

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 7, No. 1
Winter 1981

Volume IV In Press: LANGUAGES AND LORE OF THE LONG ISLAND INDIANS

Dr. Nancy Bonvillain, anthropological linguist and Acting Chairman, Anthropology Department, SUNY-Stony Brook, identifies and analyzes the known early linguistic records of the two culture areas of Long Island.

This is the first professional examination of Long Island-based linguistic materials since W.W. Tooker's research at the turn of the century. New evidence and interpretations develop from this.

Since so little Long Island Indian language has been recorded, Dr. Bonvillain includes materials recorded in the same Indian languages in geographic areas contiguous to Long Island so that we may experience this aspect of aboriginal culture. Only materials taken from native informants are used, with contemporary professional assessment to place them in perspective.

Several unique and unobtainable items are reproduced, such as Fielding's Mohegan diary, the early historic Pierson's Helps for the Indians, and W.W. Tooker's Cockenoe-de-Long Island.

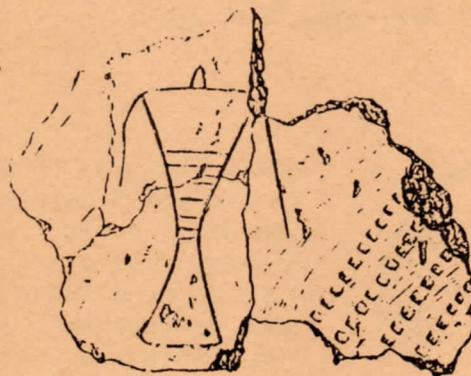
Gaynell Stone Levine gathers the known early historic and ethnographic accounts of area Indian lore -- myths, beliefs, legends, tales -- and relates them to the larger Algonquian belief system and current anthropological understanding of their role in aboriginal lifeways.

Woodcuts, etchings, stone incisions, maps, and pottery illustrate aspects of this theme. Soft cover, 200+ pages.

Available at branches of the Nassau County Museum or by mail from the Gift Shop, Old Bethpage Restoration, Bethpage, N.Y. 11710

OR

The Weathervane Shop, S.C. Historical Society, 300 W. Main St., Riverhead, N.Y. 11901. Price to be announced.



THE THUNDERBIRD

Engraved on a fragment of pottery found at Shinnecock Hills, Long Island. The thunderbirds were gods and patrons or warriors and it is one of their duties to guard mankind from the evil horned serpents (page 10) that dwell under the earth or beneath the waters.

SUFFOLK COUNTY HISTORY BROCHURE AVAILABLE FROM NEW YORK STATE -- the Division of Historical and Anthropological Services inaugurated a series of Borough Brochures in conjunction with the newly opened Metropolis Hall at the State Museum. The brochure for Suffolk County was written by Dr. Michael McCarthy, formerly director of the Long Island Studies Program at SUNY-Stony Brook. Single copies are available free from: Borough Brochures, 3093 Cultural Education Center, Albany, N.Y. 12230.

THE NEW YORK STATE STUDIES GROUP encourages local and community studies in the state, and asks that those currently offering such state or local history courses participate in the survey they are conducting. Contact Kathleen Smith Kutolowski, Dept. of History, SUC at Brockport, Brockport, N.Y. 14420 for details.

NEW YORK STATE ATLAS NOW AVAILABLE: each four-color map in the 47-page volume centers on a single county or group of counties. Available for \$15 from the NYS D.O.T., Map Information Unit, Room 105, Bldg. 4, State Office Campus, Albany, N.Y. 12232.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CERAMICS WORKSHOP CONTINUES under Dr. Edward Lanning of the Anthropology Dept., Room 508 South, 5th floor, Social & Behavioral Sciences Bldg., SUSB campus. Contact Dr. Lanning for date and time. SCAA members are welcome to attend (246-6745).

1981 CONFERENCE ON NEW YORK STATE HISTORY -- June 12 and 13, SUNY College at New Paltz, will focus on ethnicity and cultural pluralism in the State. For information, contact Stefan Bielski, 3093 Cultural Education Center, Albany, N.Y. 12230.

N.Y.S. MUNICIPAL HISTORIANS ASSOCIATION WORKSHOP -- February 15-18, Sheraton Hotel, New York City. For information, contact Edmund Winslow, 3097 Cultural Education Center, Albany, N.Y. 12230.

CONFERENCE ON THE RESEARCH POTENTIAL OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL MUSEUM COLLECTIONS -- February 25-27, Barbizon-Plaza Hotel, New York City, sponsored by the N.Y. Academy of Sciences. For information, contact Ellen Marks, NYAS, 2 E. 63rd St., New York, N.Y. 10021.

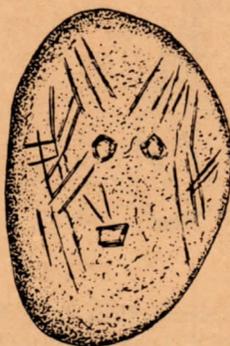
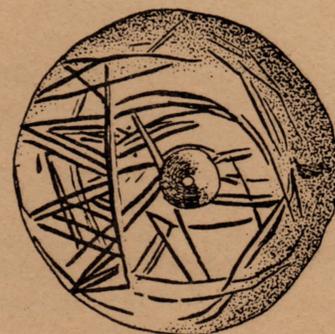


Fig. 7.

