

VAS newsletter... may 1978

An Occasional Newsletter of the Vermont Archaeological Society, Inc.

SHELBURNE MUSEUM SITE OF SPRING MEETING

JUNE 17 Bring an Old-fashioned Picnic Lunch! JUNE 17

GATHER AT THE PICNIC GROUNDS AT 12:30
next to the cafeteria

SEE A PROGRAM OF ARCHEOLOGICAL FILMS

FROM 2-4 PM IN THE MEETING HOUSE
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HELP US SAVE MONEY... SEND TO:
ENCLOSE A STAMPED, ADDRESS:
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**MAIL THIS ORDER & YOUR CHECK TO VERMONT
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, BOX 663, BURLINGTON, VT 05402**

STRUEVER DESCRIBES KOSTER SITE IMPORTANCE

Dr. Struever's lecture on the Koster Site on March 21 was a fascinating presentation of an important archaeological discovery. Equally fascinating and equally important, however, is the story of the organization behind the Koster excavation. How this organization evolved and what its future will be has implications not just for the Koster Site but for archaeology all over America.

The Northwestern Archaeological Program (NAP) directed by Dr. Struever seeks to develop and test new methods of archaeological recovery and research and to educate people of all ages in the goals and methods of archaeology. Sponsored jointly by the Foundation for Illinois Archaeology and Northwestern University, the NAP operates a year-round research and teaching facility in Kampsville, Illinois.

The research universe of the NAP is a 40 by 70 mile area centered in the lower Illinois River Valley which includes the confluences of the Missouri, Mississippi, and Illinois Rivers. The rich and stable food resources of the area probably account for the fact that the site density here is greater than any other place in North America north of the Valley of Mexico. The richness of the cultural remains is only one of many factors which make the lower Illinois River Valley an ideal location for developing a permanent archaeological research and teaching facility. The region is sparsely populated farmland with minimal previous destruction of archaeological sites. Cost of purchasing and maintaining facilities is as low as can be expected anywhere in America. Kampsville is near the major population centers of Chicago and St. Louis, providing access to students, researchers and tourists.

Beginning with one building in 1968, the Kampsville research and teaching center now consists of some 37 structures. Many of these had been sitting empty since the days when Kampsville was a thriving river-steamboat town. Other buildings were purchased at small cost after a flood devastated the town in 1973 and disheartened residents moved to higher ground. Most of the buildings are devoted to dormitories and labs but the center includes a new cafeteria, a 14,000-volume archaeological library, a museum, and an artifact repository. The facility is capable of housing and feeding about 300 students and staff during the summer months and 100 during the rest of the year.

One of the cornerstones of the NAP is its commitment to the interdisciplinary approach to archaeology. Specialists in botany, zoology, palynology, human osteology, geology, malacology, statistics, and other fields are working together in collecting and analyzing the data. Many of these specialists also teach courses concerning the application of their disciplines to the study of archaeology.

The Koster Site is the most well-known of the projects on which NAP specialists are collaborating. For many, the Koster Site is synonymous with the NAP, but this is far from the case. Koster is just one of many ongoing projects of the NAP. Koster has played a very important role in the development of both the NAP and the "new archaeology," although its lasting contributions will not be fully understood for some time. With 14 or more separate layers of occupation spanning over 8,000 years, the Koster Site has provided a clear chronology of the Archaic period. The layercake construction of the site has caught wide-spread public attention; 40,000 tourists visit the site each year, providing much financial support for the excavations.

A permanent research and teaching organization, however, cannot rely on the sporadic funds generated by a sensational discovery. Despite grants from public and private foundations, tuition, and the sale of publications, the NAP relies heavily on private donations for survival. Although the NAP shows the exciting possibilities of the new directions in archaeology proposed by Binford, McGimsey and others, its survival is far from a foregone conclusion. The success of the NAP and other programs like it which may develop, is not contingent on whether or not there is interest in archaeology. The flood of applications and inquiries about the NAP from around the country indicates a vast interest in all aspects of this type of program. Stuart Struever put it this way:

The key to our future lies in whether or not we can convince the private community that we have created an innovative educational and research program which has expectable overhead costs, and that these costs are worth meeting to insure the continuation of the program.

