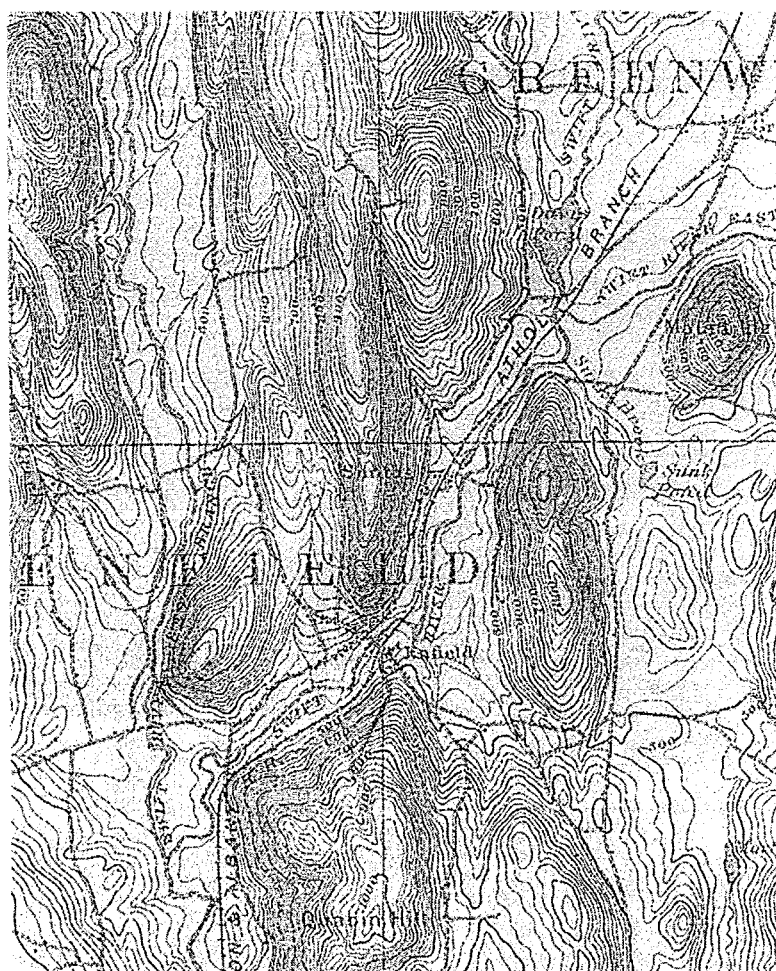


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CONFERENCE ON  
NEW ENGLAND  
ARCHAEOLOGY

NEWSLETTER

Volume 19 April 2000



(U.S.G.S. Belchertown, Massachusetts, Fifteen Minute, 1893)

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## CONFERENCE ON NEW ENGLAND ARCHAEOLOGY

### NEWSLETTER

Volume 19      April 2000

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

##### THE SETTLING AND UNSETTLING OF NEW ENGLAND

|   |    |
|---|----|
| <i>Contributed commentary by Paul A. Robinson</i> .....     | 1  |
| <i>Contributed commentary by Elizabeth S. Chilton</i> ..... | 4  |
| 2000 ANNUAL MEETING .....                                   | 10 |
| ABSTRACTS .....   | 12 |
| CURRENT RESEARCH  |    |
| CONNECTICUT .....   | 15 |
| MASSACHUSETTS .....   | 16 |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE .....   | 22 |
| RHODE ISLAND .....  | 24 |
| GENERAL .....   | 25 |
| NEW PUBLICATIONS .....                                      | 26 |
| RADIO-CARBON DATES .....                                    | 27 |
| EVENTS .....  | 28 |
| REQUEST FOR CURRENT RESEARCH .....                          | 29 |
| MISCELLANEOUS .....   | 29 |



## THE SETTLING AND UNSETTLING OF NEW ENGLAND: ARCHAEOLOGY AND HUMAN MIGRATION

*Contributed commentary by Paul A. Robinson*

The settling and unsettling of places is a topic of both historical and contemporary interest and significance. In this short essay, I have chosen to focus on the sort of settling and unsettling that is generally thought of as migration - that is, relatively permanent movements of people involving a change in residence, as opposed to more transitory movements such as nomadism, or the seasonal movements of a group within its territory. Migrations can be voluntary - recall President Reagan's friendly advice that if you don't approve of local policies you can leave, "vote with your feet." Many migrations, however, are forced, the result of warfare, political turmoil, slavery, and so forth. The Cherokee "Trail of Tears" was a forced migration. Other migrations may have both involuntary and voluntary aspects: the Brothertown Indian migrations of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries were voluntary, but brought about by trying circumstances. Regardless of what induces migration, the consequences can be profound and widespread, altering and transforming the racial, ethnic, political, and economic composition of lands and continents. Inducements to migration and the consequences of migration itself confront us daily, whether it be a tragic story of people attempting to reach the U.S. in over-loaded boats or trucks, increased racial and ethnic conflict in post-Cold War Europe, the FBI siege at Pine Ridge, or a confrontation (or friendly, but legally compelled, agreement) between a U.S. museum or federal agency and Native American tribe over a NAGPRA issue. The study of many forms of migration, it would seem, leads inevitably to the related issues of ethnic conflict, nationalism, discrimination, racism and the attempts of policy-makers and lay people to resolve those problems.

One of the largest migrations in recorded history was the movement of millions of people from Europe to North America. New England was one of several continental gateways. Beginning in the seventeenth century with the settlement of Plymouth, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, and Connecticut, and continuing to the present, this 400 year migration has been episodic with succeeding waves of new people sparking new conflicts between those who considered themselves "indigenous" or "native" and the new immigrants. The first European (English) settlers in New England encountered a bewildering array of indigenous communities, tribes, chiefdoms, and confederations, some of which may have been fairly recent arrivals themselves (Fawcett 1995:8-10). The English defeated many of these people militarily, settled their lands, and in time thought of themselves as indigenous. This transformation was described by Ruth Herndon and Ella Sekatau (1997) as town clerks in eighteenth-century Rhode Island began recording Indians as simply "colored." An elemental reversal, or as Herndon and Sekatau put it, an act of "documentary genocide" had taken place: Narragansett and other local Indians had become part of the people who had been forcibly taken from Africa; the English had become indigenous. In the 1970s, an old-blood New England Yankee would (with a sense of irony?) state this nativist position at the dedication of a local Indian museum, "... our roots belonged here," she said, "and our ancestors were buried here just as deep, if not deeper, than the Indians." Later waves of immigrants - the Irish in the 1840s, the Italians later in the century - also would struggle against the discriminatory practices of the self-designated New Englanders.

An archaeology of migration might involve the consideration of three general interdependent and non-hierarchical parts: 1) a description of the factors that induced individuals, families, and groups of people to leave their homelands; (2) an examination of the consequences of the migration for those that migrate as well as the new host country or place; and (3) a characterization and interpretation of the material pattern of the migration. In the instance of the European migration to New England, one might examine how the English first supplanted and then recast the indigenous population, and how the new

nation and its localities did or did not deal with succeeding episodes of immigration in terms of citizenship, nationalism, and policies of integration. Paired with these issues might be topics of identity, accommodation, and resistance within the newly-arrived and originally indigenous communities. Such an archaeology can be especially informative at the level of the family or household. What we often have in the archaeological record, after all, represents what families brought with them and what they left behind as they made or did not make their way through new and difficult circumstances brought about by forces working at regional, national, and global levels.

The difficulties and opportunities of such an archaeology are suggested by a not untypical assemblage of artifacts from a small space in Rhode Island. Known as Fort Shumunkanuc, the site is represented by a small but diverse assemblage collected by Bill Simmons in the 1960s. The appellation "fort" is wholly unsubstantiated but stands, nonetheless, as a literal reminder of the English invasion. The assemblage includes a quartz small stemmed point, a felsite Levanna point, several quahog shell fragments, a fragment of sheet brass, a piece of redware, several pipe bowl fragments, several sherds of pearlware, and heavily corroded nail fragments. This assemblage might indicate several different sequences of recurring occupation by Native Americans beginning several thousand years ago and extending at least into the eighteenth century. Or it might represent one or more Native American groups and one or more European groups. Without adequate research of the documentary record and tribal oral histories, and without situating the site in the context of the great and small migrations of the period, one would have little chance of understanding the incredibly complex history represented by this small assemblage. The site is on the original 1709 Narragansett Indian reservation near shellfishing areas that were used at least since 3000 B.P. By 1860, it was part of a Yankee farm. Some Narragansett families left the area between ca. 1760 and 1860 to escape colonial, state, and tribal oppression with others returning to stay late in the nineteenth century.

