

FORT CORCHAUG DEVELOPMENT HEARING

Monday, March 10 at 7:30 PM the Southold Town Planning Board will hold a public hearing at Southold Town Hall on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed major subdivision "Indian Shores" (a.k.a. Fort Corchaug). The public comment period began February 18 and will end March 20, 1997; comments may be addressed to Bennett Orlowski, Jr., Planning Board Chair, Southold Town Hall, P.O. Box 1179, Southold, NY 11971.

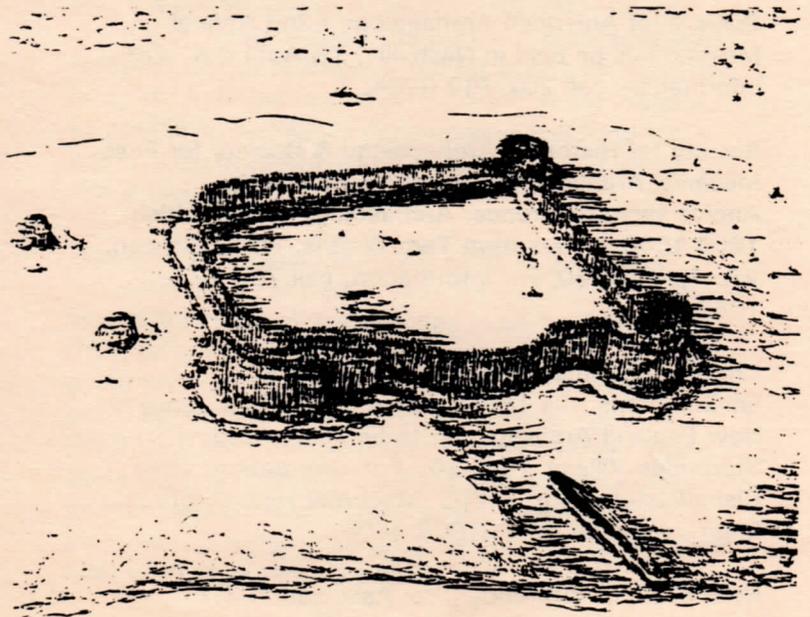
To date, the Town of Southold has allocated almost \$1 million toward purchase of a 37-acre plot including the fort site; N.Y. State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation has contributed \$200,000.; the Peconic Land Trust is securing Conservation Easement investors; and the Archaeological Conservancy, a national preservation group, has offered support.

This is a rare opportunity to preserve a major cultural resource, as Southampton Town/Suffolk County have done for the Shinnecock Fort; the other Native Fort sites on the Island either have not been found (Shelter Island), or have been largely destroyed (Fort Montauk, Fort Marsapeague).

SCAA's statement for the record recommends public acquisition of the entire 105 acre parcel for the following reasons: the national and regional importance of the Fort site, impinged within 30 feet by a proposed lot; the habitation areas south of the Fort which have been examined only minimally and are now slated for development; the continuing archaeological sensitivity of the western portion plowed area, judging from the recent 100 foot inadequately-spaced test holes, oral histories, and local collections; and this is a major site for evidence of the little-known Contact Period between the Native inhabitants and the incoming Europeans.

The importance of Fort Corchaug is attested by the fact that three chapters covering the research on it

will be the centerpiece of Vol. VIII, **The Native & Historic Forts of Long Island** of our series, **Readings in Long Island Archaeology & Ethnohistory** to be published in 1997.



SCAA NOMINEE GREG HUBER WINS ALICE P. KENNEY AWARD

Architectural historian Greg Huber of Wyckoff, N.J. has a mission--recording the remaining Dutch barns of the New Netherland sphere of influence in New Jersey and New York. He has recorded over 550 and continues to do so.

The Friends of New Netherland, a support group for the New Netherland Project (translation of colonial Dutch records) of the N.Y. State Library, have established several awards. The Alice P. Kenney Award is for those making a contribution to the awareness of Dutch culture in the New World. Greg's monumental contribution to preserving this Dutch material culture record was recognized by the Friends, who will present the award to Greg April 18th at the Cultural Education Center in Albany.

