Mount Independence on the March
by Louise Ransom, President
Mount Independence Coalition

Great news! The long-awaited Visitor Center/Museum on Mount Independence will be opened with an exciting Grand Opening Ceremony on July 27, 1996 at 1 p.m. Mark your calendars NOW.

The new building is a handsome unusual architectural rendition of a ship, symbolizing the relationship of the Mount with the lake. The design for the exhibit of artifacts inside combines the latest interactive display technology with stunning use of color and forms. The opening event will include an encampment and demonstrations by Revolutionary War reenactors, a fly-over by Air National Guard planes, and a keynote address by distinguished author and historian, Richard Ketchum.

The Mount Independence Coalition (MIC), which is now in public/private partnership with the Division for Historic Preservation, got its start as a group of eager amateur archaeologists, all members of the VAS. We worked under the direction of Dr. David Starbuck, who inspired us to recognize the historical importance of the Mount Independence site, and to commit ourselves to its preservation and enhancement. In 1989 we formed ourselves into a non-profit corporation with representatives from the DHP, the Fort Ticonderoga Association, reenactors, the VAS, the community of Orwell and assorted diggers, historians and naturalists. The DHP, which owns and manages the Mount Independence site, is now under the able direction of Townsend Anderson, the designated State Historic Preservation Officer, and Audrey Porsehe, VAS President, who works closely with us as the Site Administrator. An agreement with the Fort Ticonderoga Association, which also owns a portion of the site, is currently under discussion.

From 1989 to 1995 Coalition members cleared trails, served as guides, followed David Starbuck to his various excavation sites, put on lectures and conferences to help inform the public about the significance of the Mount. As a concerned citizens group, we also helped to educate the Legislature to the need for better public access to this National Historic Landmark, which would not only add to our knowledge but would be of economic benefit to the state.

When the Legislature approved the appropriation of $1 million for constructing the Visitor Center, we were off and running. Recognizing that the State's financial con-

VAS Opens "Windows to the Past" in Celebration of Vermont Archaeology Week '96

by Kathleen E. Callum, GEOARCH
VAW '96 State Coordinator

Ever wondered what apparel styles were fashionable in the Vermont woodlands over 3,000 years ago? Always wanted to participate in an atlatl contest? Would you like to help your children decipher mysteries within the walls of old buildings? Want to explore the real story behind an old mill site, a melodeon factory, a ship wreck beneath the waves, the past glory of a downtown historic district, or an ancient Native American campsite? Our third annual Vermont Archaeology Week, "Windows to the Past" features all this and much, much, more.

The principal co-sponsors are the VAS and DHP, helped by many other individuals and organizations interested in archaeological preservation. Over 40 superb events, taking place all over Vermont, will be listed in the upcoming VAW '96 Calendar of Events. Events include opportunities to become involved in excavations, explode myths and frauds in archeology, digitally link to archeology on the Internet, walk along among the footsteps of the past, and open windows to changing landscapes and changing peoples.

VAS members can pick up copies of the calendars and a free poster (illustrated by local resident and New Yorker cartoonist Ed Koren) at the spring meeting in Middlebury. Extra copies of the calendar will be available for the public at the spring meeting and archeology week awareness auction (all are welcomed!) or can be obtained directly from: Vermont Archeology Week '96, Division for Historic Preservation, 135 State Street, Drawer 33, Montpelier VT 05633-1201. Phone (802) 828-3226 or fax (802) 828-3206.

The VAS Education Committee is proud to announce that the first-ever Governor's Excellence Awards Ceremony, slated for April 19th in Montpelier, will officially see "Windows to the Past" -2

NOTICE

VAS Annual Spring Meeting
Saturday, April 27, in Middlebury
Mark your Calendar Now
The Vermont Archaeological Society
Officers and Directors

Gerd Sommer
RD Covey Road
Cambridge VT 05444
802/899-5165

Frank Bump
4 Church Street
Brandon VT 05733
802/247-6980

Audrey Porsche, President
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Kathleen E. Callum
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Address general inquiries concerning the Society to the Secretary

