

# CEA CONFERENCE ON NEW ENGLAND ARCHAEOLOGY NEWSLETTER

CONFERENCE ON NEW ENGLAND ARCHAEOLOGY  
Faith Harrington  
New Hampshire Historical Society  
30 Park Street  
Concord, NH 03301

D. Dineen  
Dept. of Anthropology UNH  
Rivers  
MA 01003

CNEA STEERING COMMITTEE

TERM EXPIRES 1987:

FAITH HARRINGTON (Committee member for NH, VT)  
State Cooperative Regional Archaeology Plan  
New Hampshire Historical Society  
30 Park Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
603-224-5405

MITCHELL MULHOLLAND (Committee member for CT, western MA)  
UMASS Archaeological Services  
Blaisdell House  
University of Massachusetts  
Amherst, MA 01003  
413-545-1552, 548-9161

TERM EXPIRES 1986:

BARBARA LUEDTKE (Committee member for eastern MA)  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Massachusetts, Boston  
Boston, MA 02125  
617-929-8150

DAVID YESNER (Committee member for ME)  
Dept. of Anthropology  
University of Southern Maine  
Gorham, ME 04038  
207-780-5320

VIRGINIA FITCH (Committee member for RI)  
Rhode Island Historic Preservation Commission  
150 Benefit Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
401-277-2678

DEBORAH COX (Committee member for southeastern MA, RI)  
The Public Archaeology Laboratory  
217 Angell St.  
Providence, RI 02906  
401-861-2888

# CNEA

## Conference on New England Archaeology

# NEWSLETTER

## CONTENTS

Current Research.....	1
Recent Reports.....	21

Vol. 5 No. 1 September 1985

## REPORT OF THE 1985 ANNUAL MEETING

Barbara E. Luedtke

The Conference on New England Archaeology held its fifth annual meeting at Old Sturbridge Village in Sturbridge, MA on Saturday, March 23, 1985. The topic of this year's meeting was, "What Cheare Ne'top: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Contact Period."

CNEA continues to experiment with its annual meeting format, and this year the schedule included formal presentations in the morning and round table discussions in the afternoon. The morning presentations were given by MARK KELLY (RI Historical Preservation Commission) who spoke on "Diet and Disease in New England During the Contact Period"; KATIE BRAGDON (Colonial Williamsburg) on "Emphatical Speech and Great Action: Southern New England Speech Events Described in Seventeenth Century Sources"; JOHN ALLEN (UConn) on "The Illey Smelling Sea: Indian Information and the Early Search for the Northwest Passage"; NEIL SALISBURY (Smith) on "Social Relations on a Moving Frontier: Natives and Settlers in Southern New England, 1638-1675"; BRUCE BOURQUE and HAROLD PRINS (Maine State Museum) on "Norridgewock on the Kennebec: Translocation of an Indian Village on the Colonial Frontier Between New England and Acadia"; and PAUL ROBINSON (RI Historical Preservation Commission) and PAT RUBERTONE (Brown U) on "The Sacred and the Profane: Processes of Adaptation in the Seventeenth Century". As in previous years, it is planned that the papers will be published as a group in a forthcoming issue of Man in the Northeast.

The afternoon round table discussions focused on Contact Period Social Patterns, Disease, Archival Resources, and Material Culture. The sessions were led by ART KEENE and ROBERT PAYNTER (UMass Amherst), ART SPIESS (Maine Historic Preservation Commission), BETTY LITTLE (Massachusetts Archaeological Society),

and JIM BRADLEY (Massachusetts Historical Commission), respectively. Participants agreed that this year's format encouraged more participation and discussion, but further experiments are anticipated for next year's meeting. The Steering Committee welcomes all suggestions and comments as to what aspects of past formats have or have not been successful.

At the annual business meeting, the membership voted to amend the bylaws to read, "The Annual Meeting shall be held in March of each year." Previously, the bylaws had specified that the annual meeting be held in February. However, New England weather is notoriously bad in February, and it was felt that more people would be able to attend the meetings if they were held later in the year.

