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Conference on
New England
Archaeology

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 10, No. 2 April 1991

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COVER: Woods Hole, MA in 1880 from Walker & Company, and whale tooth fid,
(rope splicing tool) circa 1800, discovered at the Swift Whaling Site
see article, page 10 illustration by Mary Lynne Rainey

CONFERENCE ON
NEW ENGLAND ARCHAEOLOGY
1991 ANNUAL MEETING

SATURDAY and SUNDAY
MAY 11 and 12, 1991

The 1991 annual meeting of the
Conference on New England Archaeology will be held
at the Conference Center Meeting Hall,
Old Sturbridge Village,
Sturbridge, Massachusetts

This year's annual meeting marks
CNEA's 10th Anniversary,
and not only promises an enlightening weekend
of papers and presentations,
but also in store is a Gala Anniversary Party,
Saturday evening at the American Legion Hall in Fiskdale.
Dinner, dancing, and a photograph/slide show contest will be held,
so be sure to attend!

Registration and coffee
from 8:30 - 9:15, Saturday morning.

The complete program of speakers is outlined on the following pages.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

SATURDAY MAY 11TH

- 8:30-9:15 Coffee and Registration
- 9:30-12:00 "*Presenting Archaeology*" Eric Johnson, Chair
Informal, informative presentations, strategies in presenting
archaeology to target audiences.
- 12:00-1:30 Lunch (on your own)
- 1:30-5:00 "*Plenary Session--Retrospective & Prospective Look at New
England Archaeology*" Mitch Mulholland, Chair
- 5:00-11:00 Buffet Dinner, Cash Bar & Dancing at the American Legion Hall,
Fiskville

SUNDAY MAY 12TH

- 10:00 - 'Till "*Advances in Field Archaeology: Contributed Papers*"
Beth Bower, Chair

PROGRAM OF SPEAKERS

SATURDAY MAY 11

9:30 - 12:00

"PRESENTING ARCHAEOLOGY"

~ Eric Johnson, Chair~
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Department of Anthropology

~Brona Simon~
Massachusetts Historical Commission
'Press and Media Relations'

~Dorothy Krass~
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Department of Anthropology
'Primary Education'

~Russell Handsman~
American Indian Archaeological Institute
'Museums'

~Francis P. McManamon~
National Park Service
Archaeological Assistance Division
'Public Agency Outreach Programs'

~Nicholas Bellantoni~
Connecticut Museum of Natural History
'Native Americans'

SATURDAY, MAY 11

1:30 - 5:00

**"PLENARY SESSION ... RETROSPECTIVE AND PROSPECTIVE
LOOK AT NEW ENGLAND ARCHAEOLOGY"**

~Mitchell T. Mulholland, Chair~
University of Massachusetts Archaeological Services

~Michael Roberts~
Timelines
'Who Are We?'

~Francis P. McManamon~
National Park Service, Archaeological Assistance Division
*'New England Archaeology Retrospect and Prospect,
1976 - 1991'*

~Dena F. Dincauze~
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
*'Diversification and Growth
in New England's Prehistoric Archaeology'*

~Robert Paynter~
University of Massachusetts, Amherst,
'Perspectives in New England Historical Archaeology'

~Valerie A. Talmage~
The Trustees of Reservations
'Conservation Archaeology and an Archaeological Conservancy'

5:00 - 11:00

BUFFET DINNER, CASH BAR & DANCING
at the AMERICAN LEGION HALL, FISKDALE (Sturbridge)

SUNDAY, MAY 12

9:30 - 12:30

**"ADVANCES IN FIELD ARCHAEOLOGY:
CONTRIBUTED PAPERS"**

~Beth Bower, Chair~
Bechtel/Parsons/Brinkerhoff

~James B. Richardson II~
Carnegie Museum of Natural History
**'An Island Laboratory: 10,000 Years of Climate and Cultural Change
on Martha's Vineyard'**

~Alan Leveillee~
The Public Archaeology Laboratory Inc.
'Millbury III: A Susquehanna Cremation Burial Site'

~Bruce Bourque~
Maine State Museum
**'Dietary Reconstruction from Stable Isotopes in
Prehistoric Human Bone: Gulf of Maine to Labrador'**

~Kevin McBride~
The Public Archaeology Survey Team, Inc.
**'Where Our Fathers and Grandfathers Dwelled:
Social Implications of a Mashantucket Pequot Cemetery'**

~Peter Thomas~
University of Vermont
'Adventures in Geoarchaeology'

~John Worrell~
Old Sturbridge Village
**'Landscape as Artifact:
Archaeological Evidences of Artificial Site Formation'**

UPDATE ON TIMELINES SURVEY

Well, the questionnaires have started rolling in. From a quick look, it is apparent that CNEA certainly does represent a cross-section of the New England archaeological community. I can hardly believe our fledgling organization is ten years old. Doesn't time fly when you're having fun?

