, New York, from October 18 to 20, 1996 and,

Whereas Conference Chair David Starbuck, along with Paul Huey, Lois Feister, Meta Janowitz and Karen Hartgen, all worked devotedly to make this meeting a great success and,

Whereas the efforts of John Light, Shirley Dunn, Kariis Karklins, Paul Huey, Meta Janowitz, and Richard Schaefer as Workshop presenters benefitted the Council both intellectually and economically and,

Whereas the papers presented by members of the Council were representative of the organization's commitment to insightful archaeological research and,

Whereas the Hotel and meeting facilities are of an incomparable nature and,

Whereas the Reception sponsored by Hartgen Archaeological Associates and Historical Perspectives Inc., and the floating banquet on the Hudson River were enjoyed by all,

Therefore be it resolved that the Council extends its sincere appreciations and Thanks to these individuals and Organizations for their hard work and hospitality.

Motion presented by Paula Zitzler  
Moved by: Lorinda Goodwin  
Seconded by: Mary Beaudry  
Carried

#### NEW BUSINESS:

##### 1. INTERNET SITE

Pierre Beaudet noted that the Board has appointed Silas Hurry to develop a world wide web site for CNEHA. If members have any suggestions and/or submissions, please send them to Silas Hurry at his email address. Silas Hurry noted that the www site will be situated at Boston University and acknowledged the assistance of Mary Beaudry and Ann-Eliza Lewis to facilitate this.

##### 2. DORMITORY AUTHORITY SITE

A Resolution was moved by the Board on Friday, October 18 and reads as follows: "Be it resolved that CNEHA supports the motion from the State Board for Historic Preservation that ade-

quate time for archaeological study be allowed at the Broadway site, following an appropriate archaeological research design and scope of work."

Motion to adjourn meeting Moved by Evelyn Tidlow and Seconded by LuAnn deCunzo. Carried. Meeting adjourned 9:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Dena Doroszenko,  
Secretary

## CURRENT RESEARCH

### Connecticut

Reported by: Cece Saunders

#### Fairfield

The grounds of the "Victorian Cottage," one of Fairfield's nineteenth century historic properties, is undergoing archaeological study at the request of the Fairfield Historic District Commission and the Fairfield Historical Society, the newly appointed overseer of historic, town-owned properties. The Cottage had been moved to its current location near the town green and, therefore, the testing, directed by Shirley Paustian, did not hope to recover in situ materials of the Victorian era. However, the Cottage abuts another historic town property, the site of the Sun Tavern, which is still in its original location. The Tavern dates to the 1780s. Maps/records have been unclear as to the exact location of the Tavern parcel's bounds and the whereabouts of associated out-buildings. Paustian and a volunteer crew from the Society have identified a distribution pattern of historic sheet scatter related to an extant chain-link fence that indicates the original boundaries of the Tavern parcel — a clarification that will direct future testing and landscaping activities. In addition to the sheet scatter, the testing did uncover a well-defined trash pit, including Colonial-era pipestems, and a Woodland Period Native American component (ceramics and lithics). Archaeological testing and monitoring will continue. Current plans are for the Historical Society's Archaeology Department to be housed on the second floor of the Cottage.

### Massachusetts

Reported by: Karen Beschere Metheny

#### Boston City Archaeology Program [Submitted by Ellen Berkland]

Volunteers continue to work at the City Archaeology Laboratory, Education, and Curation Center at 152 North Street in the North End. Every Thursday morning, students and volunteers donate their time and assist the City Archaeologist in various educational and curation projects. The lab is still in need of upgrading and organizing.

Leonid Kondrashov, a Russian archaeologist from Moscow, will be arriving for the summer on June 23, 1997. Sponsored by the ICOMOS Project in Washington D.C., this paid internship offers Leonid the opportunity to work in his field and become acquaint-

ed with cultural resource management in America. Alexsha Chan, a graduate student at Boston University, is also a summer intern for the City Archaeology Program. Alexsha will be assisting with the development of an educational program that focuses on the cultural resources of the harbor islands. Hopefully, this will become an annual program in which students from Boston youth centers can participate. The Boston Landmarks Commission looks forward to working with Leonid and Alexsha. Other summer programs are also underway.

Summer archaeology workshops for city students are being planned. Workshops will include job tours, artifact processing, and use of activity stations at the lab, as well as a walking tour of archaeology sites in Boston. Anyone interested in visiting the lab or volunteering for the City Archaeology Program, please contact Ellen Berkland at (617) 635-3850.

### Maine

Reported by: Emerson Baker

#### Cumberland County

During the 1996-97 school year, Norman Buttrick continued his series of field schools for students in several area schools. The field schools are integrated into the school curriculums, with students working in the field or laboratory for a double class period every other day of school. Students learn the value of preserving historic sites and are exposed to a different approach to learning history. Yarmouth High School and Greely High School worked in Yarmouth on the mid-eighteenth-century Loring Blockhouse and homestead. The site is near the First Meeting House and settlement of what was then known as "North Yarmouth." They discovered a sill from the blockhouse as well as artifacts from the period, including English saltglazes and combed-yellow slipwares. Students from nearby North Yarmouth Academy worked on a later home site in Yarmouth on the Academy's front lawn. The Seabury Site (1830-1939) produced foundation remains as well as a variety of artifacts which included a glass kerosene lamp ornament, a porcelain doll's head, and glass and metal buttons. Freeport High students found burned ceramics and glassware as evidence of a fire when digging at the Sophronia Rodick Gould site (1850-1880s) in Freeport. All four schools' students were taught to map sites as well as cleaning and cataloging artifacts. Students also did research and reports of their respective sites. Matt McGuire from Freeport sums up his experience by saying: "I've been interested in history for many years, yet out of all of my classes this one has captivated me most. Never before have I been able to study history, both local and global, at the hands-on level. Going off to college, I know that this class has helped prepare me for a career in history." All four schools will continue their field schools during the 1997-98 school year.

#### South Berwick

The brief 1996 field season at the Humphrey Chadbourne Site (ca. 1643-1690) focused on defining the size and nature of the two structures first encountered in 1995. Structure 1 is described in a 1667 probate inventory as being of hall and parlor configuration with chambers, a leanto and a leanto chamber. The archaeological evidence to date suggests the site had two end chimneys. One of these chimney stacks also served as the stack for a third hearth,

located in the lean-to behind the roughly 18' x 32' core. So far, it appears that the core had a full cellar, built with substantial stonework. A cellar this big is an anomaly for seventeenth-century Maine, but not surprising considering Humphrey Chadbourne was one of the wealthiest men in the colony. Structure 2 was a detached outbuilding, apparently earthfast. A posthole has been located just outside one of the corners of a rectangular 8' x 12' depression which has a dirt floor approximately 30 inches below grade. This feature, combined with milk pans and other utilitarian earthenwares, may suggest a dairy. However, a plowzone scatter of a variety of domestic artifacts indicates a multi-use building.

The wealth of the owners and the site's rapid abandonment during King William's War means the site is very rich in artifacts. Included is a section of a sawmill blade from one of the Chadbourne's adjacent sawmills on the Great Works River. The blade was deliberately reworked, and found in the building demolition of Structure 1, indicating it was reused in construction. Such practice is known from the surviving early eighteenth-century jail in nearby York, where a sawmill blade was reused for chimney flashing. The Chadbourne saw blade is particularly significant for the Great Works was the site of one of the first gravity sawmills in the colonies (built in 1634). It is unknown if this was among the mills the Chadbournes owned. The most intriguing artifact is an archaic stone gouge, found on the cellar floor of Structure 1, indicating that it had been kept as a curiosity, or perhaps even used again as a tool. The site, located near a falls at the confluence of the Great Works and Salmon Falls Rivers, also contains a late ceramic period component that may have continued into the early seventeenth century. No intact prehistoric features have been discovered. The excavations will continue from July 21-August 1, 1997. The project is sponsored by the Old Berwick Historical Society and directed by Emerson Baker, of Salem State College.

## Vermont

Reported by: David Starbuck

### Bennington

A team of fifteen volunteers, led by David Starbuck, Catherine Zusy, and Victor Rolando, spent a week sampling a dump from the United States Pottery Company at the end of May 1997. This was the first U.S. pottery to manufacture parian porcelain figures, but it also manufactured yellowware, Rockingham, and whiteware. The site now lies underneath the yards and playing fields of the Bennington Elementary School, and the team discovered extensive dumps of waster sherds and kiln furniture. Only thirteen square meters were dug at the four-acre site, yet virtually thousands of wasters were found between one and three feet deep. The fragments of parian are being studied by Zusy, while Starbuck and Rolando are studying the wasters and kiln furniture — the evidence for industrial processes at the factory. Ultimately the collection will be housed at the Bennington Museum.

## New York State

Reported by: Lois Feister

### New Book on Iron Mines in the Hudson Highlands

Edward J. Lenik is author of the new book *Iron Mine Trails*,

published by the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. Lenik turns his archaeologist's eye on the terrain of the Highlands and directs readers and hikers to more than 40 abandoned iron mines. Historical background on each mine is provided. *Iron Mine Trails* is available at local bookstores or can be ordered from the NY-NJ Trail Conference, 232 Madison Avenue, NYC 10016 for \$8.95. The book is pocket-sized for easy carrying.

### Open House at Peebles Island Features Archaeology

The New York State Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation's Bureau of Historic Sites sponsors an Open House at Peebles Island each year as part of Preservation Week. This year's highly successful program drew almost 2000 visitors in a period of five hours. Focus of the program was on archaeological projects. The staff of the Bureau of Historic Sites featured hands-on demonstrations of how artifacts are identified using special lights, measuring of pipestem bores, manuscript research, reconstructing broken pots, and ending with a table full of Mystery Artifacts which the public could try to identify. Also featured at the Open House was the first display of material from the controversial Dormitory Authority project in downtown Albany which uncovered features and artifacts dating from the 17th to the 20th centuries. The display was organized and presented by the Dormitory Authority of New York State and the archaeological contracting firm Collamer and Associates.

### Anchor Returned to Lake Champlain

An anchor believed to have come from the British flagship *Confiance* (ca. 1814) was raised from the bottom of Lake Champlain near Plattsburgh, as previously reported here. Since that time, the raising of such a remarkable piece of history without a preservation plan in place for its short and long-term conservation triggered concern throughout the state. The finders soon shared this concern and wanted to insure proper treatment. The anchor thus was returned to the relatively stable environment of the lake, while discussions among the finders, state officials, and other interested parties began. The anchor has a number of markings, including the British broad arrow, a serial number, a date, and the word *Quebec* stamped on it. Plans are for the piece to be permanently displayed somewhere in the greater Plattsburgh area.

