

NEWSLETTER

Representing Nassau & Suffolk Counties

Vol. 21, No. 2
ISSN 1079-2198
Spring 1995

**LONG ISLAND BRICKS TO BE PART OF THE NEW NETHERLAND/NEW YORK
BRICK STUDY AT FORDHAM UNIVERSITY**

Dr. Allan S. Gilbert of the Anthropology Department, Fordham University, has developed an extensive New Netherland/New York Brick Archive at the University. To date the collection contains specimens from the Hudson Valley, New Jersey, and Manhattan, with possibly some Holland and England bricks, and with only one Long Island brick from Farmingdale. Finding the sources of the bricks used in the region provides geological and economic data useful for archaeologists, architectural historians, etc.



"Brick-a-brac" in The Bronx. A display of historic brands currently represented in the New Netherland / New York Brick Archive at Fordham University.

Dr. Gilbert plans to extend his chemical analysis of these important ceramic artifacts to the Long Island area with the cooperation of S.C.A.A., Town Historians, historical societies, collectors, and concerned individuals. SCAA had co-sponsored a Brick Symposium as part of an early 1980s Suffolk County History Conference at Suffolk County Community College. Highlights were the extensive collection of Gary Hammond, a brick from the 1600s Old Brick House of Col. Jones of Massapequa brought by Carl Starace, a brick of Caleb Smith's signed and dated 1752 from the **Smithtown Historical Society**.

SCAA began collecting bricks from historic house owners--the Terry-Mulford at Orient, the Suydam at Greenlawn, and others-- which has been augmented by the personal collection of SCAA president Douglas DeRenzo. The collection is housed at Blydenburgh County Park and is available to interested persons.

Dr. Gilbert will take small samples from the bricks; they will be analyzed by ICP--inductively-coupled plasma emission spectroscopy --for 26 elements at the Department of Geology of Royal Holloway and Bedford New College in Egham, Surrey, England. This analysis has been compared and coordinated with the INAA--instrumental neutron activation analysis--conducted at Brookhaven National Laboratory on ceramics from throughout the world by Dr. Garman Harbottle. The chemical data is then grouped by general similarity, with clusters created by several computer programs.

Two articles describe the project: A. Gilbert, R. Marrin, Jr., R. Wines, G. Harbottle, **The New Netherland/New York Brick Archive at Fordham University**, the Bronx County Historical Society Journal, 1992, XXIX(2):51-67, and A. Gilbert, G. Harbottle, D. DeNoyelles, "A Ceramic Chemistry Archive for New Netherland/New York," **Historical Archaeology**, 1993, 27(3):17-56.

All those who have marked or unmarked bricks (or clay samples or sources) are asked to contact Dr. Gilbert (718-817-3852) or SCAA (516-929-8725) to participate in this important addition to regional historical knowledge.



Evolution of the brick brand in the New York area.
(A) Brick produced by Patrick Reid of Haverstraw, New York ca. 1850.
(B) Brick produced most likely by Murray & Morrissey of Grassy Point, New York, probably 1860s. (C) Brick produced by William Malley of Haverstraw, probably 1870s. (D) Brick produced by Daniel deNoyelles II of Haverstraw, 1880s or 1890s.

KETCHAM INN EXCAVATED BY S.C.C.C. AND DOWLING COLLEGE STUDENTS

Dr. Linda Barber, Sociology/Anthropology Department of S.C. Community College, and Dr. Toni Silver, Soc/Anth Department of Dowling College, directed a 3-week archaeological field school in May and June at the historic Ketcham Inn in Center Moriches. Ketcham Inn Foundation president Bert Seides was pleased with the quality of work and the very large number of artifacts recovered.

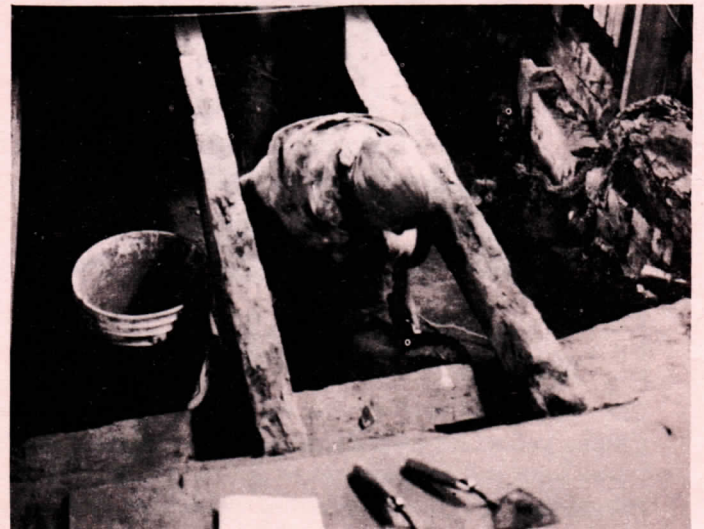
The Ketcham Inn is on the National Register of Historic Places and the State Historic Register. It is one of the few taverns --so important to early Long Island life--to survive on its original site. Among the few are the Roe Tavern of Setauket, which was moved from its site, another opposite the end of Christian Ave. in Setauket, the Brewster house in Setauket and the Peace & Plenty Inn in West Hills, Huntington--all still on their original sites--among others.