This decade has been one of slow but steady growth for CNEA. A group of us founded CNEA in 1980 (during an NEAA meeting at UMASS Amherst) because we saw a need to bring together New England archaeologists of all persuasions, not just prehistorians, to talk about topics of interest to all in an interdisciplinary framework. In February of 1981, in the Harvard Science Center, we put on the first Forum: Upland and Lowland New England Settlements. In 1982, it was Social Systems and Material Remains, also at Harvard. We presented the Archaeology and Interpretations of Households in 1983, Constructing the Past in 1984, and What Cheare Ne'top- Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Contact Period in 1985, all at Old Sturbridge Village. In 1986, it was Trade, Communication, and Transportation Networks at UMass Boston, while in 1987 we headed west to UMass Amherst for Archaeological Interpretations of Structural Form. From 1988 to the present, we returned to Sturbridge with Cores, Peripheries and Modeling in Conservation Archaeology in 1988, Human Burials in 1989 and The Archaeology of Marginality in 1990.

This list, clearly contains some pretty heavy intellectual stuff. We have whacked chunks off some major topics and the goings on at the Forums (both during official sessions and in the hallways) have been exciting and illuminating for many. At the same time, however, we have not actualized our Forum topics in research designs, etc., and I believe that is one challenge that lies before us in our second decade. One step we have taken in the last several years has been inspired by Tom King's proposal for National Archaeological Research Topics (NARTS). This is a positive step in helping us fit our activities into a framework that others can use.

It's been an interesting, stimulating decade, and I look forward to reporting to you at our upcoming Forum (Sturbridge, May 11-12, 1991, in case you missed the announcement) on the innermost secrets of our membership, as revealed in the recent questionnaire sent to all 109 of our members.

Michael Roberts
Timelines, Inc.

CURRENT RESEARCH

MASSACHUSETTS

Data Recovery at the Heath Brook Site (19-MD-22)

Tewksbury, Massachusetts

contributed by Suzanne Glover, PAL, Inc.

Suzanne Glover and Dianna Doucette (The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. Pawtucket, RI) recently conducted data recovery investigations at the Heath Brook Site (19-MD-22) in Tewksbury. This prehistoric site is situated along Heath Brook, a tributary of the Shawsheen River in northeast Massachusetts. The site was originally investigated in 1945 by Ripley Bullen and is documented in his *Excavations in Northeastern Massachusetts* (1949). Bullen determined the extent of prehistoric materials to be around 50 acres along the north bank of the brook, making it one of the largest Shawsheen River drainage sites recorded at that time. His excavations and study of the artifacts collected from the site area suggested prehistoric occupation dating from the Middle Archaic through Late Woodland and possibly Contact periods.

The data recovery investigations conducted by the PAL, Inc. focused on a small (1,125 square meter) southwest portion of the site. This excavated portion of the site was comprised of multi temporal/cultural components, the earliest of which has been dated to the Early Archaic. The Early Archaic deposition yielded a bifurcate base projectile point along with radiocarbon dates of $8,360 \pm 80$ B.P. (Beta 40119) and $8,460 \pm 60$ B.P. (Beta 40117). This component represents the only evidence to date of Early Archaic occupation in the Shawsheen River Valley of northeast Massachusetts. Additional data (lithics, dated fire and storage pit features and living surfaces) indicate the presence of an important Middle Archaic reoccupation, with less intensive Late Archaic and Middle Woodland depositions.

The archaeological data recovered at the site during these investigations suggest that the Shawsheen River drainage was intensively and repeatedly exploited during the early phases of the Archaic Period. A wide range of subsistence tasks including food procurement, processing, storage, and disposal practices occurred at the site during these occupations. Changes in the intensity and type of site utilization during the subsequent Late Archaic and Woodland periods were also observed in the archaeological record at the site. These changes are evidenced by a reduction of, and differences in the stone tool assemblages and cultural activity areas at the site attributed to the period from about 3500 to 2000 years ago. Site utilization appears to have

shifted to a more short-term, task specific resource exploitation. Ongoing studies and specialized analyses of archaeological and paleoenvironmental data will attempt to determine whether these changes in site utilization reflect adaptations to regional environmental processes such as dessication that have been observed at sites elsewhere in eastern Massachusetts.

Bullen, Ripley P.

1949 *Excavations in Northeastern Massachusetts*. Papers of the Robert S. Peabody Foundation For Archaeology, Volume One, Number Three, Phillips Academy, Andover, MA.

Data Recovery at a Susquehanna Burial Site

Millbury, Massachusetts

contributed by Alan Leveillee, PAL, Inc.

The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. will be coordinating a program of data recovery on a Susquehanna burial site in the spring of 1991. The site was discovered during a cultural resource management survey along the Blackstone river in Millbury, Massachusetts. During the fall 1990 survey concentrations of charcoal and burnt bone, broken bifaces, and fragments of ground stone tools from a single test pit provided sufficient data to formulate a hypothesis for a cremation deposit. This hypothesis was tested through additional, limited excavation, soil coring, and submission of a charcoal sample for radiocarbon analysis. The recovery of a diagnostic Mansion Inn blade and a reported date of $3,510 \pm 60$ (Beta 38744) for the charcoal confirmed a Susquehanna cultural affiliation. Preliminary analysis of burnt bone fragments resulted in the identification of several specimens within the expected range for human skeletal remains, supporting the operating hypothesis.

