

The



Vermont



Archaeological Society



Newsletter

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YEAR 2000 MESSAGE FROM THE VAS PRESIDENT

by Jim Petersen

The new millennium is off to a good start and the Vermont Archaeological Society (VAS) should look forward to various things over the coming year that bode well for its continued involvement in Vermont archaeology. The VAS has achieved some really good things over the past few years and I would like to publicly thank the past few VAS Presidents, Dave Starbuck, Scott McLaughlin and Kathy Callum, among others, for all their hard work. Along with their many diligent predecessors, the recent VAS presidents and the attendant Board of Directors in each case have made solid contributions to the VAS and in some cases, the broader realm of Vermont archaeology.



El Jefe

Although the VAS is a relatively small volunteer organization, it stands to further its original goals of fostering scientific archaeology this year and for a long time to come. In particular, I think that the annual Vermont Archaeology Week (VAW) of recent years has been a very substantial contribution to Vermont archaeology and if we don't do anything else, then we should all continue to support it with complete enthusiasm. There is much more to do, however, and all of this will

Continued on page 6

You Missed out if you didn't make the . . .

SPRING VAS MEETING

by Todd Hannahs

The first VAS conference of the new millenium was held on a perfect Spring day (the last for awhile apparently) Saturday April 15th at Cool Cal State Historic Park at Plymouth Notch.

The day started with the usual gossip and coffee, I mean various consultations of a highly professional nature, and then folks were



ushered into the Union Christian Church to hear Jim Petersen give the opening remarks and hand the floor over to Giovanna Peebles. She gave the *State Archaeologist's Report*. She has three main goals for the coming year: 1) To see to it that the perception of archaeology is a positive one by encouraging the dissemination of the results of archaeological investigations through magazine articles popular publications, the web, etc.

The Vermont Archaeological Society

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*Please address any general inquiries
 concerning the Society to the
 Secretary*

- 2) To facilitate the establishment of an Archaeology Research Center (which might just serve as an archival facility for artifacts...)
- & 3) To encourage the Archaeological Conservancy (see pages 5 & 8) to invest in Vermont sites.

Giovanna was followed by Bill Jenney

Site Administrator for Plymouth Notch. His *Plymouth Notch: Vermont's Brigadoon* was chock a block with tid bits of Calvin lore. Did you know that Great (not Bald as

some would have it) Eagle as the Sioux named him was the last president to legally accept bribes, I mean gifts. He also filled us in on what's in store or the numerous structures and over 600 acres of land he oversees. He was followed by James Petersen who gave us *Australian Rock Art: Masterworks from Kakadu and Uluru*, which showed that, time wise, the aboriginal art work was contemporary with the more famous examples from Lascaux. Dating of the Australian work was based on AMS C14 work done on the organics in the pigments. After that we all adjourned for more caffeine and glucose to gossip, I mean discuss some of the more interesting aspects of the talks we had just heard.

After which Kevin Moody of Hartgen Assoc. presented a talk on behalf of Pegeen McLaughlin. Titled *Recent Excavations at*

Fort Ticonderoga, this talk gave us an overview of past work at the fort and recent excavation and archival work by Hartgen Assoc. Only a small area had artifactual remains which showed both French and English influence. Further work is scheduled for the summer and fall of 2000. Cindy Bittinger of the Coolidge Foundation gave us more on Cool

Cal. who was not the social stiff popular perception would have him. He now has his own web site (www.calvin.coolidge.org) so the guy is still on the cutting edge. We then

broke for a walking tour while Bill Jenney gave us the low down on Plymouth Notch. And then the lunch thing and back to the church for some quick society business (see ByLaws Change page 15) and to hear *A Face From the Past: Archaeology Beneath the Streets of Albany* with Charles Fisher. This consisted primarily of a video (only one copy in existence so don't expect to see it in local stores anytime soon). The video focused on attempts to reconstruct the facial features of a remarkably intact skull of a unidentified female buried in the Albany Lutheran cemetery sometime before 1740. For more details of this dig turn your web browser to

<http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/arccrsppearlst.html>.

After that the day was brought to a close.



Jim & Gio discuss the finer points of the late paleolithic artistic revolution



*"hey Look There Goes President Coolidge!"
Bill Jenny pulls a fast one but Sheila isn't buying*



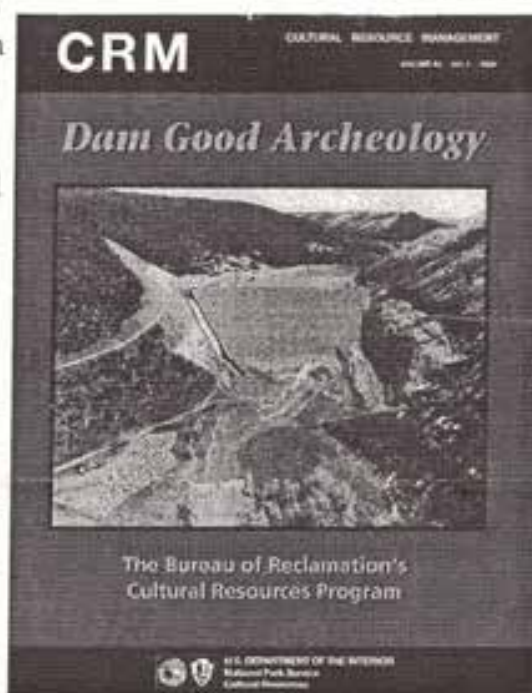
A Little Light Reading? ♦

by Todd Hannahs

For those of you who are looking for something to read here are a few items on archaeology and Vermont archaeology that might be of interest.

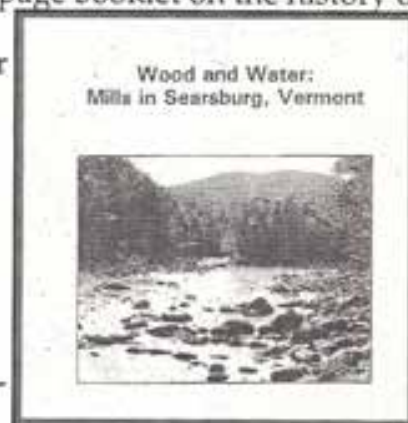
And It's Free, Free, Free

CRM magazine despite its uninspired title often has a number of interesting articles each month on archaeology in the United States and its territories. It is put out by the National Park Service and is yours for the asking. Write: CRM, 800 North Capitol St., NW Suite 350 Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 343-3411
Email: rongnps@starpower.net



Historic Archaeology anyone?

The Consulting Archaeology Program (CAP) has put out a 20 page booklet on the history of manufacturing and water power in Searsburg, Vermont, titled *Wood and Water: Mills in Searsburg, Vermont*. It is an easily digestible

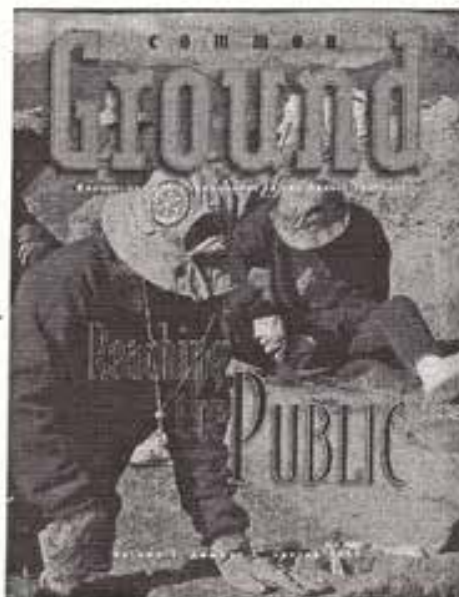
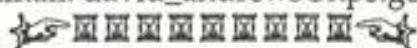


bit of information with numerous illustrations. It would serve as a fine starting point for anyone interested in this aspect of Vermont history and provides pointers for researching your own community, if such is your desire. For your own copy contact the Division for Historic Preservation, National Life Building, Drawer 20, Montpelier, VT 05620 (802) 828-3211 or the Consulting Archaeology Program, 112 University Hights, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405 (802) 656-4310



For a less archaeological focus and a more ethnographic / anthropological approach to Cultural resources in the United States check out **Common Ground: Archaeology and Ethnography in the Public Interest**. Like CRM Magazine, it is produced by the Park Service and is free for the asking.

