

NYSAA NEWSLETTER



New Discoveries in Public Archeology in the Capital Region: Youth Archeological Field Schools at Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc.

Contact Information:

Sherene Baugher
NYSAA President
Co-Editor, Newsletter
sbb8@cornell.edu

Sissie Pipes
Co-Editor, Newsletter
pipesml@aol.com

Lisa Marie Anselmi
NYSAA Vice-President
Associate Editor
anselmim@buffalostate.edu

The NYSAA Website is
<http://nysaaweb.bfn.org/>

The editors encourage any NYSAA member who would like to submit an article, letter, editorial or news items to submit it electronically to Sissie or Lisa at the addresses listed above.

BY Corey D. McQuinn, Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc.

This summer, Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. will continue its commitment to public education with two youth field schools in the Capital Region. These programs are unique for their curricular structure and opportunities to work on significant historic sites. Hartgen will continue its longstanding partnership with the Albany County Historical Association and the Underground Railroad History Project of the Capital Region, Inc. (UGRHP) at the Stephen

and Harriet Myers House in Albany, New York.



Students excavating
units on the west side of
the Brookside Museum

This is the third year of the program with the UGRHP and work this year will focus on the

home of Thomas Elkins, an African-American pharmacist and businessman in the mid-nineteenth century. This is part of a cluster of properties owned by UGRHP and known to be part of a small, early African-American community established during the 1830s and 1840s. The field school is being undertaken in order to understand more about the relationship between material culture, the rapidly changing urban landscape, and the community, in order to bet-

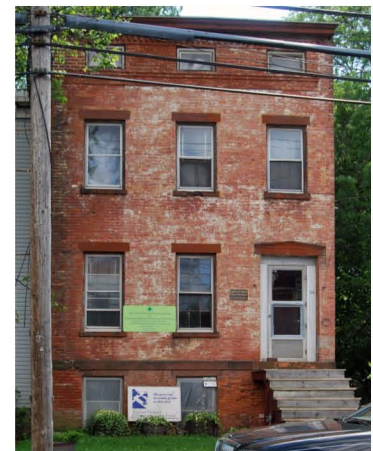
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Stephen Myers (left, http://ugrworkshop.com/?page_id=61);

Stephen and Harriet Myers House (right; [CC-BY-SA-3.0/](#)
[Matt H. Wade](#) at Wikipedia)



YOUTH FIELD SCHOOLS CONTINUED:

ter interpret the site in the future.

The Brookside Museum field school is also entering its third year of operation, hosted by the Saratoga County Historical Society. This archeological site consists of the c.1790 house that was later converted for use as a hotel, sanitarium, and school. Archeological evidence from last year's excavations suggested the presence of an earlier deposit on the grounds, which corroborates historical accounts of a mid-eighteenth-century cabin on the site.

Hartgen and student archeologists have uncovered sheet middens containing two centuries' worth of material culture. The investigations will create an archeological record to complement the historical record of Brookside and upholds the educational mission of the Society. This may answer remaining questions about its history and contribute a record of material culture to the site.

Hartgen and the host organizations are eager to share their work not just with the students and the public, but also with the

professional archeological community. We encourage that you come out and support the effort by volunteering and sharing your experience and area of expertise with the students. The students will benefit from a broader exposure to archeology by meeting professional and avocational archeologists and learning career possibilities in the field.

If you are interested in volunteering or just visiting the sites, please contact Corey McQuinn for the Myers and Elkins Houses or Adam Lusier for the Brookside Museum at 518.283.0534.

Dates and Information: **Myers and Elkins Houses, Albany, New York:** Monday–Friday, July 9–13, 2012, 8 am – 3 pm. Field school open to students entering the 6th through 10th grade. Contact Wendy Burch at ACHA for details at 518.436.9826 or go to http://hartgen.com/outreach/arch_camps.aspx for an enrollment application.

Brookside Museum, Ballston Spa, New York: Monday–Friday, July 30–August 3, 2012, 9 am – 3 pm. Field school open to students entering 5th through 12th grades. Contact the Brookside Museum at 518.885.4000 for enrollment information.



Two students very excited to find a whole (nearly) brick in Unit 22.

YOUTH FIELD SCHOOLS CONTINUED:



Excavations at the Myers house and lab work back at our HQ at the Ten Broeck Mansion just down the street.



