

VAS newsletter...

JANUARY, 1984

NUMBER 46

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VERMONT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Prudence Doherty, Editor

VAS Publishes John's Bridge Report

The VAS Publications Committee is happy to announce the reprinting of The John's Bridge Site: An Early Archaic Period Site in Northwestern Vermont, by Peter Thomas and Brian Robinson. The report was originally prepared for the Vermont Agency of Transportation. Because of the site's significance, the VAS and the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation have reprinted the report for general circulation.

The John's Bridge Site, located on the Missisquoi River in Swanton, Vermont, was excavated in 1979-1980 with the assistance of VAS members. The site produced a distinctive tool inventory and data related to hunting and fishing subsistence strategies, butchering or hide processing, cooking, tool manufacture and a possible shelter. The tool inventory included a previously unidentified type of projectile point now called "Swanton corner-

notched". Similar tools have since been identified at other sites in northwestern Vermont. Reliable C-14 dates indicate that the site was occupied at approximately 8000-8200 B.P. (years before present).

This is the first VAS publication since Jim Petersen's monograph on the Winooski Site ceramics was issued in 1980. 100 copies of the John's Bridge report were printed and approximately half have already been sold. The Publications Committee, with the assistance of the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, tried to keep the price as low as possible. Profits from sales of the report will be used to help reprint other reports prepared by the University of Vermont contract archaeology program. Copies are available from the VAS for \$5.00 plus \$.75 postage. Order yours now!

VAS Lab Sessions Resume

Bill Noel, Laurie LaBar and Steve Nelson will continue lab sessions at the UVM Anthropology Lab on every other Wednesday night, beginning January 18. The lab sessions were started two years ago to provide VAS members and other interested people with a chance to work on artifacts and to complete the cataloging of material from the Ewing Site. All material excavated from that site by the VAS has been processed. Now work will be directed toward processing artifacts recovered from the Ewing Site during this summer's field school activities. All are welcome to participate. The work sessions will last from 7-9 PM in the Anthropology Lab, 5th floor, Williams Hall, University of Vermont.

Native American Project Planned for Discovery Museum

A very exciting program is in the planning stages at the Discovery Museum, a children's museum in Essex Junction, Vermont. Contingent on approval by the National Endowment for the Humanities, a replica of an aboriginal dwelling and workshops on Indian technologies and crafts will be available to the public.

The primary purpose of the project will be to teach a large group of 12-18-year old students about the past and present culture of Vermont's Native Americans.

Charlie Paquin, a well-known local exper-

New Board Members, Officers Elected

The VAS Board has recently lost several members, including Jan Warren, Gordon Nielsen and Lauren Kelley Parren. Two new members were elected at the annual meeting. Bruce Flewelling is from Rochester, VT and works for the Forest Service, spending part of his time checking the impact of Forest Service projects on archaeological resources. Tom Lawrence lives in Wilder, VT and has been involved in archaeology projects for some time. Both new members are interested in VAS education activities. Tom has already organized a Connecticut Valley Archaeology Study Group (see article elsewhere in this issue). Dee Brightstar, Gina Campoli and Sanborn Partridge were reelected to the Board. An additional member is needed to fill Lauren Parren's seat. Any interested VAS members should contact the Board.

Dee Brightstar replaces Bill Noel as President of the Society, and Steve Nelson now serves as Vice-President. Joe Popecki and Sue Gallagher continue as Treasurer and Secretary.

The Board would like to thank departing Board members for their valuable contributions.

1984 DUES ARE DUE

See Membership List & Form Inside

1 → DISCOVERY MUSEUM

imental archaeologist and VAS member, will be the primary teacher. Charlie and the students will provide presentations for the general public on stone tools, pottery, basket-making and traditional uses of wild plants. Special guests, including Abenaki craftsmen and dancers and professional archaeologists, will also be involved.

If the project is accepted by the NEH this summer, an agenda of public offerings will be included in a future Newsletter.

Exhibit on New England Archaeology Opens at Museum of Our National Heritage

Ten recent archaeological excavations are examined in "Unearthing New England's Past: the Cermaic Evidence", an exhibit opening Jan. 29, 1984 through Jan. 13, 1985 at the Museum of Our National Heritage in Lexington, Mass. The exhibit focuses on historical archaeology and the ceramic artifacts unearthed from ten New England historical sites.

To show the important role of ceramics in archaeology, the exhibit displays over 300 ceramic objects--sherds, reconstructed pieces, and comparable collection pieces--according to site but also keyed to various time periods, social units, and archaeological themes. A history of basic ceramic types and identification (such as cream-wares, pearlwares, porcelains, Chinese export wares, and ordinary redwares, among others) is another facet of the exhibition. Visitors are encouraged to take part in the process of historical research in the "Archaeology Laboratory" where they can match and mend pottery and learn about lab techniques. A videotape explains how a site is excavated and why people of all ages often join an archaeological dig.