For your free copy write:
NPS Archaeology and Ethnography Program, 1849 C St. (NC 210), NW, Washington, DC 20240
Phone: (202) 343-4101
Email: david_andrews@nps.gov



Random News

Well let's see...

Giovanna Peebles is about to become a grandmother. Cathy Callum (former VAS President) is enjoying her six month old son. I have a four month old daughter so the next generation of starving archaeologists seems to be well in hand.

The Consulting Archaeology Program at UVM should have its new director by now. So look for some new blood type stuff. Who knows there even may be some developments with the historic underwater preserve system... stay tuned

ALL THAT AND A MAGAZINE TOO...

by Rob Crisell

The Conservancy is eager to work with the Vermont Archaeological Society to help identify and protect the state's precious cultural resources. The main area in which I believe the VAS can be crucial is in bringing to my attention hot, endangered archaeological sites that may have escaped the notice of the Division for Historic Preservation or the University of Vermont. To that end, let me give your members a bit of background on what the Conservancy is all about.

WHAT IS THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSERVANCY?

The Conservancy is a national, non-profit conservation organization dedicated to acquiring and preserving the best of our nation's remaining archaeological sites.

Every day, we are losing ruins forever along with the precious information they contain. Modern-day looters use backhoes and bulldozers to recover artifacts for the international market. Urban development and agricultural methods such as land leveling and top-soil mining destroy ancient sites. The Conservancy protects these sites by acquiring the land on which they rest, preserving them for future research. In saving archaeological sites throughout the nation, the Conservancy:

- * identifies the most important, endangered, and intact sites located on private land.
- * acquires the property by purchase, gift, or bargain sale to charity
- * secures the property and stabilizes the cultural resources in situ
- * prepares a long-term management plan and dedicates the property as a permanent archaeological preserve
- * educates the general public and local officials about the destruction of our cultural heritage and how to preserve what remains

WHY SHOULD WE SAVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES?

The ancient people of North America didn't

leave behind any written records of their cultures. For us to gain an understanding of what happened here before Columbus,

Coronado, and Siuerr de la Salle, we must seek clues from the remains of villages, monuments, and artifacts of these first Americans.

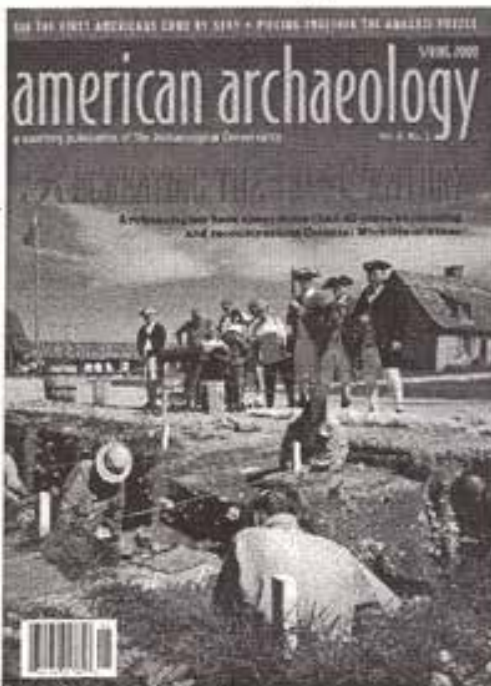
It's crucial to maintain a significant portion of raw data in the ground so future archaeologists with new technology and more information will have access to it. Even in the past few decades, our understanding of archaeology has increased tremendously. Today, modern archaeology makes use of new scientific discoveries

such as tree-ring dating, carbon-14 dating, archaeo-magnetism, pollen analysis, obsidian hydration, trace-element analysis, and other techniques.

Since its beginning in 1980, the Conservancy has acquired more than 180 endangered sites across the United States. These preserves range in size from a few acres to more than a 1000, and feature everything from the earliest habitation sites in North America to 19th-century frontier army posts.

Once threatened with destruction, these ruins are now managed as permanent archaeological preserves. They are available for research and limited excavation, and a few have already been incorporated into public parks, including Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona, Chaco Culture National Historical Park in New Mexico, Parkin Indian Mound State Park in Arkansas, and the Hopewell Culture National Historic Park in Ohio. The Conservancy is rapidly building a national system of archaeological preserves to ensure the survival of our irreplaceable cultural heritage. We are the only group safeguarding the store of the ancient people of North America for future generations.

This preserve system includes such diverse sites as the Hopewell Mound Group in Ohio, perhaps the best-known archaeological site in the eastern United States; and New



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YEAR 2000 MESSAGE

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require a continued investment of volunteer time and energy, combining the best of our 32-year record of service and dedication to the field of archaeology. We need your help to maintain and prosper as an organization, recognizing that the VAS will be only as vibrant and dynamic as its members are. In particular, at present we could use more willing volunteers to serve on the Board of Directors and particularly, those who will get involved and further the goals of the VAS and Vermont archaeology in general.

Some people would argue that there are really three fields of archaeology in Vermont, if one cares to differentiate Native American prehistoric and early historic archaeology from Euroamerican (and other non-native) historic archaeology, and Euroamerican nautical archaeology. Personally, I think it's more useful and more appropriate to recognize the common goals of these closely related pursuits of the past, combining them as a singular concern. In this view, we should vigorously investigate the ways in which past human lifeways can be further defined, whether they are related to a nineteenth-century iron forge, an eighteenth-century ship-of-war, or a prehistoric residential settlement. Comparison of how these different sites and many other site types as well vary across Vermont, in both space and time, will help us better understand just what it is that makes our record both common and unique—the "Original Vermonters" and more recent Vermonters alike.

I have devoted much of my personal archaeological research over 25 years now to just one of these facets, the Native American one. This investment has been made in part because I once believed that that the native past was so much less well known than the more recent past and therefore, more deserving of attention, at least from me personally. However, over recent years I have come to realize that the historic past is also poorly known in many ways and how intertwined the variants of archaeology really are. They all will potentially contribute to understanding a myriad of past people here in Vermont and elsewhere. "Indian," or Native American (or First Nations, if looking from a recent Canadian perspective) archaeology surely addresses a long and incompletely known

record. It is a study now fraught with political and even spiritual complexities in the new millennium, things that complicate it to the point that some natives and others question its very existence, especially when it appears exploitative.

Believing otherwise as I do, we should forge ahead on all fronts of Vermont archaeology, but we should also try to recognize the clear commonalities that link these facets of local archaeology. In fact, rather than concentrating strictly on the native past, we should also try to better understand our most typical background as Vermonters through studying the early historic residential and military occupation of Vermont by the French and the English during the 1600s and the 1700s. For example, I recently discovered that some of my French Canadian ancestors came to Quebec in New France in the 1650s two hundred years before they came to Vermont. Now, I would like to know what life was like on the "frontier" of the time for the French who were settling in Quebec and Vermont during the mid-1600s. Besides some work at Fort St. Frederic on the New York side of Lake Champlain, this aspect of the local record has been too little studied. If erosion, bottle hunters and development have not effaced the French and later English pioneer record in Vermont, then it should be a priority for future research. The nautical record sunk beneath the waters of the state also has an important story to tell, one again with military and non-military dimensions.

Even archaeology of the nineteenth- and twentieth-centuries is important where it will provide new and useful information about the past, information that is not readily available or fully understood through historic written records alone. At least once a month I hear someone say that such relatively recent archaeology has little, if anything, to contribute to our knowledge of the past, but they are wrong in my view. For example, the archaeological investigation of historic immigrant workers who built the railroads in Vermont during the late 1800s would be very instructive, since we have relatively little information about this chapter of local history, as would the case for other minorities too. And at the risk of intruding into realms where we are only occasionally trusted and accepted by the native people themselves, we should also continue to pursue knowledge of the historic Native American

past. We should engage more natives in local Native American archaeology and this too would help build needed bridges.

