President’s Corner

Lu Ann De Cunzo

August 2008, when I last wrote to you, feels like years rather than months ago. Economically and politically, it’s been a roller coaster ride of highs and lows that will present challenges and opportunities for SHA in the year to come. Our 2007-2009 strategic planning initiative is more important than ever, as it drives us to focus and set priorities for the next several years. You have elected a strong team to join the SHA and ACUA leadership in 2009. Congratulations to incumbents Michael Nassaney, Secretary, and Sara Mascia, Treasurer, who were reelected. New Directors joining the SHA Board are Peggy Leshikar-Denton of the Cayman Islands, an underwater archaeologist and current SHA UNESCO Committee Chair, and Pat Garrow, a southeastern U.S. archaeologist and longtime SHA Conference Committee Chair. Della Scott-Irton, Filipe de Castro, and Kimberly Eslinger were elected to the ACUA. On the SHA Nominations and Elections Committee, Immediate Past President Doug Scott will be joined by newly elected Members-At-Large Deborah Hull-Walski and Alicia Caporaso and outgoing Directors Margaret Purser and Nick Honerkamp. I thank all the candidates who agreed to stand for election this year, and look forward to working with this fine group in 2009.

Awards Committee Chair Mary Beaudry has also announced that James Bruseth and Toni Turner will receive the 2009 James Deetz Book Award for From a Watery Grave: The Discovery and Excavations of La Salle’s Shipwreck, La Belle (Texas A&M University Press, 2005). Congratulations to Jim and Toni!

Thanks to the Conference Committee and SHA Headquarters, we now have our conferences scheduled through 2012, with the selection of Baltimore, MD, as the site of the 2012 meetings. Baltimore is an historically rich city with excellent facilities and the region offers wonderful tour and program opportunities for our members. Conference Co-Chairs Susan Langley and Julia Schabitsky are assembling another stellar organizing team for the Society’s 45th annual meeting!

Through the perseverance of the ACUA, the SHA UNESCO and Governmental Affairs Committees, and Nellie Longsworth, SHA’s heritage advocacy efforts continue to bear fruit on the international and U.S. national scene. The UNESCO convention on underwater cultural heritage will go into effect on 2 January 2009, with Barbados as the final, 20th nation needed to ratify. (Read more about it in this Newsletter and on www.sha.org.) SHA and ACUA members have worked tirelessly to educate our colleagues, political leaders, and other stakeholders about the value of this international agreement to promote a preservation ethic and international cooperation since the first convention assembly in 2001; we will celebrate this accomplishment at the Plenary Session opening the 2009 conference. In October, the U.S. ratified the 1954 Hague Treaty on the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. In 2007, SHA joined 14 other cultural organizations in presenting testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, another example of the way that cooperation yields results. Similarly, SHA is joining our partners to encourage the new federal administration to promote a preservation agenda.

Continued on Page 2
President’s Corner, Cont’d from Page 1

founded on sustainability.

Our editors continue to enhance our publications program. Kelly Dixon reports that the Underwater Proceedings up to 1999 are now available on the Publications Explorer: http://www.sha.org/publications/publicationsOnline/onlinePublications.cfm

Annalies Corbin and Joe Joseph are pleased to announce that the first reader in our new Perspectives series, which will be published through our POD (Publications on Demand) Press, focuses on the archaeology of the African Diaspora, and is edited by Chris Fennell.

As you catch up on the news on our website, remember to visit http://www.sha.org/donations/educationAwards.html for more information about the Student Education Endowment Campaign, and watch for online donation opportunities soon!

Best wishes for the holiday seasons, and I look forward to seeing you soon, in Toronto! Remember your passports!

(Editor’s note - the following is a letter co-signed by President De Canzo, then posted to the Archaeology Channel website and reproduced here with her permission)

19 November 2008

Dear Anthropology Field Notes 6 Viewers,

Several opinions have been posted on this web site about the differences between archaeology and commercial treasure salvage. The Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA), Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology (ACUA), Archaeology Division, American Anthropological Association (AAA), American Cultural Resources Association (ACRA), Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology (AIMA), Canadian Archaeological Association (CAA), Council for British Archaeology (CBA), European Association of Archaeologists (EAA), International Union of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences (UISPP), Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA), Society for American Archaeology (SAA), and World Archaeological Congress (WAC) would like to summarize and reiterate the concerns the professional archaeological community (as represented by the above professional organizations) has with the video posted on The Archaeology Channel. Simply put, commercial treasure salvage is not archaeology; in fact, the goals of archaeologists are diametrically opposed to those of commercial treasure hunters. A video that highlights commercial exploitation of underwater cultural heritage has no place on a web site whose primary purpose is educating viewers, particularly when it tries to pass off commercial treasure salvage as archaeology.

One might ask, Why is commercial treasure salvage not archaeology? The most obvious difference is the sale of artifacts from archaeological sites (any artifacts, in multiple numbers or unique single objects). Whether their principal work is on land or underwater, archaeologists are in full agreement that the sale of artifacts is unethical, even if it is technically legal. It does not matter whether the item for sale is a gold coin recovered from a shipwreck site or a ceramic pot removed from a grave. The sale of artifacts drives the antiques market, contributing to the looting and undocumented salvage of our collective past. Archaeologists work in a variety of settings, including academic institutions, privately-owned companies, government agencies, and publicly-traded firms that have demonstrated the ability to fund high-quality research without selling artifacts. There are a number of reasons why the sale of artifacts is inconsistent with archaeological practice and ethics, which we would like to briefly outline here.

As scientists, archaeologists study and interpret past human behavior through the analysis of artifacts and material remains, followed by dissemination of scientific results. Archaeology is not about simply collecting historical curiosities. To learn about people, we study artifacts, but equally important is context—the relationship between artifacts and their setting. Examining context allows us to recognize patterns, and patterns lead us to the repetitive cultural practices that created them. Patterns cannot be discerned by cherry-picking particular artifacts—all artifacts are an impor-
tant and necessary element of the archaeological process. If the goal of an expedition is not to learn about past human behavior, but simply to recover artifacts for display, then it is not archaeology—it is antiquarism. If the goal is to sell artifacts for profit, and the company’s main motivation is to enhance shareholder value, then it is not archaeology—it is commercial treasure salvage.

Archaeology is a scientific endeavor, and like all science, repeated testing by different researchers is one of its distinguishing characteristics. Most materials (artifacts, excavation records, field notes, etc.) from archaeological excavations are curated in public facilities, so they are always available to future researchers to examine, apply new perspectives or analyses, and possibly come up with new conclusions. For objects to be considered part of the archaeological record they, and any associated data that document their context, must be available in the future—all recovered artifacts, not just items deemed salable. When artifacts are sold and collections dispersed they are no longer available for future examination and are essentially removed from the archaeological record. The recovery and dispersal of those objects is not archaeology—this kind of artifact mining is commercial treasure salvage.

The study of archaeology is about much more than objects. It requires specialized training and knowledge, but welcomes and encourages the participation of interested members of the public. Avocational archaeologists who share in the investigation of the past, teachers who impart information about archaeology, legislative officials who promote the protection of cultural resources, and the public who benefits from learning about the past, all serve as stewards of our shared cultural heritage.

These are some of the core principles of archaeology, which is the prevailing worldwide consensus adopted by UNESCO member countries in November 2001 as the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage. The 20 countries required to ratify the Convention have now done so, and the Convention will go into effect on 2 January 2009, becoming the international standard on treatment of underwater cultural heritage. Anthropology Field Notes 6: Shipwrecks – with Odyssey Marine Exploration does nothing to demonstrate or explain the differences between archaeology and treasure salvage, nor does it distinguish between commercial treasure salvors and qualified archaeologists. It does a disservice to the practice of archaeology and the importance of the past to a nation’s identity. For all of these reasons, we are opposed to the inclusion of this video on The Archaeology Channel.

Sincerely,

Lu Ann De Cunzo, President
Society for Historical Archaeology
Matthew A. Russell, Chair
Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology

Society for American Archaeology
Claire Smith, President
World Archaeological Congress

ACUA Annual Photo Competition 2009 Calendar

We are pleased to announce that a 2009 calendar featuring images from the 2000 to 2008 annual ACUA Photo Competitions is available. The full-color wall calendar will bring back fond memories of past conferences and encourage the artistic among you to warm up your cameras for the next competition. Each month features a different winning image on land or under water. Your purchase is a donation to the ACUA and will help support future photo competitions.

This year’s calendar features images by Bradley Garrett, Michael Imwall, Robert Schwimmer, Donald H. Keith, Robert Church, William Lees, Arturo Gonzalez, Stephanie Barrantes, Della Scott-Ireton, Andy Hall, Tane Casserly, and Alexis Catsambis.

You can purchase the calendar online and have it mailed to your home or office. Simply visit the one of the following websites and follow the links.

http://www.ACUAonline.org OR http://www.lulu.com/content/2311412

Be the first in your neighborhood to be a proud owner of the first ACUA Annual Photo Competition 2009 Calendar!
2008 SHA Election Winners

Secretary: Michael Nassaney

Treasurer: Sara Mascia

Board of Directors: Margaret E. Leshikar-Denton

Board of Directors: Patrick H. Garrow

Nominations & Election Committee: Alicia Caporaso

Nominations & Election Committee: Deborah Hull-Walski

Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology: Kimberly L. Eslinger

Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology: Della A. Scott-Ireton

Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology: Filipe Vieira de Castro (no photo available)
At its annual meeting in Albuquerque, NM, the SHA Awards Committee voted to present the 2009 Harrington Award and Medal to Robert L. Schuyler. There will be no Ruppé Award for 2009. Deadline for nominations for the 2009 Cotter Award is June 30; at present there is one nomination in hand. The following individuals agreed to serve as the judges for the 2009 Deetz Book Award: Donna Seifert; Donald Hardesty; and Terry Majewski. Sixteen books were submitted for consideration for the award, which will be announced in late September, 2008.

Bylaws (Don Weir)

The Committee has begun the process of reviewing the Bylaws.

Curation (Bob Sonderman)

The Curation Committee is engaged in three major activities. First, several committee members have been working as a small group to look at the existing SHA standards and guidelines to see where they can be improved and updated. Second, committee member Lisa Young conducted a survey of collection policies, procedures, and requirements from the Mid-Atlantic states in 2005. She has since volunteered to expand her effort to the entire country and is preparing to proceed. Finally, the committee reports that SHA records currently being housed under the care of former Secretary/Treasurer Stephanie Rodeffer are being processed and prepared to transmittal to the National Anthropological Archives. A vendor has been identified for microfilming and it is anticipated that some materials will be ready for transfer to the NAA before the end of this year.

Gender and Minority Affairs (Carol A. Nickolai)

The Committee has updated its membership list to include those with active interests and they plan to create an email communication list.

Inter-Society Relations (John Jameson)

The Committee is working to update and consolidate a liaison list with renewed appointment letters in place; obtain reports from representatives on activities and issues of mutual interest, including proposed or planned joint sessions and other joint venues; and compiling reports from all active liaisons by the end of the year.

Membership (Barbara Heath)

The Committee has focused heavily on supporting the SHA’s Member Needs Assessment initiative, and is in the process now of providing feedback about areas of particular concern to future membership development. The Chair is soliciting new committee members and will follow up on suggestions made by the President in order to create a committee that is more representative of the membership by geography, employment, age, and gender.

B. Secretary (Nassaney)

The Secretary reported on the Board votes taken since the annual meeting last January.

In February a motion was made by Brooks to approve the January 9, 2008 board meeting minutes. Joseph seconded the motion. The motion passed with two abstentions (Weir and Clouse).

In May, Brooks moved for the approval of the slate of candidates presented by the Nominations and Elections Committee. Joseph seconded the motion. The motion passed with one abstention (Brooks).

In March Honerkamp made a motion to accept the descriptions of the editorial positions (Journal Editor, Newsletter Editor, Co-Publications Editor, and Website Editor) as presented. Clouse seconded the motion. The motion passed with one abstention (Brooks).

In February a motion was made by Brooks to approve the January 12, 2008 board meeting minutes. Joseph seconded the motion. The motion passed with two abstentions (Weir and Clouse).

By a majority vote.

The Secretary also reported that he spoke with Bob Sonderman of the Curation Committee on June 18, 2008 for an update on the process of archiving SHA records. Sonderman indicated that Teff Rodeffer has identified a firm to microfiche the records, which he hopes will be completed by the end of the year. Teff is also seeking an intern from the University of Arizona who can assist with indexing and archiving the records.

Lees made a motion to accept the Secretary’s report. Clouse seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

President (DeCunzo)

DeCunzo indicated that all of the materials in her previously distributed written report will be discussed elsewhere. Lees made a motion to accept the President’s report. Honerkamp seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
C. Finances, 2007–2008

Treasurer (Mascia)
Mascia reported that the annual conference in Albuquerque made a profit of $22,765. She was pleased to report that the organization is financially healthy. Honerkamp made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s report. Joseph seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Headquarters (Hutchison)
Hutchison reported that the SHA had a clean audit for 2007. It was noted that membership has fluctuated over the past few years and is down about 5% over last year. Thus, we may not meet our budgeted goals for 2008. Lees made a motion to accept the Headquarters report as presented. Honerkamp seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Development Committee (John Che-noweth)
The Committee is currently working on the quiet phase of a student endowment fund. They have $8,600 raised from individuals so far and the SHA Board has committed $6,450 from its reserves. There was some discussion about when the SHA membership would be solicited for its support. The Committee should look into linking solicitation with membership renewal. The next newsletter should explain the campaign to the membership. The public appeal could be started at the 2009 conference. There will also be a dedicated space on the website for this campaign.

Mascia made a motion to accept the Development Committee report as presented. Woodward seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

D. Conferences
2008: Albuquerque. There was no additional report, but President De Cunzo thanked all of the contributors for a job well done in making the conference profitable and successful.

2009: Toronto. Hutchison noted that 450 abstracts have already been submitted, and we expect about 1000 attendees. Many great sessions, tours, venues, and events are planned for the conference, which will be held from January 7–11. Everyone is reminded to be sure to have a valid passport to facilitate travel.

2010: Amelia Island, FL. Lees reported on this upcoming conference venue, to be held January 6–10. A conference committee is in place. Public archaeology day will take place at Kingsley Plantation. The team will meet in August to discuss the conference theme and develop ideas for tours. There is a broad range of options for accommo-

dations to suit students as well as families. Finally, the official SHA band, Gravity’s Rim, will rock us to the beat of the British Invasion.

2011: Austin Proposed. Planning is underway for a January 5–9 meeting. Honerkamp motioned to hold the meeting at the Hilton Austin, and Lees seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2012: The Baltimore Marriott Waterfront is a conference venue possibility.

Conference locations outside of North America are being explored for the future. Several were suggested that the committee is encouraged to pursue.

Online registration and abstract management systems: The increasing cost and problems associated with the current online registration and abstract management system prompted the Board to direct Hutchison to request a user analysis from Matrix and explore alternatives to Matrix. Matrix provided us with a list of solutions to problems we have identified with the systems as currently designed. These costs are in excess of $40,000. We also obtained proposals for new systems from several firms. All will require customization for our needs. We have no way of really knowing if any alternate systems will be superior to what we now have. The current system remains costly and does not easily do everything we want or need. It was suggested that we select 2–3 companies that may be able to serve our needs and identify a technical consultant to work with them to determine the suitability of their services.

E. Editorial

Editorial Task Force Report (Lees)
President De Cunzo reviewed the charge given to the Editorial Task Force to examine the editorial structure that will be needed for SHA and the anticipated roles, privileges, and responsibilities of these positions. The Committee recommended that all four editors be voting members of the Board. De Cunzo accepted the report and asked the Board to wait on making a decision that will require bylaws changes until we have a strategic plan.

Journal Editor (Joseph)
Volume 42 (2008) issues 1 and 2 have been shipped to the membership and 42(3) is ready to print. The journal no longer has a backlog so submissions are strongly encouraged from the membership. The editors are also considering that they resume publishing book reviews in the journal. Thematic print-on-demand (POD) readers are being developed on The Archaeology of the African Diaspora, Plantation Archae-

ology, and Underwater Archaeology that may be available by the end of the year. Their purpose is to get our work disseminated to nonarchaeological professionals and serve as a model for students.

An initiative to publish exceptional CRM reports in historical archaeology through a POD process is moving forward in conjunction with ACRA. There is also interest in reproducing or redesigning the SHA Careers in Historical Archaeology brochure for promotional purposes. A motion to accept the Editor’s report was made by Lees, seconded by Woodward. The motion passed.

Co-Publications Editor (Corbin)
Corbin reported that the SHA maintains a good relationship with University Press of Florida. Four dissertation prizes are in press or under review. Progress is being made on the historical archaeology series with UPF. Seven titles are available with a volume on Archaeology and Community Service Learning to be published in 2009. Corbin is exploring a new co-publication arrangement with the University of California Press for works in the Far West and the Pacific. Some problems have arisen surrounding the acceptance of manuscripts with the University of Nebraska Press that are being resolved. We have a co-publication series with Springer Press, called Where the Land Meets the Sea, which will soon include several titles.

A motion to accept the Editor’s report was made by Brooks, seconded by Joseph. The motion passed unanimously.

Newsletter Editor (Brooks)
Brooks was pleased to report that the summer issue of the newsletter is in the mail. He proposed that the History Committee assume the responsibility of conference photography, and suggested the purchase of a camera for the SHA dedicated for this task. The scanning of back issues of the newsletter is scheduled to begin soon.

Lees made a motion to accept the Newsletter Editor’s report, seconded by Joseph. The motion passed unanimously.

Website Editor (Kelly Dixon)
Dixon presented her report via video. She has completed her 3-year term as Editor and is willing to continue on a year-to-year basis, given the recent changes in her professional and personal responsibilities. She is willing to help maintain the site at present. Decisions will have to be made about the future of the website and who will fill the role of Website Editor. She encouraged the membership to visit the publications pages, research resource pages, newsletter pages, projects and research pages, under-
water archaeology pages, and the “Exploring Historical Archaeology” pages on the website, just to name a few.

Woodward made a motion to accept the Website Editor’s report, seconded by Purs-er. The motion passed unanimously.

Mascia made a motion to recommend that Dixon be reappointed by President De Cunzo for a one year-term (2009). Honerkamp seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

F. Education and Professional Development

Academic and Professional Training (Mark Warner)

Warner noted in his report that the APT Committee has created an operations manual to provide some guidance for new committee members, especially new chairs. The Committee has access to the artifact coding database (SHARD) used by the Anthropological Studies Center at Sonoma State University and are exploring how to make it available to the membership. The Committee is exploring ways to make syllabi from courses.in and related to historical archaeology available to the membership. They are also examining ways to coordinate with the new Technical Briefs Editor to create an online resource for technical materials that historical archaeologists may find of use. Given the anticipated growing demand for web space and time, the Board noted that there remained a need for procedures to prioritize web projects. Finally, this year’s award for the student paper competition will no longer be a cash prize. Instead, the prize will be in books donated by publishers and exhibitors attending the conference.

Honerkamp made a motion to accept the Academic and Professional Training Committee report as presented, and Joseph seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

RPA (Clouse)

With over 2000 registered archaeologists, RPA has reached a point where it can maintain itself financially. SHA can expect to be asked for a lesser annual commitment than the initial $5000 pledged, perhaps reduced by $1000 each year, beginning in 2009.

Lees made a motion to accept the RPA report, seconded by Woodward. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Education and Interpretation Committee (Purser)

Purser reported that the PEIC sponsored the Public Archaeology session in Albuquerque, and they will be sponsoring one or more sessions on public education and outreach at the conference in Toronto. They are also developing curricula packets in conjunction with Unlocking the Past and working toward creating and marketing Unlocking the Past educational materials for sale. The Committee wants clarification on its role in the annual public archaeology session, as this has varied from one conference to another. The Committee wants to contribute a regular column to the newsletter, perhaps tied to a blog. Subsequent discussion revolved around the pros and cons of this approach. The response of some PEIC members was that the recent member needs assessment survey was redundant with an earlier survey. Members of the Committee attended the annual National Council for the Social Studies Conference as participants in the Archaeology Education Clearinghouse, a consortium of SHA, SAA, and AIA. This proved to be a good way to showcase SHA to social studies educators and a worthwhile cooperative venture with our sister organizations. The PEIC was also represented at the National Council for Public History Conference in Louisville, KY this past April. SHA received a very positive response, which encourages the PEIC to cultivate the relationship with this organization, perhaps through more formal means such as Inter-Society Relations. This conference might be a good opportunity to continue showcasing archaeology in the future. Mascia made a motion to accept the PEIC report and Clouse seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

History Committee (Veit)

The Committee remains engaged in its oral history program. Rick Sprague’s oral history will be coming out soon in HA. They have begun compiling information for Norman Barka’s memorial. The Committee noted that an interviewer was needed to work with Ilvar Noël Hume. The Board suggested they consider asking Marley Brown III or Tonia Deetz Rock as possible candidates.

