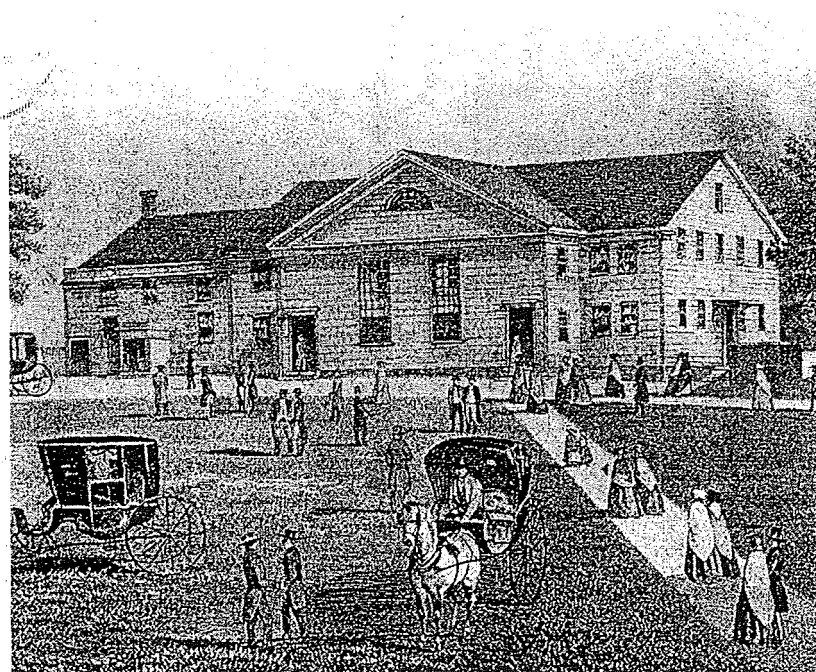


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CONFERENCE ON
NEW ENGLAND
ARCHAEOLOGY

NEWSLETTER

Volume 18 April 1999



The Great Friends' Meeting House in Newport, Rhode Island,
as it appeared in the mid-nineteenth century
(courtesy of the Newport Historical Society)

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COASTAL AND MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ENGLAND: CURRENT RESEARCH ISSUES AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Contributed commentary by Jordan E. Kerber,

The purpose of this position paper, as I understand it, is to set out current research issues and future directions in coastal and maritime archaeology in New England. Based upon my training and research experience, however, I will focus on topics pertaining to prehistoric coastal (i.e., along shore, littoral) adaptations, as opposed to maritime (i.e., deep sea, pelagic) adaptations and historical archaeology. Much of my discussion is open-ended and intended to be provocative, as I try to identify themes, raise questions, and stimulate ideas that can be explored during further discussion at the Conference on New England Archaeology in May. For those readers who are less familiar with aspects of prehistoric coastal and maritime archaeology in New England, I suggest the reviews by Lavin (1988) and Sanger (1988), which developed out of a symposium on coastal adaptations on the Atlantic Coast of North America.

Current Research Issues

Many of the research issues and questions that are pursued by coastal archaeologists working in New England have been around for several years, some for at least three decades. For starters, precise definitions of key terms are lacking in the literature. Some researchers use the terms "coastal" and "maritime" synonymously, while others do not. What exactly do we mean by "coastal," "maritime," as well as "marine," "interior," and "inland," for that matter? When these terms are used to define environmental zones or settings, what criteria ought to be established (e.g., elevation/bathymetry, linear distance, salinity levels, biotic diversity, etc.)? Further, must we agree upon standard criteria, or should the criteria depend upon specific projects and local conditions? Of course, these terms also may be used to refer to resources and adaptations. Are they defined in a consistent manner?

In addition to definitions, I see three major research issues that have been and are still of particular importance in the prehistoric coastal archaeology of New England: 1.) the development, evolution, and intensification of coastal adaptations; 2.) the reconstruction of paleoenvironments; and 3.) the effects of rising sea levels on the archaeological record and its interpretation. Indeed, other issues exist, which I expect will be addressed at this spring's conference, but are too numerous to be incorporated in this short paper.

Attempting to investigate the earliest use of the coastal zone in New England has received considerable attention. Where might one expect to find the region's oldest coastal sites? Do any occur on dry land? How intensively did Paleoindians utilize the shores of New England? Responding to these and related questions points to a sobering fact, which is well known to coastal archaeologists and geologists: the coastal zone has been profoundly transformed as a result of several environmental processes, most importantly eustatic (i.e., global) and isostatic (i.e., relative) sea level changes. In most circumstances over the past 12,000 years or so, the net result has been and continues to be the inundation of former land surfaces (i.e., transgression), though in some situations, due to crustal rebound, former marine settings may be exposed as dry land (i.e., recession). Thus, the study of the development, evolution, and intensification of coastal adaptations is inextricably linked to the necessity to conduct paleoenvironmental reconstructions and to integrate the data from these studies into archaeological

research. As any coastal archaeologist worth his/her salt knows, a site situated along today's shore does not necessarily mean that it was near the coast when inhabited. One needs to determine the location and other attributes of the shoreline that existed at the times the site was utilized if one is to attempt to understand the dynamics of coastal adaptations that may be represented at the site.

The Holocene transgression may be seen as both a creator and a destroyer of coastal areas desirable for human use and settlement. On the one hand, relative sea level rise has created productive littoral settings. Once the rate of relative sea level rise began to decrease precipitously, around 3,000-4,000 B.P. in parts of New England, numerous temperate estuarine ecosystems developed. Eventually these habitats matured along with their associated salt marshes and mud flats, and together they would have provided human populations with abundant and diverse food resources (e.g., shellfish, fin fish, and waterfowl). But as relative sea level continued to rise, albeit at a slower pace, these ecosystems and many, if not all, the sites situated along their fringes would be drowned, forcing human groups to move farther inland and/or to higher elevations.

The submergence of sites located along paleoshorelines has created a serious bias in the archaeological record of New England. How is it possible to understand patterns of prehistoric coastal adaptations when an unknown number of sites containing evidence of these adaptations are underwater or destroyed altogether? It is problematic to study prehistoric coastal adaptations based solely upon the investigation of sites that are currently situated on dry land. This is especially apparent when we attempt to understand why relatively few Paleoindian and Archaic sites contain dense deposits of coastal resources, especially shellfish remains. Is this pattern simply due to the bias resulting from rising sea levels (i.e., most of the earlier coastal sites are inundated), or were environmental conditions not yet favorable for providing abundant coastal resources prior to the Woodland Period, or are both of these factors relevant? While the bias of site submergence can never be eliminated, are there counteracting measures that we can develop to improve our interpretations of prehistoric coastal adaptations?

Attempting to create models of prehistoric coastal settlement systems in New England has been another popular topic. Based upon a synthesis of relevant data and interpretations, McManamon and Bradley (1986:22-23) have presented three general models that focus on the following aspects: synchronic and diachronic variety of coastal activities; seasonal timing of these activities; and when and why year-round occupation of the coast began. The models differ by positing either year-round or seasonal use of the coast or prehistoric sporadic summer settlement followed by sedentary villages during the Contact Period. None of these models, however, is entirely supported by the archaeological data from all areas of coastal New England (Kerber 1988; Luedtke 1988). Thus, other models are still needed to help us understand the diverse coastal adaptations practiced within the region. A related issue is the apparent intensification in the use of coastal resources during the Woodland Period. We may first ask whether specific locales along shore were most attractive for exploitation during the Woodland Period, as opposed to earlier times? If so, can we assume that this was due to the presence of productive estuarine ecosystems or perhaps the occurrence of arable soils along the coast, both of which would operate as so-called "pull models?" Conversely, can we identify any changes in the availability of inland resources (i.e., freshwater, animals, and wild and domesticated plants) or in population size that would have contributed to an increase in the utilization of coastal resources (so called "push models")? These questions underscore the importance of examining relationships between coastal and interior adaptive patterns, as human groups who exploited resources along shore did not necessarily restrict their settlements there.

Of all the types of coastal resources recovered from sites, shellfish remains, particularly shell middens, have received the greatest amount of our attention. One obvious reason is that shells tend to be the most common and most conspicuous cultural material retrieved at coastal sites. This is due partly to the popularity of shellfish meat in the diet of the prehistoric creators of shell-bearing sites and because of the excellent preservative qualities of the calcium carbonate in the molluscs. Researchers

have pursued a wide range of issues related to shellfish remains, which may be expressed by the following questions: Were shellfish a dietary supplement, staple, or seasonal staple (Claassen 1991a)? Were shifts in the distribution of the remains of different shellfish species in middens related to changes in technology (Snow 1972), increasing human familiarity with shellfish habitats (Ritchie 1969), fluctuations in environmental conditions (Braun 1974), food taboos (Newman 1974), and/or other factors? How were shellfish harvested, processed, and stored (Lightfoot and Cerrato 1989; Little 1986), and can gender roles be identified in these activities (Claassen 1991b)? To what extent are shell middens indicators of sedentism and population size? What are the most effective ways to sample shell middens (Bourque 1996; Dincauze 1996; Shaw 1994)? And how accurate are C14 dates of shells (Little 1999) and shell-growth studies for identifying season(s) of death (Claassen 1990)?