All of these pursuits are worthwhile as "pure" research and all will potentially contribute to the human story in Vermont. However, for many of us employed as professional archaeologists and even for many dedicated avocationalists pure research alone does not dictate when and where we do archaeology. Predictably, this will be an ever-increasing condition of the new millennium as well. In fact, other than in a few select areas of study, the archaeological agenda in Vermont is most often set by the needs of compliance archaeology, archaeology required by law, as elsewhere in the country. Of course, this is logical given modern pressures, especially when sites and other cultural resources are endangered by development. This means that we have gained more money for archaeology in general and this is largely a good thing. Secondly, we are learning more about the types of sites found where development is occurring and this is largely good too. We are becoming resource managers by necessity and we have consequently begun to see archaeological remains as worthy of preservation first and foremost, rather than feeling the need to "dig" them all up.

On the flip side, this emphasis on salvage archaeology and resource management in the best of cases means that we have less time, if any, for pure research and little, if any money to support it. Our already limited personnel and other resources are overtaxed in the pursuit of endangered sites and where they aren't, the mentality of preservation and conservation comes to dominate and "excavation for excavation's sake" is often criticized. Of course, both pure and consulting research may well be destructive in their net effect, if the excavated samples aren't fully analyzed, reported at some level and properly curated for the long run. Nonetheless, one rough estimate suggests that very little, if any, pure research field work was undertaken in the field over the past decade for anything other than some aspects of historic military and nautical sites in Vermont. In the past year alone, perhaps 90-95% or more of all funding spent on Vermont archaeology has gone to compliance archaeology.

On the positive side of this develop-

ment driven, compliance archaeology, public education has become one of the most critical outcomes of compliance projects whenever and wherever possible in Vermont, at the steady insistence of Giovanna Peebles, State Archaeologist in the Division for Historic Preservation (VDHP). On the negative side, we only have two individuals in the VDHP and two in the Vermont Agency of Transportation who are responsible for an overwhelming amount of archaeology statewide, largely compliance archaeology, and they are all seriously taxed by a crushing work load. Secondly, even with all the spending on compliance archaeology in Vermont over the past 25 years, we still don't have anything approaching an adequate collection storage and curation facility statewide for private and institutional artifact collections, accompanying notes and photographs, etc. When avocational collectors and professionals alike ask me about this issue, I am embarrassed to answer that we here in Vermont don't have anywhere to carefully store all these scientifically important collections and guarantee their survival for future Vermonters. Other problems exist in Vermont too such as the destruction of sites that are affected by private, non-permitted development and those destroyed by public projects that are exempted from study for one reason or another, among others. In any case, if this disproportionate emphasis on compliance archaeology persists over time in Vermont, as seems to be likely, then some very critical pieces for unlocking Vermont's past will be almost inevitably ignored. We also need to be vigilant to ensure a continuation of compliance and pure research archaeology in local Vermont contexts.

In summary, I entreat each of you to take an increasingly active role in Vermont archaeology. Please get out there and get involved in Vermont archaeology. Each of you can make a positive difference, whether as a participant in and/or financial supporter of the annual VAW, as a willing volunteer on one of those precious volunteer research projects, as an advocate for threatened cultural resources and/or an advocate for a sorely needed statewide curation facility, as a participant in some compliance study, or in conjunction with some other public-minded, public education endeavor, among other potential contributions. The VAS and Vermont archaeology will benefit from your personal energy and input!

ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSERVANCY

Continued from page 5

11,000 years of human occupation. In Arizona, we have preserved the first mission of Father Kino and several important Sinagua and Hohokam ruins. In New York, we have steadily set aside a few remaining important Seneca Indian sites.

The list goes on and on. Here in Vermont, we believe we are close to purchasing the Rivers site (also known as the Verburg site), a well-known Middle Woodland-era Indian village that has been dug since the 1930s, most recently by Louise Basa. The Verburg site would be the Conservancy first preserve in Vermont and its fourth in New England. In addition to working with the Division for Historic Preservation to

preserve Vermont sites, the Conservancy has also gotten involved in helping create a stewardship program to monitor some of the archaeological easements owned by the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. I discussed this program briefly when I spoke at the executive meeting of the VAS in September.

HOW DOES THE CONSERVANCY RAISE FUNDS?

Funds for the Conservancy come from membership dues, individual contributions, corporations, and foundations. Income from a permanent Endowment Fund supplements regular fundraising. Often we raise money locally to purchase specific ruins on a project by project basis. When funds raised don't cover the cost of a certain property, we will dip into revolving Preservation Fund.

WHAT HAPPENS TO A CONSERVANCY PRESERVE?

When the Conservancy acquires an archaeological site, we formally dedicate it as a per-

Conservancy Plan of Action

SITE: Verburg Village

CULTURE & TIME PERIOD: Middle to Late Woodland (A.D. 800-1300)

STATUS: The Conservancy has purchased a 12-month option on the 15-acre site and an additional 20 acres of surrounding wetlands.

ACQUISITION: The Conservancy needs to raise \$45,000 to buy the site, stabilize it, and install a fence.

HOW YOU CAN HELP: Send your contributions to The Archaeological Conservancy, Attn: Project Verburg Rivers, 5301 Central Ave. NE, Suite 1218, Albuquerque, NM 87108-1517.

manent archaeological preserve. A committee of archaeologists and local, interested individuals then prepares a 100-year management plan for the preserve. In some cases, the Conservancy may eventually transfer the property to a public institution such as a university, museum, or government agency for permanent curation. In 1986, for example, we donated a ruin we had purchased to the Petrified Forest National Park.

The Conservancy doesn't conduct any research itself, but we often encourage qualified institutions to undertake scientific research on our sites in keeping with our long-term management plan. The principles of conservation archaeology dictate the use of resources. The Conservancy currently has approximately 20,000 members. Members receive our magazine, *American Archaeology*, and information about Conservancy-sponsored archaeological tours. To learn more details, feel free to visit our Web site at www.americanarchaeology.com I can be contacted at 1307 S. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22204. My phone number is (703) 979-4410. My e-mail is rcrisell@aol.com



Interested In Shipwrecks?

The Advisory Committee on Underwater Historic Preserves meets monthly in Burlington. It is open to the public and anyone with an interest in these unique historic resources can be a member just by showing up. It worked for me... So if you are interested contact John Dumville at the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation. (802) 828-3051

ARCHAEOLOGY OFFERINGS AT UVM Summer, 2000

by Jim Petersen

Among the eight summer offerings by the Department of Anthropology through the Division of Continuing Education at the University of Vermont (UVM) this summer, three will have substantial archaeology components. The include courses entitled "Prehistoric Archaeology," "Archaeology of Vermont," and "Field Work in Archaeology." Each of these courses is summarized below. For those who are interested, the other five courses will include two different offerings of "Human Cultures," "Linguistic Anthropology," "Growth, Scale and Power in America," and "Introduction to Visual Anthropology."

The three summer courses in archaeology at UVM will first include PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY (ANTH 24), to be taught by Deborah Blom, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:00-4:45 PM, May 23-June 22, in 511 Williams Hall. As described by Deborah, this course tells us: How do archaeologists know what we know about the past? Learn how archaeological sites are formed and excavated, and how archaeologists use the artifacts they find to reconstruct how people were living in the past. Explore a sampling of what archaeologists have learned about the history of humankind, from the origins and development of culture and the earliest human fossils through the appearance of complex societies.

The second UVM archaeology offering is ARCHAEOLOGY OF VERMONT (ANTH 95), to be taught by Christopher Slesar, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00-8:15 PM, May 23-June 29, in L100 Lafayette. Chris describes the class as a survey and exploration of the rich archaeological record of Vermont. The course takes the student from the Paleo Indian period of 10,000 years ago through the relatively recent historical period of Euro-American settlement of Vermont and the maritime history of Lake Champlain. Dynamic case studies from the thousands of archaeological sites in Vermont will be the core focus of this course. The history of

Vermont archaeology is highlighted, as well as archaeological methods, theory and ethics. Course format is lecture and discussion, with field trips to Vermont archaeological sites, excavations and museums. Guest lectures from Vermont archaeologists will introduce students to diverse components of this exciting field.

