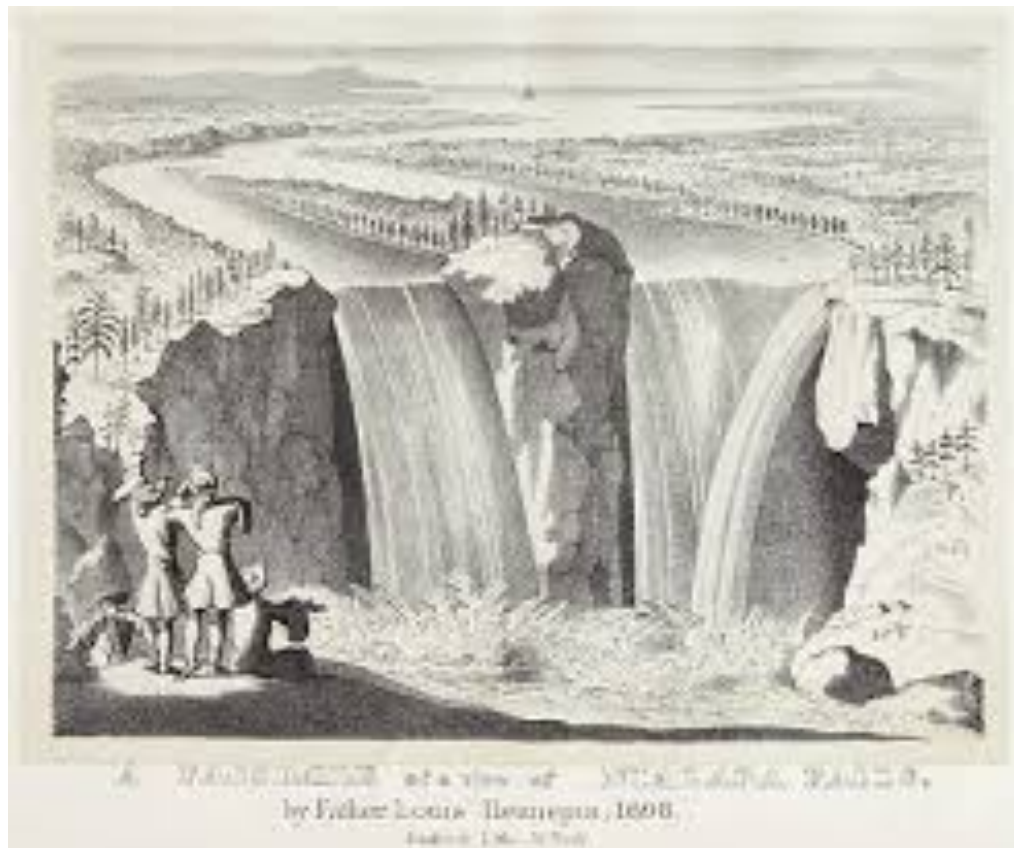


The 106th Annual Meeting of the New York State Archaeological Association

Program and Abstracts



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

The New York State Archaeological Association

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

Officers of the NYSAA

PresidentSherene Baugher
Vice PresidentDavid Moyer
TreasurerAnn Morton
SecretaryGail Merian

Officers of the Houghton Chapter

PresidentSusan Maguire
TreasurerDon Smith
SecretaryKate Whalen

2025 Annual Meeting Committee

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

Program

Friday, May 2

New York Archaeological Council

9:30 AM – 12:30 PM NYAC Board Meeting

1:30 – 4:00 PM NYAC General Meeting

New York State Archaeological Association

1 – 5:30 PM Registration – Hotel Lobby

5:00 PM Fellows Meeting (Board Room)

5:30 PM Buffet Dinner

7:30 PM NYSAA General Meeting

Saturday, May 3

7:00 AM Chapter Officers Breakfast
Buffet Breakfast

9:30 AM–6:30 PM “Bookroom” (poolside)
New and used books, Native art, memberships

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

General Session (second floor)

8:15 Welcome (Susan Maguire, President, Houghton Chapter, session chair)
Opening Address: Ganönyok (David L. George-Shongo, Seneca)

8:30 – 8:50 *Revisiting Archaeological Evidence of Ice Age Indigenous Peoples in the Unadilla and Chenango Drainages, Central New York*