An exhibit catalog, with site essays, and information with photographs on ceramics, is available by writing the museum at P.O. Box 519, Lexington, Mass. 02173. The cost is \$14.00 (post-paid). The Museum of Our National Heritage is open daily, admission and parking are free. For more information, call (617)861-6560. (The Museum is located at 33 Marrett Rd. in Lexington.)

Spring Meeting will be Tri-state Affair

The VAS spring meeting format will be enlarged again this year. The overwhelming success of last year's bi-state meeting (over 100 people attended) was the catalyst for the organization of a tri-state meeting.

The Northern New England Archaeological Conference will be held on Saturday, April 14, 1984 at a location to be announced later. The Vermont Archaeological Society is responsible for planning the program, and the New Hampshire group will arrange facilities. Two speakers will represent each state society (Maine is the third state participating), with one speaker addressing a prehistoric topic and one an historic subject.

The meeting will begin in late morning and include a luncheon and a closing wine and cheese "happy hour". Look for complete details and a reservation blank in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Constructing the Past: 1984 CNEA Conference

The 1984 annual meeting of the Conference on New England Archaeology will be held on Saturday, March 17 at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. The conference will focus particularly on the problems involved in defining meaningful spatial units for drawing inferences about past human behavior. For prehistoric archaeologists, a major concern is the function of sites within larger settlement areas and their validity as analytical units. For historic archaeologists, relevant units for analysis include sites, landscapes, and the larger societal and economic region in which they are imbedded.

A series of theoretical papers will be delivered in the morning session, and a series of case studies in both prehistoric and historic archaeology will follow in the afternoon. Speakers will include Peter Thomas from UVM. For more information, contact: Victoria Kenyon, New Hampshire Historical Society, 30 Park St., Concord, NH 03301.

Publications of Interest

AMERICA'S ANCIENT TREASURES, by Franklin Folsom and Mary Elting Folsom, University of New Mexico Press, \$35.00 hardcover, \$14.95 paper.

America's Ancient Treasures is an enlarged and revised edition of Rand McNally's 1974 traveler's guide to archaeological sites and museums throughout the U.S. and Canada. This new edition profiles nearly 400 archaeological sites that are open to the public, as well as museums and other collections that contain prehistoric relics and artifacts.

MEADOWCROFT-COLLECTED PAPERS ON THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF MEADOWCROFT ROCKSHELTER AND THE CROSS CREEK DRAINAGE, edited by R.C. Carlisle and J.M. Adovasio, University of Pittsburgh Department of Anthropology, \$11.00 plus \$1.50 postage.

This volume is a collection of 15 papers on the geo-archaeological investigation of Meadowcroft Rockshelter and the archaeological survey of Cross Creek. Meadowcroft Rockshelter, excavated between 1973 and 1978 by the University of Pittsburgh, has produced an astounding array of prehistoric and historic period artifacts representing virtually all phases in the human occupation of the drainage. This 270-pp. bound volume represents the latest information on Meadowcroft, which has produced the earliest radiocarbon dates for the presence of humans in northeastern North America. The site also has the earliest current evidence of cultigens in the Upper Ohio Valley as well as the earliest ceramics in this part of the Northeast. Only 100 copies of this volume are available from the Department of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

THE NEW ENGLAND GLASSWORKS, Temple, New Hampshire, 1780-1782, by David R. Starbuck.

This short pamphlet provides an overview of excavations conducted at a short-lived glass factory in southern New Hampshire. The booklet contains a brief history of the site, a summary of recent archaeological research, and conclusions. Drawings and photographs illustrate the text. The pamphlet may be available from the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Office (the source is not listed on the publication).

Connecticut Valley Archaeological Study Group Formed

Board member Tom Lawrence has organized a group of VAS and New Hampshire Archaeological Society members who are interested in the archaeology of the Connecticut River Valley. The study group has met several times in the White River Junction area. They hope to be active in educational activities in the area, such as talking about the area's prehistory to schools and other groups, and to participate in archaeological projects that may be conducted there. Any VAS members who are interested in meeting with this group should contact Tom at 138 Hartford Ave., Wilder, VT, (802)295-2984.

MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING December 31, 1983

M/M Francis T. Fenn (84)
Carol Fitzpatrick (83)
Bruce K. Flewelling (83)
Suzanne Gallagher (83)
Marlene Gray (84)
James E. Griffin (83)
Jane & Lucien Hanks (Life)
William A. Haviland (83)
Laura Wilson Heller (83)
James Heller (83)
Clark W. Hinsdale III (83)
Fred Holland (*)
Carleton Howe (84)
R. Arthur Johnson (87)
Edward A. Krause (84)
Clara K. Kropper (84)
Laureen A. LaBar (83)
Margaret S. Lambeth (83)
Mrs. Robert Lange (83)
Thomas Lawrence (84)
Charles G. Leeuw (84)
Edward Lenik (83)
Kelly Lord (83)
Stephen Loring (84)

Erica Mahlmann (*)
M/M Lee Marion (83)
Martha T. McClain (83)
Jay E. McMahan (83)
Robert G. Mead (83)
June White Miller (83)
Barbara E. Mills (83)
John S. Moody (83)
William Murphy (83)
Stephen Nelson (84)
NHAS (exchange)
Graham S. Newell (83)
Gordon R. Nielsen (84)
William Noel (83)
Stephen J. Oberon (84)
Eleanor Ott (84)
Lauren Kelley Parren (83)
Sanborn Partridge (Life)
Philip & Miriam Peace (83)
Jeanne & Joseph Popecki (83)
William T. Potts (83)
Marjorie Power (83)
Victor Rolando (84)
Douglas C. Reaves (83)

Frederick Royce (Life)
Rutland Historical Society (83)
Barbara Sager (84)
Leslie R. Sander (83)
Allison W. Saville (83)
Barbara Schouten (84)
Robert L. Schuyler (Life)
Rosamond S. Sheldon (84)
Sheldon Elementary School (84)
Elizabeth Sincerbeaux (83)
Juliann Skurdenis (83)
Mrs. Durwood Smith (Life)
Faye Soderberg (83)
Anne Felton Spencer (Life)
David R. Starbuck (83)
Terry Stone (84)
Gordon R. Sweeney (83)
Peter A. Thomas (84)
U.S. Forest Service (84)
Kenneth E. Varney (Life)
Franz J. Wackers (83)
Rachel Walker (83)
Richard Ward (83)
Robert & Faye Wener (83)
Allen R. Yale, Jr. (83)

The VAS dues year is the Calendar year. After each name below, in parenthesis is the year through which that person's dues are paid. PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME MEMBERS ARE ALREADY PAID FOR 1984. If you have been a VAS member and your name is not on the list, you have not paid dues for 1983 and perhaps longer. If you have questions about your membership, please drop a note to: Treasurer, Vermont Archaeological Society, Box 663, Burlington, VT 05402.

Jules J. Arel (83)
Louise Basa (83)
William Bayreuther III (83)
Tom Blais (83)
Marjory Breton (83)
Deanna L. Brightstar (84)
Richard Brousseau (83)
Cathy Brown (83)
Jason A. Carbine (83)
Lilian Baker Carlisle (84)
Daniel F. Cassidy (84)
Arthur B. Cohn (83)
Grace H. Cook (83)
Fred & Joan Cowan (83)
Kevin Crisman (83)
Joyce Daniels (83)
Gordon M. Day (83)
C. Diane DeRoche (83)
Warren Dexter (84)
Prudence Doherty (83)
David DuBrul (83)
ESAF (exchange)
John & Judith Farmer (83)
Muriel Farrington (83)

* Full mailing information for new members Fred Holland and Erica Mahlmann is missing. If you can supply it, please send it to: Joseph T. Popecki, Treasurer, VAS, Box 663, Burlington, VT 05402. Thank you.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWAL

NEW
 RENEWAL

1984

I SUBSCRIBE TO THE PURPOSES OF THE SOCIETY AND HEREBY APPLY (OR REAPPLY) FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE CATEGORY CHECKED BELOW.

Please print or type:

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY OR TOWN _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____
COUNTRY _____ PHONE _____
DATE _____ AGE _____ (If student or senior citizen)

Signature _____

DUES SCHEDULE (please check one)

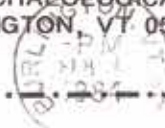
- Individual (\$7.50)
- Family (\$14.00)
- Student or Senior Citizen* (\$3.00)
- Contributing (\$15.00)
- Sustaining (\$50.00)
- Life (\$125.00)
- Non-profit Institutional (\$10.00)
- Institutional (\$15.00)

If you want a membership card, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. You may photocopy this form.

* Under 18 or over 65 years of age.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE VERMONT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. AND MAIL TO SOCIETY, BOX 663, BURLINGTON, VT. 05402 0663

Vermont Archaeological Society, Inc.
Box 663
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FIRST CLASS

TO

Giovanna Peebles
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