

# VAS newsletter...

A PUBLICATION OF THE  
VERMONT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Prudence Doherty, Editor

Information about the Fall Meeting is included in this issue. Stephen Nelson has organized an excellent program, and the meeting location at the Fleming Museum promises to add a special touch. Talks on recent Vermont projects as well as some conducted farther afield will be held in the Museum's new auditorium. In addition, members will be able to view the Fleming's new exhibit, "The Original Vermonters", curated by Professors William Haviland and Marjory Power. Hope to see you there.

## ***New Faces in Vermont Archeology***

Two new archaeologists have begun working in Vermont this summer. Shelley Hight has been hired by the Division for Historic Preservation as an assistant to the State Archaeologist, and David Lacy is working for the U.S. Forest Service in the Green Mountain National Forest.

Shelley Hight has a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and a Master's degree in cultural resource management from the University of South Carolina. In addition to assisting Giovanna Peebles with the daily activities of the State Archaeologist's office, Shelley is involved in several special projects. She is developing cultural resource management plans for all the parks administered by the Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation. She is also working with volunteers in the south-eastern part of the state to develop a program that will allow local volunteers to assist the Division in its job of protecting archaeological resources.

David Lacy is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. David will be conducting archaeological surveys in the Green Mountain National Forest, and will be developing a management plan for prehistoric archaeological sites located within the Forest boundaries.

Shelley can be reached at the Division for Historic Preservation in Montpelier, and David can be reached at the Forest Service headquarters in Rutland.

**DON'T FORGET TO FILL OUT  
YOUR TRUSTEE BALLOT**

## **Paquin Studies Nielsen Collections from Little Otter Creek**

This spring I was fortunate in having the opportunity to study archaeological materials from 70 sites that lie within the Little Otter Creek watershed. These materials represent a portion of an impressive collection built up over several years by Dr. Gordon Nielsen (UVM Plant and Soil Science, VAS member).

Dr. Nielsen has not only collected and located numerous sites, but has also kept unusually complete documentation of his finds. He has cooperated with the State Archaeologist, archaeologists at the University of Vermont, and various students and scholars who have a strong interest in Vermont's prehistory. As a result, his collection can be considered an ideal source of fresh data for the areas that he has worked in.

Aware of the value of this material, Giovanna Peebles (State Archaeologist), Nathan Hamilton (Ph.D. candidate, University of Pittsburgh) and I designed a project to inventory and photograph materials from Dr. Nielsen's collection and to compile information on the sites in the Little Otter Creek drainage basin. Updating state site survey forms originally submitted by Dr. Nielsen was also considered to be an important part of the project. Data from this study was to be put into the Division's files for future research and planning.

A grant was submitted to the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation and was approved in April, 1984. Donation of funds by the Vermont Archaeological Society and Dr. Nielsen's donation of personal time were crucial in matching the Division's grant. I cannot overstate my appreciation to Dr. Nielsen, the VAS, and the Division.

As Dr. Nielsen and I located the material and packed it into my car, I realized what an incredible number of artifacts I had to work with. I loaded my car until the springs went flat for each of the two trips I made to pick them up, and I have a big car! Some sites have as many as three 10" x 12" x 14" boxes full of specimens.

Once at UVM's Anthropology Lab, I began to systematically order and assess the material. This was time consuming, but I can think of no collection that would be as easy to organize. All the artifacts were in small "collection" boxes that were labelled on the outside. Most of these represented one visit to one site and had slips of paper with specific information



## NIELSEN COLLECTION

included. If more than one day's materials were in a box, the dates, maps and locus designations were recorded on slips of paper for each visit and included.

I cleared off several large tables and layed out the material from each site in front of the collection boxes. This allowed for a rapid inventory and site overview. The diagnostic artifacts were separated and photographed. Then all the materials were packed again and put into larger boxes according to site.

The inventories and photographs for each site were included in separate file folders. When completed these folders contained the following information for each site:

- a complete inventory sheet
- a site summary sheet
- copies of Gordon's maps, notes, etc.
- an updated site survey form
- photographs of all diagnostic artifacts and many other tools

After the inventories and photographs were completed, a series of composite charts were made that included information from all 70 sites in columns for comparison and generalization. The data categories listed on these charts were:

- projectile point types
- artifact classes (pottery, lithics, bone, ground stone)
- lithic raw materials present
- percentages of cherts and quartzites
- components (Woodland, Archaic, Paleo)
- activities performed at each site (quarrying, hunting, food processing, wood working, etc.)
- elevation
- distance to water
- approximate slope of site
- direction of exposure

The lab work was followed by field checks of almost all the sites. Dr. Nielsen and I visited the site locations and photographed them. We also looked at some related quarry sites and through an informant located one previously unreported by extremely rich lithic reduction site.