Steering Committee Member VICKY KENYON reported that the CNEA remains a healthy, thriving organization. Membership now stands at 150 and our treasury shows a surplus. Finally, four new members were elected to the Steering Committee. MITCH MULHOLLAND (UMass Amherst; Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) and FAITH HARRINGTON (NH Historical Society) were elected to two year terms, while VIRGINIA FITCH (RI Historical Preservation Commission) and DEBORAH COX (PAL) were elected to one year terms. BARBARA LUEDTKE (UMass Boston) and DAVID YESNER (University of Southern Maine) will continue to serve on the Steering Committee through 1985/86.

# Current Research

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## Connecticut

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The PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY SURVEY TEAM, Inc. (PAST) is continuing the excavation and mitigation of 30 sites in northeastern Connecticut, that were found during a survey of the I-84/Route 6 Relocation Project area. Sites in Bolton Notch continue to be the most interesting and productive. A charcoal sample associated with Neville-like projectile points and the remains of small mammals was recently radiocarbon dated at 10,700 +/- 160 B.P. The occupation is overlain by loess, and the date appears to be correct. Excavation is proceeding to verify cultural associations and to acquire new charcoal samples for further dating.

PAST is also continuing work on the second year of the Mashantucket Pequot Ethno-Archaeology Project. The survey of the original 2,000 acre reservation established in 1667 is almost complete. Native American sites dating from the seventeenth through the twentieth centuries have been located. What appear to be "communities", predating the mid-nineteenth century, have been identified, consisting of several small house foundations, outbuildings, and a field system. We plan to work through the fall, developing a testing program for several of the sites and continuing the associated documentary research.

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GEORGE NICHOLAS (UMass-Amherst; AIAI) has completed the third year of the early postglacial phase of the Robbins Swamp Project, which is under the general direction of Russell Handsman (AIAI). To date, close to 500 prehistoric sites have been located in the study area that centers on the Glacial Lake Falls Village drainage basin, with Paleoindian and/or Early Archaic components

identified at approximately 40 of these. The focus of the 1985 fieldseason was the excavation of the Carlson site (100-032), tested in late 1984. This is apparently a single component Early Archaic site located in an upland area adjacent to the former lake basin, and associated with several springs, a wetland, and a tributary of the Blackberry River. The focus of the excavation was to examine early Holocene intra-site patterning associated with activities of habitation and lithic tool production.

Previous fieldwork had revealed a jasperoid processing station associated with a Kirk/Palmer-type point, and chert tool assemblage and debitage. Two stages of production had been identified in 1984. The raw material is derived from the silica-rich matrix of Dalton metaquartzite conglomerates found in boulder trains emanating in nearby Massachusetts. The first is a slag-like by-product, the second a fine-grained, golden brown material that is flakable. A much higher quality material, now considered the end-product, was identified in 1985, which is the result of repeated baking of the intermediate (second-stage) material. The lower production stage material is separated from the quartzite by heating and percussion, with the modified matrix repeatedly baked. The final product is an extremely homogeneous brown to maroon material that is visibly identical to jasper. It is found both as a rind on intermediate stage debitage and as trimming flakes. No diagnostic artifacts have been recovered, although several scrapers have been obtained of intermediate stage material. Additional chert scrapers, utilized flakes, biface fragments, and debitage were recovered.

Over twenty features were identified, including charcoal and fire-cracked rock concentrations and red-baked soil areas. Feature 5 was a nine meter hearth area that consisted of fire-cracked rock, substantial charcoal, all stages of jasperoid production debitage and fist to boulder-sized hammerstones; fire-reddened soil was present to 60 cm below the surface. This labor-intensive lithic production sequence raises a number of intriguing questions concerning early social complexity and lithic technology. Detailed artifact and lithological studies are now underway and radiocarbon dates are pending; detailed soil chemistry, thermoluminescence, and paleoentobotanical studies are planned. Nicholas is also continuing detailed studies on other early post-glacial sites in the study area as part of his

research on short- and long-term landuse patterns in the early postglacial period; Handsman's primary research focus remains on the middle and late Holocene records, and is an active contributor to the earlier phases as well.

