



NEWSLETTER

Representing Nassau & Suffolk Counties

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Fall 2009

Stony Brook University Archaeology Conference on September 26th was well attended by students, SCAA members, archaeologists, and the interested public. Six papers on various aspects of Long Island archaeology were presented. SCAA's documentary film, *The Sugar Connection: Holland, Barbados, Shelter Island*, was previewed in the archaeological version of 1 hours and 40 minutes. The theme of many of the archaeological papers was the evidence of slavery and freedom uncovered by the excavations. Due to lack of time, that aspect of the documentary film could not be shown.

The film will be previewed at the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology conference in Quebec Oct. 16 - 18 in a shorter version of 45 minutes. It will also be part of a four film symposium at the Society for Historical Archaeology meeting in Amelia island, Florida January 4 - 8. SCAA Director Dr. Gaynell Stone will join a panel of film makers composed of Dr. Nassaney, chair of the program, Dr. Chris Fennell, and the group from "Time Team America." "Time Team America" has appeared on New York City's PBS Channel 13 for several Wednesdays at 10:00 PM.

The Team collaborated with an English perspective on the Jamestown dig and brought their expertise and high tech geophysical testing equipment to the Croatoan first colony site in America, where the colonists disappeared, in Ft. Raleigh State Park, Virginia, and to Dr. Al Goodyear's Topper Clovis and apparently pre-Clovis site in South Carolina. They spend three days at each site working with or carrying out archaeology with the aid of the geophysical testing. *The Sugar Connection...* coverage of U-Mass-Boston's Dr. Steve Mrozowski's excavations at Sylvester Manor for eight years is the opposite: long term excavation analyzed by many advanced diagnostic techniques.

The New York Paleoindian Project: A Call for Data

While state-wide Paleoindian point surveys are not new, these data are another tool for understanding life in the Late Pleistocene. The Paleoindian Database of the Americas (PIDBA) website (<http://pidba.utk.edu/>) shows how these distributions can be used at a continental scale to help address questions on the peopling of the New World. This information is incomplete for some states, such as New York, which handicaps interpretations.

Sequences for fluted and lanceolate points have been developed over the last two decades which can lead to

rough ages for undated sites in the Great Lakes and New England areas.

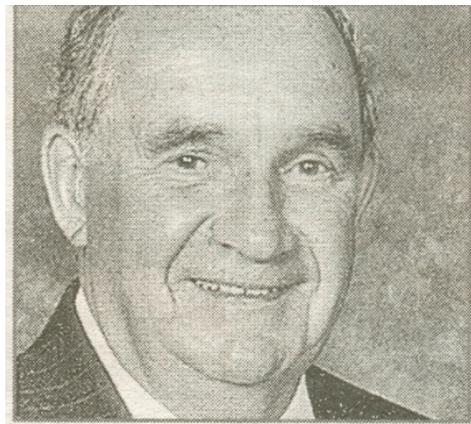
The New York Paleoindian Database Project (NYPID) has been established by the New York State Museum to compile information and digital photographs of artifacts left behind by the first peoples of New York. This information, coupled with provenience data can tell much about how and when Paleoindians colonized and adapted to the New York region.

The Museum encourages all to cooperate with this project. Go to the NYSM website link (<http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/nypid>) ; download and complete a standardized form. Jon Lothrop, Archaeology Curator, will help with filling it out, or do it for you. Provenience on the web site will only be listed at county level for security.

Contact Jonathan Lothrop, NY State Museum, CEC Room 3049, Albany, NY 12230, tel. 518-486-2992, or jlothrop@mail.nysed.gov. As forms are received, the data will be entered into an electronic database, uploaded to the NYPID web link for view, and added to the PIDBA site. Here's a chance to help make history!

SCAA Supporter Chris Vagts Dies June 29, 2009

Chris Vagts, assistant superintendent of Huntington Schools for many years in the 1970s, an official at SCOPE after retirement in 1981, was the Suffolk County Historian. As County Historian, he led a group of SCAA and county historical society leaders to convince President Marburger to create a line for a regional archaeologist in the Anthropology Dept. at Stony Brook University after Dr. Kent Lightfoot went to Berkeley – thus the Institute for Long Island Archaeology.