There were, of course, movements of people to New England prior to the European migration, all of which are controversial to greater or lesser degrees and for various reasons within the archaeological community and the interested public. In chronological order these are: 1) when did the first people arrive? 2) do the Susquehanna/Laurentian assemblages represent different peoples? 3) when did the Iroquois come to New York and what were the consequences of that arrival for local and New England people? and 4) is there archaeological evidence to support a fairly recent Pequot/Mohegan arrival in southern New England as described by Melissa Fawcett in *The Lasting of the Mohegans* ? (1995:10).

One of the critical tasks necessary to examine any of these questions is to identify different patterns of material culture within large regions. This can be a particular problem in New England which was carved (somewhat inconsiderately) by the English into several small (and one very small) colonies. Mitch Mulholland visited all the state offices and some other repositories during his dissertation research and successfully identified regional patterns that encompassed several states (Mulholland 1985). But we all can't go to the trouble to do what Mitch did. In Rhode Island, we are in the process of putting all of our site file data and text into the RI Geographical Information System. We hope to have this finished and available in about a year. This will greatly facilitate regional pattern recognition and, if joined with other state databases, would enable a "geo-comprehensive" look at the dispersal of the different artifacts that may represent the movements of people. The availability of GIS-based archaeological data on the Internet not only would make moot (permanently?) state boundaries, but also might enable anyone with access to the Internet to conduct research independent of institutional constraints and dogma.

*Many thanks to the Steering Committee for inviting this essay and especially to Charlotte Taylor for many helpful comments. I'm looking forward to the conference and hearing what people have to say about this very interesting topic.*

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## THE SETTLING AND UNSETTLING OF NEW ENGLAND: RETROSPECT AND PROSPECTS

*Contributed commentary by Elizabeth S. Chilton*

The topic of this year's Conference on New England Archaeology is "The Settling and Unsettling of New England," which encompasses the movement of peoples to, from, and within the region from the Paleo-Indian through historic periods. Writing a position paper that does justice to such a complex and politically charged topic is no small task. Nevertheless, I applaud the Steering Committee's selection of this important theme. It is important because it forces us to foreground people in our discussions of the archaeology of the region. The settling and unsettling of the region is an active subject that does not allow us to fall back on our usual security blankets (e.g., passive discussions of settlement patterns, subsistence change, and stylistic analyses). Instead, the issue requires us to speak in terms of real live groups of people and the movement of peoples during the course of individual lifetimes. While there are inherent difficulties in such an undertaking (as I discuss below), the topic itself inevitably will stimulate creative thought, debate, and the re-evaluation of old assumptions.

In the following discussion, I focus on two main issues which, I imagine, will be the focus of some discussion during the symposium in May: (1) the return of diffusionism and migrations to archaeological inquiry; and (2) techniques of identifying and tracing particular groups/populations archaeologically.

### **The Return of Migrations**

Diffusion, as an explanation of culture change, originally gained prominence in the late nineteenth century, and played a critical role in archaeological theory until well into the 1950s (Trigger 1989). During this period, many archaeologists "sought to identify often nameless prehistoric peoples by means of archaeological cultures and to trace their origin, movements, and interaction" (Trigger 1989:172). To some degree, these aims are still quite apparent in prehistoric archaeology today.

In the Northeast, diffusion was a popular form of explanation in the early twentieth century. For example, using a direct-historical approach, Arthur Parker traced the relationship between archaeological evidence and historically known Iroquois Tribes (see Parker 1916). In doing so, he traced the origins of the New York Iroquois to the mouth of the Ohio River, suggesting, among other things, that the Mohawk did not reach their historic position until the late sixteenth century (Parker 1916). The reputedly roaming Mohawk were also thought to have directly influenced New England peoples. For example, Fowler (1946:4-5) considered "Mohawk design elements" on pottery in the Deerfield, Westfield, and Connecticut Valleys of Massachusetts to be the direct result of Mohawk settlement. In northern New England, the so-called Red Paint people were also the subject of various migration theories (e.g., Thompson 1946).

Concerning the Iroquois, in the mid-twentieth century MacNeish (1952) and Ritchie (1961) suggested that there was little evidence of the migration suggested by Parker. They proposed, instead, an in situ hypothesis of Iroquois origins—a hypothesis that was based almost exclusively on what they perceived as continuities in ceramic types (see Ritchie and MacNeish 1949).

Thus began a period—lasting nearly fifty years in Northeast archaeology—where large-scale migrations and diffusionist models were decidedly out of vogue, as they were in all of North American



archaeology. Instead, archaeologists sought primarily to illuminate local developmental sequences. During the mid twentieth century, ecological and settlement archaeology gradually replaced strictly cultural historical approaches in the United States, and these approaches certainly influenced the work being done in New England. These more functionalist approaches eventually culminated in the New Archaeology of the 1960s and 1970s. The jargon of the New Archaeology in many ways helped archaeologists avoid (and perhaps led them to avoid) the task of identifying cultural identity. Instead, archaeologists could discuss "subsistence-settlement systems," "optimal foraging models," and "cultural systems." As Trigger (1989:296) puts it, "the ecosystemic view essentially ruled out human inventiveness and innovation."

Due largely to the post-processual critique of the New Archaeology in the 1980s, archaeologists in New England and elsewhere now more freely acknowledge human agency and historical factors in explaining or interpreting cultural change (whether that change is caused by internal or external factors). I believe these more humanistic understandings of archaeology as history have contributed to the revival of migration and diffusion and explanations of cultural change, albeit in new and more complex incarnations. The passing of NAGPRA in 1990 also has required many archaeologists to examine the relationship between present day Native groups and the archaeological cultures we study. Despite all of the political and logistical problems associated with NAGPRA, I would argue that it has forced many of us to answer the question "Who were these ancient people?"

Over the past ten years or so, there have been a series of models relevant to prehistoric migrations in the Northeast. I mention just a few of them here.

*New England's first migration.* In the early 1990s, Dena Dincauze refueled Paleo-Indian studies in the Northeast by proposing a model with a human face, the "pioneering model" (Dincauze 1993). In this model Dincauze proposed that large Paleo-Indian sites were "marshalling areas for people who had crossed their perceived frontier, camps from whence they scouted good habitats before dispersing into them" (Dincauze 1993). This pioneering model was liberating in that we could begin to think about the peopling of New England as a real human migration, with families, women, men, and children—not simply a story about tool forms and settlement systems. Dincauze's Pioneering Model (and discussions surrounding it) prompted me to explore the issue of Paleo-Women and to consider the lives of Paleo-Indians beyond the hunt (Chilton 1994). Whether or not everyone agrees with Dincauze's marshaling model, she at least has us talking about alternative models for initial colonization and early population expansions. Brian Jones' and Dan Forrest's papers in this symposium promise to continue this trend by presenting creative and dynamic models for the initial peopling and settling of New England.

*The Return of the Mohawk.* In the early 1990s, Dean Snow revived the Iroquois migration debates by proposing an Iroquois migration into New York just after A.D. 900 (Snow 1995; on the basis of evidence presented by Crawford and Smith [1996]), Snow later revised this date to A.D. 600 or earlier (Snow 1996). Snow certainly caused quite a stir among Iroquoianists by reviving a debate that everyone thought had been put to rest fifty years ago. Jim Petersen and Lucianne Lavin also have presented archaeological evidence for the movements of people during the Woodland Period. Lavin suggested a migration of marshland-adapted peoples into southern New England coincident with the appearance of the Windsor ceramic tradition (Lavin 1996). Petersen also relied on ceramic evidence to suggest the possible movement of St. Lawrence Iroquoian peoples into Northern New England (Petersen 1990). Again, whether or not everyone agrees with these particular hypotheses, these kinds of models have led archaeologists in the region to re-think long-held assumptions and to try to relate real human groups to artifact sequences.

### Identifying and Tracing the Movement of Peoples Archaeologically

Tracing the movement of people in the archaeological record is always slippery business, but it is especially difficult in the absence of written records. Only when we are discussing the initial

colonization of the region by Paleo-Indians can we be completely certain that we are dealing with actual migrations of people. (Perhaps this is why there are few papers in this year's CNEA conference that deal with the prehistoric record, and then only those that deal with the earliest migrations to the region). Thus, prehistoric archaeologists turn primarily to artifactual evidence for group identification and movement. But by focusing on certain artifact types (i.e., ceramics and projectile points), artifact type names often serve as a kind of short hand for social groups. One of the major potential problems with this approach is that the direction and source of prehistoric influences or population movements are often determined by where the type names were first developed. For example, it is clear that not all "Iroquoian-looking" pots in New England came from Iroquoia (see Pretola 2000). Thus, it is not only the objects or even the people that are moving—ideas themselves are also moving across fairly long distances. These ideas, of course, are moving with people, but perhaps only through social and/or economic interaction.

