

NEWSLETTER

Representing Nassau & Suffolk Counties

Vol. 29, No. 1
ISSN 1079-2198
Winter 2003

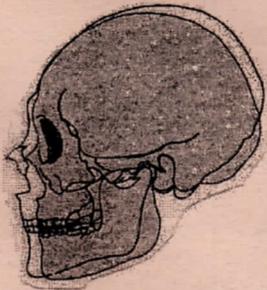
SUMMER ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD SCHOOLS

Dr. Steve Mrozowski of U-Mass-Boston will continue exploration of the **Sylvester Manor** site during the month of June. This is a 10-year exploration of a complex, significant Colonial provisioning plantation. A public visitation day is usually held the last week of July; call the Shelter Island Historical Society (631-749-0025 for date and time.

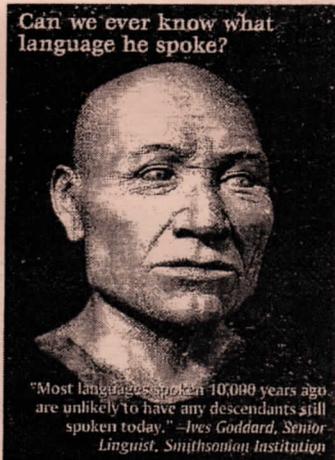
The **Davis Town Meeting House** site in Coram will again be examined by field archaeology classes from S.C. Community College and Dowling College, May 27 through June 13. The mid-1700s house served as an inn and first "Town Hall" for Brookhaven Town. For information: Dr. Linda Barber, SCCC, 631-451-4336 or Dr. Annette Silver, Dowling, at 516-295-0250.

SCAA Student Archaeology Field Schools will be held full day June 27 - July 3 through the Nassau BOCES Gifted & Talented Program for Nassau 4th to 12th graders; call 516-608-6443 for information. Suffolk BOCES Enrichment Program sponsors a half-day program for Suffolk students Monday - Thursday, July 21 - 24 and July 28 - 3; call 631-244-4269 for information.

Besides learning all aspects of archaeology, students take field trips and experience 19th century technology of black smithing, wood working, textiles, food preparation, etc.



Kennewick Man skull outlined over Native American skull (shaded).



IN MEMORIAM

Former **N.Y. State Archaeologist Robert E. Funk** died unexpectedly September 25, 2002. A funeral and memorial service were held September 28th attended by more than 200 colleagues and friends. Scores of memorial statements by his former students and colleagues were published in the Fall 2002-Winter 2003 N.Y. Archaeological Council Newsletter. It is obvious how highly esteemed he was and what important contributions he made to New York archaeology.

Martin D. Kamen, the scientist who discovered the element carbon-14, died August 31, 2002 at 89. His discovery allows archaeologists to date artifacts up to 50,000 years old. His eventful life included being called before the House Un-American Activities Committee (McCarthy), called a spy by major newspapers, receiving the prestigious Enrico Fermi Award, working on the Manhattan Project (atomic bomb). He also did groundbreaking research on bacterial cytochromes and photosynthesis and was an emeritus professor at UC San Diego and USC.

ACPAC Newsletter

NEWS

Dr. Gaynell Stone, Museum Director of the SCAA, has been appointed a Speaker in the Humanities by the N.Y. Council for the Humanities for the next two years. Her topic, **Evidence of Dutch Culture in Coastal New York**, is available free to libraries, historical societies, and other groups wishing a talk on current research for an out of school audience.

The Oregon U.S. District Court has ruled that "**Kennewick Man**" remains are not Native American nor culturally affiliated with local Indian tribes under the Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act. This clears the way for the plaintiff scientists to conduct

studies on the remains. Kennewick Man's skull appears to be closest to the Ainu of Northern Japan.

However, the federal government and four Northwest Indian tribes have appealed the decision. It may be 3 to 6 years before a ruling.

The **Oneida Indian Nation** has become the third Native tribe to contribute \$10M to the National Museum of the American Indian; now under construction on the Mall in Washington, it is expected to open in 2004. This tribe of 1,000 own a casino and resort, a newspaper, textile factory, and chain of gas stations. With 3,000 employees, they are the single largest employer in two N.Y. State counties. They join the Mohegan and Nation of Connecticut (Mashantucket-Pequot), who contributed earlier.

Long Island's **Shinnecock Nation** has announced that they seek to establish a high-stakes Bingo operation and later a Casino at the "West Woods," a plot they own on Peconic Bay in Hampton Bays. This can be accomplished only after they receive Federal recognition (now in process, but the application is deemed 'incomplete' currently) and negotiate with state and local government.