Mascia made a motion to accept the History Committee report, seconded by Honerkamp. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Underwater Cultural Heritage and Government Affairs

Advisory Council on Underwater Archaeology (Russell)

Russell indicated that ACUA is involved in many initiatives. They recently exchanged correspondence with the Archaeology Channel regarding the posting of a video highlighting a commercial salvage company, Odyssey Marine Exploration. This precipitated a longer discussion by the Board. Many members noted that Odyssey is an entity that works against our mission. We need to educate people about the difference between treasure hunting and archaeology. Discussion ensued on how to address these concerns and counter the activities of Odyssey. Most agreed that it is important to challenge these activities and noted the importance of speaking out in support of archaeological principles. It would be useful to make our collective responses more public and share them with the membership. There is also a need for this message to be heard at the local, national, and international levels.

ACUA sent a letter to the American Museum of Natural History expressing concern about a recent AMNH expedition Shipwreck Diving in Cape Cod: The Pirate Ship Wydah. They are preparing for the 2009 conference and will be sponsoring a student forum and a session in honor of J. Richard Steffy. They continue to update the ACUA web page. The 2009 ACUA calendar will soon be available for purchase featuring winning images from past photo competitions. The 2008 proceedings are being prepared for publication. While the ACUA has been actively involved in fund-raising to support some of its activities, its efforts will be curtailed at present and coordinated with those of the SHA Development Committee. Purser made a motion to accept the ACUA report; Honerkamp seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

UNESCO Committee (Woodward)

Woodward reported that 17 countries have endorsed the convention; 3 more are needed to formally ratify it. The Committee continues to write letters for endorsements. Several countries and U.S. agencies employ the convention as best practice. Honerkamp made a motion to accept the UNESCO report; Mascia seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Government Affairs (Bense and Longsworth)

Lees announced that Judy Bense has recently been appointed interim President of the University of West Florida. She is the first archaeologist and woman to fill that role. We will send her a letter of congratulations.

Longsworth reported that the Farm Bill was completed this week and it includes both historical and archaeological sites. The same easements are also being added to the Ranchland Protection Program. Bush promised to veto the Farm Bill. He did, but it was overridden. The Historic Barn Bill was also extended. President Bush cut all preservation-related appropriations for FY09. However, the House of Representa-
tives was able to raise it from $59 to $86 million, effectively restoring funding to previous levels. The Tribes and Save America and other programs will be getting more money. The Preserve America Conference held in 2007 was designed to look at historic preservation and ACHP has recently appointed a 10-member panel to re-evaluate federal preservation. No members represent archaeology or anthropology, so an appeal has been made to rectify this and several other imbalances in the composition of the panel.

Woodward made a motion to accept the Government Affairs report, seconded by Joseph. The motion carried unanimously.

Longsworth introduced Ole Varmer from NOAA who discussed his interests in the Titanic and explained issues surrounding its discovery and investigation and the disposition of the recovered finds. He is providing technical assistance to others working to get a bill introduced to keep the collection of the Titanic materials together for the public interest. The effort is meant to check salvage and commercial exploitation and insure the use of scientific standards. The bill would effectively provide a permit system for Titanic, which could serve as a model for other wrecks. He is pleased to provide additional educational materials to SHA and ACUA.

Old Business

SHA Member Needs Assessment and Strategic Planning

President De Cunzo reminded the Board that we would be meeting the next morning to begin discussing how we’ll use the member needs assessment survey to assist us with developing a strategic plan. The Board will need to decide how to arrive at a strategic plan, what is needed, what process to follow, and how to prepare for the meeting. The Board decided to meet in Baltimore for two days in February 2009 with a facilitator. Headquarters will assist with logistical arrangements.

New Business

Local Government Archaeology Initiative (De Cunzo)

De Cunzo announced that she represented SHA at the March 2008 SAA meetings in Vancouver where she joined a working group to develop a joint SAA–SHA local government archaeology initiative. The goals of the initiative are to: coordinate the efforts in promoting the development of new local government archaeology programs and supporting existing programs, prepare a local government archaeology contact list including “best practices” case studies, and to post this information electronically on one of both organization’s websites. The group will also encourage forums, symposia, and poster sessions at meetings on topics in local government archaeology.

Computer Applications in Archaeology 2009 Conference (De Cunzo)

De Cunzo announced that the presidents of various archaeological organizations have been invited by the European coordinators of the upcoming Computer Applications in Archaeology 2009 Conference to organize sessions that highlight computer applications in archaeology. SHA will try to sponsor a session and identify SHA members to participate.

2009 Budget (Mascia)

Mascia presented the 2009 budget. There will be no change in dues. We anticipate a small deficit of about $3,000. Woodward motioned to accept the budget as presented and Weir seconded the motion. Budget passed unanimously, as amended.

Discussion then turned to ways to cover the expenses associated with the proposed strategic plan.

Honerkamp made a motion to expend $30,000 from the reserves for the strategic plan. Weir seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Journal Publication Proposal: Maney (Joseph)

Joseph reported that SHA has been approached by Maney Press to publish HA. This is a European press with a North American presence looking to expand their market. They also publish a number of archaeological journals. There are clear advantages to working with Maney; they will handle all copy editing, composition, and other production processes. They will also assign us a managing editor and market the journal, which will be good for the journal and SHA generally. They would be operating with a 5-year contract if we entered into an agreement with them. There would be a slight change in the format of the journal. SHA has received a proposal from the press but it is not viable. Further negotiation will ensue.

Meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

The Society for Historical Archaeology
Board of Directors Meeting
Sunday, June 22, 2008
Gaithersburg, MD Minutes

President De Cunzo called the meeting to order at 9 a.m.


Staff Present: Karen Hutchison and Beth Palys.

The board immediately moved into executive session. Discussion resumed at 10 a.m. with a focus on brainstorming for the strategic plan.

De Cunzo reminded the Board that we agreed in the 21 June board meeting to contract a facilitator to assist us in developing a strategic plan in February 2009. By doing so the Board and each Committee will have time to digest the results of the needs assessment and be prepared to respond.

We employed the pre-session survey tool Karen Hutchison provided in the Board books to engender a very open-ended discussion.

1. What are the most significant external trends, challenges, or major forces that we foresee?

Threats include: legislative initiatives; development and population pressure; recognition that archaeologists are not the only stakeholders (this provides both challenges and opportunities); and commercialization.

There is growing public awareness of what archaeologists do.

Historical archaeology has a global reach and sites being constantly created. It is the archaeology of the future.

SHA can serve a changing international role.

Tourism provides challenges and opportunities with real impacts on the record. Yet, heritage tourism provides opportunities to educate the public.

Under tight economic conditions, archaeology is a luxury.

Higher education is placing less emphasis on the humanities and social sciences.

Archaeology should be seen as interdisciplin ary, not merely a social science. What is the field’s relationship to anthropology and other disciplines? Is it beneficial to be associated with anthropology?

We cannot forget that archaeology is a business; it must compete with other professional organizations (local, regional, state, international) and internet groups (e.g., African-American Archaeology Network) that have an interest in the material remains of the recent past. What about our sister organizations?
We need to maintain the membership’s interest in our conference and compete for attendees.

Where should our funding come from?

2. What are some overriding issues of strategic importance?

We must provide value added to attract new members and keep the current membership satisfied with the organization. Think about ways to maximize the value of membership.

Clarify our identity. Who are we? What are we doing? What is the scope of historical archaeology? How can we expand public education? How can we better influence the legislative process? How will we pay for it?

How do we remain an authoritative source on issues related to historical archaeology?

How can we do a better job of telling our story to our members and the public?

What is our role in advocacy? How can we better develop our image as advocates? How can we better impact local-level politics, governments, stakeholders, and constituencies?

How do we better interact with other professional communities to achieve goals, e.g., historic preservation?

What is our place internationally? How do we get there? What do we offer our international colleagues re: value?

How can we accommodate different needs of different generations, public/private sector, international/U.S.?

How can we meet the needs of our diverse membership and remove barriers to participation?

How can SHA best develop electronic, interactive, dynamic communication?

How can we best increase proactive interaction with publics?

How can we best use our resources and proactively involve members?

Develop a more interactive journal.

3. What is our core purpose(s)?

General brainstorming

Promote an interest in historical archaeology through the conference and the journal.

Promote research, disseminate knowledge, define historical archaeology, standards, ethics, best practices, provide forum/organizational support.

Serve as advocates to government.

Promote stewardship.

Facilitate members’ activities to promote HA, assist communities.

Support professional development about historic past to profession and public.

Our goal for the past 30 years has been to legitimize historical archaeology.

Provide an articulating structure for HA that is regional, national, and international in scope.

Provide peer review.

Specific attempts to articulate a purpose statement

To promote historical archaeology on land and underwater

To promote appreciation and understanding of the historic past

To bring archaeology to history

To bring reality to history

To bring clarity of the past to the present

Tangible link to the past

To define what the field is, allow for development of members, educate public

To be THE society for the global practice of historical and underwater archaeology

To be the clearinghouse for the knowledge base of historical archaeology on land and underwater regionally, nationally, globally

To be the ‘go to’ organization for historical archaeology on land and underwater

To promote the ethical practice and profession of historical and underwater archaeology

To promote the development and growth of historical archaeology by supporting education and research

To advance the appreciation and understanding of historical archaeology through promotion of education, research, and advocacy on land and underwater

We are a clearinghouse for information and knowledge about historical archaeology

We aim to promote the ethical practice and profession of historical archaeology

We aim to promote education, research, and advocacy in historical archaeology; this is what we settled on at the end of our discussion.

4. What are our core values?

Protection of historical archaeological resources

Ethical behavior

Promotion of high standards of research and best practices

Fostering public awareness

Stimulating a community of inquiry

Open and inclusive exchange of information

5. What are our big audacious goals?

To become the one source for historical archaeology in the world

To grow larger than SAA

To never have to justify our existence again

To make everyone an advocate for historical archaeology

To recognize that historical archaeological resources are nonrenewable

To be recognized experts on historical archaeology in the world

To have everyone embrace the importance of historical archaeology

To make SHA relevant to all historical archaeologists

To record more historical archaeological sites than any other site types

To save our cultural heritage

To inspire everyone to embrace the past

To reach 10,000 membership worldwide

That all historical archaeologists will want to be members

To be a leading organization on historical archaeology worldwide

To be recognized globally as an indispensable resource for historical archaeology; this is what we settled on.

6. What is the single biggest challenge we face?

To grow membership

To remain relevant

The meeting adjourned at 12 p.m.
you are earning. People pursue careers in archaeology along a variety of different paths. While some people complete a B.A. and go right into an M.A. program, many begin working at CRM firms, national or state parks, and museums, or even pursue careers outside the field altogether. There are a variety of options and we have tried to cover a representative sample of the opportunities available and the kinds of preparation you will need. You’ll find that an archaeological field school and experience with laboratory methods are prerequisites for employment in almost any archaeology-related job. Beyond that, employers are generally looking for people who show enthusiasm and want to learn.

The Employers

CRM Firms

Cultural Resource Management (CRM) is a broad field and CRM firms are likewise looking for a variety of skills. For many CRM firms, coursework which delves into historic and prehistoric artifact identification, Cultural Resources Management, statistics, and GIS are important parts of a resume. Additionally, evidence that an individual has developed these skills outside the classroom is important. Carl Steen from Diachronic Research looks for outside experience that demonstrates useful and practical skills, such as surveying or engineering. In addition, Natalie Adams of New South Associates looks for experience working with local artifact types. Adams also looks for people with expertise with special equipment, such as a total station or a sub-meter GPS. Finally, employers look for people with the ability to take clear and thorough field notes and draw field maps and profiles.

The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for job qualification dictate that someone without a master’s degree cannot be a field director on state and federal projects. For such projects, however, a B.A.-level person can work as a crew chief. Outside of fieldwork, people with B.A.s who have experience with analysis and curation can become lab directors. In general, a B.A. will allow you to get a field crew or lab technician position and several years of experience may allow you to advance to higher positions. Due to legal requirements for certain jobs, however, only having a B.A. will limit your ability to take on certain jobs at a higher level of responsibility — which also tend to have higher pay grades.

Federal Agencies

The main federal agency that hires archaeologists is the National Park Service (NPS), which is housed under the Department of the Interior. The National Park Service has fieldwork and labwork opportunities around the country. A person with a B.A. can work as a field crew member or a crew chief on a variety of field projects and as a lab technician in many situations, depending on the amount of experience one has. The NPS also has regional offices, such as the Archaeology Program in Washington, DC, with which intern opportunities are sometimes available. These internships generally go to graduate students, but a person with a B.A. who is thinking about graduate school opportunities is not automatically out of the running. Frank McManamon, manager of the Archaeology Program, notes that internship opportunities depend upon individual skills. Previous interns have done database work and helped develop online courses, such as “Interpretation for Archaeologists.” Courses that may increase your chances of finding a job at the Archaeology Program or similar federal programs include courses on CRM and archaeology laws and policies.

Individuals can participate in NPS programs on a volunteer, seasonal employment, or full-time (both contract and salaried) basis. The NPS employs a variety of personnel such as archaeologists, historians, and museum curators. Depending on an individual’s experience, minor in college, or other training s/he may also pursue a job as an archivist, ecologist, geologist, or social science aide. Generally a person with a B.A. and some experience can apply for a GS-5 grade job with pay starting at about $25,000/yr depending on the job’s location. Higher-grade jobs such as GS-7 and above can be secured with appropriate experience and some graduate work. Opportunities in the National Park service can be researched at www.USAGov.com.

State and City Agencies

A bachelor’s degree enables an individual to pursue jobs with a variety of state and city agencies. Each state has a State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and most of the websites for these offices have job listings for available positions. A good guide to the state SHPOs and other agencies is available through the Archaeological Research Institute at Arizona State University (http://archnet.asu.edu/Topical/CRM.html). State employment opportunities listed on SHPO websites might include opportunities as assistant curator positions or full-time site managers. In light of the public nature of many jobs, certain skills often cited as assets include knowledge of local and state laws pertaining to cultural resources, public-speaking abilities, and social skills with groups associated with a site’s history.

Some cities also have a city archaeologist. In the case of Boston, Ellen Berkland runs her lab primarily through volunteers who hail from a variety of universities, schools, and other fields. Volunteering at a city lab is a good way to meet people from other institutions who are interested in archaeology. The social connections made in this type of context can be key to hearing about employment opportunities in the area and the experience gained at a city lab will prepare you to be a competitive candidate for these positions.

Museums and Historic Sites

Historic sites and museums are good places to gain experience with archaeological collections and interact with a variety of public audiences. Opportunities at these types of sites are usually available on a volunteer or internship basis. In the case of historic sites, these positions may be volunteer or internship positions but can potentially turn into longer-term employment. Esther White, Director of Archaeology at Mount Vernon, hires field and lab techs with B.A.s for most of the field and labwork which is undertaken on the property. Many people who participate find these types of positions good experience in the interim period between undergraduate and graduate work. Because Mount Vernon puts people with B.A.s in supervisory roles with volunteers, they gain experience managing a field crew which will help them run their own projects if they pursue careers in CRM or graduate school. Historic sites like Mount Vernon look for applicants who are committed to archaeology, working with the public, and have a positive and enthusiastic attitude about their work.

Personal Experiences

The careers of students with bachelor’s degrees in archaeology generally follow a variety of paths both within and outside traditional archaeological employment. For example, recent graduates Erica Simmons and Katherine Horner have followed two very different paths. Simmons graduated with a double major in archaeology and geology and found employment at an environmental preservation and recreation agency. There she does work with both archaeological and nonarchaeological projects. Skills in mapping, surveying, and artifact identification as well as geology gave her an advantage in securing this job. Horner undertook field and lab work in a state organization during her undergraduate career and decided to pursue jobs outside of CRM upon graduation. She took a job with The Hermitage
People with anthropology and archaeology B.A.s who have been in the field a little longer have had similar experiences and are frequently finding that earning a master’s degree in anthropology or a related field is an important part of turning a job into a career. Mandy Ranslow and Lauren Blair graduated in 2003 and 2002, respectively, and began work in the field. Blair worked as a field and lab tech for a few years before being promoted to crew chief. She is currently employed as a crew chief and lab specialist and intends to start a master’s program in history. Ranslow graduated with some experience working at an historic site and immediately began work as a field tech. She found her interests were not in academia, but that earning an M.A. would allow her to make a long-time career out of archaeology. She now works at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center in Connecticut.

Other students take a number of jobs before deciding to go to graduate school. The authors of this article spent time at both the National Park Service and historic sites such as The Hermitage and Mount Vernon before applying to graduate school. We were also waitresses, bartenders, and grant writers while figuring out what we wanted to do with our degrees. Making a commitment to a Ph.D. program is a big decision and sometimes earning an M.A. (as some of the authors did) before going to a Ph.D. program is the best way to decide what direction you want to take your career.

Conclusions

The bottom line is that there are a variety of job types available to a person with a B.A. Some people with undergraduate degrees have pursued jobs at nonprofit organizations where they have found that their writing, critique, and organizational skills have been essential to their work. Other students pursue law degrees and find a B.A. in anthropology gave them a perspective that helped them in this field. Whether you plan to continue to work in archaeology and anthropology or not, working in alternative fields is beneficial to gaining perspective on the field of archaeology and developing skills that are useful in a variety of settings. One thing that any employer will look for is the ability to work as a part of a team and be proactive and enthusiastic about your job.

Resources

SHA Website: http://www.sha.org/students_jobs/employmentopp.cfm
www.shovelbums.org

www.archaeologyfieldwork.com
The SAA’s Careers, Opportunities & Jobs in Archaeology website section: http://www.saa.org/careers/job-listing.html
Histarch listserv: https://lists.asu.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A0=HISTARCH
Archnet: http://archnet.asu.edu/Topical/CRM.html

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

Home on the Range at Fahey Cow Camp: Public Archaeology and Heritage Tourism in the Stanislaus National Forest

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Introduction

In September 2007, the Stanislaus National Forest partnered with the Central Sierra Arts Council and the Farms of Tuolumne County to present ‘Home on the Range’ at the historic Fahey Cow Camp in Tuolumne County, California. A portion of the larger Foothills Farmland Arts Festival, the event featured music, food, demonstrations, horseback rides, children’s hands-on activities, information booths, a marketplace, plein air painters, and porch stories by ‘old-timers.’ Some 400-600 people visited the historic cow camp on the day of the event; later in the week, schoolchildren came to Fahey for a hands-on day of art and archaeology. ‘Home on the Range’ allowed us to make an unprecedented connection with the local community, to celebrate our success with the 2005 Passport in Time restoration of the Fahey Cabin, and to examine the history of grazing on public lands by exploring the ‘archaeology of the individual’—in this case, the individual family, that of Michael and Johanna Fahey.

The Event

Members of the public were treated to music by the Black Irish Band, Owen’s Ragland Family Band, Sequoia, and Chuck Waldman; presentations by Forest Supervisor Tom Quinn and Mother Lode Roundup Queen Katie May Broderick; packing demonstrations by champion packers Zachary Toberer (age 8) and Creed Howard (FS packer); horseback rides from the Aspen Meadows Packers; porch stories by ‘old-timers’ Al Fahey, Bob Fahey, Lucky Monroe, Marion Sanguinetti, Mark Stoltenburg (farrier), and Ty Wivell; plein air painters at work; information at booths staffed by the 3 Forest Interpretive Association, Central Sierra Arts Council, Cooperative Extension, Farms of Tuolumne County, Fire Safe Council, Master Gardeners, Oakdale Cowboy Museum, TUCARE, Tuolumne City Memorial Museum, Tuolumne County Historical Society, and the Tuolumne River Trust; food for purchase from Bald Mountain Farm, Gold Country Honey, Outlaws BBQ, Sierra Olive Oil, and the Stanislaus National Forest Employee Association; art for purchase from 1 Tribe Creation, John Senser (photographs), Out of Hand, Mariann Schmidt, and various plein air artists; children’s hands-on activities in art and floppy paper hat making; and information posters and period-appropriate furnishings inside the Fahey Cabin, plus saddles and period-appropriate tack inside the Fahey

Left to right, the main structures: bunkhouse, cabin, barn, Fahey Cow Camp, Stanislaus National Forest (Photo by author, U.S. Forest Service, 2007).
The National Park Service’s 2009 Archaeological Prospection Workshop

The National Park Service’s 2009 workshop on archaeological prospection techniques entitled “Current Archaeological Prospection Advances for Non-Destructive Investigations in the 21st Century” will be held 18-22 May, 2009, at the National Park Service’s National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, Natchitoches, Louisiana. Lodging will be at the Ramada Inn.

