



VERMONT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Message From the VAS President James B. Petersen

As I noted in the May VAS Newsletter, the annual Vermont Archaeology Week (VAW) of recent years has made a very substantial contribution to Vermont archaeology. If we as members of the VAS don't do anything else each year, then we should continue to support VAW with complete enthusiasm, putting aside any personal bias as much as possible. VAW 2000 was held the week of September 17-23 and I hope you contributed to the sponsorship and hosting of events, or at the very least tried to attend one or more events in your local area. In my case, I looked forward to again serving as a judge at the Fifth Annual Atlatl Contest, held at Chimney Point State Historic Site in Addison on Saturday, September 16!

As I also discussed in much greater detail in my May message, the archaeological agenda in Vermont, as elsewhere in the country, is often set by the needs of compliance archaeology - archaeology required by law. Of course, this is largely due to various development pressures, where sites and other cultural resources are endangered. Although I am not privy to the full range of archaeological activities undertaken in Vermont over the summer, there seemingly has been a lot of archaeological activity all across the state recently. In particular, most of the larger studies have been related to compliance work done under the sponsorship of the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VAOT), an organization that also directly supports VAW 2000. The VAOT also supported a significant public outreach and education endeavor over the summer months in Chittenden County.

I will briefly summarize a few of the larger VAOT compliance studies and the public outreach and education effort here to give you some idea of what has been going on around the state. Please understand that this is merely a sample of activities and it is not meant to be exhaustive, nor is it meant to sanction these particular efforts over others. My intent is instead to simply portray some of the breadth of interesting work and to again show how compliance, or Cultural Resource Management archaeology, is playing a very large part in the current Vermont scene.

On the positive side, public education has become one of the most critical outcomes of compliance archaeology whenever and wherever possible in Vermont. So, following the success of the Archaeology Consulting Team's public education work at their Rogers Farm excavations several years ago, UVM undertook a similar effort at a prehistoric Native American site in Colchester endangered by the
see President's Message →5

Relics & Ruins 2000: The Changing Landscape of Wallingford Pond

*Sheila Charles, Debra Gardner-Baasch,
and David Lacy*

Nestled alongside the rutted, puddle-filled dirt road at the top of a gentle slope are the abandoned and overgrown remains of the late 19th-century home of Alphonso and Marie Senecal. Once a diversified 50-acre farm with a view of Wallingford Pond, the visible evidence of the farm, homesteaded in 1874, includes characteristic stone walls, cellar hole, barbed wire, surface artifacts, spring box, hoary maples lining the front drive, and field stone piles. To the young or untrained eye, however, this all melds invisibly into "the woods."

This year's Relics & Ruins camp - our fourth season of a partnership between the Green Mountain National Forest and the Hayes Foundation - broadened its focus to examine the changing landscape and the implications for the health of the local environment/ecosystem. While we continued to integrate archaeology, archival research, and oral history with art (this year's emphasis was on watercolors, guided again by artist/teacher Steve Halford), we brought in specialists to present workshops on soil, water quality, wildlife habitat and botany. We also had John Layton, a professional photo-journalist, work with the students on black-and-white landscape photography.

NOTICE

**VAS Annual Fall Meeting
Business, Elections, Reports, & Papers**

Socialize with Friends over Lunch

**Saturday, October 28
in South Burlington**

Program Schedule & Election Data Enclosed

These various lines of investigation and creative expression allowed students - a dozen kids, ages 10 to 14, from Rutland County towns - to come to a greater understanding of what the landscape "story" was, and how rapidly change can occur. Ultimately our intent is not that the students become archaeologists (although that would be okay!), but that they have an appreciation that our actions and decisions about landscape management have tangible consequences. see Relics & Ruins 2000 →5

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Address general inquiries concerning the Society to the Editor

From the Editor's desk . . .

Todd Hannahs filled in for me in early 1999, when a personal situation prevented me from continuing to produce the VAS Newsletter. Todd added a dimension to our newsletters that few of us have experienced and I appreciate his taking the on job and flying with it. He has moved from the area and the Board recently appointed me

to return to producing the Newsletter. Thank you, Todd.