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HAROLD JULI and LUCIANNE LAVIN of CONNECTICUT COLLEGE conducted an archaeological investigation in conjunction with the summer field school at the Hillhouse site in Old Lyme, Connecticut. The site, which had been evaluated earlier by John Pfeiffer is a potentially fortified Contact Period coastal occupation. The research project seeks data on aboriginal architecture that relates to site size, landuse and diversity of structural types within a presumed pallisaded enclosure, and to evaluate evidence concerning seasonality, sedentism and/or patterned reoccupation of the site.

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# Maine

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THE MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION is funding a diverse assortment of historic archaeological projects in 1985 with Federal survey grants (Department of the Interior, National Park Service). ROBERT L. BRADLEY, staff Historical Archaeologist, will co-direct a survey in the Edgecomb area with NORMAN BUTTRICK of Freeport and SHEILA McDONALD of the MAINE BUREAU OF PARKS AND RECREATION, the co-sponsoring agency. Along with testing a number of eighteenth century farmsteads, the project will briefly examine Fort Edgecomb (1808) to locate the footings of three lost outbuildings. Bradley and Buttrick, in association with the FREEPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY, will undertake a reconnaissance level survey of the northern Casco Bay Area for a number of seventeenth century homestead sites.

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ERNEST W. MARSHALL of the UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND will collect samples of ships' ballast from various parts of the Maine coast. These deposits are comprised of European flint nodules and possibly Caribbean coral, the latter almost certainly deriving from the triangular trade. Various types of laboratory analysis will attempt to determine the geographical origins of the collected samples.

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AILEEN AGNEW, co-sponsored by GREATER PORTLAND LANDMARKS, INC., will continue her survey of the Portland waterfront and other areas in the vicinity of the city for seventeenth and early eighteenth century sites.

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JAMES LEAMON of BATES COLLEGE, collaborating with the city of Augusta's FORT WESTERN MUSEUM, will undertake the second phase of the Upper Kennebec Survey, focusing on seventeenth and eighteenth century riverine sites.

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EMERSON W. BAKER, co-sponsored by the OLD YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY, will inaugurate the York County Archaeological Survey, concentrating initially on seventeenth century sites in the town of York. . . .

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ALARIC FAULKNER, of the UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT ORONO, will complete the preparation of a major site report on his excavation of French Fort Pentagoet in Castine (1635-1674). The Maine Historic Preservation Commission, with substantial additional support from the New Brunswick (Canada) Museum, plans to publish this important volume in 1986.

# Massachusetts

THE PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY LABORATORY, INC. (PAL) is completing field work on an intensive survey of historic and prehistoric resources in the Sudbury Training Annex in eastern/central Massachusetts. Data analysis will begin promptly. In Norwood, PAL has completed an intensive survey and site examination. Located within a proposed industrial park, the Oak Terrace and Red Leaf sites contain depositions representing at least three distinct occupations in prehistory. Site size and diversity is indicated by one single depositional event in the Late Archaic Period (Susquehanna) to the more complex multi-depositional workshops and pit features of the Oak Terrace site. The strategic riverine location in proximity to felsite sources combined to make an attractive site location. A data recovery program will take place in the spring.

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The office of PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY of BOSTON UNIVERSITY conducted an examination of the Uxbridge Almshouse Cemetary in Uxbridge, Massachusetts, for the MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS. The burial ground, located in the right-of-way of the Route 146 construction project, was excavated under the provision of the 1984 Massachusetts Burial Laws. In use from 1831 to 1872, the cemetary contained 32 individuals from 31 graves arranged in six rows. Coffins were typically hexagonal in shape, with simple screws, nails, and hinges, lacking ornamentation. Preliminary skeletal analysis indicates a large number of young children and elderly adults in the sample. The data obtained from documentary research, excavation, and analysis will shed light on nineteenth-century populations in the Northeast.

