Volume 17, Issue 2 Summer 2021

# NYSAA NEWSLETTER



### **NYSAA Spring Lecture Series a Huge Success!**

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The editor and the NYSAA Executive Board encourage any NYSAA member who would like to submit an article, letter, editorial or news items to submit it electronically to David Moyer at the address listed above.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**NYSAA Spring Lecture Series** 

**Gravestones and Politics** 

A Tale of Two Blades

A Neglected Cemetery

Two Small but Important Sites

Central NY Cemetery Network News

Beyond the Stone

News from the Funk Foundation

**Competition and Collaboration** 

Cemetery Detective:

In January 2021 a subcommittee put together a series of five Zoom lectures for the NYSAA state wide membership and public. These lectures and attendance were as follows:

2/17/2021: Jennifer Birch, University at Georgia. *Dating Iroquoia: Radio carbon chronology-building and relational histories of coalescence, conflict, and confederacy-formation for Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee ancestors* 

Registered: 83

37 Members

46 non-members\*

Chapters Represented: At- Large, Auringer, Chenango, Finger Lakes, Houghton, Long Island, Lower Hudson, Morgan, Orange, Susquehanna, Thousand Islands, Van Epps

Attended: 67\*\*

3/17: Joe Stahlman, Seneca-Iroquois National Museum. NYS Unmarked Burial Bill.

Registered: 85

39 Members

46 non-members\*

Chapters Represented: At- Large, Auringer, Chenango, Finger Lakes, Houghton, Long Island, Lower Hudson, Metropolitan, Morgan, Orange, Van Epps

Attended: 97\*\*

\*Postponed 4/14: Allison McGovern, Robert D. L. Gardiner Writing Fellow at the Gotham Center for New York City History. *Privies and Such:* A report on Archaeological Investigations in the Lower East Side.

Registered: 148

48 Members

100 non-members

Chapters Represented: At-Large, Auringer, Chenango, Finger Lakes, Houghton, Long Island, Lower Hudson, Metropolitan,

Morgan, Orange, Thousand Islands, Van Epps

Attended: NA

## NYSAA Spring Lecture Series (Continued)

5/19 John Hart, NYS Museum. Archaeological Evidence for 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century AD Iroquoian Agronomic Practices.

Registered: 92

54 Members

38 non-members\*

Chapters Represented: At- Large, Auringer, Beauchamp, Chenango, Finger Lakes, Houghton, Lower Hudson, Metropolitan, Mid-Hudson, Morgan, Orange, Thousand Islands,

Van Epps Attended: 54\*\*

6/16: Elizabeth Meade, AKRF, Inc. Prepare for death and Follow Me: The Archaeology of New York City's Cemeteries.

Registered: 92 Attended: 67

- \*The membership/non membership determination was made using a list of 2019 and 2020 member names and might not reflect the most current NYSAA membership numbers.
- \*\*Attendance reflects the number of Zoom users, and not the number of members present. For example, my husband (also a chapter member) and I watched together from my account. This would reflect as one member attending, not two, so attendance might be larger than represented.

### Benefits:

Improves accessibility for chapter members and non-members (scheduling, mobility, childcare, closed captioning, health concerns, etc.)

Widens the pool of lecturers to tap into

Get to hear topics and materials not usually covered by regionally confined travel

Its great to see and hear from other NYSAA members and have input with a wider set of considerations

#### Future Actions:

- 1. Lecture registration page: can we add a question about membership status/chapter?
- 2. Should we do a questionnaire in July to people who registered to see how we can improve this experience?
- 3. Could we make the videos of Zoom lectures public for a year, then archive them and make them accessible to members only to create an incentive for membership?
  - 4. Would chapters be interested/willing to have a remote component for their chapter lectures?

#### Recommendations:

That one or two (or more) state wide Zoom lectures be held each year from here on

That we are more overt at using the Zoom lectures as a means of encouraging people to join (like sending out the link to membership with the recording or making a membership reminder at the beginning or ends of the lectures).

### Gravestones & the Politics of a Widowed Continental

### Ethan Dickerman Central New York Cemetery Network Finger Lakes Chapter, NYSAA

Historical archaeologists investigate gravestones as above ground artifacts because they can inform us about the class, social status, ethnicity, religious affiliation, and even the politics of the persons they memorialize. Early examples of gravestone studies include James Deetz & Edwin Dethlefsen's 1966 article, *Death's Heads, Cherubs, and Willow Trees: Experimental Archaeology in Colonial Cemeteries*, in which they related the changes in New England's gravestone iconography to the Great Awakening (Deetz and Dethlefsen 1966: 508). Later research by Randall McGuire of Binghamton University, examined the representation of class differences and their relationship to dominant local ideologies during the 19<sup>th</sup>-century in Broome County, New York (McGuire 1988: 435-436). More recently, Sherene Baugher & Richard Veit's book, *The Archaeology of American Cemeteries and Gravestones*, recalls the work of several previous gravestone studies, while giving greater attention to the roles gender, race, ethnicity, and class played in the changing structures of historic cemeteries (Baugher and Veit 2014). With this previous research in mind, I now turn to an example of political affiliations represented in the epitaphs of two 18<sup>th</sup>-century Dutch-American gravestones at the Rombout Rural Cemetery (hereafter the RRC).



Figure 1. Arial view of the Hudson River with the City of Beacon, the Town of Fishkill, and the RRC identified. The RRC is approximately seven (7) miles east of the Hudson River and approximately 70 miles north of NYC. Image by Ethan Dickerman using Google Earth, 2021.

The RRC is located at 1571 Route 52 in the Brinkerhoff hamlet of Fishkill, New York. The 1866 book, *Historical Sketch Directory of the Town of Fishkill with an Appendix of Much Useful Information*, by James E. Dean and John W. Spaight and the 1874 book, *Local Tales and Historical Sketches*, by Henry D. B. Bailey tell that in 1747, Jacobus Ter Bos, a resident of Fishkill donated about an acre of fairly flat land to establish a church and burying ground "for those only who are professors of ye Presbyterian Religion in the Communion and according to the establishment of the Kirk of Scotland" (Bailey 1874: 344; Dean and Spaight 1866: 68; Mochon 2019). The first interment in the churchyard was the wife of Stephen LaDue in September of the same year (Dean and Spaight 1866: 68). In the fall of 1747, workers began constructing a simple wooden church, completing it on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1748 at which time the first appointed minister, Chauncey

## **Gravestones & the Politics of a Widowed Continental** (Continued)

Graham, gave his sermon (Dean and Spaight 1866: 68).

While officially titled the First Presbyterian Church of Fishkill, the site became locally known as the "Middle" church, in reference to its location between parishioners coming from the Village of Fishkill to the west and Hopewell to the east (Mochon 2019). Bailey informs us that "the material used for the building was wood. In height it was two stories. The windows in the lower story had tight shutters, and one window had a small aperture in it shaped like a crescent, so as to admit light to guide the sextant right when opening the church" (Bailey 1874: 344). Reverend Graham, a driven individual, led the congregation from 1748 to 1773 (Mochon 2019). Besides his work with the Presbyterian Church, he also established Fishkill's First Academy a half-mile west of the church, next to the Presbyterian Parsonage (near the current intersection of Old State Road and NYS Route 52.) (Mochon 2019). During the American Revolution (1775-1783), the Continental army, under orders of Major General Alexander McDougall, seized the church for use as a hospital to treat soldiers ill with smallpox (Dean and Spaight 1866: 68 & 85; Mochon 2019). Bailey recalls an encampment of soldiers on the grounds surrounding the church, who stripped "the siding...as high as they could to boil their camp kettles" in the cold months (Bailey 1874: 245; Skinner 1981; Mochon 2019).

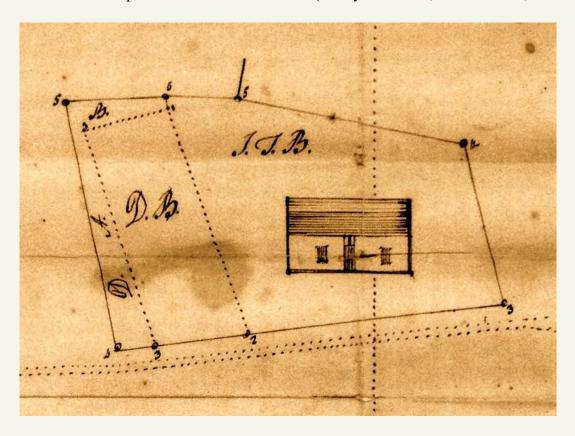


Figure 2. Feature of the Walter Scott's 1805 indenture and survey map of the First Presbyterian Church's property. Courtesy of the Rombout Rural Cemetery Association.

Few documents detail the following three decades. An 1805 indenture and survey of the church's property by Walter Scott indicates that the church acquired an additional half acre of land from both Dirk Brinkerhoff and Dirk A. Brinkerhoff (Scott 1805). With this addition, the boundaries of the church's lands expanded to those of the present Rombout Rural Cemetery. By 1830, the original structure was outdated and in disrepair, prompting the congregation to build a new church out of limestone (Bailey 1874: 345). On March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1866 a fire engulfed the church, burning beyond reasonable control (Bailey 1874: 345). Bailey tells that "the towering steeple [of 109 feet] fell with a tremendous crash about four o'clock" (Bailey 1874: 346). Unfortunately, the "loss was over \$8,000.00," a price too steep for the congregation to reconstruct the church without the necessary insurance (Bailey 1874: 347).

## **Gravestones & the Politics of a Widowed Continental** (Continued)

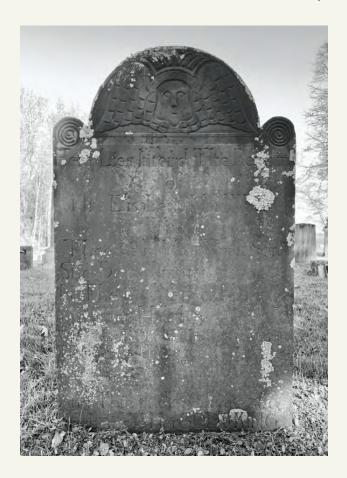


Figure 3. Hand drawn image of the 1830's remodel of the First Presbyterian Church of Fishkill, NY. Sourced from the 1912 book, *Descendants of Cornelius Barentse Van Wyck and Anna Polhemus*, by Anne Van Wyck.

On August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1885, church members, Robert Johnston, James Van Wyck, Richard J. Van Wyck, John Waldo, Frances Burroughs, George Van Wyck, Isaac Sherwood, Charles Sherwood, Alexander W. H. Dudley, and C.S. Montross incorporated the Rombout Rural Cemetery Association with the Dutchess County Clerk's office (Unknown 1885a). I theorize this group felt that dissolving the church and focusing on the churchyard's preservation and continued use was a better option than to rebuild the church. Likely for this reason, on September 12, 1885, another meeting by the same group of men deeded the former church's property to the newly established cemetery association, ensuring the RRCA's role to for the care of the dead (Unknown 1885b).

Two recently examined gravestones of interest belong to members of the Van Wyck family stand near the top of a small bluff in the First Presbyterian Churchyard section of the Rombout Rural Cemetery. The first stone belongs to Elizabeth *Creed* Van Wyck, the first wife of Judge Theodorus Van Wyck, whom he married on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 1720 (Van Wyck 1912: 61). According to Cornell University Professor, Sherene Baugher, Elizabeth's gravestone was carved by the prolific New York City carver John Zuricher (Sherene Baugher, personal communication, 2020), The first line of Elizabeth's epitaph lists that she "Died January 5, 1764. In The 66<sup>th</sup> Year of Her Age." The next line is solely devoted to the acronym "H.M.S." or Her Majesty's Servant, suggesting she supported the British Crown. To the right (south) of Elizabeth's gravestone, is the gravestone of her husband, Judge Theodorus Van Wyck. According to his epitaph, Theodorus "was born the 15<sup>th</sup> of October 1697 and departed this Life the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September 1776 and in the first Year of the Independence of America." The last line of the Judge's epitaph is interesting, for it stands in stark political contrast to the acronym "H.M.S." listed on Elizabeth's stone. I pose to you a question: Why might Judge Theodorus and/or his children want to differentiate his political affiliation from his late wife and profess his allegiance for the new country even after death?