The New Netherland Project and the Friends group sponsor the annual Rensselaerwyck Seminars, publish the conference papers, sponsor Dutch house tours and dinners, and publish the Dutch public documents translated by Charles Gehring, director. For a list of their publications, information on events and the newsletter **De Nieuw Nederlanse Marcurius**, call 518-474-6067.

MEETINGS

The Virtual Dig: Computers and the Pursuit of the Past, a one day Symposium and "Technology Fair" at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. Saturday, March 22, 1997, 8 AM - 5 PM; for information, call 215-898 4890.

Society for American Archaeology 62nd Annual Meeting will be held in Nashville, TN April 2-6. For information, call 202-789-0284.

Society for Historical Archaeology & Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology sponsor a joint 30th Anniversary conference, **Archaeology of the British 1600-1800: Views from Two Worlds**, Williamsburgh, VA, April 16- 20. For information, call 757-221-1059.

Creating and Interpreting New England's Environments, the 16th Conference of the Council on New England Archaeology, to be held at Old Sturbridge Village, April 26. For information, write Claire Carlson, Box 34805, Machmer Hall, U. of Mass., Amherst, MA 01003-4805.

Northeastern Anthropological Association 37th annual conference, **Traditions and New Directions: Anthropology for the Millennium**, will be held April 11-13 at Le Chateau Montebello, Montebello, Quebec, Canada. For information, Prof. B.J. Given, Dept. Soc/Anth., Carleton University, 1125 Colonel By Dr., Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5B6.

Competing in the Arena: Content, Creativity & Cooperation, American Association of Museums annual meeting. Atlanta, GA April 26-30. For information, call 202-289-9113.

From the First Cut to the Cutting Edge, Northeast Regional Workshop of the National Association for Interpretation, April 7-9, Hemlocks Conference Center, Hebron, CT. For information, call Alan Mapes at 518-457-3720.

Building at the End of the Oregon Trail, 18th annual meeting of the Vernacular Architecture Forum, June

11-14 in Portland, OR. For information, call Howard Davis at 541-346-3665.

RESOURCES AND NEWS

The **Lyme Disease Foundation** reports that the National Institutes of Health has a good Lyme Disease study underway. There is free testing and medical care; call Dr. Adriana Marques at 800-772-5464 for information. The Lyme Disease Foundation is the best source of information on Lyme disease, provides patient informational support, publishes a newsletter and educational material (for example: there are over 100 strains of LD now recognized in the U.S.; you can now get LD, ehrlichiosis and babesiosis from just one tick bite!), publishes the **Journal of Spirochetal & Tick-borne Diseases**, sponsors annual International Scientific Congresses on the topic; this year's will be at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD April 28-30. For information, contact the LDF at 860-525-2000.

Extensive 17th century Dutch cultural deposits were found in the historic district of Albany--an original block of Beverwyck-- where the State Dormitory Authority is building a new office. The contract archaeologists were given a week to salvage remains, and refused; another firm took the contract, amid public outcry over inadequate mitigation and not following historic preservation procedures. The N.Y. Archaeological Council initiated legal proceedings against DASNY; an out-of-court settlement appears to assure appropriate treatment of the archaeological resources.

Wilderness Anthropological Field School, June 29 - July 18 in Idaho's Payette National Forest to test a 19th century Chinese mining encampment. Contact Dr. Sam Couch, Dept. of Social Sciences, Dickinson State University, Dickinson, ND 58601.

"New York's Mythic Slum: Digging Lower Manhattan's Infamous Five Points," is a fascinating (and revisionist) account by Rebecca Yamin in the March/April **Archaeology** magazine--one made possible only through the new information provided by archaeology.

The Algonquian Peoples of Long Island From Earliest Times to 1700 by Dr. John Strong of Southampton College is available for \$40. hardcover, and the companion book, **We Are Still Here!: The Algonquian Peoples of Long Island Today**, \$12. paperback are available from the sponsor, the Long Island Studies Institute, and the S.C. Historical Society.

Historic Contact: Indian People and Colonists in Today's Northeastern United States in the Sixteenth through Eighteenth Centuries, Robert Grumet, University of Oklahoma Press, 1995.