The field exercises will take place at the Los Adaes State Historic Site (a Spanish presidio and capital of the Spanish province of Texas between 1719 and 1772). Co-sponsors for the workshop include the National Park Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Adaes State Historic Site, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, and the Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation. This will be the 19th year of the workshop dedicated to the use of geophysical, aerial photography, and other remote sensing methods as they apply to the identification, evaluation, conservation, and protection of archaeological resources across the United States.

The workshop will present lectures on the theory of operation, methodology, processing, and interpretation with hands-on use of the equipment in the field. There is a registration charge of $475.00.

Application forms are available on the Midwest Archeological Center’s web page at http://www.nps.gov/history/mwac/.

For further information, please contact:

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Children’s Day

Three days after the event, fifth-graders from the Pinecrest School and the combined third-fourth-fifth grades from the Sierra Waldorf School came to the Fahey Cow Camp for a day’s-worth of art and archaeology. Local artist Sifu led one group of children in clay-making activities, while the archaeologists put the other group to work. After a tour of the cow camp and a discussion of archaeology in general and historical archaeology in particular, as well as ranching in years past, the archaeological work began. Archaeological technican Gabriel Diaz taught the children how to record historic structures—which they did beautifully—and creekside, District Archaeologist Stacy Lundgren showed the children how to wash artifacts and eco-facts (ceramic fragments, nails, and cow bones), and provided general information on dating various historic artifact types (glass, ceramics, cans, nails) and what this means in the big picture—who was here, when, and what did they do. After an hour or so, the two groups switched, and the pint-sized archaeologists became clay artists and vice versa.

Conclusion

Cattlegrazing is integral to the history of Tuolumne County and the Stanislaus National Forest. The historic Fahey Cow Camp is one of the few remaining locations in the Forest where the visitor can glimpse the late-19th-century mid-elevation summer grazing landscape. The setting on Wrights Creek remains much as it was when the Faheys brought their cattle up from Phoenix Lake. The cabin and barn at the Fahey Cow Camp are typical late-19th-century rustic board-and-batten vernacular structures. They embody the fundamental characteristics of early seasonal homesteads within what is now the Stanislaus National Forest. It is one of only two such grazing properties (outside of the wilderness) still used for its original purpose. The Home on the Range event at the Fahey Cow Camp made tangible and empirical the need for historic preservation, and we believe the event—a public event on public land—was instrumental in securing Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) funding for the stabilization and restoration of the cow camp’s barn. Work on the barn begins August 2008 in cooperation with the Forest Service’s Passport in Time volunteer program.

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Children's Day Barn.

Plein air artist, Fahey Cow Camp, Stanislaus National Forest (Photo by Jerry Snyder, U.S. Forest Service, 2007).
NEW PROPERTIES IN THE U.S. NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Reported by Erika K. Martin Seibert, National Register of Historic Places

The following archaeological properties were listed in the United States’ National Register of Historic Places during the third quarter of 2008. For a full list of National Register listings every week, check “Weekly List” at http://www.nps.gov/nr/.

Florida, Volusia County. 
**Airport Clear Zone Archeological Site** (Archeological Resources of the 18th-Century Smyrnea Settlement of Dr. Andrew Turnbull MPS). Listed 7/10/08.

Florida, Volusia County. 
**Blanchette Archeological Site** (Archeological Resources of the 18th-Century Smyrnea Settlement of Dr. Andrew Turnbull MPS). Listed 7/10/08.

Florida, Volusia County. 
**First Presbyterian Church Archeological Site** (Archeological Resources of the 18th-Century Smyrnea Settlement of Dr. Andrew Turnbull MPS). Listed 7/10/08.

Florida, Volusia County. 
**Grange Archeological Site** (Archeological Resources of the 18th-Century Smyrnea Settlement of Dr. Andrew Turnbull MPS). Listed 7/10/08.

Florida, Volusia County. 
**Hawks Archeological Site** (Archeological Resources of the 18th-Century Smyrnea Settlement of Dr. Andrew Turnbull MPS). Listed 7/10/08.

Florida, Volusia County. 
**Janet’s Archeological Site** (Archeological Resources of the 18th-Century Smyrnea Settlement of Dr. Andrew Turnbull MPS). Listed 7/10/08.

Florida, Volusia County. 
**Old Fort Park Archeological Site** (Archeological Resources of the 18th-Century Smyrnea Settlement of Dr. Andrew Turnbull MPS). Listed 7/10/08.

Florida, Volusia County. 
**Old Stone Wharf Archeological Site** (Archeological Resources of the 18th-Century Smyrnea Settlement of Dr. Andrew Turnbull MPS). Listed 7/10/08.

Florida, Volusia County. 
**Sleepy Hollow Archeological Site** (Archeological Resources of the 18th-Century Smyrnea Settlement of Dr. Andrew Turnbull MPS). Listed 7/10/08.

Florida, Volusia County. 
**Turnbull Colonists’ House No. 2 Archeological Site** (Archeological Resources of the 18th-Century Smyrnea Settlement of Dr. Andrew Turnbull MPS). Listed 7/10/08.

Florida, Volusia County. 
**White-Fox House Archeological Site** (Archeological Resources of the 18th-Century Smyrnea Settlement of Dr. Andrew Turnbull MPS). Listed 7/10/08.

New York, Clinton and Essex Counties. 
**Spitfire** (gunboat). Listed 7/24/08.

Virginia, Pulaski County. 
**Spring Dale**. Additional Documentation Approved 7/02/08.

Wisconsin, Jefferson County. 
**Carcajou Point Site** (Boundary Increase II). Listed 8/13/08

The Sydney Historical Archaeology Professional (SHAP) Workshop

~ Call for Papers ~

The next SHAP Workshop will be held on Friday 27 February 2009. This year we are trying a different venue: the Hall at St Stephen’s Anglican Church on Church Street, Newtown. However, as tradition dictates the post-workshop drinks will still be held at the Courthouse Hotel nearby.

The SHAP Workshop is meant to be an informative day which aims to be all-inclusive and welcoming to people from all areas of the archaeological industry and wider community, including practitioners, academics, students, and developers. It is hoped that this workshop will present new and interesting historical sites from in and around Sydney and generate discussion and debate. As the workshop will take place just before the start of Semester 1, it would be interesting to focus on what archaeologists have been excavating recently: this will appeal to students not yet caught up in their coursework, as well as practitioners and nonarchaeologists.

While not set in stone, the following themes might also prompt a few ideas for speakers:

- How to deal with difficult clients; Cemeteries and archaeology; Development problems/issues in commercial archaeology; Archaeology and the media

Please feel free to suggest anything you wish to present. Talks should be short and concise (about 20 minutes each), aimed at updating people on your work or work-related experiences you wish to share. It is hoped that by doing this the open communication spirit of the SHAP Workshops will continue.

The closing Date for papers and discussion topics is Monday 2 February 2009. Please feel free to contact us on 02.9568.6701 or by email at <krissy@australarchaeology.com.au>.

This time round we’d like to encourage you to register and pay for the Workshop prior to the day, because it will help us organize the catering and post-workshop drinks a little more accurately. We anticipate the cost of the workshop to be around AUD$50, which will include lunch and morning and afternoon tea.
Commodities of Empire Project

Jonathan Curry-Machado

The mutually reinforcing relationship between ‘commodities’ and ‘empires’ has long been recognized. Over the last six centuries the quest for profits has driven imperial expansion, with the global trade in commodities fueling the ongoing industrial revolution. These ‘commodities of empire,’ which became transnationally mobilized in ever-larger quantities, included primary goods, such as foodstuffs (wheat, rice, bananas); industrial crops (cotton, rubber, linseed, palm oils); stimulants (sugar, tea, coffee, cocoa, tobacco, opium); and ores (tin, copper, gold, diamonds); manufactured goods, produced for consumption; the products of technological advances, themselves used to stimulate further commodity production and transport; and the various cultural products and representations that resulted.

The Commodities of Empire project (http://www.open.ac.uk/Arts/ferguson-centre/commodities-of-empire/index.html) explores the networks through which such commodities circulated within, and in the spaces between, empires. We are particularly attentive to local processes—originating in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and Latin America—which significantly influenced the outcome of the encounter between the world economy and regional societies, doing so through a comparative approach that explores the experiences of peoples subjected to different imperial hegemonies. As conflict over valuable commodities and resources continues to be a prominent feature of the global landscape in the 21st century, this research project might shed some particularly interesting light on its historical antecedents.

Empires have historically fostered the political, communication, legal, and military infrastructure necessary for both local commerce and long-distance trade, and amassed wealth from these transactions through taxation, customs duties, or the creation of state monopolies. The flow of commodities—understood as products of value intended for exchange—has been central to the prosperity of most empires. However, in spite of this apparently self-evident relationship between markets and empires, it has only been in the last six hundred years or so that the quest for profits has driven imperial expansion: first, in the shape of mercantile empires, followed by industrial, or capitalist imperialism. Indeed, the increasing European consumption of goods from all over the world coupled with ready access to raw materials from existing colonies during the mercantile phase facilitated the Industrial Revolution. While Britain remained the industrial hegemon for much of the 19th century with increasingly global capital exports, rivalry among several simultaneously industrializing European and North American states generated an unprecedented wave of imperial expansion in the second half of the century. This was propelled by the need to secure new markets for manufactured goods and continuing access to industrial raw materials and foodstuffs.

The expanded production and global movements of these commodities entailed vast spatial, social, economic, and cultural changes in both metropoles and colonies. Land and labor were themselves commodified and became crucial to the functioning of the ‘price-making’ world market; new ports and faster means of transport such as steamships and railways emerged, transforming urban and rural landscapes; regional specialization in particular commodities entailed mass labor migrations and new labor regimes; and consumer tastes, cultural patterns, and value systems were reshaped. Finally, the colonial division of labor between primary-commodity producers and finished-goods manufacturers continues to influence the economic fortunes of many countries. Nonetheless, European-driven agrarian capitalist production and exchange had to contend with preexisting systems and networks. This led not only to a range of social conflicts but often brought Western and indigenous modes of (e.g., botanical and craft) knowledge into opposition. Crucially, local processes of resistance were sometimes able to assert themselves through these conflicts and to thwart colonial plans to gear all local production towards the European export sector. Nor did the capitalist ‘meaning’ imparted to commodities, whereby value is allocated only through the market, gain the upper hand always and everywhere in the southern world.

The Commodities of Empire project was founded in 2007, as a collaboration between the Open University’s Ferguson Centre for African and Asian Studies and London Metropolitan’s Caribbean Studies Centre, and has been given British Academy Research Project recognition. It has since expanded to encompass an international network, involving researchers in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, and several European countries. Although primarily historical, the approach is multidisciplinary, and the project already involves—in addition to social, economic, and cultural historians—anthropologists, cultural theorists, economists, sociologists, and archaeologists. In the project’s second international workshop, held at the British Academy in September 2008, Alasdaire Brooks (Oxford Archaeology) contributed with a paper coauthored by the Venezuelan archaeologist Ana Cristina Rodriguez, discussing the impact of the global trade in 19th-century British ceramics on domestic material culture use in Venezuela through the lens of local interaction with the ideological messages inherent in the decorations on British ceramics.

The Commodities of Empire project’s primary aim is to foster the emergence of collaborative/comparative primary research endeavors, and three are in the process of being developed, having emerged out of discussions between participants: Ports across Empires; Commodities and Anti-commodities; and Local Dynamics of Commodity Production in the Age of Modern Imperialism. The project also publishes an online Working Papers series (http://www.open.ac.uk/Arts/ferguson-centre/commodities-of-empire/working-papers/index.htm), through which papers presented and discussed at the project’s events are disseminated to a wider audience. A list of currently-available working papers is included at the end of this article. Drawing on these papers, the project was invited to guest edit a special edition of the Journal of Global History, due to be published in spring 2009. An online Encyclopaedia of Global Commodities is also being developed, bringing together scholarship from around the world as an accessible research tool.

We would be very happy to hear from anybody whose research shares a concern for the project’s key issues: the networks through which commodities were produced and circulated within, between, and beyond empires; the interlinking ‘systems’ that were themselves evolving during the colonial period, and through which these commodity networks functioned and themselves influenced; the impact of agents on the periphery upon the establishment and development of commodity networks: as instigators and promoters; through their social, cultural, and technological resistance; or through the production of anti-
commodities: the impact of commodity circulation on the economic, social, and cultural life of both periphery and metropole; and the interrogation of the concept of globalization through the study of the historical movement and impact of commodities. If interested, please contact the project’s coordinator, Dr. Jonathan Curry-Machado: <j.currymachado@londonmet.ac.uk>

Currently-available project working papers:

Working Paper No.1 Sandip Hazareesingh, “Chasing commodities over the surface of the globe” (2007)


Report on the 3rd International Congress on Underwater Archaeology (IKUWA3)

Joe Flatman

In July the NAS, the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and the UCL Institute of Archaeology jointly hosted the 3rd International Congress on Underwater Archaeology (IKUWA3). Held at UCL in central London, my role chairing the IKUWA3 steering committee was immeasurably assisted by the brilliant skills and sheer hard work of the principal organizers, Sarah Ward of the NAS and Alex Llewellyn of the IFA.

Over 260 delegates, from more than 20 different countries, attended nearly 100 papers given over three days. The congress was the largest-ever meeting of its kind held in Europe. Associated with the congress was a 3-day professional development field school run by the NAS in and around Portsmouth. There were also excursions around London and down to Portsmouth to see the Mary Rose on the day after the congress.

IKUWA3 was kicked off with an evening drinks party on possibly the wettest day of the year (which, given this year’s weather, is saying something). A welcome speech was given by Prof. Stephen Sheman (Director of the UCL Institute of Archaeology), before the official congress opening by Mr. Christian Manhart (UNESCO Culture) and a keynote address by Mr. Robert Yorke (Chairman, Joint Nautical Archaeology Policy Committee, and NAS Vice-President). The following evening there was a well-attended congress dinner, and on Saturday evening the congress closed with a lively drinks party where the weather was kinder to us, finally allowing people to enjoy a well-deserved drink in the sun!

With so many papers and sessions it is impossible to sum up here everything that went on at IKUWA3— to get a full appreciation, you can still go to the congress web page and download the full program: http://www.ikuwa3.com/documents/IKUWA3_programme.pdf. But it should be noted that a distinguished international array of session chairs did an outstanding job.

From my own perspective, the ‘stand-out’ sessions included those on “development in heritage management” (chaired by Ian Oxley and Sarah Dromgoole) which saw much discussion of the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (currently at 19 ratifications, now only 1 country short of coming into force), including papers by Ulrike Koschtial of UNESCO as well as by international speakers such as Qu Jinliang of China, Mahmud Zuhdi Mohd Nor of Malaysia, and Wojciech Kowalski of Poland. The session was complemented by that on “ethics and professional responsibility” (chaired by Della Scott-Irton), which included a tremendous paper by Vanessa Loureiro of the Instituto de Gestão do Património Arqueológico e Arqueológico entitled, “If Portugal could do it without selling treasures or dreams, why not other countries?” Other papers in this session included Alex Hildred of the Mary Rose Trust on the concept of in situ preservation and Valentina Sara Vadi of the European University discussing the protection of underwater cultural heritage and investors’ rights. Similar in theme was the session on “managing public access” (chaired by Anthony Firth), which saw among others Katerina Della Porta of the Greek Ministry of Culture discussing the protection and management of underwater archaeology in Greece, P. Rasika Muthucumarana of the Maritime Archaeology Unit of Sri Lanka speaking about maritime archaeology in a developing nation, and John D. Broadwater of NOAA discussing underwater cultural heritage management in the U.S.

I was also lucky enough to be able to attend most of the day-long session on “submerged prehistoric landscapes” (chaired by NAS Vice-President Nic Fleming), in which 12 papers demonstrated just how much work is being done in this field, both ‘big picture’ surveys as well as site-specific surveys and sampling. Papers in this session came from a series of distinguished speakers, some well known to the NAS like Nigel Nayling of University of Wales Lampeter and Garry Member of the Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology, others less well known, such as Harald Lübke of the Roman-Germanic Commission of the German Archaeological Institute and Michael Faught of Panamericans Consultants Inc.

For those of a more technical bent there was also plenty to please—for instance, the session on “survey technologies” (chaired by Brendan Foley) included a paper by Martin Dean, Mark Lawrence, and Chris Rowland of the ADUS on a recent archaeological assessment of the wreck of a nuclear submarine at a depth of 250 m in Arctic waters, as well as a paper by Mark W. Holley of Northwestern Michigan College on new methods of rapid field survey of submerged archaeological sites.

The primary sponsors of IKUWA3 were the British Academy and UNESCO, the latter generously bestowing their official patronage on the event, an extremely uncommon honor. UNESCO also sponsored several delegates’ attendance from industrializing nations. Other sponsors...
included the Council for British Archaeology, the Deutsche Archäologische Institut, English Heritage, the Gesellschaft für Schweizer Unterwasser-Archäologie, Historic Scotland, the Environment & Heritage Service Northern Ireland, the Council for British Archaeology, the Mary Rose Trust, the Verband der Landesarchäologen, Wessex Archaeology, the Hampshire & Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology, and the Underwater Archaeology Research Centre, University of Nottingham.

Massive thanks are owed in particular to Sarah and Alex, who worked incredibly hard to ensure that the event was such a resounding success. Thanks are also owed to the members of the steering committee:

- David Blackman (Nautical Archaeology Society)
- Mark Dunkley (English Heritage)
- Albert Hafner (Archäologischer Dienst des Kantons Bern)
- Jon Henderson (University of Nottingham)
- George Lambrick (Nautical Archaeology Society)
- Friedrich Lüeth (Deutsche Archäologische Institut)
- Martin Mainberger (Kommission Unterwasserarchäologie im Verband der Landesarchäologen)
- Ian Oxley (English Heritage)
- Philip Robertson (Historic Scotland)
- Julie Satchell (Hampshire and Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology/IFA Maritime Affairs Group)
- Timm Weski (Kommission für Unterwasserarchäologie)
- Daniel Zwick (Deutsche Gesellschaft zur Förderung der Unterwasserarchäologie)

Special thanks are owed to Dr. Adrian Olivier of English Heritage, who first proposed to hold IKUWA3 in the UK, and to Prof. David Blackman and Prof. Dr. Friedrich Lüeth, who by serving on the steering committees of both IKUWA2 and IKUWA3 provided essential continuity between the two congresses and much sage advice on organization and management.

IKUWA3 was staffed by students of UCL Institute of Archaeology, who performed invaluable services guiding delegates around the complex UCL campus and helping to solve the constant computer problems that bedeviled the congress. The students were Dan Carsten, Goncalo de Carvalho, Ian Cundy, Lisa Gray, Courtney Nimura, Joel Sperry, and Veronica Walker. Also helping on the staff were the redboundable Mary Harvey of the NAS plus additional volunteers Jessica Berry, Dave Cleasby, Alexandre Poudre-Barre, and Charlotte Pham. A publication of congress proceedings is being organized, and further details will be released soon.

IKUWA4 is provisionally planned for the summer of 2012 in Zadar, Croatia.

SECOND CALL FOR SESSIONS AND PAPERS

Theoretical Archaeology Group (U.S.A.)

Stanford Archaeology Center is pleased to announce the second U.S. meeting of the Theoretical Archaeology Group (TAG), May 1-3, 2009, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA.

http://archaeology.stanford.edu/TAG2009

Stanford University will host the second U.S. meeting of the Theoretical Archaeology Group (TAG) on the weekend of 1-3 May 2009. The intention of this TAG conference is to provide a forum for the diverse and interesting theoretical perspectives that exist in the United States, and to bring together both classical and anthropological archaeology. TAG was founded in Great Britain in 1979 with the aim of exploring interdisciplinary theoretical issues, promoting debate, and discussion of their application and use for archaeological interpretation. It has always been an exploratory venue for progressive and innovative archaeological research. The annual conference meeting is an important part of the TAG mission and these meetings have recently started at universities in the United States, with the 2008 meeting being held at Columbia University in New York City. TAG is centered around a plenary session in which a handful of scholars will comment on this year’s theme, “The Future of Things.” Our speakers include Rosemary Joyce (University of California, Berkeley), Stephen Shennan (University College London), Webb Keane (University of Michigan), and Michael Schiffer (University of Arizona).