"Windows to the Past" (continued)
recognize those who have made outstanding contributions to Vermont archeology. The ceremony will be co-sponsored by the VAS, the Division for Historic Preservation, the Vermont Historical Society, and UVM’s Consulting Archeology Program. Nomination application forms were reviewed by the Education Committee during a March 27 meeting at the Ilsley Library. The VAS Education Committee is charged with overseeing VAW, planning the annual fall bus trip, publishing literature such as An Educator’s Guide to Vermont’s Archaeological Resources, and other public outreach activities. Winter workshops, providing a hands-on opportunity to learn about ceramics, lithic analysis, or historic artifacts, have also been suggested as an educational possibility. If you are interested in shaping the society’s educational events, or have suggestions, please contact the VAW ’96 State Coordinator (and acting chairperson for the Educational Committee).

The VAS helps fund VAW through the Archaeology Awareness Auction held in conjunction each year with spring meeting. This year’s meeting is scheduled for Main Event in Middlebury, and the auction will begin at 3 p.m. Help bring archeology events to Vermonters everywhere: be an item donor, be a buyer! A very preliminary contribution list includes:

Ed Koren’s Original VAW ’96 Poster Artwork
by the artist (a rare occurrence!)

A Gift Certificate from The Vacant Chair in Rutland

The Historic Architecture of Addison County
by the DHP

Family Pass donated by the Billings Farm and Museum

Diversity and Complexity in Prehistoric Maritime Societies from the Center for Northern Studies, Wolcott

Staffordshire Soap Dish and Garden Potpourri
by Chimney Point State Historic Site

Video donated by Capitol Video of Montpelier

Collected Books and Journals
from renowned anthropologist Jane Hanks

Sabra Field: The Art of Place by Tom Slayton
by Vermont Life

A special-bound Collector’s Edition of Vic Rolando’s
200 Years of Soot and Sweat

Auction donations such as museum reproductions, T-shirts, videos, books, and gift certificates of archeological, historical, or ethnographic interest can be dropped off to the nearest VAW Coordinator. Try canvassing your local bed & breakfasts, hardware stores, and gift shops for donated items. Don’t forget to bring a check book as well as all your friends and acquaintances to the fun, exciting, Archaeology Awareness Auction!

Vermont Archeology Week Needs Your Help

Suggested Donation: $10.00
to the VAS, address on back cover
Contributions to VAW are Tax-Deductible
President's Report
by Audrey Porsche, President
Vermont Archaeological Society

VAS members will find an abundance of archaeology-oriented activities to fill their date books this year, beginning with our spring meeting on Saturday, April 27. The meeting will be held at the Main Event in Middlebury and the slate of speakers is shaping up nicely (look for details in upcoming registration information). One focus of this year's meeting will be a panel discussion on the events, twenty years ago, leading up to the creation of the Vermont State Archeologist's office. In the afternoon, shoppers can bid on the assorted offerings at the Vermont Archeology Week (VAW) Auction. They are high-quality items, so bring your wallets and/or checkbooks to help support this worthy effort.

Our third annual VAW begins Sunday, May 5, and runs through Saturday, May 11. It is chock full of interesting events across the state. To kick things off, you might want to stop in at the Chimney Point State Historic Site to test your skills, or watch others, in the Northeastern Open Atlatl Championship on Saturday, May 4, beginning at 10 a.m. There will also be demonstrations of stone tool making and other early Native American life skills. Be sure and check out the full listing of VAW events, including an opportunity for members to participate in a VAS-sponsored excavation in Jericho with Doug Frink.

The VAW effort is a great educational outreach opportunity for all of us who care about our archaeological resources and are fascinated by this exciting discipline, which provide unique "Windows to the Past."

In early June, the DAR Strong Mansion hosts another excavation, exploring life at this federal style home. Finally, later this summer, on July 27 & 28, don't miss the grand opening of the Mount Independence Visitor Center and Museum (see Louise Ransom's article on front page and Visitor Center drawing on page 4) where many of the archaeological materials recovered during recent land and underwater investigations will be on exhibit.

