

# **The 106<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the New York State Archaeological Association**

Program and Abstracts



May 2-4, 2025  
Crowne Plaza – Riverside, Niagara Falls, NY



## **The New York State Archaeological Association**

A non-profit organization composed of people interested in the archaeology of New York State. Founded in 1916 and chartered in 1927 by the Board of Regents of the State of New York, NYSAA is a nonprofit organization composed of 16 chapters and a worldwide membership-at-large. All who are devoted to historic and pre-historic archaeology are invited to join.

### **Officers of the NYSAA**

President .....Sherene Baugher  
Vice President .....David Moyer  
Treasurer .....Ann Morton  
Secretary .....Gail Merian

### **Officers of the Houghton Chapter**

President .....Susan Maguire  
Treasurer .....Don Smith  
Secretary .....Kate Whalen

### **2025 Annual Meeting Committee**

Local Arrangements and Program .....Bill Engelbrecht, Sue Maguire, co-chairs  
Treasurer ..... Don Smith  
Book Room ..... Dolores Elliott  
Committee Members ..... Lisa Marie Anselmi, Dolores Elliott, Doug Perrelli, Don Smith,  
Kate Whalen

For more information on the New York State Archaeological Association and its chapters, see our website at <https://nysarchaeology.org/nysaa>.

## **Program**

### **Friday, May 2**

#### **New York Archaeological Council**

9:30 AM – 12:30 PM NYAC Board Meeting (Boardroom, first floor)

1:30 – 4:00 PM NYAC General Meeting (Whitewater, lower level)

#### **New York State Archaeological Association**

1 – 5:30 PM Registration – Hotel Lobby

5:00 PM Fellows Meeting (Boardroom, first floor)

5:30 PM Buffet Dinner (Upper Rapids, second floor)

7:30 PM NYSAA General Meeting (Upper Rapids)

### **Saturday, May 3**

7:00 AM Buffet Breakfast (Lower Rapids, first floor) Chapter Secretary Breakfast in Boardroom (Whitewater Room, lower level), but get food in Lower Rapids. Coffee set-up in Boardroom.

9:30 AM–6:30 PM Bookroom (poolside – lower level)  
Syracuse University Press will be represented. Three Native artists will be selling their work: Ronnie Reitter (Seneca – corn husk dolls), KarenLyne Hill (Onondaga – beadwork), and Wilma Cook Zumpano (Mohawk – beadwork, textiles). Todd Harrington will be selling plastic casts of projectile points. The Archaeological Conservancy, Western New York Heritage, and The Susquehanna River Archaeological Center will have informational tables. Noel Strobino will have artifacts illustrating his poster. Those attending are invited to put a stack of books (no more than 1 and a half feet high) for \$5. You may pay for this at the conference.

7:45 AM–1:30 PM Registration Hotel Lobby

Papers on Saturday feature a single general session before the coffee break, followed by concurrent sessions in the late morning and early afternoon. The poster session will be from 4 – 6 PM in the pool/bookroom area along with a flint knapping demonstration and cocktails. The banquet will start at 6:30 PM on the second floor (Upper Rapids Room).

### **General Session (Upper Rapids, second floor)**

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 8:15        | Welcome (Susan Maguire, President, Houghton Chapter, session chair)<br>Opening Address: Ganönyok (David L. George-Shongo, Seneca)   |
| 8:30 – 8:50 | <i>Revisiting Archaeological Evidence of Ice Age Indigenous Peoples in the Unadilla and Chenango Drainages, Central New York</i><br>Jonathan C. Lothrop (Van Epps – Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum),<br>Mike Beardsley (Beauchamp Chapter), David Moyer (Chenango Chapter),<br>Susan Winchell-Sweeney (New York State Museum)   |
| 8:50 – 9:10 | <i>Ha'sá:dígeh ("Where We Throw It"): Interpreting the Carpenter Brook Site using Indigenous Knowledge</i><br>A. Stephen Henhawk (Gayogohó:nq <sup>?</sup> , Cornell University), Donald A. Smith<br>(Houghton Chapter, Chronicle Heritage), and Kurt A. Jordan (Finger Lakes<br>Chapter, Cornell University)   |
| 9:10 – 9:30 | <i>The Wendake Campaign</i><br>Jamie Jacobs (Rochester Museum and Science Center), William Fox (Trent<br>University), and Andrew Riddle (Archaeological Services Inc.)  |
| 9:30 – 9:50 | <i>Smoking Pipes as Indicators of Sociopolitical Changes in Huron-Wendat Social Networks</i><br>John P. Hart (Van Epps - Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum), Jennifer<br>Birch (University of Georgia), Christan Gates St-Pierre (Université de<br>Montréal), Susan Dermakar (University of Toronto Archaeology Center and<br>Trent University Archaeological Resource Center) |
| 9:50        | Coffee Break (complementary) on the first floor near the bookroom (pool<br>area).   |

## Technical Contributions (Lower Rapids, first floor)

Matthew Purtill, Chair

10:10 – 10:30 AM *Applying Artificial Neural Networks and Multivariate Statistical Methods for Geochemical Prospecting of Older Sites: A Pilot Study of the Corditaie Paleoindian Site*

Matthew Purtill (Houghton Chapter, SUNY Fredonia), Jonathan Lothrop (Van Epps – Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum), Cleo McDermott (SUNY Fredonia), Susan Winchell-Sweeney (New York State Museum)

10:30 – 10:50 AM *Long Island Steatite Sourcing from Rhode Island Quarries During the Late Holocene Era*

Lucinda Hemmick (Long Island Chapter)

10:50 – 11:10 AM *Detection of Indigenous Land-Use Impacts in Lake and Wetland Sediments Using Environmental Magnetism: Examples from Upstate New York.*

Albert E. Fulton (SUNY Buffalo)

11:10 – 11:30 AM *Unearthing the Ceramic Technology and Pottery-Making Tradition of the Kanien'kehà:ka (Mohawk) Garoga Village Site*

Susan Winchell-Sweeney (New York State Museum), Robert D. Kuhn (New York State Museum), Jonathan Lothrop (Van Epps – Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum), Natasha Smoke Santiago (Akwesasne Mohawk Nation), Ammie M. Chittim (Northeastern Petrographic Services), Joseph Gonzales (New York State Museum), and Chelsea Jones (New York State Museum)

11:30 – 11:50 AM *Arrow and Dart Points in Northeastern North America: Exploring Archaeological Classification Methodologies*

Adina Olbrys (Houghton Chapter)

## Iroquoian Archaeology (Upper Rapids, second floor)

Kurt Jordan, Chair

10:10 – 10:30 AM *A Statistical Comparison of Carbonized Corn Kernel Samples from Five Nations Iroquois Sites and Jefferson County Iroquoian Sites*

Robert D. Kuhn (Van Epps - Hartley Chapter)

- 10:30 – 10:50 AM *Using the “Real Names”: The Many Benefits of Using Indigenous Language in Archaeological and Historical Work*  
A. Stephen Henhawk (Gayogohó:nq<sup>3</sup>, Cornell University) and Kurt A. Jordan (Finger Lakes Chapter, Cornell University)
- 10:50 – 11:10 AM *Long Stretches of Country to Traverse: Overland Trail Systems in Niagara*  
Martin Cooper (ASI Heritage)
- 11:10 – 11:30 AM *Haudenosaunee Water West: The Water-Level Route of the Iroquois*  
David W. Babson
- 11:30 – 11:50 AM *The UB 1973 Allegany Field School: An Experience in Cultural Immersion*  
Robert J. Hasenstab (University of Illinois at Chicago)

12:00 PM **Lunch (Upper Rapids, second floor)**

### **Saturday Afternoon General Session (Upper Rapids, second floor)**

Dolores Elliott, Chair

- 1:30 – 1:50 PM *Spanish Hill (36BR27), Waverly NY: Ancient Legends, Archaeological Conundrums, and New Technologies*  
Deb Twigg and DeeAnne Wymer (Susquehanna River Archaeological Center)
- 1:50 – 2:10 PM *Preparing for the Future of the Past: Continuing work with two Cayuga Haudenosaunee site collections in Central New York State*  
Kathleen M.S. Allen and Carsen Hanley-Witzel (University of Pittsburgh)
- 2:10 – 2:30 PM *Observations Regarding Two Iconographic “Jesuit” Rings Recovered at Indian Camp Run No. 1 (36FO65), Forest County, Pennsylvania*  
Andrew J. Myers (Lewis H. Morgan Chapter)
- 2:30 – 2:50 *Beaded Birds in Haudenosaunee Art*  
Dolores Elliott (Chenango Chapter, NYSAA)
- 2:50 Coffee Break
- 3:10 – 3:30 *The Albany Shoreline Revitalization and Rethinking Archeology*  
Denis Foley (Van Epps – Hartley chapter), Len Tantillo, and Andrew Wolfe

3:30 – 3:50      *Archaeology for the People*  
Jenna Hendrick (Curtin Archaeological Consulting, Inc.)

**Archaeologist, Historian, Friend, and Ally: Papers in Honor of Charles Vandrei, Jr.  
(Lower Rapids, first floor)**

Lisa Anderson and Michael Lucas, co-chairs

1:30 - 1:50 PM      *Lake George Battlefield Park Past, Present, and Future: An Inter-Agency  
Collaboration*  
Michael Lucas (Van Epps - Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum)

1:50 - 2:10 PM      *The Courtland Street Burying Ground*  
Lisa Anderson (Van Epps - Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum)

2:10 – 2:30 PM      *Jigonhsasee, the Peace Queen*  
Edward V. Curtin (Van Epps - Hartley Chapter, Curtin Archaeological  
Consulting, Inc.)