### **Gravestones & the Politics of a Widowed Continental** (Continued)





Left, Figure 4: Image of Elizabeth *Creed* Van Wyck's gravestone (looking east) in the First Presbyterian Churchyard section of the Rombout Rural Cemetery in Fishkill, NY. Right, Figure 5: Image of Judge Theodorus Van Wyck's gravestone. The position of these images reflects the stone's position relative to one another.

A look in Anne Van Wyck's 1912 book, *Descendants of Cornelius Barentse Van Wyck and Anna Polhemus*, confirms Elizabeth and Theodorus's politics and also tells of their children's political allegiances. According to Anne Van Wyck, Theodorus lived an eventful and complicated life as an early surveyor for Madam Brett's land in Fishkill Hook (today the hamlet of Wiccopee), an early judge on the Court of Common Pleas (appointed on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 1750), a founder of the First Presbyterian Church of Fishkill, a member of the Second Provincial Congress from 1775 until 1776, and as a slave holder (Van Wyck 1912: 59-65). At least two of Theodorus's sons, William and Doctor Theodorus Van Wyck, were Continentals (Van Wyck 1912: 59-65); Doctor Theodorus Van Wyck rented the home he inherited from his father to the future Supreme Court Justice John Jay and his family during the Revolution (Van Wyck 1912: 92-96). Both of these sons are buried nearby a few feet away from their father and among several other Van Wyck relatives. With many Van Wyck family members professing their allegiance to America, one wonders what family dynamics looked like when split between opposing political interests?

As someone who frequents historic cemeteries, Elizabeth *Creed* Van Wyck and Judge Theodorus Van Wyck's gravestones bare the most overtly political epitaphs from the late colonial period I have thus far seen. Reading these stones reminds readers that America in the late 18<sup>th</sup>-century was a complicated and divided place. As of January 2021, America remains a complicated and divided place with some calling this time 'the most divided we've been since the Civil War.' Recalling my question from earlier: Why might Judge Theodorus and/or his children want to differentiate his political affiliation from his late wife and profess his allegiance for the new country even after his death? Did Theodorus and/or his children want to make a statement to future Americans?

## **Gravestones & the Politics of a Widowed Continental** (Continued)

Contrary to popular belief, the dead do speak to the living; epitaphs are texts that share meanings on behalf of the dead to their descendants and visitors. At the time of Elizabeth's death in 1764, the French and Indian War had only just ended (Benner 2020), suggesting the family might have strongly supported the Crown. By 1776, however, Theodorus and several of his children's opinions appear to have changed. The unsuccessful September 11<sup>th</sup>, 1776 (four days before Theodorus's death), peace conference at the Billopp Mansion (today, commonly referred to as the Conference House) between Admiral Lord Howe, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Edward Rutledge likely reaffirmed and perhaps emboldened he and his family's support for independence (Baugher and Veit 2013: 231; Davis 1926: 22).

By engraving Theodorus "[departed this life] in the First Year of the Independence of America" on gravestone, he and/or his children, were likely telling visitors that both he and his family's sentiments changed since his late wife's death and that future generations should recall the fight for Independence and the meanings it embodied. As previously noted, the Van Wyck family members detailed in this article were not models of a modern America because they enslaved black Americans, however, I believe lessons and hope for a better tomorrow can be gleaned from this family's story. Beyond this couple, the Rombout cemetery is the final resting place to over a dozen veterans from nearly every U.S. conflict and numerous individuals influential in the founding of Fishkill. Today, this cemetery represents the last material and ideological legacy of many of these people.

### **Notes**

Many thanks to my friend and Bard College alumna, Cheyenne Cutter, for her interest in the Rombout Rural Cemetery and her thoughts on this article and to my advisor Sherene Baugher for her support and invaluable input on this article. The Rombout Rural Cemetery remains an active cemetery with plots available for purchase; it is supervised by the Rombout Rural Cemetery Association, a 501 © 13 nonprofit. Additional information is available at <a href="https://www.romboutruralcemetery.org">www.romboutruralcemetery.org</a>. Inquires may also be made at: <a href="mailto:romboutcemetery@gmail.com">romboutcemetery@gmail.com</a>.

I bare sole responsibility for any errors I might have mistakenly made while writing this article.

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### A Tale of Two Blades

By Ed Curtin Curtin Archaeological Consulting, Inc.

These brief notes are about blades. Not the bifacial kind, such as Meadowood or other cache blades, but, in the first blade's case, the long, narrow unifacial ones that have been so important in the long trajectory of human history. These blades have appeared in various archaeological times and places, perhaps most famously in European Upper Paleolithic, Clovis, and Hopewellian lithic technologies, but also at early sites in Alaska, Chumash sites on the California coast, and Poverty Point sites in the Mississippi Delta. The Chumash and Poverty Point blades were made into drills used to manufacture beads. The others were used in a variety of ways, as blanks for other tools, for expedient cutting and scraping, or as elements of composite tools set in shafts or hafts, depending on the time, place, and technological tradition.

Also, however, before I finish this report I will discuss another large, retouched tool with a functionally long shape. Remarkably, it was made from green bottle glass. It was recovered from an historic period archaeological site in Malta, Saratoga County. This is the second "blade" of this tale. There is good reason to believe that it is from an African-American cultural context of the early nineteenth century. It was not made the same way as the chert blade I am about to discuss, but it seems like a functional analog. Both resemble knife blades.

### A Large Chert Blade from Catskill

In New York State, unifacial chert blades are not very common, but have been found in Hopewell or other Middle Woodland contexts farther west in New York, such as Squawkie Hill Mounds 1 and 2 and the Felix site (Ritchie 1938, 1969). These small blades typically are referred to as "bladelets" in the Hopewell literature. New York State archaeologists William Ritchie and Robert Funk referred to them as "prismatic flakes." New York Middle Woodland blades reported in the literature often are made from Ohio Van Port chert. However, a blade from the Tufano site in the Hudson Valley was made from Pennsylvania jasper, while another from the Stony Brook site (Long Island) was made from a black chert that I will guess is Helderberg chert from the Hudson Valley. The exotic nature of these cherts (in terms of where they were found) highlights a certain role they had: they were important to Middle Woodland exchange systems. And this value may have enhanced the prestige of people who came into possession of wonderfully different-colored blades from distant regions.

In 2015 and 2019, excavations by my teams at a site in the Town of Catskill recovered numerous blades made from local cherts, including Helderberg (probably Kalkberg) and eastern Onondaga. A few of the stone artifacts (not necessarily blades) are made of other materials such as Esopus, Normanskill, or exotic chert, as well as quartz, quartzite, or jasper. This site, referred to as Cat 21 Site 1, is fascinating in many ways, and perhaps will require fuller reporting in another NYSAA Newsletter article. For now, I want to mention one particular, large blade. It would seem inaccurate to refer to it as a bladelet, as the other blades found at Cat 21 Site 1 are smaller and in the general size range of so-called Hopewellian bladelets. The size difference I am speaking of is a length of 80 mm for the large Cat 21 Site 1 blade compared to a modal length of about 35-45 mm for Ohio Hopewell bladelets (e.g., Greber et al. 1981) as well as the other blades from Cat 21 Site 1.

The large blade from Cat 21 Site 1 appears to be made of Normanskill chert and has a long stretch of use-wear or fine retouch scars evident on the ventral face of one blade edge. The manufacturing process involved striking the blade from a core that had previously blade removal scars. This was done by exploiting the ridge formed by two previous blade removals. Several photos are provided showing the blade from different angles.

The distal end has three parallel flake removals and may have been modified to use as an end scraper. This scraper-like edge has an area with a series of tiny use-wear scars plus some larger, intermittent edge attrition. Interestingly, this blade was struck from a core containing variable quality chert. Although the ventral side is mostly smooth-surfaced, as is one of the previous blade-removal scars on the dorsal face, the other part of the dorsal face exposes a rough-textured surface in an apparent second previous blade removal scar.

### A Tale of Two Blades (Continued)





Figure 1. Cat 21 Site 1, Large blade, Normanskill chert, dorsal face.

Figure 2. Cat 21 Site 1, Large blade, Normanskill chert, ventral face.

At Cat 21 Site 1, striking the platform above the intersection between two earlier blade removal scars was the common mode of blade production. This left a central ridge on the dorsal face. This is one approach to making blades among the several that have been illustrated by Stanford and Bradley (2012). Blades with more than two previous blade removal scars are not common at Cat 21 Site 1, and this tendency may distinguish strategic and learning differences between Cat 21 Site 1 blade production and typical production by Hopewell knappers. The chronology of Cat 21 Site 1 is broadly estimated as late Early Woodland-early Middle Woodland based upon the occurrence of projectile point fragments with Adena, Rossville, and small stemmed point attributes. Finally, the production of chert blades at Cat 21 Site 1 so far seems like an isolated example as far as the Hudson Valley is concerned. But it probably is not.

#### The Glass Blade from Malta

The glass cutting or scraping tool from Malta was found at the Hemphill site. The site's founder Robert Hemphill occupied the site beginning in 1803, having purchased the land and a tavern from Michael Dunning, a member of the 1770s pioneer family in this part of Malta. The 1810 and 1820 censuses identify an enslaved African-American woman in the Hemphill household. Also, a free African-American man was identified at the Hemphill site in the 1820 census. Their names are not recorded.

It is difficult to attribute an individual artifact to one culture in a multi-cultural setting. Moreover, knapped glass artifacts in eastern North America were sometimes (perhaps most of the time) made by Native Americans. However, there is a literature on the manufacturing of glass artifacts by African-Americans on southern plantations (Walker 2016; Wilkie 1996). At the same time, there is no definitive

## A Tale of Two Blades (Continued)





Figure 3. Large blade, ventral face showing retouch or utilization scars .

Figure 4. Small flakes removed from one end of the blade may have shape an endscraper bit.

evidence of historic period Native American occupation of the Hemphill site. So, the African-American creation of the site's knapped glass assemblage is highly plausible. Several chert projectile points or bifaces were found at the site, but they were found without chert debitage or other Native American artifacts, which is highly unusual. This suggests that someone collected them and accumulated them at the Hemphill site. It would be a digression to go into this subject further, but it is worth noting that this kind of collection also would be consistent with an early nineteenth century African-American cultural context. There also is a literature on his subject (e.g., Russell [1997]; in New York, the Betsey Prince African-American house site on Long Island produced a stone pendant and quartz projectile point [McGovern 2010]).

The Hemphill Site glass artifact was found in a location within the site that also appeared to contain glass debitage, perhaps from the same dark green bottle. I referred to this artifact as Blade 2 earlier, not because it represents a unifacial blade from a blade-core technology, but to make a functional analogy to a knife blade, which also may be apt for the large chert blade from Cat 21 Site 1. The Hemphill site artifact is made from the neck of a dark green, glass bottle (with part of the bottle lip still attached). After longitudinal fracturing of the upper part of the bottle, the long, continuous section of the fractured edge was retouched. As with many modestly shaped lithic tools, it is difficult to know whether to characterize this as a scraper or a knife, but the overall long morphology paralleled by a long section of retouch on the edge seems to say knife. At the same time, it may have been a multifunctional tool, used for scraping, planing, or whitling as well as cutting.