Future Directions

Prehistoric shellfish remains and shell middens also point to an area of interpretation that has received little attention. These remains and features tend to be interpreted solely in economic terms, specifically as food refuse. I raise for further discussion the possibility that shell deposits and the use of shellfish may have reflected more than just subsistence. In some human and animal burials associated with shells, it is conceivable that the shells themselves possessed symbolic meaning and ceremonial significance (Kerber 1999). The same shellfish could have been collected for both the meaning of the shells and the consumption of their meat on ritual and non-ritual occasions. By attempting to understand why burials were put within features that also contain shells and why shells were placed in burials, we may begin to look at shell deposits in more complex ways than simply food refuse. Shell-burial associations in general raise several questions: Was it significant to prehistoric peoples that shells individually and/or collectively covered or were placed near specific burials and similarly that other burials were placed intrusively within deposits of molluscan remains? Did the whiteness of the shells have value in a system of color symbolism? Were any of these shells the remains of ritual feasting in connection to burying the dead? While we may be unable to provide definitive answers at present or in the future, the mere asking of such questions enables us to think of some shell features in a less conventional manner.

Another future direction in New England coastal archaeology has to do with an increased emphasis on performing intensive site-oriented research, as opposed to regional surveys. This trend is currently underway, as reflected by three recent books (Bernstein 1993; Bourque 1995; and Kerber 1997). Regional surveys have been especially important in New England coastal archaeology for the past 25 years or so. Many coastal sites have been identified this way, and others certainly will continue to be discovered by these surveys. At this stage in the development of New England coastal archaeology, however, elucidating and interpreting aspects of prehistoric coastal adaptations are most effectively achieved through in-depth studies of individual sites. The copious data obtained from such detailed investigations can be integrated to reveal broader regional patterns that surpass the scale of analysis provided by surveys. Bernstein (1993:xiii-xiv) articulates a similar position on the value of a site-oriented archaeology:

I have more and more come to believe that New England archaeologists have exhausted the survey data available today; the major breakthroughs in our understanding of prehistoric life come when we devote the time and resources necessary to explore one locale in great detail. It is only with this level of effort that we can begin to grasp the complexity typical of even relatively small archaeological sites. Although our research questions need to be framed at the regional level, the information required to answer them will have to come from site-specific investigations.

If we are to increase the emphasis on intensive excavations, we must think creatively to identify alternate sources of funding and labor to support such exceedingly costly and time-consuming research

projects. Of direct relevance here is our continued promotion of public outreach and community-oriented programs in archaeology and our attempts to convince municipal governments to encourage data recovery of particular significant coastal sites that are not protected by the federal or state regulatory process. Examples of past successful efforts along these lines, though not all in the coastal zone, have been discussed by Hoffman (1994), Kerber (1994), Ritchie and Gardescu (1994), Poirier and Bellantoni (1994), and Simon (1994). The strides made by these individuals and others provide us with valuable models for the twenty-first century.

We will also be forced to determine which of the important prehistoric coastal sites warrant intensive excavation. Clearly, not all can or should be subjected to a data-recovery level of investigation, but how do we decide which ones to select? Should we target only those endangered by development or vulnerable to submergence, or do we expand the scope to include any prehistoric coastal site that we deem to possess extraordinary research potential? Do our coastal management plans need to be revised in order to respond to these and other pertinent questions? Such questions and the concerns they raise become even more pressing as the Holocene transgression continues to impact prehistoric cultural resources through erosion and inundation, and the rate of sea level rise increases due to presumed global warming.

Further, as a growing number of prehistoric terrestrial sites along New England's shores become drowned sites, we ought to look seriously at the prospects of conducting underwater archaeology on future (and current) submerged remains and to include these prehistoric resources within management plans, if they are not already. But first it is necessary to consider the effects of inundation on different types of prehistoric cultural material within various coastal environments. Barber (1979) initiated such an ambitious task, which should be continued in order to help us address a host of questions: What condition and context may we expect drowned prehistoric cultural resources to exhibit? Are there some microenvironmental settings (i.e., the shores of sheltered inlets and bays) that may minimize the erosive impacts of submergence and actually increase the potential for site preservation? What predictive models can we employ to locate underwater sites, including those that are deeply buried by sediment? What are the best methods to sample inundated sites and features and to curate the recovered waterlogged materials? It is fruitful to look beyond the region where underwater and wet-site archaeology have been performed successfully on prehistoric deposits (e.g., Johnson 1992; Purdy 1988; Ruppé 1980). Such a broader perspective also provides us with insight into other current research issues and future directions in New England coastal archaeology.

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CONFERENCE ON NEW ENGLAND ARCHAEOLOGY

1999 ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, May 8, 1999

Maritime and Coastal Archaeology in New England

The 18th annual meeting of the Conference on New England Archaeology will be held at the Urban Forestry Center, Portsmouth, New Hampshire and is being hosted by the Strawberry Banke Museum

Registration, Coffee, and Socializing
8:30 - 9:00 am Urban Forestry Center

Reception, cash bar, and tour of the Museum
4:00 - 6:00 pm Jones House Archaeology Center
Strawberry Banke Museum

Box lunches are available to pre-registrants for \$8.00
Contact Tres. Charlotte Taylor no later than May 1, 1999

DIRECTIONS TO THE URBAN FORESTRY CENTER

The State of New Hampshire - Division of Forest and Lands - **Urban Forestry Center** is located on Elwyn Road, off of Route 1 in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

From I-95:

Take exit into the Portsmouth Traffic Circle (Meadowbrook Motel, Holiday Inn, and Howard Johnson's). From the Circle take Route 1 Bypass to Route 1 (Lafayette Road). Go about 2 miles through a series of 5 lights to the stoplights near Yoken's Restaurant. Turn left onto Elwyn Road, take the first left turn (approximately 500 feet) into the **Urban Forestry Center** road to the parking lot.

The **Urban Forestry Center** is well-signed on Route 1 just before you get to Yoken's.

From Route 4:

Take Route 4 to the Spaulding Turnpike, across the General Sullivan Bridge, past Pease International Tradeport (bear to the left) into the Portsmouth Traffic Circle. Follow the above directions from there.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- 8:30 Coffee and Registration
- 9:00 Opening Remarks
David K. Schafer
- 9:15 The Archaeology of 1690, the Year of Living Dangerously in New England
Emerson W. Baker
- 9:45 A Paleoenvironmental Context for the Middle Archaic Occupation of Cape Cod, Massachusetts
Frederick J. Dunford
- 10:15 BREAK
- 10:30 Living on the Frontier of Acadia: The Richard Foxwell Trading Post
Alric Faulkner and David P. Cling
- 11:00 Archaeology on the Boston Harbor Island after 25 Years
Barbara Luedtke
- 11:30 LUNCH
- 12:30 CNEA BUSINESS MEETING
- 12:45 The Rhode Island Marine Archaeology Project
D. Kathy Abbass
- 1:15 Late Archaic Coastal Hunter-Gatherer Adaptation in Central Maine: Perspectives from the Stanley Site, Monhegan Island, Maine
Stuart Eldridge
- 1:45 BREAK
- 2:00 Continuity and Change: Archaeology on Martha's Vineyard
Holly Herbster
- 2:30 The Archaeology of Wharves: Investigations at Salem and Plymouth, Massachusetts
Mitchell T. Mulholland
- 3:00 Commentary
- 3:30 Open Discussion
- 4:00 Conference ends -- Reception at Strawberry Banke Museum
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ABSTRACTS

The Archaeology of 1690, the Year of Living Dangerously in New England

Emerson W. Baker
Salem State College

The early years of King William's War (1688-97) were an utter disaster for New England, but a bonanza for present-day archaeologists. In 1690 the Salmon Falls raid and the destruction of Fort Loyal meant the abandonment and destruction of most settlements in Maine. Several month's later Sir William Phips failed expedition against Quebec resulted in the loss of four ships and hundreds of men. Excavations at a fortified fishing station (Sagadahoc Island), a coastal farmstead (Richard Hitchcock site, Biddeford Pool) and the mansion house of sawyer and merchant Humphrey Chadbourne (South Berwick) provide a diverse range of sites in Maine destroyed between 1689 and ships and hundreds of men. Excavations at a fortified fishing station (Sagadahoc Island), a coastal farmstead (Richard Hitchcock site, Biddeford Pool) and the mansion house of sawyer and merchant Humphrey Chadbourne (South Berwick) provide a diverse range of sites in Maine destroyed between 1689 and 1690. This data can be compared to the results of the recent joint underwater excavations by Parks Canada and the Province of Quebec on a ship wrecked on the St. Lawrence River during Phips's expedition. This vessel contained a militia company from Dorchester, Massachusetts. Archaeological work at these four sites are providing a unique opportunity to examine the range of society and economy in coastal New England a time of significant stress and change.

