

NEWSLETTER

Representing Nassau & Suffolk Counties

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Spring 1999

1999 ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16

HOYT FARM PARK

New Highway  
Commack



Pot with Basket Design

6:00 PM - NATIVE FEAST

(bring melon, berries, fish,  
corn, bean dishes; meat and  
beverage provided)

7:30 PM - SPEAKER - **The Technology of  
Prehistoric Ceramics**

Marie Louise Sideroff  
Experimental Ceramacist  
Founder, Society of Primitive Technology  
An archaeologist who has excavated in  
France, England, Puerto Rico, Jordan,  
Israel, Bolivia, currently in Peru

All are welcome; RSVP: 929-8725

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Upon moving our boxes of publications to new storage space, SCAA has discovered that we still have some copies of Vol. II, **The Coastal Archaeology Reader** and Vol. IV, **Languages & Lore of the Long Island Indians** available. They were thought to be out of print. Still out of print are Vol. I, **Early Papers in Long Island Archaeology** and Vol. VI, **The Shinnecock: A Culture History**.

SCAA PARTICIPATES IN STONY BROOK SITE TELECONFERENCE

Dr. Gaynell Stone, SCAA's Museum Director, participates via teleconferencing June 9th in a discussion of the West Meadow (Stony Brook) Site excavated by State Archaeologist William Ritchie in 1955-56. The program is sponsored by the Ward Melville Heritage Foundation and will be held at its Environmental Center across West Meadow Creek and Aunt Amy's Creek from the site.

Artifacts from the site will be shown visually by Anthropology Collections Manager Penny Drooker of the New York State Museum, and Dr. Stone and students from the Three Village Middle School will discuss the Native lifeways illustrated by these finds. The reminiscences of former SCAA President Ben Werner (now of New Hampshire), who participated in the excavations, will be included. The hour long program will be available live to any group tuning in.

SUMMER ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOLS

Dr. Steve Mrozowski of UMass-Boston and 10 graduate students will continue exploration of the **Sylvester Manor** site on Shelter Island from June 2nd for a month. There will be a wide range of specialists participating in this excavation; it promises to be the most 'high tech' excavation on Long Island to date.

SCAA will conduct its annual **Field Schools for Students** again this year. The Nassau BOCES G&T program will be held full day from June 28th to July 2nd. For information, contact Carolyn Yohanis at 826-4114. The Eastern Suffolk BOCES Enrichment program field school will be held Monday through Thursdays, half days, from July 19-22 and 26-29. For information, contact Dr. Robert Bedford's office at 244-4269.

Dr. Toni Silver will be continuing excavation at the **Ketcham Inn** site in Center Moriches for **Dowling College** students. For information, call 295-0250.

**Archaeology for Educators** is a 3 credit, undergrad or graduate, field school, July 5th-August 6th, sponsored by Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT. Director of the historical archaeology field school will be Prof. Warren Perry, a specialist in African and African-American Archaeology. Dr. Elena Filios will direct the program; for information, call her at 860-832-2612, 2610.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES  
ON COUNTY G.I.S. MAP

Suffolk County Planning Department head Steve Jones and staff have included all the archaeological

sites listed in SCAA's 1978 Cultural Resources Inventory on the GIS map of the County they are developing.

There has been much contract archaeology (the gray literature, which does not get published) since 1978, and it is necessary to include that information to have an up-to-date map. The Planning Department intends to hire an Intern this summer to begin gathering all the archaeological site reports in Town Clerk's or Town Planner's files for a County file. This data can then be entered into the official County GIS map.

After this is completed, planners will have the capability, for the first time, to generate maps showing the distribution of all Paleo, or Archaic, or Woodland sites in the County. Not only will it be possible to have an accurate overview of known prehistoric sites, but the data will indicate sensitive areas, essential to sound planning, and the information will be available promptly. Currently, such information is available only from the State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation and takes many weeks to obtain, sometimes longer.

Another advantage to this new resource is that all archaeologists and regional planners may use it as their basic research site, available in the central Hauppauge location, normal working hours, Monday through Friday.

SCAA has long sought such a centralized repository for the benefit of our area's professionals and to bring County resources to the level of many counties and states nation-wide. Huzzahs to Steve Jones for starting this much needed program!