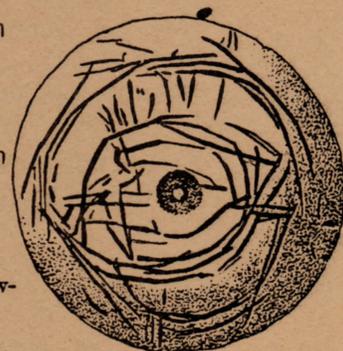
SCOPE AND SCAA SPONSOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIGS: An Archaic site in Old Field threatened by development will be excavated this Summer in a Field School directed by Ed Johannemann. This project will also be assisted by the Stony Brook Community Fund and the Three Village Historical Society, and will be open to teachers, who may receive In-Service or college credit, and interested residents. An innovative program in which teachers and their classes may participate in an archaeological dig begins in the Fall under the direction of James Truex. Interested teachers are urged to attend the Summer Field School. For information, contact the SCOPE Center, Meadow Rd., Smithtown, N.Y. 11787, or call 360-0800.

ANTHROPOLOGIST APPOINTED N.Y.S. MUSEUM AND SCIENCE SERVICE DIRECTOR: Dr. Patrick T. Houlihan, formerly of the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona, is a noted museum education professional. Originally from Connecticut, so he is knowledgeable about regional culture history, he has participated in research in Mexico and Central America, contemporary American Indian problems, and collecting the oral literature of the Chippewa.



a

COUNTY HISTORIC TRUST MANAGER APPOINTED -- County Executive Peter Cohalan has announced the appointment of Jonathan Lance Mallamo as the county's first manager for its extensive historic properties within the parks system. Lance has a master's degree in urban planning and will be maintaining an office and residence in Blydenburgh Park. Lance is well known in the historic and preservation communities for his work with historic districts.



b

Fig. 8 ab (20-7660). Obverse and Reverse of a Clay Stone Pendant showing Designs possibly representing a Bird Head and an Eye, respectively.

FIRE ISLAND WILDERNESS VICTORY -- SCAA, as well as almost 100 other groups, worked to secure the passage of Federal legislation designating 1,363 acres of Fire Island as a wilderness preserve -- the only such area in the Northeast, especially so close to urban areas. This action to preserve a unique natural-cultural area for us and our descendants is a monument to the vision of Joe Zysman, assisted by hundreds of concerned Long Islanders. Credit should also go to Senators Javits and Moynihan and to Congressmen Carney and Downey for their efforts on behalf of the Wilderness bill, which was a cliff-hanger to the end. Special recognition should be given to the crucial role played by Congressman Carney in securing passage of the bill. Perhaps a natural feature of the area could be named for him as a tribute to his dedication.

BOOKS ON THE INDIANS OF NEW YORK -- Wolley's A Two Years' Journal in New York, Denton's A Brief Description of New-York..., Dankers and Sluyter's Journal of a Voyage to New York... and Ritchie's Archaeology of N.Y. State, and NYSAA Researches and Transactions -- reprints available from Harbor Hill Books, P.O. Box 407, Harrison, N.Y. 10528.

Artifacts and the American Past, Thomas J. Schlereth. AASLH, 1400 Eighth Ave., S, Nashville, TN 37202. \$13.95; \$10.50 members. A new approach to American historiography and highly recommended.

The Phase II Cultural Resource Survey Report of selected Suffolk County Parks, executed by Edward Johannemann and Laurie Schroeder of the Long Island Archaeological Project, SCAA, and SUNY-Stony Brook Anthropology Dept., for the S.C. Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Conservation and the NYS Division for Historic Preservation has been completed. It is a landmark product and will provide a data base for all branches of county government; it may be consulted at the office of the County Historic Trust Manager.

Touchstones to Local History, an exemplary program of Saturday morning lectures on the material history of the upper Hudson Valley with afternoon field trips, college credit optional, at the N.Y.S. Museum.

NEW ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS -- The following distinguished people, who have long demonstrated a commitment to regional culture history, have joined the SCAA Advisory Board: Christopher R. Vagts, Suffolk County Historian; Dr. Ralph Solecki, Columbia University; Lance Mallamo, Suffolk County Historic Trust Manager; John Vetter, Adelphi University; Gary Hammond, Amityville Village Historian; John Fagan, SCOPE; Evert Volkersz, Special Collections, SUNY-Stony Brook Library; Dr. Sherene Baugher-Perlin, N.Y.C. Landmarks Preservation Commission.

SCAA BOARD MEETINGS continue at Hoyt Farm Park on New Highway in Commack and will be held the second Tuesday of each month -- March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9 -- at 7:30 PM. All are welcome; refreshments are served. June 9 will be a picnic and guided tour of the Hoyt Farm grounds and nature museum. For directions, call 246-8615 or 543-7804.

Illustrations are from Anthropological Papers, American Museum of Natural History, Vol. III-IV, 1909-10, Clark Wissler, ed.

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DUES ARE DUE! This Newsletter, a free publication on public archaeology with initial membership, and reduced rates to workshops and for publications come with membership in SCAA. Fees are:

Life - \$100

Sustaining - \$15

Institutional - \$10

General - \$5

Junior (to 16) - \$2

Send check to SCAA to: P.O. Drawer AR, Stony Brook, N.Y. 11790

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Zip _____

Occupation: