

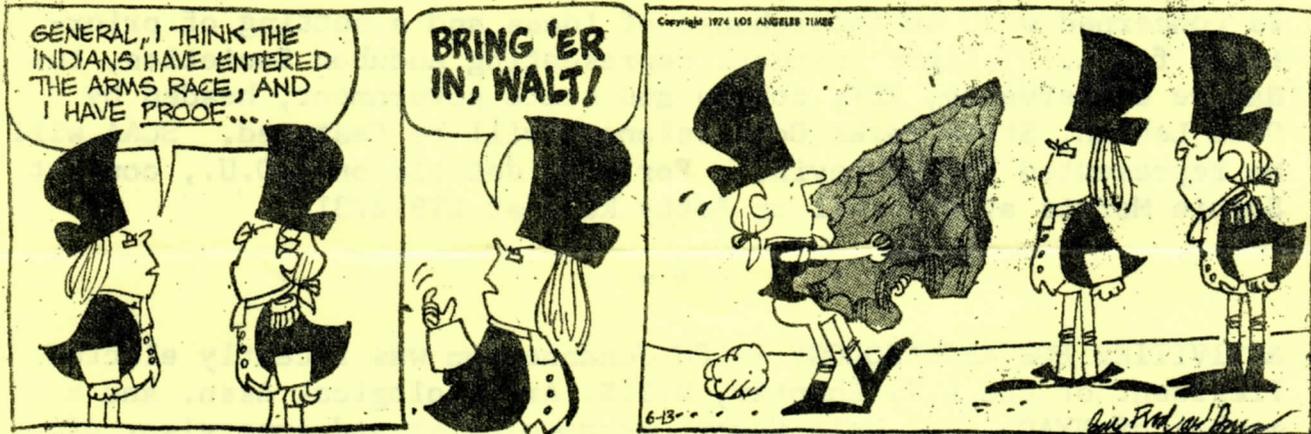
SUFFOLK COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

VOL. 1, NO. 3
Fall 1975

YANKEE DOODLES

from NEWSDAY



NOTE * * * CHANGE OF DATE * * * NOTE * * * CHANGE OF DATE

The SCAA Fall Membership Meeting

→ Thursday, November 6

Murphy Studio, Carriage House, Museums at Stony Brook.

7:30 PM -- Business Meeting

8:30 PM -- Thomas King, Exec. Director, N.Y. Archaeological Council

Refreshments: Punch and Cash Bar

All Welcome!

NOTE * * * CHANGE OF DATE * * * NOTE * * * CHANGE OF DATE

The N.Y. Archaeological Council has sued State Parks Commissioner Orin Lehman for authorizing proceeding with 55 sewer districts without archaeological surveys, including 3 on L.I. in Sag Harbor Greenport, and Glen Cove. Tom King will tell us more about the situation at our Nov. 6 membership meeting. Board member Dan Grinnell is also arranging for Tom to meet with town and county environmental agencies to explain NYAC's position.

SCAA BOARD MEETINGS are held the fourth Tuesday of the month at the home of Gretchen Gwynne, 35 Main St., Stony Brook, from noon on. Bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea are provided. Meetings will be Oct. 28, Nov. 25, and Dec. 16. All interested members are invited to attend; Oct. 28 will include a film on "Prehistoric Life in the Champlain Valley", courtesy of Garvies Point Museum.

LONG ISLAND CONSERVATION CONFERENCE -- Friday, Nov. 7, 7 - 10 PM, Executive Lounge (Room 100, Learning Resources Center), Dowling College, by invitation only, sponsored by Your Organization United. Y.O.U. is a coalition of 27 organizations representing 35,000 people dedicated to the health and welfare of Long Island parks, environmental education, conservation, etc. The Nov. 7 conference is concerned with an interchange of ideas and a setting of priorities for L.I. Eight speakers representing Audubon Societies, the Nature Conservancy, EDF, county and state government, headed by Oria Lehman, State Parks Commissioner, will be featured. SCAA will be represented by Gay Levine. For more details on Y.O.U., contact Sophie Morris at PY8-4411 or Betty Kuss at LT9-2731.