--Clark W. Hinsdale, III--

IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR DUES FOR CALENDAR 1978,

WHY NOT SLIP IN A CHECK FOR THAT, TOO.

THE DUES RENEWAL FORM IS ON PAGE 7

ACT NOW TO PREVENT AN END TO FEDERAL ARCHEOLOGICAL SALVAGE FUNDS

State Archaeologist Giovanna Neudorfer recently informed the VAS that without prompt reauthorization, the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-291, "The Moss-Bennett Act") will soon cease to operate. Much of the following information was provided by the National Park Service's Interagency Archaeological Services.

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE FUNDING PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC LAW 93-291 (The Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974, which amends Public Law 86-523, the Reservoir Salvage Act of 1960)

1. Section 7 of the Act requires reauthorization in the current session of congress. Without this, Interior will be unable to continue the recovery of archaeological materials and data from Federal or federally assisted construction projects after Fiscal Year 1978.
2. Section 7, paragraph (b) and (c) provide for appropriations to the Secretary, to be used at his discretion, beyond the one percent (1%) a Federal Agency can legally expend for archaeological salvage under this authority.
3. Monies appropriated to the Secretary are used in two ways:
 - a. they cover program administrative costs, and;
 - b. they are expended for contracts to carry out archaeological salvage in Federal or federally related construction projects where archaeological resources are threatened with loss.
4. If these funding authorities are not extended, there will be no legal authority to salvage archaeological remains in:
 - a. EPA licensed projects.
 - b. HUD urban renewal projects: Grants and mortgages guarantees.
 - c. Corps of Engineers' projects permitted under the 1899 Rivers and Harbors Act.
 - d. Most EDA projects.
 - e. All other Federal or federally assisted or related construction projects carried out under Federal permit or license.
 - f. In addition, because the Secretary's authorities are used to cover most of the salvage costs in SCS watershed projects, archaeological and historical remains will be destroyed without study. Lawsuits against the Federal Government can be expected and public works projects will be delayed.

As a result of the Secretary's role of coordinating the Federal data recovery effort and in providing technical advice to other Federal agencies on archaeological matters,

more Federal money is being kept from wasteful expenditure than is authorized to be appropriated in Section 7.

6. Federal agencies do not ordinarily transfer funds to the Secretary under the provisions of Section 7(a) of the Act. During the 1977 fiscal year such transfers amounted to only \$549,215.
7. Appropriations to the Secretary under Public Law 93-291:

	Authorized	Appropriated
FY1974	\$2,500,000	\$1,811,000
FY1975	3,000,000	1,819,000
FY1976	4,500,000	1,847,000
FY1977	4,500,000	1,831,000
FY1978	4,500,000	2,688,000

The reauthorization bills introduced in the Senate and House of Representatives are designed to continue Public Law 93-291's funding of archaeological salvage for fiscal years 1979-1983. The Senate hearing on S.2699 (the Senate version of the reauthorization legislation) was held on April 6, and "went smoothly" according to Dr. Hester Davis, head of the Society for American Archaeology's Committee on Public Archaeology. House hearings on H.R.11522 must be held as soon as possible, certainly before the August recess. For this reason, as editor of this Newsletter, I urge you to write the members of the House of Representatives noted below, stating your concern over the fate of H.R.11522.

We too often assume that once we've elected our congressional delegation, we've "done our part" in governmental affairs. This is a dangerously false assumption; if Senators and Representatives are not made aware of public concern, they can neither take it into consideration nor act on it. This pending legislation is of vital importance to the people of Vermont and the rest of the nation as well. The University of Vermont Anthropology Department's planned summer salvage excavation of the Winooski Site, VT-CH-46, has been made possible by the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974. If H.R.11522 is not soon passed by the House of Representatives, we will no longer have the Federal funding to enable us to conduct important site salvage operations.