2:30 – 2:50 PM      *Archeology and New York State Forest Land: Opportunities and Constraints*  
Matthew Kirk (Van Epps - Hartley Chapter, Hartgen Archeological Associates,  
Inc.)

2:50 – 3:10 PM      Coffee Break

3:10 – 3:30 PM      *New Perspectives of Wetland Archaeology: The Geoarchaeology of New York's  
Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area*  
Derrick J. Marcucci, Susan Gade and Phillip Shnaider (Landmark Archaeology,  
Inc.)

3:30 – 3:50 PM      *My Memories of Chuck Vandrei over 40 years of Friendship*  
Michael A. Cinquino (Houghton Chapter)

3:50 – 4:10 PM      *The past alive in the present: re-enactment as philosophy and practice. A  
tribute to my father, Chuck Vandrei*  
Martha Vandrei (University of Exeter, UK)

## Posters in honor of Charles Vandrei

*The Courtland Street Burying Ground: Finding One's Feet: An Overview of Foot Bones from a Revolutionary War Smallpox Hospital Cemetery*

DeCarlo, Alexandra (New York State Museum)

*How Poor This World Would Be Without Its Graves, Without the Memories of Its Mighty Dead.*

(Robert Graves Ingersoll)

Ellsworth, Marie (Adirondack Chapter)

*Outlining the Boundaries of the Stockaded Fort in Lake George Battlefield Park with Surface Archaeology*

Hohmann, Lyn Karig (Auringer Seelye Chapter) and Charles Vandrei

*New York State Museum Collections on Exhibit: Inter-Agency Collaboration and Artifact Preservation*

O'Connell-Houston, Kristin and Susan Winchell-Sweeney (New York State Museum)

*RAPID and Transparent: Proposed Improvements to Cultural Resource and Indigenous Nation Consultation in Energy Generation and Transmission*

Primeau, Kris E. (Auringer Seelye Chapter, NYS Dept. of Public Service), Jennifer Betsworth (NYS Dept. of Public Service), and Kris Mierisch (NYS Dept. of Public Service)

*What the Ceramics have to Say*

Schroeter Jr., John H. (Adirondack Chapter)

*Seeing the Furnace for the Trees: Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey of the Adirondack Iron and Steel Company's Upper Works*

Staley, David P.

*Piecing Together Individuals from The Courtland Street Burying Ground*

Weatherwax, Julie (New York State Museum)

4:00 PM

**Flint Knapping Demonstration/Workshop** (bookroom or outside)

Jim Fisher and Dan Long

4:00 – 6:00 PM

**Posters Poolside.** See poster abstracts for more details.

*Historic Preservation Archaeology Field School Summer 2024 at the Van Buren Inn and Tavern*

Arietta, Rudy, Jylene Figueroa, Jazahia LoPresti, Emil Sander, Mackenzie Schmitt, Kristine Skinner, Joshua Winoski, and Cloey Wratten (SUNY Oswego)



*A Review of Selected Mobile 3D Scanning Apps in Archaeological Contexts*  
Clyne-Lehmann, Kristin (Binghamton University, Public Archaeology Facility)

*Frederick Houghton: Contributions to Western New York Archeology*  
Dillemoth, Alexandria (Buffalo State University) and Susan Maguire (Houghton Chapter, Buffalo State University)

*Coxsackie and the Sequence of Lithic Reduction at a Quarry Site in the Upper Hudson Valley Region*  
Gardner, Max (Morgan Chapter)

*Historic Preservation Archaeology Field School Summer 2022 at the Richardson Bates House Museum*  
Gorman, Adora (SUNY Oswego)

*Passenger pigeon, its what's for dinner: Interpreting skeletal remains of passenger pigeons from Old Fort Niagara, Youngstown, NY*  
Kohler, Victoria

*Exploring the Historic Land-Use Practices of the Niagara Frontier: Early Results from the Forsyth Warren Tavern Site*  
Matsulavage, Matthew (Houghton Chapter, SUNY Buffalo)

*Cultural Resource Survey Program: Recent Archaeological Highlights*  
Merwin, Daria, Scott Cardinal, Heather Clark, Mickey Dobbin, Joshua Dubuque, Amy Lynch, Jacob Lyons, Daniel Mazeau, and Kaitlyn Watson (New York State Museum)

*Beyond Maize: Paleoproteomic Analysis of Ceramic Vessels in the Northeast*  
Peretin, Petra, Carl Lipo, Emily Canessa, Yetrib Harthout, and Matthew Emery (Binghamton University)

*Hematite Paint Stones Recovered from the Corditaape Paleoindian Site*  
Strobino, Noel and Melanie Zimmer

5:00 – 6:30 PM      **Cash bar and the Marcucci cheese hour**

6:30 PM              **Annual Banquet** followed by **Awards** and **Speaker** (Upper Rapids)  
Chairs will be set up in the back of the banquet room for those who do not attend the banquet but wish to hear the talk.

## Banquet Talk

Kelley Berliner

Eastern Regional Director, The Archaeological Conservancy

*From Flint Mines to Forts: The Archaeological Conservancy's Preservation Efforts in New York*

For the past 44 years The Archaeological Conservancy has been the only national nonprofit organization dedicated to the permanent preservation of archaeological sites across the country. These sites are protected through fee-simple ownership or easements and are maintained as permanent open-space archaeological research preserves that are open to professional archaeologists and for educational purposes. The sites contained in these preserves range in diversity from the some of the earliest known Paleoindian sites to 20th-century industrial complexes. In New York, the Conservancy has been particularly successful, protecting more than twenty properties. Every one of these preserves tells an important part of this land's history, and importantly, each one is also accompanied by its own unique "acquisition story." This talk will highlight some of the sites we have protected in New York, as well as give an insider's look at the excitement, challenges, and interesting people that we've encountered in our efforts.

## Sunday

7 AM      Buffet Breakfast (Lower Rapids)

### Historical Archaeology (Lower Rapids, first floor)

Dave Moyer, Chair

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 8:30 – 8:50 AM | <i>Exploring an 18<sup>th</sup> century officers' quarters at Old Fort Niagara, Youngstown, NY.</i><br>Susan Maguire (Houghton Chapter, Buffalo State University) and Victoria Kohler (Buffalo State University) |
| 8:50 – 9:10 AM | <i>Recent Archaeological Investigations at the Revolutionary War Site at Fort Plain</i><br>David Moyer (Chenango/Upper Susquehanna Chapters)   |
| 9:10 – 9:30 AM | <i>Archaeology at the Niagara Apothecary, Ontario, Canada</i><br>Dena Doroszenko (Ontario Heritage Trust)  |
| 9:30 – 9:50 AM | <i>"I see that the old question of right of free sepulchre is still unsettled in the old burying ground." Discovery and Mitigation of the Old Burying Ground, Heuvelton, New York</i>                            |

Tim Abel (Thousand Islands Chapter), Mindy Pitre (St. Lawrence University)  
and Madeleine Mant (Univ. of Toronto, Mississauga)

9:50 – 10:10 AM *The Box: A.D. 1875 Garbage Deposit in the Pine Street African Burial Ground*  
Madelyn Moran and Tom Amorosi (SUNY at New Paltz)

10:10 – 10:30 AM *The DeWitt Plot: A Preliminary Skeletal Analysis of the 17th-early 18th  
Century DeWitt Family from the Old Dutch Church Graveyard, Kingston, N.Y.*  
Hali Cook (SUNY at New Paltz), Gage DeWitt (DeWitt Historical Society),  
Madelyn Moran (SUNY at New Paltz), and Kenneth C. Nystrom (SUNY at New  
Paltz)

### **Archaeology and the Public (Upper Rapids, second floor)**

(open to the public)

Christina Reith, chair

8:30 – 8:50 AM *Archaeology and Public Education at the New York State Museum*  
Christina B. Rieth (Van Epps - Hartley, New York State Museum), Heather  
Clark (New York State Museum), Amy Lynch (New York State Museum), and  
Tracey Thomas (New York State Museum)

8:50 – 9:10 AM *Writing a Successful National Register Nomination for a Canandaigua Lake  
Shipwreck*  
Joseph W. Zarzynski (Auringer Seelye Chapter, NYSAA)

9:10 – 9:30 AM *The Van Buren Inn & Tavern Historic Preservation Archaeology Field School  
Summer 2024*  
Alanna Ossa (SUNY Oswego)

9:30 – 9:50 AM *Seneca Indian Park: Recognizing a Sacred Burial Ground*  
Melissa Leonard (Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society)

9:50 – 10:10 AM *The Turtle: A Postmodern Path to Progress*  
Annie Schentag (kta Preservation Specialists)

10:10 -10:30 AM *Reawakening the Turtle through Community Engagement*  
Shawn Wilson (Native American Community Services of Erie and Niagara  
Counties) and Emma Wilson (Erie Community College)

## POSTER ABSTRACTS

Arietta, Rudy, Jylene Figueroa, Jazahia LoPresti, Emil Sander, Mackenzie Schmitt, Kristine Skinner, Joshua Winoski, and Cloey Wratten (SUNY Oswego)

### *Historic Preservation Archaeology Field School Summer 2024 at the Van Buren Inn and Tavern*

As a surviving 19th century era historic business and dwelling for the John Van Buren family (cousin to President Martin Van Buren), and with a significant part of the existing and original tavern structure built in the 1810-1820s, the Van Buren Inn and Tavern site represents a unique piece of Oswego county's local early settler history. An archaeology field school was undertaken in the summer of 2024 at SUNY Oswego focused on identifying a datable trash midden, the blacksmith, and cooper structures on the grounds. The field school excavations located the historic midden, next to the Inn and Tavern structure and the other historic features. The items recovered from the excavations showed shifts in local production of pottery, and the acquisition of tablewares over the course of the early to mid-19th century. Larger trends in central NY economic changes showed a shift in consumables and goods in the midden, such as the shift from clams to oysters over time and the early consumption of pork at the tavern. Finally, the consumption of decorated tableware was typical of other early taverns, with transferware iconographic shifts consistent with changing ideas of US place in world, from British imperial norms to American ones.