As an archaeology buff, he supported a summer archaeology field school for Huntington students at the site of the purported 'Old Stone Fort' on the property of former Huntington Town Historian Rufus Langhans, as well as participated in a field school in Connecticut.

He was one of the founders of the Long Island Studies Council and helped organize many years of Long Island History Conferences at several venues throughout the County. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Hallockville Farm Museum in Riverhead. and NEWSDAY's first book on the history of Long Island.

Updated Linguistic Map for Long Island and Southern New England

Linguist Carl Masthay worked for many years correcting the Bert Salwen linguistic/territorial map which appeared on p. 161 in Bruce Trigger, *Handbook of the North American Indians: The Northeast*, Smithsonian Institution Press, 1978. Seen below, it corrects linguistic errors made over the years by Ives Goddard, Frank Speck, Bert Salwen, and is based on the explicit directions of Dr. Frank Siebert, per his letters of 7 April and 4 December 1997.

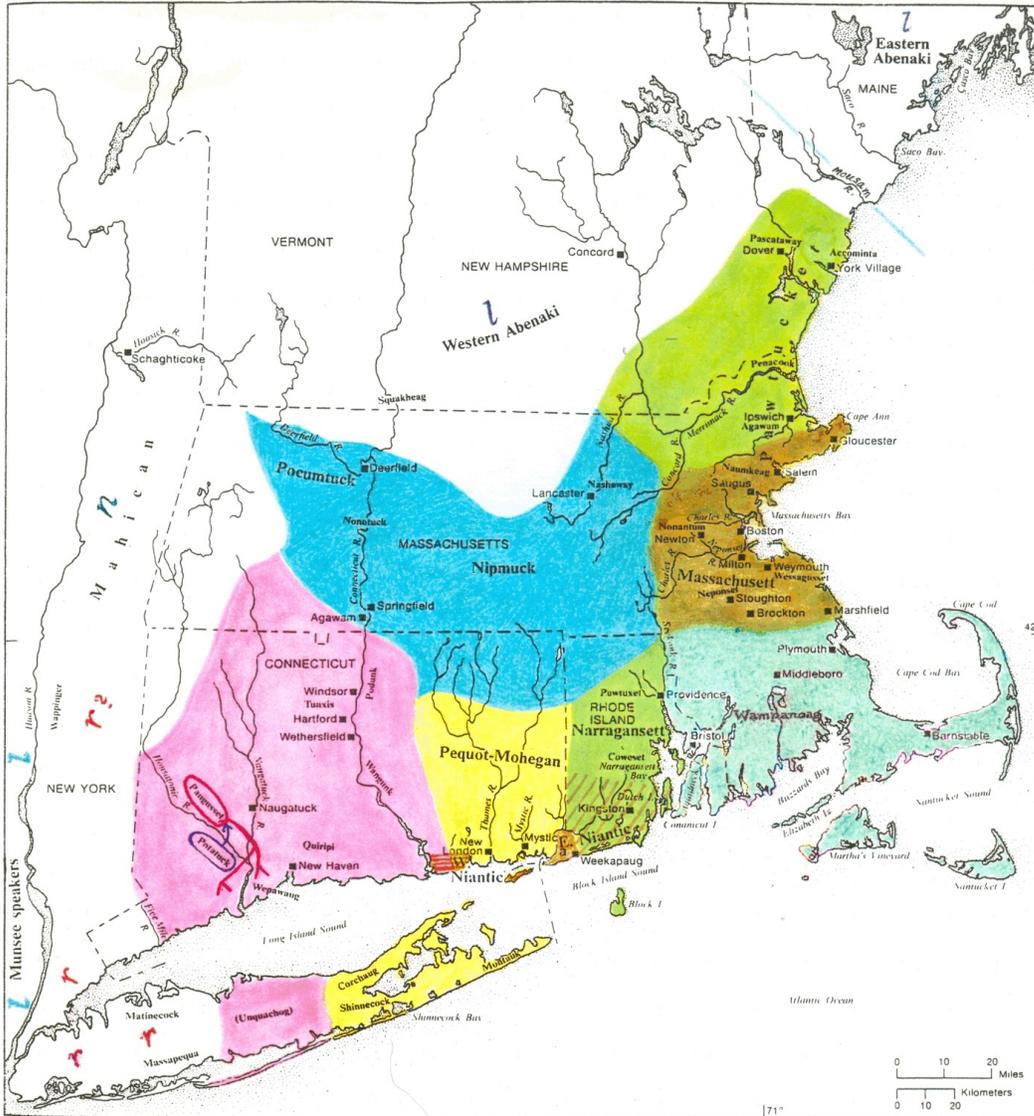


Fig. 1. Tribal territories about 1630. a. Part of Pequot territory before 1617; Pequot territory extended west to the Connecticut River after 1620. The location of the Unquachog in the 17th century is uncertain; if they belonged to the same linguistic subgroup as the Matinecock and Massapequa the boundaries would be different from those shown here. Most of the modern towns were established after 1630.

LANGUAGE AREA APPROXIMATELY EQUALS TRIBAL TERRITORY, THE TWO SOURCES VARY. NOTICE ERRORS IN POSITIONS OF PAUGUSSET AND POTATUCK.



Meetings

New York Archaeological Council fall 2009 meeting was held Oct. 3. It focused on the fact that very few New York archaeological sites are listed on the National Register. The membership is encouraged to process more sites for the Register, and the meeting included discussion on how to prepare nomination forms.

The Council also provided comments on the Native American consultation guidelines being proposed by the NY DEC. at the April 17 meeting.

Pioneer American Society: Association for the Preservation of Artifacts & Landscapes meeting, Pipestem, W. Virginia, October 29-31. Info: dbowen@umw.edu, 540-654-1491.