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S. JOHN TUMA, JR. of the UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, BOSTON is studying diachronic and regional changes in burial assemblages and mortuary practices in southeast New England. This study concentrates on the replacement of native goods with European goods and the modifications of traditional mortuary practices as native groups selected to use European goods and customs as part of an overall adaptive strategy.



BETH BOWER of the MUSEUM OF AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORY is currently researching the Colonial period of Afro-American culture in Boston, specifically the cultural origins of African and Caribbean slaves; and cross-cultural communication and intermarriage with Europeans and Native Americans. Other associated topics include: eighteenth and nineteenth century urban foodways in the Boston area and nineteenth century Afro-American material culture.

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This summer, the Department of Anthropology at the UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS at AMHERST began initial investigations at the Bark Wigwam site, a large Late Prehistoric/Early Contact Period settlement on the Connecticut River flood plain in Northampton. ART KEENE, aided by RICK GUMAER, ERIC JOHNSON, and RON JOHNSON, conducted a field school at the site with undergraduate and post-graduate students. Some of the goals of this summer's work were to evaluate the integrity and determine the boundaries of Bark Wigwam, which was brought to the Department's attention by ALLISON BELL and BOB HASENSTAB several years ago. Proton magnetometer and soil resistivity techniques were employed, continuing the efforts of BOB PAYNTER, who examined the efficiency of these techniques on two nineteenth century farmsteads in western Massachusetts. The investigation of a more deeply buried prehistoric site will augment Paynter's work on shallow historic sites and provide comparative data on remote sensing devices. A total of 7,040 data points were recorded at Bark Wigwam and initial analysis of maps generated by the data shows a high potential for predicting buried features. Two burials to be destroyed by agricultural activities were excavated at the end of the field school and, since their general location was known, resistivity testing was conducted over that particular area. The maps clearly showed anomolous outlines in the vicinity of the burials. The excavation of the burials was conducted in the presence of several members of the Native American community. This summer's work was continued into the fall with further analysis of the skeletal material, remote sensing data and recovered artifacts; as well as more resistivity and subsurface testing.

CATHERINE CARLSON, DENA DINCAUZE and MITCHELL MULHOLLAND (UMASS, Amherst) are conducting an archaeological research project to evaluate and define the boundaries of the first seven "Praying Indian" towns of Massachusetts. The survey is supported by a Survey and Planning Grant from the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION.

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MITCH MULHOLLAND (UMASS Amherst; Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) completed his dissertation entitled Patterns of Change in Prehistoric Southern New England: A Regional Approach. The study maps the distribution of more than 5,000 prehistoric sites in the region from the tenth millennium through the Contact Period, and evaluates changes in spatial patterning through time. Peaks in site frequency through time correlate well with peaks in oak and other mast tree pollen in the region's forests; and low frequencies parallel declines in mast production. The study also evaluates a number of phenomena revealed through site patterns including: an unexpectedly high frequency of Middle Archaic sites in Southern New England; the ubiquity of Brewerton sites; a virtual hiatus of sites during the sixth and seventh millennia; and a marked decline in site frequency during the third and second millennia.

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UMASS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES (UMAS) is conducting an archaeological site locational survey in Pittsfield and Lanesborough, Massachusetts along a corridor of a proposed highway that passes through distinct upland zones (e.g. mountainous areas, upland lakes, swamps, streams, small rivers, and floodplains). LESLIE SHAW, MARGARET KEITH and ELLEN SAVULIS have located to date thirteen prehistoric sites including a Middle Woodland site near Pontoosuc Lake in Pittsfield. Historical sites include an intact nineteenth century dump associated with paper mill workers' housing, the ruins of the eighteenth century residence of Jonathan Smith (a founding father of Lanesborough), and several nineteenth century industrial areas. Site excavation is expected to begin this fall and continue next spring.

RONALD JOHNSON (UMAS) has just completed an excavation of a small prehistoric site located on a small swamp in the uplands of Brookfield, MA. The site represents a short-term occupation lithic reduction episode. Charcoal was recovered for C14 dating. Recovered artifacts are suggestive of small stem Late Archaic material.

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RICK GUMAER, MITCH MULHOLLAND and ELLEN SAVULIS recently conducted a remote sensing survey (resistivity) in the "Indian Burial Ground" associated with the "Praying Indian" town of Hassenemesit in Grafton, MA. The purpose of the project was to outline, for a developer, the boundaries of the burial ground without desecrating the graves. Associations that were revealed through computer analysis were tested in the field. In all cases, anomalies flagged by resistivity were observed in the field, approximately 40% of which were cultural. Small grave shafts, an historic dump, and a buried stone foundation were revealed. The project was conducted in collaboration with the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION and the MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS and members of the Native American Nipmuck Community. Similar projects are being conducted in Indian Orchard and Paxton, MA.

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A small Late Woodland period ceramic site near the Mill River was recently evaluated in Hadley by MITCHELL MULHOLLAND and ELLEN SAVULIS (UMAS). Ceramics from the site are very similar to the Oak Island Phase of New York State. Analysis is in progress.

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ALAN MCARDLE recently completed a site evaluation and excavation of the Taylor-Caldwell historic shipyard on the North River in Marshfield. The primary focus of the project was delimiting the boundaries of the yard and evaluating a small prehistoric Middle Woodland site.

LESLIE SHAW and ELLEN SAVULIS recently completed archaeological surveys in Ashland and Framingham, MA. Several small undated prehistoric lithic scatters were located. In Ashland, SAVULIS evaluated the archaeological remains of a Jewish Socialist summer camp established to assimilate Jewish immigrants in the early part of the twentieth century.

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FRED DUNFORD (UMASS Amherst; Cape Cod Museum of Natural History) is continuing the evaluation of data from the Maluzo Site in Chatham. Fragments of maize have been recovered recently from this Late Woodland site. Fred served as Laboratory Supervisor for Project Archaeologist LEONARD LOPARTO of the PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY LABORATORY, Inc. for the excavation of the NAMASKAKET Site, a multi-component Late Archaic site in Orleans. Orient material predominates.

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DENA DINCAUZE (UMASS, Amherst), MICHAEL ROBERTS (Groton, MA), STEPHEN MZROWSKI (City of Boston) and CATHERINE CARLSON (UMASS, Amherst) have begun an interdisciplinary archaeological reconnaissance study of portions of the Late Archaic Boylston Street Fishweir, located 30 feet beneath the Back Bay of Boston. The purpose of the study is to acquire information sufficient to allow archaeologists and cultural resource managers to develop a work plan for data recovery of archaeological resources to be impacted by planned construction at 500 Boylston Street. Preliminary evaluation of organic material conducted by ROBERT S. THOMPSON, PAIGE C. NEWBY and THOMPSON WEBB III (BROWN UNIVERSITY) show that the classes of data available at the site included abundant pollen, plant macrofossils, diatoms, molluscan shell, some foraminifera and ostracods, with plenty of diversity in the sediment. On the basis of these results, the site appears to have the potential to answer a variety of questions concerning the environment and its effect on prehistoric people.



The exhibition, "From Musketaquid to Concord: the Native and European Experience" at the CONCORD ANTIQUARIAN MUSEUM represents a departure from the Museum's usual exhibition materials. The story told by the exhibition starts 10,000 years before the present with displays of native artifacts from the Concord River (Musketaquid) area. The exhibition is housed in the French Gallery of the Museum and will be open M-S 10-4:30 and Sunday 1-4:30. There is no admission charge. There is a catalog to accompany the exhibition which can be purchased from the Museum Shop, P.O. Box 146, Concord, MA 01742 and add \$1.00 for postage. Call ANN CHANG at the Museum (617)-369-9609 for more information.

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THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION has moved to a new location at 80 Boylston Street in Boston. The phone number (617-727-8470) remains the same. CLAIRE DEMPSEY is completing a survey of Cape Cod and the Islands and will begin the Essex Study Unit in the spring.