### A Tale of Two Blades (Continued)





Figure 5. Hemphill site, a retouched bottle glass knife or scraper with a blade-like shape.

Figure 6. Glass tool, Hemphill site, alternative view of the retouch scars & bottle fracturing.

Assuming that this glass blade is an African-American tool, and knowing of other African-American knapped glass tools at other sites, a good question arises: why the glass technology? Why African-Americans would make tools from glass is a big question that may be answered in part in terms of the accessibility of discarded, broken, or bartered glass to people who typically (and to varying extents) had limited ability to autonomously acquire material culture. A deeper, cultural answer may be rooted in the broader colonial experience, in which knapped glass artifacts became part of the material culture of non-Europeans throughout much of the world during the seventeenth through nineteenth centuries (Martindale and Jurakic 2015). There may have been many cases of independent invention and many interactions involving the transference of technological know-how. Moreover, the knowledge, practice, and habits of glass technology may have spread much as people did, such as when the enslaved were moved between the Caribbean and North America (Ahlman et al. [2014] discuss both glass and stone artifacts of enslaved Africans on St. Kitts); or when African-Americans and Native Americans interacted freely in communities along and beyond the frontier (Hart [1998] discussed various contexts of these interactions in the interior of New York).

Plausible contexts for African-American knapped glass technology at any one site such as the Hemphill site require that we be careful to consider whether what we are seeing is more likely a singular, clever innovation, or rather, part of a broader tradition of agency, adaptation, interaction, and cultural change. This consideration should become easier if this technology is recognized more widely at African-American archaeological sites.

## A Tale of Two Blades (Continued)

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### A Neglected Cemetery – What Can YOU Do?

### By Tina & Dale Utter - Central NYS Cemetery Network - Chenango Chapter, NYSAA

As you travel the secondary and backroads of Upstate NY you can't help but notice what appears to be abandoned, neglected cemeteries. Sometimes they are found adjacent to the road, in the woods, in the middle of a field or perhaps in the corner of a meadow. Often, they are surrounded by a stonewall with the unmistakable silent sentinels of gravestones protruding above them.

According to the NYS Cemetery Board, there are approximately 6000 cemeteries in New York State. Approximately 1900 of those are public and governed by the Cemetery Board. Of the 4000+ cemeteries that remain, many are considered abandoned. For example, here in Chenango County we have nearly 300 cemeteries but only 38 have cemetery associations and are governed by the NYS Cemetery Board. A few would be municipal, religious or private but the majority of the remaining burial grounds would be considered abandoned.



Figure 1. Wakeman Cemetery, Town of Walton, Delaware Co., NY. - Before Clearing

They may have the designation of being abandoned but they could be cared for by the landowners, the town, a descendant, or just some interested party that hates to see them in horrible condition. Often times these cemeteries are old family burial plots and are located on private property. If the cemetery was once a public cemetery and governed by the NYS Cemetery Board, then the town that has jurisdiction over the cemetery is responsible to mow it 2-3 times a year but there is no enforcement provision to this NY law.

We have been in many cemeteries and seen all stages of neglect. Once someone stops mowing them, the golden rod, berry bushes, multi-flora rose and small bushes take over. Before you know it, 30 years have passed and you now have trees growing tall and the stones topple over due to neglect. These cemeteries can easily disappear into the landscape and become totally lost to history. It is a sad testament to those poor souls that were laid to rest there. Those people came before us and helped to make our communities and our country great.

## A Neglected Cemetery (Continued)



Figure 2. Wakeman Cemetery, Town of Walton, Delaware Co., NY. - After clearing.



Figure 3. After preservation work.

## A Neglected Cemetery (Continued)



Figure 4. Brush clearing at Preston Poorhouse Cemetery.

There was a time when family would go visit their deceased relatives and help take care of their cemetery plots. But those times are long past. We live in a mobile society and sometimes people move far away from the area they grew up in. The sense of community that once existed has become a thing of the past. The old folks are not important anymore, they are gone.

You may ask yourself -- What can I do?

If you are interested in bringing a cemetery back, the first thing you must do is determine who owns the cemetery. Ask a local resident near the cemetery or contact the Town Supervisor of that town. Once you determine ownership then you can get permission to work in it. They may wonder what tools will be used, how many will be working there and how often you will be there. It would be a good idea to have some kind of plan of action when asking for permission.

One person can make a tremendous difference in bringing a cemetery back but if you can involve friends and family you can get so much more done. Just one afternoon with a few people can produce amazing results. The goal in this initial effort is not to touch any gravestones but to clean the cemetery up so it can once again be seen as a cemetery.

Before proceeding, you should take a walk through the cemetery and get an idea of what kind of work needs to be done and what tools/equipment will be required. If you will be mowing it is a good idea to use flags to mark anything you may hit: gravestones, stumps, rocks etc. We have bent numerous blades while mowing even when we are being careful so an old mower you don't mind abusing is a good idea. Don't get too close to any gravestones as any scrape or mark will become permanent damage to the stone. Weed eaters can also cause considerable marking of the stone.

If the cemetery is in the woods, just cleaning up downed trees and limbs will really make a difference.

## A Neglected Cemetery (Continued)



Figure 5. Pile of brush from a day of cemetery cleaning at Preston Poorhouse Cemetery.

Next, trim any growing small trees or shrubs using some good tree loppers or a saw. We suggest trimming trees or bushes as close to the ground as possible to avoid the frustration of constantly tripping over those little stumps.

When getting permission, you will also need to ask if it is okay to throw any debris over the wall or if it needs to be placed on the wall or in some obscure corner of the cemetery. You don't want to upset the adjacent landowner if it is not owned by the same people as the cemetery. On one occasion, we asked the town if they would dispose of all the brush and they said they would. That was a tremendous help to our efforts.

Once the cemetery has been cleared and, if possible, it has been mowed, you will have achieved a lot. If feasible, consider putting up a sign, if there isn't one. A cemetery with a sign and name is less likely to go unnoticed and just disappear into the landscape. Your efforts shows someone does care and that is important. Perhaps you or your group hate to see it revert back to nature. Set up a mowing schedule and alternate among the group. Even if you just clean it up this one time, you will have made a difference and will have slowed the growth that will eventually take it over. Maybe, in time, someone else will come along and have an interest in restoring it once again.

It is very gratifying cleaning up a cemetery and bringing it back to some semblance of its once former self. These are special grounds. Don't forget, we all will one day end up in similar circumstances – that is, in a cemetery.

Next time we will talk about cleaning gravestones...

## Two Small but Important Sites on the Wallkill River in the Town of Montgomery, Orange County, New York

William Sandy, John. H. Cresson, Julie Abell-Horn, Cece Saunders, and Faline Schneiderman Historical Perspectives, Inc.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Prior to the construction of a new medical supply warehouse distribution facility for Medline Industries, Inc. in the Town of Montgomery, Orange County, New York, Historical Perspectives Inc. (HPI) conducted an archaeological survey of the 103.1 acre property just east of the Wallkill River. These investigations led to the excavation of the two sites discussed here, known as Medline Site 3 and Medline Site 5. These investigations were planned and completed with input from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

The Data Recovery excavations took place May 2020, during the height of the pandemic; special thanks go to the field team led by Bill Sandy assisted by John "Jack" Cresson, Patricia McGinley, Phil Shnaider, Elizabeth Eibert, Anthony Salerno, and Faline Schneiderman. Cresson completed the lithic analysis and artifact photography. McGinley did the field photography. Flotation and seed identification and analysis was completed by Sandy. Beta Analytic, Inc. dated the charcoal samples. Special thanks go to Dr. Charles Ver Straeten, Department of Geology, New YorkState Museum, who analyzed fossil samples. This paper is dedicated to the people of Medline.

#### SITE 3

Medline Precontact Site 3 was a very small site located on an elevated upland about 600m (2,000 ft) east of the Wallkill River; it measured about 102 square meters (sq m) (1,098 square feet [sq ft]). This site was in an open, plowed hay field. Initial Shovel Tests (STs) found precontact lithics and a truncated hearthfeature, Feature 1. Additional STs showed that Site 3 was a very small, focused, brief occupation.

Artifacts from testing included flakes, a core/chopper and Thermally Altered Rock (TAR). A Merrimack/Taconic/Lackawaxen narrow blade/narrow stemmed projectile point was found in the plowzone atop the hearth. Flotation of feature soil discovered many different types of seeds, some charred, many likely related to precontact use as food and/or medicine. Charcoal recovered from the flotation was radiocarbon dated to 2290 +/- 30 years Before Present (BP), which is late in the Early Woodland Period and near the end of the use of the Merrimack/Taconic/Lackawaxen point style.

During the Data Recovery, 31 Excavation Units (EUs) were completed (EUs 25 to 55) resulting in the excavation of 38.25 sq m (412 sq ft) or 37.5 percent of the site. After the EUs were excavated, track hoe-aided stripping of more than 20 percent of Site 3 took place (i.e., 21 sq m/226sq ft). No additional features were found.

Feature 1 appeared to have been truncated by plowing. The feature matrix consisted of dark grayish brown and strong brown loam with flecks of charcoal and TAR. It was fairly shallow and appeared to be lined with TAR (HPI 2020: Figure 8; Photograph 4 of this report). Initially, it produced seven flakes and a core/chopper.



Figure 1. Medline Site 3 view looking west at completed Excavation Units prior to machine tripping of topsoil.

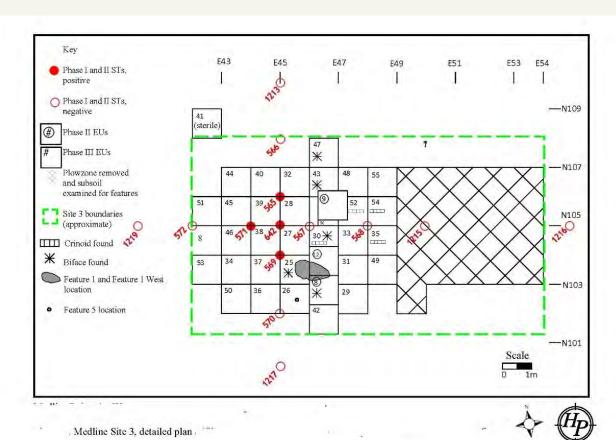
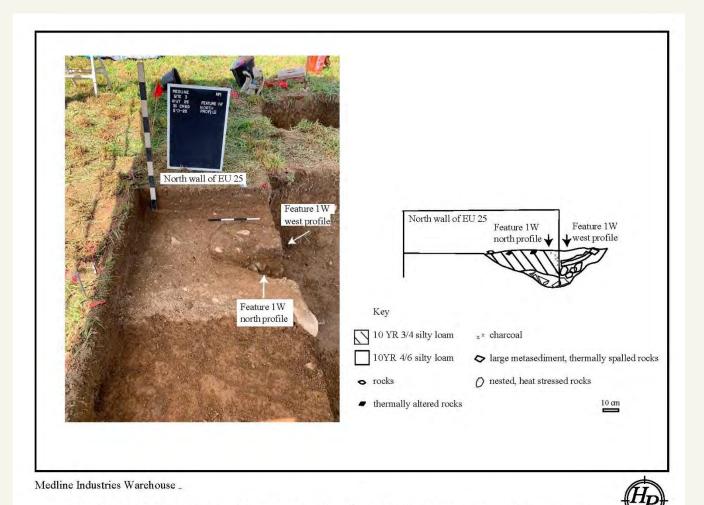


Figure 2. Medline Site 3 detailed site plan.