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES IN JEOPARDY?

The ecologically rare and multi-faceted (prehistorically and historically) **Chandler Estate** in Mt. Sinai was thought to be saved from development when Senator LaValle's office told us that Brookhaven Town Supervisor Felix Grucci had agreed to contribute the Town's share, along with State funds, to purchase the site for a nature preserve (which would also preserve the cultural resources).

The February 24, 1999 Region 1 **Environmental Bulletin** lists the Brookhaven Town Planning Board determining that the proposed Chandler Estate Sub-division of 18 single-family residences may have a significant environmental impact and a DEIS must be prepared. What is going on here? Has Supervisor Grucci reneged on his promise to participate in saving this site?

The Empire State Development Corporation is selling for development the **Central Islip Psychiatric Center** (Carleton Ave., Islip), the Long Island Developmental Center (Carman Rd., Huntington), the **Pilgrim Psychiatric Center** (Crooked Hill Rd., Islip), and the **Kings Park Psychiatric Center** (Rt. 25A, Kings Park). The directors of the ESDC have made Determinations of No Significant Adverse Impact on the Environment and adopted Negative Declarations.

John Buttarazzi of the Privatization Group, ESDC, informed SCAA President Dr. Henry Moeller that this action allows development under local government rules. Two of the sites are in Islip Town, which has a record of no concern for cultural resources; one is in Huntington, which has shown a fair amount of concern in the past; and one is in Smithtown Town, which has a record of little concern.

The Islip sites are in a drainage area of creeks flowing southward; these huge sites pumped so much ground water for their operations over time that they de-watered the creeks, many of which 'disappeared.' Since Native people always lived near fresh water sources, this is a sensitive area which has been ignored. Unless Islip Town planners start following SEQR rules, a large chunk of Suffolk's prehistory will disappear without a trace.

Huntington Town planners have required archaeological survey for some sites; let's hope they see the **L.I. Developmental Center** as a site requiring survey. How does any agency know there are no cultural resources to be impacted when no archaeological surveys have been done? Smithtown Town has required few cultural resource surveys, despite its great sensitivity due to the many waterways. Let's hope they obey SEQR law in regard to the Kings Park property.

The **Kings Park site** has several environmental groups and State Assemblyman Steve Englebright proposing that at least a third of the site be preserved as a State park. Its L.I. Sound location makes it sensitive archaeologically also. SCAA has been told by nearby residents that there are large mounds near the shoreline. Some of them were tested by Steve Kopper (now deceased), formerly an archaeologist at C.W. Post College, and that he found them man-made. Only archaeological testing will determine if they are burial mounds, which have been found elsewhere in the country. There is a known archaeological site contiguous to the East boundary of the Center which probably continues into it.

Archaeological survey of these sites need not delay development if it is carried out early in the planning process. These sites represent large areas of terra incognita. Responsible local governments should

require that their archaeological record is recorded before it is destroyed unwittingly. One has only to read the archaeological survey reports in this issue to see how many sites that were examined had portions already destroyed.

## RESOURCES and EVENTS

**A Historical Guide to Long Island: Soda, Beer & Mineral Water Bottles & Bottling Companies, 1840-1970**, George Fisher & Donald Weinhardt, lists 570 companies and over 1700 bottles. It is indexed by subject and location and cross-references to business directories and period advertising; it includes glassmakers marks, etc. This most useful compendium to the archaeologist as well as bottle collector is available for \$35. + \$5. shipping from the L.I. Antique Bottle Association, 10 Holmes Ct., Sayville, NY 11782-2408.

**Philosophical & Practical Concerns of Collecting and Developing Collection Management Policies**, a workshop sponsored by the Museum Association of New York. Long Island sessions will be held Monday, June 21 at the Museums at Stony Brook and Tuesday, June 22 at Old Bethpage Village Restoration, 9 AM to 3:45 PM, \$40. registration fee, including lunch.

**350th Anniversary Celebration of The Old House**, a National Historic Landmark, Cutchogue, NY on Saturday, August 14th. From 10 AM to 9 PM there will be parades, speakers, Revolutionary War encampment, colonial cooking, fashion show, auction, fun and games, tours of Village Green historic houses and the Old Cemetery, picnics, and a concert on the Village Green.