Sessions on any theoretical theme are welcome and are not dictated by the plenary session. Session organizers will be responsible for selecting speakers and organizing abstracts. There are several format options, such as sessions, workshops, or roundtable discussions and these can either be half-day (6-10 papers) or full-day sessions (12-18 papers). Individuals should contact session organizers for participation in a specific themed session.

The deadline for paper abstracts is 15 February, 2009. The list of sessions is now on the TAG website:


To submit a paper, please review the list of sessions, choose one whose theme fits your paper, and contact the session organizers directly with your paper abstract.

Stanford TAG 2009 organizational committee

<TAG2009@stanford.edu>
Please send summaries of your recent research to the appropriate geographical coordinator listed below. Photographs and other illustrations are encouraged. Please submit summaries as Word or text-only files. Submit illustrations as separate files (.jpeg preferred, 300 dpi or greater resolution).

AFRICA
  Kenneth G. Kelly, University of South Carolina, <kenneth.kelly@sc.edu>

ASIA
  Edward W. Gonzalez-Tennent, University of Otago, <gonzaleztennent.ed@gmail.com>

AUSTRALASIA AND ANTARCTICA
  Susan Piddock, Flinders University, <s.piddock@ozemail.com.au>
  Robert Ferguson, Parks Canada, <rob.ferguson@pc.gc.ca>

CANADA-ONTARIO
  Jon K. Jouppien, <jouppien@niagara.com>

CANADA-PRAIRIE (Manitoba, Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan, Yukon and Nunavut)
  Jennifer Hamilton, Parks Canada, <jennifer.hamilton@pc.gc.ca>

CANADA-QUEBEC
  Allison Bain, Universite Laval, <allison.bain@ulaval.ca>

CANADA-WEST (Alberta, British Columbia)
  Rod J. Heitzmann, Parks Canada, <rod.heitzmann@pc.gc.ca>

CARIBBEAN AND BERMUDA
  Frederick H. Smith, College of William and Mary, <fhsmith@wm.edu>

CONTINENTAL EUROPE
  Natascha Mehler, University of Vienna, <natascha.mehler@univie.ac.at>

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND
  James Symonds, ARCUS, Sheffield University, <jsymonds@sheffield.ac.uk>

MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA
  Pedro Paulo Funari, <ppfunari@uol.com.br>

MIDDLE EAST
  Uzi Baram, New College of Florida, <baram@ncf.edu>

UNDERWATER (Worldwide)
  Toni L. Carrell, Ships of Discovery, <tlcarrell@shipsofdiscovery.org>

U.S.A.-ALASKA
  Doreen Cooper, R&D Consulting, <dccooper_99840@yahoo.com>

U.S.A.-CENTRAL PLAINS (Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska)
  Jay Sturdevant, National Park Service, <jsturdevant@nps.gov>

U.S.A.-GULF STATES (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Texas)
  Kathleen H. Cande, Arkansas Archaeological Survey, <kcande@ark.edu>

U.S.A.-MID-ATLANTIC (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia)
  Ben Resnick, GAI Consultants, <b.resnick@gaiconsultants.com>

U.S.A.-MIDWEST (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin)
  Lynn L.M. Evans, Mackinac State Historic Parks, <evansll@michigan.gov>

U.S.A.-NORTHEAST (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont)
  David Starbuck, <dstarbuck@frontiernet.net>

U.S.A.-NORTHERN PLAINS AND MOUNTAIN STATES (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming)
  Steven G. Baker, Centuries Research, <smbaker@montrose.net>

U.S.A.-PACIFIC NORTHWEST (Idaho, Oregon, Washington)
  Robert Cromwell, Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, <Bob_Cromwell@nps.gov>

U.S.A.-PACIFIC WEST (California, Hawaii, Nevada)
  Thad M. Van Bueren, <thadvanbueren@directv.net>

U.S.A.-SOUTHEAST (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee)
  Gifford Waters, Florida Museum of Natural History, <gwaters@flmnh.ufl.edu>

U.S.A.-SOUTHWEST (Arizona, New Mexico, Utah)
  Michael R. Polk, Sagebrush Consultants, <sageb@sagebrushconsultants.com>
Demolition of the homestead was carried out in May 2008, after the interior and exterior of the building were thoroughly investigated and recorded. The building was systematically stripped down to the original 19th-century structure. From historic photographs it was evident that the original building was a two-story building with a lean-to at the rear. This is similar to ‘saltbox’ cottages that were common in the 1840-1860 period. While it is unlikely that the building dates to this period, it was possibly built not long afterwards. Other evidence, such as the nature of the sash windows, which do not have “lugs” that typically came into use in the 1850s, support this approximate construction date. A verandah was also built in this first construction phase.

The most important revelation concerning the original homestead was its construction using hand-mixed concrete. This is very unusual for such an early building. The walls of the building were formed from concrete, as were the floors of the original verandah, which was discovered to extend around the south and east face but not the north, meaning it did not take advantage of the sunlight. The structure was also built on small concrete piles with shingle laid beneath the building. In comparison, the roof was constructed out of timber planks. New Zealand native timber, such as rimu and kauri, were used throughout the original homestead and also in the various extensions. Furthermore, it was discovered that the modern extension on the north elevation had taken advantage of an original concrete lean-to, building the concrete wall up with timber so that it discontinued the sloping roofline and could perform other functions.

The application of buildings archaeology techniques to the Mount Hutt Station homestead has proved very rewarding. The information gained from this exercise will contribute to the knowledge of 19th-century Canterbury buildings and their construction techniques and functions, and provide useful comparative data for similar undertakings in the future.

**Canada - Atlantic**

Rob Ferguson  
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**Prince Edward Island**

*Greenwich, PEI National Park of Canada:*

This year’s project was the culmination of nine years of inventory and investigation at Greenwich, the easternmost extension of PEI NPC, acquired in 2000. Much of the focus in previous years has been on the development of an EM38B geophysical plot covering 2-1/2 km of shoreline and extending 50–100 m inland. The resulting data have been coordinated with a 1764 map showing predeportation Acadian farms of Havre Saint-Pierre, one of the oldest European settlements on the island. This area was occupied by French and Acadian farmers and fishermen from 1720 until 1758, when they were forcibly removed from the island by the British.

The research in 2008 was conducted during four weeks in June as part of an archaeological field school with the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Prince Edward Island. Dr. Richard Forsyth of UPEI and Rob Ferguson of Parks Canada directed the research.

The main focus was on a known farm site for which an exceptional geophysical footprint was recorded. Previous testing on this site had identified a root cellar and a well. This year we expanded on the cellar excavation, and uncovered two midden deposits and a rock dump. The cellar, a simple pit excavated in the sandy soil, had been filled with large rocks in the 20th century. A shotgun shell below these rocks verified that the site had not been leveled by a succession of British farmers but had probably remained as pasture until the present day. The survival of undisturbed Acadian remains in an agricultural setting is rare. It therefore offers significant potential for detailed analysis of the layout and use of an Acadian farm. The larger of the middens preserves a rich deposit of domestic refuse, including fish and domestic mammal and bird bones, as well as typical 18th-century household debris, a mix of British and French ceramics and glass. Precontact Aboriginal remains were also recovered from the midden, evidence of a long occupancy prior to European settlement.

Shovel tests at three other anomalous
Continental Europe

Natascha Mehler
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Shetland Islands

A German Trading site at Gunnister Voe, Shetland Islands (submitted by Mark Gardiner and Natascha Mehler): Beginning in the early 16th century ships of the Hanseatic League, the trading alliance of the major northern German cities, made their way across the North Atlantic to the Shetland Islands. The main item of exchange was dried fish which was obtained at trading places in Norway, Iceland, and the Faroe Islands as well as the Northern Isles of Scotland and brought back to the northern German ports. The character of this trade has yet to be investigated in detail. Although the bare historical outlines are known, the details of the interaction between the merchants from northern Germany who spent three to five months trading fish with the people of the Northern Isles still remain obscure.

The small trading site at Gunnister Voe in the Shetland Islands is one of the better documented trading sites. The right to trade here was granted to Simon Hagerskale of Hamburg in 1582, but was revoked in 1603 because it was said that he had neglected to sail to Gunnister regularly in order to provide people with necessities. This is evidently the Simon Harriestede mentioned in Hamburg records as sailing to the Shetland Islands until 1625. The trading site has been identified as the present-day place known as Hagrid’s Böd in Gunnister Voe, a rocky promontory projecting into the voe (an inlet or bay). Immediately behind the promontory is a beach with an enclosure which would have been suitable for landing boats bringing dried fish to exchange.

In September 2008 excavations by a team composed of participants from Queen’s University of Belfast (GB) and the Roman-Germanic Commission of the German Archaeological Institute (D) examined the site and revealed the surviving two walls of the böd or booth (see figures). However, deposits below the floor level contained pottery of the 18th or 19th century, suggesting the site continued to be used or more probably had been reoccupied when the adjoining crofts at the Setter of Enisferth were established. The building is shown as abandoned on an 1881 Ordnance Survey plan, though the remains were evidently clear enough for the surveyors to map them. The excavations have been carried out as part of an international research project on the operation of international trade in Iceland and the Shetland Islands (OITIS) from about 1400 to 1700.

Austria

Gold Mining and Smelting in the Alps: The gold deposits of the Hohe Tauern, one of the highest ranges of the eastern Alps, figured considerably in Austria’s economic history during the later Middle Ages and the early modern period. A number of the mining and refining sites and slag dumps remain visible to the present day. The mining areas were located in the high mountains, while the smelting plants were established in the valleys.

One of the Hohe Tauern gold-smelting plants has been excavated over the last few years by the Department of Prehistoric and Historical Archaeology at the University of Vienna. The site is located in the Anger Valley close to Bad Gastein, about 1300 m above sea level. The excavated features include three furnaces dating to the 16th
century. A smithy and living quarters of the miners have been documented during previous excavations at Lake Bockhart in the Goldberg Mountains in the near vicinity. The smithy’s purpose was to produce and repair the tools required for the mining and smelting process.

Archaeological excavations and historical records help to paint a detailed picture of the early modern gold mining industry of the Hohe Tauern. After the gold ore was extracted from the mountains it was hacked at the mine and then transported down into the valley by pack animals. There, at the furnaces, the ore was smelted and the gold extracted and distributed further afterwards.

The funnel furnaces were erected on solid fundaments and are still standing; they are approximately 1.2 m in height. They are situated next to a stream which operated a mill wheel (which has been dendrochronologically dated to the early 16th century) that drove the bellows. The necessary charcoal was produced in the surrounding area and some of the slag was used for paving the paths that connected the features.

Amongst the finds are two metal lumps that according to archaeometallurgical analysis contain a considerable amount of lead and silver and thus are evidence of cupellation, the process by which noble metals are separated from base metals in an oxygen-deficient atmosphere at a temperature of more than 1000° Celsius.

For more details see Brigitte Cech, Spätmittelalterliche bis frühneuzeitliche Edelmetallgewinnung in den hohen Tauern. Monographien des Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums 70 (Stuttgart: 2007); contact: <claudia.theune@univie.ac.at> or <brigitte.cech@univie.ac.at>; and see website: http://histarch.univie.ac.at/index.php?id=24841

Great Britain and Ireland

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England

Tinsley Towers, Sheffield: Archaeologists from ARCUS at the University of Sheffield created a permanent record of two iconic cooling towers in Sheffield before they were demolished in August 2008. The towers had been redundant for over 20 years, but their proximity to a major tow-tier viaduct carrying the M1 motorway and other trunk roads had prevented their demolition until suitable explosion techniques could be developed. The cooling towers, which were built in 1938, were the oldest of their type in the UK. To help mark the event, the team from ARCUS photographed the towers and worked with the power company that owned them to create a small exhibition, a commemorative booklet, and a set of postcards. A rare source of archive photographs was found that was used to chart the construction of the tower and the associated power station.

In October 1916, a report was commissioned to determine the suitability of several sites for construction of a new power station in Sheffield. This would satisfy the city’s increasing demand for power, and be crucial for the growth of industry in the Lower Don Valley. The site at Blackburn Meadows was chosen and the Sheffield Corporation Bill went before the House of Commons, and was adopted in 1917.

The site fell outside the Sheffield city limits and a series of land exchanges was eventually negotiated with Rotherham to allow the power station to be contained within the boundaries of Sheffield. Construction began in 1918. Eight generators and 40 boilers were installed: the plant required the largest amount of circulating water of any modern power station at the time. In dry weather the flow of water in the River Don was not enough to supply the condensers, so cooling towers were proposed. These would recirculate the water through the plant, and would be used in times when the river was too low. The Blackburn Meadows Power Generating Station was opened in 1921 by HRH the Duke of York.

As Sheffield and her industry expanded, the need for electricity kept on
growing, and a second generating station was opened in 1933. Greater generating capacity required greater water cooling facilities—in 1937–1938, cooling towers 6 and 7, the ‘Tinsley Towers,’ were built. These were in a new style designed by LG Mouchel and Partners. Their distinctive hyperbolic curve made them very different from the existing square towers. The walls, a mere 12 cm thick, were formed of poured and reinforced concrete. The banding and perforations at the tops of the towers are unusual, and may have been experimental design features. The site seems to have attracted engineering innovation. In 1968 the Tinsley Viaduct brought the M1 and the A631 across the Don Valley. This two-tier bridge was the first of its kind in the UK, and was built at a cost of £6 million.

The electricity industry was nationalized in 1948, ending Sheffield Corporation’s connection with Blackburn Meadows. Postcards (presentation set of 10) and booklets are available, for £5 each from:
Anna Badcock
ARCUS, Unit R6, Riverside Block
Sheaf Bank Business Park
Prospect Road
Sheffield S2 3EN
United Kingdom
email: <a.badcock@sheffield.ac.uk>

All funds raised from the sale of these will be donated to the Rotherham Hospice and Neurocare at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield.

Underwater News (Worldwide)
Toni Carrell
<tlcarrell@shipsofdiscovery.org>

New Mexico

NPS, Submerged Cultural Resources Center: The two main projects the National Park Service’s Submerged Resources Center (NPS-SRC) continued in 2007 were the USS Arizona Preservation Project and a multiyear study of inundated and emergent historic and prehistoric sites at Lake Mead National Recreation Area. In addition, we participated in 14 projects of varying duration at parks such as Channel Islands NP, Isle Royale NP, and Biscayne NP. Finally, SRC continued the initial phase of a joint NPS/NOAA/UC-Berkeley project in Point Reyes National Seashore to locate and evaluate historical shipwrecks in Drakes Bay.

The NPS-SRC continued to compile a draft report on USS Arizona in Pearl Harbor, HI as part of a multiyear, interdisciplinary project to characterize critical processes affecting Arizona, develop a predictive engineering model to calculate diminishing structural integrity over time, and produce a long-term preservation plan for the battleship including management alternatives. This is an issue that continues to attract the attention of managers and the general public due to the iconic nature of the wreck and the ongoing seepage of oil from the ship’s fuel bunkers.

The SRC also continued work on submerged sites in Lake Mead National Recreation Area, including a B-29 Superfortress in 150 ft. of water and industrial sites associated with Hoover Dam construction approximately 120–140 ft. deep. Daniel Lenihan was project director and Dave Conlin was field director.

SRC continued to consult with NPS archaeologists and resource and project managers on removal of the wreck of the ferry Ellis Island from the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Immigration Museum. Removal of the wreck is a priority for the park prior to rehabilitation of the seawall and south side development at Ellis Island. Conlin is working closely with park and regional personnel, as well as the New York and New Jersey SHPO offices, to develop a documentation plan for wreck removal in 2008.

SRC is also closely involved in the planning and review of proposed dredging activities in the upper Hudson River adjacent to Saratoga National Historical Park, NY. The upper Hudson River was heavily contaminated with PCBs originating at the General Electric facility in Fort Edward. Proposed dredging activities will likely have an adverse effect on submerged resources in the river and SRC is working closely with the park, General Electric, and the Environmental Protection Agency to mitigate these impacts.

Finally, SRC continued the preliminary phases of a joint NPS/NOAA/UC-Berkeley project to locate, document, and evaluate submerged cultural resources in Drakes Bay, CA within Point Reyes National Seashore. Remote sensing in 1997–1998 resulted in location of dozens of buried magnetic anomalies that have not yet been evaluated. The planned project will begin anomaly investigation in a phased approach beginning in 2008. At the same time, Russell began to evaluate museum collections of 16th-century artifacts from the Spanish Manila galleon San Augustin excavated from terrestrial Coast Miwok sites in the 1940s and 1950s in an ongoing reanalysis of the material.

Washington, DC

Naval Historical Center (NHC), Underwa-mite Archaeology Branch (UAB): The NHC’s UAB assists the Director of Naval History and the Department of the Navy in all matters related to the science of underwater archaeology and the identification, research, interpretation, preservation, conservation, inventory, and management of the U.S. Navy’s historic ship and aircraft wrecks and their associated contents. These cultural resources fall under the protection of the U.S. government and the jurisdiction of the U.S. Navy (USN). With the recent additions of Alexis Catsambis and George Schwarz, and following a reorganization of the Naval Historical Center (NHC), UAB has extended its capabilities and scope and is actively engaging in a number of areas. Beyond ensuring USN compliance with the federal archaeology program and promoting public outreach and education, during the past year UAB has focused its attention on the few key aspects outlined below.

Sunken Military Craft Act: Perhaps the most significant undertaking the UAB has been involved with in recent months has been the drafting and review of the regulations for the Sunken Military Craft act (SMCa). The SMCa is important in the protection of the USN’s underwater cultural heritage because it ensures that the U.S. maintains the right, title, and interest in and to any U.S. sunken military ship or aircraft regardless of the passage of time, without express divestiture of title. In addition, protection is afforded against disturbance, removal, or injury to sunken U.S. military craft, and their associated contents, wherever they may be located. The act also provides a mechanism for permitting intrusive archaeological investigation of sites for approved purposes and puts in place civil enforcement measures to prevent unauthorized disturbance. Finally, the act encourages bilateral and multilateral agreements with foreign countries for the protection of sunken military craft; upon request by a foreign state, permitting regulations that apply to U.S. military craft may be extended to any sunken military craft of that foreign state located in U.S. waters.

This latter section of the act recognizes that the U.S. has much to gain from reciprocal agreements with other states with regard to the protection of sunken military craft. While the UAB maintains a database identifying more than 1,400 USN sunken military ships and almost 6,500 aircraft that are located or believed to be located within U.S. waters, more than 1,600 ships and nearly 8,500 aircraft are believed to lie outside these waters.

Permit Granting: Under current regulations 32 CFR 767, the UAB has also been occupied with reviewing and granting permits to conduct archaeological research on...
USN sunken craft. A recent case involved
the survey for USS Chippewa (1815–1816)
and USS Onkahye (1840–1848) conducted
by Ships of Discovery in the Turks and
Caicos Islands. The expedition was able
to locate the wreck site of USS Chippewa,
and is planning on returning next year to
document the site and continue the search
for USS Onkahye. Another recent project
that was permitted involved the recovery
of artifacts from USS Saginaw by members
of NOAA’s Office of Marine Sanctuaries.
The lead sounding weight and bell that
were raised are now undergoing conserva-
tion and will be exhibited to the public; for-
warding the public outreach and education
mission of both organizations.

Bonhomme Richard Survey Project: For
the past few years the UAB and Ocean
Technology Foundation (OTF) have been
actively searching for the remains of Bon-
homme Richard, flagship of American na-
val officer John Paul Jones. Jones’s vessel,
a French East Indianman turned warship, sank in the North Sea in
1779 after the famous encounter
with the 44-gun HMS Serapis at the
Battle of Flamborough Head. The
battle ensued after Jones, who had spent several weeks captur-
ing or sinking British vessels off
the British Isles, spotted and enga-
ged a Baltic convoy that was
instrumental for maintaining Eng-
land’s naval dockyards. For three
and a half hours the battle raged
at point-blank range, and though
Jones emerged the victor, Bon-
homme Richard could not be sailed.
As Jones transferred his wounded
men to the captured Serapis, he
watched his own ship list and sink from the tremendous damage her
hull had sustained.

Previous surveys conducted by OTF in
conjunction with NHC were executed in
2006 and 2007, but proved inconclusive.
This past summer, with the assistance of
the U.S. Navy Submarine Force, the survey
team applied the technology of the nuclear
research submarine NR1. Incorporating the
sonar devices and virtually nonstop opera-
tional capabilities of NR1, the mission was
to survey predetermined grids which were
plotted in the software program ArcGIS.