Feature 1 continued to the west; in Excavation Unit (EU) 25 the feature was designated Feature 1 West. On the top, Feature 1 West was ovoid, measuring about 61 cm (24 in) north/south by 47 cm (18.5 in). The feature was bisected and was between 18cm and 21cm (7 in and 8 in) deep. The south half contained 49 pieces of TAR, as well as fractured sandstone and quartzite cobbles. Also recovered was a cobble tool. The blackened rock fragments and charcoal formed a boundary at the bottom of the feature. The north half of the feature was similar except for the presence of a very large metasedimentary fire spall cobble in the middle of the profile that encompassed its entirety. Below it was a group of nested cobbles, some of which were thermally broken. Finds included 64 pieces of TAR, cobbles, and a piece of fossiliferous rock matrix that included crinoids and other marine fossils. The plowzone in EU 25 produced a Late Archaic side-notched, stemmed biface, retooled as a perforator, flakes, and TAR.



Medline Site 3, Excavation Unit (EU) 25, Feature 1 West (hearth), north and west profiles, with corresponding

Figure 3. Excavation Unit (EU) 25, Feature 1 West (hearth), north and west profiles.

field photograph of north profile.

Notable finds at Medline Site 3 include a micro tool, a cobble tool, flakes and TAR in the top 10 cm of subsoil in EU28. EU 38 had a cobble tool/anvil along with a fossiliferous rock matrix in subsoil Level 3B. These marine fossils included crinoids. EU 50, near the southwest corner of the site, had an anvil fragment, a micro tool. EU 30 held a Late Archaic side-notched, stemmed biface, retooled as a perforator, two core fragments, flakes and TAR. In the top 10cm of the B horizon was a fossil crinoid columnal that was possibly a bead, one cobble tool and TAR.

EU 43 had a Late Archaic knife, and a core. EU 47 held a flake tool, flakes, and TAR. EU 35 produced a flake blank, flakes, a cobble tool and TAR.

EU 52 produced a biface, a core, and flakes from the plowzone. In the southwest quadrant of Level 3B, several precontact artifacts were encountered, including a toolstone, a flake, a large piece of fossiliferous rock matrix, and 66 crinoid columnals (Fossil Crinoid stems typically consist of disc-like plates (columnals) stacked on top of each other). Likewise, in the southwest quadrant of Level 4B, an additional 61 crinoid columnals and a quartz crystal fragment were recovered during site excavation. Flotation more than doubled the recovery of crinoid columnals. EU 54 was on the east side of the EU 52, which had crinoids. It produced a biface and flakes. The final unit, EU 55, was placed immediately to the north. It yielded two cores, flakes, and TAR.

### SITE 5

Medline Precontact Site 5 was 1060m (3,500 ft) northeast of the Wallkill River, and about 600m (2,000 ft) north of Site 3. It was an open, plowed hayfield - on a level to sloping bifurcated, peninsula terrace near a relict water source. The site was about 102 sq m (1,098 sq ft) in area. Testing identified a variety of precontact lithics, all but one in the plowzone. They included a Late Archaic Genesee "broadspear," similar to a Koens Crispin projectile. These points date from about 1800 BC to 2800 BC. Other artifacts include a core, a flake tool, flakes and TAR.



Figure 4. Medline Site 5, looking west at the completed site with Excavation Units (EUs) and machine-stripped areas where subsoil was examined for potential features.

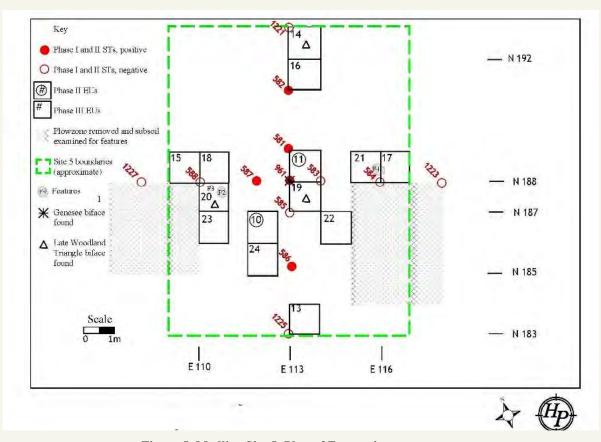


Figure 5. Medline Site 5, Plan of Excavation

A total of 14 one-meter square EUs were completed, numbered 10, 11, and 13 through 24. This resulted in the excavation of more than 14 sq m (172 sq ft), which constituted 19.6 percent of the site. After the EUs were completed, a machine stripped an additional 20 percent of the site, or an area of 21 sq m (226 sq ft). After stripping, archaeologists used flat-edged shovels and trowels to examine the top of the B horizon to look for sub-plowzone features, but none were found.

EU 13 was on the south side of the site; a core fragment was recovered. EU 14 at the north end of the site produced a distal biface fragment, flake tool, and flakes. Like most of the finds excavated in Precontact Site 5, all these artifacts were recovered from the plowzone. EU 15 was on the west side of Site 5. The artifacts from the plowzone included flakes, TAR, and a fossil crinoid columnal potential bead. Because excavations at the Historian Site in Minisink, Orange County previously produced crinoid columnal beads that were both larger than the 1/4-inch, and much smaller (ca. 0.2 cm [0.008 in]), soil samples were collected from the plowzone but no additional crinoids were found (BTK 2006).

EU 20 produced numerous artifacts including a Levanna projectile point, cobble tools, a uniface, a flake tool, a core, and flakes. When the top of the subsoil was exposed, an anomaly with charcoal, Feature 2 was exposed. It measured 38cm by 40cm (15 in by 15.7 in) and was 27cm (10.6 in) deep. No artifacts were recovered from Feature 2, but flotation recovered a drupe (seed) of bayberry, which was radiocarbon dated. EU 23 immediately to the south contained four stone tools, a core, and flakes. Feature 4 showed at the bottom of EU 17 wooid and bowl shaped it produced no artifacts. EU 19, near the center of Site 5 yielded a Levanna projectile point fragment and flakes. To the southeast, EU 22 had a core, cobble tools, and flakes. EU 24 produced a core, flakes and TAR.

### ARTIFACT DESCRIPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

### Lithic Analysis

The artifact inventories for Medline Site 3 and Site 5 are summarized below.

Table 1.
Summary Table of Artifacts for Medline Site 3 and Site 5

Artifact Type	Site 3	Site 5	Total	
Bifaces	7	5	12	
Uniface Tools	*	1	1	
Flake Tools	3	6	9	
Micro Tools	2*	-	2	
Flake Blanks	1	-	1	
Cores	8	8	16	
Ground Stone Tools	-	1	1	
Cobble Tools	13	11	24	
Curated Toolstone	2	1	3	
Whole Cobbles	22	-	22	
Debitage	170	126	296	
TAR	351	12	363	
Total	579	171	750	

<sup>\*</sup>One Micro Tool was a "tailed end tool."

The classes of artifacts included in this analysis are bifaces, unifaces, flake tools, flake blanks, cores, core tools, cobble tools, curated toolstones, debitage, fire broken or Thermally Altered Rock (TAR).

Bifaces found in the investigations number 12 specimens, seven from Site 3 and four from Site 5. Site 3 produced three diagnostic Late Archaic/Early Woodland stemmed bifaces; one a Taconic type and two quasiside-notched forms akin to Lamoka or Normanskill types, both retooled as hafted perforators. Also, among the diagnostic specimens was a large sub-triangular biface knife broken in use. Three early-stage bifaces show the presence of on-site manufacturing using both local and non-local toolstone cores and blanks.

Site 5 yielded four bifaces, one found in the Phase IB investigations, a Late Archaic Genesee "broadspear" corner removed, stemmed type that was broken in use. Two Late Woodland Levanna triangles (ca. 900 to 1200 AD) and a distal fragment that could be another broken Late Woodland triangle or a Late Archaic/Early Woodland types (e.g., Genesee, Susquehanna or Orient came from this site. The materials that produced the diagnostic bifaces from both Site 3 and Site 5 show a mix of very black vitreous cherts (2), chalcedony (1), altered shale/hornfels (2), and local dark greyish brown cobble/glacial chert (2).



Figure 6. Medline Site 3, from left: Late Archaic side-notched biface/perforator; micro tool/perforator; Late Archaic side-notched biface/perforator



Figure 7. Medline Site 5, upper left – Levanna projectile point; lower left - Levanna projectile point; middle – flake tool/expedient knife; right – robust uniface tool.

Just two uniface tools were recovered; one was a large specimen made on a chert cobble from Site 5, which exhibited heavy use wear and likely functioned as a unifacial chopper or scraper. The example, from Site 3 was also included in the Microtool Class, was a micro tailedend tool. Broken in use, it exhibited edge wear and moderate polish.

Flake tools came from both sites; one from Site 5 is in the photograph. The majority were made on primary or thinning flakes of various cherts from the Hudson Valley, the Wallkill River Valley of New Jersey and New York, and local glacial float deposits. The exception to this was one large specimen, a metasedimentary decortication flake, found in EU 12 Feature 1, which appeared to be a "Teshoa" (knife) flake tool. Use wear indicated cutting, slicing, and scraping functions. Some flake edges were attenuated into acute tips or barbs that showed obverse/reverse damage and polish, suggesting use as reamers, gravers, or small perforators.

The category of micro tools, either stand-alone classics, spindle shaped perforators, or spurs, beaks, or similar projections including diminutive unifacially prepared edges all fashioned on flakes or flake fragments comprise this artifact class. Two came from Site 3; one is attributed to the Wallkill River Valley, the other made of quartz. Micro tools are a specialized class of stone tools made for delicate or careful work to scrape, gouge, shave, and perforate a variety of materials. A flake blank from Site 3 was a large, low-grade variegated black and grey chert primary flake inferred to be of local provenience.

The cores recovered during archaeological investigations are an important indicator of potential toolstone sources and technological patterns of distribution and use. Eight cores each came from Site 3 and Site 5. The majority, recovered from Site 3 were cores or core fragments made of low-grade or gravel cherts of glacial origins; including black, vitreous cherts attributed to sources in the upper (southern) Wallkill River Valley. One of these specimens is a Teshoa or chopper made of metasedimentary toolstone. Three specimens are of bipolar manufacture, all three derived from local chertor glacial gravel sources. One specimen was identified as Cheshire quartzite. Site 5 had four cores of non-local materials, three from the Wallkill River Valley and a Hudson River Valley species, identified to the Ordovician Period, Beekmantown formation. Core Tools are enumerated with cores in Table 1. There were four core tools recovered. A core tool/Teshoa chopper was found in Site 3, Feature 1, the other example was from Site 5, a low-grade chert pebble core. Two core tools at Site 5, both exhibited expedient unifacial use as scraper planes. Both are of non-local tool-stones, as noted above; one was a black vitreous southern Wallkill River Valley specimen and the other identified as the Beekmantown example.

Cobble tools number 24 specimens and represents artifacts derived exclusively from the glacial deposits mantling the local area. These artifacts are, for the most part, expedient implements made on the site for various functions including pounding, battering, hammering, bashing, pulverizing, chopping, grinding, abrading, and polishing target materials. Thirteen specimens were recovered from Site 3, and 11 were recovered from Site 5. Three came from Site 3 Feature 1. The materials represented were mostly metasedimentary cobble toolstones, followed by quartzite- conglomerate. Other materials include granite, quartzite horn-blende schist. Functions included hammering/pounding, anvilling, abrading, wedging, chopping, and combined functions. Site 3 produced three cobble hammers, six cobble anvils, two choppers, one abrader, and one combination tool. Incontrast, Site 5 held two choppers, one anvil, one wedge and seven combination cobble tools.