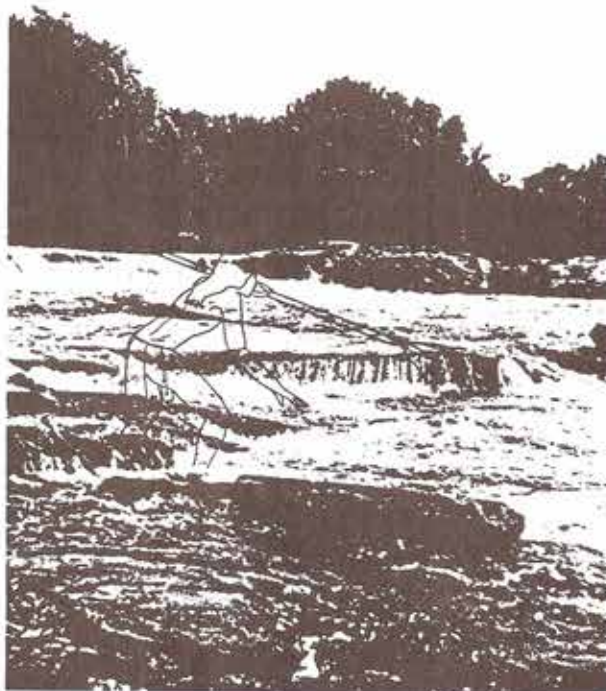
This work has created a substantial data base relating to this unique project area. Thirty-two of the sites, or almost 46%, had quarry related activities such as raw material testing, decoration or reduction of large quarry-size quartzite preforms. Many of these preforms were large enough to have produced flakes which could have been reduced to lance and knife blades.

Some sites have great numbers of large primary reduction flakes scattered around the surface. High quality quartzite can be found in cobbles, stream gravels and nearby outcrops. This suggests that the presence of lithic raw material was a primary reason for the abundance of aboriginal activity in the area. In light of this, the prospect of further investigation and lithic analysis of quarry materials in this area is tantalizing.

- Charles Paquin

## SEASONS OF PREHISTORY

4000 Years at the Winooski Site



by  
Marjory W. Power and James B. Petersen

### DHP Publishes Pamphlet on Winooski Site

SEASONS OF PREHISTORY: 4000 Years at the Winooski Site, by Marjory Power and James B. Petersen

This 22-page booklet summarizes the results of archaeological investigations at the Winooski site (VT-CH-46), Winooski, Vermont, conducted by the Department of Anthropology, University of Vermont and funded by Interagency Archaeological Services of the National Park Service.

The booklet is a successful condensation of the 537-page site report completed last year. The authors address significant aspects of the work at the Winooski site, including its relationship to archaeology in Vermont and what the site demonstrates about seasonal hunting, fishing and gathering activities and about regional trade and interaction. The text is profusely illustrated with photographs, maps and drawings of the excavation, examples of the artifacts recovered, and artists' conceptions of the activities of the site's occupants.

Seasons of Prehistory: 4000 Years at the Winooski Site was published as an educational service by the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation. Copies may be obtained from the Division for Historic Preservation, Agency of Development and Community Affairs, Montpelier, VT 05602. VAS members may pick up copies at the fall meeting on October 13. There is no charge.

*You're Invited to the*

# VERMONT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## ANNUAL MEETING

**Saturday, October 13, 1984**

Fleming Museum, University of Vermont  
Colchester Avenue, Burlington

### PROGRAM

10-10:30 AM REGISTRATION  
Members: \$1; Non-members: \$2

10:30-12:30 MORNING SESSION  
Welcoming remarks and annual report from  
VAS President, Dee Brightstar  
See list of speakers below

12:30-2 PM LUNCH AND EXHIBIT VIEWING  
See details below

2-4 PM AFTERNOON SESSION  
See list of speakers below

4-5 PM WINE AND CHEESE SOCIAL

### SPEAKERS

SCOTT DILLON- Highlights of UVM Contract Archaeology Program's 1984 Field Season.

KEVIN CRISMAN- Excavation of a French and Indian War Sloop at Fort Ticonderoga.