A Paleoenvironmental Context for the Middle Archaic Occupation of Cape Cod, Massachusetts

Frederick J. Dunford
Cape Cod Museum of Natural History

In this paper I discuss Middle Archaic period (8000 - 6000 B.P.) settlement and subsistence systems on Cape Cod in the context of postglacial sea level rise and the marine transgression of the coastal lowlands during the early Holocene. During that time the rapidly rising sea provided both opportunity and constraint for the human communities that occupied Cape Cod. While sea level created especially productive (albeit transitory) marine ecosystems like estuaries and salt marshes, it also provided an increasing circumscribed landscape as the southern shoreline of Cape Cod retreated more than 40 km between 10,000 and 6000 B.P. I propose that the archaeological record of the Middle Archaic on Cape Cod, although incomplete, provides insight into the manner in which the local population responded to these exceptionally dynamic environmental conditions.

Living on the Frontier of Acadia: The Richard Foxwell Trading Post

Alric Faulkner and David P. Cling
University of Maine, Orono

Seventeenth-century French charts of the Saint George River have long noted the ruins of an "English House" on the northwestern side of the river. Lying within territory claimed by the French since the early 1630s, the site location is of considerable political if not strategic moment. Here trader Richard Foxwell set up a trading House in 1633, only to have it wrested from him by Acadian leader Charles Aulnay in 1636. For two decades this established de facto the boundary between New England and Acadia, and marks the southwesternmost French claim along the coast of Maine.

After considerable searching, a archaeological team from the University of Maine finally identified Foxwell's House in the summer of 1998. The site proved to be a well-preserved time capsule of an early, remote English outpost. The remains of what we believe is a substantial, el-shaped post-in-ground structure with a large, stone-lined cellar and fieldstone chimney box have been partially exposed. The Foxwell House has produced tightly-dated English tobacco pipes and West-of-England ceramics, but as yet no indication of subsequent French occupation. Indeed, it appears that the structure was hastily abandoned and burned.

Archaeology on the Boston Harbor Island after 25 Years

Barbara Luedtke
University of Massachusetts, Boston

As of the summer of 1999, 25 years will have passed since my first archaeology project on the Boston Harbor Islands. In this talk I will reflect on what we've learned in this time, comment on what we still don't know, and suggest directions that future research on the Islands might take.

The Rhode Island Marine Archaeology Project

D. Kathy Abbass
Rhode Island Marine Archaeology Project

For the past seven years the Rhode Island Marine Archaeology Project (RIMAP) has studied a number of submerged cultural resources in Rhode Island and regional waters. The project has trained more than 250 volunteer sport divers in basic archaeological skills and ethics, many of whom then participate in the fieldwork under professional archaeological direction. This effort has produced studies of a number of sites, representing many periods of maritime history, including Colonial, the Revolutionary War, the slave trade, steamship transport, and the World Wars. This presentation will give a brief overview of RIMAP's past research and 1999 plans.

Late Archaic Coastal Hunter-Gatherer Adaptation in Central Maine: Perspectives from the Stanley Site, Monhegan Island, Maine

Stuart Eldridge
Northfield Mt. Hermon

The Stanley Site on Monhegan Island, Maine, 12 miles off the central coast, is entrenched in the literature as a Late Archaic swordfish hunting station and has been an integral part of hypotheses regarding coastal adaptations of the period for many years. The site, however, has not been excavated professionally until this decade. Current test investigations at the Stanley Site have indeed produced dated swordfish remains and diagnostic artifacts of the Late Archaic. However, the traditionally convenient inclusion of this site in a large scale, regional settlement and subsistence strategy must be critically examined in the framework of coastal hunter-gatherer adaptation models and theory.

Continuity and Change: Archaeology on Martha's Vineyard

Holly Herbster
Public Archaeology Laboratory

The island of Martha's Vineyard is experiencing an explosion in popularity, resulting in new construction and development of a scale not seen since the turn of the century. As Vineyarders deal with their changing natural landscape, CRM investigations have taken on an important role in recording and preserving the unique cultural landscape of the island community. Drawing on the framework established by William Ritchie in the 1960's, archaeology today is helping to link the Vineyard's present community with that of the past.

The Archaeology of Wharves: Investigations at Salem and Plymouth, Massachusetts

Mitchell T. Mulholland
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Like the tells of the Middle East and the pyramids of Mexico, historic wharves contain substantial and well-preserved evidence of early structures, buried over time as old wharves were covered by new construction. Archaeological investigations of Derby and Central Wharves in Salem, Massachusetts, and Craig and Jackson's Wharves in Plymouth are discussed. The studies provide rare glimpses of wharves' internal structures, and changes in techniques of wharf construction in response to the dynamics of maritime economics in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Early in their existence, wharves were important components in both maritime shipping and foreign trade. As shipping declined in importance, wharves became important elements in local fuel- and bulk-goods-related commerce, and in the expansion of new real estate.

CURRENT RESEARCH

CONNECTICUT

Discoveries in New Milford

contributed by Lucianne Lavin

The Phase III archaeological investigations at the Larson Site on the grounds of the new New Milford High School was completed March 2, 1999. Thousands of artifacts and over 500 features were uncovered. Laboratory analysis has only begun, but tantalizing specimens include Middle Archaic Neville and Otter Creek projectile points, ax and celt heads, thumbnail scrapers, denticulate scrapers, bipitted anvil stones and much more. Over three hundred valid (i.e., sectioned) post molds were found. Hopefully the plan map being formulated by Dr. Brian Jones of the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, based on his transit survey of the features with other volunteers from MPMRC will provide information on presently unknown Middle Archaic community structures and settlement. Great thanks to all the many other archaeologists who braved the frigid wind chill and volunteered their time to help excavate this very important Archaic site in Western Connecticut.

Putnam Park Update

contributed by Dan Cruson

Beginning on September 19th and continuing until November 15th, a continuous series of weekend digs was held at Putnam Park. I directed the excavations assisted by a group of my Anthropology students from Joel Barlow High School and some volunteers from the Friends and Neighbors of Putnam Park, the newly created support group for the park. Our efforts concentrated on a relatively undisturbed hut site at the northern end of the Company Street. This hut was part of a Revolutionary

War winter encampment occupied during the months of December through April of 1778-79. The area excavated was used by Enoch Poor's Brigade of New Hampshire troops, although there was also a group of Continental soldiers who had been raised in Canada that were camped there as well. The hut area was filled with a thick layer of charcoal that had been created when the huts were burned upon being abandoned in the spring of 1779. Mixed into this charcoal was a great number of very small bone fragments which were apparently the remains of many meals that had been dumped onto the dirt floor and walked on for the several months of the occupation. This bone had been calcined and so was fairly well preserved, although the pieces are so small that identification by species is going to be difficult if not impossible.

The scatter of bone, however, has yielded one other unexpected bit of information; the location of the hut walls. At least the east wall of the hut is clearly outlined by the absence of bone. We are just beginning to look for the other walls which were not obvious as we excavated. Other features consisted of the collapsed remains of the huts chimney which had fallen into the cooling remains of the hut shortly after burning. There was also a small shallow ash pit that had been dug into the floor of the hut to accommodate waste ash from the fireplace. This must have been done early in the encampment since there was a soap shortage beginning in January and there were incentives offered for those who saved their fireplace ash, according to an eyewitness account of the camp which has just been discovered this past spring. There were also several very large rocks right in the middle of the hut floor. Since they extended down into the glacial till and since they exhibited fire reddening from the final burning of the hut, it appears that the hut was built around these rocks and that they were never removed from the finished structure. As one of our young excavators observed, "They really do make

rather handy seats." which is true, but only if you are excavating the hut floor with a trowel and can put your feet into the unit. Besides this there were the usual finds of eighteenth-century military artifacts which ranged from musket balls to the remains of a small medicine vial. Work on these artifacts is continuing over the next several months and it is hoped that a final report will be finished by this spring followed by a detail account of the find in a future Bulletin.