Clyne-Lehmann, Kristin (Binghamton University, Public Archaeology Facility)

### *A Review of Selected Mobile 3D Scanning Apps in Archaeological Contexts*

Advancements in mobile camera sensors, the addition of lidar sensors in newer smartphones, and the development of apps for utilization of sensors has democratized 3D scanning technology. The ubiquity of phones containing such sensors makes 3D scanning apps a low-cost potential option for use in archaeological research. However, the price of such apps varies from free to hundreds of dollars per month for commercial use, with cloud-based data storage and post-scan processing software adding to the overall cost. The products of this mobile technology are impressive, but each app has pros and cons, particularly in terms of cost, user-friendliness and performance in archaeological contexts. This poster presents insights into the aforementioned pros and cons gleaned from informal experimentation over the last year. The author tested three mobile 3D scanning apps (Scaniverse, Reality Scan, and PIX4D Catch) for use in archaeological work, including artifact scanning, cemetery documentation, and stratigraphy recordation.

DeCarlo, Alexandra (New York State Museum)

### *The Courtland Street Burying Ground: Finding One's Feet: An Overview of Foot Bones from a Revolutionary War Smallpox Hospital Cemetery*

In 2019, construction impacted an unmarked burial ground in the town of Lake George, NY. It was quickly determined that those interred at this site were presumably soldiers associated with a Revolutionary War smallpox hospital cemetery. Over the course of several months, various professionals and volunteers worked together to recover fragmentary human remains at this highly disturbed site. For my master's thesis, I focused on reconstructing, analyzing, and researching foot bones from both in situ and commingled contexts. A specific question relating to the intersection of feet and military service, was at the center of this investigation: Do the feet show any affects a soldier might have experienced while enlisted, such as stress fractures,

trauma, musculoskeletal changes, etc.? Overall, information obtained shed light on military service as well as the broader life experience of these individuals.

Dilemuth, Alexandria (Buffalo State University) and Susan Maguire (Houghton Chapter, Buffalo State University)

*Frederick Houghton: Contributions to Western New York Archeology*

Frederick Houghton was an active member of Buffalo society. Graduating from Harvard with a degree in geology, Mr. Houghton made important contributions to several fields including geology, education, botany and archaeology. His archeological work focused on the Haudenosaunee peoples. For this work he was awarded the Cornplanter Medal for Iroquois Research. The Frederick M. Houghton Chapter of the NYSAA was formed in 1953 and named in honor of this pioneer of archaeology in Western New York.

Ellsworth, Marie (Adirondack Chapter)

*How Poor This World Would Be Without Its Graves, Without the Memories of Its Mighty Dead.* (Robert Graves Ingersoll)

The Courtland St. Burying Ground in Lake George NY was discovered during construction in February, 2019. Before construction was halted dozens of burials, thought to be from the General Hospital of 1776, were destroyed or damaged. A crew of NYS Museum personnel and volunteers sifted all of the soil, recovering fragments of bones and artifacts; under the direction of Lisa Anderson and Charles Vandrei. It took 15 months. This poster illustrates how the cemetery survived 243 years in the midst of a very busy and crowded town where tourism was the main industry and many other burials had been disturbed by construction.

Gardner, Max (Morgan Chapter)

*Coxsackie and the Sequence of Lithic Reduction at a Quarry Site in the Upper Hudson Valley Region*

Located in the Upper Hudson Valley Region is home to one of the largest natural chert deposits in New York State. In 2018 on the foothills of Flint Mine Hill and as part of a phase III CRM project, a high-density lithic site was identified in an agricultural field containing thousands of lithic debitage and tools dating from the Paleo-Indian through the Late Woodland Periods. From the collection, two distinct locations can be identified to the Late Woodland Period. This poster looks at the assemblage of these two locations separately and analyzes the sequence of lithic reduction based on typography, size, and flake terminations to help in better understanding the layout and usage across the site.

Gorman, Adora (SUNY Oswego)

*Historic Preservation Archaeology Field School Summer 2022 at the Richardson Bates House Museum*

As an intact 19th century Victorian-era house, with a significant part of the current structure built in the 1860s and kept within the same family for almost a century, the Richardson Bates House represents a unique piece of Oswego's local history. A blueprint of the grounds from the 1920s indicated a midden located in the back yard. An archaeology field school was undertaken in the summer of 2022 at SUNY Oswego focused on obtaining a stratigraphic sequence from the house midden associated. The excavations obtained datable materials from the midden and identified an unexpected privy, dating to the earlier part of the 19th century. The food items recovered was consistent with a wealthy family of the era, including more expensive cuts of beef, hamsteak, and some wild game in the form of deer. The

midden also indicated consumption of shellfish, particularly northern quahogs (hard clams) and eastern oysters popular in this era, and locally available in NY (often from NYC). Tablewares included locally made items and transferwares, consumed extensively during the 19th century. Design changes within these transferwares over time show American historical design elements replaced European or Asian over time, consistent with the changing perspectives and social affiliations.

Hohmann, Lyn Karig (Auringer Seelye Chapter) and Charles Vandrei

*Outlining the Boundaries of the Stockaded Fort in Lake George Battlefield Park with Surface Archaeology*

Lake George Battlefield Park in Lake George, New York saw significant military action during the colonial wars. It has high archaeological sensitivity and archaeological work is carefully managed to preserve this unique site. Dr. David Starbuck was unable to establish its 1759 stockaded fort's perimeter due to no evidence of postholes for a stockade (personal communication). In 2020, observation of the site topography led to the suspected identification of one of the bastions of the fort. Using period maps and previously identified landmarks within the fort, we were able confirm that the topographical anomaly was likely the suspected bastion and to generally determine the outline of the fort. Further research identified that the fort was built on a stone foundation and with horizontal logs. Surface inspection identified a rock layout consistent with the outline of the fort in several areas. Use of drone photogrammetry allowed us to further confirm the fort's outer walls where tree cover did not limit the aerial view. While future archaeological digs may be limited, it is likely that simple surface archaeology will provide additional information regarding the unique history of this park. Archaeological sites like the Lake George Battlefield Park are unique and finite resources. Investigative techniques that are noninvasive and nondestructive provide ways to continue to learning from and about these places, while preserving more of the site for future generations.

Kohler, Victoria

*Passenger pigeon, its what's for dinner: Interpreting skeletal remains of passenger pigeons from Old Fort Niagara, Youngstown, NY*

The 2009 Buffalo State Archaeological Field School at Old Fort Niagara excavated Building 408b. Historic plans identify this structure as an officer quarters, quarters, or barracks and it was in use from approximately 1757 to 1805. This project seeks to interpret the use of passenger pigeons (*Ectopistes migratorius*) at the fort during this time period. Passenger pigeons were extremely common and widely hunted during the late 18th century. These birds, once the most abundant bird in North America, are now extinct. Historic accounts describe the vastness of the flocks and the use of these birds for food. Passenger Pigeon remains found during excavation of building 408b will be identified by element and the unit and level where they were recovered in the excavation. These remains will be cross referenced with ceramics collected in corresponding levels to date the time-period of use. Passenger pigeons hunted at the fort may have been processed outside of 408b [previous officer's quarters] and then used to feed those encamped at the Fort.

Matsulavage, Matthew (Houghton Chapter, SUNY Buffalo)

*Exploring the Historic Land-Use Practices of the Niagara Frontier: Early Results from the Forsyth Warren Tavern Site*

The Forsyth – Warren Tavern, is a well-preserved example of the frontier taverns utilized by the Holland Land Company to encourage settlement of the Niagara Frontier. The five-acres of the Forsyth-Warren property, left virtually untouched by modern ground disturbance, provides an ideal laboratory

to study the impacts of euromerican settlement and agricultural practices on the landscape of Northern Niagara County. Historical accounts, such as those of Tuscarora chief John Mountpleasant, speak of a Niagara landscape inundated by ponds and marshlands with little permanent agriculture. This stands in contrast to a modern landscape characterized by rolling agricultural fields and patches of secondary forest seen across much of the Niagara Frontier today. This project utilizes data derived from soil cores obtained from the preserved wetland ecosystem immediately adjacent to the Forsyth – Warren Tavern to measure how Euromerican land-use practices modified the Niagara landscape and discern whether frontier activity was sufficient to account for the rapid terresterialization witnesses by historic figures like John Mountpleasant at the end of the 18th century. The following poster will describe early results of magnetic susceptibility data derived from these wetland cores, showing discrete episodes of magnetic enhancement indicating periods of increased erosion around the Forsyth wetland.