Eastern States Archaeological Federation, Johnstown, PA, Nov. 5-8. Info: busmanager@esaf-archaeology.org.

Resources

Dr. Christopher Fennell is a leader in using Internet technologies to make archaeological knowledge accessible. Among his contributions are the Plymouth Colony Archive Project created as a grad student (<http://www.histarch.uiuc.edu/plymouth>); his dissertation research on New Philadelphia, a 19th century biracial town in Illinois founded by an enslaved African-American who purchased his own freedom (<http://www.anthro.uiuc.edu/faculty/cfennell/NP/>); and his co-founding of the *African Diaspora Archaeology Newsletter* (<http://www.disapora.uiuc.edu>) which supports global communication in this area of archaeology.

The Institute for American Indian Studies annually hosts "Historic Indian Communities in Southern New England: What Local Town Histories Never Told Us" as part of their Native American Archaeology Roundtable. The most recent one was September 27. For information: birdstone.org. Tel: 860-868-0518.

The **Omohundro Institute for Early American Studies** announces a two disc DVD set stemming from their recent conference in Accra and Elmina, Ghana, Africa's Gold Coast from which 1.8 million enslaved people were shipped to the Americas and the Caribbean.

The first disc is "*the bloody Writing is for ever torn.*" The second disc is "*The Abolition of the Atlantic Slave Trade: Origins, Effects, and Legacies,*" and has been specifically designed for classroom use. \$59.95 from the Institute at the College of William and Mary; \$49.95 if you are a member.

The National Park Service **Museum Handbook** is now available online at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/museum/publications/index.htm>. The site also contains "Conserve-O-Grams" which outline the best procedures for handling, storing and preserving a wide range of objects and materials.

Nomenclature 3.0 for Museum Cataloging is available in a 3rd edition of Robert Chenhall's System for Classifying Man-Made Objects. A 25% discount is now available from Altamira Press – \$74.95 if ordered before November 30, 2009. Custserve@rowman.com.