Alan Leveillee (Principal Investigator) and Ronald Dalton (Site Supervisor) will head the data recovery excavation team. The research design and Memorandum of Agreement for the study specify close coordination with Native American representatives throughout the fieldwork and subsequent analysis of recovered materials. The excavation of the Millbury III site, and the research it will enable, constitute a relatively rare opportunity to consider the enigmatic Susquehanna presence in the Northeast.

Middle Archaic Settlement in the Cochato-Monatiquot River Drainage:

The Gill Farm Sites, Randolph, Massachusetts

contributed by Duncan Ritchie, PAL, Inc.

The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. recently completed a data recovery program on two prehistoric sites (19-NF-98, 19-NF-158) within the Gill Farm Archaeological District (National and State Registers) in Randolph, Massachusetts. This project was supervised by Duncan Ritchie and Edna Fieghner. The sites in the Gill Farm district were important elements of the cluster of Middle Archaic period components in the Cochato-Monatiquot River drainage. These sites were also some of the few surviving examples of large, multi-component loci around the perimeter of the Cochato River wetland. Most of the other sites in the area, which were first described by members of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society in the 1950's, have been destroyed by devolvement.

Evidence of the Middle Archaic components previously reported from the Gill Farm sites was limited. Radiocarbon dates from sites 19-NF-98 and 19-NF-158 indicate that most intensive or frequent occupations of these sites were during the Late Archaic period from about 4600 to 3200 years ago. The Late Archaic occupations appear to have created a dense overlay of cultural material and features that obscured the older, Middle Archaic component. A similar type of depositional pattern resulting from recurrent Late Archaic occupation seems to have been present on other riverine wetland zone sites (Taunton, Neponset, Sudbury/Concord drainages) in eastern/southeastern Massachusetts. The diversity of Late Archaic feature types (hearths, large deep pits, burnt rock spreads) suggests a wider range of on-site activities than during other occupations.

The Gill Farm sites also contain lithic workshops where rhyolite and felsite from nearby source areas (Blue Hills, Mattapan volcanic complexes) were reduced to bifacial tool blades. Most of these lithic workshops may have been created during the Middle Archaic or Late Archaic occupations. Bifacial tool blades made primarily of Blue Hills rhyolite dominate the lithic assemblages from sites 19-NF-98 and 19-NF-158, most of these bifaces were broken and discarded during the early stages of manufacture. Similar workshop features with concentrations of chipping debris and bifaces have been found on other sites within the "supply zone" or perimeter of the Blue Hills and Mattapan volcanic source areas.

Radiocarbon dated Early (2550 ± 110 BP {Beta 42372}), Middle (1590 ± 110 BP {Beta 42366}), and Late (1230 ± 90 BP {Beta 42369}), (1030 ± 60 BP {Beta 33413}), (620 ± 80 BP {Beta 42367}) Woodland components on the Gill Farm sites are of interest since they may be examples of small temporary camps forming the inland aspect of settlement patterns centered in the coastal/estuarine Boston harbor district.

Analysis of the Gill Farm material will include the reconstruction of the depositional patterns created during Archaic and Woodland period occupation and the bifacial reduction

sequences applied to volcanic material in the lithic workshop areas. As part of the other ongoing research samples of volcanic materials used for chipped stone tool manufacture will be subjected to geochemical (x-ray fluorescence) and petrological (thin section) analysis to determine their source areas and test the visual, macroscopic criteria used to identify them.

Maritime Archaeology

Woods Hole, Massachusetts

contributed by Suzanne Glover, PAL, Inc.

The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. recently completed archaeological investigations (intensive survey and site examination) at the site of a nineteenth century whaling industrial complex founded by Elijah Swift (1774-1852). The investigations took place prior to the construction of a new Marine Resources Center for the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole. The project area is situated on a 20,000 square foot parcel of land bounded on the south by Water Street and on the north by Eel Pond. The archaeological investigations were designed to locate, identify, and assess the integrity of any historic archaeological (structural, material) resources associated with the whaling operation within the project impact area. Subsurface testing was conducted in the form of machine-assisted excavation trenches (due to the presence of asphalt and fill deposits) and hand-excavation of cultural strata and features.

Swift established Bar Neck Wharf in 1827 at Woods Hole for the purpose of building and outfitting whaling ships for short and long term voyages. The immediate project vicinity became the site of the Swift whale oil manufactory as well as several whaling-related businesses that provided the goods to outfit the whaling vessels. The project area lies adjacent to the stone Candle House, erected ca. 1836 by Swift for the manufacture of candles from sperm whale oil. The whale oil manufactory at this location also included a try and bleaching house (used to prepare sperm and other whale oils for processing) and carriage sheds (used for the shelter of horses and carriages and for the storage of oil). The Swift whaling business also operated a Bake Shop and Cooper Shop (ca. 1836) adjacent to the whale oil manufactory. A haul-out for small boats was also situated at the shoreline to the rear of the Bake Shop. Today only the Candle House stands as a visual reminder of the whaling industry that operated at Woods Hole from the 1830s to the 1860s.