The third UVM archaeology offering is FIELD WORK IN ARCHAEOLOGY

(ANTH 200), to be taught by Jim Petersen in conjunction with the UVM Consulting Archaeology Program (CAP), Mondays-Fridays, 8 AM-4:30 PM, June 19-July 28, 511 Williams for the first week and then five weeks in the field. Participants in this course explore the methods of archaeological investigation in a Vermont field situation and an introduction to laboratory analysis of field collections. Prehistoric Native American settlement remains will be emphasized. A site within the Chittenden County Circumferential Highway project area will be studied, most likely in Colchester. Volunteers will be welcome within controlled contexts (to volunteer please contact CAP at 802-656-4310).

To obtain further information about these courses, please feel free to contact the UVM Department of Anthropology at 802-656-3884. To register, please the UVM Division of Continuing Education at 802-656-2085



*Okay so you may not end up as famous
but you'll be a better archaeologist*

PLEASE SERVE THE VAS

by Jim Petersen

The VAS Board of Directors typically includes 12 directors, who include the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary, among the officers, along with various other directors. We typically meet once a month for several hours at different locations to accommodate the members at the time. The Board in effect helps steer the VAS, and sets up its spring and fall meetings and other activities, including most notably the annual Vermont Archaeology Week (VAW).

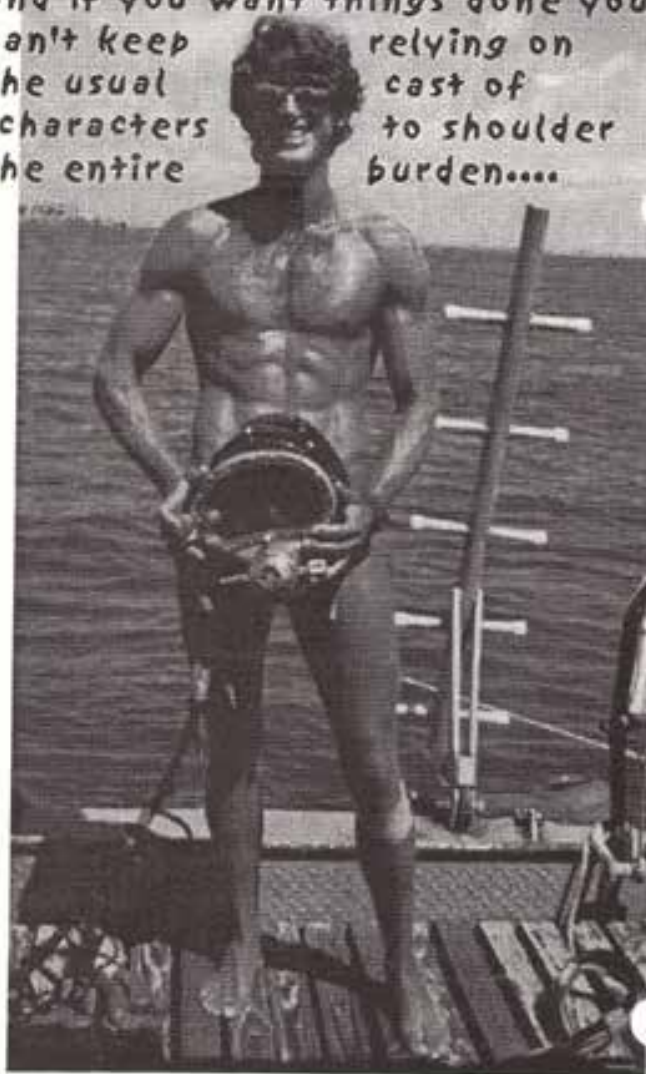
Currently, we are two Board members short and we are looking for interested members of the VAS who are willing to join the Board and help manage the Society. Typically, each Board member is expected to serve on at least one committee such as Education, Preservation, etc. Any prospective Board members should contact Jim Petersen at the spring meeting in Plymouth, or call 802-656-3884, or e-mail jpeterse@zoo.uvm.edu. The Board will need to evaluate and approve any new members.

There are also more focused and equally useful ways of serving the VAS such as by serving on one of the VAS committees and contributing to VAS activities. In particular, people willing in some way to help with VAW 2000 in September, 2000, please contact Prudence Doherty at the UVM Consulting Archaeology Program, 802-656-4310.

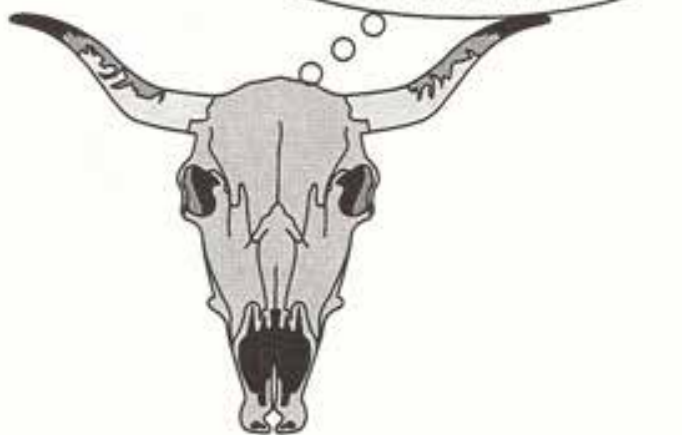
So What Da Ya Want Already? The Full Monty?

by Todd Hannabys

So get involved... I'll let Jim take the high road but your newsletter editor will add his two cents. There are over 200 members of the society and many of you have ideas about what should be done... as someone I know is want to say "Well you're the ones talking about it." So don't be shy it's your society and if you want things done you can't keep relying on the usual cast of characters to shoulder the entire burden....



Don't let the society become a
husk of its former self....



Can't Get Enough of That Archaeological Stuff?

Book Review Submitted by

Victor R. Rolando

The Archaeological Northeast, edited by Mary Ann Levine, Kenneth E. Sassaman, and Michael S. Nassaney, Foreword by Alice B. Kehoe (336 pp, \$75.00, ISBN 0-89789-517-7, published 6-30-99, Bergin & Garvey, P.O. Box 5007, Westport Ct., 06881-5007.

"These are thoughtful and stimulating articles dealing with virtually every period since humans first entered the Northeast," wrote Barbara E. Luedtke, Department of Anthropology, UMass, Boston, about The Archaeological Northeast. "An up-to-date reference on the archaeology of the Northeast has been much needed, and this volume should be welcomed by archaeologists here and in other regions. The Archaeological Northeast admirably fulfills its editors' goal of moving the Northeast from the archaeological periphery to the center of theoretical and methodological discourse."

The Archaeological Northeast, dedicated to Dena F. Dincauze, is a collection of 15 papers, divided into five parts, as follows:

Part I, Ancient People, Ancient Landscapes: "Exploration, Colonization, and Settling In: The Bull Brook Phase, Antecedents, and Descendants" by Mary Lou Curran; "A Light but Lasting Footprint: Human Influences on the Northern Landscape" by George P. Nicholas; and "Paleoenvironmental Context for the Middle Archaic Occupation of Cape Cod, Massachusetts" by Frederick J. Dunford.

Part II, Rethinking Typology and Technology: "By Any Other Name . . .": A Reconsideration of Middle Archaic Lithic Technology and Typology in the Northeast" by John R. Cross; "A Southeastern Perspective on Soapstone vessel Technology in the Northeast" by Kenneth E. Sassaman, and "Ceramic Research in New England: breaking the Typology Mold" by Elizabeth S. Chilton.

