New York Archaeological Council

NYAC Newsletter
Fall 2016

From the President

The New York Archaeological Council (NYAC) held its Fall 2016 meeting at the Binghamton University campus on Saturday October 22, 2016.

The **NYAC Board and General meetings** resulted in constructive discussions of many topics important to the NYAC Board and membership. Highlights include revisions to NYAC by-laws and elections procedures, the development of officer's duties and committee guidelines, re-creation and updating of the membership mailing list, future programming, and the adoption of a NYAC Conflict of Interest Policy. Thanks to Nina Versaggi for arranging the meeting venue and Board lunch, and to Matt Sanger, Co-Director of SUNY Binghamton's new MA program in Public Archaeology, for providing refreshments for the general meeting. Welcome to our four newest NYAC members: Vivian James, Helen Juergens, Matt Sanger and Carol Weed!

Considerable progress has been made by the ad-hoc By-laws committee (Hope Luhman, Linda Stone, and Doug Perrelli) who, over the course of five teleconferences since our last meeting, have gone through the entire document and made margin notes about potential changes and topics for discussion with the Board and membership. This DRAFT document will be made available to the Board for consideration prior to presentation to the membership for open discussion of potential changes and eventual adoption.

NYAC Awards Committee Chair Bill Engelbrecht asked Doug Perrelli to present the Founder's Award to Dr. Ellis McDowell-Loudan for her lifetime of service to NYAC and the archaeological community of our state. Special thanks for the kind words written about Ellie by Bill and Dolores Elliot. Dolores received the award last spring.

The afternoon program was a continuation of the Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 meetings where a DRAFT of standards for different situations and contexts was developed (i.e., artifact culling in the field vs. culling in the lab or from museums). The draft was circulated prior to the meeting and the document formed the basis for the conversation that occurred. Next steps are to streamline the document and present it as a DRAFT of Standards for the membership to consider. Several people have offered to work as editors and advisors for this ongoing process.

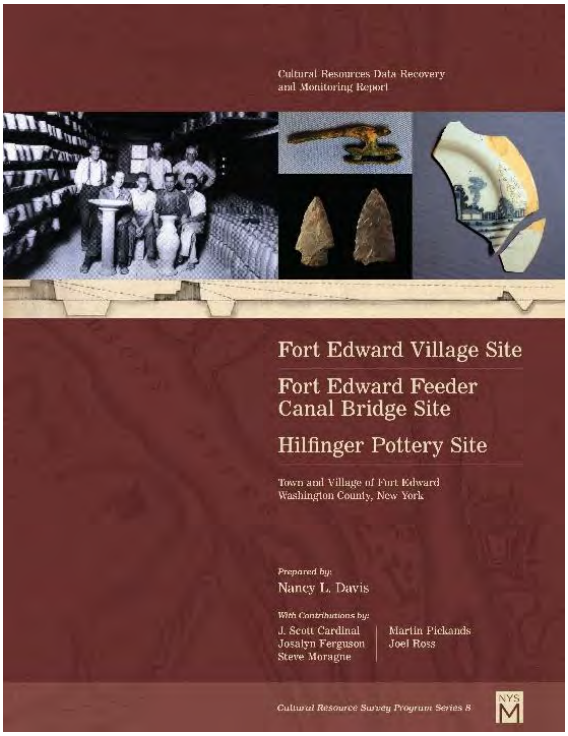
This continues our progress toward developing state-wide standards relating to museum collections management, artifact and material discard guidelines for the field and lab, and the curation crisis in archaeology. This was the third consecutive program about this issue. New developments include consideration of culling differences between historic, pre-contact and urban sites, culling challenges at different project phases (Phase 1-3), and the need for a flow chart to guide people through a decision-making process about culling in particular situations and contexts.

The **Spring 2017 NYAC meeting** will be held on April 21, 2017 in Lake George, New York, in conjunction with the spring meeting of the New York State Archaeological Association.