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

- 8:50 – 9:10 *Haʔsá:digeh (“Where We Throw It”): Interpreting the Carpenter Brook Site using Indigenous Knowledge*
A. Stephen Henhawk (Gayogohó:nqʔ, Cornell University), Donald A. Smith (Houghton Chapter, Chronicle Heritage), and Kurt A. Jordan (Finger Lakes Chapter, Cornell University)
- 9:10 – 9:30 *The Wendake Campaign*
Jamie Jacobs, William Fox, and Andrew Riddle
- 9:30 – 9:50 *Smoking Pipes as Indicators of Sociopolitical Changes in Huron-Wendat Social Networks*
John P. Hart (Van-Epps Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum), Jennifer Birch (University of Georgia), Christan Gates St-Pierre (Université de Montréal), Susan Dermakar (University of Toronto Archaeology Center and Trent University Archaeological Resource Center)
- 9:50 Coffee Break

Technical Contributions (Lower Rapids, ground floor)

- 10:10 – 10:30 AM *Applying Artificial Neural Networks and Multivariate Statistical Methods for Geochemical Prospecting of Older Sites: A Pilot Study of the Corditaie Paleoindian Site*
Matthew Purtill (Houghton Chapter, SUNY Fredonia), Jonathan Lothrop (Van Epps–Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum), Cleo McDermott (SUNY Fredonia), Susan Winchell-Sweeney (New York State Museum)
- 10:30 – 10:50 AM *Long Island Steatite Sourcing from Rhode Island Quarries During the Late Holocene Era*
Lucinda Hemmick (Long Island Chapter)
- 10:50 – 11:10 AM *Detection of Indigenous Land-Use Impacts in Lake and Wetland Sediments Using Environmental Magnetism: Examples from Upstate New York.*
Albert E. Fulton (SUNY Buffalo)
- 11:10 – 11:30 AM *Unearthing the Ceramic Technology and Pottery-Making Tradition of the Kanien’kehà:ka (Mohawk) Garoga Village Site*

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

11:30 – 11:50 AM *Arrow and Dart Points in Northeastern North America: Exploring Archaeological Classification Methodologies*
Adina Olbrys (Houghton Chapter)

Iroquoian Archaeology (Upper Rapids, second floor)

10:10 – 10:30 AM *A Statistical Comparison of Carbonized Corn Kernel Samples from Five Nations Iroquois Sites and Jefferson County Iroquoian Sites*
Robert D. Kuhn (VanEpps-Hartley Chapter)

10:30 – 10:50 AM *Using the “Real Names”: The Many Benefits of Using Indigenous Language in Archaeological and Historical Work*
A. Stephen Henhawk (Gayogóhó:nq³, Cornell University) and Kurt A. Jordan (Finger Lakes Chapter, Cornell University)

10:50 – 11:10 AM *The Keffer Site, Re-evaluating an Ontario Woodland Tradition site on the Don River. Southern Ontario, Canada*
William D. Finlayson (This Land Archaeology Inc.) and Harry J. Lerner

11:10 – 11:30 AM *Long Stretches of Country to Traverse: Overland Trail Systems in Niagara*
Martin Cooper (ASI Heritage)

11:30 – 11:50 AM *Haudenosaunee Water West: The Water-Level Route of the Iroquois*
David W. Babson

12:00 PM **Lunch**

Saturday Afternoon (Upper Rapids, second floor)

Dolores Elliott, Chair

1:30 – 1:50 PM *Spanish Hill (36BR27), Waverly NY: Ancient Legends, Archaeological Conundrums, and New Technologies*
Deb Twigg and DeeAnne Wymer (Susquehanna River Archaeological Center)

- 1:50 – 2:10 PM *Preparing for the Future of the Past: Continuing work with two Cayuga Haudenosaunee site collections in Central New York State*
Kathleen M.S. Allen and Carsen Hanley-Witzel (University of Pittsburgh)
- 2:10 – 2:30 PM *Observations Regarding Two Iconographic “Jesuit” Rings Recovered at Indian Camp Run No. 1 (36FO65), Forest County, Pennsylvania*
Andrew J. Myers (Lewis H. Morgan Chapter)
- 2:30 – 2:50 *Beaded Birds in Haudenosaunee Art*
Dolores Elliott (Chenango Chapter, NYSAA)
- 2:50 Coffee Break
- 3:10 – 3:30 *The Albany Shoreline Revitalization and Rethinking Archeology*
Denis Foley, Len Tantillo, and Andrew Wolfe
- 3:30 – 3:50 *Archaeology for the People*
Jenna Hendrick (Curtin Archaeological Consulting, Inc.)