1999 Summer Archaeology and Research Program at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, Mashantucket

The staff of the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center currently is pursuing a number of excavation and research agendas for the upcoming field season.

A Phase II survey is underway at the Preston Plains site, a 10-acre parcel north of the Reservation on Rt. 2, in preparation for the construction of a natural gas station. Preliminary testing has recovered material dating from the Early Archaic to the nineteenth century with a number of concentrations tentatively slated for more intensive Phase III excavations.

Other research plans include an architectural survey of extant historic structures on the Reservation as a means to document and analyze Pequot building traditions through time. The cultural ecology of the Reservation also is being explored, with particular emphases on the prehistoric and historic role of the Great Cedar Swamp within the Pequot community, an inventory of introduced plant species as potential markers for archaeological sites, and native plant use through time as hypothesized from botanical materials recovered from prehistoric and historic sites. In addition, collaborative research with members of contemporary native communities is being conducted in order to better understand continuity and change within the ethnobotanical record of Southern New England.

The University of Connecticut's summer field school, under the direction of Dr. Kevin McBride, will be conducted on the Reservation from June 1 - July 28, with a proposed focus on reconnaissance survey techniques in coastal and estuarine environments in order to locate late prehistoric/early contact Pequot sites. There is also a possibility of limited block excavations at selected sites. For further information, contact Paula Couture-Palmerino at palmerino@csu.cted.net.

Members of the staff recently presented their current research at the annual Northeastern Anthropological Association (NEAA) conference, held this year at Rhode Island College. The topics included a review of the prehistory of Mashantucket by Brian Jones (Archaeology Field Supervisor) and a synopsis of the Early Archaic Sandy Hill excavations by Dan Forrest (UConn graduate student). Kevin McBride (Director of Research) discussed the role of Monhantic Fort during King Philip's War and Jason Mancini (Staff Archaeologist) presented his research on ethnobotanical traditions among historic and contemporary Native communities. Kristen Heitert (Historical Archaeology Lab Tech.) reviewed archaeological examples of native vernacular architecture on the Reservation, and Doug Currie (Head Conservator) discussed the use of soil micromorphology in archaeological analyses. Additional papers on the development of a lithic thin-sectioning library at the Museum and soil micromorphology were presented by Brian Jones and Doug Currie, respectively, at the Geological Society of America (GSA) meetings. Kristen Heitert also presented a second paper reviewing "ephemeral" Reservation architecture and the identification of unusual features associated with that architecture at the annual meetings of the Society for American Archaeology (SAA).

For more information about current research at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, call (860) 396-6837 during business hours (8:00AM - 4:30PM), Monday through Friday.

MAINE

A Late Ceramic Period Pot from Site 5.06, Biddeford

contributed by Karen E. Mack,

In November 1998 ARC Inc. conducted Phase I archaeological survey of portions of the University of New England campus in Biddeford, Maine. A part of the fieldwork involved testing the extent of Site 5.06 which is located on the south side of the Saco River near its mouth. This large, Ceramic period site contains both shell midden and nonshell components. It is rich in well-preserved faunal remains and lithic, ceramic, and bone artifacts.

Thirteen ceramic vessel lots consisting of 970 sherds have been identified in the artifact collection. They include portions of vessels from Ceramic Period (CP) 1 to Ceramic Period 6 (ca. 3,050-400 B.P.) (Peterson and Sanger 1991). The distributions of these vessels suggests that Native Americans lived at different parts of the site at different time periods. Many of the Late Ceramic period pot sherds were recovered from black sandy (non-shell) midden deposits identified in the southern-most portion of the site on Hills Beach. The site has stratified midden deposits which suggest the potential for refining our understanding of the Ceramic period in southwest coastal Maine. Vessel Lot #1 occurred in a deposit of black midden sand. All 77 sherds attributed to this vessel were found within a single 50 X 50 cm test hole. This vessel has a Z-twist, fabric-paddled exterior surface and a smoothed and scraped interior surface. No decoration is present and it has crushed shell temper. The rim is smoothed, round, and straight with no modification. Rim thickness measures 4.2 mm and body thickness 1 cm below the rim is 6.0 mm. These characteristics correspond well with those described by Peterson and Sanger as typical of CP 6 (ca. 650-400 B.P.). A black crusty organic residue was discovered on the inside surface of several of Vessel Lot #1 sherds. This residue was scraped from the surface and sent to Beta Analytic for AMS dating. The measured ^{14}C age for the organic residue is 660 ± 40 B.P. (Beta-125339) which places the vessel at the very beginning of CP 6 which corresponds well

with the age estimate determined by analysis of the vessel lots physical characteristics.

The carbon sample was corrected for $^{13}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$ which produced an older conventional ^{14}C age of 750 ± 40 B.P. (calibrated results: AD 1225 to 1300, 2 sigma, 95% probability). As more calibrated ^{14}C ages for Native ceramics become available, the entire CP sequence may need to be adjusted backward in time a century or more. Petersen and Sanger (1991:151) note that the differences between CP 5 and CP 6 appear rather inconsequential. It may be quite difficult for a researcher to clearly distinguish between the two ceramic-making periods based on an undecorated and/or fragmentary vessel. Therefore, dating of the carbon deposited on the interior of a vessel may provide an opportunity to accurately date the vessel.

Petersen, James and David Sanger

1991 An Aboriginal Ceramic Sequence for Maine and the Maritimes. In *Prehistoric Archaeology in the Maritimes: Past and Present*. ed. by M. Deal and S. Blair, pp. 121-178. Council of Maritime Premiers, Fredericton, New Brunswick.

PNGTS Archaeological and Architectural Survey, Gilead to Westbrook

contributed by Sharon Swihart

UMass Archeological Services, under the auspices of Dr. Arthur Speiss, has completed its third survey for the Portland Natural Gas Transmission System in Maine. In the course of this survey, directed by Stuart Eldridge, Peter Morrison, and Christopher Donta, we encountered a variety of historic and prehistoric sites. In addition, our mission involved evaluating the impact of pipeline construction to the viewshed of standing historic structures, and creating an inventory of all stone walls encountered within the project area.

Five prehistoric lithic findspots were identified; in most cases verification pits did not turn up additional artifacts. None of these findspots contained features; none were recommended for further survey or avoidance.

Androscoggin River Prehistoric Site #3, consisting of a concentration of coarse-grained chert flake debitage, was recommended for avoidance, and no further data recovery was conducted here. All of these finds are consistent with previous prehistoric models for this area; the Androscoggin River and its interior drainages were exploited for the variety of resources they contained, but were generally unsuitable for long-term habitation. Hence sites found here are likely to represent transient use of the area, as opposed to permanent settlement.

Several nineteenth-century historic sites and communities were encountered; all were recommended for avoidance. The community of Bolster's Mills, in the towns of Harrison and Otisfield, was the most extensive of the sites we examined. In every case, however, these early sites have the potential for shedding light on the period of initial historic occupation of the interior hill country of southwestern Maine, and for revealing information regarding early social and economic development here.

MASSACHUSETTS

Archaeological studies at the Millbury III Cremation Complex, Millbury

contributed Alan Leveille

A series of archaeological studies, culminating in data recovery, has been conducted at the Millbury III prehistoric Native American archaeological site. These studies focused upon a cluster of Susquehanna Tradition secondary burial cremation features. The features that constitute the Millbury III cremation complex were created approximately 3500 years ago within parameters dictated by social and cultural criteria. Spanning more than 950 years, they reflect a continuity of ideology transferred and within parameters dictated by social and cultural criteria. Spanning more than 950 years, they reflect a continuity of ideology transferred and reinforced through

ceremonialism. Volume 1 outlines environmental and cultural contexts, methodologies, and a synthesis of results, and interpretations. Volume 2 includes contributions by research team analysts including Nick Bellantoni, Barbara Calogero, John Cross, Tonya Largy, Lucinda McWeeney, and Joseph Waller.

Leveille, Alan

1998 "An Old Place: Safe and Quiet": Program of Archaeological Data Recovery Millbury III Cremation Complex, Millbury, Massachusetts. 2 Volumes. PAL Report No. 396. On File Massachusetts Historical Commission. Boston, MA.

Data Recovery at Walnut Hill, Marlborough and Northborough

contributed by Timelines, Inc.

During the fall of 1998, Russell G. Handsman directed a program of data recovery that involved 11 weeks of field investigations at two small sites in Marlborough and Northborough, Massachusetts. The study area is located at the northwestern end of Walnut Hill east of Crane Swamp, a wetland whose long-term ecological histories are linked to Cedar Swamp, an extensive lake-and-wetland system that dominates the landscape of Westborough, Massachusetts. Earlier archaeological surveys and studies of this area, undertaken between 1994 and 1997 (Strauss 1996, 1997), identified two sites (Old Stony Brook and Crane Swamp) which would be disturbed by MWRAs plans to improve their water treatment facilities.

