

SUFFOLK COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

N E W S L E T T E R

WINTER 1975
Vol. 1, No. 1

The S.C.A.A. requested that a course on Long Island archaeology be given by the State University at Stony Brook. With the cooperation of Dr. Margaret Wheeler and Dr. Philip Weigand of the Anthropology Dept., the course was arranged through the Continuing Education Department. The course, beginning Jan. 13, is being held on Monday evenings at 8:00 PM in room 124 of the Graduate Chemistry Bldg. Those who are enrolled in C.E.D. or other programs at Stony Brook may take the course for credit (see Weigand or Wheeler). The public is also invited to attend these lectures. For further information, call 878-4070.

This is the first time a university course on L.I. archaeology has been given. Many of those who have dug scientifically on L.I. will speak as guest lecturers after the first three sessions on North American and Northeastern archaeology by Dr. Weigand. Guest lecturers will cover the various cultural periods; coastal archaeology; ecological archaeology; the history of L.I. archaeology; demographic studies; settlement patterns; archaeological techniques and field methods; archaeological patterns of the environs of L.I.; the Stony Brook, Mt. Sinai, and other sites; historical archaeology; marine archaeology; salvage archaeology, etc. Field trips to Indian and archaeological museums in the area will also be part of the course.

* * *

Indian Archaeology of Long Island, a booklet by Ben Werner has recently been reprinted and is available at bookstores in the Pt. Jefferson-Stony Brook area; or call Ben at 987-3000.

Ben has had extensive experience in organizing and directing excavation by school children. As a founding member of S.C.A.A. and on behalf of responsible school archaeology, he offers consultant advice to any school considering such a program. Call him at the number above or HR3-5079.

* * *

An extensive bibliography on Herbal Medicine is available from the S.C.A.A. FREE. It has sections on Colonial Medicine, Medicine and Anthropology, Herbal Lore and Medicine, Pharmacognosy and Botany, and Herbal and Medical Historical Sources. Send stamped, self-addressed #10 envelope to S.C.A.A., Anthropology Dept., S.U.N.Y., Stony Brook, N.Y. 11790.



The Evolution of Man and his culture is being covered in Jacob Bronowski's The Ascent of Man, filmed by BBC and shown on Channel 13 Wednesdays at 8:30 PM, repeated Saturday and Sunday. New information in the fossil record of man's early development has arrived from Ethiopia, where hominid jawbones and most of a skeleton dating between 3 and 4 million years old have been found. This is more than 500,000 years older than the oldest skull previously found by Richard Leakey in Kenya, believed to be 2½ million years old, predating previously accepted finds by 1 million years. So in the last few years, man's fossil record has jumped back from about 1½ million years to around 3½ million years.

* * *

Archaeological digs organized by colleges throughout the world are listed in a directory published each Winter by the Society of American Archaeologists through the University of Arizona Anthropology Dept. A copy is on file with the Departmental Secretary, Mari Walker, Anthropology Dept., SUNY, Stony Brook, and may be examined by anyone who is interested. Call her first at 246-6745 to make sure it is available, usually by the end of February.

* * *

The Southold Archaeological Museum on Bayview Ave., Southold, operated by the L.I. Chapter, N.Y. State Archaeological Assn., in Southold, has many new exhibits. Dr. T.S. Cottrell has prepared an excellent display of the Museum's bone material with osteological analysis -- the only such extensive exhibit on L.I. -- and Ed Johanneman has completed a cross-section view of the stratigraphy and representative artifacts from the Mt. Sinai dig. Other members have also contributed time and expertise toward new exhibits for the Museum, which has the most extensive collection of L.I. archaeological material. For information, write Box 268, Southold, N.Y. 11971.

* * *

The Garvies Point Museum currently has an excellent exhibit, through March 16, on Indian Art of the Eastern Woodlands assembled by Archaeology Curator and Museum Director Ron Wyatt. The Museum is located on Barry Dr. in Glen Cove, and also has films and displays on natural history as well as an eight-foot square diorama recreating a Suffolk North Shore site dug scientifically by Ron, Assistant Curator Dan Kaplan, and volunteers.

* * *

An excellent brief article on "The Indians of Eastern Long Island" by Dr. Lawrence T. Waitz, formerly Southold Town Historian, currently a Director of the Southold Archaeological Museum, appeared in the September, 1970 issue of the Long Island Forum.

Another neglected area of Long Island history, that of the Blacks, is covered in Helen Wortis's article "Black Inhabitants of Shelter Island" in the August, 1973 issue of The Long Island Forum.