Merwin, Daria, Scott Cardinal, Heather Clark, Mickey Dobbin, Joshua Dubuque, Amy Lynch, Jacob Lyons, Daniel Mazeau, and Kaitlyn Watson (New York State Museum)

*Cultural Resource Survey Program: Recent Archaeological Highlights*

The Cultural Resource Survey Program (CRSP) of the New York State Museum performs archaeological and architectural studies across the state prior to capital construction projects. While most of this work consists of reconnaissance surveys, several archaeological sites are explored with site examination and data recovery investigations. This poster provides an overview of several recent CRSP projects, ranging from a Late Archaic period site in the Hudson Valley to nineteenth century domestic sites in Central New York.

O’Connell-Houston, Kristin and Susan Winchell-Sweeney (New York State Museum)

*New York State Museum Collections on Exhibit: Inter-Agency Collaboration and Artifact Preservation*

Established in the mid-nineteenth century, The New York State Museum curates approximately six million archaeological objects, with over four million representing material culture from New York’s colonial and post-colonial past. Collaboration between the museum and such partners as the New York State Department of Conservation (NYSDEC), New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP), Indigenous communities, and private cultural resource management (CRM) companies are vital for protecting cultural resources and continuing with the custodianship of recovered material for future research and object preservation. Ongoing consultation and review with Indigenous communities on the cultural heritage material we steward drives the museums current and future curatorial direction. In this spirit, this poster highlights the contributions of Charles “Chuck” Vandrei, whose distinguished preservation efforts at NYSDEC have earned widespread recognition and respect. It showcases the museum’s recent decade of collaborative achievements with Chuck and outlines future initiatives for the care, preservation, and ethical representation of historic archaeological materials he inspired.

Peretin, Petra, Carl Lipo, Emily Canessa, Yetrib Harthout, and Matthew Emery (Binghamton University)  
*Beyond Maize: Paleoproteomic Analysis of Ceramic Vessels in the Northeast*

Archaeological interpretations of late pre-European subsistence in Northeastern North America have overemphasized maize agriculture, creating significant gaps in understanding diverse Indigenous foodways. Traditional archaeobotanical methods favor the recovery of carbonized maize while underrepresenting other cultigens—beans, squash, nuts, and fruits. The region's acidic soils further compromise the preservation of faunal remains, particularly fish and mammalian resources. This research applies paleoproteomic analysis to identify taxonomically specific protein residues preserved within ceramic cooking vessels from the Ayers 2 site in the Susquehanna River Valley. This analytical method addresses critical evidential limitations inherent in conventional archaeobotanical and zooarchaeological approaches. Preliminary results demonstrate that paleoproteomic techniques can extract interpretable dietary data from ceramic matrices, thereby providing previously inaccessible insights into resource utilization patterns. This approach offers substantial potential for resolving longstanding questions regarding dietary composition, resource procurement strategies, and the relative contributions of cultivated versus gathered resources in pre-contact Indigenous subsistence economies.

Primeau, Kris E. (Auringer Seelye Chapter, NYS Dept. of Public Service), Jennifer Betsworth (NYS Dept. of Public Service), and Kris Mierisch (NYS Dept. of Public Service)

*RAPID and Transparent: Proposed Improvements to Cultural Resource and Indigenous Nation Consultation in Energy Generation and Transmission*

In April 2020 New York established the nation's first state office dedicated exclusively to the permitting and siting of large-scale renewable energy generation facilities via Executive Law § 94-c. Five years and over 20 permitted facilities later, former Executive Law § 94-c has been repealed and replaced with the Renewable Action Through Project Interconnection and Deployment (RAPID) Act – expanding the responsibilities of the Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission (ORES) to include electric transmission siting. In response, ORES has undertaken a regulatory rulemaking process which, among other things, proposes process improvements and regulatory transparency in its evaluation of potential impacts to cultural and environmental resources, and proposes to formalize the Office's Indigenous Nation consultation procedures as regulatory requirements. This poster reviews the proposed regulatory updates and provides more information on how cultural resource professionals, Nations, applicants, and other interested parties can participate in the energy generation and transmission siting process.

Schroeter Jr., John H. (Adirondack Chapter)

*What the Ceramics have to Say*

The Courtland Street dig at Lake George, from 2019 to 2020 is well known for the skeletal remains of Revolutionary War soldiers and others which were found there. I have been working with the other artifacts found there for the last two years under the auspices of Lisa Anderson, Charles Vandrei, and the New York State Museum. My particular interest has been what the ceramics found, and not found, have to tell us about the site. My poster will show those ceramics and what they mean in this context.



Staley, David P.

*Seeing the Furnace for the Trees: Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey of the Adirondack Iron and Steel Company's Upper Works*

Twenty years ago, New York State Museum's Cultural Resource Survey Program (CRSP) conducted an archaeological survey of this mid-19th century iron blast furnace and associated infrastructure located in the Adirondack High Peak region. Initiated by the Open Space Institute and shepherded by Chuck Vandrei (NYSDEC), this project provided baseline information regarding the 740-acre National Register District. Eighty-four sites were located and documented, and details were added to previously identified ruins.

Strobino, Noel and Melanie Zimmer

*Hematite Paint Stones Recovered from the Corditaipe Paleoindian Site*

The Corditaipe site was discovered circa 1975, located on a tributary of the Mohawk River in Central New York. The site was determined to be of Paleoindian origin based on the finding of fluted points and an abundance of uniface tools, primarily end and side scrapers as well as retouched flake tools. Our focus is on a single locus that has produced primarily only end scrapers as flaked tools. Also found and of great interest, were hand stones, shaped and smoothed by use wear. We believe these stones were likely used in treatment and processing of hides and furs, and in the ultimate production of leather. Among these ground and shaped hand stones, were several pieces of oolitic hematite from the Clinton formation. This material is of local origin, outcropping approximately four miles to the south or upstream of the site. We refer to these pieces as paint stones. The surface finish or texture on these ground stones is distinctive. The hematite from which they are formed is composed of closely packed oolites with minor matrix cementum. All natural transport modes and erosional forces leave a pockmarked surface on this material. These hand stones are artificially smoothed and their surface textures cannot be traced to any natural forces other than anthropomorphic activities. We have experimentally replicated this surface texture by roasting, grinding, and vigorously rubbing fresh specimens on grease dry hide. We present large clear photographs of the handstone surfaces, as well as all steps of the replication process. The distinctive surface finish which we have experimentally replicated, matches that of the paint stones found at Corditaipe.

Weatherwax, Julie (New York State Museum)

*Piecing Together Individuals from The Courtland Street Burying Ground*

The Courtland Street Burying Ground, discovered in 2019 during construction in Lake George, NY, was not what an archaeologist would call an ideal situation. After the initial salvage excavation, sifting of a massive backfill pile, and site monitoring for utility work, countless skeletal fragments were recovered. This poster will summarize the process, successes and limitations of reconstructing the heavily damaged skeletal remains into the estimated 44 individuals. Particular attention was placed on reconstructing the dentition, since they have more unique differences between individuals than bone alone. Dentition can not only provide a narrower estimated age range, but they can also shed light on many health and behavior traits for an individual. After a long, involved process we were able to get a more accurate age estimate for at least 42 separate individuals highlighting their overall younger age. Additionally, the presence of enamel hypoplasia, caries, antemortem tooth loss, and general dental attrition hint at population trends of the general health and behavior of the individuals.

## PAPER ABSTRACTS

Abel, Tim (Thousand Islands Chapter), Mindy Pitre (St. Lawrence University) and Madeleine Mant (Univ. of Toronto, Mississauga)

*"I see that the old question of right of free sepulchre is still unsettled in the old burying ground."*

*Discovery and Mitigation of the Old Burying Ground, Heuvelton, New York*

In 1870 an act was passed by the State of New York to prohibit the further interment of the dead in the Old Burial Ground in the Village of Heuvelton, NY. Families were asked to remove loved ones to the newly consecrated Hillcrest Cemetery. Not all the graves were removed, however, and several were inadvertently discovered in 2019 during the construction of the Heuvelton Potable Water Upgrades project. This paper will discuss the archaeological monitoring, mitigation and recovery of five complete individuals (BF1, BF2, BF8, BF9, BF10), one incomplete individual (BF7), and unassociated human remains. The associated material culture (e.g., coffin hardware and burial accoutrements) suggests the individuals were buried in the mid-19th century. The bioarchaeological results offer a glimpse into the life (and death) of early settlers in 19th-century rural New York.

Allen, Kathleen M.S. and Carsen Hanley-Witzel (University of Pittsburgh)

*Preparing for the Future of the Past: Continuing work with two Cayuga Haudenosaunee site collections in Central New York State*

Carman and Parker Farm, two Cayuga village sites dating to the late 1500s and early 1600s, were excavated as part of continuing field schools by the University of Pittsburgh between 1993 and 2008. The history of these excavations, research results, and the current preparation of the collections for the New York State Museum are discussed. The decades of work on these sites and the recovered material illustrate the changing narratives of the research, the shaping of generations of student education, and how our knowledge of the past deepens and evolves through the continued study of these collections.