A Data Recovery was conducted at both sites using a modified Harris Matrix. At the Old Stony Brook site, three small blocks of one-meter squares were excavated and a detailed analysis of the recovered debitage is expected to identify resharpening flakes, the edges of which should show wear, and hafted knives which are thought to have been used for harvesting aquatic plants and reeds from Crane Swamp. At the Crane Swamp site, one block of ten 1.5 meters squares was completed.

Activities represented here include the manufacture of larger flakes for use as expedient tools, the manufacture of more specialized bifacial tools such as knives or choppers, or the production of specialized bifacial preforms for use in caches, social exchanges, or sacred contexts.

Strauss, Alan E.

1996 Intensive Archaeological Survey of the MWRA Walnut Hill Water Treatment Facilities, Marlborough, Northborough, and Southborough, Massachusetts. Report prepared for the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and the Massachusetts Historical Commission (Permit 1459). Boston Affiliates, Inc. and Camp, Dresser & McKee Inc.

1997 Phase II Archaeological Site Examinations at the Crane Swamp and Old Stony Brook Sites, MWRA Walnut Hill Water Treatment Facilities, Marlborough and Northborough, Massachusetts. Report prepared for the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and the Massachusetts Historical Commission (Permit 1532). Boston Affiliates, Inc. and Camp, Dresser & McKee Inc.

Intensive Survey and Site Examination of the Tura Site, Kingston

contributed by Timelines, Inc.

Timelines, Inc. has completed a site examination at the Tura Site, Kingston, Massachusetts, under the direction of Martin Dudek. This site was previously identified during an intensive (locational) survey by Timelines, Inc. for a planned cross-county pipeline segment of the wastewater treatment plan for the town of Kingston, Massachusetts. The site examination tested an area of approximately 13,200 square miles (3.26 acres or 1.32 hectares) with zones of disturbance and a brook defining the sites boundaries. Seventeen features were identified, including a Contact-period hearth with post molds, hundreds of calcined animal bone fragments, and associated

trade beads, a group of pit features with unburned bird bone in one, and a group of three post molds in a test pit.

The intensive survey and test pit and site examination recovered over 1,100 lithics, 80 pottery sherds, 17 ground stone/utilized cobbles, 10 contact-period artifacts, over 500 animal bone fragments, several shell fragments, and historic nineteenth- and twentieth-century materials. The lithics include 21 bifaces made from both local and non-local materials, consisting of four Large Triangle/Levanna points, a Neville-Variant or Atlantic-like point, two other stemmed points, a Small Triangle, two triangular bifaces, and other biface fragments. Other lithics include debitage, 11 quartz cores, and one granite uniface. The ten Contact-period artifacts include eight glass trade beads, one piece of utilized early bottle glass, and possibly one piece of wire-woven white (lead-based) sheet metal. The ferrous wire retains traces of what appears to be a hemp-like material wrapped around it.

The site is interpreted as multicomponent with possible Middle Archaic, Late Archaic, Late Woodland, and Contact-period components. Site integrity is fair, due to plowing and loam removal. Despite this, intact groups of Native American features were identified in the B horizon at more than three locations, including a Contact-period hearth with post molds contained burned and unburned animal bone and associated glass trade beads. The six blue glass and two white glass trade beads are similar to beads found on other early to mid seventeenth century sites. The beads could have originated with French or English seafarers or English settlers, and quite possibly the Pilgrims as Plimouth Colony is not far away. The evidence for a Contact-period food and meat processing camp along a tributary stream, the preservation of unburned bone in features from two areas, and the multicomponent aspect of the site all give this site significance. The site is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and D. It will be avoided by the Wastewater Treatment Plan.

Site Examination at the Dwight-Derby House, Medfield

contributed by Kathleen Wheeler and Ellen Marlatt

Independent Archaeological Consulting, LLC completed an archaeological site examination at the Dwight-Derby House in Medfield, Massachusetts in July and August, 1998. The project, funded by the Friends of the Dwight Derby House, Inc., with a matching grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission, tested areas of greatest impact from regrading and foundation work prior to renovation of the building. More than 7000 artifacts were collected from 26 excavation units, including six prehistoric flakes from the north side of the house.

The archaeological investigation at the Dwight Derby House has offered a glimpse at the changing fortunes of six generations of inhabitants at the house beginning with Timothy Dwight ca. 1652. The east yard, particularly, provided evidence of what may have been an urban dooryard, with access to and from the east parlor during the last quarter of the eighteenth century and the first quarter of the nineteenth century. In the late 1700s, Hannah Dwight was living in the house with her adult daughter, with access to and from the east parlor during the last quarter of the eighteenth century and the first quarter of the nineteenth century. In the late 1700s, Hannah Dwight was living in the house with her adult daughter, Patty, who married and raised a family at the house. The east dooryard may have been an adaptation to allow both mother and daughter to maintain their role as female head of household, by turning the east parlor into a second kitchen.

Site Examination at the Stetson House, Hanover (ca. 1711 to present)

contributed by Joyce Clements

Joyce Clements, Consulting Archaeologist, assisted by field technicians Paul Mohler, Jeff Coutu and Matt Daniels, completed a Phase II

Site Examination at the Stetson House, Hanover, Massachusetts. The site examination consisted of documentary and contextual research, and excavation of seven test trenches (50 cm x 1 m) within the construction footprint. Subsurface excavations produced moderate quantities of artifacts dating from the eighteenth to the twentieth centuries. Subsurface horizons consisted of strata redeposited during household renovation and construction of modern drainage features. The test are a contains no intact, significant archaeological deposits and archaeologists therefore recommended that the proposed utility trenches be constructed as planned. The final report of investigations is on file at the Massachusetts Historical Commission, Boston.

Archaeological Investigations on Martha's Vineyard

contributed by Elizabeth Chilton

Last summer, the Lucy Vincent Beach site (19-DK-148) was tested by the Harvard Archaeological Field School on Martha's Vineyard. The five-week field school was administered by the Harvard Summer School and was comprised of 14 students and four instructors: Elizabeth Chilton (Director), Dianna Doucette (Assistant Director), and teaching assistants Kit Curran and Chris Jasparro. The Lucy Vincent Beach site is located in the Town of Chilmark on an eroding cliff face, fifty feet above sea level; the site is seriously threatened due to beach erosion. The site is multi-component and produced artifacts dating from the Late Paleoindian period (10,000 B.P.), the Middle and Late Archaic periods (8000-3000 B.P.), the Late Woodland period (1000-500 B.P.), and the Contact period (seventeenth century). Artifacts recovered included stone tools, debitage, ceramic vessel fragments, Native ceramic smoking pipe fragments, bone tools, European kaolin pipe fragments, and a gunflint. A total of twenty, 2 X 2 meter test units were excavated to an average depth of 25 cm below the surface, at the bottom of the plow zone.

Fifty-seven archaeological features were encountered at this depth, including numerous postmolds, pit features (trash or food storage pits), and a large fire hearth. Pit feature contents included large quantities of shell, faunal remains, and wood charcoal. Flotation, botanical, osteological, and radiocarbon analyses are currently underway and are being funded by a grant from the William F. Milton Fund. On-going analysis of these remains will be critical in helping us to interpret changing subsistence and environment on the Vineyard over the past 10,000 years. If you are interested in attending the 1999 Field School on Martha's Vineyard, please contact Dianna Doucette at 617-4 95-4396 or doucette@fas.harvard.edu.

Site Examination at the Jackson Homestead, Newton (ca. 1670 to present)

contributed by Joyce Clements

Joyce Clements, Consulting Archaeologist, assisted by field technicians Jeff Coutu, Matt Daniels, Jon Howard, Alesia Paresi, and J.N. Leith Smith, conducted a Phase II Site Examination at the Jackson Homestead, in Newton, Massachusetts. The site examination addressed eight areas where subsurface construction was necessary to stabilize the building's sills, improve drainage, replace existing walkways, and repair accessways. Archaeologists also monitored construction of a trench to place utilities below grade in the western lawn.

Subsurface testing revealed a late nineteenth-century trash midden, landscaping and utility features and provided considerable evidence of episodic repair and renovation to the structure. To the north of the ell archaeologists exposed what may be a portion of the foundation for the original homestead (ca. 1670) or part of an historical well which was later enclosed inside the renovated homestead. Archaeologists concluded that some historical deposits have maintained their integrity and offer potential for further research. Therefore originally proposed drainage pipes were not placed along the ell, and drainage was improved by shovel-shaving upper level soils to create an

appropriate slope. Archaeologists determined that the remainder of the project could proceed as originally planned. The final report of investigations is on file at the Massachusetts Historical Commission, Boston.

