

# VAS NEWSLETTER

MARCH

1972

NUMBER 6

PUBLISHED OCCASIONALLY BY THE VERMONT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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SPRING MEETING Got the urge to dig? The calendar says it's Spring and we've got just the thing to give you that shot in the arm you need for a successful season.

At the last general meeting, held at Bolton Valley on October 23, 1971, the membership voted to have two statewide meetings each year, with the spring meeting concentrating on summer activities. Accordingly, the Board of Trustees of VAS has scheduled that meeting for Saturday, April 29, at the Sheraton Motor Inn in Burlington, with Ed Bacon acting as conference chairman.

There will be a "happy hour" at 5:30 (cash bar), with dinner scheduled for 7 PM. The program will begin at 8 PM and will feature one of VAS's best friends, Dr. Maurice Robbins, state archaeologist of Massachusetts. Dr. Robbins will talk about the excavation at Bear Swamp, a multiple component site with a vast time span. The Vergennes and Burlington Chapters will also give progress reports.

BEFORE YOU FORGET, FILL OUT AND MAIL THE RESERVATION BLANK ON THE LAST PAGE!.

There will be an added attraction for those attending the meeting. From 1 PM on, there will be discussions and displays presented by students of the Museology class at UVM. This event will be held in the Department of Sociology/Anthropology, which is located on Prospect Street between DeGoesbriand Hospital Unit of the Medical Center and the University's Waterman Building. Included in the display will be some of the Pine Island Artifacts (drawings of materials from VT/CH1 appear elsewhere in this Newsletter). You will recall that Pine Island enjoys the distinction of being the Society's first excavation.

THE BOLTON REPORT For those of you who were unable to attend the fourth annual meeting of the Society at Bolton Valley Lodge on October 23, 1971, here is the story of that conference as well as the formal minutes recorded by the Secretary, Inez Harlow.

The morning session began with a talk by Darrell Casteel on the 1971 Summer Archaeological Program at Lyndon State College. Slides were presented, and a lively discussion resulted as to the age of the site Mr. Casteel and his students had dug. It was decided that there is a possibility the site may be older than anticipated. The distinguished Dr. Maurice Robbins, a guest at the meeting, offered his expert observations on the matter.

After a break for lunch, the business meeting was held. (The plans had been for Mr. Walter Zacharchuk to speak first, but he was unfortunately detained). The minutes of the business meeting appear below. Mr. Zacharchuk gave his talk, "Underwater Archaeology", accompanied by a motion picture of the raising of a gunboat from the St. Lawrence River. It was a most informative lecture; all of us learned a great deal about the problems of doing underwater archaeology.

The "Social Hour" followed Mr. Zacharchuk's part of the program, and was enjoyed by all who participated. And at dinner, members enjoyed Chef Stewart's prime ribs of beef.

The last speaker for the day was James A. Tuck, Assistant Professor in Anthropology at Memorial University, St. John, Newfoundland. He spoke on "The Archaic Period of the Northeast", and brought with him some of the best archaeological slides your editor has had the pleasure of viewing. His discussion of the discovery and consequent excavation of Archaic Indian burial sites was clearly executed. The amateur archaeologist had no difficulty in understanding what was happening, thanks to his technically perfect slides and clear presentation. Mr. Tuck's talk was just the right note on which to end another Annual Meeting of the VAS.

- (Mrs.) Barbara Casteel, Editor

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING, 23 October 1972<sup>4</sup>

The meeting convened at 2 PM with the President, Joseph Popecki, presiding. The Treasurer's report was read and accepted, showing a bank balance as of October 23, 1971, of \$784.68.

The President gave a resume of the work of the Board of Trustees for the past year. One of the things the Board discussed was the matter of appointing a person to the position of Director for the purpose of carrying on many of the duties of the society. George Leitch, a volunteer appointee, had to resign because of reasons external to the Society. Mrs. Darrell Casteel is the newly appointed Director. President Popecki also mentioned that the Society had taken another step forward with the creation of chapters in various geographical areas where interest is present.

The President then reported on digging activities that had been carried on throughout the summer. A display of recovered artifact materials had been set up for viewing by Ken Varney and Edgar Bacon, and a report on this display was given later in the meeting. Bill Haviland gave a report on the updating of the site surveys for the state of Vermont, and stated that there is a possibility of publishing a listing of sites for the state.

