

Annual Meeting 2011

Hoyt Farm Park, Commack
Wednesday, June 22

6:00 PM - Potluck Dinner

7:30 PM - Brief Business Meeting

8:00 PM - **Speaker: Elizabeth D. Meade**, RPA archaeologist for environmental and planning firm AKRF in Manhattan, Elizabeth is a native of Northport. She received her B.A. in anthropology from New York University, and a master's degree from Hunter College, CUNY, and has conducted numerous excavations in New York City and vicinity.

She was in charge of the excavation of the sunken ship found recently at the World Trade Center excavation, which was recorded digitally *in situ* by the Hauppauge firm, Corinthian Data Capture.

The talk, "An 18th Century Hull Below Manhattan: The Excavation of the World Trade Center Ship," will be a preview of the report she will be giving at the January Society for Historical Archaeology conference.

further testing of these spots will continue each Tuesday and Thursday in June.



Dr. Dan Davis, geophysicist at Stony Brook University, carried out Ground Penetrating Radar testing of extensive transects at the site



St. George's Manor, Setauket, Excavation

Dr. Chris Matthews, Hofstra University; and Ray Scelzi, master's degree in archaeology candidate at University of Leicester, UK directed follow-up testing from last summer's testing at the original site of the Manor of St. George May 24 -26. After anomalies in the soil have been pinpointed,



Dr. Matthews will excavate at the Jacob Hart house site in Stony Brook throughout June. This is the location of one of the earliest African-American families in the Three Villages. This continues his work tracing the story of Long Island African Americans at King Manor, Jamaica, and the Joseph Lloyd house, Lloyd Neck.

Two Decades of Archaeology at the Halsley House, Southampton – Part II

Errata: The Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory does not announce a dendro date unless it is firm, therefore it was not correct for the last issue to state that the dendro testing showed some 1660s dates.



Halsey House 2010

Artifact Analysis (Continued) - Laurie Billadello

Clay Tobacco Pipes

Following is a chronology of the dateable clay tobacco pipe fragments:

Pictured on Photo D:3e is a pipe bowl embossed with the initials "TD". Evidently, one of two manufacturers could have made these pipes. An English pipe maker named Thomas Dormer existed between 1748 and 1770. Another English pipe maker named Thomas Duggin existed between 1805 and 1832. So, at best, we can assume a date from the mid-18th c. through the mid-19th c.

1) Two pieces of the same pipe stem pictured in Photo Q:5a are embossed with "W. White, Glasgow". These pipes were made from 1805-1891.

2) The profile of the bowl and attached stem in Photo D:3c matches the profile illustrated in Hume 1969:303, Figure 97 #23. Hume dates a similar pipe from 1820-1860.

3) Two pieces of the same pipe stem pictured in Photo Q:4d are embossed with "Peter Dorni" who manufactured pipes from 1835-1898.

4) Other pipes were undatable due to lack of information:

5) A pipe bowl fragment pictured in Photo F:7a has a windmill stamped into it. Could this mean it is of Dutch manufacture?

6) The pipe stem pictured on Photo Q:3a has the following embossing: "INC??A SPARNAA". My research yielded nothing on this phrase.

The remaining clay pipe fragments fit into the following categories but were also undatable:

- 1) Decorated bowl and stems: Photo F:7b.
- 2) Plain bowl and stems: Photo F:7b; Photo Q:1f, 3f.
- 3) Decorated bowls: Photo D:3b; Photo Q:1b-1d, 2b, 2c, 2f.
- 4) Plain bowls: Photo D:3a; Photo Q:1a, 1e, 2a, 2d, 2e.
- 5) Decorated stems: Photo Q:4c.
- 6) Plain mouthpiece: Photo Q:4b.
- 7) Plain stems: Photo C:6; Photo D:3d; Photo Q:3b, 3c, 4a, 5b (3 pieces), 5c.
- 8) Plain terra cotta stem: Photo X:g.

Notions

Buttons found during the Halsley House excavations were made from bone (Photo P:1a, 1b), shell (Photo P:3a), brass and china (discussions to follow).

One brass shank button with a hand-stamped floral design may date back to the first quarter to the last quarter of the 18th c. (Photo P:1d) The rest of the brass shank buttons belong to the 19th c. when button makers began to stamp firm names, trademarks and quality on the backs of the buttons, i.e.

- 1) "treble gilt standard colour" (Photo P:1d)
- 2) "treble gilt standard colour, Lewis and T?M??"(Photo P:1f)
- 3) "rich gold colour" with floral design (Photo P:1g)
- 4) anchor embossed on front, gilding evident on back (Photo P:1h)
- 5) "gilt" (Photo P:2e)
- 6) "double gilt" (Photo P:2f, 2g)
- 7) "superfine colour" (Photo P:2h)
- 8)

There is one unmarked brass shank button (Photo P:2d) and one brass shank domed button (Photo P:2i).

There are three, 4 hole china buttons (Photo D:6; Photo P:3b, 3c) from the second half of the 19th c. to the first quarter of the 20th c. Photo P:2a, which is disintegrating, may have been a 4 hole rubber button from the second half of the 19th c. There is also one single hole black glass button from the 19th c. Photo P:2c appears to be a 2 hole plastic button (mid-20th c. onward).

Among the artifacts are three glass beads (Photo P:3d-3f), 2 metal buckle fragments (Photo I:b) and a bone grommet (Photo P:1c), possibly from a corset. Associated sewing objects include a thimble (Photo I:c) and a horn tating peg (Photo I:3e).