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

Lisa Anderson and Michael Lucas, co-chairs

- 1:30 - 1:50 PM *Lake George Battlefield Park Past, Present, and Future: An Inter-Agency Collaboration*
Michael Lucas (Van Epps–Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum)
- 1:50 - 2:10 PM *The Courtland Street Burying Ground*
Lisa Anderson (Van Epps-Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum)
- 2:10 – 2:30 PM *Jigonhsasee, the Peace Queen*
Edward V. Curtin (Van Epps-Hartley Chapter, Curtin Archaeological Consulting, Inc.)
- 2:30 – 2:50 PM *Archeology and New York State Forest Land: Opportunities and Constraints*
Matthew Kirk (Van Epps-Hartley Chapter, Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc.)
- 2:50 – 3:10 PM Coffee Break

- 3:10 – 3:30 PM *New Perspectives of Wetland Archaeology: The Geoarchaeology of New York's Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area*
Derrick J. Marcucci, Susan Gade and Phillip Shnaider (Landmark Archaeology, Inc.)
- 3:30 – 3:50 PM *My Memories of Chuck Vandrei over 40 years of Friendship*
Michael A. Cinquino (Houghton Chapter)
- 3:50 – 4:10 PM *The past alive in the present: re-enactment as philosophy and practice. A tribute to my father, Chuck Vandrei*
Martha Vandrei (University of Exeter, UK)

Posters in honor of Charles Vandrei are by Alexandra DeCarlo, Marie Ellsworth, Lyn Hohmann, Kristin O'Connell-Houston and Susan Winchell-Sweeney, John Schroeter, and Julie Weatherwax.

Flint Knapping Demonstration/Workshop (ground floor or outside)

4:00 PM Jim Fisher and Dan Long

Posters Poolside

4:00 – 6:00 PM

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

6:30 PM Annual Banquet followed by Awards and Speaker (Upper Rapids)

Banquet Talk

Kelley Berliner

Eastern Regional Director, The Archaeological Conservancy

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

Sunday

7 AM Buffet Breakfast

Historical Archaeology (Lower Rapids, ground floor)

- 8:30 – 8:50 AM *Exploring an 18th century officers' quarters at Old Fort Niagara, Youngstown, NY.*
Susan Maguire (Houghton Chapter, Buffalo State University)
- 8:50 – 9:10 AM *Recent Archaeological Investigations at the Revolutionary War Site at Fort Plain*
David Moyer (Chenango/Upper Susquehanna Chapters)
- 9:10 – 9:30 AM *Archaeology at the Niagara Apothecary, Ontario, Canada*
Dena Doroszenko (Ontario Heritage Trust)
- 9:30 – 9:50 AM *"I see that the old question of right of free sepulchre is still unsettled in the old burying ground." Discovery and Mitigation of the Old Burying Ground, Heuvelton, New York*
Tim Abel (Thousand Islands Chapter), Mindy Pitre (St. Lawrence University) and Madeleine Mant (Univ. of Toronto, Mississauga)
- 9:50 – 10:10 AM Break
- 10:10 – 10:30 AM *The Box: A.D. 1875 Garbage Deposit in the Pine Street African Burial Ground*
Madelyn Moran and Tom Amorosi (SUNY at New Paltz)
- 10:30 – 10:50 AM *The DeWitt Plot: A Preliminary Skeletal Analysis of the 17th-early 18th Century DeWitt Family from the Old Dutch Church Graveyard, Kingston, N.Y.*
Hali Cook (State University of New York at New Paltz)

Archaeology and the Public (Upper Rapids, second floor)

(open to the public)

Christina Reith, chair

- 8:30 – 8:50 AM *Archaeology and Public Education at the New York State Museum*
Christina B. Rieth (Van Epps - Hartley, New York State Museum), Heather Clark (New York State Museum), Amy Lynch (New York State Museum), and Tracey Thomas (New York State Museum)
- 8:50 – 9:10 AM *Writing a Successful National Register Nomination for a Canandaigua Lake Shipwreck*