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ERIC JOHNSON recently completed the analysis of the Rodimon Collection, an extensive prehistoric collection of over 5,000 artifacts housed at the Springfield Museum of Science. Most of the material is from the Connecticut Valley.

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MYRON STACHIW of OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE (OSV) is researching the transformation of rural economic life in central New England circa 1790-1850, as part of a major research project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Documentary and archaeological research on the Bixby site and neighborhood in Barre continues, and includes neighborhood reconstruction, the identification and mapping of Bixby's trading network, and overseeing the computer analysis of his account books. A survey of low technology milling (saw, grist, triphammer, carding) sites along the Quinebaug River and a similar analysis of the miller's economic life and networks was undertaken.

The OSV Research Department is continuing its study of the site and neighborhood of Emerson Bixby, a blacksmith who lived and worked in Barre, Massachusetts during the second and third quarters of the nineteenth century. This research is part of a larger project titled Tradition & Transformation: Rural Economic Life in Central New England, 1790-1850. Fieldwork this spring was devoted to the mapping of Bixby's immediate neighborhood in the Four Corners area of northern Barre. Detailed maps and measured drawings of the archaeological remains of several domestic and low-technology industrial sites are being prepared and include: the Paul and Benjamin Rice triphammer/scythe shop (circa 1815-1838); the Sewall Holland sawmill (circa 1829-1900) and shingle mill (circa 1829-1860); the Ethan Hemenway wheelwright shop and dam (circa 1826-1837) and carriage shop (circa 1824-1837); the farm and blacksmith shop of Benjamin Rice; the Willard E. Hemenway dwelling house and carpentry shop; the District No. 9 schoolhouse; the dwelling house and shoe shop of Cheney Lewis; and the blacksmith shop of Emerson Bixby. The mapping of the neighborhood also includes plotting the layout of stone walls, field division, and farmyards, as well as the architectural study and plotting of the locations of extant buildings from the period over an area approximately one mile by one half mile in size.

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During the summer of 1985, the OSV Field School in Historical Archaeology, under the direction of DAVID SIMMONS and JOHN WORRELL, conducted the second of three projected seasons of excavation at the Bixby Site. The focus of the summer's field work will be the intensive excavation of the blacksmith shop, investigation of the site of several possible outbuildings, and continued excavation of yard areas adjacent to the Bixby house.

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# New Hampshire

The STATE COOPERATIVE REGIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY PLAN (S.C.R.A.P.), in conjunction with STRAWBERRY BANKE museum, is sponsoring an interdisciplinary public program to examine changes in Anglo-American culture, thought and materials in the eighteenth century. This program began in June with a keynote talk by JAMES DEETZ in Portsmouth. The June lecture series will be followed by a four week excavation in July. FAITH HARRINGTON directed the archaeological research at the Sherburne House (1695) at Strawberry Banke during July; KATHLEEN WHEELER and MARTHA PINELLO supervised field work. The Sherburne House exemplifies the trend known as the "Georgianization" of eighteenth century America and Europe and this can be seen in its architecture, material culture, horticulture, and family history.

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S.C.R.A.P. sponsored two other projects this summer. The excavation of the EDDY SITE in Manchester, a prehistoric fishing village, began in May under the direction of VICTORIA B. KENYON. Field work was conducted for two months with processing of artifacts and analysis to follow.

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From June 17 to July 26, 1985 S.C.R.A.P. conducted an excavation at the site of Governor John Wentworth's summer home in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire. Occupied by the governor between 1767 and 1775, this 6,000 acre estate originally consisted of a 100 foot mansion, surrounded by barns, carriage houses, craft shops, workers' dwellings, and wells. Although occasionally visited by collectors, the only substantive disturbance to the site was a re-laying of the foundation walls of the mansion by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1934-35. The 1985 work was under the direction of DAVID STARBUCK (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) and GARY HUME (NH Historic Preservation Office), assisted by MARY DUPRE (NH Historical Society) and a team of students and S.C.R.A.P. volunteers. Project sponsors included the STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE, the NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, PLYMOUTH STATE COLLEGE, and the NH STATE PARK SYSTEM,