The Shinnecock Cultural Center & Museum received a \$116,563. grant last summer from the N.Y. State Department of Health & Human Services for a 3 year initiative to preserve and expand collections and implement educational programs. Other funding has come from the Southampton Town Board and Southampton College students

Jamestown Rediscovery, the 8 year archaeological project to find the presumed-lost Jamestown Fort, has located the fort and recovered over 400,000 artifacts that re-write the 17th century history of the area and the first European settlement in America. An extensively illustrated article on the site is in *American Archaeology*, Vol. 6, No. 4, Winter 2002-03, available from the Archaeological Conservancy.

This 3" tall copper alloy object from James Fort was probably a windmill shaped like a 17th century Dutch house and used as a toy by the soldiers and colonists.



A large **mound village** related to the World Heritage Site of prehistoric Cahokia -- the largest city in America until Philadelphia surpassed its size in the early 1800s -- and presumed lost to

urbanization, has been discovered under the town of East St. Louis, IL. Washington University students under John Kelly's direction have been excavating it; preservation is being achieved by buying lots in the blighted area at tax sales and with Archaeological Conservancy help.

Scholarly and public interest in the **Underground Railroad** has been heightened by the Federal act to promote the Underground Railroad Heritage Trail throughout the country. Archaeologist Douglas Armstrong of Syracuse University and his students have photographed and made casts of faces carved in the clay basement walls of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Syracuse; the church was built in 1845 for a congregation chartered to fight slavery and the pastor's house was a station on the Underground Railroad. Local contributions funded removal of the faces to the Onondaga Historical Association for preservation and interpretation in an exhibit on the abolition movement in central New York.

On Long Island, Kathleen Velsor of SUNY-Westbury has researched and published on the Underground Railroad here. The large L.I. Quaker community of abolitionists and seaports were havens for escaping slaves on the way to Canada to evade the slave bounty hunters. A community of escaped slaves and freedman has recently been found by Bard College archaeologist and NYAC President Chris Lindner near Hyde Park. Efforts are now underway to locate more of the Hudson Valley Underground Railroad.

Guidelines for the Use of Archaeological Monitoring as an Alternative to Other Field Techniques have been proposed by a joint N.Y. Archaeological Council and Professional Archaeologists of N.Y.C. sub-committee. The next step is getting these guidelines adopted as part of the NYAC Standards (*Standards for Cultural Resource Investigations and the Curation of Archaeological Collections in New York State*, NYAC 1994; adopted by the N.Y.S. Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation).

SCAA is currently mailing the *Standards...* to all Suffolk County Town Planning Departments and Chairs of Planning Committees so those making development decisions, which often affect archaeological resources, know what the State standards are.

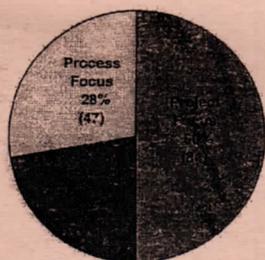
Rose Hill Manor, on the Fordham University campus, has been excavated and studied for the past 15 years by archaeologist Dr. Alan Gilbert and historian Dr. Roger Wines of the Fordham faculty and their students. The story begins with a 1694 farmhouse built by a Dutch owner, Reyer Michielsen, which is probably the remains

they have been excavating. 18th century artifacts are absent, probably due to waterproofing of the structure which removed all earlier objects. Robert Watts bought the house in the early 1800s and named it after his ancestral home in Scotland.

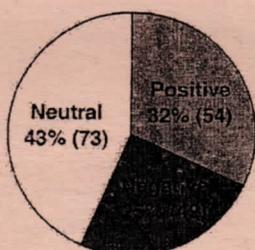
It was donated to the Diocese of New York in 1823 and transformed into St. John's College, which demolished the building in 1897, building a classroom partly over it. The site was renamed Fordham in 1907. 2002 was the last summer field school, as Dr. Gilbert plans to next excavate New York City's the last remaining Revolutionary War fort. Dr. Gilbert also created the region's Brick Archive and continues chemical analysis and identification of area bricks and brickworks. He is also a consultant to the Sylvester Manor project.

Archaeology Under a Microscope: CRM and the Press is a recent review of published Cultural Resource Management archaeology in the state from 1995 to 2000. 28 daily and weekly newspapers (L.I.'s Newsday included) reported on 53 different CRM projects. The SHPO reviewed and consulted on 1,965 CRM projects during this time; the 53 were only 2.7% which received newspaper coverage. The perspective of the articles was found to be positive 32% (54 articles), neutral 43% (73), and negative 25% (42).