Coins

The earliest coin is a 1900 Indian Head penny (Photo P:3g). The remaining pennies are Lincoln heads: 196?,

1969D, 1971, 1973, 1997, 11 undatable. There is also a 1969 Jefferson nickel and a 1985 FDR dime. (Photo X:i)

Metal

Hardware artifacts included spikes and nails. One disintegrating spike appears to have been hand-forged (Photo T:3b). Other spikes were square cut (Photo B:a; Photo E:3; Photo T:3d). [19th c.] One spike was unidentifiable relative to manufacture due to disintegration (Photo T:3c).

The majority of nails were square cut [19th c.]: Photo B:c, Photo E:3, Photo F:1 (9 total); Photo T:3a, 3e-3m. Only one wire nail was excavated: Photo B:b. [post-1890]

Miscellaneous metalware included a pot bottom (Photo C:1), a metal adze head (with wooden handle, Photo M:1,2), a clock key (Photo T:1b), keys (Photo T:2a, 2b), a lead fragment (Photo T:1c), 2 copper fragments (Photo T:a) and unidentifiable metal fragments (Photo C:4a; Photo E:3; Photo F:4).

Miscellaneous Items

Shells: There is one whelk columella (Photo C:5) and one piece of hard clam shell (Photo X:d).

Gun Flints: There are four gun flints that were used in flint lock firearms of the 17th to mid-19th c. (Photo C:3c; Photo F:5; Photo I:1a; Photo P:3g)

Household Utensils: There are three bone utensil handles (Photo I:2a; Photo P:4b), one antler handle (Photo I:1d), a metal knife blade (Photo T:2c) and a spoon bowl with impressed mark (Photo P:4d) which could not be identified.

Child-Related Artifacts: One piece of slate (Photo P:4a) and two slate markers (Photo I:2d; Photo P:4b) were excavated. These were introduced in the mid-18th c. on which students practiced penmanship, mathematics, etc. Their use continued throughout the 19th c.

Four bone and ebony dominoes date from the mid-19th c. onward. The top bone and bottom ebony layers are glued together and fastened with brass pins called spinners. (Photo I:3f)

Five fragments of a bisque doll's face date from the last quarter of the 19th c. to the early 1900s. (Photo V:2b) The photograph label ("pieces porcelain doll face") is incorrect: Porcelain doll faces were glazed and dated to pre-1860, in general. Unglazed faces were known as bisque. Composition faces replaced bisque in the early 1900s.

Three clay marbles are part of the artifact inventory: Two are plain clay marbles. The other may be a glazed Benington marble which, if manufactured in America, would post-date 1884. (Photo P:4c)

Structural Materials: One firebrick (Photo D:1) and two small brick fragments (Photo X:b, h) are represented. There's also wallpaper on wood (Photo CC) which pattern could date from the 19th c.

Other: Part of a flexible watch band was recorded (Photo B:d), there is once piece of coal (Photo C:9) and four unidentified artifacts (Photo B:e; Photo G:4; Photo I:1e; Photo X:k).

Fauna

According to the labels on the photographs, the majority of the bone artifacts belong to domesticated animals: pig (Photo Y), ox (Photo Z) and ruminants (i.e. sheep, Photo AA). The analyzer noted that some of the ox long bones had been cracked open, perhaps with an axe(?) Hollow fowl bones comprise Photos X and BB. Other faunal artifacts that are scattered among other artifacts include a cut bone (Photo C:7), a bone (Photo C:8) and teeth (Photo D:7; Photo F:6).

Ceramics

Lead glazed combed slipware (1680-1770) Photo R and Photo S.



Halsey House early 1900s



0.c.o.p.l



Photo Q



Photo T



Photo R



Photo V



Photo S



Photo X

Summer Archaeological & Colonial Camp for Students

Blydenburgh County Park, north end, Smithtown

For Students entering 4th to 8th grade

July 18 - 21, 25 - 28 (8 days total)

8:00 AM to Noon

Activities: colonial archaeology, architecture, cooking, textiles, carpentry, blacksmithing
Local field trip

Tuition: \$210. Per student; check to SCAA,
P.O. Box 1542, Stony Brook, NY 11790

Registration deadline: June 20th, 2011

Questions? Call Laurie at 631-689-0540



Photo Z



Photo AA



Photo BB



Photo CC



Students excavating at Blydenburgh County Park

Resources

Rocks, Riddles and Mysteries: Folk Art, Inscriptions and other Stores in Stone, Edward J. Lenik. \$18.95 + \$2.00 shipping. [www.AmericanHistoryPress](http://www.AmericanHistoryPress.com), 888-521-1789.

First Forts: Essays on the Archaeology of Proto-colonial Fortifications, Eric Klingelhofer, ed. Koninklijke Brill/Leiden, Vol. 60 in the History of Warfare series. ISBN 978 04 18754 2, \$168.

Early America Cartographies, Martin Bruckner, ed. University of North Carolina Press/Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture. Available Nov., 2011.

Making Archaeology Happen, Martin Carver, Left Coast Press, \$29.95 paper. www.LCoastPress.com.

Conferences

2011 Conference on N.Y.State History, Cooperstown, NY. June 2 - 4. Contact conferencechair@nysha.org.

Dublin Seminar for New England Folklife: Behind the Battlefield: New England and the Civil War. June 24 - 26, Deerfield, MA

Publications of the Suffolk County Archaeological Assoc.

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, IV, & VI are out of print.

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P.O. Box 1542, Stony Brook, NY 11790 - Tel: 631-929-8725

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