A Report of the Funk Foundation to the New York State Archaeological Association, Spring 2012

Submitted by Ed Curtin, Chair, Funk Foundation Governing Council

The Robert E. Funk Memorial Archaeology Foundation is pleased to announce the resumption of grants for archaeological research in New York State. The Funk Foundation will begin reviewing a new round of applications this spring, for an autumn, 2012 award cycle. Please see the Funk Foundation website at www.funkfoundation.org for more information. New information regarding application was posted in April, 2012.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the New York State Archaeological Association for its contribution to the Funk Foundation this year and for its continuing strong and steady support over the several years of the Funk Foundation's existence. Your support is very valuable to us, and helps to strengthen the great community of archaeologists in New York.

Recently, the Funk Foundation has refined its grant selection procedure to better carry out the mission of funding important research in New York State archaeology. We have improved our grant guidelines to assist grant applicants and the administration of the grant process. We continue to develop our website to better serve and communicate with the archaeological community. We are adding ways to communicate the results of research as well as recognize the contributions of our donors as leaders in the support of New York State archaeology. Changes to the

website are on-going currently.

In February, Wayne Lenig, NY-SAA representative to the Funk Foundation Governing Council, stepped down after long and generous service in this post. The Funk Foundation has expressed recognition and gratitude to Wayne for his good work and the positive impact he has had. Recently, NYSAA has appointed Paul Huey to succeed Wayne. The Funk Foundation has welcomed Paul and looks forward to his work as Council member and NYSAA representative. In addition, in October, the NYAC board of directors appointed me to represent NYAC in a second term on the Funk Foundation Governing Council.

The Funk Foundation is pleased to see the publication of Donald A. Smith's article "The Carpenter Brook Site, Social Setting, and Early Woodland Vessel Variation in Central New York" in Volume 2 of the New York State Museum Record. Edited by John P. Hart and Christina Rieth, Volume 2 is titled *Current Research in New York Archaeology: A.D. 700-1300*. It is peer-reviewed and available on-line at <http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/publications/record/>. It is great to see Don's article in this high-quality, nonetheless free publication service of the New York State Museum.

At the end of 2011, the Funk Foundation received Scott Stull's report prepared for the completion of his grant. Scott's grant supported remote sensing surveys of Fort Klock and Fort Johnson in the Mohawk valley. Congratulations to Scott on the completion of this work.

The Funk Foundation continues to review and advise on the report submitted by Richard Wakeman, who received a grant for radiocarbon dating on behalf of the Upper Susquehanna Chapter, NYSAA. This grant supports radiocarbon dating of a Transitional (Terminal Archaic) component at the Behnke Farm site in Otsego County. The Funk Foundation also anticipates receipt of a report from Jeremy Wilson for projectile point analysis, and continues discussion with Jack Rossen concerning the completion of his grant, which supports analysis of data from the Corey site in the Finger Lakes region. Jack's report on the full Corey site project is several years in the making. Jack is hopeful of completion during 2012.

In the Fall, 2011 the Funk Foundation received a substantial grant in memory of Beth Wellman through the thoughtfulness and generosity of Dan DeMicco.

Funk Foundation Continued:

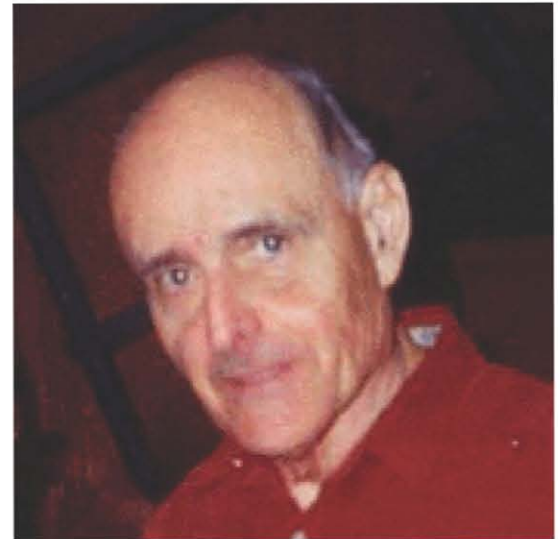
The Funk Foundation is very grateful for this support, which relieves the Funk Foundation's long-term trend for more funds going out in grants on a yearly basis than comes in as contributions. However, the Funk Foundation's assets are still much less than needed to earn interest as a basis to support the grants. Continuing support of the Funk Foundation is necessary to make its grant program a reality.