Curated Toolstones are a category of inferred raw materials that were identified either by the quality and character of their lithic compositions or, more directly, by ancient incipient test flaking to adjudge suitability for toolmaking. Three examples were identified. One specimen from Site 3, EU 52 exhibited test flaking; it was made of black, vitreous chert, not unlike the Wallkill River Valley species, but also surprisingly mimicked the chert layers and inclusions within the fossiliferous packages found at this site in and around the EUs 38, 39, and 52.

## Two Small but Important Sites on the Wallkill River (Continued)



Figure 8. Medline Site 3 Excavation Unit (EU) 52, Level 3B SW, 7 black chert flakes.

Debitage from the site was classified into nine different types, including Decortication, Edging, Primary, Primary/Thinning, Thinning, Late Phase, Flake Fragments, Bipolar Flakes, and Reduction Fragments. These flake types were correlated with the various toolstone materials recognized from the complete site assemblage. These materials include local and non-local cherts of various types (see following paragraph), chalcedony, quartzite, quartzite conglomerate, metasediments, altered shales or hornfels, argillite, and schist. The recovered altered shale, argillite, and schist are considered non-local toolstones.

Initially, Cambro-Ordovician and Devonian dolomitic cherts were attributed to the Hudson River Valley, including Normanskill and Onondaga chert, and the Wallkill River Valley, including Ring Quarry and other cherts found in Sussex County, New Jersey and Orange County, New York. Given the large sample of chert kinds found, the more ubiquitous local chert materials found on site and within the locality were analyzed. These cherts were classified as either high- and low-grade. Also, secondary mineral inclusions, and homogenous compositions, as well as color, luster, vitreousness, and flaking quality were noted. A very common matt and mottled greyish brown chert (designated low grade) was found in surface and subsurface deposits on the site and immediately identified as one source of toolstone. Aside from certain black very vitreous cherts of mixed origins in the Delaware, Hudson and Wallkill River valleys, there was one black, homogenous variety, formerly ascribed to sources in the headwaters of the Wallkill River, that was reassessed after being found in contexts with fossiliferous packages whose origins are likely glaciofluvial erratics that were serendipitously targeted for artifact toolstones. The occurrence of certain index fossils within these fossiliferous packages may give rise to their origins and agency of deposition.

Site 3 had 170 pieces of debitage while Site 5 had 126. There are nine different types of debitage flakes identified. In this analysis Decortication, Edging, and Primary flake types are combined, since the preliminary analysis found a greaternumber of edging flakes than primary flakes; all of these flake types reflect activities related to early stage toolstone reduction and processing. The stone sources include Normanskill chert, chert ostensibly from Wallkill River Valley in Sussex Co., New Jersey and Orange Co., New York, Hudson River Valley cherts, cherts not sourced, quartzite (either of primary or secondary sources), hornfels or metamorphosed siltstones, shales or argillites, metasediments or argillite, and quartzite conglomerate.

	Dec. Edge	Pri/Thi	Thin	Late Stg.	Flake Frag.	Red. Frag.	Bipolar	Total
Site 3	40	11	23	8	51	36	1	170
Percentage	23.5%	6.5%	13.5%	4.7%	30%	21.2%	.6%	100%
Site 5	28	3	45	9	25	14	2	126
Percentage	22.2%	2.3%	35.7%	7.1%	20%	11.1%	1.6%	100%
Total	68	14	68	17	76	50	3	296
Percentage	23%	4.7%	23%	5.7%	26%	16.9%	.7%	100%

Table 2. Debitage Frequency and Percentage for Sites 3 and 5.

A detailed analysis of the Thermally Altered Rock (TAR) was included in the site analysis (HPI 2021:21-22). Much of it came from Site 3 Feature 1, including whole, split, or otherwise unmodified cobbles. TAR was comprised of a consistent suite of lithic materials across the project area. These include metasedimentary material of various kinds, sandstone, quartzite, and quartzite conglomerate.

### **Experimental Stone Tool Production**

Glacial lag of various geological lithic materials covers the research area. These materials were exposed through erosion, and provided a ready, reliable source of toolstone materials for both flaked and ground stone tool kits.

This cobble lag, consisting of cryptocrystalline cherts, sandstones, metasediments, and conglomerates, was encountered in all levels of the archaeological excavations; some revealed characteristic effects of freezing and thawing agencies (e.g., splitting and frost spalling of cobbles). In a number of instances, these naturally split cobbles served as ready-made tool blanks for expedient functional tools with edges (e.g., Teshoas used for chopping, digging, pulverizing, and abrading). Tool grade cherts of various kinds and grades were also readily at hand: many of the biface and uniface tools identified in the Medline Sites assemblages weremade of the locally ubiquitous, lower grade, less vitreous grey and brown cherty shales.

In an effort to help explain the origins of the flaked artifacts recovered through archaeological excavations, an experimental research program was designed and undertaken to use these local cherts in flintknapping experiments to replicate several recognized regional biface types of the Archaic and Woodland periods, like those found at the Medline project site.

A single natural unmodified chert cobble, uncovered during the mechanical stripping of topsoil, was used as a core to produce four distinct biface types. These experimental replicas included fabricating a generic early-stage biface, a Late Archaic, Brewerton notched biface, a Late Archaic/Early Woodland stemmed biface, and an early Late Woodland, Levanna triangle (Tables 3 and 4). All four experiments were carried out in a single episode of flintknapping by Jack Cresson, in a continuous and



Figure 9. Chert core newly made from a local cobble with flake blanks used to produce replica points.



Figure 10. Experimental replicas include (from left to right): 1. a generic early stage biface (targeting a LateArchaic/Early Woodland form), 2. a Late Archaic, Brewerton notched biface, 3. a Late Archaic/Early Woodland stemmed biface (i.e. Lamoka, Taconic, Lackawaxen), and 4. an Early-Late Woodland, Levanna triangle.

Table 3 below shows the debitage kinds, processed through two different mesh screens, 1/4- inch (standard of archaeological survey) and 1/16-inch (used in flotation). The categories used to discriminate the debitage were tailored for specific flake types known to occur from cobble reduction activities such as cortical flakes and blocky, reduction fragments.

Table 3. Flakes Generated by Experimental Stone Tool Production

1/4-INCH MESH			
Flake Type	Number	Weight (G)	Percentage
Cort./Edged	66	143.5	19.7
Primary/Thin	10	21.9	2.9
Thinning	53	26.3	15.8
Late Stage	71	8.4	20.5
Flake Fragment	126	127.3	37.6
Flake Fragments w/ Cortex	9	8.4	2.6
Reduction Fragments	2	2.0	0.1
TOTAL	337	337.7	99.2
1/16-INCH MESH			
Flake Type	Number	Weight (G)	Percentage
Late Stage	222	8.9	40.5
Flake Fragment	337	10.9	59.4
TOTAL	559	19.8	99.9

The experimental biface and flake reduction study was conducted in a continuous sequence of work, via four separate flintknapping events, that took a total of approximately three hours to complete. Table 3 provides metrical data on the four projectile point replicas.

**Table 4. Metrical Data for Four Replica Points** 

Biface	Length	Width	Thickness	Weight
1	73.5	37.7	15.1	48.4 gr
2	59.7	27.9	9.1	16.2 gr
3	48.9	30.3	6.6	9.9 gr
4	62.5	23.5	12.2	17.1 gr

### **Experimental Stone Tool Production Analysis**

A subtotal of 337 flakes of all types were recovered in the 1/4-inch mesh screen, whereas there were 559 flakes recovered and identified in the 1/16-inch mesh (Table 3). The finer mesh produced just two categories of flaketypes: late stage and flake fragments. Thus, a grand total of 896 flakes represents the lithic remains from the manufacture of four, medium to small, low grade chert experimental biface replicas. Simply apportioned, the average number of flakes for each biface example is 224 flakes.

In comparing these results to those from the Medline precontact sites, the 1/4-inch results are most analogous to the 1/4-inch mesh screening used for most of the excavations. This value yields a debitage count of 84.5 flakes per biface. Further, considering the flake types that best reflect cobble or local sources (these include Cortical/Edging, Primary, Primary/Thinning, Flake Fragments with cortex and Reduction Fragments), the combined totals show 87 flakes or 25.8 percent from the 1/4-inch mesh sample. These calculations reduce the number of flakes per biface to 21.7 each.

The Site 5 debitage recovered within these categories, albeit, including a bipolar class, totals 42 flakes. Using the calculations above, the debitage from Site 5 suggest at least two bifaces recovered were made of local toolstones during one or more visits to this locus. Archaeological investigations at Site 5 yielded four formal bifaces, one a Genesee type of suspected Hudson River, high grade black chert, and three of locally available, mottled dark greyishbrown cobble material. This number aligns well with the experimental findings.

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 2 PAGE 31

### More News from the Central New York Cemetery Network





Christopher Lloyd Wright, a local Sidney area artist, donated this wonderful oil painting to Tina and Dale Utter to sell and use the money for cemetery endeavors. What a wonderful gesture! The painting is of "The Main" at the Binghamton State Hospital. Mary Dexter of Cortland purchased it because her great aunt was a patient at the facility and died there in 1934. Aunt Nell's photo is shown. Thank you Chris and Mary!!! The money will be put into our Abandoned Cemetery Sign Fund under the care of the Chenango Chapter.

### Beyond the Stone -Evidence in the Underbrush Patt Dietlin: CNY Cemetery Network, Finger Lakes Chapter, NYSAA

The search to uncover the identities and working locations of early gravestone carvers begins with the observation of obvious physical evidence, a gravestone - either signed or set apart by its distinctive features. Curiosity piqued; the ensuing questions follow: who carved this and where was the workshop? While some stones turn out to be anomalies for the area (perhaps created by an itinerant carver who, at the right time and place, was able to ply his trade), further investigation often leads to an inventory of stones created by one carver. Armed with locations and a repertoire of stones, the field investigator can begin to seek possible connections between carver and client, carver and location, carver and copartners.

Aside from the ravages of the environment that render scores of stones illegible, whether by exfoliation or decay, a researcher is up against the tide of human movement. Old roads have been straightened, widened, rerouted or eliminated. Streets have been renamed, houses renumbered, buildings moved, razed or destroyed. Old burial yards may have fallen victim to changing land use or urban restructuring, whereby buried remains get transferred to a different cemetery. Some gravestones never make the journey, getting broken, vandalized, ending up in cellar foundations, getting reused in walkways, getting plowed under or becoming construction rubble. Over time, county lines have changed or merged, and many archived documents associated with a county may or may not have been relocated appropriately. Missing records, destroyed paperwork and inaccurate accounts all play into the emerging image that the researcher is trying to bring into focus. A researcher must go beyond the bounds of the burial yard, beyond the brick-and-mortar probate courts and into the arena afforded by census records, old maps, early newspapers, local lore, resident historians, and regional histories.

With old maps and census records, a researcher can perhaps narrow down the location of the carver's homestead and/or workshop. Though changed from lifetimes ago, a property may offer up some hints; every now and then, there - in the underbrush - lies evidence. The rock wall that runs from the road down to the lakeshore. Now overgrown and barely visible, it once marked a property line and followed the dirt roadway that bore the carver's wagon of finished work to the shoreline where a schooner was loaded to bring carved stones to the top of the Lake or to the opposite shore for final transport to the burial ground. The old cellar hole of an outbuilding, vine covered and slowly getting filled in, tantalizing the viewer with what might have been built upon it and for what purpose it was built. Piles of stone rubble, some with toolmarks, that are out of place with the surrounding groundcover – leftover debris from the cutting and carving process. Old growth trees, lining parts of the dirt road, most long since felled, their rotting stumps slowly retreating back into the earth. Bleached bones of unknown age – possible clues to earlier, pastured animals. As a whole, these remains are local cultural resources; they are affirmations of people who once lived and worked in the area. Now hidden in what was once plain sight, these abstruse details could connect to, and expand our knowledge of the lives of the carvers who once claimed these areas as their places of work.