Putting a New Face on Ancient People (Mammoth Trumpet 11:4, 8) shows how forensic artist Betty Pat. Gatliff reconstructs how the earliest Americans may have looked. Here she has modeled one of the oldest and most complete Paleo-American skeletons, a 28 year old woman, Wilson-Leonard II site, from 9,800-10,000 years ago.



NEW DATES IN ARCHAEOLOGY

The New York Institute of Anthropology reports (Newsletter Winter 96/97) that the **Bayside site 976.6 in Queens** has produced a Calculated Oxidizable Carbon Ratio date of **8408 YBP (1950)**. A soil sample from the Feature 38 Early Archaic occupation area was analyzed by Douglas S. Frink of the Archaeology Consulting Team, Inc. through efforts of Shelly Spritzer of the CUNY Graduate Center. Samples from other site areas were also dated and will be reported upon in future. This appears to be the oldest carbon-14 dated site on Long Island.

Researchers from the Nottoway River Survey found at the Cactus Hill site south of **Richmond, VA** one and possibly two cultural levels beneath the site's well-established Clovis occupation. The stone tools--blades and cores--have been mass spectrometer dated at **15,070 + 70 YBP (Beta 81590)**. The earliest tools are quartzite, while the Clovis point makers used chert (Mammoth Trumpet 11:4,1).

The Saltville site in southwest Virginia has yielded stone and bone tools, mastodon bones and ivory, fire-cracked rock and other evidence that provide probably the tightest confirmation now available that humans lived in the U.S. before 11,500 years ago. The carbon-14 age obtained from twigs found with cultural material is **13,990 + 70 years**.

These sites, plus the 14,000 year old Meadowcroft site in Pennsylvania, 13,000 year dates from Monte Verde, Chile, a possible 18,000 year old Mammoth-human site in Nebraska, and a possible 20,000 year old preglacial site in Alberta, Canada suggest a considerably longer human presence in the U.S. (Mammoth Trumpet, 11:4,1).

"INVISIBLE" ARCHAEOLOGY ON LONG ISLAND

James G. Gibb (once an archaeologist on Long Island), of the Society for Historical Archaeology Public Education and information Committee, states in the December 1996 SHA Newsletter, "Not long ago a friend of mine--an avocational archaeologist--expressed his dismay to me over the relationship between professional archaeologists and the public that we are supposed to serve. Professionals, he maintains, rarely include the public in archaeological research unless bulldozers and backhoes loom on the horizon. Information, when reported at all, remains inaccessible, especially genealogical and historical information of interest to the community in which the site is located..."

This lack of knowledge about what is going on archaeologically is equally true for Long Island. The on-going pursuit of archaeology is so "invisible" to the public that no one knows how many projects are going on in what places. Archaeological research is being conducted all the time for various agencies (NYS Dept. of Transportation for any changes along State highways; Army Corps of Engineers for water-oriented sites; Town Planners who require it for proposed developments, etc.) as well as for the firms who wish to develop a parcel.

To inform Long Islanders about our cultural resources, all archaeologists who have done work here were asked to provide a list of their projects so that the public can know how important archaeology is for understanding our area. Additionally, these lists will be joined with the 1978 Cultural Resources Inventory compiled by SCAA and donated to the Suffolk County Planning Department GIS mapping project to provide an up-to-date list.

Following are the projects conducted by Arnold Pickman, sometimes assisted by Eugene Boesch, Wendy Harris, and Nan Rothschild, from 1977 to 1990:

Northport, Huntington Town - Stage Ia research recommended a Stage Ib surface survey of the property.

Huntington, Huntington Town - Phase I research and shovel tests indicated an extensive Native American occupation, two late 18th/early 19th century artifact deposits, and

three structures meeting National Register eligibility. Stage II archaeological investigation was recommended.

Phase II excavation and shovel tests defined two prehistoric sites, one covering over 15 acres and the other with two 6,000- 8,000 sq. ft. areas, as well as a c. 22 acre area containing artifact scatter. Both areas were Late Woodland with a possible Early Woodland component. Also found were two domestic middens of late 18th/early to mid-19th century deposits. The sites were considered to be National Register eligible and Stage III archaeological recovery was recommended.