With all the new and not-so-new ventures the VAS has undertaken, there are ample opportunities for VAS members to participate in related activities. Our able journal editor, David Starbuck, has been soliciting copy for the next issue, due out later this year. The Standing Committees including Membership, Finance, and Educational, are working on various initiatives (see the Committee Column in the January 1996 newsletter issue) and are always looking for additional help and input from members. The Development Committee is investigating various custom products that VAS could retail (T-shirts, mugs, or pins) which would, among other things, help market the Society.

These are exciting and busy times. We welcome everyone's active participation in this special organization.

Strong Mansion Redux
by William C. Murphy

For the third season, the VAS team of Bruce Hedin, Ann Clay, Frank Schlamp, Susan Dugan, and Bill Murphy will conduct a small dig at the John Strong Mansion in Addison.

The Daughters of the American Revolution, owners of the Mansion, have requested one more year to coincide with their bicentennial celebration of the Mansion's completion in 1796.

Due to their commitments, and several of the diggers, the excavation will only be a week long, from June 3 to 9, and will concentrate on the area immediately adjacent to the handicapped ramp where several pits during the '95 session uncovered a probable foundation that could have been an extension of the house proper and which was rich in artifacts.

Because of the short time span, at least two VAS team members will prepare all of the pits to be excavated prior to the first day. The Daughters mentioned that they would like to keep the area open and not have the pits backfilled until later in the year.

In addition to the VAS team members listed above, there will be at least six open slots for others to participate. If interested, contact Bill Murphy at (802) 388-7577.

Mount Independence State Historic Site
Awarded ISTEA Funds

by Audrey Porsche, Site Administrator
Mount Independence State Historic Site

The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation has been awarded up to $70,000 in Intermodal Surface Transportation Enhancement Act (ISTEA) funds for improving the trail system and boater access to Mount Independence State Historic Site in Orwell. Approximately seven miles of hiking trails currently lead visitors past the batteries, blockhouses, star fort, barracks and other archaeological remains of this once-bustling Revolutionary War fort site. Laid out in the 1790s, the trail system requires upgrading and expansion to include interpretation of the site's natural resources and to construct a handicapped accessible trail. In addition, the trails will be assessed and updated in light of findings from recent archaeological investigations. The ISTEA funds will also be used to provide public boater access to the site from moorings donated by the Buoy 39 Marina.
Mt. Indy (continued)

tribution is limited, we committed ourselves, as the private sector of the partnership, to raising the necessary funds to implement especially the educational program. We now have IRS tax exempt status and are working to expand our membership and develop a strong volunteer program, in addition to raising much needed funds.

We have a new active Board of Directors that does its work through the following committees: Fund Raising, Education & Research (history and natural resources), Membership, Volunteers, and Public Relations. VAS members who would like to participate in any of these committees would be enthusiastically welcomed. For further information, write: Mount Independence Coalition, PO Box 323, Williston VT 05495.

In May, the MIC Membership Committee will be sending new and renewal application forms to all VAS members. We hope you will join the Coalition and have the rewarding satisfaction at being "in at the creation" of a premier historic site in the State of Vermont.

ISTEA (continued)

Visitation at Mount Independence and use of its trails are expected to increase this summer when the new visitor center and museum opens in July.

The ISTEA program is financed through the federal Department of Transportation (DOT) and provides an exciting opportunity to enhance a variety of transportation systems, including hiking trails. The award is pending final approval to accept the DOT enhancement funds by the State legislature.

The 1995 Field Season at GEOARCH

by Kathleen Callum, GEOARCH

The year 1995 was an excellent year for associates working as archeological consultants under the auspices of GEOARCH. Over the course of the year, the staff consisted of Sheila Charles (P.I. Historic Archeology), myself (P.I. Northeast Archeology and Geoarcheology), Karen Turnmire (Zoarcheology and Computer Graphics), Thomas Buchanan (Field Director), Peter Morrison (Historic Archeology), Pam Carmichael (Archeological Illustration), John Fisher, Mark Miller, and Tom Young. We were involved in the fieldwork at eight project areas in Vermont last year as well as endeavoring to complete two pre-Phase IA end-of-field letters and five contract reports:


Sheila Charles and I undertook a pre-Phase IA review of a proposed bike path in Morrisville for the engineering firm of Lamoureux, Stone & O'Leary, designating some of the area involved as sensitive for archeological resources. The other pre-Phase IA review, for CPM, Inc. and Bruno Associates, Inc., identified a high potential for archeological sites along the Connecticut River in Ryegate and eventually culminated in the Phase II testing of VT-CA-41, a Woodland occupation with a fair amount of pottery sherds from a buried plowzone context on a mid-terrace levee near Ryegate's "Canoe" or "Dodge's Falls." A falls by the name of "canoe" is an obvious archival clue for a nearby Native American site!

We continued Phase I survey associated with access/construction areas for the Vermont Gas Systems, Inc. Expansion Project in Swanton, identifying three interesting archeological sites (19th-century brickyard VT-FR-288, 19th-century marble quarry VT-FR-299, and precontact-period lithic flake scatter VT-FR-298) and two 20th-century historic sites. Because VT-FR-298 occupied a buried plowzone context, was relatively wide-
Lake Champlain Maritime Museum Celebrates 10th Anniversary Year with Full Schedule of Events and Courses for 1996

by Mac MacDevitt, Operations Manager
Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

In honor of Vermont Archeology Week the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum (LCMM) will begin its 1996 season on Saturday, May 4. For the rest of the season, the Museum will be open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to accommodate visitors interested in the fascinating field of nautical archaeology and the rich maritime history of Lake Champlain. This year we will open our new Gateway Visitor Center featuring an expanded Museum Store, well-stocked with books, maps, and prints that focus on the history and archaeology of the region. Our Nautical Archaeology Center, which opened in 1995, brings to life the lore and history of Lake Champlain’s shipwrecks through video presentations and exhibits featuring Vermont’s Underwater Historic Preserve System, the Burlington Bay Horse Ferry, the steamboat Phoenix, and other underwater sites. It also houses a working field conservation laboratory which promises to be busy during the 1996 season.

Underwater Survey Expanded: A grant received from the Lake Champlain Basin Program and the Environmental Protection Agency will allow the Museum, working with Middlebury College and other institutional partners, to continue an aggressive survey on the bottom of Lake Champlain. Exponential growth of the zebra mussel population in the Lake has made time a critical factor in completing this survey. There is a major concern that mussels will attach themselves so thickly on wrecks in the near future that these submerged cultural resources will be difficult or impossible to study. When cultural sites are discovered, they will be further investigated by divers using SCUBA or by Remote Operated Vehicles (ROVs), depending on the depth and conditions. To date, less than ten percent of the Lake has been properly surveyed.

Publishing: The LCMM reprinted a much expanded and revised edition of Dr. Philip Lundeberg’s fine monograph, The Gunboat Philadelphia and the Defense of Lake Champlain in 1776. The addition of valuable information uncovered after the its original publication in 1966 makes this book one of profound interest. It details the construction and history of the original Philadelphia and the wreck’s subsequent discovery and raising in 1935. The details and information that were acquired when the Museum built and sailed their working replica of Philadelphia have also been integrated in this new edition. It can be purchased through the new Museum store and is a perfect addition to anyone’s bookshelf.

The results of recent Museum nautical archaeology projects are available through the Lake Champlain Basin Program at Grand Isle. Most recently completed is a technical report, Zebra Mussels and Their Impact on Historic Shipwrecks, which presents compelling evidence that this growing problem places much of the Lake Champlain underwater heritage at risk.

Six detailed reports pertaining to the underwater archaeology and survey work completed in the lake region surrounding Ticonderoga and Mount Independence are also available.

Courses, Workshops, and Special Events: The LCMM is also celebrating its 10th anniversary year with a full schedule of courses and workshops by nationally recognized boatbuilders and traditional crafts teachers at its Basin Harbor site. The courses are fun, challenging, and open to novices and old hands alike. Small classes make it possible for instructors to spend plenty of one-on-one time with each student.

Students can build an Adirondack guideboat, make a brown ash pack basket, or learn blacksmithing techniques in an 18th-century-style shop. Courses begin in April and fill up rapidly so reserve your space as soon as possible. A complete course catalog is available by calling the Museum.

