NEWSLETTER

Representing Nassau and Suffolk Counties

Volume 14, Number 3 Fall 1988

THE INSTITUTE FOR LONG ISLAND REGIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Late this Spring, approval was granted at SUNY-Stony Brook for the formation of the Institute for Long Island Regional Archaeology. primary goal of the Institute is to promote archaeology on Long Island through the expansion and improvement of archaeological research and by increasing the public's understanding and awareness of the significance of Long Island archaeology," according to Dr. Randolph E. Donahue, Acting Director of the Housed within the Department of Anthropology at Stony Brook University, the Institute personnel consists of the Director and Linda Barber, M.A., Assistant Director, Archivalists Frank Turano, M.A., Michael Bonasera, B.A., and Susan Grzybowski, Ph.D. candidate (non-Brookhaven Town assessments). There is a large support staff of archaeology graduate and undergraduate students.

The Institute will function in various ways. Cultural resource assessments will be performed for development projects as required by local, state, and federal law. ILIRA will use cultural resource assessments as a vehicle for supporting the teaching, training, and research aspects in Long Island archaeology. It will increase the availability of qualified archaeologists to business, government, and other organizations.

The creation of ILIRA comes at a critical time for the preservation of Long Island's cultural resources. While historic and archaeological sites are constantly being destroyed due to land development, it is only recently that laws dealing with cultural resources, such as the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR), have been applied to the land development process here. The appointment of an archaeologist to the Town of Brookhaven's Division of Environmental Protection and the impending appointment of an archaeologist in Huntington Town are encouraging signs. One of ILIRA's goals will be to train archaeologists qualified to perform cultural resource assessments who can supply the local demand.

Another important function of ILIRA will be its capacity for curation of artifact collections. The nearest curation facility is at Queens College; material from Long Island sites can now remain in the local area and be properly stored and accessible for research. To date the Institute has performed numerous cultural resource assessments. A Paleo-Indian site and an Archaic lithic processing station have been located, as well as other significant historic and prehistoric manifestations.



CONTRIBUTIONS TO LONG ISLAND CULTURE HISTORY LAB & MUSEUM

The Museum is greatly indebted to Robert Hennessy, LS of Brookhaven hamlet for his assistance in securing used surveying equipment for our archaeology programs. Not only did he donate a level, but he assisted in our search for a reasonable used transit. He also contacted Mr. Sylvester Celebrini, LS, Vice President of Lockwood, Kessler, Bartlett, Long Island's preeminent aerial photography firm, on our behalf. LKB donated several thousand dollars worth of tripods, range poles, and Philadelphia rods for our archaeology programs, as well as aerial photographs of our Commack and Calverton research areas. These contributions were put to good use in the July Archaeological Field School as well as the Colonial Life & Technology program (see photos).

We are further indebted to Mr. Douglas Leaf, Jr., President of Brandis & Sons, one of America's oldest and largest surveying supply companies, of Pleasantville, N.Y. They donated, for the cost of cleaning and calibrating, a Fennell transit in excellent condition. It was used to shoot all the transect lines for the extensive testpitting program in July and to teach the students how to use a transit (see photos). It will be integral to our program into the future, and is very much appreciated.

Steven Prezlar of Shoreham also deserves our thanks for providing us with four sturdy sifting screens upon short notice and for mending several others. He also sculpted an authentic steatite pot for our Native cooking activities which is admired by all who see it. Many thanks, Steve!

......

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED

At the Annual Membership meeting in June at Hoyt Farm Park, the following SCAA officers were elected for a term of two years:

Dr. John Strong, President Susan D. Grzybowski, Vice-President

Michael Bonasera, Vice President - Newsletter

Eleanor M. Marx, Treasurer Penny Schmitt, Recording Secretary

Dr. Gaynell Stone, Corresponding Secretary

The annual Native Feast was held, with roasted corn, grilled 'venison', fish baked in clay and in corn husks, berry corn bread, fruit juices, and other delicacies enjoyed by all.

DECEMBER S.C.A.A. SPEAKER

Louise Basa, archaeologist for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, will speak at the December 12 SCAA meeting, 8:30 PM, in the Anthropology Department, SUNY-Stony Brook, cosponsored by SCAA and the Institute for Long Island Regional Archaeology. The talk is open to the public; refreshments will be served.