The report of the Nominating Committee was called for and was read by Kenneth Varney, Chairman. Elected to the Board of Trustees were the following members:

Darrell Casteel	elected for one year to 1972
Douglas Egeland	elected for one year to 1972
Richard Adams	elected for three years to 1974
H. N. Muller	elected for three years to 1974
Durwood J. Smith	elected for three years to 1974

Also elected on provision that the amendment enlarging the Board to 11 members is passed at this meeting:

Ralph Roberts	elected for two years to 1973
Edgar L. Bacon	elected for three years to 1974

It was voted to accept the report of elections from the Nominating Committee.

Amendments to the By-laws as published in the Newsletter were taken up. A short discussion followed in which each amendment was considered. All of the proposed amendments were approved except as relates to local chapters in Section Ia of Membership Article I. It was finally accepted with the following changes:

Paragraph 2: "The chapter will have complete autonomy in its administration and activities" changed to "The chapter will have complete autonomy in its administration and over its collections and activities."

Richard Adams of Vergennes submitted a petition signed by seven members of VAS in good standing asking for permission to form a subordinate chapter of the Society to be located in the Vergennes-Addison County area. This chapter has officers and dues and holds its meetings on the second Thursday of each month.

Edgar L. Bacon then read another petition for recognition as a subordinate chapter to be located in the Burlington area. This was signed by 10 members of VAS in good standing.

These two petitions will be formally acted upon at the next meeting of the Board of Trustees. The two chapters may consider themselves duly accepted as of October 23, 1971. Darrell Casteel stated that a third chapter might be formed by spring in the St. Johnsbury-Lyndonville area.

It was felt by the Board that the membership might prefer two meetings a year instead of one. This was brought before the members present and it was decided by voice approval that the Society hold both a spring meeting and a fall meeting each year.

Dr. Maurice Robbins, Vice-President elect of the Eastern States Archaeological Federation, spoke briefly of its annual meeting in Gainesburg, Florida, on November 4. All members were invited to attend.

Louise Basa then gave an informal report on the "dig" which has been carried on this past summer at the Shelburne Pond site, a report appearing in the last Newsletter. She and others are planning to catalog Indian artifacts now in storage at the Fleming Museum. Volunteers are welcome to help in this project.

It was moved by Nick Muller and seconded by several members that the Society tender a vote of thanks to Joe Popecki for the work he had done and the interest he had shown in the Society while he was President. Unanimous approval.

The meeting was then adjourned to hear the speaker of the afternoon, Walter Zacharchuk.

#### NEW OFFICERS

At a short Board meeting held immediately after the close of the afternoon session, the following officers were elected:

President:	H. N. Muller
Vice-President:	Richard Adams
Secretary:	Inez S. Harlow
Treasurer:	Kenneth Varney

- (Mrs.) Inez Harlow, Secretary

NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS The BURLINGTON CHAPTER has been formed by a group of Ken Varney's diggers, who realized that they needed much more information and direction if they were going to properly excavate and produce valuable information about Vermont's prehistory.

The last two meetings have involved organization and a study of the post-glacial geology of the Lake Champlain area. Future projects of the group include a dig in the Burlington area during the open season, establishing (in cooperation with the Vergennes Chapter and professional assistance) an adequate typology for artifacts in Vermont that amateurs can successfully use, cataloging the Chapter members' artifacts (and others, if possible) and preparing transportable displays for educational and motivational purposes.