Since we know that, in many cases, there is not a one-to-one correlation between artifact style and ethnic/cultural group, identifying distinct social groups in the past becomes a tricky endeavor, indeed (see Luedtke 1996). For the most part, prehistoric archaeologists in New England acknowledge that they are describing and interpreting "archaeological cultures" and not necessarily "real" human social groups. The acknowledgement of an incongruity between "real" and "archaeological" cultures has come about, in part, as a result of ethnographic and ethnoarchaeological research, which has demonstrated that, in many cases, artifact morphology is less indicative of social identity than are techniques of manufacture (e.g., Lechtman 1977; Stark 1993; Lemonnier 1992). Archaeologists in the Northeast are starting to examine the decisions that were made by prehistoric peoples throughout the production sequence, rather than focusing on the finish products alone (Chilton 1996, Rieth 1997, Goodby 1994, Pretola 2000).

It is clear that instead of looking at only one type of material culture—ceramic style or projectile point type—archaeologists must examine the material evidence for the entire social system in order to identify distinct social groups. This is especially important for prehistorians in New England because it is clear that there was a great deal of mobility throughout prehistory, as well as fluid social boundaries right up to the Contact Period (Johnson 1993). We need to look at the big picture—settlement patterns within and between settlements, house types, subsistence, technical systems, mortuary patterns, and artifact types—in order to both identify and trace the movement of social groups.

For historic archaeologists, in some cases written records may give clues to the identity of certain social groups, while in other cases both written records and archaeological remains may obscure the identity of certain social groups. For example, since native peoples fairly quickly adopted European materials into their existing economies, evidence for seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Native Americans might be overlooked if one did not look beyond material culture to consider the larger social context. Indeed, the archaeological study of the Contact Period is a wonderful example of how there can be both continuity and change in artifacts and in the larger cultural system (see Thomas 1979). Similarly, some textual sources (e.g., census data) clearly misrepresent the ethnic affiliation of a large number of individuals, thereby obscuring the existence of certain social groups at various points in history. The "Lighthouse" project directed by Ken Feder is another example of the elucidation of the history of a group of people that might otherwise be overlooked in the telling of mainstream American history (Feder 1994). By relating archaeological data to historic records from a "village of outcasts," Feder was able to turn a standard archaeological project into a study of "real people from a real place" (Feder 1994:5). But do we need written records to move beyond the anonymity of the archaeological record? The answer is yes, if we are interested in understanding the life of a particular individual. But we do not need written records if our goal is simply to humanize our telling of the past.

## An Unsettled Past

The list of past CNEA conference titles provides evidence for change in the issues deemed to be important by New England archaeologists (e.g., "Social Systems" in 1982, "Core and Peripheries" in 1988, and "the Archaeology of Race and Ethnicity" in 1998). With this year's topic, "The Settling and Unsettling of New England," it is clear that archaeologists are interested in the formation, identification, and movement of social groups through time and space much as they were a century ago. But it is also clear from the list of papers that will be presented at the meeting in May that our understanding of group identity and movement in the past is far more complex than the archaeological explanations of a hundred years ago. For example, the movement of peoples in the historic period is far more than a simple colonization by Europeans. The historic period is also an opportunity to study the complexity of that colonization, which included many different social groups (Native Americans, African captives, English military personnel, Irish farmers, etc.) and many different social environments (e.g., urban landscapes as well as the unsettled landscape of the Green Mountains). The prehistoric record, likewise, does not only tell the story of an initial migration into the region. Once native peoples arrived in New England, there were periods of "settling in" and there were clearly periods when people moved both in and out of New England. I hope that our meeting in May will include some discussion of the Middle Archaic as the possible beginning of a "Settler Period," as suggested by Dincauze (1990). Another period that I hope will not be missed in this year's discussion is the Late Woodland period (A.D. 1000-1500). Did the adoption of maize horticulture during this period lead to a "settling in"? If so, it is clear that the amount and manifestation of "settling" was not uniform across the region (Chilton 1999). The adoption of new technologies and environmental change during both the prehistoric and historic periods undoubtedly caused changes in the way people spread themselves across the landscape and caused both the settling and unsettling of various regions within New England. However these stories unfold, it is clear that the more we know about the complexity of group identity and movement, the more unsettled our understandings become.

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**CONFERENCE ON NEW ENGLAND ARCHAEOLOGY**  
**2000 ANNUAL MEETING**

**SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1999**

**The Settling and Unsettling of New England**

The 19th annual meeting of the Conference on New England Archaeology  
will be held at Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, Massachusetts

Registration, Coffee, and Socializing  
8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Reception, cash bar  
4:00 p.m.

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- 8:30    **Coffee and Registration**
- 9:00    **Opening Remarks**  
Ellen Berkland
- 9:15    **Constraints and Assumptions for Modeling the PaleoIndian Colonization of New England**  
Brian D. Jones
- 9:40    **Population Movement and Lithic Technology During the Early Archaic of Southern New England**  
Daniel T. Forrest
- 10:05    **BREAK**
- 10:15    **Fort St. George: The First English Settlement in New England**  
Jeffrey Brain
- 10:40    **Magunco Praying Indian Village**  
Steve Mrozowski
- 11:05    **Bounds On Us: Cycles of Regional Interaction in Native Southern New England**  
Ann McMullen
- 11:30    **LUNCH**
- 1:00    **CNEA BUSINESS MEETING**
- 1:15    **Settling in Colonial Boston: The Unsettled Quality of Urban Life**  
Ann-Eliza Lewis
- 1:40    **African Diaspora Archaeology: Investigating the African Captive Experience in Connecticut, A Preliminary Investigations On A Plantation from the Mid - Eighteenth Century**  
Jerry Sawyer
- 2:05    **BREAK**
- 2:20    **Unsettled Landuse, Transformed Landscapes: Ruminations and Research Opportunities on the Green Mountain National Forest**  
David Lacy
- 2:45    **Commentary**  
Elizabeth Chilton, Paul Robinson
- 3:05    **Open Discussion**

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## ABSTRACTS

### **Constraints and Assumptions for Modeling the Paleoindian Colonization of New England**

Brian D. Jones

Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center

Most regional archaeologists believe that New England was first colonized about 11,000 radiocarbon years ago (ca. 11,000 BC). Unfortunately, concrete archaeological evidence from the initial period of colonization is arguably lacking. Well-dated sites, however, indicate the presence of hunter-gatherers across New England and the Canadian Maritimes by the mid-eleventh millennium BP. This paper focuses on modeling the transition from an unpopulated landscape to one in which hunter-gatherers had established themselves. In particular, I will summarize the most important environmental, ecological and demographic constraints on such models. Establishing model parameters and assumptions allows one to alter critical variables and examine various possible outcomes, and thus develop multiple working hypotheses for the colonization process. Issues to be explored include gradual range expansion vs. leap-frog colonization, rates of population growth, regional vs. local population density, effects of prey choice on annual foraging range size, possible points of arrival and paths of movement, the use of watercraft, and overlooked possible site areas.

### **Population Movement and Lithic Technology During the Early Archaic of Southern New England.**

Daniel T. Forrest

University of Connecticut

Broad similarities in bifacial tool industries clearly link Early Archaic groups in southern New England to an extensive technological complex distributed across most of the Eastern Woodlands. There are significant variations in the density of sites and the size of assemblages within the total range of this complex. The Northeast is generally acknowledged to have fewer and smaller sites than areas to the south. A well worn path leads from this observation to a view of the Northeast as ecologically disadvantaged during the early post-glacial period. Despite the vigorous protest of many archaeologists working within the region, the propagation of this position continues. Recent excavations at the Sandy Hill Site in southeastern Connecticut, however, support an alternative view. Relatively large and stable populations using a quartz microlithic tool industry may have been present in the area during the ninth millennium B.P. The supposed population expansion into the Northeast beginning around 8,500 B.P. may instead represent the adoption of more conventional lithic technologies by previously unrecognized indigenous groups.



### **Fort St. George: the First English Settlement in New England**

Jeffrey Brain  
Peabody Essex Museum

With the help of a wonderfully detailed contemporary map, excavations are revealing the site of the 1607 Popham Colony at the Mouth of the Kennebec River in Maine.