Other collaborators include Peter Reave-
ley, a researcher who has been analyzing
the Battle of Flamborough Head and the
sinking of Bonhomme Richard for 35 years,
and Dr. Peter Guth, Professor of Oceano-
graphy at the Naval Academy in Annapolis,
who created the computer program that
generated the team’s drift models.

Using the research conducted by the
team over the past several years, drift mod-
els were created which suggested the most
likely directions in which the battered Bon-
homme Richard would have been carried
before its eventual sinking. With the assis-
tance of the United Kingdom Hydrograph-
ic Office (UKHO), OTF was able to obtain
hydrographic data for the projected search
area. The data provided by the UKHO in-
cluded GIS positions for shipwrecks, bot-
tom features such as sand waves and oil
pipelines, trawl marks, and fishermen’s
obstructions. Using ArcGIS to plot the
known wrecks in the search area, the team
was able to designate priority search grids
which could be relayed from the support
vessel to the operators of the submarine via
UHF radio.

NR1 was the primary survey vessel for
this expedition. It is equipped with an Ob-
stacle Avoidance Sonar (OAS) as well as side scan sonar. With these devices, NR1
was able to detect shipwrecks and debris
fields within the ranges of the sonar that
were lying on the sea bed. Ferrous obstacles
showed up as amorphous red contacts on
the OAS, indicating iron objects. Large blue
contacts on the OAS were possible signs of
shipwrecks, and were tracked and investi-
gated at the opportune time. NR1’s equip-
ment was able to detect numerous potential
targets which were examined in detail. In-
vestigation of each target consisted of mak-
ing several passes around the shipwreck,
recording extensive video from multiple
video cameras, documenting archaeologi-
cal features based on video and viewpoint
observations, and capturing well-defined
side scan images.

During the latter part of the field sea-
son a magnetometer became available
for use. Because Bonhomme Richard is esti-
...
that was previously performed by the Curator Branch. Recently, a loan program was implemented and the artifacts from various submerged Navy sites have been put on loan to national and international museums, including La Cité de la Mer (France) and the Museum of Mobile (AL). These loan agreements were designed to ensure not only that important and interesting Navy artifacts are made available for public display and study, but also that they are routinely monitored for condition assessment and safekeeping.

The UAB looks forward to furthering its efforts in preserving and sharing the Navy’s underwater cultural heritage through the continuation of ongoing initiatives and further collaborations with institutions that share in the NHC’s objectives. Future projects range from the publication of important reports on H. L. Hunley and the D-Day Landings to developing projects that will highlight the Navy’s contribution to the War of 1812 in the upcoming bicentennial commemoration. For more information on the NHC and the UAB, please visit our soon-to-be-renovated website, http://history.navy.mil.

Australia

Maritime Archaeology Program, Flinders University: The Maritime Archaeology Program, in conjunction with the Flinders University Department of Archaeology, Australasian Institute of Maritime Archaeology (AIMA), Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology (ASHA), and Australian Association for Maritime History (AAMH), organized and hosted the 2008 AIMA/ASHA/AAMH Annual Archaeology Conference in Adelaide, SA. The conference theme, “Archaeology from Below: Engaging the Public,” was derived from the 1960s movement “History from Below,” which motivated historians to shift their focus from topics such as great men, big wars, and political elites to subjects that previously had been neglected such as women, children, the urban and rural poor, immigrants, and ethnic minorities. Over 130 attendees took part in the conference, which included more than 70 presenters in nine sessions covering a variety of topics and themes. The conference also featured six distinguished international guest speakers, a free public presentation about the discovery of the Australian warship HMS Sydney (II), and interactive workshops. James Hunter, a new Ph.D. student in the Maritime Archaeology Program, won the Best Student Paper Award at the conference for his presentation “One-Hit Wonders: The ‘Russian Scare’ and the Rise of Colonial Australasian Torpedo Boats.”

Flinders University researchers Jennifer McKinnon and Jason Raupp teamed up with Australian National University researcher Daryl Guse to investigate Macassan maritime industries that once occurred in Anuru Bay, Arnhem Land, Northern Territory. This is an important aspect to understanding Indigenous Australian interaction with the Macassans and the depictions of these people and their watercraft in the area’s rock art record. For two weeks researchers conducted excavations at Macassan treepang (sea slug) processing sites, conducted marine surveys within intertidal areas, and surveyed the natural and cultural features of the land and seascape for Macassan and Indigenous Australian maritime heritage. This survey and excavation of Macassan sites is the first research-driven investigation into Macassan activities in 30 years.

Maritime Archaeology Program Ph.D. student Claire Dappert received a Flinders University Overseas Traveling Fellowship, a prestigious and competitive award bestowed annually on one university doctoral candidate. As part of her fellowship, Dappert interned with the PAST Foundation under the direction of Dr. Sheli Smith to analyze and interpret the artifact collection recovered from Frolic, a shipwreck excavated by the PAST Foundation in 2003 and 2004. The fellowship also enabled her to conduct research in a number of museums and libraries, including the Peabody Essex Museum, U.S. Library of Congress, U.S. National Archives, and New York Public Library, as well as consult with archaeologists affiliated with several state agencies and university programs. Dappert intends to complete her dissertation in early 2009.

New Maritime Archaeology Program staff member Amer Khan was lead trainer at the UNESCO Advanced Training of Trainers Workshop, held between 20 March and 10 April 2008, in Galle, Sri Lanka. The 3-week workshop included a number of archaeology and cultural heritage management instructors from the Asia-Pacific region, as well as 14 participants from Sri Lanka.

Ph.D. student Jun Kimura is currently engaged in a number of projects related to his thesis topic. His primary focus is the archaeological study of medieval East Asian shipwrecks, an interest that originated from his experience working at the Mongolian invasion site in Japan. He is working in cooperation with the Institute of Nautical Archaeology at Texas A&M University to investigate an historic battle site associated with the Mongolian invasion of Vietnam. Jun is also developing a regional shipwreck resource on the Internet in collaboration with other East Asian researchers; this project is fully supported by the Toyota Foundation in Japan.

In October the Australian Research Council (ARC) released the results for ARC Linkage Grant funding in 2009. The Maritime Archaeology Program’s proposal, “The South Australian Historical and Maritime Archaeology Management Project,” was awarded total funding of $78,420 for the years 2009-2011. The Maritime Archaeology Program received support in this endeavor from research partners in the South Australian Department of Environment and Heritage, South Australian Maritime Museum, and Archaeological & Heritage Management Solutions. The funding will be used in part to support Flinders doctoral student Adam Paterson, who will take up an APAI postgraduate scholarship in 2009.

Canada

Underwater Archaeology Service (UAS) Parks Canada: The field season began in April 2007 when a team from Parks Canada’s Underwater Archaeology Service (UAS) team conducted a 1-week side scan sonar survey of the Hamilton and Scourge Shipwreck Site in Lake Ontario. These armed American schooners sank during a sudden squall in August 1813 near the mouth of the Niagara River. Discovered in 1973, they have been the subject of intermittent archaeological investigation since then, notably in 1982 and 1990. The UAS provides underwater archaeological guidance and expertise to the City of Hamilton and is working closely with another of the city’s technical partners, ASI Group of St. Catharines, ON. Using its Klein 3000 side scan sonar, the UAS and ASI completed a sonar mosaic of a 2 x 1.2 km area encompassing the wrecks as well as close-up imaging passes of each wreck and their immediate debris fields. Results from the sonar survey are being added to a site GIS and will be scrutinized to extract accurate scale dimension data on the wrecks, which will greatly assist in the planning for a series of ROV inspection dives planned for 2008.

In May and June the UAS returned to the Trent-Severn Waterway National Historic Site of Canada. The 6-week project marked the final year of the submerged cultural resource inventory of the waterway. Highlights of this year’s survey include the documentation of a shipwreck graveyard in Peterborough; the side scan sonar survey from Campbellford to Trenton; and the monitoring of a prehistoric weir site at Sunset Bay. With the majority of the fieldwork complete, the focus is now on inputting the data into a GIS and report writing.

Also in June the UAS trained for one week at Fathom Five National Marine Park,
building on last year’s experience using closed-circuit rebreathers. This training included a skills refresher, photo and video work, and the reconnaissance of several wreck sites in anticipation of the monitoring work in the fall.

In June and July, the UAS continued an earlier side scan sonar survey initiated in 2004 in Lake Superior. A 3-week field project focused on inventorying a shipwreck graveyard dating to 1936 when over three dozen derelicts were removed from the nearby harbors of Port Arthur and Fort William, neighboring municipalities which later amalgamated into the present-day city of Thunder Bay. An area in excess of 5 x 5 km was systematically surveyed in 2007 with nine of the wrecks, lying at depths beyond 250 feet, ultimately being examined by ROV. The most significant vessel remains to be identified were those of the Druid, a Confederate blockade runner built in Scotland in 1856. In the course of the U.S. Civil War, Druid completed eight successful smuggling runs between Charleston, SC and Nassau in the Bahamas. At war’s end, Druid was sold to the new Dominion Government of Canada, which operated the vessel for the following 35 years. The object of the 2007 Lake Superior survey was to determine the overall extent of the graveyard site and to assess the historical value of the various derelicts interred therein to see if this collection of wrecks potentially merited inclusion in the new Lake Superior National Marine Conservation area announced by the prime minister in October.

A 2-week field project was conducted in August in the Mingen Archipelago National Park Reserve of Canada. The Mingen Archipelago is located on the north shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence in the Province of Québec, approximately 225 km east of Sept-Îles. The more than 1,000 islands and coastal islets are spread over a 150 km long territory of approximately 112 km2. This territory has been occupied for 6,000 years and testimonies of European presence go back to the Basques and then the French who established a trading post in the late 17th century. In the mid-19th century, more permanent settlements were established by fishermen coming mainly from the Magdalen Islands and Acadia. The objectives of the 2-year project planned for 2007 and 2008 are to document shipwreck remains to support the upcoming interpretation of the two lighthouses of the archipelago (1888 and 1915). The 2007 campaign’s aim was to test the methodology and to familiarize the team with the diving and remote sensing conditions. The oldest shipwreck documented in the archives is the Clyde, an 1857 steamer with propeller, although there are likely to be older wrecks. The 2007 work yielded interesting results: two possible new sections of hull of the Clyde were identified with side scan sonar as well as what seems to be the anchor.

In September a UAS team of Jonathan Moore and Ryan Harris returned to Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve and Haida Heritage Site (Queen Charlotte Islands, BC) for two weeks. The UAS is working with Parks Canada archaeologist Daryl Fedje and his colleague Dr. Quentin Mackie of the University of Victoria to locate submerged prehistoric sites on drowned landscapes dating to 11,000 years BP that are found at depths of approximately 130 ft. (40 m). This year’s objective was to use a Klein 3000 side scan sonar and integrated S3000 ‘Chirp’ sub-bottom profiler to map the outline of a submerged lake as well as to conduct ROV inspection dives in high-priority areas. The UAS was fortunate to have Garry Kozak of L3-Klein Associates accompany the team and provide the above-mentioned sub-bottom profiler gear. The UAS plans to return next year to conduct subsurface bottom sampling in search of archaeological sites.

The final project of the season took place in September and October when the UAS revisited Tobermory to conduct Shipwreck Monitoring at Fathom Five National Marine Park (FFNMP). The Historic Resource Conservation Branch of Parks Canada first instituted this program back in 1992. Over these last fifteen years, staff members from Parks Canada (Archaeological and Historical Conservation, Analytical Services, UAS, FFNMP), Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI), Technical Operations of the National Water Research Institute, and volunteers have collected the data for the monitoring program. Archaeological and Historical Conservation, Analytical Services, and the UAS will analyze the results in the coming year, and provide recommendations to FFNMP.

The summer of 2007 was very busy for Parks Canada’s NAS tutor team. Four introductory courses, three Level 1 courses and one Level 2 course were given. Courses were used to support partners including the new Save Ontario Shipwrecks (SOS) Montreal-based chapter and the Groupe de préservation des vestiges subaquatiques de Manicouagan (GPVSM) who participated with Parks Canada in the 1996–1997 excavation of the Elizabeth and Mary (1690) in Baie-Trinite, Québec. Courses were also used to help promote the proposed National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA) in the Magdalen Islands, also in Québec. In May, Chris Underwood of NAS and Marc-André Bernier of Parks Canada trained new tutors from the NOAA Marine Sanctuary Program. The training was held in Alpena, MI, at the NOAA Thunder Bay Marine Sanctuary facilities.

Of particular significance this year is the publication of The Underwater Archaeology of Red Bay. This report primarily describes the excavation and research conducted on the 16th-century Basque whaling vessel in Red Bay, Labrador, believed to be the San Juan (1565). This five-volume work is available for purchase, in both French and English editions.

UNESCO Committee News

The 2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (Convention) will enter into force on 2 January 2009. This milestone has been achieved according to Article 27 in the Convention, whereby it enters into force three months after deposit of the 20th instrument of ratification, acceptance, or approval by Member States of UNESCO. On 2 October 2008, Barbados became the 20th State Party to accept the 2001 Convention. The first 20 States to join have the privilege of appointing a Technical and Scientific Advisory Body. As each subsequent country ratifies, after a 3-month waiting period, the Convention will also apply to that country.

UNESCO classifies the world into five regional areas: Africa, Arab States, Asia and Pacific, Europe and North America, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The 20 countries that have joined the 2001 Convention include: Panama (20/05/03), Bulgaria (06/10/03), Croatia (01/12/04), Spain (06/06/05), Libya Arab Jamahiriya (23/06/05), Nigeria (21/10/05), Lithuania (12/06/06), Mexico (05/07/06), Paraguay (07/09/06), Portugal (21/09/06), Ecuador (01/12/06), Ukraine (27/12/06), Lebanon (08/01/07), Saint Lucia (01/02/07), Romania (31/07/07), Cambodia (24/11/07), Cuba (26/05/08), Montenegro (18/07/08), Slovenia (18/09/08), and Barbados (02/10/08). Three-quarters of the signatories are from Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean. So far, there are no ratifications by North American countries.

In 1999, the Society for Historical Archaeology established the UNESCO Committee to monitor development and negotiation of this Convention. With its adoption at the 31st General Conference of UNESCO in 2001, the committee’s role changed to supporting its international ratification and implementation, and the adoption of its Annex as a best practices document even in areas where ratification is unlikely. The coming into force of the 2001 Convention marks the important third stage in its history, and the beginning of a process whereby it becomes a truly international instrument for the protection and management of the
world’s fragile, finite, and irreplaceable underwater cultural heritage.

U.S.A. - Alaska

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Community Archaeology at the Baranov Museum, Kodiak, Alaska (submitted by Mark S. Cassell, Territory Heritage Resource Consulting, Anchorage): During the last ten days of June 2008, the Baranov Museum of Kodiak sponsored a community archaeology project on its property and in the adjacent Sargent Park to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the A.D. 1808 construction of the Russian-America Company magazin (warehouse), which houses the Baranov Museum. Also known as the Erskine House National Historic Landmark, the magazin is the oldest standing building in Alaska and the earliest documented wooden building on the U.S. West Coast. The Baranov Museum Bicentennial Archaeology Project was coordinated with its Kodiak Historical Museum Bicentennial Archaeology Project (known as the Katmai eruption). Mr. and Mrs. Erskine resided in the magazin building until their deaths in the 1940s. Next to the Erskine’s magazin residence, the Sargent family built their house about 1910.

World War II brought tens of thousands of American military personnel to Kodiak Island and the city, and the expansion of the city that had proceeded at a modest pace since 1792 suddenly exploded in a frenzy of development. Residential, commercial, and agency buildings were set up in the study block. Tenants radically used the magazin for residential and/or commercial purposes into the 1960s, and the building soon fell into disrepair.

The 1964 Good Friday earthquake in south Alaska created a tsunami that leveled much of Kodiak, spawning what is locally known as the “urban renewal” period: much of the existing city was bulldozed to remove traces of prior unplanned development and to begin anew. The magazin and adjacent block, located on a low bluff in Kodiak, were not damaged by the tsunami. Nonetheless, existing structures on the study block were razed during “urban renewal,” leaving only the magazin standing. The rapidly deteriorating building found its salvation in the 1967 creation of a community museum there by the Kodiak Historical Society. Enclosing the area that once contained a microcosm of life in Kodiak, the current grass-covered Sargent Park was created in 1980, with only a modicum of hand grubbing to modestly level the ground surface.

Period illustrations, maps, and photographs from the 1790s into the 1950s describe a burgeoning and then-vibrant social and material landscape in the study block surrounding the magazin, as represented by the presence of and changes in numerous buildings, fences, and roads. This archival background, together with known artifact finds on the property, formed the basis for the excavation areas. Four locations were chosen for excavation on the museum and park properties. To the north of the magazin, two 1 x 1 m units were picked due to the suspected proximity to the annex collapse after the 1912 ashfall; it was hoped that these units would yield information concerning the building interior vs. exterior due to changes in construction and ashfall content. Two 1 x 1 m units were opened to the northwest of the magazin to see what might exist amidst the structures shown there in period graphics. West of the magazin, near the back door of the former Sargent house, two 1 x 1 m units were laid out to see if any remains could be found directly related to the Sargent tenure. Finally, two adjacent sets of two 1 x 1 m units were opened immediately south of the magazin, as gardening activities a couple years back had yielded a number of Russian-era materials there.

In the north excavations, we did find the remains of the collapsed magazin an-
nex, with clear distinctions in assemblage and the 1912 ashfall delineating exterior from interior. As digging progressed, we encountered a dense layer of worked-wood fragment in muddy soils, a matrix which also included broken flat glass, ceramics, and an Alutiiq woven spruce-root basket in remarkably good condition and likely dating to the early 19th century. Local spruce-root weavers examined the basket after its removal, exulted over its integrity and intricacy, and speculated that about two full years were required from the root gathering to basket completion. (The Alutiiq basket is currently in conservation.) Further excavation into the wet soils found boulders and more wood, and discovered the reason for the character of the muddy assemblage: the area was a former wetland, and the wood, boulders, and midden material (including the basket) were deposited to reclaim it.

In the northwest excavations, we found a scene of destruction, with tumbled and broken concrete and lumber; Russian-era ceramics were found in upper layers and a plastic straw was found toward the bottom. This represented the post-tsunami "urban renewal," the bulldozing of existing postwar development. At the very bottom were found numerous Russian-era materials, clearly below the limit of destruction.

In the west excavations, we found an upper layer of dirt overburden over an intact layer of sod, under which lay domestic material culture items dating to the late 19th to mid-20th century, including numerous toys. The sod is the 1964 surface (remarkably undisturbed in the chaos of razings), and the underlying artifact assemblage likely represents the ca. 1910-1964 Sargent occupancy. (Excavations here were appropriately halted early by HAZWOPER-certified Grover due to petroleum hydrocarbons showing up in the unit after rains flooded it.)

In the south excavations, only a few meters from the standing magazin, we found a gunflint, and then an intact spruce plank floor on which it sat. Opening units nearby, we found a wood sill and another intact floor section, oriented sufficiently askew from the first to consider it a separate floor. Both floors are well below the level of the magazin. We had thus found two buildings in a location none had been documented previously. The many early illustrations and later photographs existing of the locale since the 1790s depict no buildings here before 1808 and only the magazin here after 1808. Or so we thought: a closer look at a ca. 1796 drawing by the reliable observer James Shields shows three small buildings immediately south of where the magazin would later stand. It appears that the plank floors may represent two of these pre-magazin buildings, and if so, are the earliest remains found of RAC presence in Kodiak (the spruce plank floors were left intact).

While excavating the units containing the second spruce floor, we encountered an intact line of rocks immediately below the present sod. Knowing that this area held one of the numerous Erskine gardens, we asked after a photograph of her gardens. One was found from ca. 1920-1930 showing a rock-bordered garden path. We had found Mrs. Erskine’s garden path, lying undisturbed though decades of development. For much of the Kodiak community, in which the Erskine tenure is still fondly recalled by the many people who knew them, this discovery was understandably the highlight of the project. (Mrs. Erskine’s garden path border was left undisturbed.)

When Dr. Clark arrived at the Baranov Museum for this project, he stood on the little bluff overlooking the sea just a stone’s throw away and said, “This part of Kodiak wasn’t hit by the tsunami. And it’s good access to the water. If there’s a prehistoric site anywhere in town, it’s here.” And he was correct: on the final day of the project, while digging through soils below and outside the spruce plank floors, we found many red jasper flakes. These appear to date to the pre-European Early Kachemak period of ca. 1900–200 B.C., and likely earlier in that period.