Submitted by: Doug Perrelli

NEWS FROM THE CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY PROGRAM AT THE NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM

Cultural Resource Survey Program Bulletin Series



The New York State Museum's Cultural Resource Survey Program announces publication of *The Cultural Resources Data Recovery Report: Fort Edward Village Site, Fort Edward Feeder Canal Bridge Site, and Hilfinger Pottery Site, Town and Village of Fort Edward, Washington County, New York*. This volume was prepared by Nancy L. Davis with contributions by J. Scott Cardinal, Josalyn Ferguson, Steve Moragne, Martin Pickands, and Joel Ross.

As Volume 8 in the CRSP series, it details the data recovery excavations and construction monitoring of Route 4 through the village of Fort Edward, home of the eighteenth-century British fort and supply depot built for mounting military campaigns against the French to the north during the French and Indian War. Besides the eighteenth-century military remains encountered, the volume also describes the Late Archaic and Early Woodland Native American components encountered, and it features two other nineteenth-century sites, one related to the Fort Edward Feeder Canal and bridge crossing, and the other related to a local nineteenth-century pottery.

The New York State Museum Cultural Resource Survey Program (CRSP) Series is a peer-reviewed, open access series published on an occasional basis by The University of the State of New York/The State Education Department. The series publishes both individual monographs and edited volumes on important cultural resource management issues in the state. A link to the volume and other volumes in the New York State Museum's Cultural Resource Survey Program Series can be found at http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/research-collections/archaeology/crsp/resources.

Submitted by: Nancy Davis

GUILTY THRILLS: SPARKS FROM THE PAST

At one time or another we have all been queried by students or the public … "What was the most interesting thing you've found?". Assuming they want a story involving the oldest, largest, smallest, first, most significant, fantastic, pivotal, earthshaking, paradigm-shifting discovery, and despite having repeatedly been asked the same question, I often find myself momentarily tongue-tied. Surfing through the memory of my career, I often rely, unsatisfactorily, upon the discovery of a mummy cave in the Aleutian Islands of Alaska. If I sense the questioner is honestly interested and can weather one of my lengthier explanations, --you know one of those prompting family to roll their eyes--, I might launch into something about exciting data analysis, pattern recognition, and the discovery of human behaviors.

But really, there is a different kind of discovery that I must admit truly thrills me during field research. By themselves, these observations or phenomena contribute little to the historic record or larger archaeological patterns and do not provide answers to small or large theoretical issues. They are minutiae, yet they are also direct links to the past. Collectively, the observations tend to identify individuals through intentional or unintentional marks. The marks often isolate a relatable moment of activity, construction, or problem solving and provide a connection to a real human, a spark from the past.

The following examples should clarify what I mean regarding the phenomena or marks. Similar to the connection one might feel by looking at hand prints on panels of cave art, the discovery of hand and fingerprints in Puebloan wall plaster has provided me an instant relationship to a person and their task at hand. Along this same vein are the fingerprints left in historic bricks or on the surface of a pottery sherd. Extraordinary preservation conditions afforded me the opportunity to excavate a 3500-year old Aleut storage pit where the individual gouges of the digging stick were preserved on the sidewalls of the feature. These marks represented separate distinct motions.

Brick and clay used in ad hoc repair of iron trough at Adirondack Iron and Steel's New Furnace (ca. 1855).

,

Digging stick grooves in the sidewalls of a 3500-year-old storage pit on Adak Island, Alaska.

Still other observations represent an individual or a group response to a problem. The more interesting examples are those illustrating expedient solutions to immediate problems. The New York State Museum Cultural Resource Survey Program (CRSP) excavation of the Adirondack Iron and Steel Company's New Furnace revealed a segmented iron trough that once carried molten iron toward the casting house. A section of that trough had broken, yet workers had propped the sidewall in place with wedged bricks packed by several handfuls of clay. Likewise, builders of a Chenango Canal lock sluice were laying a series of planks for a decking. Generally following a straight line and making square straight crosscuts, workers were confronted by protruding roots from a bankside stump. CRSP archaeologists uncovered axe marks in the first attempt to solve the problem but also found multiple pencil marks and multiple angled cuts made to custom fit the plank to the remaining stubborn root.