Early Pot



Pot Effigy



Late Pot

## CULTURAL RESOURCES REPORTS IN SUFFOLK COUNTY

The N.Y. Archaeological Council Publications Committee has recently printed **NYAC Abstracts**, Vol. 5, April 1999, which lists the following Stage II and III archaeological reports:

### Brookhaven Town

**Stony Brook** - Section 2 of Eagle Realty Holdings Property, 3/98. Stage 2 shovel tests, units; no diagnostics, no features. Large representative sample of materials excavated and studied. Prehistoric: fire-cracked rock, tools, flakes. Historic: coal, ceramics, glass, nails, shell. Area

probably once part of much larger site whose western section was destroyed during 1940s construction. No further work recommended. David J. Bernstein

**Setauket** - Lots 1 - 5, Estate of Thornton Hawkins, 10/98. Stage 2 shovel tests, units; no features. Prehistoric: triangle projectile point, biface, core, debitage. Historic: ironstone, porcelain, creamware, pearlware, whiteware, window glass, bottle glass, pipe bowl frag., shell. David J. Bernstein

**Mt. Sinai** - Eagles Nest Sub-division, 12/89. Stage 2 shovel tests; no features. Prehistoric: flakes, retouched flakes, preforms, hammerstones, bifaces, knives?, fire-cracked rock, side-notched point, corner-notched point frag, unid. point; pottery, few shell, few mammal bones, charred nuts. Finds infer cobble tool industry, hunting, butchering, cooking Middle Archaic to Early Woodland. Recommend topsoil stripping. Edward Johannemann, Laurie Billadello (Note: Stage 3 report already abstracted in Vol. 1, issue 3, p. 103)

### East Hampton Town

**Montauk** - Roseberry-Harvey site, residential lot bordering wetland, 11/98. Stages 1A, 1B, 2 shovel tests, units; 3 features--midden, two cobble cairns (probably burials), boulder wall similar to Pharaoh site Native historic walls. Prehistoric: Wading River, Squibnocked stemmed, Bare Island, Susquehanna Broad, Jack's Reef projectile points; shell and grit tempered pottery, Windsor net-marked, Sebonac stamped; hard and soft shell clam, slipper and scallop shell; oyster, fish remains; debitage, ground stone tool, chert, quartz flakes and thumbnail scraper, hammerstone, biface. Site disturbance left only a ribbon of the midden. Late Archaic to Woodland occupations may be example of south shore Wading River complex. Recommended avoidance of all 3 features. Jo-Ann McLean

**Montauk** - Rockhill Site, S. Endicott Place, residential lots, 1999. Stage 1 and 2 shovel tests, units?; no features. Prehistoric: fire-cracked rock, cobble, unifacial core, preform, bifaces, secondary and tertiary flakes, Madison and Levanna points; sand-tempered sherd; cut mammal (deer?) rib bones. Historic: square iron spike. Probably semi-recurrent Woodland hunting-related processing station; artifact density very low. Site disturbed by recent activities. Alfred Cammisa

### Huntington Town

**Northport** - The Knolls at Northport development, 10-97. Stage 2, 3 loci: Locus 4: backhoe grading to remove overburden, shovel tests, trench, square, backhoe trenches; Locus 2: shovel tests, trench; Locus 3: shovel tests. No diagnostics, no features. Prehistoric: flakes, some use/retouch, possible hammerstone. Jo-Ann McLean

**Huntington** - Carmel property, east of Round Swamp Rd. and south of southern service road for L.I. Expressway, 2/98. Limited Stage 2 shovel tests. Prehistoric: none. Modern: flowerpot, bottles. Joseph Schuldenrein and David J. Bernstein

**Centerport** - Harbor Park Court house lots, ND/98. Stage 1 and 2 shovel tests, units, deep tests with bucket auger. Feature: cement foundation (shed?), no artifacts in vicinity. Prehistoric: Squibnocked stemmed, Bare Island,