Questions will always lurk: what have I missed, what other questions should I be asking myself, what would a LIDAR survey reveal about this piece of land, where else can I search, who else can I tap for information, what do other people know? And whether the answers are ever achieved, at least the researcher has collected – to the best of their knowledge – a fleeting glimpse a man and his work. To disseminate the information invites awareness, association, and correction. The more exploration that is done to identify early carvers and their working environment, the more we will be able to keep alive the histories of the men who cut and carved stones, information that will persist long after the physical evidence falls prey to the ravages of time.



Figure 1. Delicate in their state of disintegration, some shards don't provide enough information for positive identification.



Figure 2. Pieces can sometimes be matched up with names from early inventories of a cemetery.



Figure 3. Like piecing together a puzzle, enough information can sometimes be gleaned to identify the remains of a stone that is no longer intact.



Fig. 4 More often than not, identification from random shards cannot be verified.







Figures 5-7. Stones that have been left in situ can be identified by virtue of their approximation to surrounding markers within a burial ground. Once the surface layer of a stone has exfoliated there may or may not be enough of an impression from the carver's chisel to decipher the design work and lettering. Marble stones are prone to crumbling away, or sugaring, rendering the surface of the marker grainy and illegible.



Figure 8. The stone wall within the property roughly parallels the dirt road that runs from the road down to the lake shore.



Figure 9. Small stone foundation south of the dirt road and rock wall.

### Beyond the Stone -Evidence in the Underbrush (Continued)





Figures 10 and 11. Stone rubble, some with intentional tool marks. This area does not match the immediate landscape, suggesting that it may have been a dumping area for the waste products from the cutting and carving process.

## Beyond the Stone -Evidence in the Underbrush (Continued)



Figure 12. Detail of tool marks on a stone found in a rubble pile.



Fig. 13 Bleached bones near the lake shore. Some census records indicate the type and number of livestock kept by individual families.

# News from the Funk Foundation



I want to begin this report by expressing thanks and appreciation from the Funk Foundation to the NYSAA for continuing support as we work into the second decade of the 21st century. The Funk Foundation awarded two grants during the fall of 2020. We made one of the grants to a previous Funk Foundation grantee, Dr. Albert E. Fulton II. Albert's grant proposal is titled 'Calibrating High-Resolution Paleoecological Records for Archaeological Applications: Identifying Signatures of Climate Cyclicity and the "Paleoanthropocene" in Western New York State.' The Funk Foundation funds will be used to obtain a total of five accelerator mass spectrometry radiocarbon dates from plant materials contained in stratigraphic cores from bog and kettle lake sites flanking the Genesee Valley. The current research expands the data and perspective of Albert's earlier research, with implications for human settlement and activity in the Genesee Valley region.

The other Funk Foundation 2020 grant was awarded to Binghamton University Ph. D. candidate Michele Troutman, whose grant proposal is titled "Memories Knapped in Stone: A Lithic Analysis of the Early Archaic Haviland Site." The grant is for radiocarbon dates, a portable microscope, storage bags, and mileage (since the collection is curated by the Iroquois Indian Museum near Cobleskill, New York). Michele will compare the data from the Haviland site to the Early Archaic components of the Johnsen No. 3 site that Dr. Robert E. Funk excavated near Wells Bridge (Oneonta area) in the Upper Susquehanna Valley.

During the last year, the Funk Foundation also reviewed and accepted Samantha Sanft's report on her grant. Samantha's grant was for radiocarbon dating of samples from the Klinko and Carman Cayuga village sites. The radiocarbon samples are derived from excavations conducted by Dr. Marian E. White and Dr. Kathleen M. S. Allen. The radiocarbon dates help to provide context for Samantha's Ph.D. dissertation analysis concerning sixteenth century shell and copper exchange in Iroquoia.

The Funk Foundation has granted an extension for grant completion to Binghamton University Master's degree student Douglas Riethmuller due to the pandemic-related, continuing inaccessibility of the lab he intended to use for elemental mass spectrometry analysis of Late Woodland Owasco and Shenks Ferry ceramics. The ceramics are from the Thomas/Luckey site, a Chemung Valley village site of considerable interest to Binghamton University archaeologists. Douglas has made arrangements for another lab to conduct the elemental mass spectrometry analysis.

Finally, the Funk Foundation requests proposals for grants to be awarded in 2021. The deadline for grant proposals is October 15, 2021 with the review of proposals and award of grants expected by November 15, 2021. We anticipate posting any revisions to the application forms on our website, <a href="https://www.funkfoundation.org">www.funkfoundation.org</a> by June 2021.

Submitted by Ed Curtin

### Competition and Collaboration in the Stonecutter's Marketplace

#### Patt Dietlin Central New York Cemetery Network, Finger Lakes Chapter, NYSAA

For the eighteenth-century stonecutter, the wild and untamed land of central New York offered opportunity. Raw material abounded to the man with the tools and ability to quarry the generous supply of glacial leavings that had formed the Finger Lakes region in prehistory [figs. 1-3]. A stoneworker could create a niche for himself, working from a shop on his farm or perhaps out of a small storefront in the nearby village as more settlers moved to the area [figs.4-7]. More often than not, one or more of his sons would serve as an apprentice. Business spread through word of mouth in the villages, as well as by itinerant stone carvers and peddlers who travelled the frontier in search of opportunity and work. It appears that those working in the native stone did not ordinarily advertise; it was only after marble came into the picture that newspaper ads became frequent. In the beginning, the stonecutter was usually the only such tradesman in town, working independently with the knowledge and tools that he had gleaned during his apprentice years. His main competition was himself – could he supply stones, either cut or cut and engraved while keeping up with his other seasonal labors; farming, upkeep of tools, wagons and buildings at the same time providing for the well-being and prosperity of (what was usually) a large family. For the stone engraver, his competition was the smattering of other carvers in the area – itinerant or settled; his success hinged on a personal interconnection with other settlers, how good of a salesman he was, and his ability to find a reliable source of cut stone upon which he could satisfy the needs of the customers who employed his services. In general, carvers toiled in relative anonymity and unless they signed their stones, only verbal referral and self-promotion would expand their engraving efforts. With the rising influx of settlers, stoneworkers turned to newspaper ads to cast their business net for potential clients. Marketing could further be expanded by having a trustworthy shopkeeper who could write down inscriptions and take orders to be relayed to the stone shop [fig. 8]. In time, the successful businesses prospered and grew [fig. 9].

As the eighteenth century waned, the marketing model of a sole proprietor working stone in traditional methods of production began to transform. Among other things, innovative machinery, new methods of manufacturing and greater mobility via transportation networks all came together to create a new paradigm for conducting business. Radical improvements in transportation; development of roads, creation of a canal network and the beginnings of a rail system, gave opportunities to broaden the stoneworker's reach of where and how product could be obtained and sold. It afforded the stonecutter the ability to buy and transport stone slabs from distant markets. New drilling technology, steam powered innovations, edge finishing and polishing techniques created the availability for an up-and-coming material that had taken the fancy of the populace – marble. Locally quarried country stone began to take a backseat to the new palette of white, veined, smoky, and translucent marble available from the eastern quarries in Vermont and Massachusetts, the products from which the stone carver could produce within the financial reach of the modest to upper-level households. And where money wasn't the medium of exchange; good lumber, shingles, or produce were often accepted as payment.

The nineteenth century workplace was one of change. To satisfy the whims of the buying public, stone workers were thrust into a new arena. A work model began to emerge that moved the family run operations off the farm and into the villages in the form of independent workforces; a shift from home workshop to a factory concept. This meant that there would be a group of men working together who were not necessarily related, many of them coming from different areas of the frontier, bringing with them divergent skill sets and ideas about the working of a stone. These men came to know each other, shared the same work spaces, bought from the same eastern quarries, dealt with the same river boat captains, coddled the same audience, and learned to meld design styles; all the while culling and allying with others whose experience and work ethic enhanced business success. Competition was now shoulder to shoulder as work relationships grew and changed. In a sense, competition between workers was somewhat symbiotic; the opponent sometimes ended up as a collaborator or copartner. Partnerships were made, dissolved and reshuffled, with some men going off on their own [figs. 10-16]. While a number of carvers opted to continue using the native country stone, others moved with the wiles of the time and began to transition to include, or exclu-

sively use marble in their repertoire. Stoneworkers jostled to rise to the top of the selling chain, to outperform and outlast their competitors. One way to do this was to take their one-upmanship to the media. Advertisements from the newspapers of the time offer an insight to the push and pull between stonecutters. Once placed, the same ad would often run for up to a year, with addendums being added as time went by [fig. 17]. This was not a world where industrial espionage would be of use – the raw materials were in the shops, the products were in the burial grounds, in the interiors of people's houses as well as being used as exterior architectural elements. The public was invited to come to the brick-and-mortar shops to view samples of materials and compare prices.

Between 1840 – 1850, there were a number of marble works in the village of Penn Yan in close proximity. Main Street, Elm Street and Jacob Street (today East Elm Street) all hosted marble works. On Main Street, the locus appears to have been around 130 Main [figs. 18-20], which was across the street from what was then the Yates County Bank (today the Louwns Building). The bank was the directional beacon for the public to locate the shops [figs. 21-24].

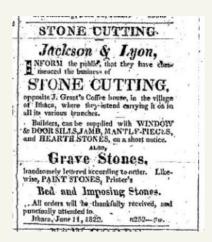
As the marble craze flourished, it slowly brought on the demise of the country stone engraver. The era of hand chiseled stones, with all the idiosyncrasies that helped identify the maker - regardless of a signature - faded into a period of machine wrought, polished pieces that spoke to a company's name and reputation. However, for all the hustle and promotion, marble gravestones did not turn out to be the symbol of timeless elegance and beauty. Within a decade of their appearance in the burial yards, some stones showed signs of disintegration, a loss of surface luster and black sulfate staining. By late century, some cemeteries banned the use of marble stones and monuments altogether. News ads began to tout a new material – granite [figs. 25,26]. Though a difficult material to cut and finish, granite was soon making its way into central New York from eastern quarries in Barre Vt, Quincy, Ma. and Westerly, Rhode Island. Once again, the landscape of the cemetery was being changed; not by individual carvers anymore, but by company run factories. Competition between individuals had merged onto a corporate identity. Company names carried the burden of being victors in the marketplace; the laborers, once again, worked in relative anonymity.

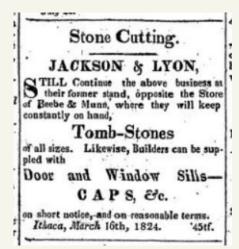






Figures 1-3. Rock strata, Schuyler County The sandstone in the central New York area ranges in color from grey to a brownish grey. Mineral deposits can further give the stone a reddish or bluish cast.





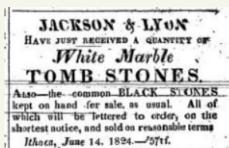


Figure 4. American Journal [6/26/1822]. Figure 5. Ithaca Journal [6/9/1824].

Figure 6. Ithaca Journal [8/4/1824].