### **Bounds On Us: Cycles of Regional Interaction in Native Southern New England**

Ann McMullen,  
Milwaukee Public Museum

While the study of individual "tribes" is part of our scholarly heritage and continues today, regional histories and intertribal relationships have largely been neglected. Tribally focused works continue to emphasize the distinctiveness and relative isolation of tribes to the detriment of understanding them within larger social systems. Working from a model of regional culture - similarities which allow and encourage intertribal interaction - I outline an historic sequence of regional interaction systems for southern New England which may have involved multiple, nested identities and served as a means of survival and reintegration for Native peoples as they adapted to changing social contexts.

### **Settling in Colonial Boston: the Unsettled Quality of Urban Life**

Ann-Eliza Lewis  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Boston grew in the 17th century. By the end of the colonial period parts of Boston were densely populated and very urban. By comparing archaeological data from domestic, military, and commercial / industrial sites, an archaeological portrait of urban, colonial Boston should emerge. This talk reviews archaeological materials at the Massachusetts Historical Commission and compares the results of several excavations in Boston to characterize the settlement of Boston.

## **African Diaspora Archaeology: Investigating the African Captive Experience in Connecticut, A Preliminary Investigations on a Plantation from the Mid-Eighteenth Century.**

Jerry Sawyer  
City University of New York

In the summer of 1999, Dr. Warren Perry of Central Connecticut State University (Principal Investigator) and Jerry Sawyer of the City University of New York (Field Director) conducted the first season of what will be a multiple year field school at an eighteenth-century plantation site in Eastern Connecticut. Initial investigations focuses on the presence of African captives as well as the possibility that the site had been used to raise provisions to send to sugar plantations in the West Indies in exchange for molasses and more captives. Records indicate a minimum of 60 families of African captives were used for initial field clearing on the plantation with varying numbers used over subsequent years as enslaved farm laborers and household servants. On the Connecticut River were found what may be the remains of captive housing, along with stone cairns that bear similarities to burial cairns used by Africans in Ghana and their descendants in the Caribbean. Additionally, Jerry Sawyer just returned from working on a plantation site on Antigua, West Indies, where archival evidence also indicates connections between the islands and this Connecticut plantation during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

## **Unsettled Landuse, Transformed Landscapes: Ruminations and Research Opportunities on the Green Mountain National Forest**

David Lacy  
USDA/Green Mountain & Finger Lakes National Forest

The 375,000 acres of mountainous south-central Vermont managed by the Green Mountain National Forest is a transformed landscape. The dramatic historic transformation engendered by diverse late 18th-early 20th-century land-use patterns is now largely obscured from casual view as the result of another transformative process: the nurturing of a veneer of "new" forest. Easy-to-tell stories of abandonment, displacement, westward expansion, economic imperatives, social mandates, etc. abound. Unfortunately, substantive historic archaeological research on specific sites, settlement or landuse patterns, population dynamics or, really, any other area of interest (other than some industrial topics) is hard to find. This is both a frustration and an opportunity: the Forest has rudimentary identification of more than 1500 historic (mostly 19th century) sites – roughly half the anticipated total population of sites on the Forest. These sites have been "banked" (i.e., indiscriminately inventoried and protected) and integrated into a Forest-wide ArcView GIS program. This presentation will provide a brief overview of the transformative history of the area, the range of archaeological site types, the nature/structure of our data, an example of one historical archaeology project, ruminations about research topics of interest, and suggestions of methods to help realize partnerships between the Forest (a "land management" entity) and research-minded institutions or individuals which might be mutually interesting and beneficial.

## CURRENT RESEARCH

### CONNECTICUT

#### African Diaspora Archaeology

*contributed by Jerry Sawyer*

In the summer of 1999, Dr. Warren Perry of Central Connecticut State University (Principal Investigator) and Jerry Sawyer (Field Director) conducted the first of what will be a multi-season field school at a site in Eastern Connecticut. Initial investigations have focused on the presence of African captives at the site and the possibility that the site was used as a provisioning plantation. Documentary evidence suggests that this 10,000 acre farm, or plantation, was used to raise food later sent to sugar plantations in the West Indies. Records indicate a minimum of 60 families of African captives were used for initial field clearing on the plantation and a varying number of captives used as enslaved farm laborers and household servants in subsequent years. Archival evidence indicating connections between the West Indies and this Connecticut site during the 17th and 18th centuries also have been obtained by Sawyer while working on a plantation site on Antigua.

Present within a portion of the site is a burial ground containing several early 18th century headstones and numerous stone piles or cairns. Several distinct types of cairns are recognizable within the burial ground. Some of these cairns are most likely field clearing or wall building cairns. Two types, however, bear remarkable similarities to burial cairns used in areas of Africa and the Caribbean. Direct Current Ground Resistivity was used in and around the burial ground and cairns in a non-invasive attempt to determine if there had been disturbances in the soil, such as would be related to the digging of grave shafts. In addition to the burial ground, the remains of structures believed to have been used to house captives have been located elsewhere on the property.

Both the burial ground and structures will be investigated further over the next few field

seasons. While it is too early to discuss any potential results, the investigation promises to be exciting and rewarding as it reveals some of the history of the African Descendant experience in Connecticut, and hopefully begins to give a voice to the African ancestors who spent their lives on this farm.

#### Weantinock Indians: Lands, Movements and Interrelationships

*contributed by Laurie Weinstein and Deseree Hemee*

For the past three years the Archaeology Program at Western Connecticut State University has been attempting to obtain as much information as possible from the Lover's Leap Site, New Milford, Connecticut. This once extensive site, situated within the "homelands" (after Handsman) of the Weantinock people has been devastated by continuous pot hunting.

In addition to investigating the site's integrity, work also has focused on researching state and local archives to gain a better understanding the Weantinock people during the late 17th through early 18th centuries. The Weantinock, and their predecessors, maintained important trade, hospitality, and diplomatic relationships with several Hudson Valley groups, particularly the Mahican to their west and Paugussett groups along the Housatonic River to the east. Through this work, we have begun to see a larger pattern of the movements of people and materials that would have linked western Connecticut groups to each other and to others throughout New England.

Work will continue at Lover's Leap again this year. Anyone who is interested in our summer Field School (June) should contact Laurie Weinstein at Weinstein@wcsu.ctstateu.edu or 203-837-8453.

## MASSACHUSETTS

### Dorchester Heights, Boston

*contributed by Jim Mueller*

In the last millennium, 1998 to be exact, our report, "The Fort on the First Hill in Dorchester: Archeological Investigations of Colonel Gridley's Revolutionary War Star Fort at Dorchester Heights, Boston National Historic Park, South Boston, Massachusetts" was completed and distributed to the National Park Service and SHPO office. The authors were James W. Mueller, Steven R. Pendery, and William A. Griswold of the National Park Service, available by first\_last name@nps.gov for copies. The fieldwork in the 1992-1996 period led to discovery of the moat with scarp and counterscarp profiles, the powder magazine foundation, masonry gate bridge abutments, and the gate door jamb and threshold, including several repairs.

### Martha's Vineyard

*contributed by PAL*

During the past year, PAL staff under the direction of Suzanne Cherau, Holly Herbster, and Jennifer Macpherson, have been working closely with the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah) and their Tribal Historic Preservation Office to excavate and interpret Native American sites on Martha's Vineyard requiring CRM studies. Fieldwork, ranging from small reconnaissance surveys to large data recovery programs, has been completed in Chilmark, Aquinnah, West Tisbury, Oak Bluffs, Edgartown, and Chappaquiddick. This work has resulted in the identification of more than 10 previously undocumented prehistoric and historic sites on the island. Additional investigations also have been conducted at several of these sites as well as some previously identified sites. Identified Native American sites date from the Late Archaic Period through the mid-nineteenth century and represent a wide range of activities including short and long-term campsites, homesteads, resource collection and processing areas, and

sacred/ceremonial places. A probable seventeenth-century EuroAmerican homesite also has been identified.

### Archaeological data recovery at The Pine Hawk Site (19-MD-793)

*contributed by PAL*

PAL staff, under the direction of Duncan Ritchie and Joseph Waller, have completed a program of archaeological data recovery at the Pine Hawk Site (19-MD-793) in Acton, MA. The site, situated along the Assabet River, was occupied from the Middle Archaic to Middle Woodland periods. Investigations uncovered a complex site extending over a 3,300 m<sup>2</sup> area that yielded dense deposits of cultural materials and features.