Volunteers Wanted: With such a wide range of activities occurring in 1996, the LCMM is actively seeking more volunteers. If you have a skill which you would like to share, are willing to help in the boatshop, office, or in our educational programs, contact the Museum at (802) 475-2022. Hours are flexible and the museum staff welcomes volunteers of all ages to participate in its mission to identify, preserve, and share the history and heritage of the Champlain Valley.

Lake Champlain Basin Program Cultural Heritage Office Announces Technical Assistance Program

by Ann Cousins, Lake Champlain Basin Program (via Giovanna Peebles, State Archeologist)

The Lake Champlain Basin Program Cultural Heritage Office announced the availability of technical and education financial assistance. Small grants up to $500 will be awarded to eligible municipalities, non-profit organizations, and individuals in the Lake Champlain Basin on a competitive basis, and must be matched with a cash or in-kind contribution. Funds will support any of a broad spectrum of local historic preservation initiatives including archaeological, engineering, and building assessments; historic site interpretation; museum mentoring; scholarships for workshops and continuing education; and education and outreach programs.

Applications will be reviewed four times in 1996. The remaining postmark deadlines are June 12, September 4, and November 20. The program is financed through a cooperative agreement between Vermont, New York State, and the NPS Rivers, Service, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program under the Lake Champlain Special Designations Act of 1990. For applications, contact Ann Cousins, Lake Champlain Basin Program, RR 1 Box 220, Crown Point NY 12928 or (518) 597-4212.
We continue to be part of the VAS Education Committee.

35(1). "Archeology in a Region of Spodosols, Part III, The Field Season's Phase I Survey at Economou Farms, South Burlington, Vermont" was presented at the spring meetings by Sheila Charles, Louis Berger & Associates, Inc., at Egypt Bottom, Indiana, for Gray and Associates, Inc., at Montpelier and Oakemo Mountain project area on the Vermont-New York state line, and I myself in the Maine Archeological Society Bulletin 35(1): "Fragments From the Past" (at the spring VAS meeting) and "Putting on the Style" for the Penobscot Marine Museum in Maine. Karen Turnmire has been busily editing a volume of papers for the World Summit Conference on the Earliest Americans, Center for the Study of the First Americans, held in Orono and an upcoming book on the Micmac will feature her computer graphics. We had a good year last year, and GEOARCH associates look forward to protecting and managing our endangered archeological resources with you over the coming year.

**Help Wanted:**

**State Coordinator for Vermont Archeology Week 1997**

The VAS is seeking an energetic individual for a part-time, 13-month duration, contract position to start May 10, 1996 for Vermont Archeology Week 1997. Applicants must have excellent and proven fund raising abilities, demonstrated ability to organize and coordinate similar events or projects, effective public relations capabilities, experience inspiring grass-roots volunteerism, ability to work well with government agencies, private businesses, non-profit organizations, and volunteers, and be interested in archeology.

The Coordinator will raise funds, organize, and produce Vermont Archeology Week ‘97, a public outreach, co-sponsored by the non-profit Vermont Archeological Society, Inc., and the Division for Historic Preservation. The State Coordinator will also raise funds to reimburse her/his own services (some funds have already been pledged; a fund-raising bonus and partial reimbursement of expenses is also available). A packet of materials describing past VAW events and State Coordinator responsibilities is available upon request.

Preliminary tasks from May through September 1996 will consist of working closely with the VAW ‘96 State Coordinator in training for VAW ‘97. Most activity occurs between October 1996 and May 1997.

Mail cover letter, Vita, and supporting materials, including successful grant applications, fund raising budgets, or products by April 15, 1996 to: VAW ‘97 Coordinator Search, Division for Historic Preservation, 135 State Street, Drawer 33, Montpelier VT 05633-1201.