### Four More Lake Champlain Shipwrecks Nominated to the National Register of Historic Places

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum has nominated four of the lake's finest treasures to the National Register. These are the shipwrecks *Phoenix* (1815), *General Butler* (1862), *O.J. Walker* (1862) and the *Champlain II* (1867). Nominating the shipwrecks to the Register makes the information available to the public, to planners, and to researchers, and provides an incentive for maritime preservation. These properties join four others already listed on the Register.

### Archaeology Policy Set at Fort Ticonderoga

Curator Christopher Fox has guided efforts at historic Fort Ticonderoga to establish a comprehensive archaeology policy to guide the Association's stewardship of archaeological collections and the management of their 2500 acres of land. The Management

Policy stresses the Association's fiduciary responsibility, outlines criteria for undertaking archaeology, prohibits purchase of archaeological remains, underscores the museum's commitment to prosecution of "pot-hunters," and addresses the issue of human remains.

The Association also undertook a comprehensive remote-sensing survey of the area around the French Lines in order to complement the documentary understanding of the Battle of Carillon on July 8, 1758. The research team was led by Dr. Bruno Frohlich of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History and the University of Vermont. The team will produce a full scholarly report on this project which will be published in an upcoming issue of *The Bulletin of the Fort Ticonderoga Museum*.

Spring 1997 will find the contract firm Hunter Research of Trenton, New Jersey, doing research where restoration of the King's Garden will require below-ground disturbances in several areas, particularly around the foundations of the Tea House. The new policy mentioned above requires rescue archaeology whenever such projects are undertaken.

Across the lake, at Mt. Independence, the long effort to build a Visitors Center met with success in July 1996. Archaeological research by David Starbuck on the Mount had identified a relatively culturally sterile site for the new building. Now the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation and the Fort Ticonderoga Association are working together to develop a comprehensive plan for protecting the resources still on the site. To guide the planning effort, a Cultural Resources Management Plan is being prepared by Dr. John Seidel of R.

Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc. of Frederick, MD, under an ISTEA grant.

#### **Burial Remains Found During Road-Repairing Near Fort Niagara**

At the outskirts of Old Fort Niagara, located in Youngstown, New York, the remains of 10 skeletons buried in the 18th or 19th centuries have been found. Archaeological work on the burial ground has been underway since February by the University of Buffalo's archaeological survey team under the leadership of Dr. Elaine Herold and Nancy Herter. The remains are of European adults and children of both sexes. Although found on land that once was part of the fort complex, there is no evidence of a military association. There is evidence of some coffins and some shroud pins. The bodies were removed in order to allow the repaving to continue. The bones are being studied on the Amherst Campus, and documentary research at the fort and elsewhere is continuing.

#### **New York State's Bureau of Historic Sites Spring Field Season**

During the months of April and May, archaeologists Lois Feister and Chuck Fiorance have directed projects at three locations. The first was at the Copake Iron Furnace ruins located in the Taconic Park Region. Efforts directed at preserving the standing remains require the installation of deep footings for a shelter to be put over the top of the furnace. The archaeological team focused on locating the extent of the rubble base presumed to have been installed around the furnace, a feature which could be pierced without too much damage. The base was found to exist and to extend as far as 20 feet out from the actual furnace remains, thus making such a

roof-like shelter possible. Test units also revealed a series of sand casting floors in one unit, the stone construction of one corner of the furnace remains in another unit, and the existence of iron water pipes once used in the cooling system in a third test.

The team then moved to Yonkers for testing of the north wall of Philippe Manor Hall, a structure believed to have been built in the late 17th century. Drainage around the wall is being planned. The archaeology concentrated on studying the cause of the drainage problem and on locating foundation walls for a 19th century addition, now gone. Both goals were met. The drainage problem was found to have resulted from choices made during the original construction of the house wall: when the builders encountered a huge glacial boulder in the ground, they built the foundation of the house up and over the top of the boulder rather than removing it. Over the years, the lime mortar between the wall base and the boulder has washed out, and the angle of the boulder is delivering water directly into and under the house wall. The foundations of the 19th century wing also were found, and arrangements were made to preserve them in place.

Finally, work at Lorenzo State Historic Site consisted of three days of shovel tests in a corn field and along an entrance road for the installation of a foundation for a historic schoolhouse to be moved to the site and for a new water line. All tests were negative, and work is proceeding.

#### **United States Military Academy, West Point (USMA) [submitted by Benjamin Resnick]**

##### **Stony Lonesome II Housing Facility**

In April 1996, Fauning, Phillips, and Molnar (FP&M) and GAI Consultants, Inc. (GAI) completed the second phase of a Phase III archaeological data recovery for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District. This involved primarily intensive historical research and synthesis of the archaeological findings. Ben Resnick (GAI) served as principal investigator, and Army McFeeters-Krone served as senior historian. The project was conducted in association with the planned construction of the Stony Lonesome II Housing Facility located in the south-central section of the USMA in Orange County, New York. The new housing facility is situated near Revolutionary War Redoubt Nos. 1 and 2 and their associated batteries, built between 1779 and 1780. A previous walkover of the project area resulted in the identification of a total of 17 possible Revolutionary War huts. These potential hut sites appeared as square to rectangular depressions, measuring on the average of 10 by 16 feet, and surrounded on one or more sides by fieldstone. All of these possible hut sites were determined to be historically significant by the New York State Historic Preservation Office. The U.S. Military Academy decided to preserve a total of 6 of these sites with the remaining 11 huts, as well as an additional campsite, to be investigated as part of an intensive archaeological excavation prior to housing construction.

The archaeological study sought to recover information from the 11 possible hut sites in order to better understand their arrangement and purpose within the overall plan of military fortifications at West Point. Additionally, it was hoped that these hut sites would provide information on the manner of hut construction and the everyday life of Revolutionary War soldiers. In order to address some of these questions, the Rutgers University Center for Public Archaeology excavated a total of 45 5-foot square excavation units placed at the potential hut sites. Excavation of the 11

possible hut sites yielded artifacts dating exclusively to the early twentieth century, in addition to several prehistoric artifacts. Absolutely no Revolutionary War period artifacts or structural remains were identified during the archaeological investigation, making it highly unlikely that these depression features served as Revolutionary War period huts.

Because of the lack of archaeological evidence suggesting that these sites functioned as Revolutionary War huts, it was important to determine the whereabouts of the soldiers' (hut) camp assigned to nearby Redoubts Nos. 1 and 2, as well as to explain the origin of the depression features thought to be huts. Therefore, an exhaustive review of written records pertaining to the occupation at West Point during the Revolutionary War was conducted, including maps, letters, orderly books, and personal papers on file at the U.S. Military Academy Library, Special Collections.

Although no cartographic or other evidence was recovered to suggest that huts were constructed in the immediate vicinity of Redoubt Nos. 1 and 2, a review of orderly books and secondary sources indicates that a guard detachment of approximately 10 to 15 men (privates and junior officers) were regularly sent to the various redoubts, on a rotating basis, from other locations within West Point. Soldiers assigned to these defensive fortifications likely lived in shelters inside the works.

In light of the above, it appears then that regiments and brigades assigned to Redoubt Nos. 1 and 2 hunted elsewhere. Based on the information collected to date, it appears that brigades/regiments assigned to Redoubt Nos. 1 through 4 may have been quartered in huts at a large encampment located in close proximity to Redoubt No. 3 (York Huts), approximately 0.5-mile northwest of the Stony Lonesome II housing area, a distance which would have afforded enough time for the troops to react to an alarm for the purpose of defending the works during a siege. This situation may have precluded the need for stationing a larger, permanent detachment of soldiers in close proximity to all of the redoubts.

Based on existing evidence, it appears that the depressions thought to be huts may have been created as a result of the use of these locations as borrow areas, created for the purpose of road/trail maintenance, sometime in the early twentieth century. Final technical and popular reports have been submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District.

#### Route 6 Timber Sales Survey

During August and September of 1995 Fanning, Phillips, and Molnar (FP&M) and GAI Consultants, Inc. (GAI) conducted an archaeological survey of the proposed 175-acre Route Six Timber Harvest Area, U.S. Military Academy (USMA), West Point, Woodbury Township, Orange County, New York. Ben Resnick (GAI) served as principal investigator and John Rose served as field director. The project was conducted for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, for the purpose of identifying the presence and extent of cultural resources within the project area and to make a preliminary assessment of their eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Field investigations consisted of a pedestrian survey of the entire 175-acre project area, a metal detector survey, and the excavation of 340 shovel test pits. Shovel test pits were placed in association with 18 distinct topographic settings throughout the study area. Based on this work, two historic and two prehistoric archaeological sites were identified. These include a historic farmstead, historic iron quarry, a prehistoric rockshelter, and a prehistoric lithic

scatter. Only one of these sites, the rockshelter, was considered to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. In order to insure that the rockshelter is not adversely impacted, no timber harvest activities, such as falling, skidding, and road construction, will be conducted within, at least, 75 feet (23 meters) of the site. A final technical report has been submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District.

#### A Marked Iron/Steel File Fragment from Crailo State Historic Site, Rensselaer

[submitted by Joseph E. McEvoy]

During survey excavations in July 1988 at Crailo State Historic Site, a Van Rensselaer family home and site occupied almost continuously from the mid-17th to the late 19th centuries, a fragment of an iron/steel file was found in a stratum associated with sherds of creamware, porcelain, and pearlware. The component would date from the late 18th or early 19th centuries.

Conservation treatment of this object commenced in 1990, at which time no distinguishing marks were noticed. During 1997, it was among the material reviewed and analyzed during preparation of a report, and it was noted that the file fragment required further treatment due to continuing active corrosion.

This file, broken off at a length of 5 inches, has a flat, tapered tang, is 11/16 inch wide at the butt, is 1/4 inch thick, and is half-round in cross section. Further conservation treatment revealed that the surfaces are fine-toothed and doublecut on both sides. A maker's mark was also discovered. This mark is at the base of the tang and consists of a trefoil or crown-like device followed by the letters "CAM."

This mark is also represented on a number of iron files that have been recovered from the French River rapids in Ontario and were originally among trade items destined for western outposts of the fur trade. Two of the files from the French River, both recovered in the 1960s, have the mark with crown-shaped symbol and the letters "CA..." Documentary research has identified a Sheffield, England, file maker named James Cam who was working before 1797 and who marked his files "CAM" (Wheeler 1975:61).