It is not a surprise that about 4000 years of history exist at this part of Kodiak. It is remarkable that this project was able to document the long trajectory of human land use, from Early Kachemak to the existing landscape, at this little place with such a small archaeological excavation sample. This is a testament to the tremendous resource presence within this little acre of history surrounding the Baranov Museum.

U.S.A - Gulf States
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Arkansas

Archaeological Investigations at the Mazzanti Site (3CH187), Lake Chicot, Arkansas (submitted by William McAlexander):
Staff from the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department investigated an 1830s–1970s domestic site along the bank of Lake Chicot in southeast Arkansas from 2006 to 2008. Work included extensive archival research, informant interviews, metal detector survey, shovel testing of an agricultural field, and excavation of a series of 50 x 50 cm column samples. Approximately 1,058 liters of material was excavated.

The archival search indicated that the property was owned by Chester Ashley from around the mid-1830s until his death in 1848. Ashley was a prominent lawyer, land speculator, slave owner, and politician who lived in Little Rock, AR in the early to mid-19th century.

Site 3CH187 contained artifacts mostly from the early 19th century up through current times. Excavations revealed four distinct episodes; a prehistoric, an early-19th-century, a late-19th-century, and an early-20th-century occupation.

Excavations were geared towards garnering information about the earlier 1830s-1840s component. The site is in some way associated with an absentee landowner antebellum plantation. Unfortunately, neither archival nor archaeological information was uncovered that would help with determination of either an overseer or slave habitation. The only architectural information that could be gleaned was from square nails, indicating the structure may have been wood framed.

Ceramics were used to date the site. Fine wares included pearlware, whiteware, and porcelain with mocha, flow blue, blue sheldedge, and blue, black, brown, and green transfer-printed decorations. Coarse wares included stoneware, redware, yellow

Volume 41: Number 4 Winter 2008 Page 26
ware, and white ironstone with a variety of glazes, slips, and banding. Commercial wares, ceramics produced for the distribution and transfer of goods in a market atmosphere, included an unidentified impressed stoneware bottle fragment and three pieces from a ginger beer bottle.

One interesting artifact recovered was an 1834 congressional campaign button. Arkansas was still a territory at that time, as it did not attain statehood until 1836. The front of the button is plain. An outer inscription on the back reads “E PLURIBUS UNUM” and an inner one reads “...iton.” Alphaeus Albert (1976:424) describes it as a “backname button, with plain front; H. Meriton.”

Nail plot data indicate that a long rectangular structure later sat on the site. During the metal detector survey, a mule shoe, a possible shoeing nail, and a harness buckle were recovered. The late-19th-century structure was most likely a mule barn.

Column sample profiles show that the site was occupied before and after the 1927 flood. There was a 3 to 10 cm layer of yellowish brown silt sandwiched between two middens containing 20th-century artifacts. This silt layer was thicker on the east and west ends, but narrowed beneath the upper midden. This would suggest that a portion of the flood deposits were removed prior to reoccupation.

While the Mazzanti site has not revealed specific information as to changes in historic lifeways along Lake Chicot, it has revealed reoccupation and use in an agricultural tradition. The site will be monitored during construction in order to document any previously unidentified cultural resources.

Reference Cited

Albert, Alphaeus H. 1976 Record of American Uniform and Historical Buttons. SCS Publications, Fairfax, VA.

New Book from Historic Washington State Park: Digging for History at Old Washington, a book highlighting archaeology at Historic Washington State Park in Arkansas, will be published by the University of Arkansas Press in 2009. Mary Kwas, the book’s author and research associate with the Arkansas Archeological Survey, drew on earlier technical reports and also contributed original research on two families whose house sites were the focus of the archaeological work. The book is intended for the general public and should be available by early spring. For further information, go to http://www.uark.edu/~uaprinfo/.

New Journal Issue on Arkansas: A special issue, “Historical Archeology in Arkansas,” will be published by the Arkansas Historical Quarterly as their winter 2008 issue. This is the first time an entire issue of the journal will feature historical archaeology. Included will be papers on the town of Old Davidsonville, hotels in Texarkana, sunken riverboats, cemeteries, an Ozark mill site, and a Civil War battlefield. For information on the journal, check the website at http://www.uark.edu/depts/archist/home/quarter.html.

Louisiana

St. Antoine’s Garden 2008 (16OR443) (submitted by Shannon L. Dawdy and Jason Ramsey, University of Chicago): From June to July 2008, Shannon Dawdy, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Chicago, headed the St. Antoine’s Garden Archaeology Project in association with the St. Louis Cathedral and New Orleans Archdiocese, with funding from the Getty Foundation. Nine University of Chicago students and over 15 local volunteers assisted with the excavation.

The project consisted of archaeological investigations of the garden space between Royal Street and St. Louis Cathedral in the French Quarter. Project members collected phytolith and flotation samples to aid in the reconstruction of diet and planting practices in the space from the French colonial period through to the mid-20th century and to answer questions regarding the long-term role of this public space in the life of the city. Preliminary project highlights include: the earliest architectural structure ever identified in New Orleans (a ca. 1717-1726 simple hut, predating the street grid); a significant amount of aboriginal material culture, particularly a red-painted ware for the moment nicknamed “New Orleans Red”; the original street surface, ditch, and banquette of Orleans Street which cut through the space before it was converted to a public garden in the 1830s; and numerous small items associated with religious, recreational, and educational activities that took place on the site. The central location of the site also made it a perfect opportunity for project members to engage in public archaeology and interact with locals and tourists.

Rising Sun Hotel 2004–2005 (16OR225): Also under the direction of Shannon Dawdy, in partnership with Earth Search Inc., and students at the University of Chicago, the initial report (Volume I: History, Fieldwork, and Artifact Inventory) for the Rising Sun Hotel project was completed in June 2008. The excavation took place prior to Hurricane Katrina in 2005 in a city lot located at 535–537 Conti Street in New Orleans’ French Quarter. The site is owned by the Historic New Orleans Collection, which sponsored the excavation phase of the work in advance of a planned demolition to make way for an archival storage facility. This unique research opportunity prompted inquiries related to trade, hospitality, and consumption patterns, as well as colonial gardening practices.

Archival research indicated the presence of various hospitality ventures at this locale, including Madame Chabot’s late-18th-century boarding house, the early-19th-century Rising Sun hotel-lavent, and the subsequent Richardson Hotel. The Rising Sun Hotel component attracted special attention from the media and the public who saw in it the subject of the popular folk song “House of the Rising Sun.” Whether or not this is the case, the destruction of the hotel by fire in 1822 produced a well-preserved burn layer that yielded a representative sample of the furnishings, serving ware, faience rouge pots, and liquor bottles. Older contexts on the site featured similarly well-preserved deposits of a Spanish colonial structure and a French colonial kitchen garden. One of the most significant and unexpected discoveries of the excavation phase was a distinct precolonial Native American occupation which radiocarbon analysis suggests can be dated to just before European settlement, sometime in the 17th century. This is the first such evidence in the French Quarter. Volume II of the report, planned for completion in 2009, will consist of floral and faunal analyses (pro bono work being done by Gayle Fritz of Washington University in St. Louis and Susan deFrance at the University of Florida), as well as a special report on the taphonomy of fires and their effects upon artifacts and materials.
South Central Historical Archeology Conference

Kathleen H. Cande of the Arkansas Archeological Survey won the award for creativity at the 10th annual South Central Historical Archeology Conference held 26–28 September at the Arkansas Archeological Survey’s Station at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute on Petit Jean Mountain. The conference gives an annual traveling award for the best paper title, which, in the words of conference organizer Skip Stewart-Abernathy, must be “creative, clever, accurate in every way, having multiple meanings, and not just silly.” Kathy’s winning title was “Muffins, Chimneys & Clinkers: Rediscovering Old Davidsonville, Arkansas’ First County Seat Town, 1815-1830.” The tiara and crown jewels were presented to Cande by SCHAC President Liz Davoli. Thurston Hahn of Coastal Environments won the award for most slides in a paper. Papers presented at the meeting covered a range of topics, including research at slave quarters in Alabama, 19th-century town sites in Arkansas, Front Street in Natchitoches and a plantation sugar house in Louisiana, and Ames Plantation in Tennessee. Next year’s meeting is slated to be held in Lafayette, LA. A list of papers presented can be found at http://www.uark.edu/campus-resourc es/archinfo/schac.html.

U.S.A. - Mid-Atlantic

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Virginia

Charlton’s Coffeehouse Archaeology, Colonial Williamsburg (submitted by the Department of Architectural and Archaeological Research, Colonial Williamsburg): The Coffeehouse property, on the east side of colonial lot #58, was an important and recognizable location to Williamsburg’s 18th-century inhabitants. It was, in many respects, the best and the worst of locations. Its position just outside the Capitol gates was clearly advantageous, particularly for a business. Successive owners of the property were challenged, however, by severely sloping topography that placed most of the lot at the bottom of a wet ravine. Because of this constraint, the Coffeehouse lot was not developed until a storehouse was built in 1750, despite its proximity to the Capitol.

Both the archaeological and historical records agree that sometime before 1765 the “storehouse” was converted for use as a coffeehouse. It was from the porch of this establishment that, in 1765, Lt. Governor Francis Fauquier snatched George Mercer, chief distributor of the stamps for the Colony, to safety during a Stamp Act riot outside the Capitol. In 1767, Charlton advertised that the business formerly operated as a coffeehouse was now open as a tavern. Sometime before April 1771, Charlton’s tavern closed at this location. The building survived until 1890 when Cary Peyton Armistead constructed a large Victorian house on the site in which he incorporated the 18th-century north and west brick cellar walls and recycled bricks and other fabric. The Victorian house was moved to North Henry Street in 1995.

The reconstruction of Richard Charlton’s Coffeehouse is a product of over a decade of interdisciplinary research by the Foundation’s archaeologists, architectural historians, and historians. A 4-year intensive archaeological project was undertaken between 1995 and 1998 (Figure 1), with follow-up work carried out this past summer (Figure 2).

The first year’s excavation was focused on architectural questions, and particularly on the appearance of the Coffeehouse such as the front porch, on which Lt. Governor Francis Fauquier describes sitting with members of the Counsel at the outbreak of a Stamp Act riot. Excavation recovered not only the brick footings for this porch, but also an apron of ash created by soot being swept from it. This ash shadow enabled ar-
With the reconstruction now imminent, Foundation archaeologists returned to the site this summer to further flesh out details of the building’s appearance as well as to determine the grade and look of the surrounding terrain. Furthermore, the archeological team needed to determine if unexcavated portions of the Coffeehouse site would be compromised by the reconstruction activities. All portions of the site that would be affected would need to be fully excavated prior to the start of any earthmoving activities.

After a 10-year hiatus, archaeological work recommenced at Charlton’s Coffeehouse on 18 June. Several areas around the intact 18th-century foundation walls were selected for further work, as well as the entire interior of the cellar.

Area 1

The largest excavation was opened in the very southwest corner of the property. This 4 x 4 m (13 x 13 ft.) area would hopefully give us some insight into the character of a ravine that ran through the site prior to the construction of the storehouse in 1749–1750 and how the building was related to that topography. In addition to several layers of fill that included brick rubble, mortar, plaster, oyster shell, and clay, excavation revealed a substantial (20 in. wide) section of brick retaining wall running in a westerly direction from the corner of the Coffeehouse foundations. A review of the 1930s map of the archaeological work at Burdette’s Ordinary (to the west of the Coffeehouse) revealed how the retaining wall crossed into the neighboring lot and connected to the southwest corner of the tavern. Within a short time building debris, clay, soil, and trash were dumped in front of the retaining wall, raising the level on the sidewalk side of property nearly four feet by the end of the 18th century. Analysis of the archaeological deposits against the retaining wall indicate the ravine was verdant with vines, trees, and shrubs keeping erosion at bay from the Middle Plantation period until the storehouse was built in 1749. The very bottom layer in the ravine was a 6 in. thick dark humic sandy topsoil that suggests a slow and continuous buildup of soil from leaf mold and rotting plants. Prior to construction of Walthoe’s Storehouse, a thick layer of yellow clay was dumped in the ravine to make a more level and stable building surface. The storehouse’s construction subsequently changed the drainage pattern of the ravine, causing a major erosion gully to appear along the new building’s west side that threatened to undermine its foundations. Accordingly, the retaining wall we found was built soon after the building to halt the erosion and allow the ground around the building to be built up to street level (being constantly raised during the first half of the 18th century), inhibiting runoff during major rain storms.

Area 2

The area just behind the retaining wall was also excavated as part of this summer’s fieldwork. While the wall succeeded in keeping soil from eroding between the storehouse/coffeehouse and Edinburgh Castle, it did not keep the neighbors next door from dumping quite a bit of garbage behind the wall. The result was the accumulation of several layers of mid- to late-18th-century trash so full of oyster shell, broken wine bottles, fragments of plates, and butchered animal bone that there was actually very little soil. Although the condition, number, and variety of the artifacts recovered from the layers that washed up against the building from next door was spectacular and exciting in itself, it of course told us far more about the neighbors than it did about Charlton.

Area 3

An excavation unit placed at the northwest corner of the 1749–1750 structure again revealed exceptionally deep strata indicative of the ravine’s being filled over the course of the 18th and 19th centuries. The 3 foot plus deep excavation uncovered that the north wall is five courses of brick deeper than the west wall. The west wall is stepped up a few courses as it progresses south towards the street climbing the ravine. Excavations on the interior of the building at the same corner show that prior to 1749 a layer of clay fill had been brought in to level that part of the yard enough to build a stable foundation.

Area 4

Another excavation unit was placed at the southeast corner of the 1890 Cary Peyton Armistead house foundations. Archaeological excavation was necessary here because a retaining wall contemporary with the Victorian house was to be removed as part of the relandscaping of the property. Similar to other areas along the exterior of the building, the archaeological excavations encountered several feet of soil accumulation. Most of it was 19th- and 20th-century fill that covered a line of postholes for a fence line oriented from west to east found at a depth that was ground surface in the mid-18th century. The fence originated at the corner of the Coffeehouse and extended east into the ravine. Evidence that some posts were replaced several times suggests the fence was a long-standing feature on the landscape, limiting access into the property from the street during the 18th century. One of the fence posts was placed within a filled-in drainage ditch running from the southwest to the northeast, toward the deepest part of the ravine where the creek now divides the property from that of the Secretary’s Office.

Even though the reconstruction of Richard Charlton’s Coffeehouse will be a faithful replica of the original, it is subject to current building codes and regulations. In order to accommodate modern duct work, an employee rest-room, and mechanical systems necessary for a building open to the public, the plans require the current cellar floor be lowered by more than a foot. This necessitated that the whole interior be examined archaeologically for traces of interior walls, structural supports, drains, etc. before construction begins. At least one feature pre-dating the construction of the storehouse/coffeehouse was known at the outset of the investigation—a box drain that began at Burdette’s Ordinary next door and ran across the ravine where the Coffeehouse building was to be built and into the creek on the eastern edge of the property. Although a small portion of the building’s interior was excavated previously, the majority of the interior was not addressed archaeologically until the beginning of August of this year.

The interior of the Coffeehouse can be divided into four quadrants:

Southwest

The recent floor level of the southwestern section of the cellar was approximately the same as it was in the 18th and 19th centuries and consisted of hard-packed sandy/clay subsoil. Near the southwest corner of the building, a circular barrel-lined feature was set into the ground. All that remained of the barrel was a circular stain in the bottom where the rim of the barrel sat. Buried within the feature was a nearly complete American stoneware jar dating to the early 19th century. The jar was broken in place, but we removed it with the contents intact to the artifact conservation office at Bruton.
The purpose of the buried barrel inside the building is not known (pickles anyone?).

**Northwest**

This portion of the cellar was built within a gully that ran southwest to northeast within the ravine. The innovation required to construct a building in a ravine was dramatically illustrated in this area. First, a thick layer of clay was placed in the ravine to prepare the area for construction and serve as the floor surface in the northeast section. After the clay was in place, the box drain mentioned above was installed to carry water from Burdette’s Ordinary through the gully and presumably to the creek that defined the eastern end of the lot. The west foundation wall for Walthoe’s Store was built atop the clay layer and seemed to accommodate the drain. Excavations along the interior of the north wall revealed, however, that the north wall was five courses of brick deeper than the west and cut through the clay. In doing so, the north wall truncated the drain, rendering it useless. The drain was useful in one sense, however; it helped us determine where the floor level was in the 18th century, assuming the top of the drain was not protruding above floor level. Measurements taken from the 18th-century floor surface to the first floor sill indicate the height of the room was 6 ft. 7 in.

**Northeast**

In the 20th century, a 4 in. concrete floor had been poured in the northeast room. All but a 1 ft. perimeter around the walls was cut out in the 1990s, exposing the clay underneath. The clay showed signs of burning, but the only features observed in the clay were a 20th-century heating oil pipe and sewer conduit. Assuming that the floor was the same height in the northeast room (6 ft. 7 in.), measurements suggest that about four inches of clay were removed prior to the construction of the concrete floor. No excavations were carried out in this room since the 18th-century floor had been obliterated.

**Southeast**

Although 20th-century coal fragments had been impressed into the surface of the floor, the subsoil base seemed to be the original grade. There were no features to excavate, so the floor was left as it was found.

This year’s excavations at Mr. Charleton’s Coffeehouse were exciting and informative to the archaeologists, the architectural historians, and the architectural conservators working on the reconstruction project, but perhaps as important, the excavations were a really big hit with our visitors. The Coffeehouse site is center stage in the Revolutionary City, with programming going on throughout the day all around the site. Our visitors were fascinated with the process by which archaeology, historical research, architectural sleuthing, and the building trades come together as a team to recreate Colonial Williamsburg’s newest reconstruction.

**The Ravenscroft Site, Colonial Williamsburg (submitted by the Department of Architectural and Archaeological Research, Colonial Williamsburg):** During the summer of 2008, the 24th Annual William and Mary/Colonial Williamsburg Archaeological Field School was conducted at the Ravenscroft Site in Williamsburg’s Historic Area. This marked the third field season at the Ravenscroft Site where cross-trenching carried out in 1954 by Colonial Williamsburg’s Architecture Department had revealed the brick foundations of a large residence and what appears to be a shop. The shop or shop, the focus of our current excavations, included a small cellar with a wide bulkhead entrance on the front wall, as well as evidence of both interior and exterior fireplaces. Colonial Williamsburg’s architects excavated most of the cellar in the 1950s, recorded it through photographs and detailed drawings, and then backfilled both the shop and the residence. Although the Ravenscroft Site was interpreted for the next 50 years as an agricultural exhibit, a collection of very-high-quality ceramics and 17th-century pieces, combined with the cellar’s enigmatic layout, suggested many unanswered questions about the building’s use and life.

In 2006 the Department of Archaeological Research was given the opportunity to reopen the site as an exhibit dig for the visiting public and a venue for the field school. June through August of 2006 and 2007 were devoted to uncovering the cellar and a 30 x 50 ft. apron around the foundations. The purpose of this action was to determine whether the 1954 work had actually uncovered the whole building, and if any landscape features such as walkways and fence lines could be found that may help determine how it was used. Excavation of a section of the builders’ trench rendered a terminus post quem of 1720 (Yorktown-type coarseware) confirming the building’s 18th-, rather than 17th-, century construction. Further excavation has suggested that the cellar was built within a large (borrow?) pit dug for other purposes. The cellar’s interior was re-excavated in 2007, yielding over 10,000 artifacts backfilled in 1954. About 80% of the cellar fill dated to the 18th century, with the remaining 20% dating to the mid-20th. Among the latter group were several plasticized pocket calendars for 1932 issued by a local insurance company.

The 20th-century history of the Ravenscroft Site has gained new importance with additional research. Between the late 1800s and the mid-20th century, the area around what is today the Ravenscroft site was a very lively African American neighborhood. A church, a barber shop, a pool room, a hotel, and several residences all stood on the acre-sized lot where we are now excavating. The plethora of 20th-century artifacts recovered from both the plowzone and the cellar speak directly of the descendant community of this neighborhood, many of whom are still active in the Williamsburg area. A major part of the Ravenscroft project involves gathering written, photographic, and oral histories of the former neighborhood. This ongoing process became a significant part of the public interpretation at the site this summer.