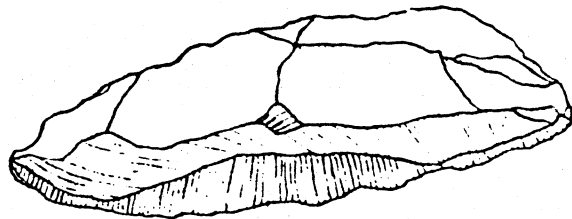
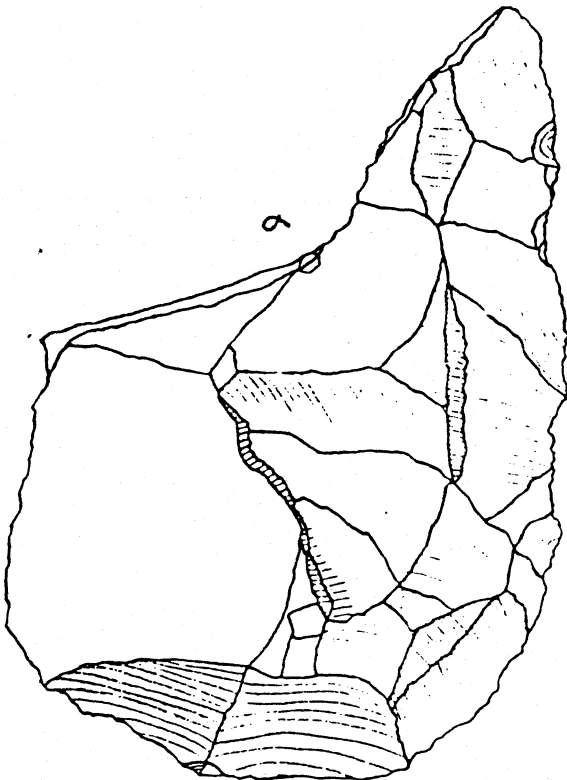
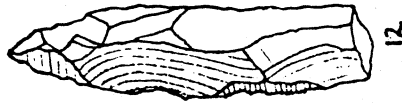
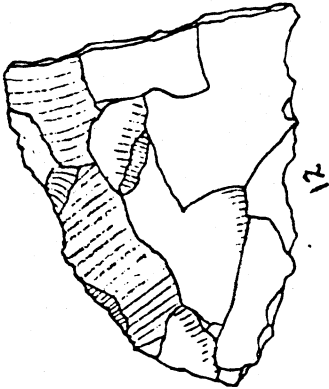
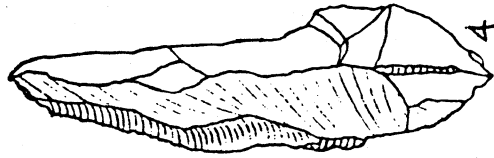
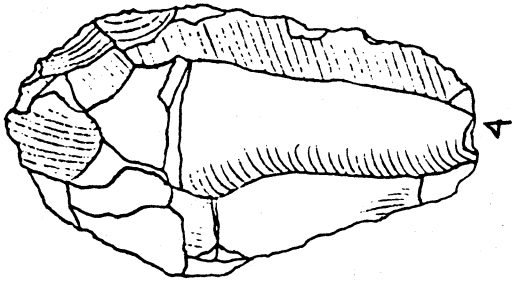
The Chapter meets the last Thursday of each month for an informative or work session, the meetings being held somewhere near Burlington (there is no "home" for the Chapter yet). Our next meeting is currently scheduled to be at Ed Bacon's in Jericho on December 29th. The program is a slide series, "An Introduction to New England Soil Types", from the Massachusetts Archaeological Society.

We definitely invite any and all members of the VAS to join us. Please contact us through our secretary, Mrs. Carl Swanson, 125 Woodlawn Road, Burlington, VT 05401. Her telephone number is 862-6969. Tell us of your interests, and we will try to give you more information about ourselves.

- Edgar Bacon, Chairman

The VERGENNES CHAPTER is currently involved in planning workshop sessions. The next meeting is in December, and there are hopes at this time to utilize the Ross collection at the Vergennes Library. Members of the Chapter who are interested will catalog, sketch and identify the items in the collection. There are many

DRAWINGS OF SOME ARTIFACTS FROM  
THE PINE ISLAND SITE (VT/CH 1)



artifacts in the collection that need identifying, and in the process several objectives can be accomplished:

1. giving the members first-hand knowledge of cataloging and handling artifacts.
2. getting this large collection in some kind of order.
3. working out an arrangement with the school system for credit for participating members of school age. This would be good incentive for future study in archaeology.

The Vergennes Library, where the Chapter's collections are housed and which serves as the home of the Vergennes Chapter, is open in the afternoon. It is hoped that interested members will stop in at their convenience and work on this project too.

In short, the Vergennes Chapter wants to change the concept of a collection from "something behind glass" to a collection with which a member can work and become involved.

VAS GOES NON-PROFIT You may think this isn't news; after all the Society has been anything but profit-making during its first three and a half years. However, we have been advised by the law firm of Latham and Eastman that changes must be made in the Society's Articles of Association (incorporation) so that VAS may be considered a non-profit organization according to the regulations of the Internal Revenue Service.

VAS has not been offered any large bequests of money; rather, it seeks a bulk-mailing permit as a non-profit organization. Because the savings in bulk mailing postage are considerable, you will not receive your copy of the Bulletin of the Eastern States Archaeological Federation until the next mailing.

The recommended text of our Articles of Association is given below. The new material is enclosed in brackets. The revision must be approved by the Board of Trustees, so if you have any comments, direct them to H. N. Muller III, President, VAS, Box 52, Burlington, VT 05401.