North American Archaeologist of Baywood Publishing Co., has now unbundled their subscriptions, offering Online Only subscriptions, 4 times per year, @ \$77.60 for individuals. Info: baywood@baywood.com. Recent articles of regional interest include – "Building Tools for Identifying Local Variability and Cultural Patterns: A Digital Ceramic Attribute Analysis," Angela M. Labrador; "Elucidating the Origin of Middle Atlantic Pre-Contact Copper Artifacts Using Laser Ablation ICP-MS," Gregory D. Lattanzi; "The

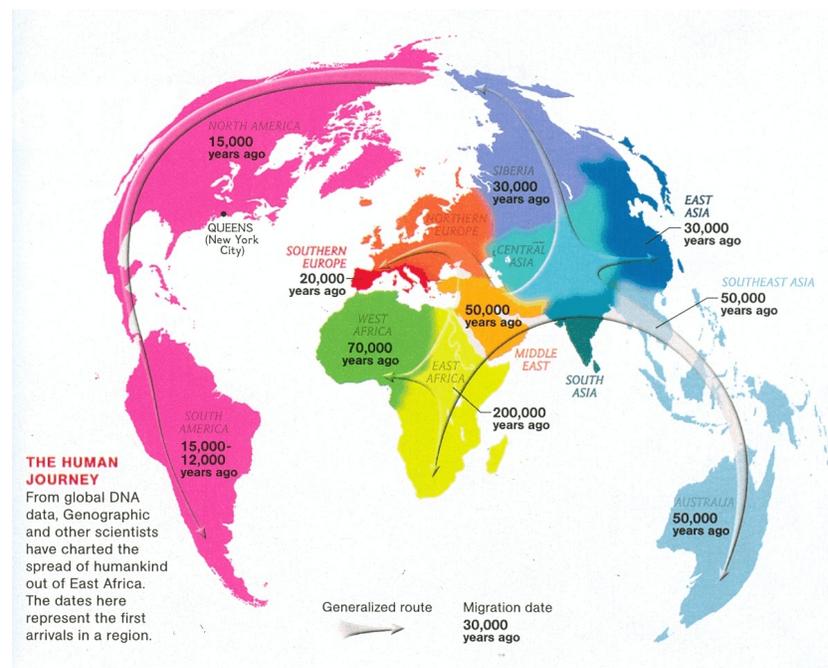
Utility of Dog Bone (*Canis Familiaris*) in Stable Isotope Studies for Investigating the Presence of Prehistoric Maize (*Zea mays ssp. Mays*): A Preliminary Study," Sharon Allitt, R. Michael Stewart, and Timothy Messner.

The Long Island Native American Indian Alliance Historical Society meets on Long Island to remember the legacy of David Carll, Civil War veteran. For information, contact Gerald Hunter, Apt. 35, 207 Oakley Ave., Massapequa, NY 11758.

AnthroNotes, the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History-Anthropology Dept.'s SAA award-winner for "presenting archaeological and anthropological research to the public in an engaging and accessible style," is going green. Get your e-mail version by signing up at anthrooutreach@si.edu.

The Human Journey – National Geographic, September, p. 24-27. "From Africa to Astoria by Way of Everywhere." Geographer-in-Residence Dr. Sumner Wells has been testing in DNA the Y chromosome in males and the Mt (mitochondrial) chromosome passed down only by women throughout the world. He attended a street fair in Astoria, Queens in 2008, and obtained cheek cell samples from 193 people. This showed that Astoria is one of the most genetically diverse spots in the world.

All people trace their ancestry to East Africa 200,000 years ago; four-fifths of this sample have lineages that traversed the Middle East, as well as to Australia 50,000 years ago. Some went to southern Europe 20,000 years ago, others through East and Central Asia and Siberia 30,000 years ago. Some of these went on to North America 15,000 years ago and South America 15-12,000 years ago.