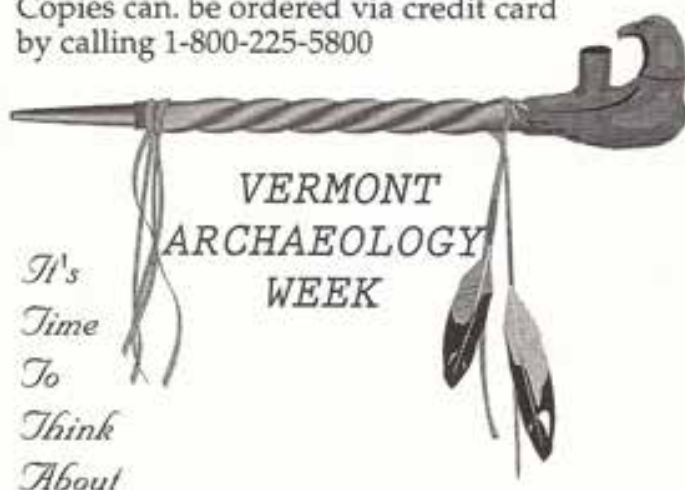
Part III, Critical Perspectives on Entrenched Assumptions: "Myth Busting and Prehistoric

Land Use in the Green Mountains of Vermont" by David M. Lacy, "Critical Theory in the Backwater of New England: Retelling the Third Millennium" by Elena Fillios, "Fishing, Farming, and Finding the Village Sites: Centering Late Woodland New England Algonquians" by Robert J. Hasenstab, and "Community and Confederation: A Political Geography of Contact Period Southern New England" by Eric S. Johnson.

Part IV, Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Northeastern Prehistory: "History of Zooarchaeology in New England" by Catherine C. Carlson, "Native Copper in the Northeast: An Overview of Potential Sources Available to Indigenous Peoples" by Mary Ann Levine, and "Radiocarbon Dating of Shell on the Southern Coast of New England" by Elizabeth A. Little.

Part V: Contributions from Cultural Resource Management: "The Significance of the Turners Falls Locality in Connecticut River Valley Archaeology" by Michael S. Nassaney, and "An Interdisciplinary Study of the John Alden Houses, 1627 and 1653, Duxbury, Massachusetts: Archaeology and Architecture" by Mitchell T. Mulholland.

Copies can be ordered via credit card by calling 1-800-225-5800



Well I don't have as much information as you might like but what I have is yours... Giovanna informs me that Mary Azarian, noted woodblock artist, has graciously agreed to do the art work for the VAW 2000 poster. Don't know what the theme will be this year though I suspect my choice "Old Stuff It's Really, Really Cool" probably won't get too far. Gio plans to work with Ms. Azarian on a suitable motif so send her your thoughts if so

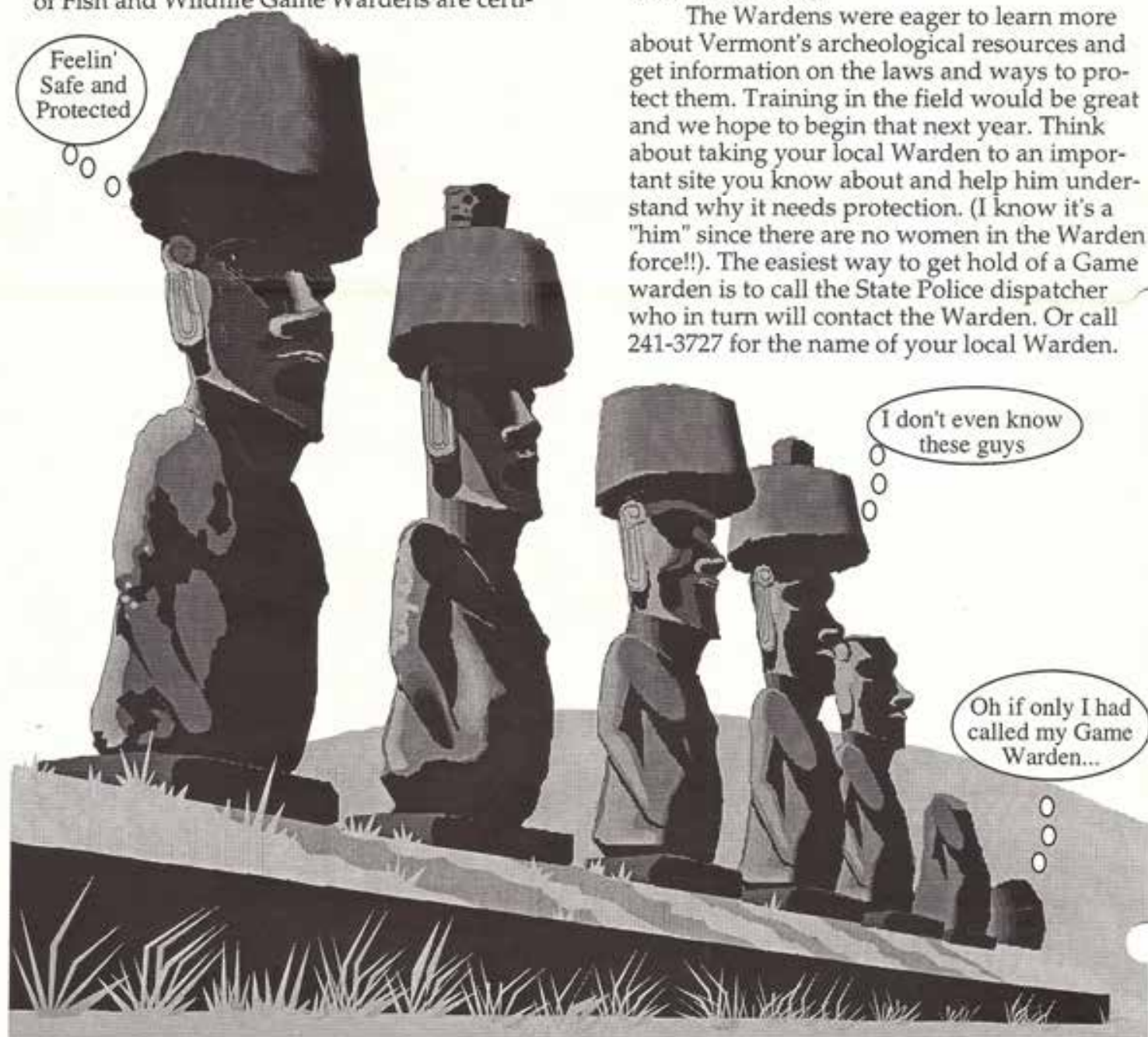
Do You Know Who Your Local Game Warden Is??

by Giovanna Peebles
State Archeologist
Division for Historic Preservation

Protection of archeological sites is now becoming incorporated into Vermont Game Wardens' annual law enforcement training. At the request of the VT Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, in March I provided 2 training sessions on Vermont's archeological resources and relevant state and federal protection laws to more than 50 wardens and deputies. Most Vermonters don't know that VT Department of Fish and Wildlife Game Wardens are certi-

fied as law enforcement officers by the Criminal Justice Training Council; thus, they have all the powers and authorities of state police officers. Since the Wardens spend much of their time on Vermont's "back 40" enforcing the state's fish and game laws and regulations, they are uniquely suited to spot or deter site looters that often like to work in sensitive back country areas. Since the Wardens also spend a certain amount of work time on boats and canoes, they can also help report observations of sites and burials eroding from streambanks. In contrast to the state police, wardens have a full time presence on Lake Champlain and can help enforce the state law that prohibits removal of artifacts from shipwrecks and other underwater sites.

The Wardens were eager to learn more about Vermont's archeological resources and get information on the laws and ways to protect them. Training in the field would be great and we hope to begin that next year. Think about taking your local Warden to an important site you know about and help him understand why it needs protection. (I know it's a "him" since there are no women in the Warden force!!). The easiest way to get hold of a Game warden is to call the State Police dispatcher who in turn will contact the Warden. Or call 241-3727 for the name of your local Warden.



Standing Room Only Crowd Attends Program on Archeology of the Connecticut River Valley

by Giovanna Peebles
State Archeologist
Division for Historic Preservation

At the request of the Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission, I presented a program in Bellows Falls at the end of March on the archeology of the upper Connecticut River. It was fantastic to see a very enthusiastic, standing room only crowd of about 130 people from the region who clearly wanted to learn more about Vermont archeology, history, and Native Americans. My 35 minute slide program briefly illustrated the following highlights of Upper Connecticut River archeology: the Paleo-Indian site near Lancaster, New Hampshire; the 3000 year old Early Woodland site in Canaan; Vermont's earliest farming site (1120 AD) in Springfield; campsites in Vernon; the contact period site of Fort Hill; the Bellows Falls petroglyphs; 17th century Fort Dummer; the Elizabeth and Ely Copper Mines in Orange County; and noted all the many other sites that we either know about or that are likely to exist (such as shipwrecks buried in the Connecticut River floodplain). I also emphasized that very little is known and discovered in the Connecticut River side of Vermont in contrast to the Lake Champlain and Wallomsac Valleys. The contrast in extent of archeology is due to the greater level of development in western Vermont that, simply put, fuels more archeology. Also, the Champlain Valley has had a great deal more surface collecting and site discoveries by avocational archeologists. Of interest is that most sites in the Upper Connecticut River Valley have been discovered through the processes of erosion or as a result of proposed development requiring archeological studies.

