

THE



BULLETIN

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This Publication Is Not a One Way Street

An Editorial

This is your publication! Its contents, and hence its value, are entirely dependent upon the support offered by the chapters. It depends upon you to submit new items of your digs, your meetings, lab sessions, et cetera. Such items are of interest to the entire membership, as are short papers on sites, cultures, techniques and related subjects.

These words are no less valid today than when they were published in the first number of THE BULLETIN, dated July, 1954.

This issue is a small one. This is not so because the editor planned it that way, but because the membership has willed it. The publication committee, the program committee, yes all of the standing committees, chapter secretaries, and the membership, have failed to provide copy.

Other than the balance of the annual meeting's transactions, which could not be handled in the previous issue, and a few news items, this number contains but two of the seven papers presented at that meeting, since that is all which were submitted for publication. There is absolutely no back-log of copy for the next issue. All this in spite of the fact that the urgent need for material has been stated many times,

Oh yes, we have been offered suggestions and ideas regarding THE BULLETIN. Well intentioned, of course. Yet all we get are suggestions and ideas. We are experiencing, first hand, living evidence of the maxim that (a) people have pretty much the same kinds of ideas and concepts and, (b) ideas don't mean a thing unless they're converted into action.

THE BULLETIN is not a one-man show. If it is to be the medium for which it is intended, it requires the help of every chapter, every member. And, in the words of the announcement in that first issue: The frequency and intervals at which THE BULLETIN wall appear of necessity depends upon demand, supply and finances.

P.S. Again that first issue: Copy should be typed, double-spaced. Be brief, in order to provide minimum need for editing.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the
New York State Archeological Association
April 18, 1959

The annual meeting was called to order on April 18 at 10:10 a.m. by President Wray. There were about 20 members present. The first item of business was the appointment of two tellers to count the ballots. Henry Wemple and William Carter were appointed.

It was duly voted to accept the minutes of last year's meeting as published in THE BULLETIN.

The Secretary's report was read and accepted as corrected.

The Treasurer's report was read and accepted.

The reports of the chapters were read by their representatives or in their absence by others as follows. Mid-Hudson, Mrs. Aldridge; Morgan, Mr. Graham; Van Epps-Hartley, Mr. Casler; Auringer-Seelye, (Wray); Long Island, (Wray); Orange County, (Gillette).

The constitutions of Morgan and Orange County chapters were presented for ratification with the recommendation of the executive committee that these constitutions be considered approved when the stated revisions had been made and a statement to this effect reported to the Association. The constitutions were accepted by the body under these conditions.

The executive committee recommended that the application of the Chenango Chapter for membership be accepted. This was passed by the membership and the Chenango chapter was welcomed as new members.

The reports of the standing committees were presented. None had been received from the program or the finance committees. Ritchie gave the report of the committee on chapters and membership. This was accepted as read. Cornwell gave the report of the publications committee and this was accepted. Guthe called the attention of the group to the Association library at the Rochester Museum which is composed of publication exchanges. It was suggested that a list of new publications received be published annually in THE BULLETIN.

The report of the nominating committee was read by Gillette and accepted. Wemple

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reported on the results of the election. All incumbents were re-elected.

The report of the awards committee was presented by Brennan and accepted.

Casler introduced the amendment proposing family membership. A motion was carried which suspended the by-laws so that action might be taken on this amendment. A motion to adopt the amendment was made and carried by unanimous vote. (Amendment is published below-Editor).

The new seal of the Association was shown to the group. Chapters can use the embossed seal on official documents and can purchase copies from the secretary.

Dr. William N. Fenton, Director of the New York State Museum and Science Service, explained the procedure for acquiring permits to excavate on State property and answered a number of questions about the new plan.

The President announced that the 1960 annual meeting would be at Kingston, New York, on April 2, 1960, at the Governor Clinton Hotel as guests of the Mid-Hudson chapter.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a. m.