**Twenty Years Ago**

Bill Haviland wrote in the summer 1976 newsletter "A new era in Vermont archeology is about to begin with the appointment of a state archeologist to the staff of the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation. Her name is Giovanna Neudorfer, and she plans to take up her post in mid-July."
Piecing Together Vermont’s Past

A number of participants have expressed interest in designing a "Windows to the Past" theme quilt square, including the American Precision Museum, Krista Ainesworth of the Royalton Library, and GOEARCH.

What archeological symbols can your town or organization share with others all across Vermont? Finished pieces for the theme quilt should be 8 inches square with a ¼-inch edge for piecing squares together (making the total block 8 3/4 inches). Ideas include depicting an embroidered abandoned mill, an agricultural stone wall remnant, appliqued corn from the first Woodland era sites, a Revolutionary War encampment, a famous shipwreck, or an Otter Creek Point. Squares are due by May 11 and the finished quilt will be raffled during VAW '97 to benefit our excellent public outreach program.

We also invite your participation by donating quilt backing or volunteering in piecing together the quilt in an archeology community quilting bee. For more information, or to pledge your quilt square, contact VAW '96 Coordinator Kathy Callum at geoarch@sover.net or (802) 247-8127 (tel/fax).

Vermont Archeology Week on the Internet

VAW is getting its own home page. Our cyberspace address is http://www.uvm.edu/~uvncap/vaw96.htm and is sponsored by UVM Consulting Archeology Program in celebration of Vermont Archeology Week. This new Web Page will carry a preview of the Ed Koren "Windows to the Past" poster, a copy of the VAW '96 Calendar of Events, and much more. The page is under construction, so check back again if you don't see what you are looking for. For more information, contact Rob Florentin of CAP at rflorent@moose.uvm.edu or (802) 655-5480.

1996 Summer Archaeology Field Schools


DAR John Strong Mansion, Addison (see article page 3).

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Basin Harbor, Vt. (see article page 5).

Anguilla, West Indies, June 10 to 14 at UVM; June 15 to July 12 at Anguilla. Sponsored by UVM. Fee for college credit (Anthro 200), Contact Prof. James Peterson (207) 778-7012.

French & Indian War encampment site, Fort Edward, N.Y. July 29 to August 23. Sponsored by Adirondack Community College, Queensbury, N.Y. Directed by Dr. David Starbuck. Fee for college credit, volunteers accepted. Contact David Starbuck (518) 747-2926.


Prehistoric Archaeology Field School, Ashland, N.H. June 24 to August 2. Sponsored by Plymouth State College, N.H. Division of Historical Resources, and SCRAP. Directed by Dr. Richard Boisvert. Fee for college credit, volunteers accepted. Contact NH DHR (603) 271-3483.

Current Publications of Interest


Archaeology in the Classroom, by the Archaeological Institute of America. Published by Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co. (4050 Westmark Drive, Dubuque, IA 52002), $9.00 Members; $10.50 Non-members, plus $4 S&H. An extensive resource guide to archaeological curriculum materials, books, films, museum programs, educator training, and archaeological excavations for grades 1-12. Also available on film.

 Corrections to January Newsletter

The fax number for Chimney Point State Historic Site is (802) 759-2547. And we inadvertently left the following new members off the 1995 list:

Rob and Meg Woolmington (Family), Bennington
Elise Olson, Hyde Park
Pierre Bibeau, Montreal, Canada
Philip J. Pugliese, Bennington
Application for Membership or Renewal

☐ NEW  ☐ RENEWAL

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________________________________________
MAIL ADDRESS________________________________
CITY/TOWN___________________________________
STATE__________________ ZIP__________
COUNTRY_________ PHONE___________
DATE__________ AGE_______ (if senior)

Signature

DUES SCHEDULE (please check one)
☐ Individual ($12.00)
☐ Family ($20.00)
☐ Student/Senior* ($8.00)
☐ Contributing ($50.00)
☐ Life ($250.00)
☐ Non-profit Institutional ($25.00)
☐ Institutional ($50.00)

*Senior: 65 years or over. Students must be full-time and provide photocopy of active student ID card.
Anyone wishing a membership card, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.
You may photocopy this form.

Make check (US Funds) payable to The Vermont Archaeological Society, Inc. and mail to:
P.O. Box 663, Burlington, VT 05402-0663