The Board also appointed me Journal Editor, which means that I am assuming production of our biennial "Journal of Vermont Archaeology." David Starbuck, who edited the two previous issues of the Journal, has stepped down and we thank him for his efforts to produce a top-quality publication for the VAS. Thank you, David.

Two more high-visibility people have also recently left the area - Audrey Porsche, former VAS President, and Deborah Blom, our recent Secretary.

Audrey came to Vermont in 1988 from North Dakota's Division of Historic Sites and was appointed Administrator of the Barnes Tavern at Chimney Point, Mount Independence State Park, Hubbardton Battlefield State Park, and Forestdale Ironworks State Historic Site. Her husband, Brian Ackworth, served as Director of the Shelburne Museum. With his recent acceptance of a position with Historic Annapolis in Maryland, Audrey and family left the area this past June. Her twelve years in Vermont have left their mark as many State Sites have risen to new prominence on the Vermont scene. Her absence will be felt. Thank you, Audrey.

Assistant Professor of Anthropology at UVM and VAS Board member since 1999, Deb has taken a one-year leave of absence to work at Vanderbilt University and has resigned from the Board. As VAS Secretary, she kept us all honest and we hope to have her back by the fall of 2001. Thank you, Deb.

Finally, two-term Board member Frank Bump leaves us at the end of this year. Frank was elected to the Board in 1994, was reelected in 1997, and has reached the term limit per the Bylaws. During his tenure he sold many VAS T-shirts and Journals, is responsible for many new members joining, and was an active voice at Board meetings. Thank you, Frank.

**Remembering the Past
through**

**Vermont Archaeology Week
Prudence Doherty, VAW 2000 Coordinator**

The Vermont Archaeological Society and the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation invited us to remember "Forgotten Things, Forgotten Ways" during the Seventh Annual Vermont Archaeology Week. The celebration of Vermont's rich and ancient heritage ran from September 17-23, 2000. A variety of educational and fun programs for participants of all ages were scheduled throughout the state. Most events were free and open to the public.

This year, there were several opportunities to visit excavation sites. In Swanton, you could learn about the natural and cultural heritage of the Missisquoi delta. In Brattleboro, archaeologists explained excavations at a prehistoric camp site. At the Hubbardton Battlefield, we watched and learned as archaeologists used metal detecting to find buried evidence of a Revolutionary War conflict.

Many hikes and tours were also offered around the state. Vic Rolando (VAS) led tours of the Bennington Ironworks

and the former village of North Winhall. In Wallingford, a walking tour highlighted the changing landscape of Wallingford Pond and the 19-century Senecal farmstead. In Addison County, State Archaeologist Giovanna Peebles led a group to her favorite archaeological sites. Many of us joined a bus tour and retraced the steps Revolutionary War soldiers followed on the military road between Mount Independence and the Hubbardton Battlefield. At the Ethan Allen Firing Range in West Bolton, we explored the growth and demise of a small farming village at the foot of the Green Mountains.

Other events included slide lectures on Vermont settlers 11,000 years ago, the prehistoric origins of farming in New England, and archaeology in the Northeast Kingdom's former Champion lands. Children and families particularly enjoyed the fifth annual atlatl (spear-throwing) championships at Chimney Point and Kids' Archaeology Day at Mt. Independence. Exhibits featuring archaeology included "The Changing Landscape of Wallingford Pond" at the Billing's Farm and Museum and "The Dawn of Steam Navigation and the Paddle Steamer *Lady Sherbrooke*" at the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum.

Vermont artist Mary Azarian generously donated her time and materials to create the art for this year's Vermont Archaeology Week poster. Her woodcut of a young boy discovering long forgotten things in an attic trunk captures the VAW 2000 theme of remembering forgotten things and forgotten ways.

The Federal Highway Administration and the Vermont Agency of Transportation generously funded Vermont Archaeology Week 2000. Many professional and avocational archaeologists, historical societies, state and federal agencies, businesses, and others donated time, services, and funding to make Vermont Archaeology Week a success. The Green Mountain National Forest provided generous support for poster production.