Fingerprints found in bricks made by the Adirondack Iron and Steel Company (ca. 1835-45) at Upper Works.

Chopped root and multiple cuts on a deck plank in the Chenango Canal Lock #3 sluice, Utica, NY.

Repairs of tools and vessels often suggest more thoughtful responses to problems, yet they remain thrilling. Examples of these include the use of leather strips to cross-lash a cracked bone crooked knife handle or the drill holes and sinew lashing used to repair a cracked pottery jar. Perhaps the spark felt here is observing an ingenious and successful solution.

Some marks lead to revelations or confirmations regarding construction methods. Matching the stone axe chopped ends of driftwood logs used in the flooring and superstructure of a Birnirk house on Cape Espenberg, Alaska, demonstrated the portioning of a precious harvested resource. Well preserved coffins at the Albany Almshouse cemetery held the pencil layout lines of the carpenter, marking the kerf cuts needed to bend the sideboards at the shoulder. The combination of pencil and scribe marks on mortise and tenon joints also illustrated the craftsman builder at the Chenango Canal Lock #3 in Utica. Admittedly, some of these connections with the past are sensitized by my own experiences and hobbies.

The guilty part of all of this is that most of these thrilling phenomena are examples of individual actions that may be included in passing in our reports but have little value in the thrust of archaeological and anthropological work. They do not fit easily into any current theory, although research into individuality, agency, and perhaps "small finds" come closest. In fact, I am hard pressed to conceive of useful keywords to channel research. Our professional indoctrination has tasked us with studying the larger, more collective patterns and contributing to a body of theory. The sites and deposits we study are the result of multiple individuals, multiple events and activities, over varying spans of time. In most cases, the identification of an individual agent is impossible.

Informal conversations with archaeologists reveal that many have experienced the same connection with a historic or prehistoric individual; felt the same personal link. To date, none have been able to guide me to a name or label for these types of discoveries or observations or refer me to a body of research or theoretical framework, though I would appreciate any assistance in that regard as well as hearing about other examples. In the meantime, the next time I am asked, "what's the most interesting thing…?" I might just try to describe one of these sparks from the past.

Submitted by: David Staley

LITHICS WORKSHOP

For the past three years, a workshop focusing on the geology and archaeology of lithic resources used by Native Americans was organized by Jonathan Lothrop, Chuck Ver Straeten, and Christina Rieth of the New York State Museum and Laurie Miroff of the Public Archaeology Facility, Binghamton University. Due to scheduling issues, we could not make arrangements for a lithics workshop for Fall 2016, but anticipate resuming this workshop in the Fall of 2017.

NEWS FROM THE PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY FACILITY

Community Outreach at the Owego Apalachin Central School District: A Public Benefit from a Regional Disaster

Introduction

The principles on which the National Historic Preservation Act are based state that the preservation of our national heritage is in the public interest. When preservation in place is not possible, the law and regulations allow for ways to mitigate the adverse impacts to the site. Following the principles and intent of the legislation, there should be a public benefit to the measures used to mitigate the loss of significant cultural properties.

Within this context, the Public Archaeology Facility (PAF) participated in the mitigation of two National Register Eligible archaeological sites in Tioga County, New York. In 2011, Tropical Storm Lee inundated parts of the Owego Apalachin Central School District campus. The elementary school and maintenance buildings were destroyed by floodwaters. PAF conducted Phase 1 and 2 investigations of these properties and discovered two precontact sites. After discussion and negotiation with federal and state agencies, the client, and their subcontractors, crews from PAF completed Phase 3 archaeological excavations at the Owego Elementary School and the Owego Free Academy sites. The sites are located north of Huntington Creek and east of Owego Creek, which joins the Susquehanna River downstream from the project area. The Phase 3 was part of the mitigation of adverse impacts authorized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Homeland Security and Environmental Services (DHSES), the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Owego Apalachin Central School District (OACSD), and representatives of the Onondaga and Seneca Nations.