Background research, local informant interviews, and subsurface testing resulted in the location and identification of Swift whaling-related structures and activity areas. Structural resources include the foundation remains of the Bake Shop and a small previously impacted section of the try and bleaching house foundation. The original (ca. 1832) shoreline to the rear of the Bake Shop was located and found to have been improved with the construction of a stone retaining wall and several other features. The retaining wall and features (brick wall, wood

post) may have functioned in conjunction with the documented boat haul-out. A high density of predominantly nineteenth century domestic and personal refuse materials was recovered from this section of the site.

Other period features include a small trash pit located to the rear of the Candle House and an improved ground surface (stone alignment) situated in the area of a documented right-of-way between the Candle House and the former Bake Shop. Artifacts directly associated with the whaling period activities consist of an ivory (whale tooth) fid with scrimshaw decoration and several carved whale bone items (die, decorative pieces). The historic artifact assemblage also contains a high density of ceramic vessel fragments, bottles, complete kaolin pipes, and an interesting collection of hand-wrought and machine-cut copper nails. These resources will be recorded in the State inventory as the Swift Whaling Site. No additional archaeological investigations will be conducted, however, due to the extent of twentieth century construction, demolition, and occupation activities that have impacted the historic depositions within the project area.

The Bassett Knoll Site

Raynham, Massachusetts

contributed by Valerie McCormick, PAL, Inc.

The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. Pawtucket, Rhode Island recently completed data recovery excavations at the Bassett Knoll Site in Raynham, Massachusetts. This multicomponent prehistoric site is situated at the headwaters of Bassett Brook, a tributary stream of the Taunton River. The Bassett Knoll Site is located within a recognized core area of the Taunton River drainage.

Field investigations conducted under the direction of Deborah Cox (Principal Investigator) and Elizabeth Holstein identified several temporal and cultural components within this repeatedly occupied prehistoric site. Evidence of the earliest occupation at the Bassett Knoll Site comes from a deep pit feature which yielded two radiocarbon dates of 8480 ± 140 B.P. (Beta 33410) and 8430 ± 170 B.P. (Beta 35400) suggesting that Bassett Knoll is among the few regional sites containing an Early Archaic component. Middle, Late, and Transitional Archaic deposits are also represented by diagnostic projectile points. Evidence for Early Woodland occupation at the Bassett Knoll Site is based on diagnostic projectile points and a radiocarbon date of 1980 ± 150 B.P. (Beta 33407). The Early Woodland radiocarbon date is closely associated with a single human burial located at the site. Utilization of the Bassett Knoll Site intensified during the Middle and Late Woodland periods. The utilization is indicated by an increase in diagnostic lithics, ceramics and dated features (fire, storage, and processing).

The archaeological data recovered from the Bassett Knoll Site enhances the regional archaeological data base for the Archaic and Woodland periods for the Taunton River drainage.

The data indicate that tasks such as lithic reduction, ceramic manufacture, food procurement, processing, storage, and disposal occurred at varying intensities during the 8,500 years of repeated occupation at The Bassett Knoll Site. Preliminary analysis suggests seasonal occupation during the late fall and/or winter for the Middle and Late Woodland periods. Ongoing analyses and data syntheses will attempt to determine how the Bassett Knoll Site relates to the prehistoric Taunton River drainage settlement pattern and how intra-site organization varies among depositional episodes.

The Berkley/Dighton Bridge Replacement Project

Berkley, Massachusetts

contributed by Marsha K. King, PAL, Inc.

The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. recently completed site examinations and architectural evaluations within the Berkley/Dighton Bridge Replacement project area in Berkley, Massachusetts for the Massachusetts Department of Public Works. The project area lies on the east bank of the Taunton River within the National Register eligible Berkley/Dighton Bridge Village Historic District. Site examinations were conducted at three historic sites: the Ashley House Site, occupied ca. 1801/1807 to 1980s; the Booth/French House Site, occupied ca. 1807/1823 to present; and the Briggs Cellarhole Site, occupied prior to 1812 to the mid-twentieth century.

A large quantity of historic cultural material was recovered from the Ashley House, much of it associated with several twentieth century trash deposits. Sheet refuse recovered near the standing house dated from the early through late nineteenth century. Extensive filling was visible at the site, serving to extend the usable yard area toward the Taunton River.

Deep accumulations of fill were also identified behind the Booth/French House along Chuche-Mucksit Creek. A trash pit, located in the west sideyard of this house, contained quantities of brick and mortar as well as household refuse, suggesting a possible association with an episode of house modification or remodeling.

The Briggs Cellarhole Site consisted of a cellarhole, barn foundation, and stone-lined well. A low density of sheet refuse was recovered from the front, back, and side yards. The majority of the cultural material was recovered from a single 1 x 1 m unit placed adjacent to the rear wall of the cellarhole and bisected by a pipe trench.