During this past June and July, students expanded the excavation apron, hoping to find landscape features such as fence lines or walkways that would help us better understand the small cellared structure. Students and teaching assistants also focused on completing excavation of the cellar’s interior and digging the backfilled builders’ trenches. All of the plowzone in the new area was screened, providing thousands more artifacts spanning three centuries. After all the material is processed and integrated into GIS, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and College of William and Mary archaeologists will be able to address detailed questions about the use of the prop.
When the architects excavated the cellar in 1954, they stopped at a layer of coal, several centimeters above what appears to be the bottom of the cellar. The coal layer was carefully excavated this summer along with features and layers below it. Few artifacts were recovered from the coal, but none later than creamware, rendering a terminus post quem of 1762. Samples of the coal were sent to the Geology Department at the College of William and Mary and the results are pending. Although most coal used in Williamsburg during the 18th century was imported from Great Britain, coal was being mined near Richmond as early as 1752. The presence of the coal is rather puzzling. Although we believe that the small building functioned as a bakehouse during the 18th century, coal was not used for cooking. Puzzling as well were the artifacts recovered from both the floor and the builders’ trenches. One would expect debris from a construction trench to approximate a building date, and that recovered from the floor to suggest a destruction or abandonment period. In the case of the Ravenscroft cellar, the builder’s trench and cellar floor yielded similar artifacts, all dating between 1675 and 1725. This suggests that the small cellar had some type of floor under which these artifacts were sealed.

The excavation area was backfilled once again this fall and plans are underway for the 2009 field school that will investigate the 18th-century domestic structure on the Ravenscroft property that burned in 1896.

U.S.A. - Midwest

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Michigan

Colonial Michilimackinac: The 2008 field season was the continuation of excavation begun in 2007 on House E of the South Southeast Rowhouse within the palisade wall of Fort Michilimackinac. House E is labeled Gonneville on the 1749 Lotbinière map. Research by John Gram indicates this is Charles Henri Desjardins de Rupallay de Gonneville. Born in Canada in 1698, he began trading at Michilimackinac in 1727 and continued to trade there and at other western posts through the 1754 season. Gonneville still owned House E as late as 1758 when his name is mentioned on the transfer of an adjacent property. House E is listed as an English trader’s house on a map drawn by Lieutenant Perkins Magra in 1765.

The squares excavated this season were designed to locate evidence for the south wall trench. Most of the summer was spent excavating a layer of debris created during the 1781 demolition of the fort after Fort Mackinac was established on nearby Mackinac Island. By the end of the season some clay concentrations were present as well as numerous sandy patches; the wall ditch was not apparent, however. The recovery of artifacts dated solidly in the French period (see below) in the demolition deposit seems to indicate that the demolition cut deep into occupation deposits in this area.

Although not much in the way of stratigraphy was encountered, the demolition layer did yield many interesting artifacts. The most common were faunal remains, especially fish bones, but also bones from larger mammals, likely including horse, cow, pig, and/or sheep. Other common finds included seed beads, lead shot, nails, glass fragments (bottle and window), and sherds from a variety of ceramics. In addition to the window glass, building material included chinking, brick fragments, and some fairly intact latch hardware.

As mentioned above, several distinctly French artifacts were found. These included a lead seal and gun part. The lead seal, originally attached to a bolt of cloth to indicate ownership, was stamped “CDI” for the Compagnie des Indes (1719–1769). The gun part was the upper jaw and bolt from an early French trade gun. Several pieces of a MicMac pipe, which fit together, most likely belonged to a French, Métis or Indian person, rather than to someone of English heritage. One definitely British item found was a plain, pewter, pre-1768 military button.

The majority of the artifacts recovered fit into what a fur trader might have in his home for use or trade: brass buttons with a floral design; a knee-garter buckle; a cufflink with a glass set; blue necklace beads; gunflints; knife blades; a Jesuit ring with an “IXI” motif, derived from interlocked “Ms” signifying Mater Misericordia or Mother of Mercy. Perhaps the most unusual artifact of the season is a brass piece that appears to be the eyepiece from a spyglass.

Excavation of this house unit will continue next summer. The project was sponsored by Mackinac State Historic Parks and directed by Dr. Lynn Evans, MSHP curator of archaeology, with field supervision by Justin Baetsen. Artifact analysis is underway. The final report will follow completion of the house unit. The artifacts and records are housed at MSHP’s Petersen Center in Mackinaw City.

Volume 41: Number 4 Winter 2008 Page 31
culture and society of the time.

In spite of centuries of research, debate, and discussion, the Pequot War remains one of the most misinterpreted and least understood events in the colonial and native history of early America. It was as much an intertribal conflict as it was an English–Pequot conflict. Tribes throughout the region allied themselves with the English to pursue their own political and military goals and to seek assistance in conflicts that in some cases had been going on for decades. The numerous letters and narratives of the war testify to the complexity of native social, political, diplomatic, and military relationships in the region.

Irrespective of the historical significance of the war, the war continues to live on in the individual and collective memories of the descendants of the colonists and native peoples of southern New England. Each year members of the Pequot Tribe gather on the anniversary of the Mystic Massacre for a “First Light” ceremony to commemorate and honor the hundreds of Pequot men, women, and children who were massacred at the Mystic Fort.

In recognition of the historical and contemporary significance of the Pequot War, the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center (MPMC) has embarked on a multiyear research project funded by the National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) to identify and preserve battlefields and historical sites associated with the Pequot War. The primary goal of the project is the identification of prospective battlefield sites and the obtaining of physical evidence of a battlefield through noninvasive archaeological investigations (i.e., remote sensing).

The narratives and letters of John Mason, John Underhill, Philip Vincent, Lion Gardiner (all four were active participants in the war), John Winthrop, and Roger Williams all provide important geographic clues on the locations of prospective battlefield sites. These clues, when integrated into a Geographic Information System database and analyzed with KOCOA, a military terrain model (Key terrain, Observation, Cover and concealment, Obstacles, Avenues of approach), provides the necessary information to isolate prospective battlefield locations.

Five prospective battlefield sites have been identified, including the Battle of Mystic Fort; the Fairfield Swamp Fight of 1637, the last major action of the war; and the Dover Stone Church site in Dover Plains, NY, purported to be the site where Sassacus and the other remaining Pequot sachems and warriors were intercepted and executed by the Mohawks.

A particularly intriguing aspect of the research is the identification of a unique type of brass projectile point that dates to the period of the Pequot War or before. Three of these brass points were originally identified in the collections of the Smithsonian and the Connecticut Museum of Natural History, whose records clearly indicate the projectiles were likely the cause of death of several Pequot warriors. Stylistically the points are very distinctive, as is their method of manufacture, perhaps making it possible to identify their origin and therefore identify whom the Pequot were fighting. The immediate assumption was that the points were either Dutch crossbow darts or English arrow points from longbows. The Pequot were engaged in a brief war with the Dutch in 1634, who may have used crossbows as did Dutch armies in Europe. Although English longbows are not mentioned in any of the Pequot War accounts, it is known that the colonial militias trained with longbows as late as the 1650s and possibly used them during the Pequot War. Interviews with military experts in the Netherlands and England suggest these points are likely not of Dutch or English origin. The possibility remains they may be of colonial origin (i.e., made in Massachusetts Bay or Connecticut) or of native origin. The recent identification of an almost identical projectile from a 17th-century native village north of Springfield, MA, is intriguing and raises the possibility these distinctive points may be associated with native groups in the middle Connecticut Valley — groups known to have fought the Pequot before and during the Pequot War.

New Hampshire

Investigation of a Necessary Place at the Chase House Site: Results of the 2008 Strawbery Banke Archaeological Field School (submitted by Sheila Charles, Archaeologist, Strawbery Banke Museum): The 2008 Strawbery Banke Museum archaeological field investigation focused on the previously unexplored Chase House site. Located at the corner of Washington and Court Streets in Portsmouth, the 2-1/2-story elegant Georgian home features handcrafted woodwork and was built in 1762 by mariner John Underwood. Subsequently, a future Lord Mayor of London owned it and the last New Hampshire royal governor, John Wentworth, considered using it as his executive mansion. Stephen Chase, a wealthy Portsmouth merchant and patriot, began renting the house in 1779. When newly elected President George Washing-

ton toured the colonies in 1789, he was entertained in the house at an evening reception where he reputedly kissed the three Chase girls on the head! Stephen Chase eventually bought the house in 1799. Following Chase’s death in 1805, his widow and sons continued to occupy the premises and it remained in the family until it was sold in 1881. One year later, Stephen Chase’s grandson repurchased the property and gave it to the city as a home for “orphan and destitute children.” In 1910, Lilian Aldrich acquired the Chase House as a summer residence near her husband’s childhood home, the Thomas Bailey Aldrich memorial site, which is also part of Strawbery Banke Museum. Private ownership of the property continued until it became part of Strawbery Banke (it was the first structure to be restored) in the early 1960s. Many of the furnishings were based on the 1805 and 1819 inventories following the deaths of Stephen Chase and his wife Mary.

Archaeological excavation units were established to answer research questions about the east yard of the Chase House site, measuring approximately 418 m2 (4500 ft2). After extensive review of various historic maps, test locations were designed to capture maximum information about activities undertaken by former inhabitants of the Chase House, changes in the yard and streetscape, and former outbuildings. A former barn (approximately 60 x 22 ft.) is depicted on the 1813 J. G. Hales Map but is absent by the 1850s. A former water closet (an outhouse measuring approximately 20 ft2) is portrayed on Sanborn maps between 1887 and 1956, including during the time period associated with the Children’s Home.

Initially, 11 excavation units (1 x 0.5 m) were established in the east yard of the Chase House. If warranted, these were expanded to 1 m2. Subsurface investigation yielded evidence of the structural composition and repair episodes associated with the former barn and outhouse, Durham flagstones associated with the historic street sidewalk, trash disposal patterns, and activities undertaken on the site by former occupants residing in the Strawbery Banke Puddle Dock neighborhood for nearly three centuries. Most exciting was the discovery of a brick-buttressed privy, capped with coal ash, in the southeast corner of the yard.

Given the richness of the site, we are extending our excavation process through the fall. The field investigation, laboratory processing, and analysis of the Chase House site is continuing to determine the structural composition, dimensions, and content of the privy and trash deposits. The artifact assemblage includes late-18th-through 20th-century ceramic kitchenware and tableware, including creamware, blue and green shelledge pearlware, and white
earthen table and teaware, some of which correspond to objects referenced in the 1805 and 1819 probates of the Chase household. Redware flowerpots, including an uncommon green-glazed vessel with a fluted rim, provide evidence of gardening. Numerous red and buff clay marbles, fragments of porcelain toy tea sets, dolls and figurines, and slate pencil and board fragments attest to children’s activities on the site. Dr. Joan Merriman of Plymouth State University is analyzing the faunal assemblage, which includes cut and sawn mammal bone fragments, to disclose information on foodways.

Another highlight of the artifact assemblage is an 1804 U.S. half cent, recovered near a former side street in the northeast corner of the site at about 20 cm below surface. The coin’s obverse, depicting the draped bust of Liberty, was designed by Robert Scot based on a 1795 drawing by Gilbert Stuart of the beautiful Philadelphia society figure, Mrs. William Bingham. The reverse displays the image of a laurel wreath. This extremely rare copper coin, 1 of 1,085,312 minted in Philadelphia, represents the lowest face value that the U.S. ever issued. By today’s standard, this is an unusual denomination; however, it was an important element of our monetary system at a time when working wages were $1.00 for a 10-hour day (see www.encasedcollectorsinternational.org; www.coinfacts.com).

The 2008 Strawberry Banke Museum archaeological field school, 14 through 24 July, included hands-on archaeological field and laboratory experiences and engaging opportunities to use scientific observation and techniques. Eighteen individuals (ranging in age from 12 years old to senior adults), as well as 11 archaeology department volunteers, participated in hands-on archaeological field and laboratory activities in accordance with archaeological standards of the U.S. Department of Interior and the Society for American Archaeology. Strawberry Banke Archaeologist Sheila Charles served as Principal Investigator, assisted by Archaeological Field Supervisor Danielle Dadiego. In addition, mapping was supervised by Dr. Neill DePaoli, and key members of the Strawberry Banke team offered their expertise, including Curator Dr. Kimberly Alexander, Collections Manager Tara Webber, Curatorial Assistant Bert Stujs, Director of Special Projects Rodney Rowland, Curator of Historic Landscapes John Forti, Education Director Michelle Moon, Cooper Ron Raiselis, and Potter Steve Zoldak. Louise Richardson also shared her ceramic expertise. Dr. Kathleen Wheeler and her staff not only shared their knowledge of privies but volunteered their time to assist in the excavation. Next year we intend to continue our investigation of the site and expand our focus to the perimeter of the Chase House and an earlier kitchen addition location.

Place-Based Community Research at the Colonel Lewis B. Smith Site, Sandwich Notch (submitted by Sheila Charles, Archaeological Consultant): Between 11 and 21 August 2008, the Sandwich Historical Society sponsored a 2-week Junior Historical Program for students entering the 6th through 8th grades. Place-based community research and hands-on field activities were undertaken, supervised by Archaeologist Sheila Charles. The field activities were limited to vegetation clearance, limited mapping, and surface collection of artifacts discarded by pothunters. No shovel testing was undertaken in order to allow substantive time for the compiling of relevant historic and environmental contextual information, the latter undertaken with the assistance of foresters Peter Pohl and Fred Levigne and Sandwich Historical Society members Dr. Joan Merriman, John Perkins, Abigail Hambrook, and Susan Green. We emphasized the idea that past land-use activities inform us about the history of the area, its changing environment, and the people who lived there.

This investigation follows an earlier study of four historic sites in Sandwich Notch undertaken in 1976 by Marjorie Ingle and Stephen Mrozowski at the request of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests. At the Smith site, Ingle and Mrozowski conducted mapping and limited subsurface archaeological testing involving test pits of various sizes. The artifact recovery was substantive and the ceramic assemblage alone included 1,012 sherds (28% redware, 21% pearlware, and 30% whiteware). Ingle and Mrozowski concluded the Smith site was one of the most valuable archaeological sites within a cohesive geographic area characterized by a tight continuity of time and space. Further investigations and excavations were recommended.

The Colonel Lewis B. Smith site (27-CA-161) is located near a sharp road turn east of Long Hill and approximately 586 ft. south of the Sandwich Notch Road, a main east–west road constructed in 1803 to link Canada with Portsmouth, NH. Occupied by three generations of the Smith Family from the late 18th to the late 19th century, the historic large and prosperous farmstead was situated on a high knoll up a steep grade. Access to the site, now hidden in a reforested wilderness, is provided by an historic road, which led south off the Sandwich Notch Road.
1917-1924 by Parker-Young and subsequently managed by the Draper Company. In 1932, Susan Bacon Keith of Holderness acquired the area and donated it to the town of Sandwich as a city park.

Features of the historic hillside farm include the main dwelling house stone foundation. The core footprint measures approximately 32 x 40 ft. (9.75 x 12.19 m) suggesting a two room deep plan. This house, situated north of the access road, had a central brick chimney with a fieldstone base (approximately 10 ft.2/3 m2). Its cellar hole, limited to the east side of the house and comprised of five to six courses of fieldstone, measured approximately 30 x 28 ft. and extended 4 ft. (1.22 m) in depth.

In addition, the farmstead contained several outbuildings, including a large fieldstone barn situated approximately 100 ft. (30.5 m) south of the house. The barn, measuring approximately 40 x 55 ft. (12.19 x 16.76 m), still possesses 3 to 5 ft. high stone walls and exhibits a second floor ramp access on its west side. Town history indicates a cider press formerly operated in the lower level. Other noted structures of the site include a large collared well 10.5 ft. in diameter with a well aperture 4 ft. in diameter situated east of the barn and a sugar house foundation measuring approximately 16 x 20 ft. (4.88 x 6 m) located approximately 300 ft. (91.5 m) southwest of the barn. Other structural elements of the site include extensive stonewalls, pronounced use of stone wall terracing, and a family cemetery situated approximately 50 ft. (15.24 m) south of the Sandwich Notch Road. The Colonel Lewis Smith Cemetery measured approximately 50 ft.2. During recording exercises, 14 headstones were visually identified. It was noted that five are marked only by fieldstones, while three other historic headstones had been replaced with new granite headstones. This replacement occurred following vandalism in which the headstones were used as bullet targets. The earliest dated grave (1800) is associated with Asa, son of Samuel and Judith Smith. Members of Samuel Smith’s and Lewis Smith’s families are buried here. Other Sandwich Notch family names depicted on the headstones in the Smith Cemetery include Augustus E. S. Hackett (d. 1848) and Liberty Marshall (d. 1845).

The recent 2008 investigation, sponsored by the Sandwich Historical Society, included documentary research, limited vegetation clearance, mapping, and surface collection of artifacts discarded by pothunters. There is evidence of the use of shovels by pothunters to dig pits adjacent to the cellar hole foundation and barn. Artifact fragments were dispersed and some were sorted and discarded along the house foundation by vandals. These were collected and minimally identified; diagnostic specimens were labeled and exhibited at the Sandwich Historical Society.

The results of this documentary and field investigation indicate the relative structural integrity of elements of the site, including the field-stone dwelling house foundations and cellar hole, barn and sugar house foundation, terrace walls, stone walls, and cemetery. These features of this site graphically depict the former prosperous hill farm and evoke images of the historic past of central New Hampshire. The relative integrity of these structural elements also reflect the potential archaeological sensitivity of subsurface deposits and features as well, even though pot hunting has taken its toll and continues to threaten the site.

Many questions regarding the site remain unanswered. The locations and details of other historic elements of the hillside farm remain a mystery, including the location of the blacksmith shop, charcoal manufacturing pits, apple orchard, sugar bush, pastures, and privy and other trash disposal areas. In addition, the question of how water was accessed and managed across the site remains unanswered. Further evidence is required also to determine the functions of the various house and barn extensions. Limited controlled archaeological testing is planned for the summer of 2009. Mapping of the exterior structural alignments, building interiors, the well structure, and other landscape modifications will also be conducted.

**Vermont**

**The Harwood Family Homestead in Bennington:** The Harwood family homestead and orchard in Bennington, VT, was the focus of an archaeological investigation by Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. during the summer and fall of 2007. In the 1760s, Zechariah and Lovina Harwood built a home and established extensive apple orchards on a hill overlooking Bennington. These were some of the earliest orchards established in Vermont. The still-extant 1780 Harwood home was left vacant in the 1990s. Archaeological investigations were conducted at the property prior to redevelopment of the property as an Adult Day Care and Day Health Facility by The Bennington Project Independence Rehabilitation Service.

Testing was focused on a 0.25-acre portion of the northern farmland. Archaeological investigations uncovered a buried 18th-century stone foundation (Feature 1) north of the existing house, presumed to be the remains of the original 1760s Harwood home. Mechanical stripping was employed in conjunction with the excavation of hand trenches and 1 m2 test units within the cellar hole feature. These excavations revealed a rich early- to mid-19th-century midden deposit (Feature 3) overlaying the earlier foundation feature and an 18th-century burned ground surface (Feature 4) on the exterior of the foundation.

Investigation of Feature 1 revealed a partially intact cellar foundation constructed of worked dry-laid stone, with an earthen floor. The cellar floor was located approximately 4.6 ft. (1.4 m) below the burned ground surface. The lower two to three courses of stone were intact, with the upper courses robbed out prior to the infilling of the cellar hole. The excavations revealed the southwest, northwest, and northeast corners of the structure, indicating the size of the cellar to measure approximately 8.5 ft. (2.6 m) east-west by 11.2 ft. (3.5 m) north-south. The cellar hole was infilled with various types of soil, stone, and brick fill containing a few artifacts, which indicated that the building was razed, and the cellar filled in during the mid- to late 18th century, prior to the construction of the 1780 home.

The upper levels of fill within the cellar hole are attributed to an early- to mid-19th-century midden feature (Feature 3) which contained a large amount of ceramics, faunal material, nails, iron implements, and glass with a few buttons and buckles. The midden produced a variety of ceramic types, including utilitarian redwares (lead-glazed milkpans and crocks), whiteware (plain and transfer printed), pearlware (black and red transfer printed, and hand painted), creamware, stonewares, caramel-glazed earthenware (including locally made Bennington ware), as well as Whieldon ware, white salt-glazed stoneware, and porcelain. There was a wide array of tablewares—tea cups and saucers, plates, platters, and a tea pot, as well as a variety of utilitarian wares—milkpans, crocks, and jugs.