AMENDED ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION  
OF  
VERMONT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

The Articles of Association of the VERMONT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC., are hereby repealed and amended to read that the Subscribers associate themselves together as a corporation for the purpose of: (amend as follows, to wit:)

FIRST: [The Society is formed exclusively for scientific and educational purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law). More particularly,]

the objects of the Society shall be to stimulate the study of archaeology, particularly in Vermont; to promote research; to conserve archaeological sites, data, and artifacts and prevent the commercial exploitation of archaeological sites and specimens; to disseminate archaeological information; to seek, through education, the promotion of intelligent archaeological activity, and to foster public understanding of the aims of archaeological research.

SECOND: The Society may publish papers and reports [to be made available to the public on a non-discriminatory basis] and affiliate with or cooperate with similar types of organizations and pursue [or carry out any activities, functions or endeavors, but only in furtherance of the scientific and educational purposes specified in Article FIRST of these Articles of Association.]

THIRD: The Society may receive and accept [property, whether real, personal or mixed,] by way of gift, grant, bequest or devise [from any person, firm, trust or corporation, to be held, administered, and disposed of in furtherance of the scientific and educational purposes specified in Articles FIRST of these Articles of Association; but no gift, bequest or devise of any such property shall be received and accepted if it be conditioned or limited in such manner as shall require the disposition of the income or its principal to any person or organization other than one organized exclusively for charitable, educational, religious or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt person or organization under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), or as shall, in the opinion of the Society, jeopardize the Federal income tax exemption of this Society pursuant to said I.R.C. <sup>p</sup>501 (c) (3), as now in force or afterwards amended.]

FOURTH: The Society may buy, sell, lease, convey, [exchange, borrow on,] mortgage, [pledge] or in any other way deal with [any personal, mixed, or real property, whether subject to any mortgage or pledge, at public auction or by private contract, for such consideration and on such terms as to credit or otherwise as the Society considers advisable, including the assumption of any mortgage or pledge on or of such property; but only in furtherance of the scientific and educational purposes specified in Article FIRST of these Articles of Association.]

FIFTH: The Society shall be a non-profit corporation. No part of [the net earnings of] the corporation shall inure to the benefit of [or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable] compensation for services rendered [and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article FIRST hereof.] No [substantial] part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation, [and the corporation shall not participate or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of

any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).]

SIXTH: [Upon the dissolution of the corporation, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the corporation, disposition of all of the assets of the corporation shall be exclusively for the aforementioned purposes of the corporation, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law). Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the County in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.]

NEWS NOTES Meet your new Director and Editor of VAS, Mrs. Darrell (Barbara) Casteel. Barbara will undertake the work we had hoped to assign to our first volunteer director, George Leitch. In addition to organizing meetings of the membership and the Board of Trustees, Mrs. Casteel's biggest assignment will be the editing of VAS publications (the Newsletter and the Monograph series). Please address your news notes or other contributions to her at 22 Pearl Street, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819.

INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM The Cambridge Archaeology Seminar has organized an international colloquium co-sponsored by the American School of Oriental Research and the Boston Chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America. The title of the colloquium is "The Reconstruction of Complex Societies" and will be held in the Kresge Auditorium on the M.I.T. campus April 29-30. The registration fee (\$6 for students, \$8 for others) includes the cost of copies of the full text of all papers presented. Make checks payable to: The Archaeological Institute of America and send them to Lawrence Stager, 1 Fallon Place, Cambridge, MA 02138.

HAVILAND ON MOUNDS Monograph No. 2, soon to be published by VAS, is authored by William Haviland, of the University of Vermont's Department of Sociology/Anthropology. It is entitled: Mounds in Vermont: Prehistoric or Historic?



## BOOK REVIEWS

FOLSOM, Franklin. America's ancient treasures.  
Guide to archeological sites and museums. New  
York, Rand McNally, [c1971]. LC Card no. 70-141564.  
Price: \$4.95. Paper, \$2.95

The science of archaeology has progressed immensely in this country since Squier and Davis published their famous Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley as the first volume of the Smithsonian Institution's Contributions to Knowledge. Digging up the past and displaying it can be said to have become a "big business" with government, academic institutions and even individuals involved in it.

When someone asks you "Where can I go to see some Indian remains?", Mr. Folsom's book answers the question admirably. The contents of the work is divided into seven geographical regions, as are the fine illustrations of the "features" from each area. The initial chapter does a fine job of distinguishing "pot and rock hounds" from the true collector.

There is a relief map showing 188 "archaeological sites" and an adequate index improves the books usability.