Site Summaries

Researchers at PAF interpret the **Owego Elementary School site** as a Late Archaic single use hunting/ butchering station based on its small size 21.7 m^2 (234 ft^2), Brewerton cluster projectile points, and microwear evidence of cutting soft tissue and hide, scraping hide, and general animal butchering. An AMS date on carbon retrieved from the A2 horizon above the cultural material returned an AMS date of 1600-1440 B.C. at two sigma; the deeper horizon with most of the site material had no features but must date to, or before, this time period. Based on the presence of several Brewerton points, the date was estimated as 3500-2500 BC.

The typological, radiometric, and stratigraphic data for the **Owego Free Academy site** indicated mostly a multi-use, multi-occupational series of Transitional period campsites. The Transitional period cultural affiliation is based on the recovery of one Dry Brook point, two Perkiomen points, and two possible Perkiomen point bases, as well as rhyolite debitage and a fragment of steatite. Two radiocarbon-dated features produced conventional dates that range between 1430 and 1510 B.C. Microwear analysis showed that butchery-related polishes were present on about half of the artifacts submitted for analysis. In addition to debitage, the assemblage included 35 bifaces, as well as an adz, netweight, and a single piece of steatite.

Unique Approaches to Mitigation

Although the data recovery plan was mostly based on excavation, this was not the only component of the mitigation of adverse impacts to these two sites. A detailed community outreach plan was part of the Memorandum of Agreement. This plan included several activities, some of which are common to archaeological mitigations, and some were more creative.

Contribution to the Archaeological Conservancy. As part of recent initiatives to explore alternative mitigation measures, the New York SHPO, Seneca Nation, and FEMA agreed to have the Owego Apalachin School District make a $2,000 contribution to a nonprofit archeological preservation fund. The Archaeological Conservancy was selected and they agreed to use the funds to maintain sites already purchased in the region. The Carman and Indian Fort Road sites in Cayuga territory were selected to receive the funds for maintenance and upkeep.

Tony Gonyea presenting the replica of the Two Row Wampum Belt to Owego Apalachin School Superintendent, Corey Green.

Wampum Belt Replica. PAF and the School District commissioned Anthony Gonyea, a Faithkeeper with the Onondaga Nation, to produce a replica of the Two Row wampum belt for display in the Elementary School. The Onondaga state that the Two Row wampum records a 17th-century treaty between the Haudenosaunee and the Dutch. The two rows symbolize two paths or two vessels, traveling down the same river together. One is a canoe for the Haudenosaunee people, their laws, customs and ways of life. The other is a ship carrying new people to this land. As long as neither tries to steer the other's vessel, they can travel in peace and friendship.

Elementary School Presentation. PAF staff, Andrea Zlotucha Kozub and Nina Versaggi, presented a PowerPoint program on the Owego sites to 160 fourth and fifth grade students from the Owego Elementary School on October 27, 2016. They were joined by Wendy Gonyea, clan mother for the Beaver Clan at Onondaga, who talked about Native American heritage today. Following the school presentation, the team presented another program for members of the Tioga County community.

Andrea Zlotucha Kozub presenting a PowerPoint Program to Owego Elementary School students

Onondaga Clan Mother, Wendy Gonyea, explains the meaning of the Two Row Wampum (replica).

Pamphlet and Educational Resources. Kozub and Versaggi prepared a pamphlet for the school and community entitled, *Discovering Those Who Came Before Us,* which they distributed to the students and community members. These will be made available to other classes in the school district. Additionally, we are working with the school's resource staff to create a web-based module on archaeology and our findings on their campus for use whenever students have need of this type of research material. Once our report is finished, a shorter version will be posted on the PAF web site for use by professional and community members.