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ACTIVITIES FOR ARCHAEOLOGY -- Ed Johannemann was recently elected President of the L.I. Chapter, N.Y.S. Archaeological Assn. and a member of NYAC Walt Saxon, archaeologist and supervisor of the lab at Garvies Point Museum, spoke on behalf of public archaeology to the Smithtown Conservation Advisory Council on Sept. 11 Dan Kaplan, archaeologist on the Garvies Point Museum staff, attended the recent hearings on the Nissequogue River dredging proposal held at the NYS DEC at Stony Brook, on behalf of SCAA The Suffolk Cooperative Library System has invited SCAA to provide it with guidelines on what constitutes appropriate archaeological exhibits; this is for the guidance of local library directors who display the 'relic' collections of local pot hunters, the publicity thus encouraging them to further deprecations

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QUOTE from the ARMS/NYAC Newsletter, August, 1975:

"Governor Carey has signed legislation requiring environmental impact statements in advance of projects undertaken or permitted by state or local agencies. ARMS will be exploring the archaeological ramifications of this legislation with the responsible state agencies. We have applied to the NYS Council for the Humanities for support in developing a program to cope with the expected need for increased archaeological services."

At NYAC's last membership meeting, Sept. 20-21 in Syracuse, Exec. Director Tom King gave a course on Cultural Resource Management ... "Visitors and/or guests are welcome..."

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MAPS AND ATLASES: New York State County Atlases of the 1800s are being reprinted as a hobby and in celebration of the Bicentennial by Martin Wehle, 46 Stottle Rd., Churchville, N.Y. 14428. Write him for prices and details. Compass Ventures, P.O. Box 149, Central Station, Jamaica, N.Y. 11435 offers 1870s maps of all L.I. communities for \$5. The L.I. Heritage Press, P.O. Box 218, Uniondale, N.Y. 11533 offers a free list of 1912 road maps and carries a reproduction of the old "Battle of L.I." map.

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"THE INDIANS CALLED IT PAUMANOK ...", a display of L.I. Indian and Colonial artifacts, opened on Sept. 20 and will run through Nov. 30 at the Northport Historical Society Museum. Prepared in part by SCAA members Gretchen Gwynne and Ed Johannemann, the exhibit centers on a land-use theme, demonstrating how the rich and varied resources of the L.I. environment were exploited first by the aboriginal population and later, in different ways, by early white settlers. A small but representative collection of artifacts, borrowed from the L.I. Chapter, NYS Archaeol. Assn., from the L.I. Archaeol. Lab at SUNY, Stony Brook, and from private collections, is displayed. Museum hours are 1 to 5 PM on Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday.

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ARTIFACTS OF THE PREHISTORIC L.I. INDIANS is the special exhibit currently on view at the Garvies Point branch of the Nassau Co. Museum system in Glen Cove, and will continue until Nov. 19. Most of the collection is from the late prehistoric period, but with some spearpoints from 8,000 years ago. The bone and antler selection is especially noteworthy, including perhaps the only two surviving turtle shell dishes from L.I. sites. The artifacts are primarily from Eastern L.I., were excavated earlier in this century by amateur archaeologists, and are on loan from the L.I. Chapter, NYS Archaeol. Assn.

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The regular quarterly meeting of the Association of Suffolk County Historical Societies will be held Saturday, Oct. 25 at the Havens House and at the Pridwin Hotel as guests of the Shelter Island Historical Society. There will be tours of Sylvester Manor, the grounds, the Quaker Cemetery, and the Union Chapel. A reservation check for the \$6 luncheon must be mailed to Mrs. E.S. Lapham P.O. Box 185, Wading River, N.Y. 11792 by Oct. 16.

WHAT IS PROTECTING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES ON L.I.? The "Recession" (by slowing development); recent additional funds for wetlands acquisition by the NYS DEC (since many habitation sites were on or near marshes); the lands owned by the Nature Conservancy and other conservation groups (again, often prime sites; the cooperative management of these sites to include the study of cultural resources as well as natural resources could greatly benefit the scientific study of man); the purchase by the county of parklands/farmlands/openlands -- provided pot hunters are barred.