The Abbott Homestead, Bedford (ca. 1725-20th century)

contributed by Joyce Clements

Joyce Clements, Consulting Archaeologist, assisted by field crew David Brown, Mary Concannon, Matt Daniels, Marc Holloway, Jon Howard, and John Kelly, conducted a Phase II site examination and Phase III data recovery of a chaise and loom house at the Abbott Historic Site (BED-HA-4) in Bedford, Massachusetts. Archaeobotanical specialist Ms. Tonya Largy analyzed faunal remains and conducted a survey of existing vegetation.

The results of the documentary, contextual and field research provided a close-grained view of agricultural and domestic subsistence patterns in early Bedford. This information facilitates the interpretation of local agricultural structures and strategies and provides comparative data for other researchers who wish to examine rural Massachusetts from the late eighteenth century to the early twentieth century. Genealogical data demonstrated interlocking social and kinship ties which may well be duplicated in other communities and could represent a regional pattern of family structure at the turn of the century. The agricultural implements, tools, crops, and outbuildings provide detailed information on the nature of early farming practices and identify important components of the early rural economy. An analysis of spinning and weaving provided considerable information on the nature of textile manufacture and its importance to the farmstead women. The results of that analysis will be presented for publication. A draft report is on file at the Massachusetts Historical Commission, Boston.

The Bidwell House Farmshop, Monterey (The Piggery) (ca. 1790-present)

contributed by Joyce Clements

Joyce Clements, Consulting Archaeologist, assisted by Matt Daniels, conducted a Phase II Site Examination at the Bidwell House Farmshop ("The Piggery") in Monterey, Massachusetts. Careful examination of the farmshop's architectural features, informed by documentary and contextual review, suggested that "the piggery" was in fact a small storage shed constructed some time after 1790, quite probably during the farmstead improvements undertaken by John Devotion Bidwell in the early decades of the nineteenth century. Subsurface testing produced very shallow deposits of sheet refuse in topsoil horizons, and a dense refuse midden behind the structure to the west. Artifacts from the midden provided samples of domestic refuse and architectural debris associated with episodic household renovation.

Excavations also revealed a series of flat stones laid across the entrance to the building to produce a secure footing around the doorway. The stone walkway was carefully created with a sense of aesthetic and is an important visual component in the landscape. Staff from the Massachusetts Historical Commission therefore consulted with the restoration specialists to mitigate negative impacts to the feature. Within the remainder of the project restoration proceeded as originally planned. The final report of investigations is on file at the Massachusetts Historical Commission, Boston.

The Burr Lane Cemetery, Canton (ca. 1733-1800)

contributed by Joyce Clements

Joyce Clements, Consulting Archaeologist, assisted by field technicians Matt Daniels, Jon Howard, and Paul Mohler evaluated the eighteenth-century Christian Indian burial ground at Burr Lane in Canton. The investigation produced the evidence of 12 distinctive grave shafts, one potential grave

shaft, the disturbed remains of two individuals, and an isolated female skull. Archaeologists found no evidence of a Meetinghouse, dwellings or outbuildings within the project area, although documentary references identified an orchard, a wigwam, a house, and possibly a Meetinghouse nearby.

These structures and associated archaeological deposits were undoubtedly destroyed by a gravel quarry which operated immediately adjacent to the project area in the 1950s and 1960s. The property owner and developer donated a Preservation Restriction to the Massachusetts Historical Commission to ensure that the burial ground will be preserved in perpetuity, and the Burr Lane Cemetery has been listed in the State Register of Historic Places. The final report of investigations is in preparation.

Westborough Heritage Museum

contributed by Ruth Warfield

In 1985 Massachusetts deeded the Nathan Fisher House Property to the town of Westborough under the aegis and management of the Westborough Historical Commission. Once the circa 1820 Federal style Colonial is restored, it will become the Westborough Heritage Museum. Slow progress due to funding constraints led the 1998 town meeting to decide to lease a portion of the land. Initially the income will be used to repair and restore the property, later it will be used towards building maintenance, tours, exhibits, and programs. The Friends of the Nathan Fisher House, a non-profit operating under the jurisdiction of the Commission, will be raising additional funds.

An inventory of the Commission's prehistoric artifacts should be completed this year allowing exhibit planning to begin. Volunteers are currently doing all work. Individuals interested may contact: Jacqueline Tidman, Chairman of the Westborough Historical Commission at 508-366-3048. The work of the Westborough Historical Commission was recognized in the most recent issue of CRM, a publication of the Department of the Interior.

The Northside Militia Field, Charlton (ca. 1801-1886)

contributed by Joyce Clements

Joyce Clements, assisted by field technicians Jon Howard, John Kelly, and Paul Mohler conducted a Phase I intensive (locational) archaeological survey at the Northside Militia Field in Charlton, Massachusetts. Field investigations produced evidence of general sheet refuse containing historic artifacts and two features associated with refuse burning on the eastern margins of the Militia Field. Neither the features nor the sheet refuse were considered potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and proposed construction proceeded as planned. However, the views and vistas surrounding the field allow a viewer to imagine how Northside Village may have looked during the Federal Era, and archaeologists suggested that those views and vistas be cherished and protected.

National Register District Nomination, Moore State Park, Paxton

contributed by Sharon Swihart

UMass Archaeological Services archaeologists Mitchell Mulholland and Sharon Swihart, and historian Thomas Arcuti are in the process of developing a National Register District Nomination for Moore State Park in Paxton, Massachusetts. We are working under the auspices of Patricia Kish, of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management.

The project area consists of a mill village at the base of Eames Pond, as well as associated residences, schools, and farmsteads. The mill village itself consisted of saw and grist mills, and a triphammer. This is an exciting project to develop, because the fortunes of the mill village follow closely the dynamics of United States history. A particularly interesting example of this is found in one explanation for the decline and closing of the mills; it was not for want of demand for their products per se, but because the able-bodied work-force was

drained from the area by the opportunities offered by west-ward expansion into the prairie states and beyond. Thus, in a sense we can observe our history in microcosm in a small corner of Paxton. We believe the final nomination document will be compelling to a wide audience because it will cover a broad range of topics of individual interest.

Investigations at Boston College

contributed by Timelines, Inc.

An intensive (locational) archaeological survey was conducted in a one and one-half acre parcel on the Chestnut Hill campus of Boston College in Newton, Massachusetts. Previously a reconnaissance survey had indicated that the project area had potential for historic features associated with the nineteenth-century development of the property. Included in this survey was documentary research, subsurface testing, remote sensing, and machine-assisted excavation. These archaeological investigations were directed by Barbara Donohue of Timelines, Inc.

While the systematic testing of the entire property with shovel test pits managed to locate possible foundation stones and, with the use of SURFER, designate areas of artifact concentrations, these results did not provide enough information to adequately evaluate these findings. Ground truthing results of the remote sensing investigations with machine assisted excavation proved that the remote sensing was remarkably effective in predicting the location of the former residence, possible outbuildings, and features associated with the property -- such as a brick vault, a possible well, and several drain systems.

The results of the field investigations coupled with historic documentation attests to having located the site of the Twing/Haynes/Slade residence circa 1806-1887. The discovery of this site is important as it chronicles the development of this section of Newton from a farming community to suburban haven and will provide information on this economic and social transformation of nineteenth-century Newton.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Archeological Survey for the Route 108 Bridge over the Squamscott River, Stratham and Newfields.

contributed by Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc.

Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. completed a Phase IB archeological survey in July 1998 for a bridge replacement project over the Squamscott River in the towns of Newfields and Stratham, Rockingham County, New Hampshire. This survey tested the area of potential effect of the project that includes areas along the road as well as on the banks of the river.

A total of 266 shovel tests was excavated throughout the project area. Prior to testing the expectation was for finding prehistoric deposits along the river on both sides of the bridge. But, disturbance in many places has disturbed or destroyed prehistoric deposits that may have been present. However, in two locations north of the river eighteenth- and nineteenth-century deposits were identified. These deposits include foundation remains and associated midden deposits, probably derived from one of the houses depicted on the nineteenth century maps of the area.

Accompanying the foundation remains were primarily eighteenth-century ceramics and other household materials, with several chert flakes mixed into the matrix. The ceramics include creamwares and pearlwares, black glazed redware, delftware, French Faience, white salt-glazed stoneware, buff bodied slip decorated earthenware, and hand painted porcelain. Other items include wine bottle glass, a slate pencil fragment, a copper alloy buckle, copper alloy buttons, and wrought iron hooks, as well as leaded glass, clasp knife fragments, kaolin pipe fragments, and wrought nails. The only definitive nineteenth-century artifacts are several whiteware fragments and cut nails found mostly near the surface.