Anderson, Lisa (Van Epps – Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum)

*The Courtland Street Burying Ground*

Discovery of a Revolutionary War cemetery during construction in Lake George, NY, exposed serious gaps in the preservation measures intended to protect cultural resources, specifically, unmarked graves. In response, it set in motion a major collaborative effort to recover disturbed remains and improvements in the oversight of development in the community. It also provided an opportunity to examine an underappreciated chapter in local history. With ties to a general hospital established in 1776 at Fort George, now Lake George Battlefield Park, the project was well suited to Chuck Vandrei's interests and expertise as Agency Preservation Officer for DEC and longtime steward of archaeological resources at the park. This update on the Courtland Street Burying Ground will be presented through the lens of his efforts, often behind the scenes, to guide the project in a positive direction and ensure a successful outcome for Courtland Street and future discoveries.

Babson, David W.

*Haudenosaunee Water West: The Water-Level Route of the Iroquois*

I am a transportation archaeologist. Approaching Iroquois research from this perspective, I consider the terrain that the Five, then Six, Nations lived in and used, and the routes they created across this terrain as they built their confederation. Using trails, waterways and portages, the Five Nations were able to extend and maintain their political, social and cultural system along the Mohawk Valley, among the Finger Lakes and along the shore of Lake Ontario. They became a confederacy of linked nations through their use of a region later recognized by Anglo-Americans as the “water-level route,” the lowest crossing of the Appalachian Mountains between the St. Lawrence River and northern Georgia. In this paper I argue that this circumstance helped the Haudenosaunee to develop their confederacy as a decentralized political form. From this, the Five, then Six, Nations present a contrast to and critique of hierarchical models of social complexity and state-formation processes, including the “ethnical periods” model first advanced by Lewis Henry Morgan.

Cinquino, Michael A. (Houghton Chapter)

*My Memories of Chuck Vandrei over 40 years of Friendship*

These are my memories of Chuck Vandrei as a friend, colleague, mentor and archaeologist. He led a life dedicated to his family, friends, archaeology, historic preservation, and agency preservation regulations. I worked with Chuck in a variety of capacities early in our careers and he helped form my lifelong approach to cultural resource management and historic preservation. He was in the forefront of the movement to create a professional organization for archaeologists in New York State, the movement to create regulations, laws, and their enforcement to protect cultural resources from development and construction activities. He was also an advocate and assisted in developing standards for cultural resource investigations in New York State. Chuck served as a NYSDEC cultural resource reviewer since 1984 and became the Agency Preservation Officer.

Cook, Hali (SUNY at New Paltz) Gage DeWitt (Dewitt Historical Society), Madelyn Moran (SUNY at New Paltz), and Kenneth C. Nystrom (SUNY at New Paltz)

*The DeWitt Plot: A Preliminary Skeletal Analysis of the 17th-early 18th Century*

*DeWitt Family from the Old Dutch Church Graveyard, Kingston, N.Y.*

At the Old Dutch Church in Kingston, NY a family plot containing several burials was excavated during the SUNY New Paltz 2022 field school. Students uncovered and exhumed the remains of six individuals to perform skeletal analysis at the SUNY New Paltz physical anthropology lab. This presentation will include the preliminary skeletal analysis of the DeWitt skeletal collection, which includes sex, age, and stature estimations along with any observed pathologies on remains.

Cooper, Martin (ASI Heritage)

*Long Stretches of Country to Traverse: Overland Trail Systems in Niagara*

This paper looks at the identification of Indigenous trail networks throughout the Niagara Frontier area of Ontario and New York State during the seventeenth century using both historic documentation and archaeological evidence. In particular, it examines the influence of overland trails in Neutral Iroquoian settlement location and how this can inform archaeological site predictive models and also provide a basis for public interpretation.

Curtin, Edward V. (Curtin Archaeological Consulting, Inc. and Van Epps - Hartley Chapter)

*Jigonhsasee, the Peace Queen*

In the 1980s I had a conversation with Chuck Vandrei that has led me to examine the various historical, legendary, and mythological careers of Jigonhsasee, the Peace Queen. A seventeenth century female leader mentioned by the French, remembered by the Seneca, and eventually commemorated by the State of New York, Jigonhsasee lived on through generations and had several identities: the Peace Queen, the Mother of Nations, and The Wildcat, each with its own culturally meaningful implications. Jigonhsasee's mythology connects her to the world's creation, and through this to the land. By the end of this discussion, Jigonhsasee's possible association with the constructed, earth ring landscapes of western New York is briefly considered.

Doroszenko, Dena (Ontario Heritage Trust)

*Archaeology at the Niagara Apothecary, Ontario, Canada*

In 1964, pharmacist E. W. Field closed his practice in Niagara on the Lake. This pharmacy practice had been in operation for a total of 156 years. However, this corner property witnessed much more than commercial activities and this paper will explore its history prior to and during the presence of the apothecary and the changes that occurred that was recovered during multiple field seasons. In 1770, Colonel John Butler, of "Butler's Raiders" fame, was granted 5,000 acres of land and founded Butlerville. In 1792, the first Parliament was held and the town was then officially named Newark. In 1799, its name was changed to Niagara. The town, Fort George, the Navy Hall and the people of the area, played a leading role in the War of 1812. It was renamed by John Graves Simcoe as Newark in 1792 as the first capital of Upper Canada. A military fort, Fort George, was built during the period 1796-1799. The artifact assemblages from four field seasons reflect the early period as well as the apothecary business in a very small backyard.

Elliott, Dolores (Chenango Chapter, NYSAA)

*Beaded Birds in Haudenosaunee Art*

Birds are important in traditional Haudenosaunee culture. Over half a dozen stories about birds play a role in teaching people about basic beliefs. Soon after the arrival of glass beads in Iroquoia, they were used in creating beaded birds in artwork. Pincushions and purses were among the dozens of forms of beadwork created by Haudenosaunee artists, and many include bird images. About one-fifth of all beadwork carry images of birds. A 2025 exhibit at the Roberson Museum in Binghamton, NY includes over two hundred pieces of beadwork featuring beaded birds.

Foley, Denis (Van Epps – Hartley Chapter), Len Tantillo, and Andrew Wolfe

*The Albany Shoreline Revitalization and Rethinking Archeology*

When Hudson viewed what is now Albany, the shore line had a long curve. This area became the Erie Canal's Great Basin until it was filled in the 1920's. By the 1970's the construction of I-787 in this area cut off Albany from the river. Plans now call for the removal of I-787. In November of 2002 an archeological team from Union College's Lewis Henry Morgan Institute located the weigh lock, collector's house, and Lock One of the former Erie Canal. Currently the Albany Waterway Canal Project envisions a two-stage plan. Stage 1 involves uncovering and developing the eastern terminus of the Erie Canal including Lock 1, the double lock connecting the canal to the Hudson River, the Little Basin, which

will become a marina, and the weigh lock and collector's house, which will become a museum. Additionally, Lock 1 would be reconnected to the Hudson River. Stage Two creates a new canal which would connect the city with the Hudson River. In January 2025, this project received initial funding for a feasibility study. Hopefully, a waterway can be brought to downtown Albany promoting destination tourism with an archeological flavor.

Fulton, Albert E. II (University at Buffalo, SUNY)

*Detection of Indigenous Land-Use Impacts in Lake and Wetland Sediments Using Environmental Magnetism: Examples from Upstate New York*

Magnetic susceptibility (MS) analysis is frequently utilized in paleoecological and geoarchaeological research to elucidate critical paleoenvironmental modulators of sedimentologic, pedogenic, and geomorphological processes. Current research focused on the characterization of MS chronologies from a variety of depositional contexts including lake and wetland basins across upstate New York suggests MS is a sensitive indicator of centennial- and millennial-scale soil erosion dynamics, likely driven primarily by long-term variability in regional hydroclimatology. Superimposed upon this dominant paleoclimate signal is evidence of subtler positive MS anomalies at multiple coring sites associated with Late Woodland and early Contact-era Iroquoian settlements. Such anthropogenically derived overlays likely represent the effects of various Indigenous land-use practices (e.g., forest clearance, cultural fire, agroforestry) on landscape (in)stability, which contributed enhanced sediment fluxes into certain regional lake and wetland basins. MS signals associated with subsequent Euro-American deforestation and landscape transformation are typically distinguishable from earlier Indigenous ones due to marked differences in the magnitudes of the respective MS signals.

Hart, John P. (Van Epps - Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum,), Jennifer Birch (University of Georgia),

Christan Gates St-Pierre (Université de Montréal), Susan Dermakar (University of Toronto Archaeology Center and Trent University Archaeological Resource Center)

*Smoking Pipes as Indicators of Sociopolitical Changes in Huron-Wendat Social Networks*

Ceramic smoking pipes are among the most distinctive artifacts recovered from Iroquoian sites dating from AD 1350-1650 in what is today New York, Ontario, and Quebec. In this study, we conduct network analyses of pipe forms to examine assemblages of relations among the ancestral and colonial-era Huron-Wendat during a period of coalescence, conflict, and confederacy-formation. We bring these networks based on pipe form together with previous network analysis of collar decoration on ceramic vessels to develop insights about the social networks comprised by each artifact type. Our findings indicate that, unlike pottery collar decorations—primarily associated with women and reflecting highly cohesive social networks—Huron-Wendat smoking pipes, more closely associated with men, were less cohesive, forming coalitional networks. We interpret these patterns in the context of defensive alliances which formed to render mutual aid among communities and nations. These differences highlight the distinct social and material domains in which these artifacts operated, offering complementary perspectives on the complex social dynamics that shaped the social and political landscapes of pre-colonial and early colonial Northeastern North America.

