

In Memory of Phil C. Weigand, Ph.D.
1937 - 2011

Born in Nebraska in 1937 and raised in Indiana, Phil was expected to follow in his Doctor father's footsteps, but at 18 he drove to Mexico and ended up in Western Mexico. In Jalisco he met Acelia Garcia and they soon ended up at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, with Phil studying archaeology. He was the only student who took his oral exam on Middle Eastern archaeology instead of his doctoral work.

Phil came to the Anthropology Department at Stony Brook University in 1970, serving as chair after 1974 for 9 years. He encouraged graduate students to become involved in local archaeology and preservation, as he had done in Illinois. In the 1970s there was an economic boom which was wiping out Long Island's archaeological resources at a great rate, so he encouraged the organization of the Suffolk County Archaeological Association, along with professors Dr. Margaret Wheeler and Dr. Nancy Bonvillain, and graduate students Gretchen Gwynne and Gaynell Stone.



Phil with founding members of SCAA ca. 1975

The SCAA continually sent letters to town governments apprising them that they must have archaeological surveys done, as required by State SEQRA law, which resulted in sites saved for the first time. A number of archaeological reports were done by professors and graduate students for the first time. As the demand grew, Phil established the Long Island Archaeology Project in the department in 1980, directed by Ed Johannemann and staffed by Laurie Schroeder Billadello. They produced scores of reports, which are a large part of the Island's archaeological record.

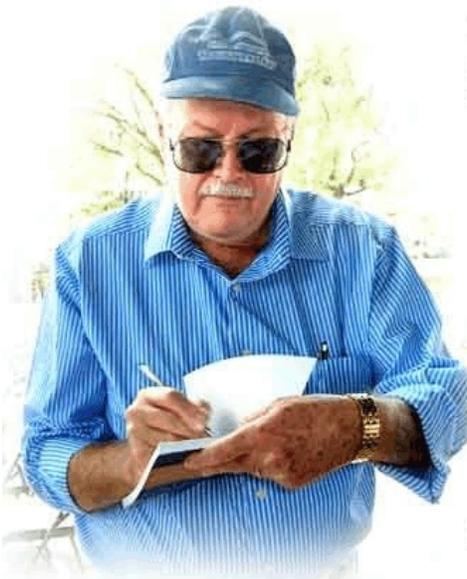
When Phil left the Stony Brook Anthropology Department around 1983 for an appointment at Arizona State University and El Colegio de Michoacan to continue his ground breaking archaeological work at Teuchitlan, the LIAP moved to offices at Blydenburgh County Park and continued to produce important archaeological reports – for example, for many of the County parks.

Phil's research with Seaborg prize winning chemist Dr. Garman Harbottle at Brookhaven National Laboratory proved, through neutron activation, that the turquoise objects found in Mexico originated in the US Southwest – a long suggested trade network, but not proven until their work, published in *Scientific American*.

A paper Phil wrote on the depopulation of this region by disease epidemic after Verrazano's contact, *The Great Frontier on Long Island, NY: Verrazano and Early Epidemic Diseases*, was voted the best ethnohistory account in Mexico in 2006. It was re-printed in the SCAA

Newsletter and the *Long Island Historical Journal*, which unfortunately edited it so inaccuracies occurred.

His 50 years of archaeological work at the Guachimontones site has resulted in international acclaim, as well as it being named a World Heritage Site. As colleague Dr. Rodrigo Esparza states, "Mexico and Jalisco have lost a man who was as much an explorer and visionary as were Carl Lumholtz, Desire Chamay or Alexander Von Humboldt in their day. Dr. Phil Weigand came to western Mexico quite by accident and ended up embarking on an adventure that few individuals in the history of the world have ever experienced: the discovery of a lost civilization."



Phil and Celia mapped a large area and round pyramids (the only ones in the world), documenting a complex society which began in 1000 BC with its apogee in 200 AD. Some scholars and the Mexican National Anthropological Institute were fixated on the Mayan civilization and refused to recognize this other civilization in western Mexico, so it took many years of hard work to secure its recognition.

Besides the discovery of Guachimontones, Weigand also identified for the first time in the Americas a *qanat*, an underground aqueduct invented in Persia 3000 years ago, spreading from the Middle East to Spain and to Venta del Astillero near Guadalajara with the Spaniards.



Phil's excavation of the Teuchitlan ball court, at 111 meters long, the largest ball court in Mesoamerica in its day.