CHARLES PAQUIN- A Walk through a Prehistoric Western Abenaki Village.

DOUGLAS FRINK- Experimental Archaeology in England.

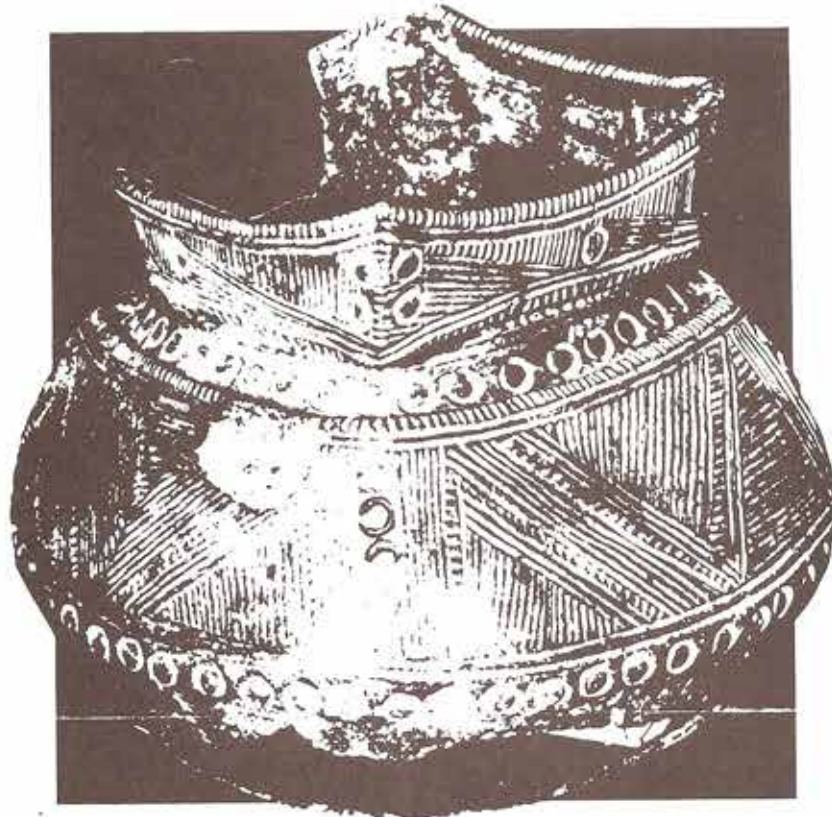
MICHAEL NASSANEY- The First Cahokians: Archaic Period Occupation at the Paramount Mississippian Center of the Midwest.

LUNCH Sandwiches, Vegetables, Beverages and Dessert. Cost: \$3 per person. Preregistration for this meeting and lunch is desirable but not required.

MEMBERSHIP As always, non-members are welcome to attend the meeting. If you haven't paid your dues for 1984, there is a convenient renewal form over the mailing label on the last page. It's an old VAS custom to offer new members (and those whose membership has lapsed over three years) the balance of the current year, as well as the coming year (1985) for a single membership (dues) payment. Share the joys of archeology; bring a friend to the annual meeting.

MEMBERS. Don't forget to fill out your trustee ballot. Mail it or bring it to the meeting.





# THE ORIGINAL VERMONTERS SYMPOSIUM & EXHIBITION

A symposium on Vermont archeology and the culture of the Western Abenakis

Presented by the  
Robert Hull Fleming Museum  
of the University of Vermont

Friday and Saturday  
September 28 and 29, 1984

In conjunction with a year-long exhibition  
curated by University of Vermont Professors  
of Anthropology William A. Haviland and  
Marjory W. Power.

All events free.  
Workshops limited to 60.  
For information call 656-2090.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Friday, September 28

7:30 p.m. Lecture: Museum Auditorium  
The Language and Culture of the  
Western Abenakis  
Gordon M. Day, Curator Emeritus,  
National Museum of Man, Ottawa

### Saturday, September 29

9:00 a.m. Lecture: Museum Auditorium  
The Prehistory of Vermont  
William A. Haviland, Professor of  
Anthropology

10:00 a.m. Lecture: Museum Auditorium  
The Abenakis in Vermont History  
John Moody, Historian

11:00 a.m. to noon: The Original  
Vermonters Gallery  
Gallery talks with Curators Haviland  
and Power

12:45 p.m. Lecture: Museum Auditorium  
The Contemporary Abenaki Community  
Miles Jensen, Director, Abenaki Self-Help  
Association