which oversees the site. Site survey efforts located five outbuildings and considerable evidence for the original road system that ran to the site, and excavations focused upon the open cellarhole of the mansion, the kitchen wing for the mansion, and the filled-in cellarhole of one out building. The mansion had burned in 1820, and excavations in the cellarhole revealed burned floorboards and joists and considerable pottery. Especially distinctive in the one outbuilding that was excavated was the discovery of a large collection of porcelain and redware underneath nearly two meters of field stones in the cellarhole. These pieces were unusually intact, and vessel forms include serving platters, plates, cups, bowls, and milkpans.

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In the late spring and summer of 1985 a fourth field season was conducted at the site of Sewall's Falls in Concord, N.H. This is an extensive complex of prehistoric sites located on both the east and west banks of the Merrimack River, and all testing to date has been below (south of) the falls. The 1985 work, sponsored by S.C.R.A.P. was under the direction of DAVID STARBUCK (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) and west bank excavations focused upon a single, well stratified site on the second terrace above the river. Distinct Middle and Late Archaic components were found, with the earlier site at a depth of circa 80-100 cm. and the later site at circa 40-60 cm. Both occupations included large quantities of bone fragments -- chiefly turtle shell -- and each included one that had been reworked into a perforator, and a complete, full-grooved axe. The Late Archaic component included numerous small-stemmed quartz points and two gouges. Only 10 square meters were excavated in 1985, and some additional testing will be conducted here as an adjunct to further survey efforts in 1986.

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S.C.R.A.P. is continuing laboratory analyses on materials excavated from the FIRST FORT SITE in Boscawen, a French and Indian War period fort (1739-1762) that was excavated during the summers of 1983 and 1984. A preliminary report on the excavation can be obtained from the S.C.R.A.P. lab, Ward Avenue, Concord NH 03301. The cataloging of materials from another French and Indian War period fort, FORT NO. 4 in Charlestown is nearly complete and a report will be published in the New Hampshire Archaeologist in late 1985. S.C.R.A.P. has completed archaeological excavations at the HAZELTINE POTTERY SITE (1800-1880) in Concord. Cataloging and analyzing artifactual materials continues; an article on the excavations, in the light of the history of New Hampshire potters, will be published in Historical New Hampshire, Vol. 40, Nos. 1, 2.

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The PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY LABORATORY, INC. has just completed a site examination of the Founder's Brook site in Portsmouth. This is a multi-component site with diagnostic artifacts from the Transitional Archaic Period (Orient) to the Late Woodland Period (Levanna). Colonial and aboriginal artifacts were recovered from the plowzone. Unfortunately, the site has been heavily impacted by twentieth century road building, construction, and landscaping activity.

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Botanical analysis of charred remains have permitted identification of a wide variety of plants in use at the Campbell site on the Merrimack River of south central New Hampshire. Analysis was undertaken by TONYA LARGY and MARTHA PINELLO under the direction of VICTORIA KENYON of the NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. Charred wood includes white oak, shagbark hickory, pine and other conifers. Charred seeds and nuts include sweet fern; huckleberry; blackberry, raspberry or dewberry; hop hornbeam or ironwood; whorled loosestrife; corn or maize; acorn; hickory; walnut or butternut; and hazelnut. Of particular interest in the presence of Zea mays at this interior riverine site. The site has cultural components assigned to the Middle Archaic, Middle Woodland and Contact periods on the basis of diagnostic artifacts and radiocarbon dates (dates are: 335 +/- 150, 1410 +/- 165 and 1075 +/- 125 years before present). Predominant habitation was during the Middle Woodland. A short term Contact period occupation was probably associated with trading activities at Cromwell trading post situated across the river from the site and dated to 1656. The corn was recovered in flotation of a column sample and its association with a dated component has not yet been demonstrated.