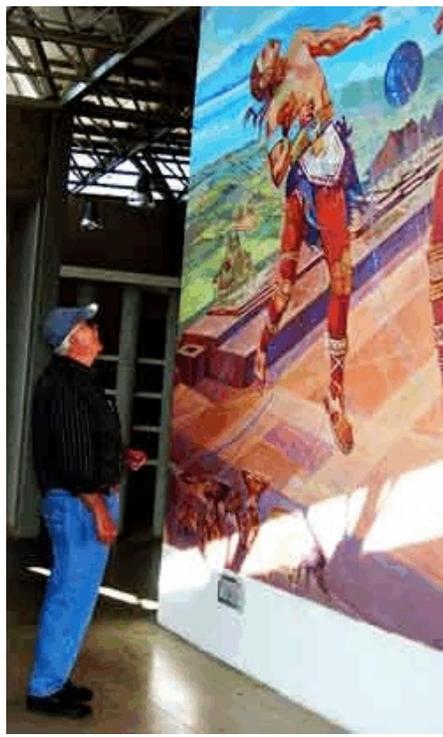


After fifty years of struggle, the Mexican archaeology establishment, as well as the public, came to recognize Phil Weigand's achievements. He was honored in numerous ceremonies.

Excavations at the Jacob and Hannah Hart site in Setauket

The Center for Public Archaeology (CfPA) at Hofstra University tested and excavated the archaeological remains at the Jacob and Hannah Hart site in Setauket in June 2011. The excavation is part of the "A Long Time Coming" project, a research collaboration between the CPA and Higher Ground Intercultural and Heritage Association, Inc. Higher Ground is a community-based preservation organization which initiated the effort to create the Bethel-Christian Avenue-Laurel Hill historic district in Setauket in 2005. The historic district recognizes and help preserve the heritage of the area's historic Native and African American community. The project directors for A Long Time Coming are Robert Lewis (Higher Ground), Judith Burgess (Education Works, Co.) and Chris Matthews (Hofstra).

Phil encouraged local mayors not to let a Federal highway cut through the pyramid area, drew bus loads of tourists to view the site, restored much of the large site, and oversaw the building of a huge new interactive museum which will open shortly – a fitting tribute to a man who persevered against disinterest and disbelief. He will be greatly missed.



The Harts were a prominent family in this community. They are documented in the U.S. Census, The Port Jefferson Echo newspaper, the Tyler store account books, and even in a fortuitously preserved school registry from 1898-99. Jacob Hart was born in Setauket in 1856. He is known to have spent time at sea as well as worked as a mason, laborer, and factory worker. Hannah Hart was born in Virginia, but moved to Long Island to work as a domestic. She is recorded as a laundress in the U.S. Census of 1910. Jacob and Hannah had several children. Some moved away and others stayed in Setauket. Many of their descendants still live in the area.

The Harts lived at the site we excavated from the 1880s until the 1930s. The house was a three-room, one-and-a-half-story structure that is documented on various historic maps and a historic photograph. The house is also remembered by several members of the Setauket community, who shared their knowledge with the research team.



The June 2011 excavations uncovered several features and collected hundreds of artifacts dating to the period when the Harts lived at the site. The bulk of the excavation entailed exposing an intact stone foundation that is believed to have supported the rear lean-to that served as the kitchen. Within this foundation we uncovered a stone hearth base that was likely the principal source of heat for the family (Figure 1). In another area we revealed a buried brick pathway that would have provided access to the front entrance (Figure 2). In yet another area, a collection of stones bricks and an in situ wooden plank await further research to be understood. We also identified the family's well, which could still be of use at the mouth of the nearby stream.

The artifacts recovered include a variety of late 19th-century historic ceramics of both service and storage/preparation types (Figure 3). A great deal of window glass was discovered, suggesting the house was torn down rather than moved away. Several bottle fragments were found. One set of bottle fragments is of particular interest. It was embossed with SPERM SEWING MACHINE OIL (Figure 4). The bottle has a 'tooled' top

Dr. Weigand began excavation of the "Tecpan of Ocomo," the largest indigenous palace in the Americas.

dating it to before 1905. Having also recovered a wide variety of ceramic, glass, and metal button types, this bottle may have been part of the Hannah Hart's sewing kit that she used as laundress.

Another very interesting artifact found in an area that would have been on the exterior of the house was a knapped quartz projectile point (Figure 5). We have not yet been able to research this point further, but it may very well represent material evidence of the survival of some Native American skills and traditions among the Hart family.

In addition to the excavation of the Hart site, the CPA ran a field internship program for Hofstra students who were trained in both archaeological and historical research techniques. Students researched four properties in the BCALH historic district and interviewed community members to help to build a richer archive from the memories and collections in the community about their history. We also partnered with the Three Village School District to create an Archaeology Club, in which students from Gelinas Junior High School were able to participate in the excavation.