Being on the post road (Montauk Highway) to the east end, the Ketcham Inn hosted all the ordinary and notable people who came through--Thomas Jefferson, among others. It was the first post office for the Moriches, a center for troops during the Revolutionary War, a stop for the stage coaches, the place where the new U.S. citizens cast their first votes. Since there is a ballroom upstairs, the Inn was obviously a community center.

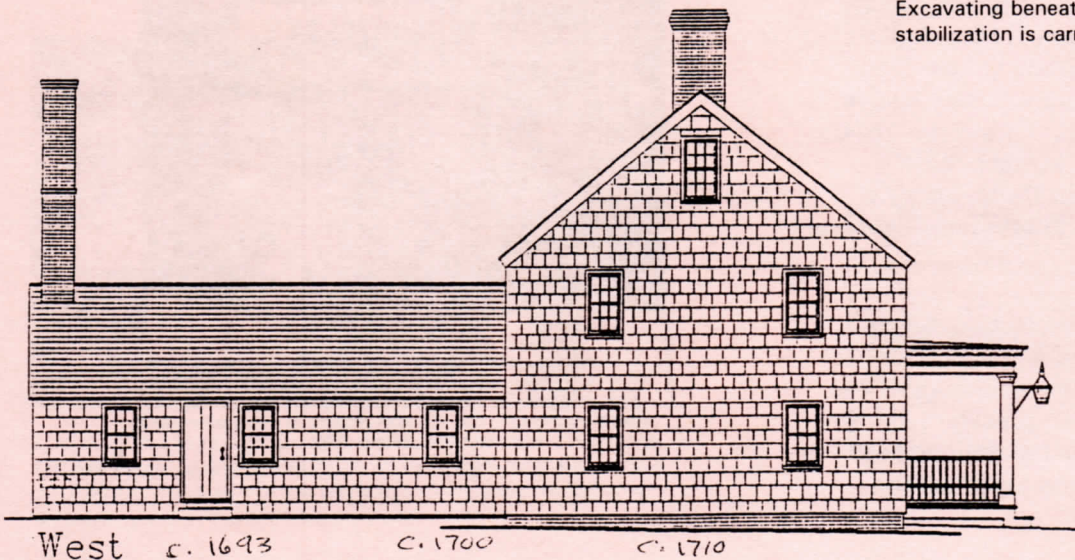
In order to examine the evolution of the building and the site, a trench was opened behind the c.1693 wing seeking the base of the original stone chimney, which was not found; another was excavated to the North which gave evidence of foodways-- butchering, shellfish use, etc. A square was opened to the west outside the c.1700 addition to the 1693 room, to the left of its door, but the soil was disturbed and the artifacts not in situ.



A section of the c.1754 wing under the floor which had been disturbed during stabilization work was screened for artifacts, and a trench was opened nearby where further work will be necessary. Many artifacts, including lots of ceramics--to be expected for a tavern--were found. A trench examining the 1710 wing of the building was essentially sterile.



Excavating beneath the floor of the 1743 wing before further stabilization is carried out.



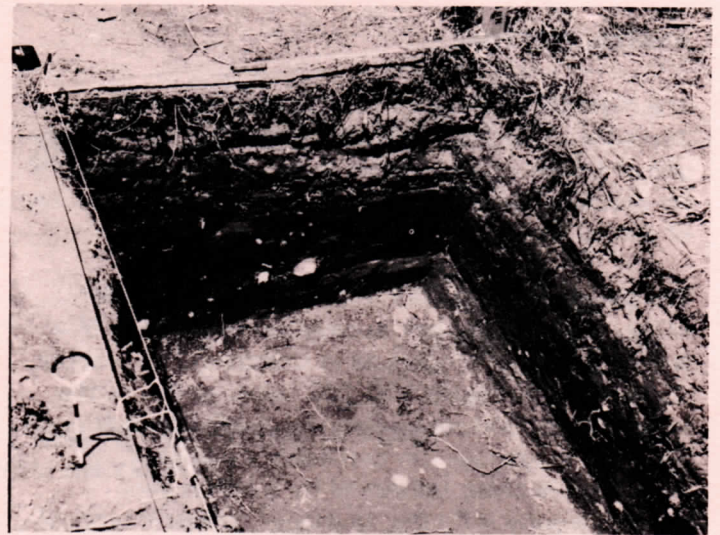
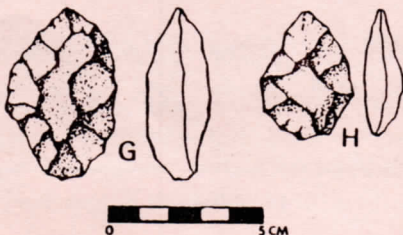
Research is ongoing by the Foundation board to document the Terrill, Havens, and Terry families who lived there until 1852, when it was sold to Andrew and Deborah Ketcham, who held it until 1912. In the 1940s the Inn was a gift shop and tea room, in the '50s a restaurant, from the 1960s to 1989 a halfway house for battered women and children. This research, plus the



material evidence unearthed by archaeological study, will enable the Ketcham Inn to be the most extensively interpreted tavern on Long Island.