The recovered assemblage included much lithic manufacturing waste discarded during the production of stone tools, but relatively few tools. Tool types that were recovered included utilized flakes, formal scrapers, hammerstones, cores, quarry blanks, and a single drill tip/midsection. Projectile points recovered included Neville, Stark, Brewerton-eared, Wayland Notched, Orient, and Small Stemmed varieties. A few fragments of Native American pottery also were recovered. Over seventy features, ranging from hearths, fire-pits, and a large burnt rock concentration with associated post molds, were identified at the site as well.

Ongoing interpretation suggests a wide range of activities occurring at the site. Among these activities were the manufacture and maintenance of chipped stone tools and the processing of plant and animal materials for consumption. Artifact types and radiocarbon dates indicate that the site was occupied numerous times beginning in the Middle Archaic Period through the Orient Phase of the Transitional/Terminal Archaic Period with only minimal use during the Middle Woodland Period.

## Data Recovery Excavations at the John Farwell Homestead

*contributed by PAL*

In September, PAL completed a data recovery program at the John Farwell Homestead (HS 20M) in Harvard, Massachusetts, on the former Fort Devens. Documentary research indicates that the property was owned/ occupied by the Farwell family from the third quarter of the eighteenth century to the third quarter of the nineteenth century. Portions of the property were initially purchased by John Farwell in 1754 and, by 1760, the entire 82-acre homestead had been acquired. The property remained in the Farwell family, passing from John to his son, David, and then to grandson Luther, who sold the homestead in 1837. Probate and land evidence records have provided a rough description of the configuration of the Farwell dwelling, portions of which appear to coincide with archaeological remains.

The data recovery program, directed by Patricia Fragola and Suzanne Cherau, recovered a rich deposit of artifacts ranging from the early - mid eighteenth to early - mid nineteenth century. A very large portion of the artifact assemblage is made up of ceramics including refined earthenwares such as Jackfield and Nottingham (bread crumb motif), and utilitarian redwares and stonewares. Subsurface features identified during excavations include a partial cellar hole, a portion of the drylaid fieldstone foundation, and the foundation to an attached outbuilding. The distribution of recovered animal bone, specifically pig bone, suggests that this attached outbuilding served as the kitchen or slaughtering area. Three uniquely shaped hog butchering knives were also recovered in this area. A substantial amount of data has been collected from the site and, combined with information collected during previous phases of archaeological investigation, will contribute important research to the study of early EuroAmerican lifeways in this frontier region of north-central Massachusetts.

## Whitman Roundhouse Archeological Park

*contributed by PAL*

The remains of a ca. 1880 steam locomotive maintenance facility were discovered in Whitman, Massachusetts by PAL in 1990. The site includes the foundations of a four-stall engine house including brick lined inspection pits, a turntable pit, ash pit, water tower supports, and bridge abutments. The Whitman facility was built by the Old Colony Railroad Company to service engines at the junction of rail lines to Plymouth and East Bridgewater. The engine house was destroyed in the Great Hurricane of 1938, and the advent of diesel locomotives made the facility obsolete. The last passenger train passed through Whitman on June 30, 1959.

In 1999 the site was completely excavated and the masonry features were stabilized. PAL Principal Investigator Suzanne Cherau and Industrial Historian Matthew Kierstead worked with landscape architects to develop an interpretive landscaping scheme that highlights the building foundations and original track layout. An interpretive sign on the high level commuter rail passenger platform interprets the history and technology of the facility. The park was officially opened on October 9 with two tours as part of Massachusetts Archaeology Week.

The Whitman Roundhouse Park recently received a Merit Award in the U.S. Department of Transportation's Design for Transportation National Awards 2000 competition in the historic preservation category. The park was one of 27 projects chosen out of 260 entries. Whitman Roundhouse Park is open to the public for viewing at the Whitman, Massachusetts MBTA commuter rail stop parking lot and passenger platform.

## **Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor**

*contributed by PAL*

PAL was awarded a grant for a pilot preservation partnership bringing archaeology into the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor. Under the supervision of PAL professional staff, over 600 school children excavated the backyard of a mill worker's house.

The collected assemblage includes 10,448 cataloged artifacts. The program worked well and has been recognized as a model project in applied archaeology and educational outreach.

The project resulted in PAL's publication of the booklet: *The Archaeology of a Blackstone River Valley Mill House*, a video production by the sixth grade class of the Douglas (Massachusetts) Middle School, and a presented paper as a model project to the Society of Anthropology in Community Colleges national meeting.

## **Intensive Survey and Site Examination in Holliston, Massachusetts**

*contributed by Deena Duranleau.*

Timelines, Inc. conducted an intensive survey at a proposed development in Holliston, Massachusetts, during the summer of 1999. Fieldwork identified a small household dump dating from 1930s to the mid 1950s and three prehistoric loci. Of these three loci, the Bear Site, was considered potentially significant and a site examination of this small site was conducted during the fall of 1999. The site exam uncovered a small encampment dating from the Early Woodland to the Colonial Period. Fifty-four test pits and two excavation units were excavated, with rhyolite secondary flakes, a roasting pit (C14 date 2880 BP), and a gunflint dating to ca. 1675 identified.

## **Dennis, Massachusetts: The Shiverick Shipyard Site**

*contributed by Martin Dudek*

Timelines, Inc. conducted an intensive survey for the Town of Dennis in the vicinity of the Shiverick Shipyard site (DEN-HA-2). The shipyard was active in building schooners and clipper ships from 1849 to 1863, some of which were among the fastest sailing ships of that era. Dredging fill from the 1950s covered nearly all of the project area to the depth of one to two-and-a-half meters. A back hoe was used to remove the overlying fill, in excess of 1.8 meters, and expose the natural strata in four areas. Systematic test pits were excavated following the removal of the fill layer. Potentially significant historic resources related to the Shiverick Shipyard were identified in three of the four areas investigated.

Shipyard work areas were suggested in two areas including a stone foundation, possibly from the calker's shop, and a possible wharf wall or platform used in ship construction. Peat-marsh deposits with wood refuse from the shipyard and possible shoreline features also were present in two areas. Another disturbed marsh deposit identified may indicate a slip or launch channel. Wood was present in or on peat deposits. Other artifacts consisted of metal, including a cast weight and cut nails, ceramic sherds of whiteware and Albany-slipped stoneware, mold-blown bottle glass and window glass, four leather artifacts, a piece of textile, and several animal bones and shells. These diagnostic artifacts are consistent with a mid-nineteenth-century date for the site.

A prehistoric site, consisting of quartz and felsitic rhyolite flake chipping debris, and a single quartz core was identified at one area. The site pattern suggested a thin scattering of chipping debris with subsequent historic disturbances (i.e., foundations, mixing and redeposition of soils). It appears that intact but small and discontinuous areas of a prehistoric activity areas were present, however, these resources are not considered to be significant.

## Site Examination at Three Sites in Attleboro

*contributed by Ron Dalton*

Archaeological investigations were conducted by Timelines, Inc. along several cross-country segments of proposed sewer line construction in Attleboro, MA from July, 1998 to October, 1999. Reconnaissance and intensive (locational) surveys, identified several potentially significant Native American archaeological deposits. Site-examination investigations were conducted at three locations along the Bungay River: the Gretchen site; the Dude site; and the Jon site

Radiocarbon age determination and temporally diagnostic stone tools indicate these sites were in use beginning approximately 7,500 years ago and may have had a continuity of use until 500 years ago. Subsurface features containing calcined bone and stone tools, together with a wide variety of stone material from both local and distant sources, were recovered from undisturbed soil contexts. Features interpreted as surface fires and numerous expedient flake tools indicate that resources seasonally available along the river and its associated wetlands were collected and processed at these locations. Also, the presence of locally available stone material, non-local material, and a conjectured Contact period riverbank trail indicate that an existing communication or trade network included these sites.

The sites were determined to be potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The sites are likely to yield important information regarding the prehistory of Massachusetts. The sites have potential to contain well-preserved features, artifact assemblages, and intra-site patterning that could provide specific information to further define the occupational sequence of the Archaic and Woodland periods and their cultural traditions in southern Massachusetts. Other research issues that these sites could contribute to include adaptation differences or changes in procurement strategies and changing social and physical environments, which would thus enhance our understanding of the cultural landscape.

## Fruitlands Museum Archaeology Program

*contributed by Michael Volmar*

The archaeology program at Fruitlands is of fundamental importance as we seek to define ourselves as the museum of the New England landscape. Archaeology is one of the primary methods of gathering information on past inhabitants of this site and their use of the land. In 1998 work began on a site locational survey. This investigation identified eight prehistoric and historic sites and an additional nine historic structures spanning at least 4000 years of human activity. In 1999 the archaeology program focused excavations at the Willard-Atherton site(HA-63), an 18th and 19th century farmhouse. A small team of archaeologists excavated at the site for three months. This provided invaluable research for the interpretive agenda to move forward as well as public interpretation. Visitors to the museum also could watch and interact with the archaeologists. Attendance at this site, as recorded by the team of archaeologists, averaged 24% of museum's total attendance.