Hasenstab, Robert J. (University of Illinois at Chicago)

*The UB 1973 Allegany Field School: An Experience in Cultural Immersion*

The Sugartown Earthwork: A Late Prehistoric Hilltop Site in the Upper Allegheny River Drainage  
The Sugartown Earthwork, situated in Cattaraugus County, NY, is one of a series of late prehistoric hilltop earthen enclosures in the upper Allegheny River valley of southwestern New York and northwestern Pennsylvania. It was the subject of the 1973 SUNY Buffalo Archaeological Field School and is revisited here. Limited testing revealed evidence of habitation, maize horticulture, and shell-tempered ceramics. The earthen embankment revealed a wicker-style palisade enclosure. Radiocarbon dates obtained cluster around A.D. 1520, uncalibrated. This site, along with its related counterparts in the surrounding region, remain poorly understood in terms of their cultural affiliation, site function, and reason for their remote settings.

Hemmick, Lucinda (Long Island Chapter)

*Long Island Steatite Sourcing from Rhode Island Quarries During the Late Holocene Era*

This study aimed to investigate the possible sourcing of Long Island steatite artifacts from quarries in Rhode Island. Seven steatite samples from archeological sites on Long Island including Nassau County, Suffolk County (North Fork and South Fork) and Shelter Island were compared to two Rhode Island quarry sample putative sources using X-ray fluorescence (XRF) microscopy at the Submicron Resolution X-ray spectroscopy (SRX) beamline of the National Synchrotron Light Source II at Brookhaven National Laboratory. The site-derived steatite samples displayed numerous similarities in elemental composition compared to the two Rhode Island quarries, Oaklawn and Ochee Springs. This study provides new evidence to support the possible sourcing of Long Island steatite from Rhode Island during the late Holocene era.

Hendrick, Jenna (Curtin Archaeological Consulting, Inc.)

*Archaeology for the People*

Archaeologists are notorious for dry, surface-level interpretations of inanimate objects, and although fictive narrative has long been espoused as a viable solution to filling the gaps in communication, it remains a grossly underutilized tool. Vignettes – empirical research written in the form of fictive narrative – organize what is otherwise a fragmented collection of data into an accessible, engaging interpretation portrayed at the human scale. Using the Albany Waterway Canal Project (AWCP) as inspiration, I will evaluate how fictive narrative can benefit cultural resource management within the contexts of science communication and community action as well as demonstrate how vignettes could be used across diverse platforms and settings. This paper will ultimately show how vignettes, the adaptability of which allows for various implementations, can build a stronger, more informed community, making them a highly valuable tool for archaeologists.

Henhawk, A. Stephen (Gayogóhó:nq', Cornell University) and Kurt A. Jordan (Finger Lakes Chapter, Cornell University)

*Using the "Real Names": The Many Benefits of Using Indigenous Language in Archaeological and Historical Work*

This paper reports on our recent work applying Gayogóhó:nq' language terms during the study of archaeology and history of the Gayogóhó:nq' homeland. We outline the benefits provided both to scholars and Indigenous community members, including how use of the "real names" aids language revitalization. We illustrate these points through examples of the application of place and regional names, Indigenous terms for artifact types, and words for architectural features in longhouses. The

names themselves come from a variety of sources, including first-language speakers; mangled attempts to record Indigenous place names by European missionaries, explorers, and soldiers; and the terminology used by contemporary steelworkers who employ the “old words” to describe architectural elements in new urban construction.

Henhawk, A. Stephen (Gayogóhó:nqʔ, Cornell University), Donald A. Smith (Houghton Chapter, Chronicle Heritage), and Kurt A. Jordan (Finger Lakes Chapter, Cornell University)

*Haʔsá:digeh (“Where We Throw It”): Interpreting the Carpenter Brook Site using Indigenous Knowledge*

The Carpenter Brook site in Onondaga County has long been of interest to archaeologists as an apparent ceremonial deposit of numerous intentionally-broken pots and bear bones. This thousand-year-old site was excavated in the 1940s by William Ritchie and interpreted as being entirely disconnected from living Hodiñqhsq̃:nih peoples. Ritchie also applied ethnographic analogies derived only from publications by settler authors; local Hodiñqhsq̃:nih communities were not informed that excavations were taking place nor kept apprised of their results. Upon reading Ritchie’s report, Gayogóhó:nqʔ Faithkeeper Steve Henhawk recognized that Ritchie applied the wrong analogies. Henhawk instead interprets the location as a place where a Haʔsá:digeh (“Where We Throw It”) ritual took place, likely to combat epidemic disease impacting communities in the region. This new interpretation – assisted by Donald Smith, who wrote his 2005 dissertation on the site, and Kurt Jordan – illustrates the direct ties between the actors at Carpenter Brook and living Hodiñqhsq̃:nih people, and demonstrates the power of interpretation led by descendants.

Jacobs, Jamie (Rochester Museum and Science Center), William Fox (Trent University) and Andrew Riddle (Archaeological Services Inc.)

*The Wendake Campaign*

A review of historical and archaeological information is used to determine the armament of Haudenosaunee war parties which terminated the occupation of southern Ontario by Wendat (Huron), Wyandot (Petun) and Odawa, and Attawandaron (Neutral) communities between 1650 and 1652. Observations by Champlain and Sagard concerning weaponry and subsequent Jesuit reports of conflict published in their Relations spanning the period from 1640 to 1656 are combined with archaeological evidence from contemporary Wendat and Haudenosaunee sites in order to assess the nature of conflict during the early stages of the “Iroquois Wars”.

Kirk, Matthew (Van Epps - Hartley Chapter, Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc.)

*Archeology and New York State Forest Land: Opportunities and Constraints*

The DEC manages over 1 million acres of forest land in New York through both ownership and easements. Some of these lands are rich in archeological sites. In this presentation, I discuss my experiences documenting two archeological sites on DEC land. The Florence Settlement in northwest Oneida County was a free Black community, similar to Timbuctoo in the Adirondacks, between 1849 and 1860. Ongoing public archeology has revealed much about the community that was largely forgotten to history. I also present the results of intense research of Fort George and other colonial war sites located at the head of Lake George. In both instances, Chuck Vandrei was critical in coordinating the efforts, advocating for the resources, and helping to interpret the resulting data for the public. Finally, I offer my views on the ongoing relationship between the archeological community and the various state agencies that manage public lands in New York and how they may be strengthened and expanded.

Kuhn, Robert D. (Van Epps - Hartley Chapter)

*A Statistical Comparison of Carbonized Corn Kernel Samples from Five Nations Iroquois Sites and Jefferson County Iroquoian Sites*

At the 2024 NYSAA annual meeting a statistical comparison of carbonized corn cob and kernel samples from Five Nations Iroquois sites and Ontario Iroquoian sites was presented. The results showed that there are significant differences in cob row number, kernel size, and kernel shape between regions. Samples of carbonized corn cobs and kernels from Five Nations sites consistently show a higher percentage of 8-row corn. The differences were used to classify kernel samples from western New York. The results showed that the corn being grown at these sites was Ontario Iroquoian corn indicating that these sites were occupied by Ontario Iroquoians. This research is expanded to include samples from Jefferson County Iroquoian sites. Kernel size is used to assess agricultural productivity in Jefferson County as compared to the Five Nations Iroquois. Cob row number and kernel shape are used to classify the corn being grown at these Jefferson County sites. Some preliminary interpretations are offered and explored.

Leonard, Melissa (Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society)

*Seneca Indian Park: Recognizing a Sacred Burial Ground*

Seneca Indian Park, located in South Buffalo, is a site of profound historical, cultural, and archaeological significance. Situated within the former Buffalo Creek Reservation, this land was home to a significant Seneca settlement and contains a known burial ground, making it a sacred space that warrants protection and recognition. Archaeological findings and historical records confirm the presence of Seneca burials, and it remains a site of Indigenous human remains today. Yet, despite its clear significance, the site's designation as a city park in the early 20th century was made in direct defiance of the expressed wishes of the Seneca People. This presentation will examine the park's archaeological importance, the historical erasure of Indigenous voices in land use decisions, and ongoing efforts to have the site formally recognized as a sacred burial ground. Through archival research, advocacy, and community engagement, this work seeks to honor and protect Seneca Indian Park as a place of remembrance and cultural continuity.

Lothrop, Jonathan C. (Van Epps – Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum), Mike Beardsley (Beauchamp Chapter), David Moyer (Chenango Chapter), Susan Winchell-Sweeney (New York State Museum)

*Revisiting Archaeological Evidence of Ice Age Indigenous Peoples in the Unadilla and Chenango Drainages, Central New York*

In 1977, Ted Whitney published the paper, "Projectile Points from the Chenango Area," documenting the locations and forms of fluted bifaces surface collected in the Chenango and Unadilla drainages and an adjacent section of the Susquehanna valley. Within Ted's "Chenango" study area (encompassing Chenango, Delaware, Madison, and Otsego counties), he recorded a total of 25 confirmed fluted bifaces from 17 locations, some of these finds documenting probable site encampments rather than isolated finds. Since 1977, new finds of fluted bifaces and other stone tools have come to light in this study area, building on Whitney's original data set. In this paper, we summarize Whitney's original findings and describe new discoveries of Late Pleistocene artifacts. These data shed light on (1) the presence of Ice Age Indigenous peoples in this central New York study area, and (2) bear implications for the roles of the Chenango and Unadilla valleys in the settlement strategies and seasonal movements of these First Peoples.