After a little more than 2 years in the role of Governing Council Chair, I am very aware of the significance of the grant-supported research and the accomplishments of the grantees, as well as the thought and hard work that goes into completing the research. I am also very aware of the importance of honoring the legacy of Bob Funk, a sense very much shared by the other members of the Governing Council and the donors. Many of the donors had personal and professional connections with Bob Funk as well as Beth Wellman, whose legacy also has been specifically honored over the years by contributions to the Funk Foundation.

To be clear, the majority of contributions in the last several years have been in the range of \$25.00-\$100.00. Our current outreach seeks donations of this size as well as larger donations, including corporate contributions of several hundred dollars. In order to make the grant program self-sustaining

at a minimal level, the Funk Foundation needs \$1,200.00-\$1,400.00 per year in addition to the amount of support that NY-SAA and NYAC have regularly provided on an annual basis.

If you would like to contribute to the Funk Foundation, please visit the Funk Foundation website at www.funkfoundation.org, or call me at (518) 884-7102. Also, do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions about the Funk Foundation's work, the importance of individual giving, or the corporate contribution program.



Bob Funk



The 2012 NYSAA Award Winners

Fellow Award

Christina Reith, Van Epps Hartley Chapter

Certificate of Merit Award

Barbara DeAngelo, William M. Beauchamp Chapter
Harold R. Decker, Incorporated Orange County Chapter
A. Gregory Sohrweide, William M. Beauchamp Chapter
Jordan Kerber, Chenango Chapter

Meritorious Service Award

Bobbi Buske, Louis A. Brennan Lower Hudson Chapter
Lynda Hohmann, Adirondack Chapter
Gary Jay Sipila, Orange County Chapter
Edward Keenan, Adirondack Chapter

Theodore Whitney Commendation

Anne-Marie Cantwell, Metropolitan Chapter
Diana Wall, Metropolitan Chapter
Nan Rothschild, Metropolitan Chapter

CRITERIA FOR ANNUAL NYSAA AWARDS

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Should be granted to any member of the Association in recognition of a single major contribution to the field of anthropology covered by the objectives of the association. Such an achievement must comprise an original piece of work of distinguished caliber.

FELLOW AWARD

The basis for this recognition will be the publication as a senior or sole author of a noteworthy report. Publication in a monograph or a widely circulated journal such as the *NYSAA Bulletin* is required. The criterion that the research be an outstanding contribution to the knowledge of the archaeology of New York State will be rigorously applied.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

This recognition will be awarded for work done in New York State anthropology, demonstrated by authorship of shorter reports, junior authorship, authorship of specialist appendices or review in archaeological or other publications. This award may also be granted for significant field work.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

This award will recognize persons who have contributed in some significant manner, not directly related to research, to the Association or its Chapter(s). This award may include officers, editors, librarians or any other people worthy of recognition.

THEODORE WHITNEY COMMENDATION

This award will honor the memory of Theodore Whitney for his lifetime of outstanding support of the furtherance of New York State archaeology. Individuals recognized by this Commendation will share with Ted a lifetime of dedication and service to New York State archaeology

"Sex, Drugs, and 2012: Ancient Maya Calendrics and Modern Media Phenomenon"

An upcoming lecture by Dr. Wendy Bacon

The ending of a cycle in the ancient Maya calendar has captured international attention: books, movies, TV shows and the internet predict disaster. This presentation briefly introduces the ancient Maya and their achievements, then explores: Where did the idea that they predicted the end of the world come from? What did they actually record about time in general and 2012 in particular? How are the modern Maya responding? How can we tell archaeological fact from fiction?



Dr. Bacon will be speaking to the Chenango Chapter on October 4, to the Morgan Chapter on October 13, to the Adirondack Chapter on December 1, and to the Finger Lakes Chapter on December 5. Chapter officers, if you would like Wendy to give this talk at your chapter, please contact her at: [wbacon4@gmail.com].

Wendy Bacon's Ph.D. in anthropology is from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, focusing on ancient Maya spatial analysis. Dr. Bacon has excavated at historic and prehistoric sites in the U.S. and Belize, Central America. She is the Secretary of the Finger Lakes Chapter of the New York State Archaeological Association in Ithaca, NY.