We will be returning to the Hart Site in summer 2012. We will also be working with Bethel AME church of Setauket to develop an exhibit of the findings and to undertake research to help to develop a more comprehensive history of the church in the community. To stay up to date with the project, please visit our website: http://people.hofstra.edu/Christopher_Matthews/ALTC.html



Figure 2



Figure 3

Fig. 1. Jacob and Hannah Hart Site, showing the foundation of lean-to addition and hearth base (under sign).

Figure 2. Jacob and Hannah Hart Site, Brick walkway

Figure 3. Jacob and Hannah Hart site, Blue on White ceramic tea cup.

Figure 4. Jacob and Hannah Hart site, Sperm Sewing Machine Oil bottle fragment

Figure 5. Jacob and Hannah Hart site, quartz projectile point.

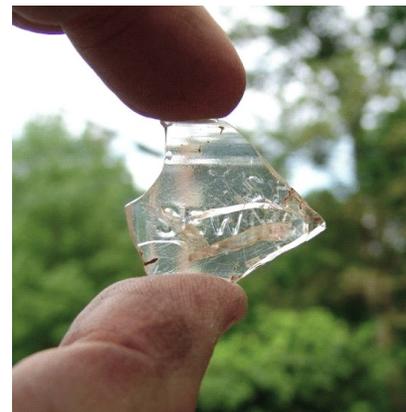


Figure 4



Figure 1



Figure 5

Oxon Hill Manor: The Archaeology and History of "A World They Made Together" a 24 page popular booklet by John McCarthy, is available free as a pdf on the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum website at <http://www.jefpat.org/Documents/AddisonReport-Final.pdf> or obtain a printed copy from Patricia Samford at psamford@mdp.state.md.us. It is interesting to compare this early 18th century to early 20th agricultural manor with Sylvester Manor on Shelter Island.

Mapping the African American Past on Long Island

Hofstra University's Center for Public Archaeology (CfPA) has contributed 10 new Long Island sites to the Columbia University hosted educational and archival website, Mapping the African American Past (MAAP). This included Long Island sites into the Manhattan database. Created by the Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning, MAAP makes New York's African American history accessible to teachers, students, and the general public through historic and geographical data, images, interviews, podcasts, and educational curricula. For information: <http://maap.columbia.edu>; anthlab@hofstra.edu.

SCAA's Golden Trowel Award to Chris Matthews, Ph.D.

Chris Matthews has made numerous contributions to Long Island archaeology since his arrival at Hofstra University. He has assisted historical societies with excavations required to restore and interpret their properties, such as the King house in Hampton Bays and the Rufus King Manor in Jamaica. He has supervised, along with Jenna Coplin, the extensive excavation of the presumed house for enslaved workers at the Joseph Lloyd Manor house on Lloyd Neck. Testing and some excavation at St. George's Manor, Strongs Neck, Setauket was organized by him, as well as supervising graduate student Ray Scelzi's work there.

He has received numerous grants to assist carrying out the Setauket Hart house excavation in collaboration with the Higher Ground preservation group, and other projects. His most notable characteristic is his collaboration with local groups to further the history and archaeology of Long Island.



SCAA Corresponding Secretary Laurie Billadello presenting the Golden Trowel Award to Dr. Chris Matthews

Rebels, Resisters, and Rioters – Second Annual Program Exploring American Resistance in Wars

Saturday, Nov. 12 (Veterans Day Weekend)
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Continental breakfast by Setauket Gourmet

Speakers: Natalie S.Bober, award-winning author of 9 biographies for young readers, and Barnet Schecter, author of 3 incisive accounts of American resistance.

\$20 for TVHS members, \$25 for non-members

For purchase and details, ekkaplan@optonline.net

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. + \$8. Shipping, both plus 8.50% sales tax in N.Y. State for individuals. Vol. I is out of print; a few copies of Vols. IV and VI remain.

- I *Early Paper 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*

Student Series (Including shipping)

Booklet: <i>A Way of Life: Prehistoric Natives of L.I.</i>	\$6.
Study Pictures: <i>Coastal Native Americans</i>	8.
Wall Chart: <i>Native Technology</i> (26x39"-3 colors)	14.
Map: <i>Native Long Island</i> (26x39"-3 colors)	14.
DVD: Sugar Connection: Holland, Barbados, Shelter Island - \$50. + \$6 shipping	
+ \$4.36 sales tax	\$60.36

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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.		

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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 Association are funded in part by public monies from the New York State Council on the Arts - Decentralization, the Suffolk County Office of Cultural Affairs, The Phillips Foundation, The Gerry Charitable Trust, JP Morgan Chase, Harriet Gamper, Stanley Wisniewski, and County and State Legislators.

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