Lucas, Michael (Van Epps – Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum)

*Lake George Battlefield Park Past, Present, and Future: An Inter-Agency Collaboration*

Lake George Battlefield Park has been the subject of numerous archaeological surveys and excavation in accordance with CRM compliance work and University field schools. These excavations have resulted in the recordation of 12 terrestrial archaeological sites within the park boundaries. Chuck Vandrei spearheaded the coordination of these archaeological projects on behalf of the Department of Environmental Conservation. It was through the collaborative management between the DEC, New York State Museum, and SUNY Adirondack that I first met Chuck. Chuck, NYS Archaeologist Chris Rieth, David Starbuck, and I worked together to map out a strategy for the field school excavations in the park. These coordinated efforts continued when Skidmore College conducted a field school at the site in the spring of 2024 under the direction of Shobhan Hart. We miss Chuck for the intelligence, wit, and knowledge of military archaeology that he brought to the collaboration. But his real superpower was his good nature and passion for the history of the Adirondacks. A superpower we hope to tap as management of the park continues.

Maguire, Susan (Houghton Chapter, Buffalo State University) and Victoria Kohler (Buffalo State University)

*Exploring an 18th century officers' quarters at Old Fort Niagara, Youngstown, NY.*

The 2009 Buffalo State University Archaeological Field School excavations of an 18th century officers' quarters at Old Fort Niagara, Youngstown, NY provide glimpses into the lives of both British and French officers stationed at the fort. Historic plans indicate that this building had a variety of uses over time, including a warehouse, an officer's quarters, and the house of the chaplain. This research examines the material culture from inside and outside the structure and discusses the activities and pastimes of the officers at Old Fort Niagara with particular attention to passenger pigeon remains found just outside the structure.

Marcucci, Derrick J., Susan Gade and Phillip Shnaider (Landmark Archaeology, Inc.)

*New Perspectives of Wetland Archaeology: The Geoarchaeology of New York's Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area*

We report on last year's investigations within the Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area, a large wetland managed by the DEC and recipient of a grant by the New York Canal Corporation Reimagine the Canals Initiative project. The multi-year project affords the opportunity to conduct research related to the archaeology of wetlands, an eco-system that has been recognized as important to precontact people by avocation and professional archaeologists for over 100 years. Wetlands provided an abundance of seasonally concentrated and predictably available subsistence resources. Foraging groups aggregated on terraces for extending periods of time immediately adjacent to the wetlands at locations affording easy canoe access to wetland resources. These sites are typically large, multi-component, yield high numbers and types of artifacts, flora and faunal material, and contain features including houses and dark organic-rich buried middens. Not surprisingly, archaeologists have almost exclusively focused their research on these large multi-component precontact and proto-historic aggregation sites situated along the edges of the wetlands. In contrast, very little is known about precontact settlements and activities on landscapes within the wetlands. Our research focuses on a better understanding of Holocene landforms, and settlement dynamics by broadening the research picture and theme to include "within" wetland landscapes.

Moran, Madelyn and Tom Amorosi (SUNY at New Paltz)

*The Box: A.D. 1875 Garbage Deposit in the Pine Street African Burial Ground*

During the excavation of the Pine Street African Burial Ground (PSABG) we found a garbage box above one of the burials. On one of the last days of excavation we got the go ahead to excavate it. Before we excavated it, we saw a bone that was sticking out of the unit wall. That along with the wood outline led us to believe that it was a garbage box. We collected wood samples that remained in the wall of the unit that it was bordering. We found glass bottles, ceramics, flasks, and animal bones. Throughout this presentation I will explore ideas of how they got there, who put them there, and when this box was created.

Moyer, David (Chenango/Upper Susquehanna Chapters)

*Recent Archaeological Investigations at the Revolutionary War Site at Fort Plain*

During the summer of 2023 and spring of 2024 archaeological investigations were conducted at the site of a possible bakehouse building on the site of Fort Plain, a strategic fortification constructed and used by Continental forces during the American Revolution. The fieldwork was conducted by members of the Van Epps - Hartley Chapter of the NYSAA with the support of the Community Archaeology Program at SUNY Schenectady. Fieldwork included a ground penetrating radar study and the re- excavation of a possible bakehouse building which was initially discovered during previous archaeological testing in 1961. The current study builds upon this previous research and provides new insights into the structure and its possible function.

Myers, Andrew J. (Lewis H. Morgan Chapter)

*Observations Regarding Two Iconographic "Jesuit" Rings Recovered at Indian Camp Run No. 1 (36FO65), Forest County, Pennsylvania*

Two iconographic "Jesuit" rings were recovered at archaeological site Indian Camp Run No. 1 (36Fo65). The rings were found to be engraved with an IHS motif which is the symbol for the Society of Jesus or Jesuit wing of the Catholic Church. Similar type rings occur on archaeological sites of French occupation or influence and date to a broad period of ca. 1575 - 1780. While their entry into the middle Allegheny River region is uncertain, Jesuit missionaries and other French explorers first became active engaging with Native groups in the early 17th century with much activity occurring to the north in western and central New York. The incidence of the rings appears limited in the Niagara Frontier region while several have been identified to the east in Seneca territory where they appear as early as 1640. This presentation provides a description of the two rings and proffers a temporal framework for their arrival on site.

Olbrys, Adina (Houghton Chapter)

*Arrow and Dart Points in Northeastern North America: Exploring Archaeological Classification Methodologies*

This paper discusses the classificatory differences between dart and arrow point tips in the archaeological record of Western New York, specifically concerning atlatl and bow and arrow tips. Currently, there is a lack of research that accurately demonstrates how to distinguish between these two types of point tips. The goal of this study is to challenge commonly held beliefs about the assumed size of arrow versus dart point tips and to demonstrate the necessity of more research on this topic. Three

tip types, were investigated: Meadowood, Jack's Reef, and Madison. Each tip was measured, and the measurements were applied to classification methods created by other researchers such as Hildebrandt and King (2012), Hughes (1998), Shott (1997), and Thomas (1978). This included researching what measurements for shoulder width, neck width, weight, length, and width could be considered the threshold between dart and arrow tip measurements. The analysis shows that the classification methods and threshold values created by other researchers do not accurately represent this paper's assumption that Meadowood, Jack's Reef, and Madison point tips are arrow tips and not dart tips. This should culminate in the creation of a classification system or threshold values that distinguish between dart and arrow tips for the tips used in this study and from the Western New York region.

Ossa, Alanna (SUNY Oswego)

The Van Buren Inn & Tavern Historic Preservation Archaeology Field School Summer 2024

As a surviving 19th century era historic business and dwelling for the John Van Buren family (cousin to President Martin Van Buren), and with a significant part of the existing and original tavern structure built in the 1810-1820s, the Van Buren Inn and Tavern site represents a unique piece of Oswego county's local early settler history. An archaeology field school was undertaken in the summer of 2024 at SUNY Oswego focused on identifying a datable trash midden associated with the original occupation. Our secondary goals included identifying other economically important areas such as the blacksmith and cooper structures on the grounds. The field school excavations located the historic midden, next to the Inn and Tavern structure and were successful at identifying the other related river and trade-related structures on the grounds. The items recovered from the midden excavations showed shifts in local production of pottery, and the acquisition of imported materials (tablewares) over the course of the early to mid-19th century. Larger trends in central NY economic changes showed a shift in consumables and goods in the midden, such as the shift from clams to oysters over time and the early consumption of pork at the tavern. Finally, the consumption of decorated tableware were typical of other early taverns, with transferware iconographic shifts consistent with changing ideas of US place in world, from British imperial norms to American ones.

Purtill, Matthew ( Houghton Chapter, SUNY Fredonia), Jonathan Lothrop (Van Epps – Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum), Cleo McDermott (SUNY Fredonia), Susan Winchell-Sweeney (New York State Museum)

*Applying Artificial Neural Networks and Multivariate Statistical Methods for Geochemical Prospecting of Older Sites: A Pilot Study of the Corditaipe Paleoindian Site*

Corditaipe represents a large, single-component, Paleoindian site in the Upper Mohawk River Valley. Investigations by the New York State Museum have revealed three artifact concentrations (Loci 1, 2/3, and 4) nestled within a more dispersed, low-density artifact scatter. Locus 1 especially has a high concentration of tools, notably endscrapers, and may reflect a repeatedly occupied locality where Ice Age mammals such as caribou were partially butchered and hides processed. In 2024, a pilot study was initiated to explore whether Locus 1 could possibly retain a distinct geochemical signature of human activity, notably mammal butchering. A total of 39 soil samples were collected for laboratory testing from A-B horizons at 13 sampling locales. Analytical techniques included XRF, LOI, electrical conductivity, and pH. Initial results are intriguing and reveal that Locus 1 is geochemically distinct and displays enrichment of Na, P, K, Mn, Cl, Cr, Co, Zn, and Rb, in A horizon soils. Principal component analysis also revealed good separation of plotted factor scores further distinguishing Locus 1 soils from surrounding contexts. Finally, artificial neural network analysis proved highly successful at correctly classifying Locus 1

samples from non-Locus 1 soils. Collectively, results appear promising and further testing is planned in 2025.