Please contact: Hon. Phillip Burton, Chairman, Subcommittee on National Parks & Insular Affairs, Committee on Interior & Insular Affairs, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515.

Honorable Morris K. Udall, Chairman
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Please also write Representative James Jeffords, Vermont's elected House member, and strongly urge him to carry your concern about H.R.11522 to his colleagues.

Honorable James Jeffords
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

A number of VAS members have already sent letters to House members on this legislation; if the rest of us are to do more than simply pay lip service to the cause of archaeological preservation, we too will write.

--William Bayreuther, Editor

TRUSTEE MEETING DATES

The VAS Board of Trustees has set its meeting dates for the next six months. All interested Society members are welcome to attend and present their opinions on the business at hand. All scheduled meetings are called to order at 7:30 PM, and meeting places vary, although most are in the Burlington area. Please contact Board members, if interested, for locations of particular meetings. The schedule follows:

May 8 -- Seminar Room, UVM Anthropology Dept.,
5th floor Williams Science Hall
(Burlington)

June 12

July 17

August 21

September 11

October 2

LOOKING FOR FIELD WORK ?

Archaeological Institute of America has released its 1978 Fieldwork Opportunities Bulletin. This publication contains a list of over one hundred archaeological projects, throughout the United States and in foreign countries, to which interested individuals are invited to apply for work. Many field schools are listed, volunteers may work on some projects, and paid staff positions are available on many. Some of the projects are excavation-oriented, others involve site survey work, and many offer both.

Whether you would like to attend a field school, work for pay, or just want to gain archaeological experience, this twenty-four page bulletin may be of interest to you. It is available for inspection in the Anthropology Lab, Room 501 Williams Science Hall, on the UVM campus in Burlington. If interested, please act quickly, as many application deadlines have already passed!

SHELBURNE POND YIELDS DUGOUT CANOE

A derelict dug-out canoe was discovered in late November of 1977 at Shelburne Pond, Shelburne, Vermont. The canoe was found at the pond's edge by Jim Mansfield and John White, both UVM students, who were canoeing on the pond. Jim contacted the UVM Anthropology Department, and Frank Cowan accompanied him to the site, where the canoe was verified and recorded. Several weeks later, a crew of seven was organized to recover the canoe before the ice could cause irreparable damage. Giovanna, Bob and Joshua Neudorfer, Kevin Crisman, Jim Mansfield, landowner Henry Crase, and Frank Cowan removed it from a temporary cache under the ice, and transported it to an apple storage facility in Ferrisburg, where it is now stored at temperature and humidity levels near-optimal for preservation of the wet wood.

The canoe is 5.61 m (18.5 ft.) long, with an available width of .59m (23.25 in.), and an

approximately two meters long) broke from the canoe when it was originally hauled ashore and turned over. These may still be articulated with the rest of the craft.

The age of the canoe is presently undetermined. The relatively good preservation of the wood, and the fact that it was not found in a waterlogged condition, argue for a recent origin. Unfortunately, the surfaces are water-worn to the extent that all possible tool marks have been eroded away.

The dug-out was found lying in the water against an eroding clay bank in which quartzite flakes, one utilized, and fire-cracked rocks were exposed. The discovery of this previously unrecorded site brings to a total of seven the number of known sites on the current Shelburne Pond shoreline, and to fifteen the number of recorded sites within the proposed Shelburne Pond



5.61 m.

available depth of 26 cm (10.25 in.). The thickness of the canoe is approximately 6 cm on the bottom, and approximately 2.5-30cm at what appear to be the gunwales. The wood is tentatively identified as white pine.

One end of the canoe is largely intact; the other is represented by only a narrow remnant of the original portion. Most of the surviving length is represented only by the thicker bottom. Towards the intact end, the sides rise markedly. Three side fragments (two small, one

Archaeological District.

