ANNUAL MEETING – 2000
TUESDAY, JUNE 13
BLYDENBURGH COUNTY PARK
New Mill Road
Smithtown
6:00 PM – COLONIAL REPAST
(bring Colonial-era dishes; beverage, etc. provided)
7:30 PM – SPEAKER – Chris Ricciardi, ABD,
Excavations at the 19th Century Lott House, Brooklyn, N.Y.
All are welcome: RSVP to 929-8725

MORE SUMMER ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOLS
Dr. Steve Mrozowski of U-Mass-Boston will continue
exploration of the Sylvester Manor site on Shelter Island during the month of June; this is a 5-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 (749-0025) for the date and time.

Another possible provisioning plantation in mid-Connecticut is being excavated by Dr. Warren Perry of Central Connecticut State College and Jerry

Sawyer of the CUNY Graduate Center. Last summer’s work focused on the enslaved African and Native American burying ground as well as the remains of their housing; this multi-year project will also explore the plantation’s 17th and 18th century ties with the Caribbean, as will the Sylvester Manor excavation noted above.

George Washington University and Alexandria Archaeology Field School in Public and Historical Archaeology May 22-26 and May 30-June 3 in Alexandria. Info: 703-838-4399; archaeology@ci.alexandria.va.us.

Rose Hill Manor excavation at Fordham University, Bronx, NY will run from mid-May through the end of July. Info: 718-817-385.

A Contact Period site, Lover’s Leap, near New Milford, CT runs May30-July 30. Contact Dr. Laurie Weinstein, Field School Director, Dept. of Social Sciences, Western Connecticut State University, Danbury, CT 06810 (203-837-8453; weinsteain@wcsu.ctstateu.edu. The Hendrick I. Lott House, a 19th century Dutch American farmhouse, Brooklyn, NY, June 6-24 and July 3-22. Contact the Brooklyn College Dept. of Anthropology & Archaeology, 2900 Bedford Ave. & Ave. H, Brooklyn, NY 11210-1889 (718-951-4714); e-mail – Bcarc@brooklyn.cuny.edu. This “dig” will be discussed at SCAA’s Annual Meeting June 13.

University of Maryland Field School in Urban Archaeology, June 5-23 and June 26-July 14 in Annapolis is available to high school, undergraduate, graduate students, and older adults. Info: 301-405-1423; www.b sos.umd.edu/anth/school.htm.

Michigan Technological University offers a Field School in Industrial Archaeology at Fort Wilkins Park in Copper Harbor, Michigan June 6 – July 13. Info: 906-487-2070; pem-194@mtu.edu http://www.ss.mtu.edu/IA/iahm.html
Historic St. Mary’s City will have a historical archaeology field school at the site of Maryland’s first capital, June 7 – August 13. Info: 301-862-0974.

The Goddard Site (prehistoric) will be excavated by Friends of the Maine State Museum in Brooklin, Maine June 18-23. Fort St. George (1607-08) in Popham, Maine will be excavated August 27 – September 1 and September 3 – 8. Info: 207-287-2304.

Fort William Henry’s continuing excavations take place July 18-August 25 at Lake George, NY. Contact David Starbuck, Box 492, Chestertown, NY 12817 (518-494-5583).

A prehistoric (10,000 years ago to the present) excavation will be held in the Ossipee Mts. and Pine River, NH during 3 sessions from June 19-July 29. Contact SCRAP Field School, PO Box 2043, Concord, NH 03302-2043 (603-271-6433); e-mail – scrap@nhdhr.state.nh.us.

Archaeology Family Programs are available through the Center for American Archaeology: Field Work for Adults, May 22-June2 & August 14-25; for Adults 50+, June 5-9, $400. per week. Field work for Families, August 7-11, $300. per person. For information, 618-653-4316, Fax – 618-653-4232, e-mail – caa@caa-archeology.org.

Historical Archaeology Field School at Jamestown will be held at the Jamestown Rediscovery site on Jamestown Island, site of the first permanent English settlement in North America, June 12 – July 21. Successful applicants will be offered full tuition fellowships. Info: 757-229-4997; http://www.apva.org/.