VAS members received calendars and posters in the mail. To request extra calendars and posters or more information, contact the VAW 2000 Coordinator, Consulting Archaeology Program, University of Vermont, 112 University Heights, Burlington, VT 05405; phone (802) 656-4310; or e-mail to uvmcap@zoo.uvm.edu. The calendar was also be posted on the VAS web page at <http://www.uvm.edu/~vhnet/hpres/org/vas/vas.htm>.

News from the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum *Adam Kane, LCMM Nautical Archeologist*

The summer of 2000 was a very active field season for the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Our Lake Survey Crew continued mapping the lake bottom, while our team of nautical archaeologists surveyed and documented several sites in Lake Champlain and Lake George. Meanwhile, the staff of the Conservation Laboratory treated numerous artifacts, most significantly they completed the stabilization of the *Confiance* anchor.

2000 Lake Survey Project: This season marked the fifth year of the Lake Survey Project, with the crew surveying

approximately 40 square miles of the lake bottom. To date the Lake Survey Project has completed sonar coverage of the lake from the Canadian border to the Champlain Bridge, with roughly 50 new shipwrecks located. In association with the ongoing remote-sensing survey, our shallow water verification team preliminarily documented wrecks located in 1999 and 2000. Two of the investigated wrecks, the *Troy* and the Port Henry Drawboat, stand out as world-class shipwrecks, with the potential to tell us much about the commercial history of Lake Champlain.

Canal-schooner *Troy*: In 1825 the canal-schooner *Troy* disappeared off Westport, N.Y. during a November gale, taking with it five young men and boys. The loss of the *Troy* has remained one of Lake Champlain's greatest tragedies, and mysteries. The Lake Survey Project located the *Troy* in 1999, and staged a preliminary documentation effort to examine the site. The survey revealed a remarkably intact shipwreck, with its bow section stuck fast in the bottom, while the transom hangs in the water



column. The *Troy* is the only example of an early sailing-canal boat ever located. It is an extremely important link in the evolution of Lake Champlain commercial vessel design and may be the oldest vessel in the world ever located equipped with a centerboard.

The Port Henry Railroad Drawboat: *Wreck MM*, although located in 1999, was the preliminarily documented this summer. This vessel is a railroad drawboat that we believe is the largest intact shipwreck in Lake Champlain. When the railroads expanded their network of tracks in the Champlain Valley in the 19th century, they occasionally needed to make an east-west crossing via low bridges that obstructed lake navigation. Commercial lake traffic on the north-south water route was still very active then; the solution to this problem lay in the

development of the railroad drawboat. A drawboat was a heavily built barge with railroad tracks that ran down the center of its deck. The boat could be lodged into a gap between two sections of fixed-pile trestles that emerged from each shoreline. When the drawboat was in position, it filled the gap and completed the rail connection for a train to cross the lake. When the train had passed, the floating drawboat was pivoted out of the way to open the channel for lake vessels to pass. The drawboat was presumably built around 1870 for the short-lived trestle that crossed Bulwagga Bay from Crown Point to Port Henry, N.Y. It is 250 feet long, 34 feet wide, stands almost 8 feet off the bottom, and its condition is almost "as built". Complete documentation of *Wreck MM* will reveal how these little-remembered floating links in the transportation system were constructed to handle the weight of heavy railroad cars.

The Alburg Barges: For two weeks this June our crew of archaeologists documented four scow barges located in the Missisquoi Bay, near Alburg in the impact area of the Alburg-Swanton Bridge Replacement Project. April 10, 1938 saw the opening of the Missisquoi Bay Bridge between the towns of Swanton and Alburg, and the closing of a long and complex series of events relating to its construction. Central to this effort were six work barges that served as platforms for heavy equipment, vehicles for moving stone and earth, work areas for laborers, and floating breakwaters. With the construction finished these vessels lost their usefulness, and were abandoned. Four of the six now lie in the northwestern corner of the causeway, in a state of progressive deterioration.

The documentation of the Alburg barges helps fill a gap in our understanding of the past. Wooden work barges were a common sight 100 years ago, or even 50, but since the middle of the 20th century their numbers have rapidly declined. The ubiquity and unglamorous image of the work barge has led to a near vacuum in terms of understanding how they were constructed. Fortunately, the opportunity to study them is not lost. It is the LCMM hope that the results of this documentation will be a significant step to understanding this aspect of our working past.