These opportunities for community outreach serve as just some of the examples archaeologists in New York are pursuing as part of mitigation projects. They contribute to the public benefit expected from the National Historic Preservation Act.

Submitted by: Nina Versaggi

Wallkill Prehistoric Archaeological District

Archaeologists from the Public Archaeology Facility (PAF) completed the data recovery report for the Wallkill Prehistoric Archaeological District (WPAD), a group of 12 non-contiguous prehistoric archaeological sites situated on plateaus and ridges above the Wallkill River and on the Wallkill River floodplain. The report was compiled and edited by Laurie Miroff. Contributors included John Ferri, Rich Kastl, Sam Kudrle, Kevin Sheridan, and Andrea Zlotucha Kozub. Sites within the WPAD included: Mount Joy Road, Crystal Run 1-8, and Phillipsburg Creek 2, 3, and 6. Using a district approach, researchers classified sites not as isolated individual units, but as contributing elements of a larger context. These groupings allowed for inter-site comparisons based on material culture, site type, and landuse patterns. Four general site types were identified: camp/lithic reduction (Crystal Run 2), camp/structure (Crystal Run 7), processing alluvial (Crystal Run 8), and processing/terrace_upland (Crystal Run 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, Phillipsburg Creek 2, 3, 6, Mount Joy Road). A fifth potential site type (residential base camp) may exist within the WPAD as indicated by the reconnaissance survey identification of the Crystal Run 9 site, which did not advance to data recovery due to avoidance of impacts. Sites included those dating to the Early/Middle Archaic, Late Archaic, Transitional, Middle Woodland, and Late Woodland. While all WPAD sites produced evidence that occupants used both expedient and curated tools, bifacial reduction was, overall, more heavily favored at the WPAD sites.

Tools from the Crystal Run 6 site.

Informal and formal tools from 11 sites within the WPAD were submitted to Thomas Loebel for microwear analysis Phillipsburg Creek 6 was excluded due to disturbance caused by the overlapping historic component. Scraping and/or planing was the primary activity(ies) conducted within the WPAD. Projectile points were used exclusively on meat and fresh hides. Bone wear on these tools was interpreted by Loebel as related to disarticulation of a carcass. Other formal tools (scrapers, bifaces, unifaces, drill, and *pieces esquilles*) were used for: hide working, primary butchering, and manipulation of hard materials.

The microwear patterning distinguished sites with evidence of primary butchering (e.g., cutting/scraping of soft tissue and work on fresh hides) and sites with evidence of secondary butchering (e.g., bone/antler working and dry hide scraping). Dry hide working activities in the secondary butchering areas could be related to women's labor and, along with the lower numbers of bifaces, could support an interpretation of woman's work groups.

All sites contained the high quality local Wallkill chert (Wappinger Formation), however, this material was more favored at the highly mobile Early/Middle Archaic Crystal Run 2 site. Data indicate that mobility was the norm for WPAD site occupants and a variety of landforms were utilized, some of which were in marginal or peripheral areas. This form of land use by highly mobile hunter-gatherers constitutes a consistent pattern through time.

The report is currently under review by NYSDOT and FHWA. Once final review is completed, a more detailed summary will be added to the PAF web site: http://www.binghamton.edu/paf/projects.html.

Submitted by: Laurie Miroff

HARTGEN ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATES, INC.

Hartgen is assisting Schenectady's Metroplex Development Authority with a survey at Liberty Park, which is being redesigned. The park is the former location of a stonecutter's yard, Cowhorn Creek and likely mill structures, 18th-century stockade, an early railroad alignment, and residences dating back to the late 17th century. So far, we have conducted 50 x 50 centimeter shovel tests in non-paved portions of the park, finding a brass tinkler cone in a 19th-century fill level. There will also be archaeological monitoring during installation of new streetlights and electrical conduits in the park.