Architectural evaluations were undertaken for the Ashley House, Booth/French House, and Blacksmith Shop associated with the Babbitt House. In addition, a small stone bridge over a tidal stream north of the Babbit House was evaluated and documented. Site examination

research indicated that both the Stone Bridge and the Blacksmith Shop appear to be of a more modern date, and therefore, of less historical significance than originally believed.

The Lombard Home Historic Site

West Barnstable, Massachusetts
contributed by Marsha K. King, PAL, Inc.

Archaeological site examination of the Lombard Home Site in West Barnstable, Massachusetts was recently completed by Marsha K. King of The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. for the Barnstable Housing Authority. The Lombard Home, operated as an almshouse or poor farm for the Town of Barnstable from 1760 to 1971, is listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places as a contributing element of the West Barnstable Village (Meetinghouse Way) Historic District. The buildings in the complex were demolished in the early 1970s.

The survey included regional and site specific background and documentary research, followed by a reconnaissance and subsurface testing to define site size, data contents, and spatial arrangements of artifacts and features within an eight acre project area. Specified goals of this project included: verification and recording the locations of documented resources and of previously unknown archaeological resources determination of the integrity of identified resources, and assessment of the research value of any intact depositions in light of available documentary information on the Lombard House and similar institutions in Massachusetts and elsewhere.

A large quantity of primarily late nineteenth to twentieth century historic cultural material was recovered. Much of the material was structural debris from the recent demolition of the buildings (e.g., wood, window glass, nails, plaster, etc.), or byproducts of heating, lighting, and/or cooking (e.g., coal, charcoal, etc.). Soil profiles indicated that the majority of the site area had been disturbed. No intact living surfaces were encountered, nor were any significant features (i.e., trash pits, privies, etc.) identified.

The Birch Hill Dam

Royalston, Templeton, and Winchendon, Massachusetts
contributed by Marsha K. King, PAL, Inc.

An historic and archaeological resource reconnaissance and intensive survey was recently completed within the Birch Hill Dam project area in the towns of Royalston, Templeton, and Winchendon, Massachusetts. This survey was conducted by Marsha K. King of The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. Research was conducted under contract with Daylor Consulting Group, Inc. and the Army Corps of Engineers New England, Division and involved a total project area of 4,648 acres.

The purpose of this reconnaissance level survey was to provide information on the archaeological sensitivity of the Birch Hill Dam project area; to review the possible effects of current project operations on potentially significant historic properties; and to make recommendations for developing an effective management plan for historic properties within the project area and for future investigations at the intensive survey level. The survey included background research, historic map analysis, reconnaissance survey, and limited subsurface testing. Known patterns of prehistoric and historic settlement and land use near the Birch Hill Dam project area and the relationship of these patterns to local and regional developments were used to develop interpretive contexts for assessing the potential significance of identified sites.

A total of four prehistoric sites and four find spots were located during the survey. In addition, a number of areas of high prehistoric archaeological sensitivity were identified. Several of the prehistoric sites/find spots were considered to be potentially significant based on the limited information collected during the survey.

A total of 250 historic period cultural resources were identified during the reconnaissance survey. The majority of these sites were identified from historic maps and/or NED real estate maps and were found to have been razed and destroyed. An additional historic period site, New Boston Cemetery was identified outside, but surrounded by, the project area boundaries. A small number of the historic sites are considered to be potentially significant based on the limited information collected during the survey.

Recommendations of additional intensive or site examination level archaeological investigation were made for all eight prehistoric and for 16 of the 250 historic cultural resources. Open wells or septic tanks were located at four of the identified historic sites. Recommendations of filling were made for these potentially dangerous remains.

RHODE ISLAND

The Huntinghouse Bridge Replacement Project Scituate, Rhode Island

contributed by Marsha K. King, PAL, Inc.

An archaeological reconnaissance/assessment survey was conducted by The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. within an approximately 370 by 80 foot corridor along Elmdale Road on either side of Huntinghouse Brook in Scituate, Rhode Island for the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) and United International Corporation (UIC). The Phase I survey included both background and documentary research, followed by a preliminary walkover/surface inspection, and subsurface testing under the direction of Marsha K. King. As a result of these activities, three historic sites were located and identified within the Elmdale Road project area: 1) The Mial Smith/Ezra D. Potter Turning Shop and Blacksmith Shop Site (RI-1894); 2) The Ezra D. Potter House Site (RI-1895); and 3) a small burial ground referred to in the deeds as the William Aldrich Burial Place.

NEW YORK

Prehistoric Land Use in Westchester County

Purchase, New York

contributed by Ann Davin, PAL, Inc

The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. recently completed reconnaissance and intensive level archaeological investigations of a 400 + acre project area in Purchase, New York. This area, which is part of the town of Harrison, lies several miles inland from Long Island Sound. The topography consists of rolling hills, numerous streams, and wetlands interspersed between large wooded estates and country clubs.