Calverton, Riverhead Town - Stage Ia research and surface finds indicated sensitivity for both prehistoric and historic remains. Stage Ib shovel tests located Bare Island, Wading River and Levanna projectile points, flakes, fragments, and lithic tools indicating prehistoric presence, and a 19th century brick foundation wall. Stage II archaeological examination was recommended.

Bay Park/Cedar Creek, Nassau County - Phase Ia research and shovel tests indicated the area was sensitive for prehistoric sites and 18th century mill sites on the creeks. Phase Ib testing was recommended.

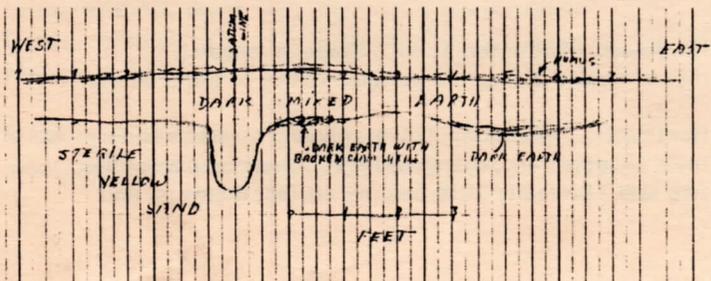
Nassau Expressway, Queens and Nassau Counties - Phase I research and analysis indicated that a portion of a historic site, considered National Register eligible, would be impacted by proposed construction. Since portions of adjacent wetlands could contain prehistoric resources, a program of sub-surface testing was recommended for those areas.

Nassau Expressway, Queens County - Archaeological borings under up to 14 feet of fill located a prehistoric midden deposit affiliated with the Late Woodland Aqueduct Site reported in 1939; other borings did not encounter prehistoric deposits. The midden site is National Register eligible.

Five other sites in Suffolk and Nassau Counties were examined and found not to be archaeologically sensitive.

Two preservation groups have sponsored archaeological research at their sites: the **East Hampton Garden Club** sponsored excavation in 1995 by Anne Yentsch and associates of the presumed garden area south of the front door of Mulford Farm. Archaeological traces of the garden were not found, but a Colonial "Rachel's Garden" has been recreated.

Greenlawn-Centerport Historical Society sponsored excavation of the crawl space of the west wing of the Suydam House, after restoration activities uncovered a solid midden of ceramic sherds. Dr. Toni Silver directed the Society's volunteers in recovery of the extensive redware and other types of ceramics/ The materials are now on display at the Suydam house.



PUBLICATIONS OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Readings in **LI Archaeology & Ethnohistory**: All volumes are \$35. except Vol. III which is \$75. + tax and shipping. Vol.s I & VI are out of print.

- I. Early Papers in Long Island Archaeology
- II. The Coastal Archaeology Reader
- III. The History & Archaeology of the Montauk, 2nd Edition
- IV. Languages & Lore of the Long Island Indians
- V. The Second Coastal Archaeology Reader
- VI. The Shinnecock Indians: A Culture History
- VII. The Historical Archaeology of Long Island: Part I: The Sites

Student Series:

Booklet: A Way of Life: Prehistoric Natives of LI	\$5.50
Study Pictures: Coastal Native Americans	\$7.50
Wall Chart: Native Technology (26X39" 3 colors)	\$13.00
Map: Native Long Island (26X39" 3 colors)	\$13.00

Exhibit Catalogs:

The Montauk: Native Americans of Eastern LI	\$3.50
Women's Work: Native & African Americans of LI	\$3.50

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership in SCAA includes 3 Newsletters per year and a 10% reduction in workshop and publication costs. All contributions are tax deductible.

Student (To age 18) \$10	Individual \$20
Family \$30	Sustaining \$50
Contributing \$100	Patron \$200
Life \$400	

Date: _____

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Phone No: _____ Willing to Volunteer? _____

Occupation: _____

Send Check to: Suffolk County Archaeological Association, P.O. Drawer 1542 Stony Brook, NY 11790