Marian E. White, Secretary, NYSAA

Amendment Covering Family Membership

The amendment to Chapters I, VI, and VIII of the by-laws, approved at the annual meeting follows. (Material underscored is new):

9. A husband and wife may both be active members with an active husband-wife membership. The dues for such active husband-wife membership shall be four dollars (\$4.00), payable to the Chapter of which they are members, or to the Treasurer of the Association.

Chapter VI - CHAPTERS - Par. 2c.

(c) Each Chapter shall pay to the Association annually one-half of all dues or membership payments of members in good standing. The treasurer of each Chapter shall remit

these payments to the Association on or before February 1 as follows: each active member, \$1.50, each active husband-wife member \$2.00, each sustaining member, \$2.50°

Chapter VIII - PUBLICATIONS - Par 2.

.... Members in the junior class are entitled to receive publications issued during the fiscal year contingent upon the additional payment of \$1.00, all of which is paid to the Association Treasurer. Each active husband-wife member shall receive one copy of each publication issued during the fiscal year. In addition, each new member...

Treasurer's Report

Income from Dues;	<u>Covering 1958-1959</u>	<u>Covering 1959-1960</u>
Auringer-Seelye Chapter	\$ 15.50	\$ 34.00
Long Island Chapter		61.00
Mid-Hudson Chapter	6.00	28.50
Morgan Chapter	51.50	179.00
Orange Co. Chapter	49.50	51.50
Susquehanna Chapter	-	-
Van Epps-Hartley Chapter	13.50	86.00
Members-at-large	<u>18.00</u>	<u>8.00</u>
Total	\$154.00	\$448.00
Grand Total		\$602.00

General Fund

Income-	Balance April 1, 1958	\$296.90	
	From dues (25% of \$602)	150.50	\$447.40

Expenditures-

Annual Meeting, April 12, 1959			
Guest speaker	\$ 30.00		
Ballots, etc.,	<u>18.24</u>		
Total		\$ 48.24	
Postage		1.02	
E. S. A. F. dues for 1958		22.50	
Letterheads & envelopes		31.50	
Secretarial expenses		6.72	
Vol. XIV #1:			
Binding	\$80.00		
Printing	<u>42.27</u>		
Total		<u>122.27</u>	
Total Expenditures			<u>232.25</u>
Balance March 31, 1959			\$215.15
Account with Lincoln Rochester Trust Co. Balance		212.61	
Cash on hand (petty cash acct.)		<u>2.79</u>	
		\$215.40	
Due publication fund		<u>25</u>	
		\$215.15	
Publication Fund			
Income:			
Balance April 1, 1958		\$541.50	
From dues (75% of \$602)		451.50	
Contributions			
Auringer-Seelye			
Chapter	\$25.00		
Mrs. Helen Stewart	66.85		
Anthrop, Soc.			
Buffalo Mus. of Sci.	<u>10.36</u>		
		102.21	
Publication Sales			
Occasional Papers #1			
(6)	\$ 4.50		
Vol. XIII #1 (5)	11.25		
Vol. XIV #1 (9)	18.32 (incl. \$.32 postage reimb.)		
Bulletins	<u>4.90</u>		
		38.97	
Total Income			\$1,134.18
Expenditures			
Prep. of Occ. Paper			
#1	95.51		
Prep. of Bull. 12	59.30		
“ “ “ 13	83.53		
“ “ “ 14	75.38		
Editor's expenses	2.87		

Postage	<u>10.83</u>	
Total expenses		<u>327.42</u>
Balance, March 31, 1959		806.76
Account with Genesee Valley Union Trust	\$802.87	
Cash on hand (petty cash acct.)	<u>3.64</u>	
	806.51	
Credit in Lincoln Rochester Trust	<u>.25</u>	
	\$806.76	

Alexander Stewart Fund

(A part of the publication fund set aside for the publication of Mr. Stewart's papers - see minutes of the Annual Meeting April 12, 1958):

Income

Helen W. Stewart (check)	\$66.85
Sales of Occasional Paper #1	<u>40.50</u>
	71.35

Expenditures:

None

Balance March 31, 1959	\$71.35
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Charles E. Gillette, Treasurer, NYSAA

Report of the Committee on Chapters and Membership

During 1958 correspondence was resumed by the chairman of this committee with two archeological groups in New York State, viz., the Chenango Valley Archeological Society and the Central New York Archeological Society, and invitations were again extended to both groups to affiliate as chapters of the, NYSAA. Offers of assistance were renewed, and were accepted by the Chenango Valley group in the reformulation of their constitution to conform to the requirements of the State Association.