Lamoka/Dustin base, Squibnocket triangle, cores, preforms, bifaces, unifaces, flakes, retouched flakes, scrapers, retouched flakes, fire-cracked rock, paint pot in association with hematite. Historic: square nails. Late Archaic small village/base camp? Lithic production, hide preparation or butchering; destroyed hearth feature suspected.  
Alfred Cammisa

**Riverhead Town**

**Calverton** - Calverton Industries Mine parcel, Rt. 25, 6/98. Stage 1 additional (shovel tests around those that had produced flaked stone finds previously) and limited Stage 2 test units placed where former shovel tests were done. No flakes, no diagnostics, no features. Prehistoric: flakes. Modern: materials (?). Robert Miller

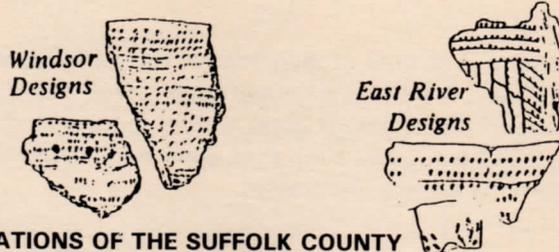
**Southampton Town**

**Noyac** - Lerner-Osti property, Paynes Creek site, ND/97. Stage 1 and 2 shovel tests, units; no features. Prehistoric: fire-cracked rock, all stages debitage, 3 tools, biface, hammerstone, Bare Island point. 3 discrete base camp sites focused on different eco-niches within the property: a creek, tidal marsh, freshwater wet area. Activities included hunting/butchering/hide preparation, possible lithic workshop and trade (exotic material) at creek focus; camping and cooking at all three; gathering implied at tidal and freshwater marsh. Very small sites; no further work recommended. Alfred Cammisa

**Shinnecock Hills** - Parrish Pond residential sub-division, Montauk Highway. Stage 2 walkovers, shovel tests, shovel skimming. Feature: ruin of late 19th century J.C. Parrish house, brick well, footings of various outbuildings, surface manifestations of former garden, stone walks, retaining walls, fences, roadways visible. Historic: asphalt shingles, button, clay shooting targets, coal, flowerpot, brick, window glass, mortar, found nails, plaster, tar paper, window putty.

No cultural features to date prehistoric site; strata mixed, probably by plowing. Prehistoric: marine shell, flakes, fire reddened and cracked rock, base of preform, shattered pebble, mammal bone, many charred. Indian pottery types from North Beach Brushed Focus of the Windsor Aspect to Bowmans Brook Focus of the East River Aspect. Therefore, site occupied from Middle Woodland to middle of Late Woodland stage. West portion of site may have had marine related activities while east part was more terrestrial. Late Woodland site found.

Site seen as work station and residence site, occupied warmer months when shell fishing possible. Game exploited possibly into fall; no evidence of agriculture. Tools not being manufactured from local pebbles but lithic manufacture being completed on cache blades. Scarcity of formal tools and those being reworked suggests their high value. 65% of artifacts were marine shell, mostly quahog or hard shell clam; all recovered were broken to remove the blue lip used for the most valuable wampum beads. Presumptive stone awl and grinding stone found suggest inhabitants were actively manufacturing wampum. Site is potentially eligible for the National Register. R. J. Kalin



**PUBLICATIONS OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION**

**Readings in Long Island Archaeology & Ethnohistory:**  
All volumes are \$35. + \$5. shipping, except Vol. III, 2d d., which is \$75. + \$6. shipping; both plus 8.25 sales tax in N.Y. State. Vols. I and VI are out of print.

- I. Early Papers 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 Long Island (in press)

**Student Series:** (including shipping)  
Booklet: A Way of Life: Prehistoric Natives of L.I. \$ 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 L.I. - \$ 3.50  
Women's Work: Native & African Americans of L.I. - \$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 18)	\$10.	Individual	\$20.
Family	\$30.	Sustaining	\$50.
Contributing	\$100.	Patron	\$200.
Life Member	\$400.		

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

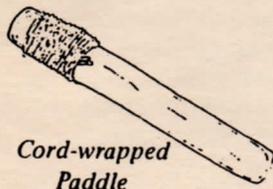
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Willing to volunteer? \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

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



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