The project area, a proposed golf course, encompasses a number of these estates. The archaeological investigations, under the direction of Ann Davin and Dianna Doucette, located five prehistoric sites and four loci of prehistoric activity. The sites were characterized by chipping debris (primarily quartz!) and tools. Diagnostic projectile points included a Late Archaic Beekman Triangle and three Orient Fishtail examples. These sites were located on terraces adjacent to streams and/or wetlands. Three nineteenth century cellar holes/foundations were also found and tested.

CONNECTICUT

1990 Surveys at Salt Meadows National Wildlife Refuge Westbrook, Connecticut

contributed by Richard S. Kanaski and John S. Wilson

U.S. Fish and Wildlife archaeologists conducted Phase I and II surveys of a proposed manager's residence, access road, and utility lines in August and September 1990 at the Salt Meadow National Wildlife Refuge, Westbrook, Connecticut (Kanaski and Wilson 1990a and b). The Enoch Murdock farmhouse is the only standing building from a farm dating to between 1750-1860s. Esther Lape and Elizabeth Read purchased the property as an country retreat and built a large fieldstone house in French chalet style, and added a fieldstone to the exterior of the Murdock House in 1929. Much of the current landscape and plantings date from this period, but is in overgrown condition. The two extant houses have been determined National Register eligible, and will be rehabilitated in the near future for office and visitor center facilities.

Two distinct locations with quartz debitage, bifaces, and two projectile point fragments, SMD-002P and SMD-003P, were identified on the crest of a glacial drumlin just northwest of the Lape-Read House. SMD-002P was identified in only two test pits along the eastern edge of the proposed houselot. SMD-003P covered a larger are, at least 10 square meters in extent, but its south and west limits are not defined. The projectile fragments are unidentifiable as to period and type. No features were uncovered at either site during the surveys. Both sites are situated on the edge of a small wetlands. Redesign of the proposed construction ensured the preservation of both prehistoric sites.

Historic period artifacts consistent with the 1930's Lape-Read occupation were recovered and interpreted as trash scatter or building debris dating to that period. Four surface dumps, representing individual episodes of disposal, were located behind a row of ornamental trees. A fifth dump, adjacent to a log stable, appeared to be debris from demolition of a one stall garage in 1978. The upper soil horizon in a rose garden behind the chalet has apparently been sifted by gardeners to remove stones.

In other areas, testing revealed gravel surfaces below the sod. In one case, this corresponds with a recorded driveway which passed in front of the two houses and continued south into the fields (Fitch 1989: CT-416B-10). A historically unmarked and undated road was also identified north of the houses. This would have provided access from Old Clinton Road to the estate. This road had been built up at its northern end, where it passed through poorly drained area near its northern terminus at a gate in an extant field wall. The association of either

road with the earlier farm is uncertain, but design of the northern one indicates initial construction or rebuilding in the early 20th century.

Small quantities of redware and cut nails recovered considerably northwest of the 18th century house appear to be field scatter, or may mark the fringe of the demolition area for outbuildings associated with the early farm. The location, nature, and construction/demolition dates of these buildings has not been determined. No current work is planned nearer the farmhouse.

Fitch, Virginia A.

- 1989 Murdock Hill, Murdock House and Lape-Read House, Westbrook, Connecticut. Historic American Buildings Survey Nos. CT-416, A and B. Report on file in the HABS/HAER Collection of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Kanaski, Richard S. and John S. Wilson

- 1990a Survey of a Proposed Refuge Manager's Residence, Salt Meadow National Wildlife Refuge, Middlesex County, Connecticut. On file at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 5, Newton Corner, MA.
- 1990b Survey of a Proposed Maintenance Complex and Utilities, Salt Meadow National Wildlife Refuge, Middlesex County, Connecticut. On file at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 5, Newton Corner, MA.

Early Postglacial Land-Use at Robbins Swamp Northwestern Connecticut

contributed by George Nicholas

George Nicholas (Cariboo College and AIAI) has completed his study of early postglacial land-use at Robbins Swamp, the largest fresh water wetland in Connecticut. Of the more than 500 prehistoric sites found in its vicinity, 37 contain evidence of Paleo-Indian and/or Early Archaic occupations. Local and regional site distribution patterns demonstrate a high correlation between early sites and wetlands for this period. Long-term shifts in local land use have been correlated to regional landscape developments and changes in degree of contrast between different ecological zones. Interpretation of paleoenvironmental data reveals that the ecological diverse character of New England was established very early. Prior to 8000 B.P., when the degree of contrast between forested wetland mosaics of the lowlands and the coniferous forests of surrounding uplands was high, settings like Robbins Swamp were repeatedly used, and may have constituted cultural defined places on the landscape. After 8000 B.P., changes in regional precipitation patterns and vegetation reduced the number and extent of wetlands and supported an increase in oak in the uplands. Large wetlands were subsequently utilized in a different and more peripheral manner; the increased importance of major river valleys and the coastal zone is evidenced by a relative increase in the percentage of archaeological sites in those settings.