Recreating Historic Interiors: Textile Furnishings if offered June 3 by the Winterthur Museum in Wilmington, Del. Info: 800-448-3883 x4923.

IN THE NEWS:

Hopi Dispute at Chaco Culture National Park

The Native American Graves Repatriation Act Review Committee at Chaco has recommended that an independent contractor review the Park’s inclusion of the Navajo regarding its human remains and funerary objects, as the Hopi and Zuni do not believe the Navajo have deep ancestral ties to the area. The Park says the choice process was objective and do not plan to follow the Committee’s recommendations. This is an interesting Native response, especially in relation to the controversy over Kennewick Man.

EXCAVATING THE PUBLIC MIND

Several branches of Federal government and four major archaeological groups recently sponsored the first-ever survey of how the public perceives archaeology. The poll revealed that 80% believe that public funds should be used for archaeology; that there should be laws against building on the site of a prehistoric Indian village (85%), building on a Revolutionary or Civil War battlefield (73%), selling artifacts you find on someone else’s property (82%), on artifacts from your own property (69%), altering or removing rock art (84%), taking from shipwrecks (61%), digging artifacts on your own land (67%).

Respondents said they learned about archaeology from television (56%), books and magazines (33%), newspapers (23%), college (23%), high school (20%), National Geographic (14%), and from excavations, archaeological and historical societies, and cultural events about 1% each.

SCAA’s contribution to the archaeological education of the public is the 10,000 Long Island students, as well as their teachers and parents, who attend SCAA’s Native and Colonial Life programs and Summer Field Schools, where they learn about and experience archaeology each year. This newsletter and speakers at our annual meeting and the Native technology workshop further spread the word.

KENNEWICK MAN, REVISITED

The Department of Interior has decided that the 9,000-year-old remains of Kennewick Man are Native American, as defined by NAGPRA—meaning those who antedate the arrival of Europeans in this country. This is based on radio carbon dating, sediment analysis, and analysis of the stone point embedded in his hip. The U.S. District Court in Oregon, upon suit by leading scientists and forensic experts, ordered DNA testing of the bone. Interior will also use archaeological, ethnographic, linguistic, biological, historical information, and traditional stories of the five tribes who claim ancestral affiliation with the skeleton.
THE SHINNECOCK LOSE LAND CASE

Justice James Gowan of the New York State Supreme Court ruled April 18th that the Shinnecock Nation had missed the 30-day deadline to raise objections last May to the proposed Parish Pond development, across Montauk Highway from the Reservation. He ruled that they were bound by the rules of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, although the Tribe’s lawyers, Hermon Bishop and Marguerite Smith, argued that this would set a precedent. Never before has there been a case of how an Indian nation is dealt with under SEQRA. Justice Gowan questioned Town of Southampton lawyer John Bennett why the Town had not notified the Shinnecock.

Examination of a map of Town land grants over the centuries shows that the land of the current Reservation north to Peconic Bay was where the Shinnecock had been pushed by 1703. Portions of that reserve have ‘melted away’ to become the Shinnecock Golf Club (the site of M. R. Harrington’s extensive 1900 Sebonac excavation, reported in SCAA’s Vol. I, Early Papers in Long Island Archaeology; the remains of extensive shellmounds may still be seen along the Cold Spring and Ram’s Head waterways). Other portions of the Shinnecock land became Southampton College and the former Art Village (over which another court case resulted in victory for the Shinnecock; reported in SCAA’s Vol. VI, The Shinnecock Indians: A Culture History). Yet other portions somehow became various residential properties, including the last large undeveloped parcel, the Parish Pond Estates.