Joseph W. Zarzynski (Auringer Seelye Chapter, NYSAA)

- 9:10 – 9:30 AM The Van Buren Inn & Tavern Historic Preservation Archaeology Field School
Summer 2024
Alanna Ossa (SUNY Oswego)
- 9:30 – 9:50 AM *The UB 1973 Allegany Field School: An Experience in Cultural Immersion*
Robert J. Hasenstab (University of Illinois at Chicago)
- 9:50 – 10:10 AM Break
- 10:10 -10:30 AM *Seneca Indian Park: Recognizing a Sacred Burial Ground*
Melissa Leonard (Buffalo and Erie County Historical Societ
- 10:30 –10: 50 AM *The Turtle: A Postmodern Path to Progress*
Annie Schentag (kta Preservation Specialists)
- 10:50 –11:10 AM *Reawakening the Turtle through Community Engagement*
Shawn Wilson (Native American Community Services of Erie and Niagara
Counties)

POSTER ABSTRACTS

DeCarlo, Alexandra (New York State Museum)

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

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

Ellsworth, Marie (Adirondack Chapter)

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

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

Gardner, Max (Morgan Chapter)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Established in the mid-nineteenth century, The New York State Museum curates approximately six million archaeological objects, with over four million representing material culture from New York's colonial and post-colonial past. Collaboration between the museum and such partners as the New York State Department of Conservation (NYSDEC), New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (NYSOPRHP), Indigenous communities, and private cultural resource management (CRM) companies are vital for protecting cultural resources and continuing with the custodianship of recovered material for future research and object

preservation. Ongoing consultation and review with Indigenous communities on the cultural heritage material we steward drives the museums current and future curatorial direction. In this spirit, this poster highlights the contributions of Charles “Chuck” Vandrei, whose distinguished preservation efforts at NYSDEC have earned widespread recognition and respect. It showcases the museum’s recent decade of collaborative achievements with Chuck and outlines future initiatives for the care, preservation, and ethical representation of historic archaeological materials he inspired.

Schroeter Jr., John H. (Adirondack Chapter)

What the Ceramics have to Say

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

Weatherwax, Julie (New York State Museum)

Piecing Together Individuals from The Courtland Street Burying Ground

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

PAPER ABSTRACTS

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

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

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

In 1870 an act was passed by the State of New York to prohibit the further interment of the dead in the Old Burial Ground in the Village of Heuvelton, NY. Families were asked to remove loved ones to the newly consecrated Hillcrest Cemetery. Not all the graves were removed, however, and several were inadvertently discovered in 2019 during the construction of the Heuvelton Potable Water Upgrades project. This paper will discuss the archaeological monitoring, mitigation and recovery of five complete

individuals (BF1, BF2, BF8, BF9, BF10), one incomplete individual (BF7), and unassociated human remains. The associated material culture (e.g., coffin hardware and burial accoutrements) suggests the individuals were buried in the mid-19th century. The bioarchaeological results offer a glimpse into the life (and death) of early settlers in 19th-century rural New York.

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

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

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

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

The Courtland Street Burying Ground

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

Babson, David W.

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

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

Berliner, Kelley (The Archaeological Conservancy)

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

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

Cinquino, Michael A. (Houghton Chapter)

My Memories of Chuck Vandrei over 40 years of Friendship

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

Cook, Hali (State University of New York at New Paltz)

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

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

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

Cooper, Martin (ASI Heritage)

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

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

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

Jigonhsasee, the Peace Queen

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

Doroszenko, Dena (Ontario Heritage Trust)

Archaeology at the Niagara Apothecary, Ontario, Canada

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

Elliott, Dolores (Chenango Chapter, NYSAA)

Beaded Birds in Haudenosaunee Art

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

Finlayson, William D. (This Land Archaeology Inc.) and Harry J. Lerner

The Keffer Site, Re-evaluating an Ontario Woodland Tradition site on the Don River. Southern Ontario, Canada

Much has been written about Iroquoian and Algonquian settlement patterns. Similarly, the Keffer site, a Realignment substage, Ontario Woodland Tradition village on the Don River, has also seen considerable study. While this research has provided many insights, to date relatively little has been said regarding the specific patterns of settlement at Keffer and how they relate to its likely antecedents. This paper addresses this gap by presenting innovative approaches to some longstanding debates regarding pre-contact Ontario Iroquoian /Algonquian lifeways as recorded archaeologically. These include the variable processes of coalescence, the palimpsestic nature of sweat baths, and the

underestimated significance of the Huron-Wendat/Algonquian alliance. Post mould densities helped reconstruct dwelling and settlement occupational histories, while ceramic seriation and AMS dates identified four Black Creek substage communities that likely coalesced to form Keffer. The presence of four wigwams and three longhouses occupied by Anishinabek peoples may provide evidence for the existence of the Ontario Iroquoian/Algonkian alliance early in the 16th century on the central north shore of Lake Ontario.