As part of ongoing research on the role of wetlands in north American prehistory, George Nicholas is requesting data, reports, or general information on prehistoric or historic sites associated with wetlands in the Northeast. Please send any correspondence to : Department of Social and Environmental Studies, Cariboo College, Kamloops, BC V2C 5N3

RECENTLY RECEIVED
RADIOCARBON DATES

From Randolph Massachusetts...

Institution responsible for the excavation: PAL, Inc.

Laboratory: Beta Analytic Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): Charcoal

Principal Investigator(s): Duncan Ritchie

Town: Randolph U.S.G.S. Quad: Blue Hills State: MA

<u>Name of Site:</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Lab number:</u>
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Gill Farm 19-NF-98	620±80 BP	Beta 42367
<i>(Feature 2 Small hearth/firepit with dense charcoal fill- No diagnostics found in asso.)</i>		

Gill Farm 19-NF-158	3,230±90 BP	Beta 42368
<i>(Feature 4 Hearth within a large pit feature- No diagnostics found in asso.)</i>		

Gill Farm 19-NF-158	1,230±90 BP	Beta 42369
<i>(Feature 7 Shallow hearth/firepit within deposit of charcoal stained subsoil (Middle/Late Woodland activity area) No diagnostics found in asso.)</i>		

Bibliographic references:

Ritchie, Duncan and Edna Feighner
(in prep) Data Recovery Program - Gill Farm (19-NF-98 and 19-NF-158) to be submitted to
Gill Farm Realty Trust, Marshfield, MA
PAL, Inc. Report No. 363

From Randolph Massachusetts...

Institution responsible for the excavation: PAL, Inc.

Laboratory: Beta Analytic Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): Charcoal

Principal Investigator(s): Duncan Ritchie

Town: Randolph U.S.G.S. Quad: Blue Hills State: MA

<u>Name of Site:</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Lab number:</u>
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Gill Farm 19-NF-158	3,940±70 BP	Beta 42370
<i>(Feature 11 Firepit with dense charcoal deposit and burnt rock No diagnostics found in asso.)</i>		

Gill Farm 19-NF-158	3,840±100 BP	Beta 42371
<i>(Feature 5 Small, shallow hearth with charcoal stained subsoil, and burnt rock No diagnostics found in asso.)</i>		

Gill Farm 19-NF-158	2250±110 BP	Beta 42372
<i>(Feature 3 Hearth/firepit wit charcoal stained, oxidized subsoil No diagnostics found in asso.)</i>		

Bibliographic references:

Ritchie, Duncan and Edna Feighner
(in prep) Data Recovery Program - Gill Farm (19-NF-98 and 19-NF-158) to be submitted to
Gill Farm Realty Trust, Marshfield, MA
PAL, Inc. Report No. 363

From Millbury, Massachusetts... Date: 3,510± 60 BP
Laboratory: Beta Analytic Lab number: Beta 38744 Sample Charcoal
Principal Investigator(s) Alan Leveillee, PAL, Inc. Site: Millbury III
Town: Millbury U.S.G.S. Quad: Grafton State: MA
Describe feature or object that was dated: Feature 1. Cremation Burial Feature.
Diagnostic artifacts directly associated Mansion Inn. Groundstone tool
Bibliographic references:
Leveillee, Alan and Ronald Dalton
(in prep) Data Recovery Program - Millbury III.
Report to be submitted. PAL, Inc. Report No. 360

From Middleboro, Massachusetts... Date: 790 ± 65 B.P.
(corrected for C-13)
Laboratory: Beta Analytic Lab number: Beta 32326
Principal Investigator(s): Curtiss Hoffman, Bridgewater State College
Name of Site: Wankinquoah - Read Co. Locus Sample Charcoal
Town: Middleboro U.S.G.S. Quad: Snipatuit Pond State: MA
Describe feature or object that was dated: Quartz flaking station; small scatter of charcoal was under and around debitage and anvil stones.
Diagnostic artifacts 1 quartz hammerstone, 1 (or more) granite anvils, 1 argillite core, 1 quartz preform, 3 casual tools of quartz, and 210 flakes of quartz at all stages of reduction from large cobble to shatter, from within a single 1-meter unit.
Bibliographic references:
C. Hoffman
1990 Wankinquoah Business Park Archaeological Intensive Survey:
on file at MHC.

From Providence, R.I...

Institution responsible for the excavation: PAL, Inc.
Laboratory: Beta Analytic Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): Shell
Principal Investigator(s) Suzanne Glover,
Town: Providence U.S.G.S. Quad Providence State: RI

<u>Name of Site</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Lab number</u>
Red Slipper Site (Unit EU 4 10-20 no diagnostic artifacts found in association)	1,160± 70 BP	Beta 41304
Red Slipper Site (Feature 2 no diagnostic artifacts found in association)	400± 90 BP	Beta 41304

Bibliographic references:
Glover, Suzanne and Burr Harrison
(in prep) Phase I and II Archaeological Investigations.
Interceptor Sewer Route, Butler Hospital, Providence,
R.I. To be submitted to Metcalf and Eddy Inc.,
Wakefield, MA. PAL, Inc. Report No. 357

PUBLICATIONS, NEW REPORTS

Little, Elizabeth A.