When Fred Thiele was Town Supervisor the parcel was on the list to be acquired by the Town for preservation, due to its historic and environmental sensitivity; this intent has been ignored by the Canuscio administration. When Southampton Town planners asked SCAA for advice during their review process, it was suggested that the archaeological study be reviewed by the State Archaeologist, Dr. Robert Kuhn. They sent the report to him, and it was returned with a number of omissions and inadequacies noted, among them that the archaeological sensitivity map was so poor that nothing could be told about what areas were sensitive. The Parish Pond developer’s environmental firm returned other material to the State Archaeologist, but not what was originally asked for, and BY CLERICAL ERROR, the office approved it. Southampton Town planners, lacking cultural resources expertise, accepted the report and the development was approved.

SCAA has recommended to the Southampton Town Planning Board, as well as other Town Planning Boards, that they hire archaeological consultants to review the reports that come before them. This is the only way to assure that an adequate job was done. SCAA recommends that the Town planners notify developers that they shall accept only work done by ROPA (Register of Professional Archaeologists) certified archaeologists. ROPA certified archaeologists are bound by an ethical code to meet national standards of quality, and if they do not, may be reported to ROPA and removed from accreditation if found culpable.

Town governments which follow these recommendations will be fulfilling their legal responsibility to protect their public’s cultural resources—most of which will be gone forever by the mid-21st century if we do not take a more proactive stance now. East Hampton Town Government is the only one on Long Island to take this responsibility seriously to date.

RESOURCES

Materials Resource Center, a service of the Association for Resource Conservation, reclaims industrial scrap and surplus for educational, arts, and community organizations. The waste going to landfills and incinerators, and saves non-profit and community groups money. Other ARC Programs are saving indigenous plants, WRAP-solid waste audits for business, bringing yard and food processing waste to L.I. farms for composting, and supporting a materials exchange listing, LINK-UPS, in the HIA’s Hauppauge Reporter and web site www.hia-li.org. MRC is located at 1521 Lincoln Ave., Holbrook, ½ mile north of Vets Highway, tel: 631-580-7290, fax: 580-7292.

Websites to more easily reach organizations are –
Association for Gravestone Studies –
The Pioneer America Society –
www.uncwil.edu/earsci/pas/pas.htm
Barn preservation through the Newark Valley Historical Society – www.tier.net/nvhistory
Native Voices Online (articles, films, etc.) –
NV@sesame.kusm.montana.edu

A B C D
MEETINGS & EVENTS

Vernacular Architecture Forum Annual Meeting – Pines, Mines and Lakes – will be held June 7-10 at Duluth, Minn. Wonderful trips are a highlight of these conferences. Info: 651-296-5451; Michael.koop@mnhs.org

Shelter Island Historical Society – speaker Dr. Steve Mrozowski, U-Mass-Boston, on The Sylvester Manor Dig – Update on the Archaeological Exploration of the Most Significant Plantation in Northern America. June 7, 7:00 PM, Manhanset Chapel.

Conference on New York State History, June 15 – 17 at Fordham University, Bronx, NY. Papers of local interest are those on historical archaeology at the Lott House excavations in Brooklyn, the Betsy Prince free black household in Suffolk, Rose Hill Manor in the Bronx, and New York City on June 15. Info: 518-474-6917; SBbielins@mail.nysed.gov.

The Association for Living Historical Farms & Agricultural Museums annual meeting will be held June 11-16 at Connecticut College, New London. Info: www.alhfam.org

The Association of Gravestone Studies Annual Conference, Brown University, Providence, RI, June 22-25. Cemetery tours, pre-conference workshops on conservation and documentation, Dr. Robert Emlen keynote speaker. Info: 413-584-1756; oakl@javanet.com.

Early American Industries Assn. and historic Eastfield Village in up-state New York are offering craft workshops the week of July 17th, both half week and full week, as a participant or as an observer. Info: 508-993-4198; ejcchall@mediaone.net.

The Algonquian Confederacy of the Quinnipiac Tribal Council presents a Native American Festival to celebrate “The Return of Hobomock” – a homecoming celebration of Quinnipiac Native Cultures & Traditions, July 21-23, 10 AM – 6 PM at Bay View Park, Stony Creek, CT; Info: 203-481-6533.

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 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

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership in SCAAs 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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