Archaeological data collected during the 1998 investigation indicated intact 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century occupation during the formative years of the town of Harvard and of the early American republic. Recovered artifacts such as ceramics, metal, structural remains like charred wood and brick, and domestic refuse such as animal bones provide important clues to past dietary patterns and house construction. The purpose of the 1999 excavation was to examine more closely construction history, lot configuration, outbuilding location and use-life, diet, and changes in lifeways between the 18th and 19th centuries. We successfully identified three ancillary structures associated with the farm and recovered thousands of artifacts (currently being analyzed), including structural remains of at least two construction episodes, one in the mid-18th century and another around 1820. Additional investigation, testing, excavation and analysis will enable a more comprehensive recreation of life at this site.

## Fruitlands Museum

*contributed by Michael Volmar*

The staff and board at Fruitlands are working on developing interpretation and management plans that balance silviculture, passive recreation, wildlife habitats, and historical interpretation with cost-effective maintenance procedures. Toward this end, in 1999 we began several successful collaborative relationships that have greatly enhanced our understanding of our landscape. They also have allowed us to more thoughtfully care for our historic and landscape resources. Bill Patterson and Bill Haslam at UMass-Forestry, Jeff Collins at Mass Audubon, John O'Keefe at Harvard Forest, and Hugh Putnam of Putnam Forestry Service have been working closely with us to begin to develop a long-range forest management plan. John Demos of Yale, Richard Bushman of Columbia and J. Edward Hood of Old Sturbridge Village also are helping the museum develop an interpretive plan for the Willard-Atherton site.

As part of this focus on the land, during 1999 we conducted a controlled burn of approximately two acres to recreate the Native American land use practice of burning the landscape seasonally. We conducted two logging exercises with Putnam Forestry Service during that same year. The first, in April 1999, cleared an area adjacent to the Willard-Atherton site and aided in the interpretation and research occurring there. The second, in October and November of 1999, thinned a 10-acre area adjacent to the burn area. This helped prepare the area for a controlled burn in the spring of 2000 that will promote the hardwood understory and increase habitat diversity. In addition, we are planning to take a sediment core for pollen analysis, in conjunction with the U.S. Fisheries and Wildlife Department, as well as another controlled burn in the 10-acre parcel this spring adjacent to the 1999 burn area. The sediment core will help reconstruct vegetation sequences in the local area for the last several thousand years and the controlled burn will contribute to our Native American landscape interpretation.

## Intensive Survey and Data Recovery for the Hammond Street Building Boston College, Chestnut Hill Campus, Newton, MA.

*contributed by Barbara Donohue*

Timelines, Inc. conducted an intensive survey within the Hammond St. Triangle of the Boston College Campus prior to construction of a new office building. This area had potential for historic archaeological features associated with former residents Elijah Thwing (1806-1836), John Haynes (1836-1860), and Daniel Slade (1860-1922). The intensive survey consisted of the excavation of shovel test pits, a remote sensing survey and the excavation of back hoe trenches to ground truth the results of the remote sensing survey. As a result of the survey, house and outbuilding foundations, a brick cistern, and infrastructure associated with all phases of the property's historical development were revealed.

Following fieldwork, a summary report was submitted to the Massachusetts Historical Commission recommending a site examination for the project area. As the construction schedule for the building was in jeopardy, Boston College requested to bypass the site examination component of the compliance process and proceed directly to mitigation through a data recovery program within the footprint of the building and its construction impact zone. The succeeding data recovery plan was conducted in two stages. The first stage included background research, machine removal of top soil and overlying fill horizons, followed by shovel scraping of the stripped area to reveal features, which were then documented and mapped. During this stage features with the potential to provide useful information were sampled. As a result of this effort 49 features were revealed. These features all located within the backyard of the houselot included the back end of the house foundation, several outbuilding foundations (one is believed to have been the blacksmith shop of Elijah Thwing), an 1895 carriageway, two brick cisterns, and other infrastructure that would have been associated with Daniel Slade. Slade, a retired physician and noted horticulturist, is believed to have been



influential to the suburban development of Chestnut Hill. The second stage, currently underway, includes additional background research, analysis of recovered materials, synthesis of recovered data in a final report, as well as a public education program.

### **Nourse/Andrews 1, Nourse/Andrews 2, and Nourse/Andrews 3 Sites in Westborough**

*contributed by PAL*

PAL has recently completed site examinations of three prehistoric Native American sites in the upland portion of Westborough, MA. Data recovered during these investigations, directed by Donna Ingham and Alan Leveillee, indicates that each site represents a single, relatively short-term occupation dating to the Middle Archaic period. All three sites are small (less than 500 square meters in extent) and exhibit good stratigraphic integrity. Data derived from the Nourse/Andrews 1, 2, and 3 Sites allows consideration of the complexity of subsistence and settlement systems within upland sections of southern New England during the Middle Archaic Period.

Assemblages recovered from each site were dominated by lithics, including debitage and a variety of chipped stone tools. The lithic "toolkits" from each site, including single quartzite Neville projectile points from each, are similar indicating that a well-defined and consistent range of material processing activities was being carried out within each site area. In addition, a fragment of an unidentified Saugus Jasper tool similar to the polyhedral nuclei described by Dincauze (1976) was recovered from the Nourse/Andrews 1 Site. A worked chert flake and a small number of chert flakes, visually similar to specimens collected from the Normanskill region of the lower Hudson River Valley, were recovered from the Nourse/Andrews 2 and 3 Sites. Normanskill chert does not appear to have been previously reported from any prehistoric sites in Westborough (Hoffman 1990).

Attributes of each site, particularly the identification of a single occupation and the

presence of a relatively abundant lithic assemblage, made them well suited to address specific research questions related to the functional and organization role(s) of small upland sites during the Middle Archaic period in southern New England. The chipped stone tool assemblages and a sample of the flakes from each site were analyzed with reference to the methodology and the theoretical framework described by Cowan (1999). Following analysis, it was concluded that the lithic assemblages associated with each site exhibit characteristics consistent with the lithic technologies that would be expected for sites associated with a moderate level of mobility.

Cowan, F.L.

1999 Making Sense of Flake Scatters: Lithic Technological Strategies and Mobility. *American Antiquity* 64:593-607.

Dincauze, Dena F.

1976 *The Neville Site: 8,000 Years at Amoskeag, Manchester, New Hampshire.* Peabody Museum Monographs 4. Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.

Hoffman, Curtill

1990 *People of the Fresh Water Lake: A Prehistory of Westborough, MA.* Peter Lang, New York.

### **Site Examination of the Littlefield Farmstead, Hopkinton, Massachusetts**

*contributed by Timelines Inc.*

In the fall of 1999, Timelines Inc. conducted a site examination of the Littlefield Farmstead. Investigations consisted of documentary research and the excavation of 44 systematic and judgmental shovel tests and six excavation units. These investigations identified the remains of three separate structures including a dwelling, outbuilding and barn, as well as a stone-lined well and two terraces associated with two of the structures. A single small pit feature used for refuse disposal also was revealed. Recovered materials consisted mainly of domestic and architectural refuse

dating from the second half of the eighteenth through the third quarter of the nineteenth century. Native American material also was recovered from the site including a few possible vein quartz flakes and shatter and the base/mid-section of a narrow, felsite triangular projectile point. The results of the site examination indicate that the Littlefield Farm Site has the potential to contribute information important to our understanding of rural farmsteads after the Revolution (1780 to 1860) in Hopkinton, specifically to answer research questions about the transformation of farming into a market-driven, capitalist economy.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

### Odiorne Farm Survey

*contributed by Independent Archaeological Consulting*

In November 1999, Independent Archaeological Consulting, LLC conducted a Phase 1B archaeological survey along walking trails behind Odiorne Farm at Odiorne Point State Park in Rye, New Hampshire. The survey was conducted for the New Hampshire Office of State Planning on behalf of the Friends of Odiorne Point State Park and Seacoast Science Center, Inc. to confirm the presence or absence of sensitive archaeological deposits prior to the improvement of approximately 770 m of walking trail surfaces. The project was funded by a grant from the New Hampshire Coastal Program pursuant to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Award (NA87OA0240).