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# Rhode Island

E. PIERRE MORENON of the PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAM at RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE has been studying a Narragansett Indian village which was occupied from at least 2,000 years ago through the Contact period. The settlement supports a view that Narragansett villages were diffuse and open, consisting of several structures which were widely separated in space. The lack of agglomeration in "winter villages" may be a general characteristic in Rhode Island. Furthermore, while the impact of European goods is evident in the artifact assemblage, there is a strong presence of Native American goods -- a contrast to the assemblage found at RI1000, a Contact Period cemetery which is associated with this village. The village context may be more traditional than that of the cemetery in regard to the use of technology.

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Other projects of the PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAM include the excavation of a small area in Richmond. On the basis of the numerous tools, debitage, calcined bone, and charcoal that was recovered, the site is interpreted as a Narragansett "hunting camp" that was probably occupied only once. The first stage of survey of Block Island, which involves the collection of controlled data through sub surface testing and the examination of existing collections, began in the fall and will be finished early in the summer. A second phase, involving more intensive testing at certain sites and the evaluation of predictive models, is anticipated for this year. Several video productions for classroom use are currently in progress. Fieldwork for the Phase II data recovery program has been completed on the Bouchard site in the village of Usquepaug in southern Rhode Island. Archaeologists of PAL found charcoal, burned rock, and a Vosburg projectile point in a fire-related feature. Several Small Stem and Vosburg points and bits of calcined bone were found elsewhere on the site. Laboratory analysis and report writing are ongoing and will be completed soon.

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# Vermont

DAVID LACY is presently investigating the potential for prehistoric site presence within the Green Mountain National Forest, with a specific interest in the documentation of Sokoki/Western Abenaki land use prior to the centralizing influences of horticulture and involvement in the fur trade. His research recently led to the discovery of a workshop/quarry site of high quality Cheshire quartzite that was heavily utilized by prehistoric people in the manufacture of biface blades. As yet, no time period has been determined.

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ROBERT HASENSTAB and ELLEN SAVULIS of UMASS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES (UMAS) completed a site evaluation of the Hydro Energies Site, a small prehistoric lithic site of an unknown time period located on the Ottauquechee River in Quechee, Vermont. The site, which is the first found in the Ottauquechee drainage, contains Normanskill chert, which is rarely found in this northern area. A data recovery project will be conducted in the fall at the site by RICK GUMAER.

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ELLEN SAVULIS, STEPHEN MATCHAK and GEORGE NICHOLAS (UMAS) are conducting an in-depth analysis, historical and architectural assessment of industrial Bellows Falls Island, VT. The project consists of a mid-late nineteenth century paper manufacturing industry, an electrical power station, rail yard and other industrial archaeological sites. Prehistoric sites include Indian pictographs and a burial ground.

\*\*

## Recent Reports

### CT

Nicholas, G.P. and R.G. Handsman

1984 Working at the Archaeology of Early Societies at Robbins Swamp. Artifacts 12(4):11-13.

1984 Early Postglacial Landscape Development and Archaeology at Robbins Swamp, Northwestern Connecticut. AMQUA Abstracts Eighth Biennial Meeting, Denver. American Quarternary Association:93.

Nicholas, G.P., R.G. Handsman and R.W. Moeller

1984 Studies of the Archaeological Resources along the Western Shores of Bantam Lake, Litchfield County, Connecticut. Research Manuscript Series, American Indian Archaeological Institute.

### NH

HARRINGTON, FAITH

1984 The Broad Brook Site (NH 41-17), Pisgah State Park, New Hampshire. The New Hampshire Archaeologist, 25 (1): 12-17.

1985 Sea Tenure in Seventeenth Century New Hampshire: Native Americans and Englishmen in the Sphere of Coastal Resources. Historical New Hampshire, 40 (1,2).

## New England Region

Mulholland, Mitchell T.

1984 Patterns of Change in Prehistoric Southern New England: A Regional Approach. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation. Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

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Please submit information on your current research and research results to Faith Harrington, editor (see address in front cover), Mitch Mulholland (Co-editor) or your State Steering Committee member for inclusion in the next NEWSLETTER