An offer to sponsor radio-carbon dating of the canoe has been made by Ian Worley of the University of Vermont's Environmental Program. Dr. Worley has been studying the paleoenvironment of Shelburne Pond for the past five years.

Frank Cowan is making arrangements for the disposition and display of the canoe. Anyone having information concerning this or any other dug-out canoe in the state is asked to contact Frank at 501 Williams Hall, UVM, Burlington.

CALENDAR YEAR 1978 CALL FOR DUES

1978 Vermont Archaeological Society dues are now past due. The tardiness of this issue of the Newsletter has obviously delayed the formal call for dues; however, we've all got to ante up! As the Society operates on a small budget, largely dependent on the current year's dues, it's extremely important that memberships be faithfully and promptly renewed. Financial and ethical constraints will make it impossible for the VAS to continue to supply benefits of membership to those who are delinquent in payment of yearly dues.

Dues have not been raised; a payment equal to last year's will help fund our organization's activities and provide you with the advantages of membership which this year will include the receipt, at no charge, of a research report by J.B. Petersen on the prehistoric ceramics from the Winooski Site, VT-CH-46. Scheduled for publication this Fall, Jim's report will be similar to his Ewing pottery paper, which is abstracted in this issue. The complete Ewing paper is also to be published by the VAS in the near future, and will likewise be free of charge to Society members.

Those who have not already done so may renew for 1978 by completing the membership application found elsewhere in this issue. Please be sure to indicate on the application form that yours is a "renewal" payment. "New" members are also asked to indicate their status.

The support of its members will ultimately decide the role the Society plays in future exploration, interpretation, and management of Vermont's rich archaeological heritage. Financial support, as I've already argued, is very important. But it is only part of a larger picture. Those members who wish may actively further the work of the VAS. It's trite, but true; the Society can be only what we make of it. Vermont Archaeological Society members have much to be proud of--the organization has come a long way since its birth in 1968--and can go much farther still.

--The Editor--

BILL MURPHY DESIGNS NEW VAS BROCHURE

Trustee William Murphy has prepared a public oriented VAS information brochure. This attractively illustrated pamphlet provides a brief introduction to underwater and historical archaeological research, and impartially mentions the current New World Celtic controversy. Emphasis is placed throughout on the relevance of archaeology to present-day Vermonters.

The main purpose of this publication is to stimulate public interest in archaeological endeavor; a VAS membership application is provided on each copy. Public participation is essential to wise management of Vermont's nonrenewable cultural resource base, and this brochure

stresses that all archaeological work should be conducted in a responsible manner.

Several hundred of these brochures were recently distributed at the Champlain Valley Lawn, Garden and Art Show in Essex Junction, and copies continue to be available from the Society at no cost.

VAS & VDHP SPONSOR BIMONTHLY SEMINARS IN ARCHEOLOGY

Program Scope and Goals

The program will feature six speakers per year in three different Vermont towns on a rotating basis (see schedule for this year). A nominal donation (\$2) collected at the door, will go back into the VAS Educational Revolving Fund.

The Bimonthly Seminars are perceived as an ongoing statewide attempt to provide educational opportunities to the public and to members of special interest groups on matters related to archaeology in general, and Vermont prehistory and history, in particular.

Special interest groups include members of the VAS, who can acquire seminar participation credit for amateur certification purposes, secondary school teachers, and even students, who are interested in acquiring new information to supplement their social science programs, students from the state college system, and members of local historical societies. Program notices will be sent to these various groups; at the state colleges, the notices will go the department chairpersons.

There will be a major news release at the beginning of the series and then one notice will be run for each individual program. Keep your eyes on these for further information and for possible last-minute program changes.

Upcoming seminars include:

June 17, 1978 - Brattleboro Library, 220 Main Street, Brattleboro, Vermont. Dr. Dena Dincauze - Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Ecological relationships as demonstrated in the archaeological record.