ARCHAEOLOGY CLUB MEETS ON SATURDAYS

Some of the July Field School students enjoyed it so much they wanted to continue their involvement and to experience more of that most important part of scientific archaeology -- cleaning, cataloging, and analyzing the artifacts. Museum staffer Sal Murgola meets each Saturday, 9:30 to 12:30, with them at Hoyt Farm through December 3rd. Volunteers are welcome to attend these sessions and help us stay on top of our rapidly growing collections. Bring a snack; hot drinks are provided.

BOCES II ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD SCHOOL FOR G&T STUDENTS

Twenty-five gifted and talented middle school students from throughout Brookhaven Town spent the month of July at Hoyt Farm Park experiencing archaeology and culture history activities. Under the direction of Museum Director Dr. Gaynell Stone and Museum staff Sal Murgola and Penny Schmitt, students test-pitted the former farmyard area every 5 meters in parallel transects 4 meters apart. The circumference of the former kettlehole pond was tested, as well as a dumping site contiguous to it on the East.

Students visited the Southold Indian Museum and the Suffolk

County Museum to see how excavated artifacts are used to tell the story of their culture. Architecture and cemetery studies were carried out in East Hampton, and the Nissequogue River was canoed to experience the Native means of transportation. An extensive computer program directed by specialist Bette Adamo enabled the students to produce a newsletter describing their finds and activities each week. The skills of Native cooking and making real root beer from roots enhanced the Powaw held for parents the last day of the program.



BOCES II G&T Archaeology Field School participants. Hoyt Farm Park Manager Bob Giffen, at right, views refurbishing of the wigwam by specialist Jeff Kalin.

LONG ISLAND CULTURE HISTORY LAB & MUSEUM NEWS



Some students brought in artifacts found in their yard or area, which were photographed. The Wilcox collection from Center Moriches included unusual concave-bottom (fluted?) points. Students Melissa Chirivas (R) and Christine Gago (L)-examining test pit finds with Mrs. Schmitt and Dr. Stone of Museum staff.



Students Brian Arnold (L) and Ralph Wilcox (R) learning to use the transit with Dr. Stone.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

READINGS IN LONG ISLAND ARCHAEOLOGY AND ETHNOHISTORY:

	Non-Members	Members
Early Papers in Long Island Archaeology	\$10.00	\$ 8.00
The Coastal Archaeology Reader	\$20.00	\$16.00
The History and Archaeology of the Montauk	\$20.00	\$16.00
Languages and Lore of the Long Island Indians	\$20.00	\$16.00
The Second Coastal Archaeology Reader	\$22.50	\$18.00
The Shinnecock Indians: A Culture History	\$30.00	\$24.00
The Historical Archaeology of Long Island: Part I - The Sites	\$34.00	\$27.20
	40	\$27.20
STUDENT SERIES: THE INDIANS OF LONG ISLAND:		
Booklet #1: A Way Of Life: Indians of Prehistoric Long Island	\$ 4.00	\$ 3.20
Study Pictures: Coastal Native Americans	\$ 6.00	
Wall Chart: Native Technology (26 x 39, 3-color poster)	The state of the s	\$ 4.80
onare recimology (26 x 39, 3-color poster)	\$13.00	\$10.40
SCAA NEWSLETTER Volumes 1 - 12 (Back Issues)	\$ 5.00/vol	\$ 4.00/vol

All publications may be purchased from SCAA at the prices indicated. SCAA prices include postage paid for handling and delivery. Publications may also be purchased from local museums.

SCAA Board Meetings will be held this Fall in the Anthropology Department, 5th floor, Social & Behavioral Sciences Building, SUNY-Stony Brook campus. Meetings begin at 8:00 PM and are open to the public. Meetings are scheduled for MONDAY evenings, OCTOBER 17, NOVEMBER 14, and DECEMBER 12.

Contributed articles and information for the newsletter should be sent to Editor Mike Bonasera, 5 Harmon Dr., Huntington, N.Y. 11743.

Membership in SCAA includes three Newsletters per year and a 20% reduction in workshop and publication costs. All contributions are tax-deductible.

Please send your check and application to:

Suffolk County Archaeological Association P.O. Drawer AR, Stony Brook, New York 11790.