Rieth, Christina B. (Van Epps - Hartley, New York State Museum), Heather Clark (New York State Museum), Amy Lynch (New York State Museum), and Tracey Thomas (New York State Museum)  
*Archaeology and Public Education at the New York State Museum*

Public education and outreach are important components in research and compliance projects. The integration of diverse constituencies in public outreach and education however is not without its drawbacks. This paper provides a brief overview to recent public archaeology project in New York and discusses how various constituencies have been incorporated into these projects. This paper focuses on the importance of these efforts and the need to involve the public in archaeological projects including field schools, behind the scenes tours, working with interns and students, teacher's workshops, and indigenous groups.

Schentag, Annie (kta Preservation Specialists)  
*The Turtle: A Postmodern Path to Progress*

The Native American Center for the Living Arts (NACLA), commonly known as "The Turtle," is an exceptional example of contemporary Indigenous architecture, built by and for multiple Native American communities. This presentation will discuss its unique architectural design, cultural significance, and historic functions. The three-story round concrete building is a pioneering, exceedingly rare example of contemporary architecture that combines anthropomorphic Indigenous forms, symbols, and practices with Postmodern approaches and modern prefabrication construction techniques. Opened in 1981, the Turtle was designed for NACLA, led by Duffy Wilson (Tuscarora/Beaver Clan/Six Nations: Tuscarora Territory), by principal architect Dennis Sun Rhodes (Hinono'ei / Northern Arapaho: Wind River Nation) while working as design lead for the Hodne/Stageberge partners Inc firm of Minneapolis. The building is visually distinctive and intended to attract visitors, designed to clearly resemble a snapping turtle in architectural form, plan, and ornamentation. The Turtle can be understood as an architectural embodiment of postcolonial practice in process, revealing an Indigenous interpretation of postmodern ideals in combination with deeply rooted Haudenosaunee spiritual and cultural views. Determined to be National Register Eligible even though it is less than fifty years old, the Turtle presents many challenges and opportunities for reuse today.

Twigg, Deb and DeeAnne Wymer (Susquehanna River Archaeological Center)  
*Spanish Hill (36BR27), Waverly NY: Ancient Legends, Archaeological Conundrums, and New Technologies*

Spanish Hill is a prominent glacial moraine overlooking the Chemung River that since its historical discovery has been the center of myths, legends, and controversy. Early explorers described and mapped an apparent earthen embankment circumscribing the hill's edge and some scholars suggested it had been the location for Champlain's 1615 Susquehannock fortified stronghold of Carantouan. Mired in controversy by later archaeologists, individuals such as Warren K. Moorehead, James B. Griffin, and Barry Kent, disagreed with the presence of embankments and/or its association with Carantouan. We will review the early evidence, including information from Griffin's unpublished 1931 excavations, as well as artifact and map archival research at local institutions. Finally, utilizing new technologies such as satellite imaging and LIDAR data, we believe we will be able to definitively address some of the archaeological uncertainties that have centered on this unique geological formation and archaeological site that still captures the public imagination.

Vandrei, Martha (University of Exeter, UK)

*The past alive in the present: re-enactment as philosophy and practice. A tribute to my father, Chuck Vandrei*

This paper will examine the relationship between the disciplines of archaeology and history, and a common ground they share in historical re-enactment. It was my father's work on the material culture of the past that I think piqued his interest in re-enactment. And for me, growing up surrounded by the materiality of layers of history, it is no surprise that I have pursued a career as an historian. But it is only in the last few years that I have really started to reflect on the influence, subtle and unspoken, that this part of my life, and my dad's, had on me and, I think, on him. The paper takes inspiration from that experience, and from the work of the archaeologist and philosopher, R.G. Collingwood (1889-1943). Collingwood's abstract theory that he called "re-enactment" is seemingly far removed from the literal re-enactment of past events as my father practiced it. But I want to elucidate a relationship between this philosophical concept and the seeming unphilosophical pastime of performing the past. Collingwood viewed re-enactment as coterminous with historical knowledge, and there is good reason to argue that the same is true of my father's re-enactment. Going beyond the coincidence of terminology, I want venture that re-enactment of past events is a spur to historical understanding, methodological insight, and imaginative sympathy – all of which my dad had in spades.

Wilson, Shaun (Native American Community Services of Erie and Niagara Counties) and Emma Wilson (Erie Community College)

*Reawakening the Turtle through Community Engagement*

When "The Turtle" (The Native American Center for the Living Arts) opened in 1981 it was the largest center for Indigenous Arts in the Eastern United States. Located in downtown Niagara Falls, NY, it is ideally situated to attract the thousands of visitors who come to see Niagara Falls every year. It originally included a museum, restaurant, event space, craft hall, and offices. Unfortunately, it has lain vacant for the last 30 years and is now threatened with demolition. Members of the local community are now attempting to save and acquire the building so it can once again fulfill its function as an important Native American center for the arts and education.

Winchell-Sweeney, Susan (New York State Museum), Robert D. Kuhn (New York State Museum), Jonathan Lothrop (New York State Museum), Natasha Smoke Santiago (Akwesasne Mohawk Nation), Ammie M. Chittim (Northeastern Petrographic Services), Joseph Gonzales (New York State Museum), and Chelsea Jones (New York State Museum)

*Unearthing the Ceramic Technology and Pottery-Making Tradition of the Kanien'kehà:ka (Mohawk) Garoga Village Site*

The New York State Museum is undertaking a project to explore the Kanien'kehà:ka (Mohawk) pottery making process. The well-known 16th century Kanien'kehà:ka (Mohawk) Garoga site is the focus of the research. The project includes intra-site spatial analysis of artifacts associated with pottery production; petrographic (thin section) analysis of source clay, clay nodules, and pottery from the site; and experimental replication of Garoga site pottery by award-winning Kanien'kehà:ka (Mohawk) potter Natasha Smoke Santiago. An overview of the research design for the project is presented, as is a description and interpretation of an assemblage of raw unfired clay nodules from the Garoga site. The nodules provide an indication of the method of clay extraction, a sense of the tools that were used to

work clay, the locations where pottery making probably took place, and the egalitarian nature of the craft tradition.

Zarzynski, Joseph W. (Auringer Seelye Chapter)

*Writing a Successful National Register Nomination for a Canandaigua Lake Shipwreck*

On November 25, 2024, Canandaigua Lake's Seneca Chief shipwreck was listed onto the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), one of the few sunken vessels in the state with that designation. It should be noted, there were several 19<sup>th</sup>-century vessels named Seneca Chief. The steel-hulled steam yacht was built in Buffalo in 1887 by prominent-shipbuilder David Bell. It was then transported by rail to Canandaigua and launched. After nine seasons, in 1896, its wooden upper works were removed and repurposed. Its engine was installed into another vessel. The Seneca Chief was then unceremoniously towed out and scuttled to abandon it. The Seneca Chief was an excursion boat, carried fruit, mail, and newspapers, and supported marine infrastructure construction. The sunken hull was discovered by Scott Hill in 2014 using Pictometry-aerial imagery. In 2021, Hill contacted this paper's presenter asking advice on creating a shipwreck preserve. The sunken boat would have greater protection if also listed onto the NRHP. Writing the nomination, a volunteer effort, took over 400 hours. This case study reviews pertinent points, including archaeological recordation, for NRHP shipwreck nominations.

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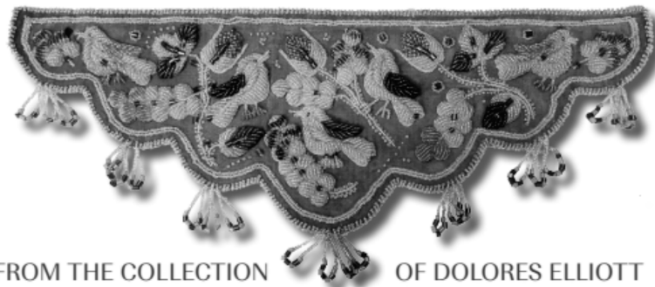
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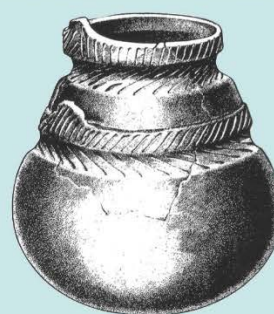
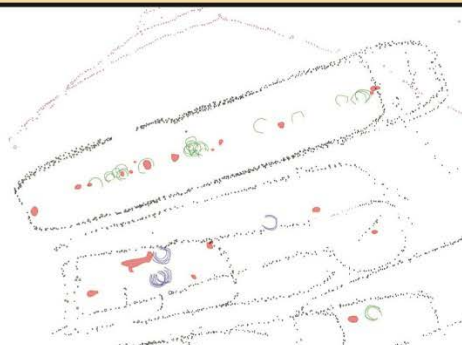
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**The Keffer Site,**  
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by

**William D. Finlayson, Ph.D., F.R.S.C.**

and **Harry J. Lerner, Ph.D.**

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