August 19, 1978 - Rutland Free Library, Court Street, Rutland Vermont. Dr. Marjory Power - Department of Anthropology, University of Vermont. The inference of ethnic differences from 18th century archaeological sites.

October 14, 1978 - Room 455, Waterman, University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont. Dr. Robert Funk - New York State Archaeologist, New York State Museum and Science Service, Albany. Early man in the northeast: age, distribution and culture.

December 2, 1978 - Brattleboro Library, 220 Main Street, Brattleboro, Vermont. Dr. William Haviland - Department of Anthropology, University of Vermont. An ethnographic overview of Vermont.

PREHISTORIC CERAMICS FROM THE EWING SITE

Prepared in December 1977 by J. B. Petersen, UVM Department of Anthropology.

One hundred and thirty nine sherd lots were defined from a sample of 2,175 prehistoric pottery sherds from the Ewing Site, VT-CH-5, on Shelburne Pond in Shelburne, Vermont. Seven of these lots represent the fragmentary remains of pottery pipes; the other 132 were construed to represent discrete ceramic vessels, oral diameters ranging from 6 cm (2 3/8 in.) to 22 cm (8 5/8 in.) for the sixteen vessels with well preserved rim portions. Since the 139 sherd lots are defined on the basis of only 495 out of 2,175 sherds, many additional sherd or vessel lots may be represented in this sample.

The majority (1,877 sherds) of this sample was recovered during the 1962-1967 excavation at VT-CH-5 by Ken Varney, while only 298 sherds were recovered from the Burlington Chapter, VAS excavation of 1974-1977. Special thanks are offered to Mr. Varney, who graciously made available his ceramic collection, which he subsequently donated to the UVM Department of Anthropology. His large sample further strengthened my tentative conclusions as to the temporal placement and duration of the several Woodland period occupations of VT-CH-5.

A small and/or short-term Middle Woodland occupation has been postulated on the basis of at least five vessels with diagnostic Middle Woodland attributes, which include channeled interior surfaces, smooth exterior surfaces, and a variety of dentate, push-pull, and rocker stamped decorative techniques. This occupation may correlate with the Burnt Hill phase of the late Middle Woodland period first defined in the Lake George region and tentatively dated to about 800 A.D. by Dr. Robert Funk, New York State Archaeologist.

A longer lasting Late Woodland occupation or series of occupations is postulated on the basis of Owasco-like ceramic vessels, radiocarbon dated between about 1,000 and 1,400 A.D. in New York State. The preponderance of cord paddled exterior surfaces and cord impressed and incised decorative techniques seems to support the idea of an enduring and intensive occupation or occupations during this period. Several easily discernible type designations provide secure temporal markers for this Late Woodland occupation, the latest seemingly related to early Iroquois-like pottery of the fourteenth century. No evidence of later ceramic vessels was noted in the preliminary analysis.

A hearty vote of thanks is due Mr. Davis Koier, who has recently stepped down after doing yeoman's work as editor of this newsletter for a year and a half. A member of the VAS Board of Trustees, Davis has moved from Montpelier to Lamoille County, where he currently enjoys the fruits of "country living." Best wishes in your future endeavors, Davis!
-William Bayreuther, Editor-

Copy is now being solicited for the Summer issue of the Newsletter. This publication should, ideally, reflect the interests of the Society's members, all of whom are encouraged to submit material for inclusion. Welcome are the following:

- articles dealing with Vermont archaeology (both historic and prehistoric)
- general archaeologically-oriented articles
- reviews of archaeological publications
- VAS announcements
- any other items which would be of interest to the Society's members

Copy should be sent to:
EDITOR
Vermont Archaeological Society
Box 663
Burlington, VT 05402

HAVILAND TO WRITE INDIAN HISTORY

William A. Haviland, Chairman of UVM's Anthropology Department, has been awarded a Fellowship for Independent Study and Research for the academic year 1977-78. Out of 1,737 applicants, only 173 (about 1 in 10) were successful.