The co-partnership of Jackson and Lyon began in June of 1822. Two years later, they added marble to their inventory.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE. On Sunday afternoon, about 3 o'clock, a most alarming fire broke out in the stable of Messrs. Dodge & Hart, in rear of buildings in Senecast., south side of the canal. The fire spread with such uncommon rapidity, that in a few minutes a number of buildings surrounding the one in which it originated, were entirely enveloped in flames. Our firemen were prompt in their attendance, and but a short time clapsed before all the fire companies and engines were in active operation. The skill which they exhibited, and the prompt and effective orders of the chief engineer and fire wardens, soon arrested its progress, but not until a large amount of property had been descoyed. The following is a list of the buildings burnt and the names of the occupants, so far as we have been able to ascertain their: Store Shed owned and occupied by Messrs. Dows & Hulbert, together with a considerable quantity of Pork, Salt, Cotton, &c.
The Stables of Messrs. Dodge & Hart, also a Dwelling House occapied by Mr. Greenman, and a Shop occupied by Mr. C. Hart. A Coach Shop occupied by Mather & Briggs: se-cond story by Mr. Ball, as a Paint Shop; owned by Luke Dodge A Brick Catriage House, together with a Shoeing Shop, occupied and owned in part by I. Dodge; second story by Mr. Woodruff, as a Trimmer's Shop. A wooden building occupied by Mr. Bustimell, as a Smith's Shop. A small building occuped by S. H. Butler, as a Stone Cutter's Shop. A small Dwelling owned by Mr A Munson.

Figure 7. Ithaca Journal [6/8/1831]. Anonymous until disaster struck: no known ads exist for S. H. Butler, only this mention of his burnt building.

#### HE subscriber informs the pub-I lie that he carries on the Stone Cutting business in Reading, Steuben county, where he has constantly on hand a supply of GRAVE STONES. Of all descriptions, ready for lettering, which he will afford very low for Cash or most kinds of Produce. For the better accommodation of the people of Ontario county, the subseriber has made arrangements with WM. SUTTON, Jun. Cabinet Maker, in Geneva, to make contracts and receive inscriptions. Persons agreeiug with f him may depend on having their work done in the best manner, and delivered at Geneva on the shortest notice. Samples may be seen in the Burying yard. Geneva. PRINTERS Can also be accommodated with Press Stones, Of a superior quality, warranted to a good service, and to be level. WILLIAM SUTTON. Reading June 20, 1820.

### TOMB STONES.

The subscriber respectfully informs the public, that he has just opened a stone cutting shop in the village of Geneva, directly opposite the Presbyterian church, where he has on hand a handsome and well selected assortment of

### White and Clouded Marble GRAVE STONES,

Just received from Vermont—and also, a constant supply of this country stone; all of which may be had at the shortest notice, low for CASH. For this country stone, most kinds of Produce will be received in payment. All orders in his line will be thankfully received, and attended to with care and despatch. These wishing to contract for Stone, will please call on Wm. Sutton, Jr. or John Sutton, stone cutter, at the above shop, or at the shop of the subscriber in Reading, Steuben county, where he keeps on hand a constant supply of all the above kinds of stone.

Reading, October 9, 1823.

WM. SUTTON.

Figure 8. Geneva Palladium [3/28/1821].

Figure 9. Geneva Palladium [10/29/1823].

William Sutton moved his stone cutting business from Ovid to Reading in 1813. In 1820 he enhanced his business by having son William Junr. take inscriptions and write up contracts. William also invited his customers to see samples of his work in the Burying Yard. A few years later, not only had William incorporated marble into his repertoire, but he had also opened a second stone cutting shop where another son, John, (then 18 years old) worked as a stone cutter.



Figure 10. Auburn Journal [6/28/1837].

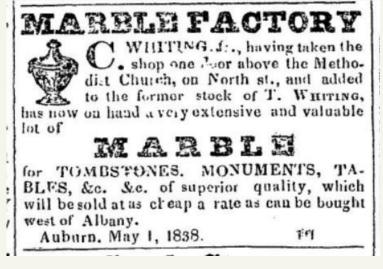


Figure 11. Auburn Journal [7/25/1838].



C. & T. WHITING.

Having entered into a co-partnership, will keep constantly on hand at their shop one door

above the Methodist Church, on North s ... very extensive and valuable lof of marble for Grave and Tomb Siones, and will furnish to order Monuments, Jambstones, Chimney Facings. &c. of a superior quality, all of which will be sold at as cheap a rate as can be bought west of Albany. Auturn. Jaly15, 1838

Figure 12. Auburn Journal [8/14/1838].

### NEW ESTABLISHMENT. WHITING & GOODRICH, DIRECT LY opposite the Vales Coverly Bank, Main-st., will keep constantly on hand a very extensive and valuable lot of nearble for Grave and Tomb Stones! Monuments, Jamb Stones, Soda Tables & Chimney Facings,

Figure 13. Yates County Whig [12/24/1839].

### House and Sign Painting, PAPER HANGING, GLAZING, &c.

\*XTHE subscriber has opened a shop in this village ... \*specifiathe Yetes County Bank, over the Marhe Factory of Whiting and Goodeich where he is mady to esecute all orders in his basiness in a fast-Palable and substantial manner—from his experience in business, he hopes to give onthe entistaction to all

who may favor him with their patronage.

N. B. Walls colored grown; Blue; Lemon; Crangs and cosmay to said the taste end please the funof of his employers. Pens-Van Oct. 1, 1939. LYMAN MUNGER.

TTAV DARTE a boson but the best in tours los Figure 14. Yates County Whig [12/24/1839].

### THE NEW MARBLE FACTORY

PPOSITE the Market, will sell Marble to accommodate the money market. Peo ple wishing

Ton bstones, Monuments, &c. can have them at Massachusetts Quarry price, the transportation added.

The Factory has also on hand a quantity of Vermont Marble, bought of T. Whiting, the former Stone Cutter in this place, which will be sold at cost.

N. B. Those wishing good bargains, will now find it to their advantage to make them. The chitchat of Stone pedlars avails but little when people have called at the shop and examined the work and prices. Liberal credit will be given if de

A large supply of Monuments, will be on as soon as navigation opens.

Auburn, March, 1842. S. WEEKS & CO.

Figure 15. Auburn Journal [5/11/1842].



THE Partnership of GOODLICH & JOHNSON MARBLE BUSINESS, will be commend by the subserver at the Shop in Aurora st. 2 doors with of the Thoughins House. He is ready ment to order MON-UMENTS, GRAVE STONES, PAINT MULLERS, Hearth and Jane STONES, &c., and will uprush at Short Notice and at Prices corresponding with The Times. He has had Experience in the Business, and his Work will be executed in a style of Neutrons which wi give satisfaction to his Oustomers. The Pulm wi findit to the fradrantageto call and examine the qualities of his Stock, Stile of Workmanship. &c. before making purchases elsewhere. H. C. GOODRICH.

Dec. 11, 1843

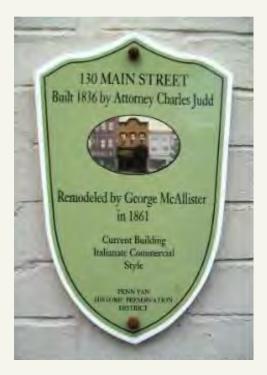
Figure 16. Ithaca Journal & Adv. [11/27/1844]

Following the thread of a business. It appears that T. Whiting started a business which was taken over(?) by C. Whiting two years later. Then the two men entered into a co-partnership in 1838. The following year, one of the Whitings co-partnered with Mr. Goodrich. T. Whiting would seem to have reappeared in Auburn, only to become the "former" stone cutter there by 1842. Meanwhile, H. C. Goodrich, possibly the same from the Whiting and Goodrich partnership, shows up in Tompkins County in December of 1843 starting a new marble factory after dissolving a partnership with a Mr. Johnson.



Figure 17. Penn Yann Democrat [1/15/1850].

John Sutton, having dissolved a partnership with Douglass Morrison, adds a footnote two months later to tell his customers that he continues to work at his old stand with seasoned workers, not "half learned apprentices". He goes on to point out that his customers and friends have known him in the area for the last eighteen years, giving weight and credibility to his recommendations of buying with confidence at his establishment.





Figures 18 & 19. 130 Main Street.



Figure 20. Early 20th century postcard. The arched façade of 130 Main St. can be seen under the Metropolitan lettering.

PENN VAN MARBLE-FACTORY

REMOVED to the building formerly occupied
by C. G. Juon, Esq. one door above A.

Wyman's Ment Market, and directly opposite
the Yates County Bank.

The subscriburs have just received the most
splandid assertment of MARBJE from the Ripley
& Barnes Gustry, ever brought to this market: consisting of Town Tables, Mountains, Hean Strongs, and
all other articles in their line of bushness. Thair Marble,
for fineness, whiteness and dumblity, cannot be surpassed. We ask all who wish to purchase to the veybest advantage to give us a call, as we shall sell just as
chein us own neighbors.

Good Horses taken in payment, also good Fine Limiter,
and most klads of Froduce. A reasonable credit given
when desired.

BUTTON & WARREN.

Penn Yan, January J. 1848.

25 January

Figure 21. Yates County Whig [7/19/1849]

I CIVIN I HIN HIMLETHE IN VILIADA
LOWLAND S. WARRING IS NOW PREPARED TO
I lumish at his factory, in the building lately occupied by
Messra Judd S. Lowis, mearly opposite the Hack,
MONUJIEATS, TOMB PABLES, GRAVE
STONES, &c.,
in every variety of material, and form. All persons desiring articles in his line, are requested to call and examine his
Stack and style of work, below purchasing elsewhere. His
prices are as low as can be asked, by those who are willing to
adhere to the principle of tive and let live. Most kinds of
produce taken in response at market prices. produce taken in payment at market prices. Penn Yan, March, 25, 1845

maribilely.

Figure 22. Yates County Whig [5/26/1846].



Figure 23. Penn Yan Democrat [7/2/1850].



Figure 24. Neopolitan [6/3/1840].

Customers were steered towards the marble works using the Yates County Bank as a landmark on Main Street. Directly across from the bank was an edifice built in 1836 for Attorney Charles G. Judd. Judd removed from the building less than two years after it was built, taking a second-floor space in a building on the corner of Elm and Main. Thereafter, marble businesses used the Judd building as a workspace.

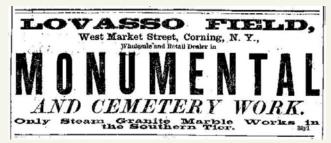


Figure 25. Dundee Observer [12/31/1879].

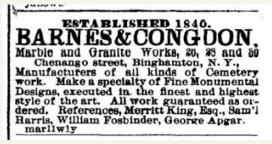


Figure 26. Ithaca Daily Journal [1/18/1881].

Late century businesses began to transition to granite, phasing out marble for cemetery works.

### News from the Daniel Weiskotten Scholarship

The Daniel Weiskotten Scholarship checks have been sent to our 3 student recipients. In addition, letters were sent to each of their 3 academic sponsors who took the time to write compelling letters of recommendation for our winners. A sample of each of the letters is attached for your interest.

Just a bit more about our 3 recipients:

#### Mary Dixon (University at Buffalo) - \$1,000

Mary has become an important member of the Anthropology Department's work-study and lab volunteer team. Her advisor says that she is one of the best lab associates that he's ever had. She manages other work-study students and trains them in the processing of prehistoric and historic artifacts, soil samples, and other materials. She developed a special COVID 19 lab plan to insure that much needed lab work could continue. Mary's plan was approved by the Dean of theCollege of Arts & Sciences. She has participated in several "digs" and has a particular interest in Roman, Greek, and Egyptian studies. He long term goal is to work as a curator at the Vatican, the Met, or the British Museum. Mary is one of a set of triplets all entering college at the same time. Her family is unable to provide support so her financial need speaks for itself.