Northern Lake George Survey: This June we spent a week diving in the northern end of Lake George in support of a project headed up by archaeologist Scott Padeni. We focused our efforts on the broken up remains of a colonial era vessel that were being eroded out of the bottom sediments. Individual timbers were raised, documented on the surface, and reburied in a more stable location. Our team also had a look at a few of the numerous 19th-century work barges abandoned in that end of the lake.

Valcour Island Survey: This July the LCMM in association with a team of local New York State divers, initiated a systematic archaeological survey of the submerged Valcour Island battle site. Our team in conjunction with about a dozen other divers worked under a permit issued by the New York State Museum, with support from the Department of Defense Legacy Program and the Navy Historical Center. The survey uncovered numerous artifacts related to the conflict: the most

significant of which are three large fragments of a cannon. The cannon is believed to have exploded and shattered during the engagement. New research has determined that a cannon explosion on the gunboat New York killed their Lt. Thomas Rogers and the cannon in question may be the one associated with this fatal event. It is hoped this survey will be the beginning of a multi-year study of this important historic site.

The Burlington Schooner Project: In related news, the LCMM announced that it is planning to construct a working replica of a sailing canal boat on the Burlington waterfront. The Lake Champlain Transportation Company will be the museum's principal partner in the Burlington Schooner Project with much of the funding generously supplied by Mac and Lois McClure. The vessel will be modeled after the "1862" class sailing-canalboats the *General Butler* and the *O.J. Walker*, two historic shipwrecks located within a half-mile of the proposed construction site on LTC property. The vessel will be named in honor of Lois McClure.

Residing between the historic Lake Champlain Transportation Company and the new Lake Center, the *Lois McClure* is intended to become a harbor-side educational exhibit illustrating how the lake served as a dynamic highway of commercial transportation during the 19th century. The schooner's construction, launching, and shore-side access will provide an extraordinary opportunity to develop educational programming for area schools. This project will give the public a rare opportunity to see such a vessel under construction, in operation, and to climb on board for the first time in nearly a century. It will also form a pivotal link to Lake Champlain's rich submerged archaeological resources and Lake Champlain Underwater Preserves. At the heart of the Burlington Schooner Project is the desire to reconnect present day residents, visitors and school children to the rich commercial history of Burlington and Lake Champlain.

Confiance Anchor Project: This summer saw the completion of the conservation of the anchor from the British warship *Confiance*. This anchor was lost during the Battle of Plattsburgh Bay and located by local divers in 1996. It was subsequently raised, then put back into the lake, and in 1998, with a plan for its conservation, it was re-raised. Over the past two years this extremely large composite artifact was documented and conserved at the LCMM, and was interpreted by our conservators to thousands of visitors. On August 24 it gave us great pleasure to return the anchor to Plattsburgh, where it is now on display in the City Hall. We now find ourselves with a more room than we know what to do with in the Conservation Lab, so keep our services in mind for any artifacts that need to be conserved.

Contact Adam Kane, Nautical Archaeologist, for more information about any of these projects or the services of our Conservation Laboratory. Address: The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Road, Vergennes, VT 05491; phone (802) 475-6694; e-mail LCMM@sover.net

Relics & Ruins 2000 (continued)

During our two-week summer camp, we made the site more visible through clearing and modest excavation. We recovered numerous late 19th- and early 20th-century artifacts indicative of the fabric of the structure, agricultural activities at the site while it was occupied, and hunting and recreational activities that took place at the site for the several decades after its abandonment. We were also fortunate to connect with the Senecal family descendants (grandchildren and great-grandchildren) who offered us personal reminiscences (e.g., "Alphonso's glass eye!"), historic photos, and genealogical details from their personal research efforts.



Cellar hole at the Senecal site. Wallingford.

Our products (photos, paintings, artifacts) were displayed at the Chaffee Art Center for two weeks in late August and are now exhibited at the Forest Service's Rutland office.