Has anyone else recovered similar files with the "CAM" mark? If other examples are known, please contact Joseph McEvoy at Archeology Unit, Bureau of Historic Sites, Peables Island, Box 219, Waterford, N.Y. 12188. The phone number is (518) 237-8643, ext. 215.

#### Reference

Wheeler, Robert C.  
1975 *Voices from the Rapids*. St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society.

### Pennsylvania

Reported by: Karen Bescherer Metheny

#### Helvetia

The town of Helvetia, in Clearfield County, was established and operated as a company town by the Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Company between 1892-1954. Its residents (nearly 1200 during the town's peak years) were hundreds of coal miners and laborers

employed at the Helvetia Mine and their families. The former town site, largely destroyed by a stripmining operation, is currently the focus of a doctoral study that examines this working class community and the issue of social agency within a company town. The study is focused on the intersection of the corporate, industrial landscape and the traditional lifeways of the miners and their families using oral histories; a variety of written sources, including the archives of the R&P coal company; and architectural, material, and archaeological evidence recovered from the site. The physical manipulation of the landscape, seen above and below ground, has been particularly revealing of the ways that Helvetia's residents actively shaped the cultural and physical landscape around them in order to alter or modify for their own needs the industrial regimen established by the R&P Coal Company.

Research in 1994 included the physical documentation of a mining official's house, oral history interviews, and archaeological survey and testing to identify a miner's house site with intact archaeological remains. A 6-week field season was conducted during the summer of 1995 under the direction of Karen Beschler Metheny, Department of Archaeology, Boston University. The field work was funded by a small grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research. A miner's doublehouse and its surrounding yard (90 ft x 151 ft x 130 ft x 154.1 ft) were explored using areal excavations along the front of the house, and test trenches and 5 x 5-foot excavation units across the backlot. An area 45 ft x 10-20 ft was excavated along the front of the doublehouse to expose the foundation, the two entry areas, and portions of the front yard.

As expected, the front yard was relatively free of accumulated debris, supporting the perception of former residents and visitors of a neat, well kept town. While the stratigraphy was very shallow in most areas, numerous small finds were found clustered near the two entryways — toy soldiers and cowboys, clay and glass marbles, a jack, small beads, coins, buttons, jewelry, and fragments of clay tobacco pipes. These materials are indicative of various activity areas near the entries — activities that appear to be little changed by the intrusion of corporate ideology upon the family. Artifacts recovered from the rear of the house near the back door include a United Mine Worker's pin and a coal check — used by the check weighman to track the name of the miner who filled the coal car.

More telling are the frequent architectural changes made to the front entries of each unit — the installation and removal of porches — and the sequence of walkways constructed over time, as well as changes in the materials used to surface the walks. At least three different walks led to the front door of the east unit. Remains of the earliest walk were insubstantial, but a small scatter of fieldstone was excavated at the base of a later brick walk. The presence of rotting wood and a very sharp, rectangular soil stain suggested a front stoop of wood or a wooden sill. The second walk, a brick paving, was subsequently covered by an enclosed sun porch and a cement walk. A number of post holes and pier supports are associated with the entries of both units. Brick and cement walks lead around either side of the house to rear entries and to outbuildings at the rear of the lot. Mortar on many of the bricks (the walks are dry laid) indicates that many were used previously and were scavenged or recycled. On the west side of the backlot, parallel stains in the soil mark the presence of an early wood plank walk. This feature was replaced with a brick walk. The variation in material and the frequency with which new walks and entries were built over the years serves to emphasize the relative freedom

with which families altered their surroundings.

In contrast to its lush, overgrown appearance today, early photographs of the town site show an area devoid of trees and ornamental plants. A plant survey on the lot recorded the presence of a number of spruce trees, cedars, and lilac, as well as rose bushes and a flowering yucca plant. Features and soils near the eastern entry of the doublehouse have been tentatively identified as planting soils or planting beds. Oral histories and photographs confirm that yards were "landscaped" to suit the miners' tastes, as informants identified various trees their families had planted or pointed to the location of a prized flower garden. Most families also had large vegetable gardens behind the house; indeed, the company encouraged the miners and their families to plant gardens. An excavation trench across the rear of the lot exposed a thick organic garden soil containing lenses of coal-ash and slag (one informant recalled that his family used soot from the power plant to enrich the soil, but these inclusions appear to be from a domestic source) and small glass and ceramic sherds, possibly added to improve drainage.

Artifact analysis and report preparation are ongoing. Future research will focus on the analysis of soils from the site. For further information, contact Karen Metheny at the Department of Archaeology, Boston University, 675 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA, 02155 (krmetheny@acs.bu.edu).

## Maryland

Reported by: Silas D. Hurry

### St. Mary's City

Historic St. Mary's City played host to fifty visiting archaeologists in April when attendees of the joint Society for Historical Archaeology and Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology conference held in Williamsburg, Virginia, toured the site. The visitors included a large number of British archaeologists who saw the various site exhibits and visited the archaeology laboratory. Following their visit to St. Mary's City, the group toured the Mattapani site on the Naval Air Station where excavations of Lord Baltimore's 17th century home are being undertaken by the Southern Maryland Regional Preservation Center at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum.

Historic St. Mary's City is pleased to announce a new joint museum exhibit with Jamestown Settlement Museum in Jamestown, Virginia. The exhibit, titled "Colonial Capitals of the Chesapeake: Jamestown and St. Mary's City," will stand at Jamestown Settlement Museum from May 10th, 1997, through January 31, 1998. The exhibit compares the two colonial capitals and discusses how capitals are different than the more typical rural plantation setting of the 17th century Chesapeake. The exhibit is scheduled for installation in St. Mary's City sometime later in 1998.

### Montgomery County

Joe Dent (American University) and James Sorensen (Montgomery County Dept. of Parks & Planning) are conducting excavations at a domestic structure associated with an early milling complex along Seneca Creek in Montgomery County, Maryland. The miller's house was extant circa 1830. Excavations are focusing on the production of an interpretive program for the

Sherbrooke, N.S. The Pubnico fieldwork evaluated a house feature that local heritage interests had identified as the mid-seventeenth site of the Mius-D'Entremont settlement. The feature tested turned out to be a Loyalist Period house foundation. Thanks go to a Parks Canada field crew under the direction of Scott Buchanan for their participation.

The second project consisted of a 2-person survey seeking evidence of the seventeenth century Fort Sainte Marie, a French fur trade post located near the mouth of the St. Mary's River. Seventeenth century deposits were located but in largely disturbed contexts. Further investigation is required to assess the site.

Planned 1997 fieldwork includes a field reconnaissance project in Ingonish, Nova Scotia. The principal objective is to locate and investigate French Colonial Period fishing establishments and First Nation's sites in the area.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

### *The Farm Landscape: A Bibliography of the Architecture and Archaeology of Farmsteads*

To assist those studying farmstead archaeology and architecture, the State Historical Society of Wisconsin has prepared an annotated bibliography with 1,400 entries on American farmstead sites, architecture, and their architectural European antecedents. The bibliography includes over 175 archaeological reports and articles, and provides abstracts for many limited-edition reports. The bibliography includes extensive listings from the Midwest, New England, and the Middle Atlantic.

Compiled by Peggy Beedle and Geoffrey Gyrisco, *The Farm Landscape: A Bibliography of the Architecture and Archaeology of Farmsteads* is 186 pages, perfect bound with soft cover. It may be ordered from Geoffrey Gyrisco, State Historical Society, 816

State Street, Madison, WI 53706 for \$15.95 plus \$4.80 for shipping and handling, tax included. Make checks payable to State Historical Society of Wisconsin. For ordering questions, call (608) 264-6510. ISBN 0-067020-284-7.

### *In Remembrance: Archaeology and Death*

Edited by David A. Poirier and Nicholas F. Bellantoni

In recent years, federal and state governments have recognized their responsibility for the protection of unmarked ancient burial grounds that may be threatened by modern land use activities and natural disasters. The editors have compiled case studies that reflect effective answers to removal, analysis and reburial of human remains by archaeologists. Each study provides fascinating research from the excavation of historic cemeteries, which has added considerable knowledge to our understanding of factors relating to health, disease, and trauma, and the social histories of the diverse human communities occupying North America during the last three centuries.

The introduction highlights recent examples of the way osteological analysis of burials contributes to our knowledge of past histories. Part I examines several socially disenfranchised groups that are under-represented in historic records. These analyses demonstrate how archaeological and anthropological research can contribute to a better understanding of cultural conditions and lifestyles of important social groups. Part II consists of articles that illustrate where past and recent traumas and desecration have affected human burials. Part III represents the only technical section, providing a resource guide on professional standards in conducting documentary research as well as fieldwork in the location and excavation of historic burials.

Available from Bergin & Garvey, 88 Post Road West, P.O. Box 5007, Westport, CT 06881-5007. (203) 226-3571. Price \$59.95. ISBN 0-89789-419-7. 264 pages.

## Application for Membership The Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology

Name/Nom \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Adresse \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Lysbeth B. Acuff, Treasurer, CNEHA  
Department of Historical Resources  
221 Governor Street  
Richmond, VA 23219

### Rates

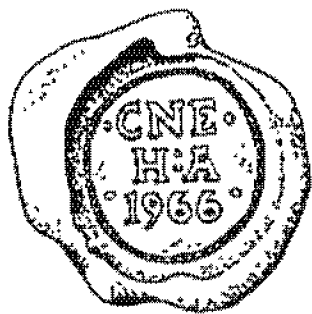
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___ Fellow**/Associe**	\$35.00	\$40.00
___ Life/à vie	\$500.00	\$575.00
___ Business/entreprise	\$40.00	\$46.00
___ Non-Profit Organization/organisme sans but lucratif	\$30.00	\$35.50

Poster à l'adresse ci-dessous:

Pierre Beaudet  
840 Sir Adolphe Routhier  
Quebec City, Quebec G1S 3P3

\*For any two people at the same mailing address. / Pour deux personnes de la même adresse postale. Elles ne reçoivent qu'un exemplaire des publications.

\*\*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 fortement à l'archéologie historique du Nord-est américain et qui veulent aider à soutenir l'action du Conseil en versant une cotisation plus élevée.



# Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology NEWSLETTER

October 1997

NUMBER 38

CNEHA Goes Digital

Reported by: Silas D. Hurry

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By the time you receive this Newsletter, the Council should have its very own World Wide Web Homepage. We are currently in the final stages of development and proofing. The page, which is in both English and French, describes the organization and how to join, the annual meeting (including the program for Altoona), our publications (both the Journal and the new Monograph series), contact information for the Executive Board, and a collection of links to other web pages which may be of interest to CNEHA members. Like all good web pages, the CNEHA page will evolve and develop in the future. Suggestions for additions and improvement from the membership would be appreciated.

I would like to thank our consultants, Net Impressions, for working closely with me and accepting the picky little changes I requested. I also wish to thank members of the Executive Board for reviewing the page while it was under development and making sure it was content correct. Finally, I want to thank St. Mary's College of Maryland who has volunteered a home for our homepage on their academic server. Appreciation especially needs to be expressed to Dan Ingersol at the college who arranged for their web hosting.

## UPDATE—

### *Northeast Historical Archaeology*

Reported by: Mary C. Beaudry, Editor

At last, Volume 25 has gone to the printer! Our printer informs us (through Pierre Beaudet) that we should have "book" before the annual meeting. So your 1996 journal should be in the mail to you before the end of October.

We've moved right into pre-production for Volume 26 (1997) in hopes of having it ready for the printer by the end of the year and in the hands of the membership early in 1998. We have a nice range of articles, research notes, and reviews for Volume 26. The final table of contents for Volume 26 is still in flux, but we do know that it will include major articles covering such diverse topics as excavations at the colonial almshouse site in New York City, excavation of the wreck of a 19th-century coasting schooner in Maine, and gender analysis of clay smoking pipes.

I can also report that we have several manuscripts in various stages of review and revision; this bodes well for producing a 1998 volume within that calendar year. Experience has taught me not to make wild promises, however, so I'll just say that I'm hopeful that, in 1998, for the first time, we will be able to produce a journal within its proper calendar year! We will certainly give

## COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Chairman: Pierre Beaudet

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David Starbuck

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Northeast Historical Archaeology seeks manuscripts dealing with historical archaeology in the Northeast region, including field reports, artifact studies, and analytical presentations (e.g., physical anthropology, palynology, faunal analysis, etc.). We also welcome commentary and opinion pieces. To submit a manuscript or request preparation of manuscript guidelines, write to Mary C. Beaudry, Department of Archaeology, Boston University, 675 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215.

it our best effort, but we still need to see those manuscripts coming in.

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT

Reported by: David Starbuck, Newsletter Editor

Please send news for the next issue of the CNEHA Newsletter by January 15 to the appropriate provincial or state editor:

### 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. State Editors:

CONNECTICUT: Cece Saunders, Historical Perspectives, P.O. Box 3037, Westport, CT 06880-9998.

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

MAINE: Emerson Baker, RR#3, 219 River Road, Biddeford, ME 04005.

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

MASSACHUSETTS: Karen Bescherer Meibeny, 44 Siedman St., Brookline, MA 02146

NEW HAMPSHIRE: David R. Starbuck, P.O. Box 147, Fort Edward, NY 12828.

NEW JERSEY: Lynn Rakos, US Army Corps of Engineers, CENAN-JL-EA, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10278.

NEW YORK CITY: Diane Dallal, The City Archaeology Museum (A Program of the South Street Seaport Museum), 17 State St., New York, NY 10004.

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

PENNSYLVANIA: Paula Zitzler, RR 2, Box 325, Williamsburg, PA 16693-9736.

RHODE ISLAND: James Garman, The Public Archaeology Laboratory Inc., 210 Lonsdale Avenue, Pawtucket, RI 02860.

VERMONT: position open.

VIRGINIA: Barbara Heath, The Corporation for Jefferson's Poplar Forest, P.O. Box 419, Forest, VA 24551.

WEST VIRGINIA: John T. Eddins, 7154 Meadow Lane, Gainesville, VA 22065-2557.

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

### Symposium: English Refined Earthenware in America

Old Starbridge Village announces a symposium for November 1, 1997, entitled *Everyday and Elegant: English Refined Earthenware in Early America*. This full-day program features presentations by ceramic historians, curators, collectors, and artisans. Speakers include George Miller ("English Ceramics and American Consumers"), Jonathan Rickard ("Mocha and Other Dipped Wares for Home and Tavern"), and Don Carpentier ("Production Methods for English Refined Earthenware before 1850"). Selected samples of English pottery from the Museum's collection will be discussed by Nan Franklin of the OSV curatorial staff. Additionally, there will be special displays of ceramics as domestic furnishings in the Village's historic houses. The fee is \$60.00 (members \$55.00). For further information and registration, contact Eileen Charbonneau at (508) 347-3362. Registration is limited.

### November 8, 1997. Winterthur, Delaware

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library hosts a one-day conference that explores "Scientific Analysis for Art's Sake." This conference examines how analytical science has become an increasingly important tool for studying and authenticating museum objects. The conference will focus on the scientific research program at Winterthur and its projects, as well as current directions in object-related scientific research. Registration is \$75; members and students, \$65. To be placed on the conference mailing list, or for further information, contact Continuing Education, Winterthur, Winterthur DE 19735, or call (302) 888-4600, (800) 448-3883, or TTY: (302) 888-4907.

## CURRENT RESEARCH

### Connecticut

Reported by: Cece Saunders

#### New London

The Naval Underwater Warfare Center (NUWC), New London, operated on a Thames River site about a mile south of downtown New London from 1941 until 1996. The site would be significant if only for the role that it played in Cold War history; however, the land area of Fort Neck was known as a historical site long before the Navy occupied it. The central fixture of the site is the 1849 "Third System" fortress which stands on the southern end of the NUWC property. This fortress is the third Fort Trumbull that has occupied the property. Previously, a Revolutionary War-era fort and an 1812-era fort graced the point, which has been known as Mamacock, Fort Neck, and Fort Trumbull. Although the Fort Neck lands saw battle only once, in 1781, it is significant not only for its historic buildings but for its continuous occupation as a military installation throughout all phases of American history. Plans for the deaccessioned property include a state-operated public park and possible museum.

More than 220 years of military occupation have created a vast array of archival resources. Although there are, potentially, many

buried layers of archaeological resources at Fort Trumbull, the integrity of any one buried layer or location is problematical. As a function of the on-going deaccessioning process, Historical Perspectives' recent research on the Fort has focused on the identification of discrete loci on the 25-acre Fort Neck land mass that experienced at least one period of use but was not subsequently severely disturbed by a construction project or infrastructure installation.

Field testing began in September, 1997, at three loci: the rear yards of extant officers' quarters (erected ca. 1830); the lawn immediately surrounding the late-eighteenth century extant block-house; and the "memorial garden" at the northern edge of the land-form.

## Massachusetts

Reported by: Karen Bescherer Metheny

### Spencer-Peirce-Little Farm, Newbury [submitted by Mary Beaudry]

The 1997 excavations concentrated once again on the northern boundary of the house lot, where in 1996 we had explored in a series of test trenches portions of a fence built ca. 1865. The feature was a shallow trench into which the boards of the fence were set (see report in June 1997 CNEHA Newsletter); the trench had been backfilled around the fence boards with densely packed ceramic and glass fragments as well as various items of tinware (e.g., a milk can funnel, a dustpan, a pail, tin cans, etc.). In 1997 we opened all the units skipped during the 1996 testing operation, so that we could recover the whole deposit and learn more about the fence before construction of a Visitors' Center in 1998 eliminates the evidence. The work was directed by Mary Beaudry of Boston University with volunteers and with Lincoln-Sudbury high school students enrolled in a workshop; Anna Dhody served as Beaudry's assistant and ran the field laboratory.

The ceramic assemblage consists primarily of white granite or ironstone; additional ware types found in 1997 included fragments of several flow purple plates and a brown stoneware storage pot or bottle possibly made in Derbyshire, England. Thousands of fragments of lamp chimney glass were recovered, along with whole and fragmentary bottles (mainly proprietary medicine bottles) and many fragments from tumblers and other vessels.

Four post holes associated with the fence were located; two of these had held buttress posts immediately behind the fence and two had supported posts for a gate or doorway in the fence (historical photographs show that the opening in the fence was, in fact, a full-sized door, not really a gate). A deposit of brick rubble immediately behind the fence line seems to have originated in the kitchen of the house; presumably these were tossed here out of sight when the kitchen was remodeled by the Little family in the 1860s. Evidently the kitchen fireplace had retained, until that time, elements of its original 17th-century finish, for found among the rubble were molded bricks and square brick tiles as well as a decorative architectural fragment. This is a piece of lime mortar finished with a fine gypsum plaster; the fragment is the terminus of a molded chamfer with lamb's-tongue stop. This was probably part of the over-mantel decoration for the kitchen fireplace when it was first built. It is the only such fragment that has been discovered thus far (after 11 years of digging!) but speaks volumes about the original interior finishes of the house, which was constructed

by Colonel Daniel Peirce around 1690.

Close to the existing Tenant House, we uncovered a segment of either a stone wall or early outbuilding foundation; this short section of a stone foundation had been cut by the construction of the Tenant House in 1797. Further excavations in this area are needed before the exact nature of the feature can be determined.

The culmination of the 1997 season was our annual Archaeology Family Day, held as part of the celebration of Massachusetts Archaeology Week. Close to one hundred people—adults and youngsters—participated in the excavations and in artifact processing, toured the house, and viewed a video about "The Little Dig." There will likely be a hiatus in the excavations in 1998 during construction of the new Spencer-Peirce-Little Farm Museum Visitors' Center; close monitoring of all construction-related excavation is planned, however.

### Old Sturbridge Village [submitted by Ed Hood]

This season, Old Sturbridge Village staff and volunteers continued an archaeological examination of the David Wight farm site, located on museum property. Last year's work uncovered features associated with the construction of a mansion house on the site in 1798/99 (destroyed by a fire in 1929), including ejecta fill and handwrought nails (see November 1996 CNEHA Newsletter). We also uncovered a pad of clean, gray clay (not natural to the stratigraphic levels of the site), approximately 2 meters long, 1 meter wide,

and about 10 cm thick, which appears to be associated with this construction phase. This feature remains unidentified, but our primary interpretations are that it is clay from the making of bricks for chimneys and foundations, or was used to mortar interior bricks together. The clay may also represent a floor, partial floor, or drainage feature from an otherwise unrecognized outbuilding. A lead water pipe from the early to mid-1800s was found in situ. We also discovered a second pipe trench, filled in the mid-1800s after the pipe was removed. Parts of this same trench are under investigation in 1997, and we hope to shed more light on its function and relationship to the house(s) at the site. A thin layer of sheet refuse from the early and mid-1800s, a late 19th-century post hole, and a few other minor features were located during the 1996 excavations.