In January 1959, a formal letter of application and a copy of the revised constitution were received from the secretary of this group, Mr. Fred Chesebro, and these documents were promptly forwarded by the chairman to the president of NYSAA for executive committee action which would enable the admission of the Chenango Valley chapter to the State Association at the latter's annual meeting an April 1959.

The Central New York Archeological Society declined to join the State Association at this time. In a reply of December 10, 1958, from their president, Dr. Anton W. Sohrweide, it was stated that certain opposition within the organization remained to be overcome, and that it was hoped to petition for affiliation with the State Association at some later time.

For unstated reasons, the Susquehanna chapter submitted its resignation from the NYSAA on January 24, 1959. This regrettable loss, balanced by the admission of the Chenango Valley chapter, leaves the State Association with seven active chapters as of April 18, 1959.

Memberships in these chapters continued to grow, albeit slowly, during the period covered by this report and currently totals approximately 325, including 15 members-at-large.

William A. Ritchie, Chairman

Report of the Nominating Committee

Eight members were elected to the nominating committee for the year 1958-59, representing the seven chapters and the membership-at-large, with the Van Epps-Hartley representative as chairman. Nomination lists were received from all but one of the chapters, and the chairman undertook to get acceptances. In their replies only the constitutional officers and Mr. Donald Cameron consented to run. The returned ballots which were counted at the annual meeting re-elected the incumbents to their posts.

Charles E. Gillette, Chairman

Report of the Publication Committee

Since the previous annual meeting, April 12, 1958, at the New York State Museum, Albany, New York, three issues of THE BULLETIN, Numbers 13, 14, and 15, have been published under the editorship of Mr. Charles M. Knoll, and Volume 14, Number 1, 1958, of the Researches and Transactions of the New York State Archeological Association has been published, under the editorship of Dr. Alfred K. Guthe.

Approximately 450 copies of each issue of THE BULLETIN were printed and sufficient copies were sent to the secretaries of each chapter for distribution to all members in good standing in the Association, in accordance with the rule concerning distribution of publications to members adopted by the Association April 15, 1955. Copies were also sent to the secretary of the association for the exchanges (currently 33), for distribution to members at large (currently 16), and for promotional purposes. The balance of the issues is available to chapters and to the committee on chapters and membership as an aid in interesting individuals in membership and for sale to members at 35c. a copy.

Volume 14, Number 1, of the Researches and Transactions was published jointly

by the Association and the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences. The Association received approximately 580 copies and one was distributed to each member in good standing and to the exchanges. Additional copies are available for general sale at \$2 per copy.

The three issues of THE BULLETIN contained the minutes of the 1958 annual meeting, the annual reports of the various committees and chapters, a report in Number 13 of the first fellowship and achievement awards made by the Association, a memorial tribute to Mr. B. Frank Hodges, news and notes about members and chapters, and various papers.

Dr. Guthe's excellent contribution "The Late Prehistoric Occupation in Southwestern New York; An Interpretative Analysis", which was published in the Researches and Transactions, Volume 14, Number 1, was a revision for publication of his doctoral thesis, University of Michigan. In it he carefully reviewed the archeological material available in southwestern New York of Late Prehistoric provenience including stone artifacts and pottery. He called attention to the fact that the Late Prehistoric period in southwestern New York State was one in which many cultural influences were brought together and he suggested that Iroquois and Monongahela Complex traits were added to persisting Middle Woodland traditions to form the Early Prehistoric culture of the area. He also called attention to the fact that on the basis of archeological information, the southwestern part of New York State was not an area through which an Iroquois migration passed.