Not satisfied with our short-term 3-dimensional exhibit, this year we produced a video documenting the field program and the exhibit. The video documentary has been aired on the Rutland Educational Access Television station several times in September, and is available for loan from any of the principals.

and . . . a National Award for Excellence!

Based on our three seasons (1997-1999) at the Aldrichville site(s), the staff of the Relics & Ruins program was pleased to receive a prestigious award from the Forest Service: The Chief's 1999 National Award for Excellence, given in recognition of an Outstanding Contribution to the "Windows on the Past" program. While we were proud and excited to receive the award (Dave Lacy was even flown to the Regional office in Milwaukee for the ceremony!), we



Students processing artifacts.

also wanted to share the news with the VAS because we think this recognition helps enhance the image of Vermont as a place where interesting archaeological projects take place.

President's Message (continued)

VAOT's Chittenden County Circumferential Highway (CCCH) Project. Set up by the VAOT, the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation and several branches of UVM, we spent five weeks conducting an archaeological field school at site VT-CH-201 in Colchester.

This significant site is situated on an unnamed brook near the Winooski River Intervale and Mallett's Bay in Colchester and it seemingly served as a small, transitory camp over thousands of years, with repeated occupations. Discovered in 1984 by the UVM Consulting Archaeology Program (CAP) during one of the preliminary studies related to planning the CCCH, it was more extensively studied in 1985, again by the UVM CAP. After that work, site VT-CH-201 was suggested to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and therefore, worthy of protection and/or salvage. Based on diagnostic artifacts, it was occupied during the Late Archaic period ca. 1800-1600 B.C., the early Middle Woodland period ca. 100 B.C. - A.D. 300, and some time during the late Middle or Late Woodland periods ca. A.D. 800-1600.

At UVM, the 2000 field school was undertaken cooperatively by the Consulting Archaeology Program of the Department of Anthropology, the teaching faculty in the department and the Division for Continuing Education, along with UVM and non-UVM undergraduate students. Although it was a rainy, somewhat buggy summer, the field school students managed to excavate about 40 square meters of combined site area, largely through small block excavations in the shallow site deposits. Additional

diagnostic artifacts, other lithics and pottery and subsistence remains were recovered. Several partially intact prehistoric cultural features were also discovered, providing opportunities for radiocarbon dating and discrete glimpses into the past when they are fully studied.

A preliminary week was devoted to classroom work and another week went to field orientation for the field school students. Then various adult volunteers and several day-camp programs for children joined the field school students and staff. The volunteers participated over the last four weeks and helped a lot. More than 50 adult volunteers and 70 children were ultimately involved, along with the field school students, providing a broad local exposure to prehistoric archaeology at the same time that credible work was being done. A number of VAS members kindly joined the volunteer effort. Some of the staff were directly supported by the VAOT and VAOT support will also see that the requisite lab work and write-up will be done in the future, all as part of the public education and outreach effort related to the CCCH. A similar effort is planned for next summer, again to be undertaken at a site endangered by the CCCH in 2001.

Other VAOT archaeology work during the past summer has been even more compliance driven, including large efforts dedicated to the Vermont Route 78 project along the Missisquoi River in Swanton, where the VAOT plans to partially reroute the highway away from the river in archaeologically sensitive floodplain settings. Both phase I and phase II studies have been undertaken by the University of Maine at Farmington Archaeology Research Center (UMF ARC). They have identified various stratified prehistoric Native American sites located within the project area and most, if not all, of these are endangered. This is very labor-intensive archaeology given the depth of excavation required, rather different than the shallow site of VT-CH-201. The UMF ARC is also reportedly working in Bennington on the phase II study of some of the prehistoric sites found previously within the project area of the Bennington Bypass project.