- Joseph T. Popecki  
St. Michael's College

PALLOTTINO, Massimo. The Meaning of archaeology. New York,  
Harry N. Abrams, Inc., [c1968]. LC Card no. 68-18129. Price:  
\$14.95.

The Meaning of Archaeology offers a clear understanding of the nature of archaeology, especially suited to the individual not previously acquainted with this vast field. The author, Massimo Pallottino, attempts to define and appraise archaeology, taking into account the most recent scientific developments as well as past finds and excavations. He also offers an objective re-examination of today's archaeological problems.

In attempting this appraisal, Pallottino manages to retain all the zeal and enthusiasm that accompanies the best in archaeological work. Moreover, the reader is likely to be further enticed by the interesting way in which the material is presented, the simple style, and the absence of difficult technical expressions. The text itself gives an excellent insight into the meaning of archaeology, and the numerous illustrations, many of them in full color, present a vivid history of archaeological excavations and finds.

The book begins with a brief history of archaeology. The author describes the re-discovery of antiquity as the awakening of man's romantic interest in his past and as man's desire for adventure. There is a brief history of modern scientific archaeology--the point at which archaeology became a science. The book then proceeds to

examine the human and non-professional motives in archaeology: for the love of the subject, for material gain, for cultural reasons. Pallottino describes these motives in action--the search, conservation, and interpretation of archaeological finds.

The final section deals with the many problems that face the world of archaeology. One of the main problems is that people in general have only a vague understanding of archaeology, regarding it only in the romantic sense of exciting discovery and fascinating mystery. Unfortunately, with this attitude many fail to understand the value of ancient remains as valuable scientific data, but instead regard archaeological objects as exotic curios, realizing only their monetary value and their desirability among collectors.

Also discussed is the growing problem of unauthorized and illegal excavations and plunderings. Although many of these secret pillagings present serious loss to historical knowledge, public authorities remain indifferent, labeling archaeological work as "useless extravagance", and thus weakening any legal protective measures.

Pallottino points out that we must increase general awareness of the scientific importance of archaeological research in order to obtain the amount of respect and reverence the field of archaeology needs to function properly. He states that it is imperative that reports of all excavations, not matter how seemingly insignificant, be published as an accurate record of the find, with notes and photographs to insure against the destruction and loss of information and finds that could later prove valuable in adding to the knowledge of our existence.

Pallottino concludes that the world-wide history of humanity can be presented only by archaeology. Adequate research can be obtained only if the flaws in present day archaeological work are corrected. Such improvements will allow archaeology to make valid contributions to the world-wide history of humanity appropriate to the age in which we now live.

- Joan Reiss

VOGEL, Virgil J. American Indian Medicine. Norman, Oklahoma, University of Oklahoma Press, 1970. XX, 583 p. (Civilization of the American Indian Series, Vol. 95.) Price: \$12.50.

This book is one of the most interesting treatises on American Indian medicine this reviewer has read. The level of presentation and the range of materials are well prepared and excellently presented. The medical practices, material and pharmacopoeia are treated in regional as well as time segments. The book begins with the contact period, with limited reconstruction of pre-European practices, and continues down to those remaining practices of the 20th century.

European medicine was not greatly advanced over the aboriginal practices found here. For example, sassafras was a cure-all to the early Europeans, and many of them were amazed at the empirical knowledge of the New World Indians. Others, by far the majority, looked condescendingly at the "heathen" practices found. However, many of the herbal decoctions of the Indians were of significance, and the herbs were registered in the National Pharmacopoeia Registry.

My only regret is the manner of presentation. It tends to be dry, academic and difficult to read from the standpoint of interest. Voluminous is the only manner of describing the footnotes, and at times they tend to intrude and break the presentation into segments that become difficult to follow. But for one involved in this type of research, reading of this work would be a must.

- Darrell Casteel

DO IT NOW!



## SPRING MEETING DINNER RESERVATION.

Mail this form to: Vermont Archaeological Society  
c/o Waterman, Room 300  
UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT  
Burlington, VT 05401  
ATT: Miss Zimmerman

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for me at the Spring VAS dinner meeting at the Sheraton Motor Inn, on April 29, at 7 PM. My choice(s) for the entree:

\_\_\_\_\_ London Broil, @\$5.95  
\_\_\_\_\_ Baked Virginia Ham, @\$5.10  
\_\_\_\_\_ Roast Vermont Turkey, @\$5.10

Prices include tax and gratuity. Payments may be made at the meeting.

REMEMBER THE "HAPPY HOUR" AT 5:30 PM!