1990 The Nantucket Indian Sickness. In Papers of the Twenty First Algonquin Conference edited by William Cowan, pp. 181-196. Carleton University, Ottawa.

1990 Nantucket Test Pit No. 1990-1 at the University of Massachusetts Field Station, Nantucket, Massachusetts. Report submitted to the Massachusetts Historical Commission. Nantucket Historical Association, Nantucket, MA .

Nicholas, George P.

1990 The Archaeology of Early Place: Early Postglacial Land Use and Ecology at Robbins Swamp, Northwestern Connecticut. Ph D. Dissertation, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. University Microfilms, Ann Arbor.

GENERAL
ANNOUNCEMENTS

ROBERT S. PEABODY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY
GRAND REOPENING

You are cordially invited to a
GRAND REOPENING
of the

Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology
Friday, April 5, 1991 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Phillips Academy Andover, Massachusetts

The museum will reopen with a new exhibit,
"Warren K. Moorehead: The Man Behind the Museum",
which highlights the history and accomplishments of the museum.

Reception sponsored by the Ladies Benevolent Society

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

In celebration of the 200th anniversary
of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society

Michael Robbins, President of the Society of Antiquaries of London,
will give a lecture entitled

"The Past in the Present: Developing Attitudes to the Past in Britain and Elsewhere".

The lecture will be held on Saturday May 18th at 2:00 p.m.
at the Museum of Fine Arts, Remis Auditorium
Huntington Avenue, Boston

There is no admittance charge for the lecture,
and CNEA members are invited to attend a cheese and wine reception afterwards.

PLANNED CONFERENCE ON HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

The Warwick Historic District Commission is a Certified Local Government body responsible for implementing historic zoning and promoting preservation within Rhode Island's second largest city. Alan Leveillee (PAL, Inc. and WHDC), and the Commission have been awarded a grant by the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission to sponsor a one day conference, to be hosted by the city of Warwick. Organized by Alan and Paul Robinson (RIHPC), the focus of the forum will be the contribution of historical archaeology to our understanding of the past.

Tentatively scheduled for October 19th, five morning papers will consider historical archaeology from differing perspectives. The afternoon "workshops" session will be a moderated synthesis of the key points of the morning with an open (but orchestrated) forum for audience and panel discussion.

We are in the process of inviting speakers and organizing the event. Please keep an eye out for notice of the conference.

FIELD SCHOOL - UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE

The University of Southern Maine will be conducting three historical archaeology field school sessions this summer at the Isles of Shoals, Maine and New Hampshire. Sessions available will run from August 5 - 17, 19-31 and 5 - 31. For information and an application, contact:

USM Summer Session - Historical Archaeology Field School
96 Falmouth Street
Portland, Maine 04103

REQUEST FOR RESEARCH UPDATES: AMERICAN ANTIQUITY

George Nicholas is now the Current Research: Northeast editor for American Antiquity. He is soliciting research updates from the CNEA membership at large. If you have something to report that is of regional significance, send it along (approximately 100 words per project). The next deadline is December 31, 1991 Reply to:

Department of Social and Environmental Studies
Cariboo College
Kamloops, British Columbia V2C 5N3
604-828-2020 FAX: 604-828-5086

CONFERENCE ON NEW ENGLAND ARCHAEOLOGY REQUEST FOR ARTICLES

Please submit a brief paragraph on your current New England Archaeological research for inclusion in the next CNEA Newsletter. Also submit any new bibliographic titles for books, articles, reports, etc. in American Antiquity format. Thank you.

Please return by October 1, 1991 to:

Alan Leveillee
The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.
387 Lonsdale Avenue
Pawtucket, RI 02860

or to your local CNEA Steering Committee representative. [If possible send your contribution on a computer diskette (with paper copy) using a Macintosh application or an ASCE file format]. Please specify the computer model and word processor operating system used to create your file. Your diskette will be returned to you. Begin by stating your research topic, research questions, and how your data are used to answer your research questions.

NAME:

INSTITUTION:

MAILING ADDRESS:

BIBLIOGRAPHIC ENTRY:

RESEARCH TOPIC:

C-14 DATES (See page 29)

PLEASE MAIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

REQUEST FOR
RADIOCARBON DATES

Please report C14 dates as fully as possible.

Date: _____ +/- B.P.

613C

Laboratory: _____ Lab number: _____

Institution responsible for the excavation: _____

Principal Investigator(s): _____

Name of Site: _____

Town: _____ U.S.G.S. Quad: _____ State: _____

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): _____

Describe feature or object that was dated:

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) directly associated with the date:

Bibliographic references:

CNEA NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION POLICY

The purpose of the CNEA newsletter is to strengthen communication and facilitate a continuous interchange among archaeologists who work in New England.

To this end researchers are encouraged to submit short abstracts on their current research by topic or region, bibliography, and radiocarbon dates.

One volume of the newsletter will also include a position paper which is solicited by the steering committee addressing the annual meeting topic.

Any other submitted papers will be reviewed by the steering committee prior to their inclusion in the newsletter.