Back in Franklin County, the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum (LCMM) conducted nautical archaeology work also related to rehabilitation of Vermont Route 78 during June. Working on the Alburg side of Lake Champlain near the lake shore, the LCMM studied a series of early 20th-century barges that are endangered by a new proposed bridge and causeway over the lake at the phase II level under VAOT sponsorship. The work included documentation and evaluation of the barges as part of project planning. Finally, the UVM CAP is currently conducting phase III data recovery excavations at two closely related late prehistoric Native American sites in Alburg. These sites are situated near the barges and also within the project area of the new Route 78 bridge and causeway across Lake Champlain. Given the strong likelihood of pit features, these sites hold exciting potential. Word has reached me about various other VAOT and other non-VAOT compliance studies in Vermont over the summer, but these examples should suffice to demonstrate that it has been a busy summer in Vermont archaeology.

In closing, I again entreat each of you to take an increasingly active role in local and statewide archaeology. Please get out there and get involved in some way. Each of us can make a positive difference, whether as a participant in and/or supporter of the VAW, as a willing volunteer on one or another project, or in one of many other possible ways. The VAS and Vermont archaeology will benefit from your personal energy and input.

Meetings and Events

Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology Annual Conference 2000, Halifax, Nova Scotia, October 5-8. Papers, tours, business meeting, banquet. Contact Rob Ferguson, Parks Canada, 1869 Upper Water St., Halifax, NS, Canada, B3J 1S9.

"African-American Houses, Yards, and Gardens," Studies in Landscape Architecture, Dumbarton Oaks, October 14. Contact Sheila Gagen, landscape@doaks.org

Society for Industrial Archeology Fall Tour, Samia, Ontario, October 19-22. Contact Petrolia Discovery (519) 882-0897.

VAS Fall 2000 Annual Meeting, Saturday, October 28, Windjammer Conference Center, Williston Road, South Burlington.

Eastern States Archeological Federation, Solomons, Md., November 2-5, 2000. Contact Jim Petersen (802) 656-3884 or <http://www.siftings.com>

Fifth National Conference on Battlefield Protection, Baltimore, Md., December 2-6, 2000. Papers & workshops. Contact Ginger Carter, (202) 343-1210; or email ginger_carter@nps.gov

30th Annual SIA Conference, Washington DC, May 10-13, 2001. Contact Dean Herrin, (202) 343-9633; email dean_herrin@nps.gov

"Sunk but Protected: Concern for Vandalism of Lakebound Artifacts" by Jeff Meyers, Staff Writer, *Plattsburgh (NY) Press-Republican*, 1 July 2000
submitted by *Greg Furness*

With more and more shipwrecks being found in the depths of Lake Champlain, officials in New York are looking for ways to protect the artifacts from vandalism. Representatives from local and state historical organizations met with law-enforcement agencies Friday to discuss what needs to be done to make sure shipwrecks and other artifacts are preserved and protected.

Plattsburgh City Clerk Keith Herkalo emphasized the point with the recent discovery of three wrecks in Cumberland Bay. Two of the vessels, possibly bateaux

from the War of 1812, recently washed up on shore. The third, a 75-foot canal sloop, is still lying in 10 feet of water just off the Cumberland Bay shore. "How do we go about protecting this?"

Herkalo asked the group, explaining how the vessel plays an important role not only historically but from a tourist-economy perspective. "It makes good sense, not only to capitalize on it but to protect it." One way to protect sunken artifacts is to open them to the public through historical preserves. The lake has seven such preserves, six of them in Vermont - and divers have treated the wrecks well.

Art Cohn, director of the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, cited federal law that protects all underwater artifacts and directs management of those sites to the state within whose water they lie. The Vermont sites see a thousand divers each year, and in the 20 years since they've been open, only two significant incidents of vandalism have been reported. Only one person has been prosecuted for stealing artifacts.

Herkalo said it would be a good idea to model Vermont practices and suggested the group ask Assemblyman Chris Ortloff (R-Plattsburgh) to sponsor a bill that would place more protection on New York artifacts.

The group also cited confidentiality issues, agreeing that it was OK to keep the public from newly discovered sites until they could be fully examined by experts.

Herkalo also gave an update on the status of the mammoth anchor found in Cumberland Bay a few years ago. The anchor, which came from the British Flagship *Confiance* during the Battle of Plattsburgh, has been housed in the Maritime Museum the past two years while going through a complex conservation process. The process is nearly completed, and the anchor will be returned to Plattsburgh for this year's Sept. 11 Battle of Plattsburgh celebration.