Foley, Denis, Len Tantillo, and Andrew Wolfe

The Albany Shoreline Revitalization and Rethinking Archeology

When Hudson viewed what is now Albany, the shore line had a long curve. This area became the Erie Canal's Great Basin until it was filled in the 1920's. By the 1970's the construction of I-787 in this area cut off Albany from the river. Plans now call for the removal of I-787. In November of 2002 an archeological team from Union College's Lewis Henry Morgan Institute located the weigh lock, collector's house, and Lock One of the former Erie Canal. Currently the Albany Waterway Canal Project envisions a two-stage plan. Stage 1 involves uncovering and developing the eastern terminus of the Erie Canal including Lock 1, the double lock connecting the canal to the Hudson River, the Little Basin, which will become a marina, and the weigh lock and collector's house, which will become a museum. Additionally, Lock 1 would be reconnected to the Hudson River. Stage Two creates a new canal which would connect the city with the Hudson River. In January 2025, this project received initial funding for a feasibility study. Hopefully, a waterway can be brought to downtown Albany promoting destination tourism with an archeological flavor.

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

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

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

Hart, John P. (Van-Epps Hartley Chapter, New York State Museum,), Jennifer Birch (University of Georgia), Christan Gates St-Pierre (Université de Montréal), Susan Dermakar (University of Toronto Archaeology Center and Trent University Archaeological Resource Center)

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

Ceramic smoking pipes are among the most distinctive artifacts recovered from Iroquoian sites dating from AD 1350-1650 in what is today New York, Ontario, and Quebec. In this study, we

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

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

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

In early 1973 the late Dr. Marian E. White of the SUNY Buffalo Department of Anthropology organized a summer archaeological field school, to be held on the Allegany Seneca Reservation in southwestern New York State, in which the author participated. Dr. White was ahead of her time, incorporating the descendant community into the field school. In addition to Archaeology, the curriculum included a number of subfields of Anthropology, such as Ethnography, Ethnohistory, Folklore, Ethnobotany and Foodways. Fieldwork included a variety of research projects undertaken by the field school as a whole and as individual student term projects. This paper will cover some of the more interesting of these projects.

Hemmick, Lucinda (Long Island Chapter)

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

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

Hendrick, Jenna (Curtin Archaeological Consulting, Inc.)

Archaeology for the People

Archaeologists are notorious for dry, surface-level interpretations of inanimate objects, and although fictive narrative has long been espoused as a viable solution to filling the gaps in communication, it remains a grossly underutilized tool. Vignettes – empirical research written in the form of fictive narrative – organize what is otherwise a fragmented collection of data into an accessible, engaging interpretation portrayed at the human scale. Using the Albany Waterway Canal Project (AWCP) as inspiration, I will evaluate how fictive narrative can benefit cultural resource management within the contexts of science communication and community action as well as demonstrate how vignettes could

be used across diverse platforms and settings. This paper will ultimately show how vignettes, the adaptability of which allows for various implementations, can build a stronger, more informed community, making them a highly valuable tool for archaeologists.

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

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

This paper reports on our recent work applying Gayogóhó:nq' language terms during the study of archaeology and history of the Gayogóhó:nq' homeland. We outline the benefits provided both to scholars and Indigenous community members, including how use of the "real names" aids language revitalization. We illustrate these points through examples of the application of place and regional names, Indigenous terms for artifact types, and words for architectural features in longhouses. The names themselves come from a variety of sources, including first-language speakers; mangled attempts to record Indigenous place names by European missionaries, explorers, and soldiers; and the terminology used by contemporary steelworkers who employ the "old words" to describe architectural elements in new urban construction.