This year's excavations are focusing on an ell of the mansion house. We are particularly interested in the yard space directly behind the ell and in front of the bulkhead access to the basement of the main section of the house. We are hoping to shed some light on the layout of the 1783 house that originally stood on this site (that structure was moved in 1798 and then returned to the site following the 1929 fire). We also want to examine the footprint of the ell and look at its associated refuse.

Some of the most interesting artifacts from the 1996 and 1997 excavations are chunks of raw graphite found in strata from the mid-1800s. The owner of the house at that time, Col. David Wight, managed the Sturbridge graphite mine for a wealthy Boston businessman, Frederick Tudor. Wight also worked with Tudor's foreman, Guy Scott, who lived in Sturbridge near the graphite mine. Scott and his extended family have been studied in some detail by OSV staff members over the last several years, since they were African American and Native American;

their stories are providing the basis for our expanding interpretation of the lives of people of color in rural, 19th-century Worcester County. This year OSV began portraying Scott's life through the actor-storyteller, Guy Peartree, and we will continue to enhance and expand this program. The presence of graphite at the Wight site demonstrates the economic and social connections that bound Wight, Tudor, and Scott (as well as their respective families) together and to the physical property of what is now Old Sturbridge Village.

Excavations at the Wight site also serve as an exhibit for visitors to the Museum on Tuesdays during the month of September and as part of Massachusetts Archaeology Week in early October. Other events associated with Archaeology Week will be held at the site, including a hands-on introduction to archaeology for members of the museum's "Kids Club" and a special evening lecture (free and open to all) on the archaeology of Boston's "Big Dig" by the project archaeologist, Dr. Robert Hasenstab.

### **Richmond Furnace Historic and Archaeological District**

[submitted by Matt Kierstead]

The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (PAL Inc.), of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, is preparing a National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Richmond Furnace Historic and Archaeological District, Richmond, MA. The village of Richmond Furnace, located south of Pittsfield, is an unusually intact 19th- and early 20th-century ironmaking community. Production of pig iron began in Richmond in 1829, when a charcoal-fired, stone stack blast furnace was built to smelt abundant local hematite iron ore with limestone flux. The furnace was one of dozens that operated over 150 years in the Salisbury Iron District, encompassing northwestern Connecticut, southwestern Massachusetts, and part of adjacent New York State. Richmond was an important source of Union iron during the Civil War, and its high-quality pig iron was favored by railroad car wheel manufacturers for its durability. The furnace operated until 1923, incorporating the latest technological advances to maximize the efficiency of the old stone stack, one of a handful that now survive in the region. The proposed historic district includes archaeological remains of open-pit and shaft iron ore mines, charcoal kilns, limestone quarries, worker houses, the waterpower complex, and the furnace site itself, which contains evidence of advances in furnace construction and ironmaking practice. Many of the original Richmond Iron Works Company buildings, including the office, school, ironmaster's house, and two phases of Greek Revival workers' housing are still standing and inhabited. Since 1992, the furnace site and village have been the object of several annual Society for Industrial Archaeology-New England Chapters field recording sessions. PAL Inc. is preparing the National Register nomination for the Richmond Historical Commission through a grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC). National Register listing for this unusual New England industrial archaeological resource is anticipated in the summer of 1998.

### **Boston Citywide Comprehensive Industrial Survey**

Phase I of the Boston Citywide Comprehensive Industrial Survey was recently completed by PAL, Inc. (see March 1997 CNEHA Newsletter), and the report will be on file at the MHC and the Boston Landmarks Commission (BLC) later this fall. Matthew

Kierstead, Industrial Historian at PAL, reports that 226 extant buildings or structures were documented in 12 industrial districts using MHC Area forms. Three additional complexes within the city of Boston were also surveyed. The properties are located throughout Charlestown, East Boston, South Boston, the Reserved Channel Area, Boston Proper, Roxbury, Hyde Park, and the Neponset River Corridor Area. The buildings, dating from the 1870s to the 1960s, represent a variety of structural systems (timber, masonry, reinforced concrete, etc.) and architectural styles (from vernacular to Romanesque, Art Deco, and early modern). The properties also run the gamut from abandoned buildings to those still performing their original function. As reported in the March CNEHA Newsletter, many of the survey areas are closely associated with Boston's role as a seaport and include facilities for the trans-shipment and processing of raw bulk materials, food production, storage, and rail-ship intermodal transportation.

The project scope also included a survey to determine the archaeological potential of two locations. The first locale, the "Boston East" site on Border Street in East Boston, was the site of a mid-19th-century clipper ship yard, Samuel Hall's 1847 East Boston Drydock Company, and possibly a portion of a second shipyard, that of Donald McKay (1863). The survey found little potential for intact subsurface features, due to the continuous use of the waterfront in this area and to changes made by such firms as Bethlehem Steel, which built massive marine drydocks that extended out into the harbor. Core drilling might provide information on the state of the original shoreline, but Kierstead thinks it likely that the shoreline is no longer intact. The second locale, the Neponset River Area, is a section of the Lower Neponset River between Mattapan Square and the Central Street Bridge. Researchers identified a number of late 18th- and 19th-century mills along this stretch of the river that were primarily associated with the manufacture of paper and related support industries (paper mills for manufacturing card stock and custom paper for printing and packaging, gum manufacture, etc.). The survey along the Boston bank of the river shows that most of these industrial structures or complexes have been lost to erosion, subsequent development, or re-use.

The results of the survey will be used as a planning document for the City of Boston. PAL will present the results of the survey to the public on behalf of the BLC early next year. Interested parties should look for announcements of the presentation later this year.

### **City Archaeology Program, Boston**

[submitted by Ellen Berkland]

Volunteers for the City Archaeology Program began a grave-stone collection and documentation program for sixteen historical Boston cemeteries in June. Every Thursday, volunteers tagged, documented, collected, and removed vandalized, overturned, and loose stones from one of the sixteen cemeteries. The stones were then transported to the City Archaeology Laboratory, Education, and Curation Center in the North End for temporary storage. This program will continue through the fall.

Private funding was awarded to the City Archaeology Program for the development of an educational program for Boston school children focusing on the archaeology of the Harbor Islands. Alexka Chan, a graduate student intern from Boston University, assisted in the development of an educational program and workbook for 6- to 14-year-old students. Students were introduced to

archaeology during a one-day orientation at the lab, where they were able to study a type collection, wash artifacts, and participate in a simulated dig. Activities for day two included a tour of Gallop's Island, managed by the Department of Environmental Management, and participation in a non-intrusive archaeology program. The program will continue to operate through this grant next summer as well.

Leonid Kondrashev, Deputy General Director of The Centre for Archaeological Research, arrived from Moscow to work with the City Archaeology Program, the Historic Burying Grounds Initiative, and develop an archaeological management plan for the historical cemeteries of Boston. He will be here until October 28, 1997.

The City Archaeology Program will celebrate Massachusetts Archaeology Week by hosting an open house at the lab, 152 North Street, North End, Boston, on Saturday October 4, from 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

### Central Artery Project, Boston

Dr. Robert Hasenstab, project archaeologist for the Central Artery, notes that final reports of Phase III investigations conducted by Timelines, Inc., for the Mill Pond Site (MAS# BOS-HA-14) and Paddy's Alley/Cross Street Backlot (MAS# BOS-HA-12/13) have been reviewed by the MHC and are under final revision at this time. The reports should be available for distribution by the end of the year. Survey continues along the northern terminus of the Central Artery Project. A Phase I survey for a water line from Long Island to Spectacle Island is in the planning stages.

Documentation of the seawalls along the Fort Point Channel in Boston Harbor is complete, and a final report has been submitted to HAER by Jane Carolan, an architectural historian. Carolan's report, which is on file at the MHC, describes her use of city and permit maps to pinpoint the locations of numerous seawalls built between 1837 and the 1960s. On-site inspection showed that construction methods changed very little over the years. The seawalls were constructed of granite, which was readily available after the 1840s. Granite blocks were dry-laid on top of timber piles driven into the bottom of the harbor. The source of the granite has not been identified. Carolan notes that the most intact seawalls are located near South Station. This section, between Summer Street and Broadway, was constructed in a single building episode, ca. 1896-1899, and was not modified after completion of the South Station tunnel. By contrast, the seawalls built on the South Boston side of the channel were in greater disrepair, having been built incrementally beginning in 1837 and modified over time as shipping needs changed.

Timelines, Inc., just completed emergency data recovery at the Crown Glass Works site in Boston. The site was identified last year during a reconnaissance survey and was assessed as having archaeological potential, but the investigation was not pursued as the soils were heavily contaminated with lead, arsenic, and mercury. Contractors removing the contaminated fill this year discovered two subsurface features, leading to the salvage operation. Among the features recorded at the manufacturing site, which was established in ca. 1811-1812 and continued to operate throughout the 19th century, are the foundation of a factory building dating from the glass works' early period of operation, ca. 1812-1828; the floor of a glass production furnace that probably post-dates 1828; and a privy filled with glass waste from the factory operation.

Remains of the factory building from the early years of the glass

works (1812-1828) include a back wall and the stone foundation of what may be a firebox or smoke stack that was cut by the installation of railroad tracks in the late 19th century. The original dirt floor of this building was exposed in a 1 m x 50 cm test pit. The fill above the floor contained glass tableware, including tumblers and stemware. The floor of a glass production furnace, believed to date to a later (post-1828) operation, was constructed of granite blocks, several courses of brick, and fire brick. The floor was covered with melted glass. The wood-lined privy, 6 ft. in diameter, contained garbage, glass slag, and factory waste in its fill. The glass recovered from the privy appears in a variety of colors (clear, milk glass, cobalt and light blue, opaque blue, amethyst, and 'vaseline' or yellowish-green) and represents a variety of manufacturing methods (blown, mold-blown, pressed, and cut) and forms (pressed glass tableware such as goblets and fluted tumblers; perfume bottles; cruet bottles; faceted glass pendants or drops for chandeliers or lamps). Other items, associated with the factory's workers, were recovered from the privy, including the remains of a wooden bucket, 3 wooden clothes pins, a wooden spool, cloth and leather artifacts, a shoe, and a few dietary remains, such as a peach pit. Only a few ceramic sherds (yellowware, whiteware) were found in the fill. One quarter of the privy was excavated, and water screening was used to remove artifacts from the contaminated fill.