#### Taleea Tomlinson (University at Binghamton) - \$1,000

After beginning her education at SUNY Potsdam Taleea transferred to the University at Binghamton. She is a first generation Jamaican student. Her archaeological interest is chattel slavery in the Americas and how the African diaspora interacted with North American and South American environments. Her goal is to produce documentaries as a medium to make her research available to BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) peoples outside of higher education. She has participated in 2 field schools...in the Adirondacks and at James Madison's Montpelier in Virginia. After graduation, Taleea would like to attend the University of Manchester to get her Master's in Visual Anthropology. Then, she plans to attend the University of Texas to get her Ph.D. in Africana studies. Taleea prepared the most well written and compelling of the applications.

#### Kiernan Beckett (Stony Brook University) - \$500

Kiernan was the recipient of our \$500 special award. What he lacks in field experience (due to COVID 19) he more than makes up in enthusiasm and "hustle". Kiernan is totally responsible for funding his education. He has applied for numerous scholarships and grants and he has earned an impressive amount of money to support his goals. Kiernan is fascinated by early hominin evolution. He has the opportunity to participate in a field school this fall at the Turkana Basin Institute Field School in East Africa's Rift Valley. This field school offers 18 upper-division credits in archaeology, human evolution, paleontology, and geology. The cost is \$15,000 but Kiernan is hard at work applying for scholarships so that he can follow this dream.

Our Committee was impressed by the diversity of our successful applicants and their very specific goals (albeit varied) in pursuing careers in archaeology. The Committee felt that the membership of the Beauchamp Chapter and the NYSAA would welcome supporting the efforts of these 3 promising archaeologists.

Thanks to the Beauchamp Chapter and to all NYSAA members who contributed to the Weiskotten Scholarship fund. Your generosity helps us to help worthy students like Mary, Taleea, and Kiernan. We look forward to 2022!!!

Mike Beardsley & the Daniel Weiskotten Scholarship Committee (Dr. Ellis McDowell-Loudan, Vicky Jayne, Gary Loudan, Mike Beardsley)

### Cemetery Detective: Douglas(s) Morrison: Stone engraver/Stone cutter/Merchant (1821-1871)

#### Patt Dietlin Central New York Cemetery Network– Finger Lakes Chapter, NYSAA

.The town of Denmark in Lewis County was the birthing place of Douglas J. Morrison. Born on October 20, 1821, Douglas was the first child and son of stone carver C. H. Morrison Junr. Of Douglas's early years and training, there is little to no evidence. It would appear that the family resided in several different counties over the years: Lewis County, Yates County and Genesee County. (Douglas's wife was born in Tompkins County, so it is not outlandish to think that Douglas spent some time there as well.) For the better part of his life, single and married, Douglas lived with his parents. That he followed in the footsteps of his father as a stone worker is gleaned from census records. The 1850 census for Milo enumerates the extended family, with brothers Douglas and Hiram, and their father C. H. all listed as **stone cutters**. In 1855, the New York census for Benton shows Douglas as head of household, living with his wife, their two children, his parents and 2 boarders (each with a minor child). Douglas is listed as a **marble engraver**. A clue from records of the 1st Free Congregationalist Society of Penn Yan indicates that the Morrison family removed from Yates County the following year. It is recorded that Mary Ann Morrison (Douglas's wife),

who had been admitted to the Society in 1831, was dismissed in 1856 to go to LeRoy. Indeed, the 1860 federal census finds the 38-year-old Morrison living in LeRoy, Genesee County, with his wife, children and parents. His occupation at that time was listed as a **marble cutter**. Sometime within the following decade though, Douglas changed occupations, from stone worker to merchant, as revealed in the census of 1870.

What exactly are the earmarks of a Douglas Morrison stone? The two identified, signed stones by D. Morrison are in states of decay, making it difficult to detect specific, identifiable style markers. The first of these stones is that of Silas Beers, backdated to 1829 (Figure 1). The other stone is that of Avery Herrick (d. 1831) and wife Lois (d. 1847). Both stones are rectangular slabs with no imagery at the top. The names of the deceased are chiseled onto the marble in upper case letters inside a recessed frame. Underneath the name of the deceased, the word DIED, also in upper case letters, takes up a line of its own. The following lines are the date of death with Years Mo's. d's and age noted. This information is separated from the epitaph by a decorative flourish. The lettering on the stones runs edge to edge, without a decorative side border. The stones are signed in the lower corner with "D. Morrison" and the shop location underneath his name, justified to the right-hand edge.

Figure 1. Silas Beers stone (1829, backdated) Starkey Methodist Cemetery/Starkey/Schuyler County, NY. Photo by D. Beers.



### **Cemetery Detective** (Continued)

Aside from these two known stones, the only other clues left for us are a couple newspaper advertisements from 1846 and 1849. In the first instance, Morrison announces a MARBLE WORK that he has "got up" in the town of Ovid. He tells the readership to refer to "specimens of his workmanship and quality of Marble now standing in the Grave Yards at Dundee, and others in its vicinity". Obviously, then, there were identifiable, signed marble markers that spoke to his talents. In 1849, an ad announcing the dissolution of a partnership between Douglass Morrison and John Sutton at the Marble Business on Main Street in Penn Yan further suggests a perimeter for finding works. Using the distance from Penn Yan to Dundee as a radius, it may be possible to find signed stones within that area to help get a feel for how a D. Morrison (or a Sutton-Morrison) stone would present. Likewise, as Morrison's MARBLE WORK was centered in Ovid, it would seem plausible that the towns to the north and south in-between the Lakes would be likely places for stones to be found. Unless backdated, Morrison's working years in the Lakes region seem to cover the decade of the 1840s.



Figure 2. Detail of Silas Beers's stone showing Morrison's signature in the bottom right corner.



Figure 3. Detail of the Herricks' stone showing Morrison's signature.

### **Cemetery Detective** (Continued)



Figure 4. Gravestone of Avery & Lois Herrick (1847) Fairview Cemetery/Naples/Ontario County, NY. Similar presentation to the Beers stone, with large, bold lettering filling the space left to right. More than one typeface is used and simple ornamentation is employed to break up the spaces. The names of the deceased are within a recessed frame. Morrison's signature and location, almost illegible, are in the lower corner, aligned with the edge of the stone.

Ovid Marble Factory.

D. MORRISON WOULD RES.

public, to his MARBLE WORK, got up in the village of Ovid, Seneca county, where he is in readiness to execute all orders for PYRAMIDS, TOMB TABLES, TOMB STONES, PAINT STONES, MULLERS, &c.,

And deliver on reasonable terms. His Marble is from the Rutland, (Vt.) quarries, and of the very best quality.

Persons desirous of obtaining any of the above aticles, are referred to specimens of his workmanship, and quality of Marble now standing in the Grave Yards at Dundee, and others in its vicinity.

Further information can be had by applying to A. Malthy, Dundee, or by calling at this office.

N. B.—C. H. Morrison will be in Dundee i every two or three weeks for the delivery of jinished work, and to obtain inscriptions.

Figure 5. Advertisement for Morrison's marble works in Ovid, NY. Where Douglas Morrison's MARBLE WORK was situated in Ovid and how long it was in business is unknown.

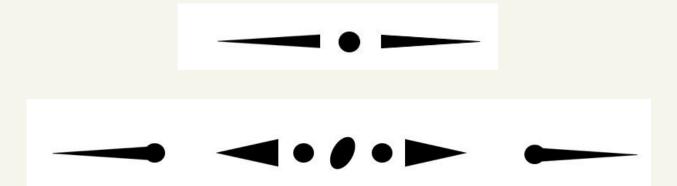


Figure 6. Morrison used simple decorative features to delineate space in his stones.

#### **BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT**

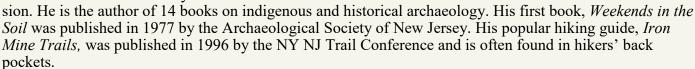
New Book from Archaeologist Edward J. Lenik:

### ROCK ART IN AN INDIGENOUS LANDSCAPE: From Atlantic Canada to Chesapeake Bay

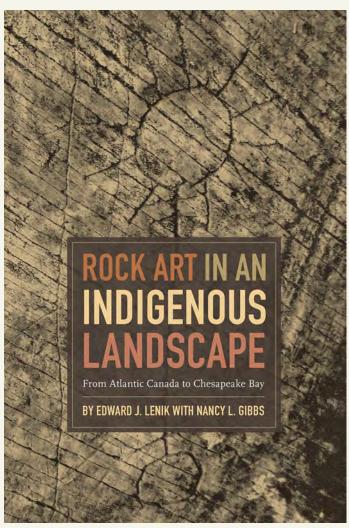
Archaeologist Edward J. Lenik, well known in northern New Jersey and southeastern New York for his books on the Ramapough Lenape Nation, is also a preeminent scholar on Native American rock art – petroglyphs and pictographs – of the Northeast. His fourth book on this topic is being published by the University of Alabama Press June 30, 2021.

This volume discusses 64 examples of rock art organizing them in chapters by the type of landscape in which they are found, coastal, riverine, lakeside, and interior uplands. Lenik also discusses how to tell authentic indigenous rock art from modern reproductions and graffiti. He ends the book with his current thinking on the significance of these images in the indigenous culture that produced them.

Lenik is a longtime resident of Wayne, NJ, and an emeritus member of the Wayne Historical Commis-



Rock art in an Indigenous Landscape may be purchased through the University of Alabama Press or ordered through local bookstores or Amazon or Barnes and Noble.



#### **BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT**

New Book from David Johnson:

Native Americans' Sacred and Ceremonial Landscapes Correlation with Groundwater: Aligning the Three Worlds Native Americans' Sacred and Ceremonial Landscapes Correlation with Groundwater: Aligning the Three Worlds



David W Johnson

In the forward, Donald A. Proulx, Ph.D. Professor of Anthropology, Emeritus University of Massachusetts, Amherst, comments:

"In this groundbreaking book, David Johnson presents his theory that many archaeological sites and features were deliberately located on top of concentrated flows of ground water by both preliterate and historic peoples. Beginning over 20 years ago with his research in Peru, Johnson has gone on to argue that using his methodology one can locate cultural remains in a wide variety of geographical locations across the globe. These cultural remains include habitation sites, cemeteries, petroglyphs, standing stones (cairns), sacred trees, and a multitude of similar sites and features. This book is focused on remains found in North America, from the plethora of ruins found in the Southwest to historic Native American remains in the Northeast."

"At the very least, this book should alert archaeologists and other scientists to recognize ancient remains as sacred components of the landscape by using Johnson's methodology in conjunction with oral history, mythology, geology and the other techniques outlined in this book. One needs to keep an open mind to the new concepts detailed in this account. It is an eye-opening book that should be read by anyone doing historical or archaeological work in North America. His research has been accepted into the National Archives."

In addition to the book mentioned above, I have published two additional books on this subject which are titled as follows:

Aligning Megalithic Sites of Southern England and Carnac, France with Groundwater: Aligning the Three Worlds

Beneath the Nasca Lines and Other Coastal Geoglyphs of Peru and Chile

All three books are available on the following web site. **dwjohnsonglobal.com** 

### To all Chapter Treasurers and At Large Members: 2021 dues are due!

#### Please send your dues to:

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c/o Morton Archaeological Research Services 1215 Macedon Center Road Macedon, NY 14502-9301

This year, you can also pay your dues with PayPal—here's how (works for At-Large members and Chapters!)

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You will see: "How do you want to pay? This is your bank account or whatever. Pick your payment method and click "Next". Review your payment, and click "Send Payment Now."

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