Although the prehistoric sensitivity of the area is high with several large sites nearby, only a few Native American artifacts were

found during the survey. All occurred in conjunction with historic artifacts. South of the river a stone plummet was found in a test along the road and a quartzite flake was found in the area of a nineteenth-century bridge toll house. North of the river some chert flakes were found in association with the foundation remains and several other quartzite flakes were found mixed with the remains and several other quartzite flakes were found mixed with the historic materials.

Phase II testing of the historic foundation and deposits is expected during the coming year.

Recent Archaeological Projects at Strawberry Banke Museum

contributed by the Strawberry Banke Museum

The Strawberry Banke Museum Archaeology Division is excited to host the annual meeting of the Conference on New England Archaeology on May 8th, 1999. This will be the first time that the conference will take place in New Hampshire. A reception will be held at Jones House that day from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. We are looking forward to seeing everyone there!

The Archaeology division is busy completing the Museum Center North Wharf project. Artifacts from this summer's excavations have been processed and the data-entry complete. Crew members have been busy scanning the flotations, cross-mending and analyzing the artifacts from the site. Mary Dupre and Evelyn Fowler are finishing up the archival review. Efforts now are concentrating on report writing. We hope to have the report written by March 31. Once completed, work will continue on the South Wharf site that was excavated in the spring of 1998. Sandra Dechard, a Boston University Graduate student, has begun archival review on the south side of Puddle Dock. South Wharf artifacts have been cataloged and numbered allowing crew members to start cross-mending the ceramics. The final report for this project will be completed by June 1, 1999. These reports will provide us with a better understanding of the small tidal inlet,

known as Puddle Dock. Other work is still continuing at Jones House. Rebecca Mckernan is writing the final report for work done at the Shapiro House. Carolyn White is making trips from Winterthur to photograph our personal adornment artifacts that she is using in writing her graduate school dissertation. Volunteers, Bob Barth and Sally Strazdins are continuing with cataloging the Warner House artifacts and beginning cross-mending of ceramics.

Archaeological Survey of the Town of Newington

contributed by Kathleen Wheeler and Ellen Marlatt

Independent Archaeological Consulting, LLC has been contracted to conduct the first of a three-year archaeological survey for the Town of Newington as part of a Certified Local Government Grant. The survey, administered by the Newington Historic District Commission, will locate and identify archaeological resources along Little Bay and the National Wildlife Refuge along Great Bay from Broad Cove to the Peverly Brook drainage. Particular attention will be paid to areas which have seen much modern development and encroachment, to known historic sites, and to the prehistoric shoreline of the bays. The aim of the Newington HDC is to locate and catalog subsurface resources in order to protect them.

IAC expects that several archaeological sites will be identified in the first phase of research and fieldwork in 1998-1999 as Great Bay and Little Bay (as well as the Piscataqua River drainage) were important elements in the trade and transportation systems for Native American peoples and European settlers. The survey will also develop a partnership with the Great Bay Wildlife Refuge to produce an interpretative plan of historic resources along the bay. Long-term objectives are to develop an educational program for Newington school children that can be worked in curricula on local history, math, and science.

RHODE ISLAND

Late Archaic Marine Adaptive Strategies in Bristol

contributed by Alan Strauss

Cultural Resource Specialists have been excavating a site in Bristol, RI that contained five Orient Fishtail Points found *in situ* all long subsurface features which included deer mandibles, sharks teeth, shell, fish vertebrae, and animal bone. The faunal remains are being analyzed at Harvard. Radiocarbon samples were collected from the features as well. The site also contains two Wayland Notched Coburn type points, a possible Stark Point, a Squibnocket Triangle, and Small Stemmed Points. Located where the Kickamuit River enters Narragansett Bay, the site was an ideal location for exploiting marine resources. The Phase I and II have been completed and a Phase III was recommended. It is hoped that site will shed light on marine adaptive strategies during the end of the Archaic Period.

Johnston Historical Cemeteries Nos. 86 and 88, Johnston

contributed by the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

In July 1998, PAL, Inc. completed the archaeological excavation of two nineteenth-century family cemeteries in Johnston, Providence County, Rhode Island. The cemeteries, which occupied land owned by the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC), were moved to make way for RIRRC's Phase IV Expansion project. Jim Garman and Jay Waller directed the project, while Thomas Crist of Kise Straw Kolodner served as the project bioarchaeologist.

PAL, Inc. excavated a total of 71 graves from the two cemeteries, termed JN 86 (1823-ca. 1850) and JN 88 (1854-1936). At JN 88, however, interment of individuals in subsurface brick vaults has generated a wealth of information concerning health, material culture, and burial practices among middling farmers in Rhode

Island's interior. Excavation of JN 88 also provided insight into values specific to the families in question: at least three of the burials were secondary interments, highly-esteemed family members moved from other burial grounds when the new cemetery was established in 1854.

Close coordination with descendant families contributed immeasurably to the success of the project. At this writing, family members are writing responses to the draft project report. Their comments will form the basis of the last chapter of the final report, which will be available in May 1999.

Archaeological Survey of the Great Friends' Meeting House, Newport

contributed by the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

PAL, Inc. has completed an archaeological survey of the Great Friends' Meeting House (GFMH) in Newport, Newport County, Rhode Island. Constructed in 1699, the GFMH is one of Newport's most significant historical properties. The Newport Historical Society (NHS) is planning construction of a new Center for Newport History on the site.

In 1969 and 1970 Plimoth Plantation, led by James Deetz, conducted preliminary investigations at the site as part of the restoration of the structure. Plimoth identified an unmarked seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Friends' cemetery north of the GFMH and an extensive Late Woodland Native American site beneath the floorboards of the 1735 addition. The present investigation, directed by Jim Garman and Paul Russo, used remote-sensing and hand-excavated trenches to establish the limits of the cemetery. Of particular interest was the identification of the original Carriage House (1705-1805). Artifacts and faunal remains recovered from the interior of the Carriage House, while a small sample, may indicate the presence of Hessian troops on the grounds during the occupation of 1778-1779. The NHS is considering additional work on the site with

PAL as it moves closer toward decisions about where to site the new center and how to incorporate the archaeological remains into its interpretive plan.

Data Recovery at the Historic Sisson-Greene Site RI 1591

contributed by Timelines, Inc.

A data recovery program was conducted at the Sisson-Green property (RI 1591) in Portsmouth, Rhode Island. The investigations were directed by Barbara Donohue of Timelines, Inc. Earlier archaeological investigations (Garman and Russo 1995) resulted in the discovery of features that were attributed directly to specific historic households. Based on the intact nature of these discovered archaeological deposits and their ability to address several research questions, the site was determined to be potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Data recovery fieldwork identified two additional foundations and the remains of a stone wall; no other intact features (such as trash pit, privy, etc.) that have the potential to address the research questions posed in the site examination report/data recovery permit were revealed. The project area had either witnessed considerable disturbance (from various building activities as well as form infrastructure associated with the former Quaker Hill Trailer Park located adjacent to the project property to the south and east) or various episode of fill activity that were not discerned during the site examination testing.

While the results of the fieldwork are not quite what was expected, those findings coupled with documentary research have provided insight into the development of land use patterns of this property from the early-nineteenth century, when it was known as Bags Orchard, to its development by Albert Sisson and Nahum Greene from 1813 to 1937 when it was surveyed for its current boundaries, and finally its association with the Quaker Hill Trailer Park.

GENERAL

Recent Acquisitions in the Northeast by the Archaeological Conservancy

contributed by Rob Crisell

In their first year on the East Coast, the Archaeological Conservancy has purchased four sites in New York, Maine, and New Hampshire, and are close to acquiring several more.

In Rochester, New York, for instance, with the help of Rochester Museum and Science Center archaeologists Brian Nagel and Martha Sempowski, they have purchased the Tram site, a 17th-century Seneca Iroquois village.

In New Hampshire, thanks to New Hampshire Deputy State Archaeologist Dick Boisverts enthusiasm and contacts, they have purchased an option on a Paleo-Indian site in Jefferson. This site represents some of the most exciting evidence for Paleo-Indians in northern New England.

In Maine, with the help of University of Vermont archaeologist Jim Peterson and amateur archaeologist Mike Brigham, they have purchased two multi-component prehistoric sites near the town of Milo. Jim conducted excavations at these sites in the mid-1980s, discovering among other things the earliest identified squash remains in the Northeast.