Hartgen has a pending data retrieval for Guy Park Manor, a late 18th-century house built by Sir William Johnson for his nephew Guy Johnson and his family. The house, which is controlled by the New York State Canal Corporation, will be raised seven feet to protect it from Mohawk River floodwaters. Both Johnsons served as Britain's principal Indian agents, meeting with and hosting Native American representatives from all over eastern North America. Therefore, the Manor is of interest to Native Americans and to scholars of Colonial America alike. Research goals include a search for the first Johnson building in the location (dating to 1766 and destroyed by fire in 1772 or 1773), documenting precontact features or deposits in the Mohawk River floodplain at the site, looking for evidence of the scores of enslaved people known to have lived and worked at the Manor, and tracing landscape changes in the 19th century associated with the arrival of the Erie Canal in the rear of the house. The resulting collection and data will be accessioned by the New York OPRHP, and will complement previous archaeological efforts conducted by the OPRHP at the Manor over the past 30 years.

Submitted by: Matt Kirk

NEWS FROM
CURTIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTING, INC.

Since Spring 2016 Curtin Archaeological Consulting, Inc. has conducted several Phase 1 archaeological surveys in Albany, Essex, Fulton, and Saratoga Counties. One of the surveys in Albany County identified a pre-contact period site with large, quartzite artifacts, including a large core, an end scraper, gravers, a flake-knife, and debitage. It may be possible to avoid impact to this site.

Phase 1 survey, High Peaks landscape (Essex County).

Quartzite end scraper, graver, flake-knife (Albany County).

Saratoga County Charcoal Mounds

A survey in Saratoga County identified a site where charcoal was manufactured in earth-covered mounds (most likely during the 19th century). We had not encountered this site-type previously. It has been reported upon occasion in both the United States and the British Isles, but seems to be somewhat under-represented in the archaeological literature. These sites represent a long-lived, Medieval technological strategy imported to the New World during the colonial era. However, charcoal-making using these facilities grew enormously during the Industrial Revolution, and contributed greatly to the deforestation of eastern North America in the 19th century (in England and Scotland the old practice of coppicing regularly renewed the wood supplies during this period). I offer a brief discussion of charcoal mounds here, although there is more to say. Hopefully the future holds a longer article.

Following Victor Rolando (1991), we have referred to the individual hearths as charcoal mounds, although they are also referred to as charcoal pits, hearths, and kilns. The reason they are sometimes called pits is obscure, since they are not excavated into the ground. Rather, they typically are low, flat-topped mounds with high charcoal content. The term "pit" may refer to a more ancient (although still extant) technology in which relatively small amounts of charcoal were produced in underground pits. Alternatively, it may refer to aspects of constructing and firing the mound, in which the pit-like space in the interior of the mound was accessed from above through a chimney. The embers that start the wood charring were dropped into the chimney by a collier (charcoal-maker) from the top of a ladder. The charring structure of stacked wood was carefully vented through the chimney and holes variously made or closed in the sides so that the airflow was controlled to prevent the char from going out; but to also prevent flare-ups and conflagrations that would reduce the wood to ashes instead of charcoal.

The care needed to control this process required that the collier (usually with one or two assistants) be present day and night for a period that may last for a couple of weeks. Some of the literature on this process cites the use of a "collier's hut" for shelter or to nap in. The charcoal-making season was from late spring to mid-autumn and the collier's huts were small structures made of poles and branches covered with leaves and earth. Limited references in the documentary literature indicate that when a single mound was in use, the hut was quite close by; or when two mounds were in use at the same time, the hut was midway between them, about 15 m away, as the mounds were said to be about 30 m apart. We have found references to numerous mounds in use simultaneously, apparently to produce very large amounts of charcoal by contractors to fuel iron forges. However, we have seen no discussion of collier's huts in relation to this scale of operation.