In addition to the foregoing, attention is also called to the fact that the manuscripts for Parts II and III of Mr. Alexander Stewart's series entitled "French Pioneers in North America" are available for approval to publish in the second issue of the Occasional Papers. Part II is entitled "The Huron Mission" and Part III "The French Colony and Mission at Onondaga." These manuscripts have been prepared for publication under the editorship of the Reverend John R. Lee, C. S. B. To Mr. Stewart's material, Father Lee has added two maps showing the various sites discussed in Huronia and in Western New York. It is anticipated that the printed volume will be about 30 pages in length. It will be available for distribution to the membership of the Association in about three months' time.

The next issue of the Researches and Transactions is scheduled for publication during 1960-61 or earlier if funds become available. Members of the Association are urged to send word to the chairman of the publications committee if they have manuscripts they wish to be considered for publication in the next issue of the Researches and Transactions. Suggestions for possible contributions would also be appreciated.

The income, disbursements, and balance of the publication fund, on deposit at the University-Culver Branch of the Genesee Valley Union Trust Company, Rochester, are contained in the treasurer's report. Special mention is made here, however, of the gift of \$25 from the Auringer-Seelye chapter. More such gifts are needed and each chapter as well as individual members are urged to consider donations to the publication fund.

In addition to the Chairman, present membership of the Publications Committee is as follows: Mauk Brammer, Van Epps-Hartley; Leo McLean, Susquehanna; Mrs. Catherine M. Magee, Auringer-Seelye; F. Newton Miller, Long Island; Gerald Stowe, Orange County; Alvin Wanzer, Mid-Hudson; P. Schuyler Miller, representative at large.

William S. Cornwell

The Sebonac-Niantic Fusion on Eastern Long Island, N. Y.¹

Roy Latham

Long Island Chapter

The Sebonac people were established on eastern Long Island six to eight hundred years prior to the first white settlement in 1640. Later, perhaps two or three hundred years after the beginning of the Sebonacs on the island, Niantic remains appeared in the sites still occupied by the Sebonacs. No pure Niantic sites have been described on eastern Long Island, but intrusive pits have been located on several sites. However, these sites were not completely vacated by the Sebonacs, as testified by the mixture in excavating. Practically every Sebonac site of any consequence on eastern Long Island manifests this later invasion of the Niantic stock.

Except for the extremely dissimilar pottery, the two cultures are doubtfully separable by the tool remains. The Niantics brought or made smaller vessels of more delicate workmanship- their vessels had thinner walls, more globular bodies, and rounder bases, with or without collars, and commonly with castellated rims, the castellations spaced equally, and engraved. The Niantics exhibited a higher degree of decorative art. Their wares were strikingly different from the Sebonac wares found so abundantly in the big deep pits dug by the latter people, prior to the Niantics on these sites. With rare exceptions, the Niantics employed crushed marine shells in their pottery paste. This mixture produced a laminated filling which was frequently exposed on the surface of the vessel. At an early date, the Sebonacs used a grit-tempered pottery, but used shell-tempered pottery before the arrival of the Niantics. Actually, the Sebonac and Niantic pottery are so distinct that there is no problem of identification.

At a later date the two lines of pottery leaned closer together, but it is easier to trace the variations back to the Niantic than vice versa. It seems that the Niantic pottery was slowly being drawn into the old Sebonac in type.

Pipes with the finer engravings were apparently Niantic. Pipes are present on all sites, but cannot be considered common on any.

1. Presented at the NYSAA annual meeting, 18 April 1959

With stone and bone tools the line between the two tribes is not so clearly drawn. It is clear, however, that in the early stages of their existence on Long Island the Sebonacs had a greater variation in chipped arrowpoints and blades; by the time the Niantics had become associated among them the short, broad triangular point with concave base was common to both. Both used a similar small stone celt.