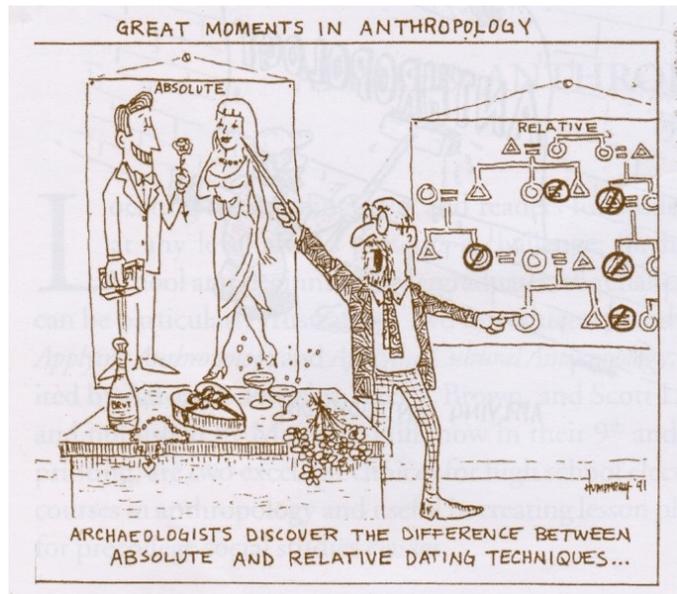
On Your Knees Cave Skeleton Changes Genetic Dating and Provides Another Founding Lineage

The young man found in On Your Knees Cave in 1994 was radiocarbon-dated to 10,300 yr B.P., making it one of the oldest accepted sites with human remains in North America. Molecular analysis of teeth revealed an additional founding lineage, D, implying greater genetic diversity than thought before.

Dr. Brian Kemp, molecular anthropologist at Washington State U. postulated that dates previously derived from genetic evidence were likely too old. He found the calibration rate was two to four times too slow, which is supported by evidence from archaeology, linguistics, mathematics, statistics, and studies by other molecular anthropologists.

So it appears that early people in northeast Siberia did not enter the Americas until about 15,000 RCYBP, when they spread the new D haplotype rapidly down the Pacific coast. Kennewick man has not yielded DNA so far, but he is believed to be of Asian, not European, origin. According to current genetic evidence, all clues point to a single source population out of Beringia.

Mammoth Trumpet, Vol. 23, No. 3, July, 2008, 4-9, 16.



Celebrating Henry Hudson’s discovery of New Netherland 400 years ago has been a wide variety of programs this year – over 6 major exhibitions, a number of television interviews, several courses taught, half a dozen conferences and seminars, and many other observances up and down the Hudson River from Albany to New York City to Long Island.

National Geographic is developing a WEB site about the Dutch in America, as well as recent programs on Ch. 13 and CBS, will add more resources for the public.

Publications of the Suffolk County Archaeological Association

Readings in Long Island Archaeology & Ethnohistory
 All volumes are \$40. + \$5. Shipping, except Vol. III, 2d ed., which is \$75. + \$8. Shipping, both plus 8.50% sales tax in N.Y. State for individuals. Vol. I is out of print; a few copies of Vols. IV and VI remain.

- I *Early Paper in Long Island Archaeology*
- II *The Coastal Archaeology Reader*
- III *History & Archaeology of the Montauk, 2d ed.*
- 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 L.I.: Part 1 - The Sites*
- VIII *The Native Forts of L.I. Sound*

Student Series (Including shipping)

- Booklet: *A Way of Life: Prehistoric Natives of L.I.* \$6.
- Study Pictures: *Coastal Native Americans* 8.
- Wall Chart: *Native Technology (26x39"-3 colors)* 14.
- Map: *Native Long Island (26x39"-3 colors)* 14.

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 18)	\$10.	Individual	\$20.
Family	30.	Sustaining	50.
Contributing	100.	Patron	100.
Life Member	400.		

Date:.....

Name:.....

Address:.....

City/State/Zip:.....

Phone No.

Willing to volunteer?

Occupation:

Send check to: Suffolk County Archaeological Association,
 P.O. Box 1542, Stony Brook, NY 11790 - Tel: 631-929-8725

Programs of the S.C. Archaeological Association are funded in part by public monies from the New York State Council on the Arts - Decentralization, the Suffolk County Office of Cultural Affairs, The Phillips Foundation, The Gerry Charitable Trust, JP Morgan Chase, Stanley Wisniewski, Harriet Gamper, and County and State Legislators.

Douglas DeRenzo, President; Dave Thompson, Vice-President; Elena Eritta, VP Marine Archeology; Lauri Billadello, Corresponding Sec.; Gaynell Stone, Phd., Recording Sec.; Randi Vogt, Treasurer.