The investigation was under the direction of Elena Decima, project manager for Timelines, and co-principal investigators Martin Dudek and Leith Smith. Monitoring of the site ends in late September. A final report is expected at the end of December.

Northeast Cultural Resources Center,  
National Park Service  
[submitted by Steven Pendery]

The Archeology Branch, Northeast Cultural Resources Center (NECRC), National Park Service, has conducted survey and project mitigation work at four National Historic Parks during the 1997 field season. The survey of a 5-mile-long trail at Minute Man National Historical Park in Concord, Lincoln, and Lexington was recently completed with the discovery and documentation of two prehistoric sites, a colonial farm, and a late 18th-century school house. The cellars of a likely late 17th-century farm house owned by the Meriam family were investigated. This structure was probably used as a shelter by American militia companies on the morning of April 19th, 1775, as they fired at British regulars retreating from the center of Concord. The East Quarter School House (1798-1854), where Theodore Parker once taught, was poorly preserved. The fieldwork was conducted by Steve Pendery, Leslie Mead, William Griswold, Freddie Dimmick, Nancy Pendleton, and Milena Benes.

The Longfellow National Historic Site in Cambridge is undergoing rehabilitation to improve storage conditions for collections. The NECRC conducted survey work and intensive testing of a manure cellar associated with a carriage barn constructed by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in 1842. Additional testing in the driveway and garden is anticipated next year.

The Adams National Historic Site in Quincy is also rehabilitating a carriage house for visitor services. Archaeological work conducted in context with this work has revealed the foundation for a 19th-century potting shed.

The Boston African-American National Historic Site on Beacon Hill in Boston consists of the African Meeting House (1806) and

the Abiel Smith School (1834). Both properties are being rehabilitated to improve visitor access and facilities. Intermittent archaeological work has taken place at the park over a 20-year period. Recent fieldwork has focused on the Abiel Smith School courtyard, which contains a 3 x 4 meter privy. The NECRC team has been assisted by Whitney Battle, Akinwumi Ogundiran, and Alicia Paresi, and faunal analysis is being undertaken by Joanne Bowen. Archeoentomological analysis is being undertaken by Allison Bain.

#### Trustees of the Reservation

Margo Muhl Davis, an intern with the Trustees of the Reservation and a Ph.D. student at Boston University, completed a report last November entitled "Archaeological Potential of the Crane Reservations, Ipswich, Massachusetts." The report assesses primary and secondary documentary sources as well as archaeological data from the collections of the MHC in order to identify and evaluate the archaeological resources of the Crane Reservations, some 1400 acres of ocean front, uplands/farmlands, woodlands, and saltmarsh in Ipswich and Essex that are owned and maintained by the Trustees, a private conservation organization founded in 1891. Documentary research and walkover surveys were used to evaluate the significance and sensitivity of archaeological resources on the reservations and to provide the Trustees with a management plan and interpretive proposals. The reservations hold considerable potential for prehistoric remains; Ipswich in general has a high density of prehistoric sites. The reservations also include several extant historic-period structures, including the Choate House, built in 1725; an 18th-century house that was remodeled in the 1800s; a late 19th- to early 20th-century house; and the Crane mansion on Castle Hill. The "Great House" is a 59-room mansion that was built in 1927 by the Chicago plumbing magnate, Richard T. Crane. Other historic-period structures, no longer standing, have been identified in the documentary record, among them several 17th- and early 18th-century houses on Hog Island (including one first-period structure); 19th-century hunting camps; 17th-, 18th-, and 19th-century farms (including one first-period farm); and a lighthouse. There are also several shipwrecks on the beach or just off shore. There has been no archaeological testing to verify the presence of subsurface deposits, but despite bulldozer activity in some areas, Davis feels the potential for historical archaeological remains is high, particularly on Hog Island. Her report is on file with the Trustees of the Reservation.

### New York State

Reported by: Lois Feister

#### Revolutionary War Gunboat Found in Lake Champlain

Divers from the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum have discovered the wreck of a Revolutionary War gunboat resting intact and upright on the bottom of the lake. One of a 15-vessel squadron led by Benedict Arnold that fought the British at Valcour Island in 1776, the gunboat was scuttled by Arnold after the battle and has been sought by divers for years.

Art Cohn, director of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, led the team which found the vessel during the course of a

lakewide sonar survey. The Maritime Museum will be working with the U.S. Navy and the states of New York and Vermont to develop a management plan for this very important wreck site.

#### Archaeological Work Continues at Rogers Island

The new owner of Rogers Island, located at Port Edward in the Hudson-Champlain Corridor of upstate New York, plans to develop the island into a commercial resort, complete with theater and marina, to capitalize on the site's rich history. David Starbuck and a team from Adirondack Community College returned to the site in the summer of 1997 to conduct further archaeological research after a few years' absence. Using ground-penetrating radar as well as in-ground excavations, the group continued to uncover the remains of the barracks and other structures in areas covered by river dredgings piled on the island years ago.

#### Fort William Henry

For the first time since the 1950s, a sizeable research excavation was conducted at Fort William Henry in the summer of 1997. Located at the south end of Lake George in northern New York State, this fort is best-known as the scene of much of the action in the novel *The Last of the Mohicans*. It was garrisoned by about two thousand British soldiers, accompanied by civilians, and it spanned only two years (1755-1757) before it was destroyed by a force of French and Indians from Canada. In the 1950s, it was the site of a large avocational dig, and then a replica fort was reconstructed on top of the ruins of the original. In the summer of 1997, a six-week excavation was conducted in and around the reconstructed fort, sponsored by Adirondack Community College and directed by David Starbuck. The project excavated several locations inside and outside the walls of the reconstruction, including the 30-foot-deep well, originally constructed in 1756 by Rogers Rangers. Given the very public setting of the dig, it was possible to present archaeology and French & Indian War history to a very diverse audience of tens of thousands of visitors, a predominance of whom were from Canada, New York City and Long Island.

#### Research in the Greenhouse Area of Mills Mansion State Historic Site

Following up last year's successful project to locate greenhouses that once stood behind the home of Ogden and Ruth Mills near Staatsburg, New York, Chris Lindner of Bard College and his crew now also have located pathways, a roadway, and a stairway that once connected the buildings. By excavating narrow trenches and doing extensive probing, traffic patterns associated with the complex have become more clear. Elements of the irrigation and drainage systems were also found. The focus of this archaeological reconnaissance has been the discovery and understanding of modifications to the landscape through time. Tours of the garden area along restored pathways are planned by the group's sponsors, the Friends of Mills Mansion. The tours will be augmented by interpretive materials which will explain the once-busy complex to visitors. Mills Mansion is one of the New York State Historic Sites administered by the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

## Archaeological Work at the Chapel at Women's Rights National Historic Site

Dana Linck, archaeologist with the National Park Service, has uncovered remains of a small brick cistern and an adjacent house foundation near the chapel located in Seneca Falls, New York. The lower portion of the small cistern (4.5 feet interior diameter) was uncovered and found to be separated from a corner of a stone house foundation by only one foot of earth. After the cistern had been in use for water storage, it was radically altered for "dry storage" by excavating a 3-foot-wide tunnel to connect the two features, breaking out cistern brick and building foundation stone and crudely lining the tunnel with mortared stone rubble and planks. Historical research, mortar analysis, and a few artifacts suggest the building was constructed during the first half of the 19th century with modifications to the cistern and foundation following some years later, again probably before ca. 1850.

Linck asks if anyone has found a similar example of cistern modification to please contact him at NPS-DSC, Resource Preservation Group, Applied Archeology Center, 12200-A Plum Orchard Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20904.

## Archaeological Projects at New York State Historic Sites, 1997

Archaeological work was conducted at Lorenzo, Philipse Manor Hall, Olana, and Sackets Harbor State Historic Sites as well as at Peebles Island State Park and at the Copake Falls iron furnace in Taconic State Park by New York State Bureau of Historic Sites staff during the 1997 field season. Projects were led by either Chuck Florance or Lois Feister with the assistance of Joe McEvoy and students hired for the summer.

During April, the crew excavated tests around the iron furnace in Taconic State Park at Copake Falls where a new interpretive program is planned. Areas of minimal archaeological sensitivity for the installation of post supports for a shelter to be built over the furnace remains were identified, samples were taken of soil layers over the casting floor, the stone footing built to support the massive furnace itself was studied, and evidence of a cooling system for the furnace was discovered.

At Philipse Manor Hall, located in Yonkers, New York, excavations along the north wall of the 17th-century section of the house established that the original builders had encountered a large boulder in the ground and simply had built the wall of the house over its top. Now the original mortar seal between the boulder and the wall has failed, causing water to leak into the basement and requiring repairs. A corner of the foundation of a 19th-century wing once attached to the north wall also was uncovered, and the interior floor level of that structure was established.

An extensive survey was completed behind the 1818 stone Union Hotel building in Sackets Harbor in preparation for the addition of a new wing on the back of the building. The work revealed the dry-laid masonry prism of a former privy which, together with other excavations, produced a very large artifact collection. Another extensive survey was conducted at Peebles Island State Park, headquarters of the Bureau of Historic Sites, where a large pavilion is to be constructed near the cellar hole of a house built ca. 1790. Another large artifact sample was obtained, and the remnant of a Revolutionary War earthworks just outside the project area was identified.

Additional survey work with largely negative results was con-

ducted at Lorenzo, Olana, and Senate House State Historic Sites for water lines, drainage, and new signs.

## New York City

Reported by: Diane Dallal

### Rufus King Park, Queens

[Submitted by Linda Stone]

Archaeological testing in conjunction with improvements at Rufus King Park in Jamaica, Queens, was completed by Linda Stone in August, and the findings are being analyzed. The home of Rufus King, a framer of the Constitution, is still standing and is used as a museum dedicated to his life and times. He purchased the property, including sections of the house, in 1805 and lived there until his death in 1827. His descendants remained in residence until the end of the nineteenth century when they sold the property to the Village of Jamaica. Before moving his family into the home, King added to it, thus altering the building configuration. Around 1810 he built a summer kitchen at the rear of the building.

Archaeological testing focused on the interior and exterior of the summer kitchen. Inside the summer kitchen, testing included three units under the floorboards. The flooring, although known to be new, was previously believed to be a replacement in kind of the original. Archaeological testing revealed features, including a hearth stone and cobble surface inside the summer kitchen and a brick and cobble feature complex behind the structure. Initial interpretations of the findings suggest the summer kitchen structure is not the original and that the original King summer kitchen was at least partially destroyed by fire after 1842 and subsequently rebuilt. The original summer kitchen probably had a dirt floor with a raised hearth stone, found about four inches below the current flooring, although the original floor or ground surface was not reached within the planned depth of impact. Additional archaeological excavations are planned prior to reconstruction inside the summer kitchen.