It was evident that during the late 18th to the mid-19th century, this portion of the yard was used for the deposition of household trash. This area may have been chosen specifically because of the location of the old cellar hole, which continued to settle, creating a depression which needed to be filled constantly. The general condition of the primary artifact assemblage as a whole—which includes whole bones and nails, and large ceramic fragments—suggests that the area was not accessible to foot traffic or farm animals. There are also very small fragments of ceramics, glass, and bone present, which may indicate that the midden also acted as a secondary repository for materials and soils originally deposited in...
other parts of the yard. It is likely that the midden and the old cellar hole were fenced off from the rest of the yard.

The presence of a fence would explain the relatively clear-cut limits of the midden feature. The fence would also have kept the trash within clearly defined boundaries, and kept out farm animals and scavengers. While no postholes were identified archaeologically, it is possible that any postholes delineating a fence line were disturbed during the numerous earthmoving and landscaping episodes at the farm. It is also just as likely that a snake fence, which did not require inground posts, was used at the Harwood farm. A fence would have given the appearance and presentation of a tidy farm, keeping the family’s garbage from public view. Hiding the household trash from public view may have been one of the most important aspects of a fence. Utilizing yard features and boundaries to hide unattractive sights and farm activities from public view was one aspect of a greater social phenomenon which emerged in the early 19th century.

The early-19th-century agricultural movement was a major social force which advanced a new perspective for the agrarian world that changed the manner in which farmers viewed themselves, their neighbors, their farms, and their community (Larkin 1994). Through the use of symbolic imagery, including Farmer Snug, the good farmer and neighbor, and his antithesis—Farmer Slack—reformers were able to persuade a largely agrarian nation to alter the landscape by cleaning up their farms and yards (Herman 1994). The result of this campaign is visible archaeologically in changing patterns of trash disposal and yard maintenance through time.

The patriarch of the Vermont Harwoods was an avid adherent of the agricultural reform mindset. Zechariah Harwood was quite diligent about the apples that went through his press. Many neighbors contracted to use the Harwood mill, some of whom proclaimed that a few rotten apples were needed to give spunk to the cider. Zechariah did not abide by this—he followed the rules set out in the Farmer’s Almanac which were posted to the beam of his mill—‘Now the rules laid down by Farmer Snug are these: ‘See that your mill, press, and all the materials are sweet and clean and the straw free from must. The fruit should be ripe but not rotten, and when the apples are ground let the pomace remain and the straw free from must. The fruit, which was supposed to be visible only to family members or farm hands. There is a noted difference between the family’s disposal practices in the front yard adjacent to the road, which was relatively clean of debris, versus the artifact-rich midden area, located behind a fence and down a slope further from the road.

The overall results of the archaeological investigation concluded that due to ground disturbance, the compromised state of the foundation, the presence of relatively clean foundation feature fill, and the lack of deposits on the cellar floor or any associated 18th-century deposits or features, the Harwood Hill site was not considered eligible for the National Register. Nonetheless, the archaeological investigation provided insight into the uses, maintenance, and alterations of the farmyard over time, as well as the habits, preferences, and social mores of the Harwood family.

Charlotte Poor Farm, Charlotte: Located on Thompson’s Point, in Charlotte, VT, the Charlotte Poor Farm was utilized by the town during the early 19th through the mid-20th century. Due to a fire in the late 1950s, the main house of the poor farm was destroyed and abandoned. The present landscape reflects the neglected space; the site is covered with overgrowth, and the agricultural field has lain fallow. However, the site continues to be an important landmark for the local community. Descendants of the proprietors continue to live nearby. The Charlotte Poor Farm was partially excavated and mapped by the University of Vermont’s Champlain Valley Archaeological Field School in June 2007. Dr. Cameron B. Wesson directed the project, which involved a crew of 11 undergraduate students from UVM. The crew systematically mapped the foundations for the main house and the farm dependencies. The excavations totaled 24 1 x 1 m units, which recovered evidence from all periods of occupation; most of the recovered material dated to the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Evidence of domestic refuse, including faunal remains, indicated on-site butchery as well as the availability of a variety of commercial foodstuffs and beverages.

The project is part of a larger endeavor by Dr. Wesson that is examining the material evidence of poverty in the 19th and 20th centuries. We are currently writing up this research for publication in Vermont Archaeology, and are looking to compare our data with other local, domestic contexts in order to assess differences in purchasing and consumption of nonlocal items. Poor farms are a vital resource for learning about and understanding social class and community relations in rural America; it is necessary that the Charlotte Poor Farm and other examples that are found in many New England communities be studied and properly understood before the increase in development affects their archaeological signature.

U.S.A - Pacific Northwest

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Idaho

Pulaski Tunnel Trail near Wallace, Idaho (submitted by Alicia B. Valentino, Northwest Archaeological Associates, Inc., Seattle, Washington): During the summer of 2008, Northwest Archaeological Associates, Inc. conducted investigations of the Pulaski Tunnel and Placer Creek Escape Route near Wallace, ID (BLM permit number ID-I-36216) for the Pulaski Project, a division of the Greater Wallace Community Development Corporation. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), this site (10S664) is part of the North Idaho 1910 Fire Sites Multiple Property Listing. Reaching via a 2-mile trail off Placer Creek Road, the site includes adits, structural remains, and a trail used by Forest Service Ranger Edward C. Pulaski and about 45 men when they fled forest fires on 20-21 August 1910.

Mines and associated cabins dotted the West Fork of Placer Creek. In August of 1910, however, work ceased as the prospectors fled their claims while forest fires spread throughout the region. This was the beginning of one of the worst fire seasons on record. During the night of 19 August, cool winds from the west and southwest fueled small fires that had broken out in northern Idaho, quickly transforming them into uncontrollable blazes that jumped fire lines and forced firefighters to retreat.

From the night of 19 August into the morning of 20 August, Ed Pulaski, a former area prospector, headed to Wallace to gather food and first aid supplies for his crews. Once back at the camp, Pulaski led his crew and other men in the area back toward town. As these men retreated along the West Fork of Placer Creek, a backfire started by the citizens of Wallace trapped them halfway down the creek. Pulaski, who was familiar with the area, led the men toward the War Eagle Mine. With a length of over 1,300 ft., Pulaski thought hiding in the adit...
would be their best chance for survival.

As the men struggled toward the mine, they were overcome with smoke, noise, heat, and falling trees. Short of the War Eagle Mine, Pulaski led the men to the J.I.C. adit, only to realize it was too short and survival inside was doubtful. Pulaski and his crew pushed on to the Nicholson adit, ordering the men and their horses inside. While the crew fought for survival deep within the mine, Pulaski dosed his hat and clothing in the stream of water coming out of the mine and soaked and hung blankets to protect the portal and block smoke. Eventually, each of the men passed out; two drowned in a small pool of water that formed behind the body of one of the horses. After five hours, the men emerged and stumbled to Wallace for first aid treatment.

The adit location faded from memory until Forest Service archaeologists relocated and recorded it in 1984. That year, the adit, more commonly known as the Pulaski Tunnel, was listed in the NRHP. The portal was about six feet high and five feet wide. Surface slump was at the mouth, and several unevenly spaced charred timbers were visible across the base of the mine and at the portal. Deep inside the adit were two crimped-seam metal cans, fragments of sheet steel, and the base of a paraffin candle. A stoped containing mining equipment, including rock drills, tamping rods, an empty dynamite box, and a jack. Waste rock dumped at the mouth of the adit ran parallel to the creek. Today, the portal is about 4-1/2 ft. high due to rock slough, and a bat gate prevents people from entering the adit. Structural elements related to the Nicholson cabin, a residence used during active mining, were found across the creek and atop the alluvial terrace and included deteriorating sill logs. Other features included a depression 5 feet in diameter and a second possible cabin foundation.

Excavation via shovel probes, shovel scrapes, and several test units at the adit and cabin areas yielded 2,283 artifacts. Most of these are from the Nicholson cabin area (used during mining in the early 1900s) and nearly 75% of this assemblage is within the functional category “Architecture.” This includes tin roofings, wire nails, and flat glass.

At the Nicholson adit, recent rock fall/slough episodes prohibited deep scrapes, probes, and test units. Artifacts collected from the surface survey include springs of a wagon bench, sheet metal, an axe head, and a mine-cart wheel. These artifacts were not in situ and were likely the product of flooding, tourist/looter interaction, and/or rock slough. A 1 x 1 m unit was excavated slightly upstream of the adit where most of the surface artifacts were found. Although excavated to a depth of 1 m below the surface, the rock slough was deeper and the ca. 1910 ground surface could not be reached.

Excavations at the cabin area resulted in the identification of an historic midden dense with hole-in-cap and hole-in-top cans and other debris, as well as two deposits of large sheets of corrugated-tin roofing and architectural debris. A larger excavation area is necessary to positively identify the cabin foundation.

Other artifacts include solarized am- ethyl bottle glass, bullet cartridges manufactured by the Union Metallic Cartridge Co., a bobby pin, and parts of a walkaround “Garland” stove, first made by the Michigan Stove Co. in 1884. There were also matchstick cans, ice pick-opened (beverage containers) and knife-opened (fruits or vegetables) cans, and a watchcase from the “American Waltham Watch Co.”

Research questions focused on confirming the authenticity of the adit as Pulaski’s refuge and making positive identification of the cabin remains. A preliminary examination of the artifacts shows a date range from the late 19th century to about 1962. Objects dating after the known period of occupation, including electric-powered clock parts and an aluminum can pull tab, are the result of later site use. Regardless of the few post-1910 items, most of the materials indicate earlier use and support use of the cabin as a residence ca. 1900.

This fieldwork could not verify the Nicholson adit as Pulaski’s refuge, nor can the materials found within the adit in 1984. These items were commonplace for turn-of-the-century miners, and would not have been associated with the firefighters. Additional work might associate the adit with Pulaski if the 1910 ground surface is reached.
the 1840s. It is not known when the granary building was constructed, but approximately 90 buildings were erected during the first decade of occupation (1797–1807). Given that Spanish missions were largely self-sufficient, producing grain and fruit and raising livestock to meet their needs, the granary likely was among the first structures built.

The artifact sample retrieved from the Phase IIIA excavation included glass and shell beads, faunal remains, and ceramics. The presence of imported Mexican wares, Chinese porcelain, and British ceramics indicates that inhabitants had access to a variety of trade goods and supply networks. The cessation of trade with San Blas in 1810 limited the further importation of Spanish goods. Two British transfer-printed sherds were recovered from the upper layers of the midden, dating the deposits to after the 1820s when British manufactured tablewares rapidly replaced Spanish majolica. Also present in the midden deposits was a British shell-edge-decorated sherd providing an approximate production date of 1790s to early 1800s. Four Chinese porcelain sherds decorated in Nanking/Canton style indicate a production date of 1780s to 1820s.

In the summer of 2007, AÆ conducted Phase III B data recovery at Brand Park in order to achieve a clearer understanding of the site, its deposits, and their associations. Excavations focused on further investigation of the midden deposits and recor-dation of the north–south section of the granary rock wall to fully understand the architecture of this structure. A section of the granary floor was also exposed. The processing and specialized analysis of cultural material collected in 2007 is ongoing and likely to provide insight into mission land use and lifeways. Because little remains intact of the original mission structures on this portion of the mission grounds, archaeological deposits are considered to be more important in the further study of life and land use at the mission during its period of occupation.

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North Carolina

Data Recovery at Spicer Bay (submitted by Rachel Tibbetts, Archaeological Consultants of the Carolinas, Inc., Clayton, NC): Archaeological Consultants of the Carolinas, Inc., has recently completed archaeological data recovery investigations at a site in Onslow County, NC. The site is comprised of material and structural remains dating to the last half of the 18th century through the first quarter of the 19th century, and includes the Spicer family cemetery. The primary methods of field investigations were mechanical scraping of four blocks within the site, and the detailed mapping and excavation of cultural features. The Spicer family cemetery was cleaned and thoroughly documented.

Archaeological data show at least two structures present in the site. Historic resources and the quality and quantity of artifacts recovered suggest one structure may be an early log residence. The second structure is more enigmatic and its function is not clear, but it may be a residence or a country store. Additionally, artifacts recovered and feature clusters identified from a third excavation block suggest the presence of a nearby main house structure. Mean ceramic dates indicate that these structures were occupied sequentially with relatively little overlap.

Pit features were extremely common at this site. Several of these pits reflect specific activities, such as animal-butching areas and a possible candle-making “hearth.” A large number of these pits were likely utilized for storage of foodstuffs and valuables. Despite their initially intended function, however, all were ultimately used for refuse disposal. One feature even exhibits multiple dumping episodes separated by burning episodes.

Archival evidence has established that the Spicers owned land in and around the tract area as early as 1754, and it is likely that site area had been in the Spicer family since the first Spicers took up residence in Onslow County. The Spicers were planters, politicians, slave owners, and prominent Onslow County figures. Indeed, the archaeological signature of this site generally reflects the lifestyle of a well-to-do family. However, the artifact patterns do not
correspond well with any of the established artifact patterns. This ambiguity has much to do with the paucity of archaeological work that has been conducted on colonial and early American sites in coastal North Carolina.

“Plantations” in Onslow County do not fit the typical picture of the southern U.S. plantation as characterized by tracts of lands devoted to rice, indigo, tobacco, or cotton crops. However, the abundant longleaf pine that flourished in the sandy soil provided the resources, in the form of naval stores, to drive the plantation system of Onslow County and the North Carolina coastal plain. While North Carolinian plantation owners made use of more indentured servants than did their counterparts elsewhere in the South, they, too, depended on slave labor for the success of their plantations. Although archival accounts document extensive slave ownership by the Spicer family, the primary hallmark of slave presence, colonoware, was sparse. This fact combined with the documented roles of slaves in the local market economy requires us to closely examine our interpretations of artifact assemblages and to learn to recognize the presence of African American slaves whose possessions consisted solely of European goods.

The importance of the investigations at this site lies largely in the fact that little archaeological work has been done in the coastal region of North Carolina on 18th- and early-19th-century rural sites, and virtually none has been done in Onslow County. The lack of data is exacerbated by the fact that colonial and ante bellum North Carolina (and especially Onslow County) do not appear to subscribe to the “typical” southern plantation or farm system. The data we have collected is thus even more valuable as we try to make sense of the state’s past. As more investigations of these types of sites are conducted, it is hoped that the data retrieved from this site will contribute substantially to the establishment of patterns reflecting the lifeways of coastal North Carolina plantations during the 18th and 19th centuries.

**Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historic Site** (submitted by Thomas E. Beaman, Jr., Wake Technical Community College, Raleigh, NC). Visitors to the Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historic Site have long been accustomed to walking around the historic architectural and archaeological features on sandy paths, just as the residents of the town did in colonial times. However, to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and provide an alternative for visitors who may have had trouble negotiating the sandy trails, the construction of a paved sidewalk is planned for the site. As the proposed route of the paving would be approximately 4400 ft. in length, and would wind through the ruins of the colonial-period households and around the earthen mounds of Fort Anderson, several days of intensive archaeological and geophysical investigation were conducted to insure that no undiscovered or intact cultural resources would be disturbed or destroyed by the project.

Assistant State Archaeologist John J. Mintz (Office of State Archaeology), who directed these investigations in cooperation with Site Manager Brenda Marshburn, realized that with the abundance of archaeological resources remaining at 18th-century Brunswick Town and 19th-century Fort Anderson, a single methodological approach would not be sufficient to explore the proposed construction route. As such, Mintz divided this archaeological exploration into three smaller stages. The first stage was conducted on 19 May and 9 June, when members of the United States Marine Corps Explosive Disposal Team from Camp Lejeune conducted a sweep for unexploded ordnance along the portion of the proposed route that extends through the mounds of Fort Anderson. Thankfully no unexploded artillery shells were discovered, though fragments of at least five shells and a complete 1859 model Austrian bayonet were recovered. These metal fragments are preserved for analysis and context use, and be easily replicated. The use of GPR has been highly effective in locating belowground features in a noninvasive, nondestructive, quick, efficient, and highly accurate manner. It also allows the data to be analyzed quickly, stored for future use, and be easily replicated. The use of GPR has been highly effective in locating unmarked graves, as was recently demonstrated at Bentonville Battleground State Historic Site. Around Saint Phillips Church, while numerous subsurface anomalies—some of which are very likely unmarked burials—were identified in the GPR study, none were situated within the proposed route of the walkway.

The next stage involved the excavation of shovel test units along the entire proposed route. Mintz was assisted by longtime Brunswick Town researcher and archaeologist Thomas E. Beaman, Jr. (Wake Technical Community College); Queen Anne’s Revenge Project Manager Mark Wilde-Ramsing; Madeline “Punk” Spencer (Underwater Archaeology Office at Kure Beach); Site Manager Brenda Marshburn; site staff members Jim McKee, Megan Phillips, Kent Snyder, and Chris Jackson; site intern Jennifer Gabriel; and 22 very capable local volunteers and members of the Friends of Brunswick Town support group. With this enthusiastic group, on a very hot June a total of 160 shovel test units were excavated along the proposed walkway route through the town and fort areas. While over 2500 colonial-period artifacts of all types were recovered, one of the most important features documented was the buried layers of hard-packed sand that were the original streets in the town. Though the past excavations by Lawrence Lee and Stanley South had focused more on the household ruins and the fort, the current excavations revealed that they had correctly restored the streets along their original locations as shown on Sauthier’s 1769 town map.

Given the possibility of unmarked graves, the one area of the proposed walkway that Mintz and his colleagues and volunteers did not explore with shovel test units was around Saint Phillips Church. The third and final phase of the project was conducted on 8 July, when Mintz returned to the site with archaeologist Kevin Donald (Office of State Archaeology Cemetery Survey and Stewardship Program) and geoarchaeologist Shawn Patch (New South Associates, Inc.). Patch was contracted to undertake a ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey of an approximately 897 m2 cemetery area adjacent to Saint Phillips Church that will be impacted by the walkway construction. GPR is a remote-sensing technique that allows archaeologists to locate potential human remains. State Historic Site. Around Saint Phillips Church, while numerous subsurface anomalies—some of which are very likely unmarked burials—were identified in the GPR study, none were situated within the proposed route of the walkway. Thanks to careful planning and execution of the three stages undertaken as part of this project, as well as the efforts of many archaeologists, site staff, and volunteers, the eventual construction of the paved walkway will have no negative effects on the important and irreplaceable cultural resources at Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historic Site.

**James Iredell House, Edenton:** The ca.

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*Excavation of one of the structures at an Onslow County site.*
1799 James Iredell House and its associated lot of the Historic Edenton State Historic Site has also been the subject of several recent archaeological investigations. First, on 19 June 2008 Assistant State Archaeologist John J. Mintz (Office of State Archaeology) examined an area to the north of the residence that is the proposed site for the relocation of a ca. 1827 kitchen building from Bandon Plantation in northern Chowan County. Mintz, assisted by Site Manager Linda Eure, staff members Blake Harmon and George Lassiter, summer intern Rachel Forehand, longtime Edenton avocational archaeologist Madison Phillips, and several local volunteers, excavated 14 test units within an approximately 400 ft² area in the yard for the proposed footprint of the kitchen and temporary storage shed. Artifacts obtained from these units were generally domestic in nature, and consisted primarily of architectural (window glass, nails, brick and mortar fragments) and kitchen-related artifacts (pharmaceutical bottles, ceramics, and wine-bottle fragments) that were probably associated with the everyday activities of the site’s occupants. These excavations determined that the relocation of the kitchen to this location would not disturb or destroy any important archaeological evidence.

In early July, archaeologist Thomas E. Beaman, Jr. (Wake Technical Community College) directed excavations at the Iredell House in preparation for the waterproofing of the foundation and installation of gutters along the rear of the residence. Assisted by archaeologist Bill Terrell (Wake Forest University Public Archaeology Laboratory), student Amanda Keeny (East Carolina University), and many of those who had assisted Mintz in June—Linda Eure, Madison Phillips, Rachel Forehand, Blake Harmon, George Lassiter, and Carol Owens—Beaman oversaw the excavation of three large test units along the east foundation wall. Specific archaeological features noted include a builder’s trench, evidence of several possible ornamental plantings, and part of a small packed-sand walkway shown on Sauthier’s 1769 map of the town. Beaman also monitored a mechanically dug trench along the entire width of the property for drain lines associated with the new gutters. A tremendous amount of infilling that dated to the early 20th century was discovered along the western edge of the lot, likely placed there to cover a small creek that is shown on many historic maps of the town. This evidence, when combined with the other eight archaeological investigations that have been carried out in and around the Iredell House since 1972, provides a clear portrait of the evolution of this important urban lot.

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Please note the deadlines for submissions of news for UPCOMING ISSUES of the SHA Newsletter

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