The support that the Archaeological Conservancy has received here on the East Coast has been overwhelming. Many of the archaeologists who have aided the Conservancy with their time and expertise will almost certainly be in attendance at this year's CNEA meeting. The Conservancy's appreciation goes out to them. With their continued assistance, we all can look forward to preserving many more of New England's remaining archaeological treasures.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Dincauze, Dena F.

1998 Boylston Street Fish Weirs. In *Archaeology of Prehistoric Native America: An Encyclopedia*, edited by Guy Gibbons, pp. 88-91, Garland, New York.

1998 Neville Site. In *Archaeology of Prehistoric Native America: An Encyclopedia*, edited by Guy Gibbons, pp. 561-562. New York: Garland.

The encyclopedia has entries on archaeological sites, periods, cultures, and types. It's a large, illustrated, dictionary-size volume.

Goodwin, Lorinda B. R.

1999 *An Archaeology of Manners: The Polite World of the Merchant Elite of Colonial Massachusetts*. With a foreword by Mary C. Beaudry, Plenum Publishers.

The merchant community in Massachusetts found itself in a position of leadership during the colonial period and employed mannerly behavior and imported material culture to reinforce that situation. These New English merchants selected and adapted contemporary British manners (which had in turn evolved from medieval courtly behavior) to create a new, American form of polite behavior that at once created hierarchy and enabled communication between members of different ranks. In this work, historical archaeological evidence is employed to demonstrate the how polite rituals reproduced the social and material world of commerce.

Hart, John P., ed.

1998 *Current Northeast Paleoethnobotany*, New York State Museum Bulletin #494. New York State Education Department, Albany.

There are 335 pages, including 52 figures and 34 tables. The book should be available for purchase in Spring 1999 through the New York State Museum publications office: 518/449-1404.

- Chapter 1 Introduction, John P. Hart
- Chapter 2 Changing Evidence for Prehistoric Plant Use in Pennsylvania, Francis B. King
- Chapter 3 Sunflower in the Seneca Iroquois Region of Western New York, Connie Cox Bodner
- Chapter 4 Dating Roundtop's Domesticates: Implications for Northeast Late Prehistory, John P. Hart
- Chapter 5 Corncobs and Buttercups: Plant Remains from the Goldkrest Site, Tonya B. Largy, Lucianne Lavin, Marina E. Mozzi, and Kathleen Furgerson
- Chapter 6 New Data on the Chronology of Maize Horticulture in Eastern New York and Southern New England, Daniel Cassidy and Paul Webb
- Chapter 7 Prehistoric Use of Plant Foods on Long Island and Block Island Sounds, David J. Bernstein
- Chapter 8 Chenopodium in Connecticut Prehistory: Wild, Weedy, Cultivated, or Domesticated? David R. George and Robert E. Dewar

- Chapter 9 Changing Subsistence Strategies in the Pre- and Post-Contact Subsistence Systems of Southern New England: Archaeological and Ethnohistorical Evidence, Jeffrey C. Bendremer
- Chapter 10 Mobile Farmers of pre-Contact Southern New England: The Archaeological and Ethnohistorical Evidence, Elizabeth S. Chilton
- Chapter 11 Paleogeographic Changes in Wetland and Upland Environments in the Upland Environments in the Milford Drainage Basin of Central Maine in Relation to Holocene Human Settlement History, Heather Almquist-Jacobson and David Sanger
- Chapter 12 Prehistoric Plant Use in Maine: Paleoindian to Contact Period, Nancy Asch Sidell
- Chapter 13 Northeastern Paleoethnobotany: How Are We Doing? Gary W. Crawford.

Johnson, Eric S.

- 1998 "Released From Thralldom By the Stroke of War": Coercion and Warfare in Native Politics of Seventeenth-Century Southern New England. *Northeast Anthropology* 55:1-13.

Levine, Mary Ann, Kenneth E. Sassaman, and Michael S. Nassaney, eds.

- 1999 *The Archaeological Northeast*. Foreword by Alice B. Kehoe. Native Peoples of the Americas Series, Bergin & Garvey, Westport.

Despite the advances made in archaeology over the past generation, the Northeast remains the most misunderstood of all the archaeological regions of North America. With a complex environmental history shaped by ice sheets from the last glaciation, and highly acidic soils characteristic of the area, the kinds of organic artifacts found in other areas have been destroyed in the Northeast. The result is a sometimes evasive, particularly complicated, and always fragmentary archaeological record. As the chapters in this volume demonstrate, the Northeast is a region that inspires the development of innovative research designs and thoughtful and relevant questions. Each author has been a graduate student of Dena Dincauze, who has done much to foster understanding of the prehistory of Northeastern North America.

Ancient People, Ancient Landscapes

Exploration, Colonization, and Settling-In: The Bull Brook Phase, Antecedents, and Descendants, Mary Lou Curran

A Light but Lasting Footprint: Human Influences on the Holocene Landscape, George P. Nicholas

Paleoenvironmental Context for the Middle Archaic Occupation of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, Frederick J. Dunford

Rethinking Typology and Technology

"By Any Other Name...": A Reconsideration of Middle Archaic Lithic Technology and Typology in the Northeast, John R. Cross

A Southeastern Perspective on Soapstone Vessel Technology in the Northeast, Kenneth E. Sassaman

Ceramic Research in New England: Breaking the Typological Mold, Elizabeth S. Chilton

Critical Perspectives on Entrenched Assumptions Myth Busting and Prehistoric Land Use in the Green Mountains of Vermont, David M. Lacy

Critical Theory in the Backwater of New England: Retelling the Third Millennium, Elena Filios

Fishing, Farming, and Finding the Village Sites: Centering Late Woodland New England Algonquians, Robert J. Hasenstab
Community and Confederation: A Political Geography of Contact-Period Southern New England, Eric S. Johnson

Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Northeastern Prehistory

History of Zooarchaeology in New England, Catherine C. Carlson
Native Copper in the Northeast: An Overview of Potential Sources Available to Indigenous Peoples, Mary Ann Levine
Radiocarbon Dating of Shell on the Southern Coast of New England, Elizabeth A. Little

Contributions from Cultural Resource Management

The Significance of the Turners Falls Locality in Connecticut River Valley Archaeology, Michael S. Nassaney
An Interdisciplinary Study of the John Alden Houses, 1627 and 1653, Duxbury, Massachusetts: Archaeology and Architecture, Mitchell T. Mulholland

Little, Elizabeth A.

1997 Nantucket Indian Place Names. *Historic Nantucket* 46(4):9-16. Slightly revised and reprinted from The Papers of the 15th Algonquian Conference (1984).

REQUEST FOR CURRENT RESEARCH

Please submit a brief paragraph or two describing your current New England archaeological research for inclusion in the next *CNEA Newsletter*. A call for submissions will be sent out in January 2000. Also please submit any new bibliographic titles for books, articles, reports, etc. Next year's *Newsletter* will incorporate graphics, so if you have a particularly informative image, consider sending that as well.

Send this material to any CNEA steering committee member or directly to the *Newsletter* editors (addresses inside front cover). If possible, please submit your contribution as an "attached file" via email or on a computer diskette. Please specify which word processing system you used to create the file.

As per the decision made at last year's CNEA business meeting, the steering committee was charged with considering the merits of changing the newsletter's appearance to book form. Thus we anticipate the new millennium with a new-and-improved format. Blank pages are conveniently located at the end of the *Newsletter* to provide space for note-taking at this year's annual meeting.

A thank you to all who contributed to this issue of the *Newsletter*. Elizabeth Little takes an uncontested first prize for the timeliness of her contribution. A special thanks goes to James Garman and Jennifer Cox of the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. who provided the cover image. We are pleased to announce that next year's *Newsletter* will be co-edited by David Schafer and Patricia Fragola. We look forward to seeing everyone of May 8th.

CNEA CONFERENCE TITLES

- 1999 Maritime and Coastal Archaeology in New England
- 1998 The Archaeology of Race and Ethnicity: The Making of Social and Historical Categories
- 1997 Creating and Interpreting New England's Environments
- 1996 Creating and Interpreting Cultural Identity
- 1995 Archaeology and History: Constructing New England's Pasts
- 1994 Archaeology of Place
- 1993 Commonality and Diversity in Archaeological New England
- 1992 Uses of the Past: Community History and Archaeology in New England
- 1991 Presenting Archaeology to the Public; Retrospective and Prospective Look at New England Archaeology
- 1990 Marginal Environments
- 1989 Human Burials
- 1988 Cores and Peripheries
- 1987 Archaeological Interpretation of the Structural Form
- 1986 Trade, Communication, and Transportation Networks
- 1985 What Cheer Netop?
- 1984 Constructing the Past
- 1983 Households
- 1982 Social Systems
- 1981 Uplands and Lowlands