Also, we have found no archaeological reports on the investigation of collier's huts. These features have been described as likely too ephemeral to identify archaeologically (for example, Schneiderman 2016). However, Lucianne Lavin (personal communication) may have found small stone foundations possibly associated with collier's huts. The documentary descriptions of collier's hut construction do not indicate the use of stone for foundations or other features. However, Lavin's survey was in a rocky, upland setting, and may provide some interesting local or regional variation.

Our survey found two charcoal mounds on sandy soil (no rocks) spaced about 30 meters apart. Our 5-meter interval shovel-testing around and between the mounds found no evidence of a collier's hut. In fact, no artifacts of any kind were found in this part of the project area. The mounds we found were low, generally level, slightly elliptical structures measuring 8.2 x 9 m and 7.6 x 11.2 m, respectively. This is about the size of many charcoal mounds reported in the literature, although the literature tends to mention their diameters, as if the mounds are more closely circular than elliptical, contrary to our finding. Elevations above the surrounding ground surface vary from 40-60 cm in one case, and 20-70 cm in the other. This elevation variation reflects the gradual slope within which a level surface was created to stack the cut wood on. Typically, the wood was stacked on end in the lowest tier. We found that small diameter branches ("lapwood") had been laid horizontally at the mound bases (i.e., put in place before stacking the similarly sized, vertically-diagonally oriented "billet wood"). Our sense is that the horizontal wood base may have helped to stabilize the mound, especially given the underlying sandy soil matrix.

Charcoal mound (flagged surface) with ditch visible in foreground (Saratoga County).

Literature, such as Frederick Overman's (1854) book, indicates that larger wood cut in four-foot lengths (called billets) was stacked three to four tiers high before being covered with earth and (ideally) charcoal ash. This indicates that the mounds typically were as much as 3.7 to 4.9 m (12 to 16 feet) high before the wood was charred and the charcoal removed. In the case of the mounds we found, all of the charcoal had been removed, except for traces of the horizontal base, and numerous small fragments densely mixed with the mound-soil. In a Connecticut case that Faline Schneiderman (2016) reports, an incompletely charred mound of stacked billets was discovered (and has been preserved as a historic resource within a state forest).

Our investigation identified ditches generally one to two meters wide surrounding the mounds (except where apparent causeways were left crossing to the mound from the outside terrain). These ditches were punctuated in places by deeper pits excavated within the ditch. We assume that the ditches and pits provided earth to cover the mounds (the earth covering provided the smothered internal environment needed for charring). The pits may represent situational responses to quickly mound more sand onto weak spots of the smoldering, earthen kiln. Rolando (1991) found that in Vermont ditches (which he referred to as "gutters") are a common feature of charcoal mounds. The ditches or gutters otherwise are not mentioned in the literature we reviewed. I note that Rolando's (1991) report of a regional survey of charcoal mounds and other (brick and stone) charcoal kilns is notable for the lack of other, similar surveys, and may be unique.

T. Arron Kotlensky (2007) has described the industrial scale at which charcoal was produced (often by professional collier and woodcutter contractors) in the Hudson Valley region for the Northeastern iron industry during the 19th century. In an interesting component of this larger process, Lavin (2001, 2014) has described numerous charcoal-making loci (considered one, possibly contemporaneous site) on the lands of the Schaghticoke Indian Reservation in northwestern Connecticut; and the existence of leases to non-Indian outsiders who came in to cut down the woods and manufacture charcoal. It also seems that charcoal was produced by farmers on a smaller scale on their own lands, using one or two mounds (Hedrick 1933; Van Wagenen 1953). While large consumers such as iron foundries seem to have stimulated the large charcoal operations, family-farms may have produced for either these or other consumers (blacksmiths come to mind). Jared Van Wagenen (1953), for example, mentioned an upstate New York farmer-collier carting his charcoal to sell in a local community market.

I want to thank Lucianne Lavin and T. Arron Kotlensky for valuable personal communication on this subject. Also, thanks to Dan Bagrow and Tim Lloyd for fielding the initial questions on this.