The feature complex to the rear of the summer kitchen was exposed in one excavation unit and is currently an enigma. It includes a part of a two-course thick brick wall, the top of which is about one and a half feet below the ground surface. On the other side of the brick wall was a series of cobbles at roughly the same depth as the brick surface. These cobbles may have been a surface or a support structure for the wall. It is possible the feature complex relates to the summer kitchen hearth or to garden pathways and features. Analysis of all findings is currently underway. The recommendation for the feature complex is preservation through avoidance and redesign. Additional archaeological investigations are planned for the interior of the summer kitchen this fall. All results will be combined into one report. The artifact collection will then go to the King Manor Museum. A slide presentation of ongoing work will be presented at the Metropolitan Chapter/NYSAA meeting on October 21st.

## New Jersey

Reported by: Lynn Rakos

**Parker Farm, Borough of Little Silver,  
Monmouth County**  
[submitted by Richard Veit]

For six Saturdays in July and August students and volunteers in Monmouth University's Archaeological Field Methods class, directed by Richard Veit, explored the Parker Farm in Little Silver, New Jersey. The house purportedly dates to 1667, making it the oldest house in Little Silver, and one of the oldest standing structures in Monmouth County. In fact, Little Silver derives its name from the Parkers' ancestral estate, Silverton, in Devonshire, England. The Parker Farm stands on a 240-acre property purchased by Joseph Parker, a Quaker from Portsmouth, Rhode Island. Peter Parker, Joseph's brother, acquired an adjacent tract of 180 acres. For the next three hundred and twenty-eight years the Parker family would work the land. Over this time several additions were made to the imposing vernacular farmhouse. Local folklore records that British troops retreating down Rumson Road after the Battle of Monmouth hid in the house. It remained a working farm well into the 20th century. In 1995, Julia Parker left the farm to the Borough which hopes to develop it into a museum. The Cultural Resource Consulting Group of Highland Park, NJ, and Mark Fitzsimmons, Architect, are providing the Borough with the technical support necessary to achieve this goal.

The Monmouth University excavations focused on two topics: 1) identifying archaeological deposits around the house, and 2) determining the age of the structure. Both of these topics are important to the eventual reuse of the building as a museum. A program of shovel testing revealed the location of a former out-building and identified substantial deposits of mid-19th-century domestic waste. Judgementally placed excavation units were used to further

investigate the artifact deposits. Immediately to the rear (north) of the house several features were identified. These include a builder's trench, and a later trench excavated during a foundation repair episode. Although no temporally diagnostic artifacts were recovered from the builder's trench, an 1899 dime provided a terminus post quem for the repair. To the northeast of the house a path made of crushed clam and oyster shell was discovered. Artifacts found in association with the path allow it to be dated to the 1860s or 1870s. Considering the limited amount of excavation carried out, a surprising number of 19th-century children's toys were recovered.

Although no artifacts which clearly date to the 17th century were found, a variety of 18th-century material, including ceramics and furniture hardware, was found in deposits near the house. Future excavations are planned to more intensively investigate the site.

## Delaware

Reported by: Lu Ann De Cunzio

### **Eighteenth-Century Delaware**

Louis Berger & Associates has excavated three eighteenth-century farm sites in Delaware and is preparing to excavate a fourth this fall. A report is in preparation for the McKean/Cochran farm

site near Odessa, excavated in 1996; a symposium on this site will be held at this year's CNEHA conference. This site was occupied by well-to-do families from 1750 to 1830 and included three house cellars, two wells, and an unusual dairy, constructed like a spring house on a site with no spring. Excavations took place this summer at the Augustine Creek North and South Sites, on opposite banks of a small stream near Boyd's Corner, Delaware. The Augustine Creek South Site was occupied between 1730 and 1760 by the family of Samuel Mahoe, a Scotch-Irish immigrant who was a small farmer and weaver. Excavations identified his house and what appears to be a separate cloth-manufacturing area. The Augustine Creek North Site was occupied between about 1770 and 1800 by unknown tenants; because the site was located on sloping ground adjacent to a swamp, it is thought that the tenants were quite poor. Excavations will probably take place this fall at the Thomas Dawson Site near Dover. This site was occupied from about 1735 to 1756 by the family of Thomas Dawson, who was quite poor for a property owner, and then by unknown tenants. A surveyor's map from 1745 shows a house, a barn, and a malt house on Dawson's property, so he may have had a commercial mulling or brewing operation. The results of all these excavations will appear in the volumes of the Delaware Department of Transportation archaeology series.

### **African-Americans in Delaware, 1880 to 1930**

Louis Berger & Associates carried out test excavations this spring at the house of Arthur John Henry, a black farmer. Henry's house, at Pine Tree Corners in southern New Castle County, was originally considered for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as a "typical" example of a type of house, known as "House and Garden," common among tenants and poor free blacks in Delaware. Historic research showed, however, that despite being unable to sign his name Henry had worked himself up from landless laborer to the owner of more than 50 acres of farmland, on which he grew fruit and vegetables; his remarkable success shows the danger of considering any person's life and home "typical." Unfortunately, archaeological testing showed that his house had been moved after his death in 1929, so no artifacts or features dating to before 1930 were found.

## Maryland

Reported by: Silas D. Hurry

### **St. Mary's City**

The summer of 1997 has proven one of intense activity in the archaeological exploration of St. Mary's City. The annual archaeological field school, in conjunction with St. Mary's College of Maryland, excavated on a site along 17th-century Middle Street which was discovered by the British scientists from TIME TEAM in 1996. Students found many colonial artifacts and archaeological features such as postholes, fence ditches and a strange circular pit which might be a buried barrel.

In addition to the Field School, HSMC is conducting a large archaeological project to recreate portions of the colonial landscape and screen modern buildings with trees. These excavations discovered a 17th-century post-supported structure which burned with each post location indicated by charcoal. Preliminary study shows that it was about 16 by 32 feet in size. The building stood

along the Mill Road, one of the major streets in the city. At this time, the identity of the structure is a mystery.

The Museum is also conducting an archaeological project for St. Mary's College of Maryland. These investigations are occurring in advance of installing new utility conduits. The biggest surprise came from a spot near Margaret Brent Hall, one of the College buildings. After the construction crew removed the concrete sidewalk alongside the building, a small test found a deeply buried layer of oyster shell and brick. Subsequent excavation has revealed a significant deposit of artifacts dating from the time of the American Revolution. Among the objects discovered so far are large fragments of English ceramics, elaborate overglaze Chinese porcelain, wine bottles, animal bones, crab claws and fish scales. Most interesting of the artifacts is a glass bottle seal bearing the initials "IA" and the date "1767". This is the best sample of artifacts from the late 18th century ever recovered in St. Mary's City.

Equally exciting was the first major underwater archaeology study of the shoreline of St. Mary's City. Led by James Embrey and Dr. Lawrence Babbitts of East Carolina University, a team of underwater archaeology students volunteered their time to prepare highly accurate maps of the river bottom along the shore, conduct a magnetic survey of the bottom, investigate an old pier and excavate and document the remains of a small boat recently exposed by erosion on the beach. The map is crucial to help determine where the shoreline was located in the 17th century. Especially important in this is the discovery of an active spring emerging from the river bottom. This is apparently the same spring noted in the 1666 survey for a three-acre tract given to William Smith. Known as Smith's Townland, this land helped frame the Town Center of St. Mary's City. One corner of the property was noted as being "near the spring down [on] the river...". Hence, by knowing where the spring is, we have a very good indication of the location of that corner of Smith's land and the original shoreline. Study of the old pier indicates that it was in the shape of a "T" and apparently dates to the 1870s when efforts were being made to build a railroad at St. Mary's City. Excavation of the small boat shows that it was built of sawn wooden planks, assembled with nails having a square shank, and featured a very unusual stern shape. Analysis of this vessel is currently underway, but it probably dates before 1900 and may be from the Civil War period. Since small craft from before the 20th century are very poorly known, this discovery is a useful addition to our knowledge of Chesapeake maritime history. Additional work on the underwater aspects of St. Mary's City is planned by Embrey, who will use the newly collected information for his Masters thesis at East Carolina University.

## Annapolis

On July 23 Archaeology in Annapolis finished a third season digging in the backyard and basement of Slayton House, a brick townhouse dating from the 1770s, now owned by Historic Annapolis Foundation. Three years of excavation, the result of cooperation between HAF and the University of Maryland, has revealed detailed information about how black and white, free and enslaved inhabitants of the house utilized the space of the yard and the confines of the kitchen and sheds to perform all the necessary tasks of life. The excavation has also shed light on the religious practices of the African-American residents of Slayton House. Artifacts found in the basement suggest that African-Americans maintained religious practices derived from Africa alongside

Christianity adopted (sometimes forcibly) in America.

The 1997 field season was also notable in that Archaeology in Annapolis mounted the largest field school in the 16 years of the project. 25 students and 4 professional archaeologists dug more than 25 excavation units throughout the yard and house, and recovered thousands of artifacts dating from the 18th through the 20th centuries. All this activity has yielded pictures of the yard in different time periods, indicating that every inch of the yard had been used and reused for work space, storage, horse stables, and trash disposal. Little space seems to have been devoted to a pleasure or kitchen garden. The garden behind the house, present in 1995 when excavation began, was clearly a 20th century invention, suggesting the tenants at Slayton House, unlike many large landowners in the city, did not channel their wealth into a formal garden—perhaps because they did not want to improve a rental property.

## Virginia

Reported by: Barbara Heath

### Cactus Hill Site

Recently discovered, the Cactus Hill Site is one of only nine known sites in the Western Hemisphere that is pre-Clovis. The site, located along the Nottoway River in the interior coastal plain of Virginia, has two radiocarbon dates of 15,000 and 16,000 years ago. The most common stone tools found in the pre-Clovis context were sharp quartzite blade-flakes. Two small trianguloid bifaces and at least six clusters of from three to six blades were also recovered from the lowest level.

The Clovis occupation immediately above the pre-Clovis was represented by a wide array of sophisticated stone tools. The most technologically advanced were the finely flaked fluted points made from chert, quartz crystal and quartzite. In the same stratum as the Clovis points the archaeologists found broken Clovis preforms, chert retouched flakes, and unifacial scrapers.