The Niantics were heavy users of bone and antler, more so than were the Sebonacs prior to the Niantic assimilation. The Niantic bone-work, in accord with their ceramics, was superior to the early Sebonac. The Niantics made tubular bird bone beads up to two inches in length. They made socket arrowpoints from the tips of antler and bone. They also made harpoon points and fishhooks. Needles from deer ribs were not uncommon. Flakers, pins and awls were common. The Sebonacs also made all these objects previous to the Niantic merger, so worthwhile evidence is meager to divide the mixture found in all the sites. Occasionally something of note is exposed. On a site in Noyac, where considerable Niantic remains were mixed in, a cache was uncovered which contained several perfect antler flakers, two damaged harpoon points, several pieces of unworked antler and a small sharp celt. As this cache was near a small broken Niantic vessel on the fringe of a large site, it is reasonable to believe, though there is not positive proof that it is of Niantic origin.

The Sebonac sites with Niantic affiliation continued to the duration of Indian occupation on eastern Long Island. Rarely are any trade items found on the old Sebonac-Niantic sites, even on the surface. Occasionally potsherds are collected which show contact with western Long Island or New Jersey.

The Sebonac focus is in the Windsor culture, from the mid to late Woodland range. The data herewith is based on personal excavations.

An Artificially Deformed Skull From the Dann Site 1

W. S. Cornwell²

Morgan Chapter

This artificially deformed skull was recovered a few years ago by Mr. Harry Schoff from the Dann site, which dates from 1650 to 1675 A. D. The find is interesting for the reason that artificial deformation of the skull was not practiced by Iroquoian or Algonkian tribes, and, so far as is known, this is the first time one has been found in an Iroquoian site. The artificially deformed cranium discovered by State Police in the eastern part of the state three years ago cannot be considered since it was found in an open field and has been identified by the National Museum as being Peruvian in origin.

As shown in Father Ewing's world map of the distribution of artificial deformation

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1. Presented at the NYSAA annual meeting, 18 April 1959
 2. Research Fellow, Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences, Rochester, N.Y.

of crania, the northeastern woodland area of North America represents a large hiatus in a cultural phenomenon that is widespread elsewhere in native cultures in North and South America, Asia, and Europe. The people closest to the northeastern area who did practice artificial deformation were the mound builders in southeastern United States, probably the predecessors of the Cherokee.

Artificial deformation, as practiced in the New World, appears to be of two types: (1) occipital flattening (probably unintentional), and (2) fronto-occipital flattening, with several variations (most probably intentional). The reasons for its occurrence are not specifically known in all instances, but interpolating from the cradling of infants as practiced by Maronites of Lebanon, by numerous Indian tribes and others, artificial deformation would appear to be an effect of a cultural trait leading to the protection of infants. In most cultures, including our own, the infant for obvious reasons lies in a cradle. An additional step, namely immobilization, was and is also practiced. Among the Maronites (in Lebanon only), the infant is tightly wrapped in sheets so that the whole body, including the head, is immobilized. Although the infant is removed from the cradle for bathing, it nevertheless spends most of its time for about a year in the immobilized state. Pressure on the occiput from the pillow on the bottom of the horizontal cradle accounts for the pronounced occipital flattening in these Lebanese, as well as among infants immobilized on an orthopedic frame in our own culture and others. Among various Indian tribes, the infant was variously placed in either horizontal or vertical cradles. In some tribes, the infant was placed so that it faced the board forming the back of a vertical cradle, in others, the infant faced towards the rear and away from the back of the cradle. Sometimes, the head was merely held by means of wrappings so that the occiput rested against the back of the cradle. In other tribes, the head was held rigid by means of a board across the frontal region, which in turn was retained in position by means of wrappings around the head. Sometimes, apparently boards were placed across the frontal region, the top of the head, and the occiput causing the so-called fronto-vertico-occipital form of artificial deformation. Or, instead of a single board across the top of the head, two boards were placed on either side as well as in front and in back producing the fronto-parallelo-occipital form of artificial deformation. The Iroquois apparently wrapped the head only loosely. In addition, the infant's feet rested against a footboard so that when the cradle was carried by the mother by means of a tumpline or was hung from the branches of a tree, the pressures of the wrappings, particularly on the head, were minimal. This is especially interesting anthropometrically in that because of this cultural trait the crania of northeastern Indians most likely exhibit truer size and shape than can be found in many other American Indian tribes. Hrdlicka long ago pointed out that cranial measurements for many American Indians were probably not valid because of the high incidence of unintentional and intentional deformation of crania. He and others have felt that artificial deformation unduly biased the cephalic index of American Indians in the direction of brachycephaly.