The 14-foot anchor will be on display in the City Hall Rotunda. City Engineer George Miller said he has tested the rotunda area to make sure there is room for the anchor and that the floor is strong enough to hold the artifact. He found no problems in displaying the anchor there, he said.

Book Review

A Guidebook to Mining in America
by John R. Park

reviewed by *Victor R. Rolando*

Having received my share of unsolicited items through the mail down through the years, I am suspicious of packages from stores and publishing companies that I have neither ordered from nor heard of. So when I received a package from an unknown Florida publisher in mid-May, I questioned whether to open it or tell the post office to please return it as "unsolicited mail"? Throwing all caution to the wind (feels good to live on the edge!), I opened the package and found it to be something that I had waited for

such a long time that I'd forgotten all about it - fellow research associate John Park's years-long effort to document mining in America.

The title is somewhat misleading. What appears to be a guide to just mines is also a guide to mining-related sites and structures. Coke ovens, mining camps, furnace communities, the Denver mint, and historic homes are included, as are museums, foundries, railroad stations, canals, John L. Lewis and the UMW, African-American miners, and even nature centers - the categories continue.

Following an introduction and comprehensive guide to entries, recommendations, and information sources, the book presents sites in state sequence. Volume 1 is western states, Alaska through Wyoming; volume 2 is eastern states, Alabama through Wisconsin including D.C. and Puerto Rico. No, I don't know why John organized the book west to east (the earth rotates west to east - why not a book?). Each state is introduced with a substantial history of its mining activity. The entries are also accompanied by boxed historical text inserts, such as the origin of "Pikes Peak or Bust" and an explanation of the Comstock Lode. That gives us the clue that we aren't talking only about coal and iron here, but all minerals (gold, uranium, marble, sulfur, helium, petroleum, etc.). Many entries are archeology sites. Each entry is accompanied by a symbol which is explained at the rear; Zuni Salt Lake is accompanied by a salt shaker symbol, which is defined as "Brine or sea-salt works, including artificial brines and salts other than NaCl." Each entry includes street and/or mailing addresses, phone numbers, driving directions from a nearest major highway, opening days/hours, fee if any, and even coordinates (were you aware that the coordinates of the Missisquoi Valley Historical Society are N44 55 4 W72 23 48?). Suggested further reading materials are also listed.

Vermont has 29 entries (includes industrialist Ira Allen's statue at UVM) plus descriptions of Vermont iron, potash, and copper. Hawaii's nine entries include volcanos. Pennsylvania probably leads with 131 entries. One of the District of Columbia's seven entries is the site of a prehistoric steatite quarry; there is also a list of where dimensional stone came from for various D.C. buildings and monuments.

The two 8½-by-11-inch volumes (\$35 total) contain 1,764 entries, 130 text inserts, 556 b+w photos, 48 maps, and 133 other graphics; 579 terms are defined in a comprehensive 28-page glossary. An alphabetical list of entries cross-references them to a site identification number (e.g., Barre Museum is VT-19, the 19th entry for Vermont); each volume contains its own subject index. An Information Submission Form is provided for readers to input anything they feel might have been forgotten or overlooked (hinting of a second edition?). No ISBN number has been assigned. If your local bookstore can't get it, order from Stonerose Publishing Company, 7741 S.W. 59th Ct., South Miami FL, 33143-5112. For information, email John at stonerosepub@worldnet.att.net; log on to web site <http://stonerosepub.home.att.net/index.html> or fax him at (801) 912-1139.

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Application for Membership or Renewal

NEW RENEWAL ADDRESS CHANGE

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

Signature

Please print of type:

NAME _____
MAIL ADDRESS _____
CITY/TOWN _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____
COUNTRY _____ PHONE (____) _____
EMAIL _____
DATE _____ AGE _____ (if Senior)

Dues Schedule (please check one)

R Individual (\$15)
F Family (\$25)
ST/SE Student/Senior* (\$10)
C Contributing (\$50)
L Life (\$250)
P Philanthropic (\$1,000,000)
IN Non-profit Institutional (\$25)
IP For-profit Institutional (\$50)

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 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