1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Workshops: Museum  
Classrooms

Lithics, Arts and Crafts: Demonstration  
Charles Paquin, Archeologist

The Winooski Site: Slide lecture and  
discussion

Marjory W. Power, Professor of  
Anthropology, Principal Investigator  
Teaching about Vermont Archeology and  
Native Cultures: Resources and methods  
Lauren Parren, Social Studies Teacher,  
Archeologist

Current Abenaki Concerns: Presentation  
and discussion

Miles Jensen, Director, Abenaki Self-Help  
Association

Archeology Laboratory Methods: The UVM  
Anthropology Laboratory  
Bill Noel, Vermont Archeological Society  
Laboratory Committee

4:30 p.m. Special Event: Museum  
Auditorium

Abenaki Youth Dance Troupe performance

Funded by the Vermont Council on the Humanities and Public Issues, WCAX Channel 3, and Friends of the Fleming.

### September 29 Workshops Registration Form

To insure placement, please return  
by September 21 to:

Original Vermonters Workshops  
The Fleming Museum,  
University of Vermont,  
Burlington VT 05405.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Please select 2 workshops:

- Lithics, Arts and Crafts
- The Winooski Site
- Teaching About Vermont Archeology
- Current Abenaki Concerns
- Archeology Laboratory Methods

# Who's Who Among Board Candidates

RICHARD DeBONIS

Dick has worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 18 years. He has been a cultural resource paraprofessional for the Forest Service since 1978. Dick has participated in archaeological projects in Vermont and West Virginia and at Kampsville in Illinois. His particular interest is historical archaeology, and a current project involves setting up an interpretive program for a late nineteenth-century hotel site at Silver Lake in the Green Mountain Nation Forest.

DOUGLAS FRINK

Doug is currently employed by the cultural resource management program at the University of Vermont. He obtained his Master's degree in Archaeology from the University of Connecticut in 1983, and has conducted research in both Connecticut and England. His primary interests in archaeology are experimental archaeology and applied soil science as a research adjunct to archaeology. A native by birth, Doug currently resides in St. Albans, Vermont.

BILL NOEL

Most VAS members know Bill well, but for

those who don't, here's an update of the biography that appeared in the 1981 list of candidates. Bill has been seriously involved with archaeology since 1975. He received his B.A. in Anthropology from UVM in 1977. Bill participated in an archaeological field school at the Koster site in Illinois in the summer of 1975. He also worked as an archaeological field assistant for UVM and the State Archaeologist. Bill has been a VAS Board member since 1978, and has served as Vice-President and President. He has been very active on the Education Committee.

SUZANNE GALLAGHER

Sue has been a VAS Board member and served as Secretary since 1981. She spent 1970-71 in England at St. John's College, studying Roman archaeology of the city of York. In 1979 she received a Master's degree from Goddard College for a concentration in New England archaeology. Sue has been a librarian at Lyndon State College since 1972; since 1980 she has been head librarian there.

STEVE NELSON

Steve is an Anthropology major at UVM, with an emphasis in archaeology. He has been involved in Vermont archaeology since high school, when he worked with the State Archaeologist. Since entering college Steve has attended an archaeological field school in New Mexico and worked for the contract archaeology program at UVM. A VAS Board member since 1981, Steve has been active on the Education Committee and organized the fall meeting this year.

## BALLOT

### VERMONT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Vote for no more than five people. You may write in a candidate's name, but you must have the prior approval of that person. Mail the Ballot or bring it with you to the meeting.

- |                          |                 |                          |                   |                          |              |
|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | RICHARD DeBONIS | <input type="checkbox"/> | BILL NOEL         | <input type="checkbox"/> | STEVE NELSON |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | DOUGLAS FRINK   | <input type="checkbox"/> | SUZANNE GALLAGHER | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____        |

You may photocopy this form if you don't want to remove the page.

## ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION AND LUNCHEON RESERVATION

Please accept preregistrations for \_\_\_\_\_ member(s) @ \$1.

\_\_\_\_\_ non-member(s) @ \$2.

Luncheon reservation(s) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$3. Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

NAME

PHONE

ADDRESS

Names of Others in Party

Please make checks payable to and mail to: Vermont Archaeological Society, Box 663, Burlington, VT 05402.





**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)

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

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

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)

\* Under 18 or over 65 years of age.

Vermont Archaeological  
Society, Inc.  
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FIRST CLASS

TO