Since State antiquities legislation is so limited, so unenforced, and untested, County protective legislation is needed. The County has the opportunity, under its Historic Trust mandate of the CEQ, to purchase property of historic/prehistoric importance. The Colonial-era Indian fort near Cutchogue, Fort Corchaug, is the first to be proposed; the status of this is unknown at present. Only three Indian forts are known on L.I. -- Fort Massapeaq, which was taken as a Nassau Co. park and bulldozed to extinction by unknowing employees; Fort Corchaug, which has been excavated scientifically two or three times and pot-hunted unmercifully (the artifacts were removed from the County by the archaeological teams and are thus lost to our County historical heritage); and Fort Montauk, excavated at least once, cut through partially by a road, and pot-hunted repeatedly.

Yet any of these sites could have been excavated scientifically, re-created and operated as a living museum to contribute to our cultural history, create jobs for local people, and increase the tourism potential of its area.

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ARCHAEOLOGY SEMINAR: As the group representing scientific archaeology and working for the professionalization of L.I. archaeology, SCAA has been invited to conduct a Saturday seminar on archaeology for the School of Cultural Arts, Box 1606, Westhampton Beach, N.Y. 11978. Time, date, and details will be available from SCA and SCAA.

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ALL YOU WILL NEED TO KNOW ABOUT METRIC, a free publication on a topic that will affect us all, is available from the Metric Information Office, N.B.S., Washington, D.C. 20234. Ben Werner, of the SCAA board, is a member of the governor's advisory council on metric conversion and has materials that he has developed for the Three Village School District. Contact him for further information.

SCAA MEETING WITH C.E.Q.: After extensive delay, SCAA board members were finally able to meet with the Historic Trust Subcommittee, chaired by Dr. Frank Cipriani, of the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality. The SCAA had been asked to prepare an agenda for the meeting and to take their own notes, as the minutes taken by the Council secretary would not be available to them. A list of goals for Suffolk County archaeology was forwarded to the CEQ and formed the basis of discussion.

The Goals included: (1) that the county charter and/or other language guiding county activities explicitly include archaeological remains, (2) that all county-initiated projects require an archaeological survey as part of the required Environmental Impact Statement, as per the National Environmental Protection Act, (3) that all development projects in Suffolk County requiring E.I.S. include archaeological surveys, (4) that Suffolk County develop legislation for the protection of its antiquities, since State legislation is inadequate, (5) that the county purchase archaeologically valuable lands as part of its 'parklands' or 'open lands' program to protect the sites from destruction by vandals, (6) that the county develop a program of support for scientific archaeology as has Nassau County, and (7) that the SCAA have representation on the CEQ and input into its deliberations.

SCAA cannot determine that any commitment to most of the goals discussed is under serious consideration by this sub-committee or the CEQ as a whole. Where do we go from here? Further plans will be discussed at our Oct. 28 board meeting.

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EASTERN STATES ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEDERATION annual meeting is in Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 13-16. Fred Kinsey and a Hopewell Symposium on Friday AM; visit to Mound City Fri. PM. Review of 1975 research; James Griffin dinner speaker Sat. PM. For more details contact Gini Goldie or Gay Levine. A group of students and interested people are considering making a group drive; contact Gay or Gini if interested.

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A BICENTENNIAL SYMPOSIUM sponsored by the S.C. American Revolution Bicentennial Commission will be held Mon., Oct. 20 at the Colonial Hill in Hauppauge, 3:30 AM to 4 PM. Registration fee, including food, is \$15. SCAA plans to have materials and possibly a program at the Symposium. Preserving and celebrating the past should include concern for the pre-historic and historic record below the ground as well as above it?

S.C.A.A.
Anth. Dept.
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Stony Brook, N.Y. 11790

DUES ARE DUE! This Newsletter, a free publication on public archaeology with initial membership, meetings and workshops come with membership in SCAA.

Fees are: Life \$100. General \$5.
Sustaining \$15. Junior (to age 16) \$2.

Those who joined after March of this year will be credited for 1975-76. Send check to: Jim Shea, 6 Camelot La., E. Setauket, N.Y. 11733

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ Zip _____