Virtually the entire crowd remained for the hour long "question and answer" period after the formal program. They asked that there be many more forums and opportunities for learning about Vermont's rich and ancient history and they offered a number of suggestions, including articles about archeology in Vermont Life magazine, many more lectures, more non-technical publications, and a "State

Archeologist's Column" in the newspapers. This experience confirmed yet again that there is a large, but silent, group who cares about archeology in Vermont, has a strong interest in it, and is not effected whatsoever by "regulatory archeology." The handout table with piles of VAS membership forms, VAS Journal order forms, archeology pamphlets, sample copies of VAS Newsletters and American Archeology magazine was quickly emptied out.



Yet More

Vermont Archeological Society Bid'nass

S VAS BYLAWS CHANGES

Members of the VAS were recently asked to consider seven changes to the VAS Bylaws, as properly warned and distributed prior to the recent VAS spring meeting held on April 15, 2000, in Plymouth. These changes were intended to streamline the business of the VAS and the amendments were proposed in accord with Article X of the current Bylaws, which, among other things, requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote for Bylaws changes. A total of 22 people voted by ballot prior to the meeting and 13 more voted at the spring, but not all 35 VAS voting members voted on all seven proposed amendments.

In any case, all seven amendments have passed. These include:

amendment 1

related to a Records Manager and Archivist, 27 yes, 7 no;

amendment 2

related to ad hoc committees or task forces, 28 yes, 6 no;

amendment 3

related to a Recorder, 32 yes, 2 no;

amendment 4

related to the membership committee, 28 yes, 6 no;

amendment 5

related to the Treasurer, 33 yes, 1 no;

amendment 6

related to the Finance Committee, 29 yes, 6 no; and finally

amendment 7

related to the Board of Directors, 29 yes, 6 no.

Please Lord let this be the end of Bylaws Changes

WOMEN SCREAM, CHILDREN FAINT AND THE CLEAN UP CREW JUST FEELS NAUSEOUS.....

Yes it's time once again for the Newsletter editor's personal venting...

I shall be moving on for a year or so... Consequently the next newsletter should be significantly improved under the veteran direction of Vic Rolando. Please don't complain to him about the failings of the issues that were under my dubious direction. However, if you have ideas, text, graphics or anything you would like to see in the newsletter don't be shy. Give him a call / email / snailmail at:

Victor Rolando
126 Union Street, Apt. 4
Bennington, VT 05201
(802) 375-8092
vrolando@sover.net

Now since I'm buggin' out I get to fire off a few Parthian shots... To admit... Vermont is chock-a-block with archaeological materials. Prehistoric / Historic / underwater / on land etc. The pace of development is slow. For someone who has watched California disappear under the developer's D-9s the pace is positively glacial. So there is a real chance to get ahead of the curve in this state.

But not, repeat not, with this sort of "gee shucks mister developer / project manager if only I could convince you that archaeology is really really neat" attitude that seems to constitute the default setting for folks interested in cultural resources. Yes public outreach is important. No I don't believe confrontation is the optimum solution. But if you are waiting for the people who want to build things in the least amount of time for the least amount of money to wake up one morning and smack their foreheads and say "Gosh I should have spent more time and money on archaeology so that the resource would be available to the public." You have a mighty long wait in store.

So stop shuffling your feet like naughty school children every time you want archaeology done. Yes I know Vermont is a small state and has a depressed economy. So What? Does this mean that a developer can shimp on re-enforcing rod when building an office building? Call your state rep. Call your Federal rep. Whine to the press. Insist that the current laws be enforced. Better laws would be nice but we have some very good ones right now.

We are still waiting on an archival facility for archaeological materials recovered in Vermont (see page 3 *State Archaeologist Report* and page 7 of the *President's report*). This is criminal. People have been talking about one since I moved here in 1990. There should have been one in place by 1980... It's mandated in most federal contracts but hey "we're just a little state

etc..." This should have been done long ago. It is a basic component of doing even moderately professional work. If you recover materials on behalf of the public it is imperative that they be there when companies / individuals move on...



All this is to say that there is a real potential to do a good job of managing Vermont's archaeological resources. The pressure of development, relative to just about everywhere else, is low. But it is still largely a potential unrealized. This is not to say that good work hasn't been done or that people have not tried, but a more forceful attitude couldn't hurt. Maybe it's a New England thing where only ethnic people have emotions but I think it's time to lose the constipated WASP approach and get in a few people's faces.

Anyhoo... It's your society and your state and your past. So if you don't complain because you are waiting for a few more outreach efforts to solve the problem, I think you are either doing an ostrich impersonation or you have more faith in humanity than yours truly. Remember interest in cultural resources is general; the profit for a developer is specific. He will always be generally supportive of archaeology and specifically destructive.

That's All Folks...

Todd Hannahs

Sex, Death,

&

\$\$\$



Well Okay no sex and I hope no-one dies but we do need your money... You know that dues thing. Look on the back of the newsletter. See those numbers after your name, 98, 99, 00. Well that is the last year for which your dues are paid up. & if it's a 98 you (like those folks who never buy magazines from publishers clearing house sweepstakes) will be dropped from the mailing list. Thus missing out on all the fun.

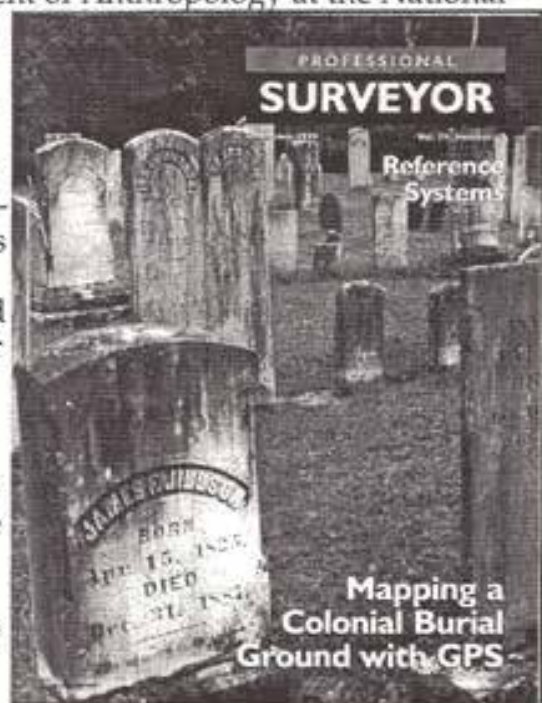
So don't be shy. Send your money today and continue to be the envy of one and all



And If You Still Ain't Got Enough of That Archaeological Stuff...

by Todd Hannahs

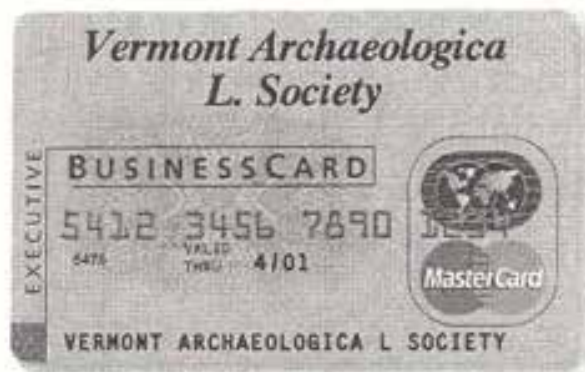
Dr. Bruno Frohlich who works with the Department of Anthropology at the National Museum of Natural History of the Smithsonian Institution has recently published the Cover article in **Professional Surveyor** magazine (Vol. 19 No. 10) While the article devotes



much of its attention to the use of GIS/GPS mapping systems there is quite a bit of information on the methods employed and the results of St. Johnsbury Burial Ground Excavation Project. Now this is not to be found at your local newstand but check with your local surveying firm and they will probably have a copy... Happy hunting...