Haviland's fellowship will allow him to devote a full year's sabbatical to the writing of a book on Vermont Indians. The book will cover both the archaeology and ethnology of Indians in Vermont, in order to present an account of culture history from the state's first settlement approximately 10,000 years ago up to the eve of European settlement. A concluding section will deal with Vermont Indians today.

The book will be a cultural account with an emphasis on culture patterns: how they served peoples' needs; how they did, and how they did not change through time. The book will be aimed at a general audience, in order to make them aware of Vermont's rich Indian heritage. It should also serve to promote conservation archaeology in Vermont, assist researchers in planning productive research strategies, and alert professionals to a body of unpublished material on Vermont Indians.

BOUCHER SITE ARTIFACTS GO TO UVM

The Department of Anthropology at the University of Vermont is pleased to announce that Mr. and Mrs. John Boucher have made a gift of the artifacts from the Boucher Site (VT-FR-26) to the University. The Boucher site was excavated by members of the VAS, anthropology students from UVM, and other volunteers in 1973 under Louise Basa's direction. This was the first complete excavation of an Early Woodland, Adena-related cemetery in the Northeast. Three other such cemeteries were previously known in Vermont, but none were properly excavated, and the artifact collections do not survive intact.

By their gift, the Boucher's have insured that this unique collection of artifacts will remain essentially intact, available to scholars for further study. For this, they deserve the thanks of the entire Vermont (and Northeastern) archaeological community.

CALL FOR 1978 DUES



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NEW RENEWAL

"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; to disseminate archaeological information; to seek through education the promotion of intelligent archaeological activity; to prevent the commercial exploitation of archaeological sites and specimens; and to foster a public understanding of the aims of archaeological research."

-- Article 1, Bylaws.

I subscribe to the purposes of the Society and hereby apply for election as a _____ member.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ zip

DATE _____ Age if student or senior citizen _____

DUES SCHEDULE:

Individual.....	\$ 5.00
Family.....	8.00
Sustaining.....	12.00
Student.....	3.00 (under 18 only)
Senior citizen.....	3.00 (over 65 only)
Institutional.....	8.00
Contributing.....	25.00
Life.....	\$100.00

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE VERMONT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
AND MAIL TO:

Secretary
Vermont Archaeological Society
P.O. Box 663
Burlington, VT 05402

The VAS is currently exploring ways in which we might improve our program to disseminate information on archaeology to Vermonters of all ages. In the past, individual VAS members have responded to requests for speakers from schools, Scout troops, clubs and other groups on an informal, word-of-mouth basis. Coordinating these efforts through the establishment of a Speakers' Bureau would result in an expansion of of the program and serve as a more effective means of fulfilling our educational responsibilities.

Our immediate goal, then, is to ask for volunteers who would be willing to donate an hour or so of time to meet these requests as their personal schedules permit. Speaker participation could take almost any form-- a slide presentation, informal talk, a show-and-tell session. Topics might include the culture history of Vermont, the nature of prehistoric and historic archaeology, Indian ethnography, current local or regional archaeological activities and others aimed at specific audience levels.

Membership in the Bureau would not mean that participants would be obligated to accept every request. Our aim is to increase our numbers and topics, not to impose burdens on a few dedicated individuals.

Whether you are wildly enthusiastic or mildly interested, we would greatly appreciate your input on the information form. We will especially welcome comments about the mechanics of operating the Bureau, names of other potential speakers, topics you would like to see included, or any other ideas you want to share with us.

-Marjory W. Power

NAME
ADDRESS
PHONE
TOPIC(S)

TYPE OF PRESENTATION

APPROXIMATE LENGTH

AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT NEEDED

AUDIENCE LEVEL

COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS

Mail to VAS, Box 663, Burlington, VT 05402
Detach the entire page after completing form.
NOTE THE CALL FOR DUES ON THE REVERSE SIDE.

from
THE VERMONT ARCHAEOLOGICAL
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TO



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