The cranium is that of a young adult male. The basilar suture is closed but all of the others appear to be open. The length is 3 mm. maximum breadth is 144mm, and the cranial Index is 113. Nothing else can be stated about the skeleton since it was not

removed from the site. This skull corresponds in shape, both from the lateral aspect and the superior aspect, to some that Stewart described from the Peachtree Mounds in North Carolina, and in particular would appear to be virtually identical with an example of fronto-occipital flattening that he described. It is Stewart's belief that the remains in the Peachtree Mounds were probably Cherokee or their predecessors, though the truth is that the Cherokee are so poorly known anthropometrically that he cannot designate the Peachtree people as Cherokee specifically. In any event, the crania recovered from the lower parts of the mounds either showed no artificial deformation or only the occipital and probably unintentional variety. The examples of intentional artificial deformation all occurred in the upper parts of the mounds and were the most recently interred individuals. Stewart does not assign a date to the Peachtree Mounds and hence it is not my intention here to propose that there is necessarily any connection between this artificially deformed cranium and those of the Peachtree Site. Nevertheless, the known contacts between the Iroquois and the Cherokee and other southeastern tribes raise the possibility that the finding of this artificially deformed cranium from the Dann site is physical evidence of contact between the Iroquois and Indians of southeastern United States.

NEWS AND NOTES

The executive committee met to take up a lengthy agenda of business on the evening before the annual meeting. A general discussion of ideas for Association activities followed. One suggestion which met with favor was that of printing a slinger with a membership application blank for use in spreading information about the Association. A second suggestion concerned setting up a slide collection and making copies of two films which Wray and Cameron have made so that these might be distributed to help chapters with their program. (Appropriate committees please note, here are the suggestions, how about some action?)

Long Island chapter's secretary reports that its annual meeting was held in September, and officers elected for the coming year (their names and addresses, for publication, please). Some digging was done at the Fort Cutchogue Contact site (how about a report on this). Exhibits were maintained at the museum building in Riverhead, and at the Cutchogue School, in Cutchogue. Some digging near East Northport, and surface searches on nearby farms and beaches were conducted during the summer. Minor progress has been made in connection with the proposed chapter museum building at Mattituck.

The nominating committee will be appointed shortly. It is hoped that members of this committee will be accorded liberal assistance in the preparation of a slate of qualified persons.

The following Amendment to the Association's Constitution was presented at the annual meeting last April, and will be voted upon at the next annual meeting, to be

held on April 2, 1950, in Kingston, New York:

Article III, Section 3 (underlined words to be added)

Thus, each member except Honorary in good standing in one of the active Chapters of the Association automatically becomes a member, in the class of membership he desires, of the Association. The Association shall not have the power to deny membership except Honorary to any individual acceptable to the membership of one of the active Chapters, but may recommend to the membership of an active Chapter the removal of an individual from membership in the Association and the Chapter for any reasons it may deem just cause.

Mr. Alexander M. Stewart is recuperating from injuries suffered last May, in an accident involving his car and a truck. He received a concussion and other injuries. Mr. Stewart is a member of many years' standing in Morgan chapter. We wish him well. May we suggest that his friends visit or write him. His home is at 30 Audubon Street, Rochester.