Fieldwork identified a late 17th-century earthfast dwelling (27-RK-308) near the southwestern corner of the Odiorne Cemetery. This site was possibly occupied between 1650 and 1680, and is tentatively linked to John Odiorne, a member of one of the first families of settlers in New Hampshire. Odiorne Point is located less than 10 miles from the Isles of Shoals, a well-established fishery dating to the 1620's. During the 17th century, the Isles of Shoals were occupied by fishermen working the

waters off the mainland. The Isles are relatively barren so the mainland provided wood for fuel and construction, as well as provisions of fresh water and wild game. By 1657, John Odiorne had obtained the title to the property, which remained in the family for 280 years. The Odiorne family relied on fishing and the resources of the salt marsh. Local tradition holds that fish caught by the family were processed on a small rise just west of the Odiorne family cemetery, known locally as 'Flake Hill.' Additional testing is expected to establish the boundaries of the site.

### Edward Macdowell Lakes Survey

*contributed by PAL*

In June and July of 1999, PAL completed a reconnaissance survey of Edward McDowell Lake in Peterborough, Dublin, Hancock, and Harrisville, along the Nubanusit and Contoocook rivers in New Hampshire. The project was conducted under contract to the New England Division of the Army Corps of Engineers. Fieldwork, directed by Suzanne Cherau and Claudia Milne, resulted in the stratification of the area into zones of prehistoric and historic archaeological sensitivity. Subsurface testing conducted within the project area resulted in the identification of seven areas of prehistoric activity. A single sherd of Native American cord-marked pottery recovered from one site, the Blue Barn Site, indicates that the area was occupied during at least the Middle Woodland Period. Another site, the Nubanusit Brook Site, yielded a corner-notched projectile point, that could not be attributed to a specific temporal period. In addition to the Native American resources identified, fieldwork also documented 12 known historic sites, 13 historic dumps, and four previously undocumented sites. Occupations of these sites range from the late eighteenth to early twentieth centuries.

## Hopkinton-Everett Lakes Survey

*contributed by PAL*

In June and July of 1999, PAL completed a historic and archaeological reconnaissance survey of Hopkinton and Everett Lakes in Dunbarton, Henniker, Hopkinton, and Weare, New Hampshire, along the Contoocook and Piscataquog rivers. The project was conducted under contract to the New England Division of the Army Corps of Engineers. Fieldwork was directed by Patricia Fragola, Paul Russo and James Garman, and documented 50 known historic sites and three previously undocumented sites. Identified historic sites included residences, farmsteads, mills, dams and bridge abutments documenting occupation of the area from the late eighteenth to early twentieth centuries. In addition, subsurface testing conducted within the project area identified 16 areas of prehistoric activity. A single sherd of Native American pottery recovered from the Mud Pond Site indicates the area was occupied during at least the Woodland Period. A palm-sized nutting stone recovered from the Forked Pine 1 Site also attests to the range of activities being conducted within the area.

## Newington Town Survey

*contributed by Independent Archaeological Consulting*

In the spring and summer of 1999, Independent Archaeological Consulting, LLC (IAC) conducted an archaeological survey to locate and identify archaeological resources within the town of Newington, New Hampshire. The project, funded by a Certified Local Government Grant, was devoted primarily to the survey of land in western Newington, along Little Bay and the Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Kathleen Wheeler, Ellen Marlatt, and Steve Bayly of IAC were assisted in the compilation of background documents, collection of oral history, walkover survey, Phase IB fieldwork, and laboratory processing by many interested members of the public and enthusiastic

volunteers from the Newington Historical Society.

Two sites were identified in the Fox Point section of Newington and examined by Phase 1 testing. The Knight Brook Site (27-RK-302) sits atop a terrace overlooking a small brook flowing into Little Bay. The recovery of two Squibnocket Triangle projectile points at the site suggest the area was used as a Late Archaic campsite or special activity area. This interpretation is based on the small sample of material recovered and additional testing may yield evidence of additional temporal components.

IAC staff and volunteers also tested an apparent early homestead complex on Fox Point that had been located during the initial walkover survey. The site consists of a filled-in cellar hole depression and associated well. The cellar hole lies on the east side of a present-day ATV trail that most likely follows the path of Old Fox Point Road, which was laid out in 1701. Based on preliminary land deed research, the site has been attributed to the Trickey family and assigned the site number 27-RK-305. The dates of occupation for the site are unknown at this time.

Historic artifacts recovered to date consist primarily of domestic refuse and architectural debris relating to the homestead. Ceramic sherds made up the majority of the domestic artifacts with many utilitarian redware vessels. Redware was retrieved along with English white salt glazed stoneware and creamware, suggesting an occupation dating to the third quarter of the 18th century. Sherds of early American stoneware recovered from the site are of particular interest. While we know of stoneware production in the 1740s in Charlestown, Massachusetts, and in parts of Connecticut, little is known about its use in the New Hampshire seacoast during the 18th century. In addition, a 1803 coin, in very poor condition, was also retrieved. The date of the coin and the absence of later ceramics like pearlware and whiteware imply that the site was abandoned about that time or shortly thereafter. Further excavations at the Trickey site may add significantly to what scholars know about the development of early American stoneware in northern New England.

## Abenaki Repatriation

*contributed by David Schafer*

The Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Harvard University submitted Notices of Inventory Completion for New Hampshire and Vermont under the provisions of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. Thirty human remains and three funerary objects were determined to be culturally affiliated to the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi and the Abenaki Nation of New Hampshire. The human remains, accessioned into the Peabody Museum collection between 1876 and 1959, were collected from locations in Brattleboro and Highgate, Vermont, and Hinsdale, Brookline, Manchester, Effingham, and Merrimack, New Hampshire. The agreement to repatriate to the non-Federally-recognized Abenaki Nations was reached under consultations with representatives of the Mohegan Indian Tribe, Narragansett Indian Tribe, Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians, Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, Passamaquoddy Tribe, and Penobscot Tribe.

## RHODE ISLAND

### Rhode Island Marine Archaeology Project

*contributed by D. K. Abbass*

The Rhode Island Marine Archaeology Project (RIMAP) had a very busy 1999. RIMAP offered 6 different classes in underwater archaeology topics, and took more than 40 volunteers, including Naval Undersea Warfare Center and Naval Reserve divers, into the field. The fieldwork included 4 days of remote sensing; 9 days study of the British Revolutionary War frigate HMS Cerebus; 4 weeks minimal disturbance survey of a transport sunk in Newport in 1778; 1 week study of a 19th-century industrial site, plus miscellaneous site monitoring. Background research expanded the state's database of submerged cultural resources, including proof that Capt. Cook's Endeavour was part of the 1778 transport fleet. The state then took aggressive legal action to

protect all of the transports. RIMAP members lectured and published in various venues, and suffered extensive publicity surrounding many of its 1999 activities

## Laurel Woods Historic Cemetery

*contributed by PAL*

PAL has completed the delineation and archaeological recovery of disturbed human remains at an unmarked cemetery within a proposed subdivision in Charlestown, RI. Archaeological recovery efforts, directed by Dr. James Garman, Paul Russo, and Joseph Waller, established the limits of the cemetery, situated along the western periphery of the 18th-century Narragansett Indian Reservation, to be a historic period Narragansett cemetery.

Evidence from exposed burial shafts indicates mixed mortuary practices, combining elements of both traditional Narragansett and EuroAmerican rituals. Non-native practices adopted by the Narragansetts at this cemetery include the use of rough fieldstone markers to identify grave shafts and in at least two cases burial inscription of these markers.

Archaeological investigations were limited to the recovery of disturbed remains, making it difficult to determine if the individuals were buried in an extended (supine) position or in a more traditional flexed position. Hand wrought nails recovered at the site in relation to disturbed burials suggest individuals were buried in wooden coffins and, therefore, likely to have been buried in the extended rather than flexed position. The position of the remains recovered from disturbed grave shafts, however, including crania and upper torsos located on the southwestern side of the grave shaft and all the post-cranial extremities on the northeastern side, may provide additional evidence of mixed mortuary practices.

## Identification, Protection, and Recovery of Two Narragansett Indian Burial Grounds

*contributed by PAL*

Two recent archaeological surveys conducted by PAL, under the direction of Alan Leveillee and Joseph Waller, have resulted in the identification and recovery of Narragansett Indian burial sites. At the first site, RI-196, PAL staff identified a cluster of Narragansett Indian burial features adjacent to Greenwich Cove, in Warwick, Rhode Island. At the request of the Narragansetts, the burial ground was exposed to facilitate a sanctification ceremony that included burning tobacco and covering the individual features with copper sheeting. Preservation of the burial ground and Narragansett access to the area have been made legal elements of future property development.