Those articles which focused on the archaeology (22% - 38 articles) conveyed a very positive image of the discipline as interesting, scientifically important and worth attention. The largest category (50% - 84) dealt with development projects, often with a positive or negative bias. The third category, on the regulatory process (28% - 47), reported on regulatory procedures, SHPO functions, or the merits of archaeology versus economic development.



Categories of newspaper articles about CRM Archaeology



Perspective of newspaper articles about CRM Archaeology

An extremely conservative estimate of errors of fact in the newspaper articles was 10.6% (18 out of 169 articles in the sample) -- leaving aside extremely questionable interpretations of regulations, process, or perspective. Negative reporting of CRM fell into two categories: the discipline as a hindrance to development (2/3 of the articles) and CRM archaeology requirements and costs as onerous and excessive (1/3).

Editorials, columns, and commentary in newspapers was found to be positive (53% - 17 articles) while 47% (15) were negative. Newspaper articles often focus on controversies related to NIMBYism, while editorials generally do not. The editorials, etc. project a far more favorable image of CRM archaeology than the newspaper articles. Since the overwhelming majority of CRM projects do not receive any press coverage at all, the public significantly underestimates the scale and amount of archaeology being done. (*This is why SCAA prints the NYAC list of CRM archaeology being done on L.I. in this Newsletter from time to time.*) Abstracted from Robert D. Kuhn, NYSOPR&HP, *American Antiquity*, 67(2), 2002, pp. 195-212.

Report from Teuchitlan - Dr. Phil Weigand, former Chair of the Anthropology Dept. at Stony Brook University, supported regional archaeology while here and was mentor to scholars active in the area -- Dr. Linda Barber of SCCC, Dr. Gaynell Stone of SCAA & SCCC, Dr. Gretchen Gwynne of SBU, Dr. Linda Wicks of SBU, Ellen Barcel of the Southold Indian Museum, and others. He now is a Research Associate at Northern Arizona State Museum and professor at the University of Michoacan. While at Stony Brook he was mapping a large civilization in Jalisco, Western Mexico which rivals the well known cultures of the Yucatan. Today, some of these sites are being excavated by his former students.

He is in his 4th year of excavating at Teuchitlan with 7 archaeologists and 35 workers, with 3 more years to go (here seen mapping at the site).



Phil organized the first Archaeological Park in Mexico some years ago, now drawing tourists from California and elsewhere. He also aided the local mayors in stopping a national highway slated to cut through the tombs of a major site -- the first time to happen in Mexico. It later was re-routed to minimize damage to the

cultural resources.

Below is the major ball court of the Teuchitlan site.



The Iceman -- Oetzi, now in the South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology in Boizano, Italy was temporarily thawed so scientists could remove samples for study of his diet. While no food was found in his stomach, two meals were found in his intestine. The first included ibex meat, cereal grains, and some type of plant food. His last meal consisted of red deer meat and additional grains. Scientist Franco Rollo said that the fact that Oetzi ate meat from large game indicates "he occupied an elevated social position." Remember when archaeologists felt his tattoo marks were signs of rank, only to learn later they were acupuncture sites for his arthritis? ACPAC Newsletter

MEETINGS

Society for American Archaeology, April 9-13, Milwaukee, WI. Info: Tel: 202-789-8200

N.Y.S. Archaeological Assn., last weekend in April, Glens Falls, NY., the Adirondack Chapter hosting.

American Assn. of Museums, May 18-22, Portland, OR. Info: Tel: 202-289-1818.

Fifth World Archaeology Conference, June 21-26, Washington, DC. Info: Fax 202-885-138, email: WAC5@American.edu

Archaeological Fieldwork Opportunities Bulletin, Archaeological Institute of America publication of excavation opportunities world-wide. David Brown Book Co. 800-791-9354.

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. + \$6. shipping; all plus 8.50% sales tax in N.Y. State for individuals. Vols. I, IV, 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 L.I. Sound (in press)

Student Series (including shipping)

<i>Booklet: A Way of Life: Prehistoric Natives of L.I.</i>	\$6.
<i>Study Pictures: Coastal Native Americans</i>	\$8.
<i>Wall Chart: Native Technology (26x33"-3 colors)</i>	\$14.
<i>Map: Native Long Island (26x39"-3 colors)</i>	\$14.

Exhibit Catalogs:

The Montauk Native Americans of Eastern LI	\$4.
Women's Work: Native & African Americans of LI	\$4.

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 Assn. are funded in part by public monies from the New York State Council on the Arts - Decentralization (Huntington Arts Council), the Suffolk County Office of Cultural Affairs, Chase Grants, County & State Legislators.