Student archaeologists measure and draw the trench seeking to find the foundation of the original c.1693 chimney.

Ketcham Inn Foundation President Bert Seides (L) checks sifting screen with student archaeologist.



Northernmost trench behind the 1693 wing showing evidence of shellfish use and butchering.

RESOURCES

The 1995 summer exhibit at the Southold Indian Museum will be on the art and culture of the Inuit (Eskimo). The opening reception will be Friday, June 30th, 5 - 7 PM. The display will open from July 1 to August 27th, Saturdays and Sundays, 1:30- 4:30 PM.

The first Montaukett Festival was held by the Friends of the Pharaoh Museum at Montauk County Park on Saturday, May 27th. Native foods were available; flint-knapping, Native technology, beadworking, and dancing were demonstrated; ethnobotany walks were led by South Fork Natural History Society member Eric Lamont. The Montauk Pharaoh Museum was open for viewing and a slide show on Native basketry by Friends president Elizabeth Bowser.

Summer Fieldwork Opportunities: an overview is provided by the Winter/Spring National Museum of Natural History Bulletin for Teachers **Anthonotes**, which is free by writing P. Ann Kaupp, Anthropology Outreach and Public Information Office, Dept. of Anthropology, NHB 363, MRC 112, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC 20560, OR seeking it on America Online.

For a list of free copies of monographs about teaching archaeology, write to the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Archaeological Assistance Division, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127.

The Society for American Archaeology, as well as the Society for Historical Archaeology, have created Public Education Committees to promote precollege archaeology and anthropology. For the SAA Newsletter and other materials, write to Ed Friedman, Bureau of Reclamation, Denver Federal Center, P.O. Box 25007, Attention D-5530, Denver, CO 80225-0007.

ANNUAL MEETING

The highlight of SCAA's Annual Meeting, held Thursday, June 22d at Blydenburgh County Park, the site of SCAA's Colonial Life & Technology program for students, was the illustrated talk on the discovery of a local Native longhouse.

The guest speakers, Drs. Robert and Janie Rees Miller, reported on their excavation of portions of a Native American longhouse in Commack. It is about 20' wide by probably 100-120' long, similar to the longhouse in Greenlawn they excavated several years ago. The longhouse--an extremely significant discovery--is being preserved by a buffer zone created around it by the developer. These longhouse discoveries by the Millers have rewritten Long Island culture history: previously longhouses were thought to have been only in Brooklyn.

The topography of the site, overlooking a pond (now obliterated by a road), influenced two different use zones--a tool-making spot on top of the hill where presumably hunters could observe animals at the water below, and the habitation zone with the longhouse closer to the pond. The artifacts recovered range from the early Archaic (c.9,000 years ago) to the present, and include a stone hoe, projectile points of several time periods, a Woodland period flint triangular Madison point--very rare in flint, and more.

This important finding is due to the interest of Bob Giffen, manager of Hoyt Farm Park, who had pointed out to Town Historian Brad Harris the legends about the spot and the artifacts found there. Thanks to Brad Harris' insistence, the archaeological survey was done. Smithtown is a well-watered area rich with the evidence of the first inhabitants, yet the developers of few sites over the years have been required to include archaeological survey as part of the environmental impact statement. This rare instance proved the wisdom of Town officials being sensitive to the prehistoric cultural resources of their area.



L to R: SCAA President Douglas DeRenzo, Museum Director Dr. Gaynell Stone, guest speakers Dr. Robert and Janie Rees Miller. Artifacts in cases to the left have been excavated by student archaeologists at the Blydenburgh site.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Readings in **LI Archaeology & Ethnohistory**: All volumes are \$35. except Vol. III which is \$75. + tax and shipping. Vol.s I & VI are out of print.

- I. Early Papers in Long Island Archaeology
- II. The Coastal Archaeology Reader
- III. The History & Archaeology of the Montauk, 2nd Edition
- 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 Long Island: Part I: The Sites

Student Series:

Booklet: A Way of Life: Prehistoric Natives of LI	\$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 LI	\$3.50
Women's Work: Native & African Americans of LI	\$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 age 18) \$10	Individual \$20
Family \$30	Sustaining \$50
Contributing \$100	Patron \$200
Life \$400	

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone No: _____ Willing to Volunteer? ____

Occupation: _____

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