Hey Look We Rate A Card



Okay so it will be awhile before you can pay with a VAS credit card. Although *Archaeologica* has a certain latin feel to it. Kinda classy but that L. at the end screws it up.

CHIMNEY POINT PREPARES FOR ATLATL CHAMPIONSHIP

by Audrey Porsche

Call for Volunteers!

Plans are underway for this year's Northeastern Open Atlatl Contest on September 16, 2000. We are looking for volunteers to assist with parking and admissions, contest registration, public announcer, kids activity corner, and range master --- (the person who ensures no-one flings a dart at the wrong time. . . . ouch!) We may have a slot or two open for contest judge. If you are interested in helping out in this fun and interesting event, call Audrey Porsche at (802) 759-2412. The event will run from 10:30 - 4:00 though time commitments would vary and are flexible. Thanks!

Hope to see everyone there as we kickoff Vermont Archaeology Week at Chimney Point State Historic Site on the shore of Lake Champlain in Addison!

Hubbardton Battlefield prepares for a Cultural Resource Management Plan

At press time, the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation is awaiting proposals for a Cultural Resource Management Plan for Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site. The plan which will consider current understanding of the archaeological and historical research at the site will also address future research needs, interpretive potential and security/management concerns. Look for results from the management plan and any associated research to be written up in a future VAS newsletter.

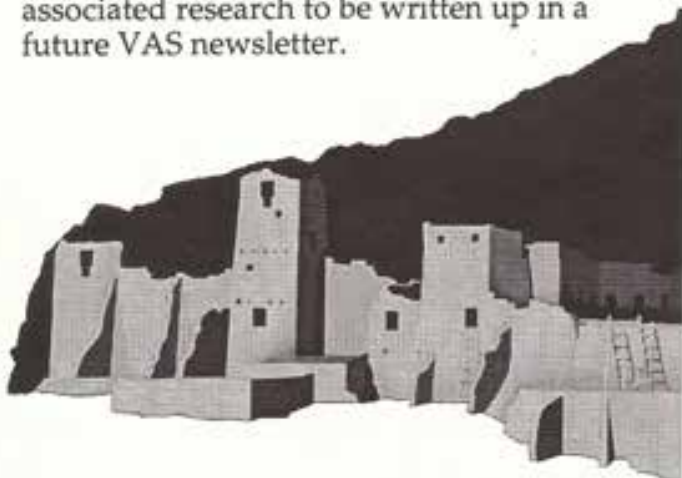
Just In Case You Thought Janet Reno Only Cares about Cuban Custody Disputes...

Submitted by Gary Shattuck

(quoted from the new "Heritage Resources Law" book just published by the National Trust. I think it worthy of publication in the newsletter to let the membership know that even the nation's AG who is an ex officio member of the Trust's board) has an interest in historic preservation:

We all stand in awe of this nation's heritage resources, the treasures of our historic and prehistoric past. These precious artifacts tell us not only about the peoples who have gone before us, but - if we can preserve them - they can inform countless future generations. Today they are important to us on so many different levels: providing our scientists with information which is both fascinating and important to us all; and giving ordinary modern peoples a sense of respect and kinship with ancient peoples who found the means of eloquently expressing themselves in their everyday lives. Their structures, their art, their tools, their designs for living and dying, all tell us about the strength of the human spirit; about the great resilience of the human race; about the ingenuity and creativity of our ancestors. Our heritage resources serve as the ultimate model of what we are capable of accomplishing, regardless of hardship and circumstance.

The universal fascination with traces of our past is evident in every community in the nation. Americans from all walks of contemporary life agree that we must defend our heritage resources as fiercely as we defend our natural resources. The law is one of our most powerful tools. I am proud to say that the Department of Justice is working throughout the country with the Department of the Interior, other state and federal agencies, federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Congress to ensure that we do all we can to protect and preserve the rich evidence of our past. I urge each American to work in your community for the same goal.



Sargent Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology News

Submitted by Sargent Museum

1 - The Museum has opened The Sargent Museum Center for Connecticut River Archaeology in Newport, NH. We opened a temporary storefront location in January at 17 Main Street (across from the Opera House). In May we will move to the restored permanent location at 30 Central St. (behind the Opera House and Town Hall). The Newport office may be contacted at 863 - 1944. Winter hours are Mondays and Wednesdays.

2 - Associated with the opening of "The Center" is considerable activity at the Concord Archaeology Lab processing the Hunter Site. The Center will focus on Hunter site in presenting Connecticut River Indian history. Volunteers are at work computer cataloging the collection and transcribing field notes and copying maps in an effort to prepare for both the exhibits at Newport and publication of the Hunter Site data. Volunteers are needed!

Contact Lynn Clark at the Museum to volunteer.

3 - In conjunction with the opening of the Connecticut River Center the Museum has received funding for two AmeriCorps positions. These positions are dedicated to establishing the Community Archaeology and History Program, an educational program under development by the Museum which will include teachers, students and general public in developing a curriculum for archaeology with a strong focus on site stewardship. As part of this program the Sargent Museum will distribute a toll free number to community site stewards which they may use to report site vandalism or threats to sites. Past DHR/PSC fieldschool participants Tanya Krajcik (BA, University of North Carolina) and Matt Page (BA, Franklin Pierce College) have filled the first two positions. Additional openings are anticipated during the year.

4 - We are virtually assured of Coastal Zone funding for the Wiggin Site excavations and survey in Stratham, NH in July. Museum Historic Archaeologist Neill De Paoli will be

directing. This project will be seeking to identify structural evidence at the 17th c. Wiggin site and will explore the area for additional historic and/or Indian sites. A limited number of volunteers will be accepted.

5 - There will be historic site survey and mapping work at Monson Center (Hollis and Milford, NH) scheduled this summer and fall. Tentatively planned for June and August / September. Volunteers to work on this mapping and recording effort are welcome!

6 - Public archaeology programs are being developed out of the Center for Connecticut River Archaeology. David Smith, Tanya Krajcik and Matt Page have started researching an interesting historic site / site complex in Newport, NH. Shortly before his death Howard Sargent became intrigued with an apparent late 18th century to mid 19th century freed slave community. Prospects for locating at least one cellar hole connected to this community appear very good. Volunteers for historic records and field research are welcome!

7 - The Sargent Museum successfully completed a number of technical assistance projects last year. These included the Turee Pond Boat Ramp survey and testing, the Milford, NH Kayley Park Survey, a Planning Study of Eleven National Guard Armories and a Planning Study for the Manchester, NH Riverwalk Project. The Museum will continue to provide these services, on a very selective basis, as staff time is available and the project is related to a particular research interest of the Museum.

8 - The Sargent Museum anticipates funding for a number of projects for which we will need to hire supervisors and/or Project Directors. Resumes are welcome if you are interested in being considered for future employment.

9 - The Museum is in the preliminary planning stages of creating an educational web site which is being created pro bono by a Nasuha firm. Volunteers to participate in the development of this web site are welcome!

Contact Sargent Museum Director Wesley Stinson for additional information about projects, positions or volunteering. Snail mail is:

The Sargent Museum, PO Box 4212, Concord, NH 03302; telephone Concord, NH 603 229-4966
or Newport, NH 603 863-1944. Email at sargentmuseum@mediaone.net
(wstinson@sargentmuseum.org should be back up in the near future and so is an option)

Please note !!! The AOL email addresses will fade away shortly and we will only use the mediaone.net and the soon to be restored sargentmuseum.org email addresses.