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

Ha'sá:dígeh ("Where We Throw It"): Interpreting the Carpenter Brook Site using Indigenous Knowledge

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

Jacobs, Jamie, William Fox and Andrew Riddle

The Wendake Campaign

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

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

Archeology and New York State Forest Land: Opportunities and Constraints

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

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

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

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

Leonard, Melissa (Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society)

Seneca Indian Park: Recognizing a Sacred Burial Ground

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Maguire, Susan (Houghton Chapter, Buffalo State University)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Moyer, David (Chenango/Upper Susquehanna Chapters)

Recent Archaeological Investigations at the Revolutionary War Site at Fort Plain

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

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

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

Two iconographic "Jesuit" rings were recovered at archaeological site Indian Camp Run No. 1 (36Fo65). The rings were found to be engraved with an IHS motif which is the symbol for the Society of Jesus or Jesuit wing of the Catholic Church. Similar type rings occur on archaeological sites of French occupation or influence and date to a broad period of ca. 1575 - 1780. While their entry into the middle Allegheny River region is uncertain, Jesuit missionaries and other French explorers first became

active engaging with Native groups in the early 17th century with much activity occurring to the north in western and central New York. The incidence of the rings appears limited in the Niagara Frontier region while several have been identified to the east in Seneca territory where they appear as early as 1640. This presentation provides a description of the two rings and proffers a temporal framework for their arrival on site.

Olbrys, Adina (Houghton Chapter)

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

This paper discusses the classificatory differences between dart and arrow point tips in the archaeological record of Western New York, specifically concerning atlatl and bow and arrow tips. Currently, there is a lack of research that accurately demonstrates how to distinguish between these two types of point tips. The goal of this study is to challenge commonly held beliefs about the assumed size of arrow versus dart point tips and to demonstrate the necessity of more research on this topic. Three tip types, were investigated: Meadowood, Jack's Reef, and Madison. Each tip was measured, and the measurements were applied to classification methods created by other researchers such as Hildebrandt and King (2012), Hughes (1998), Shott (1997), and Thomas (1978). This included researching what measurements for shoulder width, neck width, weight, length, and width could be considered the threshold between dart and arrow tip measurements. The analysis shows that the classification methods and threshold values created by other researchers do not accurately represent this paper's assumption that Meadowood, Jack's Reef, and Madison point tips are arrow tips and not dart tips. This should culminate in the creation of a classification system or threshold values that distinguish between dart and arrow tips for the tips used in this study and from the Western New York region.

Ossa, Alanna (SUNY Oswego)

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

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

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

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

Corditaape represents a large, single-component, Paleoindian site in the Upper Mohawk River Valley. Investigations by the New York State Museum have revealed three artifact concentrations (Loci 1, 2/3, and 4) nestled within a more dispersed, low-density artifact scatter. Locus 1 especially has a high concentration of tools, notably endscrapers, and may reflect a repeatedly occupied locality where Ice Age mammals such as caribou were partially butchered and hides processed. In 2024, a pilot study was initiated to explore whether Locus 1 could possibly retain a distinct geochemical signature of human activity, notably mammal butchering. A total of 39 soil samples were collected for laboratory testing from A-B horizons at 13 sampling locales. Analytical techniques included XRF, LOI, electrical conductivity, and pH. Initial results are intriguing and reveal that Locus 1 is geochemically distinct and displays enrichment of Na, P, K, Mn, Cl, Cr, Co, Zn, and Rb, in A horizon soils. Principal component analysis also revealed good separation of plotted factor scores further distinguishing Locus 1 soils from surrounding contexts. Finally, artificial neural network analysis proved highly successful at correctly classifying Locus 1 samples from non-Locus 1 soils. Collectively, results appear promising and further testing is planned in 2025.

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

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

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

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

cultural views. Determined to be National Register Eligible even though it is less than fifty years old, the Turtle presents many challenges and opportunities for reuse today.

Twigg, Deb and DeeAnne Wymer (Susquehanna River Archaeological Center)

Spanish Hill (36BR27), Waverly NY: Ancient Legends, Archaeological Conundrums, and New Technologies

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

Vandrei, Martha (University of Exeter, UK)

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

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

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

Reawakening the Turtle through Community Engagement

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

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

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

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

Zarzynski, Joseph W. (Auringer Seelye Chapter)

Writing a Successful National Register Nomination for a Canandaigua Lake Shipwreck

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

Sponsorship

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