Above the Clovis occupation the strata contained one of the best Early through Late Archaic cultural sequences identified in eastern North America. Numerous points and edged tools made from the locally available quartzite and quartz cobbles and from the nearby cherts of the fall line region provide a wealth of information on tool manufacture and use, and on projectile point typology. Blood residue studies coupled with fauna studies have provided unexpected insight into hunting strategies. Charred wood and nut shells document man's adaptation to the changing environment.

Since 1993 Joe McAvooy of the Nottoway River Survey and Mike Johnson of the Fairfax County Park Authority have been the field supervisors at the Cactus Hill Site. The investigations have been sponsored by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. For further information contact David Hazzard, Portsmouth Regional Office of the VDHR, (757) 396-6711.

### Geographic Information System

[submitted by Beth Acuff]

The Department of Historic Resources is currently in the process of implementing a Geographic Information System for the locational data on the historic and archaeological resources in the Department's files. This is a three-year project in partnership with the National Park Service. This

information is now plotted on the U.S.G.S. quad maps maintained in the Archives. Using these maps, the locations of all archaeological and architectural sites are being digitized and will be accessible electronically. Referenced to each other and to real world coordinates, these layers form a spatial geographic database. These can then be combined with other two-dimensional maps displaying a specific type of data, such as topography, land use or street networks. At the same time the descriptive data on these resources is being entered into another database which will be linked with the GIS program at a later date.

Completion of the entire project will take about 1 1/2 years and is planned in two stages. During the next eight months information that has been entered in the program will be tested and refined by users via dedicated terminals in the Department's Archives. The second phase will occur at the time of the Department's relocation to the new facility. All geographic data entered at that point will be put on-line for access by customers and clients in other locations. Descriptive data will be available on-line by the end of 1998. Information will be updated continually, and the users will be kept advised of what is available as new data are added during the course of the project. For more information contact Beth Acuff at DHR.

#### **Integrated Preservation Software (IPS): Archaeological Site File Computerization Project** [submitted by Amber Moncure]

On January 13, 1997, the William and Mary Center for Archaeological Research began converting all of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources' archaeological site files into the IPS computer database. Nine archaeological technicians and two supervisors were hired to do the data entry and interpretation necessary for the conversion process. Over 30,000 site forms were entered, and the project was completed in mid-June. The archaeological database allows researchers to obtain information more efficiently by using the program to search for relevant files. It will also make frequent trips to Richmond unnecessary, as site files will be available in workstations at all VDHR regional offices. By the summer of 1999, the files should be available over the Internet.

#### **COVA/ASV Receive Grant to Prepare "Atlas of Virginia Archaeology"** [submitted by Dennis Pogue]

A joint proposal by the Council of Virginia Archaeologists and the Archeological Society of Virginia has been selected by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy to be funded as part of its effort to promote the observance of the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. The award will be used to compile an "Atlas of Virginia Archaeology." This document will provide information pertaining to archaeological sites, parks, research facilities, museums and other organizations that are open to public visitation. It is envisioned as enhancing appreciation for Virginia's archaeological heritage, providing complementary opportunities for exploring Virginia's rich history, and supporting efforts to encourage heritage tourism throughout the Commonwealth. During the one-year grant period, information will be gathered from throughout the state, compiled and organized, and prepared for distribution in both printed and electronic formats.

#### **Mount Vernon**

The Mount Vernon archaeology department conducted two excavations during the last few months. The work was directed by Esther White and Christy Leeson with assistance from Michelle McClenry, Thane Harpole, Lisa Plumley and Ginger Williams.

#### **George Washington's Gristmill**

The Mount Vernon restoration department under the direction of Dennis Pogue is engaged in a three-year project to restore the reconstructed gristmill to operating condition, as well as study the other components of the gristmill complex. Two years ago the Commonwealth of Virginia approached Mount Vernon with the proposition that the Association take over the operation of the site, a state park since the 1930s.

The two sides have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding that stipulates Mount Vernon will restore the mill to working order. At the end of the three-year restoration phase the State will lease the property to Mount Vernon with possible transfer of ownership at the end of the lease period.

George Washington constructed a mill in 1770-71 on Dogue Run, a creek located three miles from the Mansion. The gristmill complex included a one-story dwelling house to accommodate the miller, a cooperage where barrels to contain grain, fish and (later) whiskey were made, a mill house and slave quarters. In 1797 a one-story, 75 by 30 foot, stone distillery was constructed. After Washington's death in 1799 the mill continued to operate, falling into disrepair by 1860.

The Commonwealth acquired the property in 1932 and reconstructed the mill on the original site. Archaeological excavations conducted at the time uncovered the foundations of the mill, the miller's cottage, the distillery and fragments of the wooden millworks, in particular a section of the mill wheel. The reconstructed mill used stone from the Aquia Creek quarry, similar to the original, and millworks from an early 19th-century Front Royal mill.

The current archaeological survey was conducted to locate and define intact deposits, to safeguard them during the restoration and to assess the future research potential of the site. A series of shovel test pits and small test units were placed across the 6.65 acre property.

Thousands of artifacts dating from 6500 B.C. to the present were recovered. Several units located in the presumed vicinity of the distillery revealed a section of the foundation. Measuring 2 1/2' wide, the structure was constructed from massive river cobbles. A section of brick drain or flue, probably associated with one of the five stills operating in the building, was also discovered.

Other units uncovered a five-foot-wide cobblestone-filled basin. Running downslope from the mill race toward the distillery, it may have channeled water for the distilling process. Evidence for another building consisted of a structural posthole and a section of ditch with a wooden sill. A surface midden filled with domestic refuse from the last quarter of the 18th century to the mid-19th century was revealed adjacent to the site of the miller's cottage. A late Woodland campsite was also discovered.

If the plans for Mount Vernon to gain control of the property proceed as planned, a longterm, systematic excavation of the distillery is anticipated.

### Mansion Drain Excavation

Work continues around the perimeter of the Mansion in advance of a new drainage system. The most recent excavations, on the east or river side of the house, have uncovered information about the evolution of the piazza and domestic artifacts from the late 18th century.

Buried 18th-century topsoil layers are below approximately 1-1/2 feet of fill. This fill, comprising both layers of sterile clay and layers of building debris, was used to build up the ground surface in the 1780s after construction of the piazza.

Postholes for fences connecting the Mansion to outbuildings on both the land and river side were discovered. Four outbuildings flanked the Mansion at 45 degree angles, and the connecting fences were replaced by walls in 1760. Foundations for the walls were found also.

Among the thousands of artifacts recovered are a 1726 Spanish coin and pieces of "States China," a service with the names of the states around the border, presented to Martha Washington in 1796.

### Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest

The Department of Archaeology is undertaking research to better understand the physical and social landscape of the plantation that Thomas Jefferson inherited in 1773 and transformed into his "occasional retreat" during the first two decades of the nineteenth century. Recent excavations have contributed to this goal.

### The North Hill

During the summer of 1997, excavations continued at the site of an eighteenth-century slave quarter, known as "the North Hill." Located approximately 800' northeast of the 1806 mansion house, the North Hill site is part of a larger concentration of buildings that formed the original (pre-Jeffersonian) core of the property.

Archaeologists discovered the site in 1995 and began large scale excavations in 1996. At the end of that year, numerous domestic artifacts dating to the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries had been recovered from the plowzone. A combination of plowing, erosion and deflation had resulted in a shallow, poorly preserved site. However, at the end of the 1996 season, one large feature was discovered, and in the spring of 1997 it was excavated. A 5' x 5' root cellar, the feature contained a layer of burned architectural material and carbonized botanical remains sealing a thin deposit of soil with domestic refuse. A date of ca. 1770-1780 has been assigned to the fill of the pit, reflecting the presence of creamware with a Queen's shape rim, but the absence of pearlware or later ceramics.

Two smaller pits adjacent to the larger root cellar appear to be contemporaneous and contained green bottle glass, English clay pipes, delft, wrought nails and daub. No clear evidence of wall lines or chimney placement has yet been uncovered to indicate the size or orientation of the structure(s) associated with these features.

Along the edge and slope of the hill, south and west of the pits, an area of intact stratigraphy was also discovered. It contains numerous features, including two pairs of perpendicular, narrow trenches sealed by an occupation layer. Domestic artifacts recovered from this area of the site include fragments of colonoware vessels and a colonoware pipe stem, as well as more common English, German and Dutch tablewares, pipestems and bottle

glass.

During 1997, excavations have been undertaken by students participating in the Poplar Forest-University of Virginia Archaeological Field School, participants in the week-long program "Digging, Learning, Teaching: Archaeology for Teachers at Poplar Forest," and returning field school alumni. Research staff includes Barbara Heath (Director of Archaeology), Michael Strutt (Field Supervisor), Heather Olson (Laboratory Supervisor), and Justine Christianson, Jodi Perin and Rob Thomson (externs).

### Jamerson Survey

A 200-acre tract of land, formerly part of Jefferson's Poplar Forest, is slated for industrial and residential development. Early nineteenth-century maps indicate that a tobacco packing, or "prize" barn, a tobacco house, and a stone quarry were located on this property. Survey has begun in an attempt to pinpoint the location of these and other undocumented sites. If located, salvage of the tobacco barn and other Jefferson-era sites is planned for the winter of 1997. Attempts are currently underway to purchase the prize barn site for future use in interpreting Jefferson's agricultural enterprise. Assisted by volunteers and field school students, Jamie Bauguess, Justine Christianson, Greg Mullins, Jack Payden-Travers, Jodi Perin, Jonny Poore and Rob Thomson have worked on the survey.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

### New Book Published about 18th Century Mohawk Woman Molly Brant

CNEHA member Lois M. Feister-Huey has co-authored a biography of Molly Brant, the Mohawk woman who once lived at Johnson Hall State Historic Site, a property Feister has studied extensively through archaeological and documentary research. Bonnie Pulis, Interpretive Programs Assistant at Johnson Hall, is the other author. Based carefully on primary sources, the book covers Brant's life in colonial New York and her subsequent settlement in Kingston, Ontario, after the American Revolution. Examples of artifacts excavated at Johnson Hall are illustrated. Published on acid-free paper and extensively illustrated, the 7-by-10-inch book is available from Johnson Hall, Hall Avenue, Johnstown, N.Y. 12095 by mail for \$15.10, and from Old Fort Niagara, Box 169, Youngstown, N.Y. 14174, as well as in various book stores.

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