At the second site, near Upper Point Judith Pond in Wakefield, Rhode Island, a recovery team comprised of Narragansett Tribal members, representatives of the Narragansett Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Office, and PAL staff worked together to recover human skeletal remains from a Narragansett burial ground inadvertently impacted by recent construction. The impacted features may be associated with other Woodland Period Narragansett burials identified by PAL in 1997 at the nearby RI 110 site.

## GENERAL

### Anglo-Indian Relations in Southern New England, 1637-1700: Social, Political, and Cultural Dimensions

*contributed by Neal Salisbury*

The title refers to a book-length study that will examine the period from the Pequot War to the end of the seventeenth century. As such it will constitute a sequel to my *Manitou and Providence: Indians, Europeans, and the Making of New England, 1500-1643* (1982). Beyond documentary evidence, the book will

incorporate the findings and interpretations of archaeologists relating to all facets of the lives of native peoples and their interactions with English colonizers. Aside from the "impact" of Europeans and their material objects on natives, I am interested in any evidence relating to Indians', Europeans', and Africans' appropriation of one another's objects or ideas. Within the category, "Europeans," I hope to gauge the extent to which native people appropriated Dutch and French, as well as English, cultural objects during this period. With the coming year off from teaching, I expect to complete a first draft by September 2001. All suggestions welcome at [nsalisbu@smith.edu](mailto:nsalisbu@smith.edu) or to me at History, Dept., Smith College, Northampton, MA 01063.

### N.A.G.P.R.A. at the Peabody Museum, Harvard University

*contributed by David Schafer*

In May 1999, the Secretary of the Interior denied extensions to all museums that applied for extensions in order to submit inventories under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. This decision was reached despite concerns raised by the Society for American Archaeology, American Association for Physical Anthropology, American Association of Museums, National Park Service and many Native American representatives. Instead, the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University received a two-year "Forbearance of Penalties."

With an increase to 24 repatriation/collections staff members, the Peabody Museum has until May 2001 to complete NAGPRA inventories on the approximately 12,000 individual human remains from North America. In the past year the Peabody has reported to the National Park Service and all potentially-affiliated Tribes on approximately 3500 human remains from 29 different states.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

Keegan, William and Kristen Keegan. Eds.

1999 *The Archaeology of Connecticut*. Bibliopola Press of the UConn Co-Op, University of New England Press. \$18.95.

coopbks@uconvm.uconn.edu or <http://www.bookstore.uconn.edu>

contributors: Marc Banks, Nicholas Bellantoni, Kenneth Feder, David George, Robert Gradie, Brian Jones, Harold Juli, William Keegan, Lucianne Lavin, David Poirer, Michael Raber, and Christian Tryon.

Leveillee, Alan.

1999 Transitional Archaic Ideology as Reflected in Secondary Burials at the Millbury III Cremation Complex. *Archaeology of Eastern North American*. Volume 27:157-184.

1999 Some Thoughts on the Nature of Archaeological Sites, and the Trend Towards a Holistic Approach as We Enter a New Millennium. *Bulletin of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society*. Volume 60 (2) 55-56.

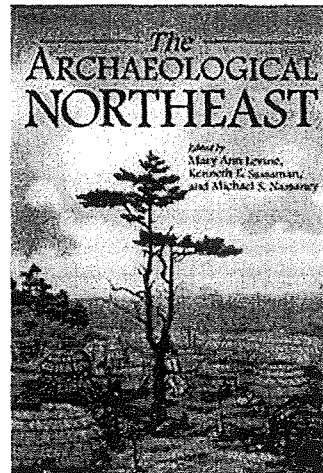
Leveillee, Alan, and Joseph N. Waller

1999 A Hybrid Point Type in the Narragansett Basin: Orient Stemmed. *Bulletin of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society*. Volume 60 (1) 30-34.

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

1999 *The Archaeological Northeast*. Native Peoples of the Americas Series, Bergen & Garvey Press, Westport, Connecticut. \$29.95

<http://info.greenwood.com/books/0897895/0897895177.html>



Little, Elizabeth A.

1999 Radiocarbon Dating of Shell on the Southern Coast of New England. In M.A. Levine, K.E. Sassaman, and M.S. Nassaney, Eds. *The Archaeological Northeast*, pp.201-211. Bergen and Garvey, Westport CT.

1999 Maize Age and Isotope Values at the Goldkrest Site. Appendix I. In Largy, T.B., L.L. Lavin, M.E. Mozzi, & K. Furgerson, Corncocks and Buttercups: Plant Remains from the Goldkrest Site. In *Current Northeast Paleoethnobotany*, ed. Hart, J.P., pp. 69-84. New York State Museum Bulletin 494, Albany.

## RADIOCARBON DATES

*contributed by Timelines*

Attleboro, MA II Dude Site 7,320 +/- 190 14C BP (13C corrected)  
Geochron Laboratories GX26054PRI

Attleboro, MA II Jon Site 2,265 +/- 85 14C BP (13C corrected)  
Geochron Laboratories GX26069PRI

Holliston, MA SE 2,880 +/- 120 14C BP (13C corrected)  
Geochron Laboratories GX26190PRI

Billerica, MA TP4-10 3,360 +/- 90 14C BP (13C corrected)  
Geochron Laboratories GX25990PRI

## EVENTS

**Current Topics in Northeast Geoarchaeology: Glaciated Landscapes  
April 27, 2000 New York State Museum**

Formerly glaciated terrains of northeastern North America present a wide variety of landscapes that effected the location, formation, and preservation of prehistoric archaeological sites. Many of these landscapes, such as simple till-covered uplands, have been little altered since the terminal stages of the Pleistocene. Other landscapes are more complex, for example, glaciofluvial and glaciolacustrine valley floor environments that have undergone significant modification through Holocene alluvial and colluvial processes. This symposium is organized to address current geoarchaeological work in these glaciated landscapes. It will be presented in four sections. The first will present regional overviews of the geomorphology, paleoecology and prehistory of northeastern North America. The second will present geoarchaeological case studies in upland settings. The third will present geoarchaeological case studies in valley floor settings. The final section will consist of a panel discussion on the effects of changing post-Pleistocene landscapes on prehistoric settlement and archaeological site formation and preservation.

Moderators: David L. Cremeens (GAI Associates) and John P. Hart (New York State Museum). Additional information on the conference including registration, accommodations, and directions is available at <http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/nhc.html>.

**New News About Really Old Things: The Peopling Of America  
Three State Archaeology MA, CT, NH April 29, 2000  
Clark University, Room 320 Jefferson Academic Center, 590 Main St. Worcester, Ma**

- 9:30 Registration, Coffee and Danish
- 9:55 Welcome *Janice Weeks, Dan Cruson, Dennis Howe*
- 10:15 What You Haven't Heard About The Whipple Site And Why *Mary Lou Curran*
- 10:40 The Bull Brook Site *Mary Lou Curran*
- 11:05 Determining Early Paleo Human Presence; Using Artifacts, Charcoal, Phyloliths and Phosphates *Lucinda McWeeney*
- 11:30- Tracing Paleoindian Movements in Northern New England *Richard Boisvert*
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:15 Is Clovis Still First? The Peopling Of America *Stuart Fiedel*
- 2:15 Paleo Indians Routes Of Travel: Flying Trial Balloons, Playing With Ideas, Spinning Tales *Dena Dincauze*
- 2:45 Break
- 3:00 Recent Paleo Indians In Southeastern Connecticut *Brian Jones*
- 3:30 Early Archaic Sites In Eastern Connecticut *Daniel Forrest*

**Ninth Annual Massachusetts Archaeology Week**

The Ninth Annual Massachusetts Archaeology Week will be held from October 7-15, 2000. Archaeology Week features a variety of events including open digs, workshops, demonstrations, and lectures around the Commonwealth. Archaeology Week brochures containing schedules of events will be available from the Massachusetts Historical Commission.



## 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 2001. Also please submit any new bibliographic titles for books, articles, reports, etc. Next year's *Newsletter* will "continue" to 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.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Nominations for CNEA Steering Committee can be submitted to Eric Johnson until May 19th.

Conference Pre- Registrations accepted until May 19, 2000.

For a second year in a row, **Elizabeth Little**, takes an uncontested first prize for the timeliness of her contribution. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this issue of the *Newsletter*

A special thanks goes to the United States Geographic Survey and all U.S. taxpayers, who provided the cover image.

*We look forward to seeing everyone on May 20<sup>th</sup>!*



## CNEA CONFERENCE TITLES

- 2000 The Settling and Unsettling of New England
- 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