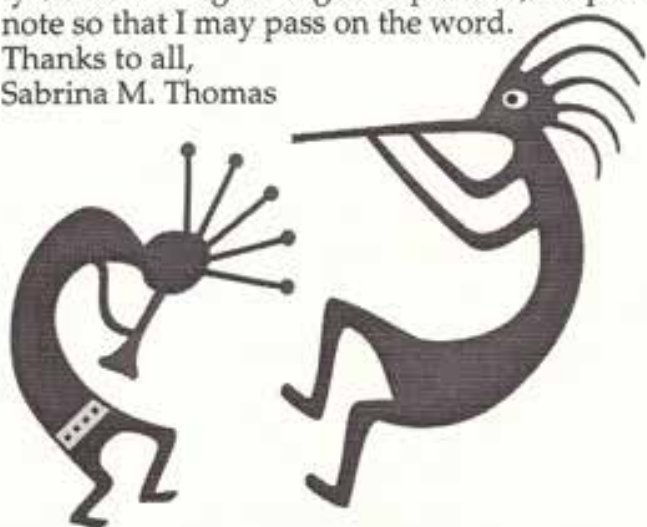
CALLING ALL EDUCATORS...

BRINGING LIGHT TO THE UNENLIGHTENED, IT'S NOT FOR SISSIES

by Sabria Thomas

I want to share with the VAS community my recent participation in an Education Conference at the College of St. Joseph. My presentation entitled Integrating Archaeology into the Elementary Classroom discussed and demonstrated methods I use as a guest speaker to introduce archaeology to Elementary students. College of St. Joseph and Green Mountain College faculty and CSJ staff and students were in attendance and showed great interest in archaeology, the Vermont Archaeology Society, and in having guest speakers visit their own classrooms. Events such as this are great avenues to educate the public regarding archaeology in general and Vermont archaeology specifically. If there are any other VAS members who are currently or are willing to be guest speakers, drop me note so that I may pass on the word.

Thanks to all,
Sabrina M. Thomas



Cyber Stuff

In a continuing effort to keep current I am starting a column on web sites. As this is the first time I am listing some pretty basic sites. However, most sites have links to other sites with links and so on and so on... So let your mouse do the walking and you can end up just about anywhere. I encourage those of you who stumble across a site worthy of notice to send the URL in to the newsletter editor. So get out there and enjoy the World Wide Wait...



General

The Society for American Archaeology
<http://www.saa.org>
The Society for Historical Archaeology
<http://www.azstarnet.com/~sha/>
National Park Service
<http://www.cr.nps.gov>
ArchNet
<http://www.archnet.uconn.edu/>
Native Americans and the Environment
<http://www.indians.org/library/subt.html>
Human Origins and Evolution
<http://www.indiana.edu/~origins/>
Archaeological Fieldwork Server
<http://www.cincpac.com/afs/testpit.html>
Center for American Archeology
<http://www.caa-archeology.org/>
Underwater Archaeology
<http://www.pophaus.com/underwater/>
<http://www.adp.fsu.edu/uwarch.html>

Vermont Sites

The Vermont Archaeological Society web page
<http://www.uvm.edu/~vhnet/hpres/org/vas/>
Lake Champlain Maritime Museum
<http://www.lcmm.org>
University of Maine Farmington
<http://www.umf.maine.edu/~umfarc>
Center for Research on Vermont
<http://www.uvm.edu/~crvt>
Vermont Heritage Network
<http://www.uvm.edu/~vhnet>
Vermont Division for Historic Preservation
<http://www.uvm.edu/~vhnet/hpres/org/vdhp>
Vermont Historical Society
<http://www.state.vt.us/vhs/>

Curious About Vermont?

More From The Web

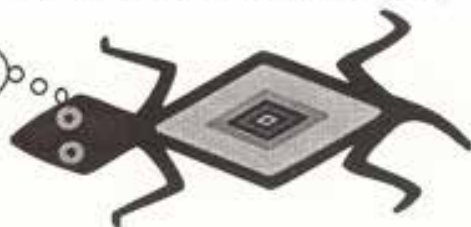
Status:

*Cribed from the CRVnet
by Gregory Sanford, State Archivist*

I would like to alert (**INTERESTED PARTIES**) to various information we are posting on the State Archives website. The website can be accessed through the Secretary of State's home page (<http://www.sec.state.vt.us>) which also has information of potential use to Anyone interested in Vermont. The Archives site includes information on statewide elections from the 18th century to present; campaign finance information; copies of Vermont's three state constitutions; lists of state officers, as well as information on archival management, records grants, etc. One recent addition is "continuing issues of government" which provides records-based information on, and context for, various current issues. We will continue to add to the page as resources allow.

We welcome any comments and suggestions.

Which way to
the web?



*And you might want to give this
a try...*

*Cribed from the CRVnet
by Elsa Gilbertson VDHP*

A number of you have probably already explored this but for those who haven't, the Library of Congress has put its collection of bird's eye views and panoramic maps on its American Memory web site. You can search by state and town. They have a wonderful collection of Vermont bird's eyes and one can happily get lost in the late 19th century Vermont for hours and not worry about wear and tear on historic material. To check it out, look at

<<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/pmhtml/panhome.html>>

WANT TO GET PUBLISHED?...

I don't know if the deadline has passed. But the current edition of the VAS Journal is in need of copy

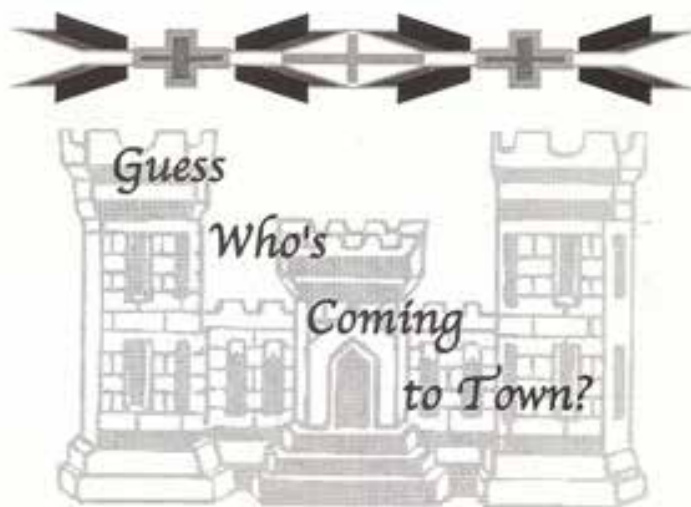
Submitted by Vic Rolando

Volume 3's Journal of Vermont Archaeology, now over a year late in being published, needs input. Short or long, your article is needed for this year's (actually last year's) issue. Please consider a report on last summer's investigations; this year's projects; or something educational. How about someone explaining how exactly carbon dating is done, who does it, and what are the costs and time constraints. How about someone explaining what has become of Vermont's past exciting dig sites.

Don't do it for me; don't do it for the VAS; do it for Vermont's image outside the state (we're going to look foolish publishing about a 35-page "Journal").

Do it for whatever reason.

DO IT!



The Army Corps of Engineers will be doing some work on the Burlington Breakwater this summer and fall. (If I was cynical I would attribute this sudden government largess to an election year but fortunately I'm not cynical) An archaeological investigation is planned for this summer. If you would like to know more contact Ms. Lynn Rakos, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, CENAN-PL-EA, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY. 10278 (212) 264-0229



Vermont Archaeological Society, Inc.

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STATE _____ ZIP _____

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EMAIL _____

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Signature

Dues Schedule (please check one)

- | | | |
|-------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| R | <input type="checkbox"/> | Individual (\$15.00) |
| F | <input type="checkbox"/> | Family (\$25.00) |
| ST/SE | <input type="checkbox"/> | Student/Senior* (\$10.00) |
| C | <input type="checkbox"/> | Contributing (\$50.00) |
| L | <input type="checkbox"/> | Life (\$250.00) |
| T | <input type="checkbox"/> | Totally Insane (\$50,000.00) |
| IN | <input type="checkbox"/> | Non-profit Institutional (\$25.00) |
| IP | <input type="checkbox"/> | For-Profit Institutional (\$50.00) |

NOTE: The VAS does not sell the use of its membership list. However we occasionally allow its free use by select organizations with announcements of specific interest to VAS members. Do you authorize us to share your mailing address with such organizations? ☐ Yes ☐ No

*Senior: 65 years or over. Students must be full-time and provide a 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