References

Hedrick, Ulysses Prentiss
1933 *A History of Agriculture in the State of New York*. Hill and Wang, New York.

Kotlensky, T. Arron
2007 *Between Mine, Forest, and Foundry: An Archaeological Study of the West Point Foundry Blast Furnace, Cold Spring, New York*. Master's Thesis, Department of Social Sciences, Michigan Technical University, Houghton, Michigan.

2016 Personal communication.

Lavin, Lucianne
2001 The Schaghticoke Nation and the Moravian Movement: Tribal Revitalization without Assimilation in Highland Connecticut. In *Archaeology of the Appalachian Uplands*, edited by Lynne P. Sullivan and Susan C. Prezzano, pp 252-263. University of Tennessee Press, Knoxville.

2014 In the Ground and in the Documents: Reconstructing Native American Communities. Presented in the Symposium *Beyond the Margins of Memory: Using the Documentary Record to Recover Native American History*. Annual Omohundro Conference, Halifax Nova Scotia, June 12-15, 2014. http://www.academia.edu/9477241/In_the_Ground_and_In-the_Documents. Electronic document consulted on 8/10/16.

2016 Personal communication.

Overman, Frederick
1854 *The Manufacture of Iron in All Its Various Branches*, third edition. Henry C. Baird, Philadelphia.

Rolando, Victor R.
1991 19th Century Charcoal Production in Vermont. *The Journal of the Society for Industrial Archeology* 17:15-36.

Schneiderman, Faline
2016 The Charcoal Mound Site at People's State Forest, Barkhamsted, Connecticut: A New Connecticut Archaeological Preserve. *Friends of the Office of State Archaeologist, Inc., Members Newsletter*, Spring 2016, pp. 3-5.

Van Wagenen, Jared
1953 *The Golden Age of Homespun*. Hill and Wang, New York.

Other News

In other news, I am very happy to announce the publication of *Archaeological Landscapes: Scale, Technology and Emerging Approaches*, edited by Laurie E. Miroff, Nina M. Versaggi, and Edward V. Curtin in *Northeast Anthropology*, Volume No. 83-84. This volume contains "Brewerton and Frontenac Island as Landscapes of Historic Practice in Central New York State" by Edward V. Curtin in the context of numerous great new articles published to honor the authors' and editors' mentor, Albert A. Dekin, Jr. Also, I am working on "Robert E. Funk and His Contributions to New York State Archaeology" and "The Archaic Period," both in preparation as chapters of the forthcoming book on New York State Archaeology edited by Lisa Marie Anselmi and Susan Maguire. Finally, Kerry Nelson and I are presenting our paper "Local to Regional in the Meadowood Phase: An Interaction Sphere Perspective on Early Woodland Period Sites in Saratoga County 2000-3000 BP" (coauthored with Courtney "Meadow" Coldon) to the Massachusetts Archaeological Society, Robbins Museum, Middleborough, Massachusetts on Saturday, October 29, 2016. We presented a version of this paper in April at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Anthropological Association (NEAA), Skidmore College.

Our latest blog articles are on Mohican remembered history, the Dekin Memorial volume, the many roles of the CRM archaeologist, remembering Dena Dincauze, and 1816: The Year Without a Summer. Find these at www.curtinarch.com/blog.

Submitted by: Ed Curtin

NEWS FROM THE ROBERT E. FUNK MEMORIAL ARCHAEOLOGY FOUNDATION, INC.

The Funk Foundation has the following grant information to report:

2015 Grant

The Funk Foundation is reviewing the grant report submitted by Ammie Mitchell in September. Ammie is a Ph.D. student at the University of Buffalo. Her project is titled: "Symbolism in Coarse-Crystalline Temper: Understanding the Development of Early Pottery in New York State." The Funk Foundation grant funded petrographic slides of pottery thin sections.

2016 Grants

The Funk Foundation received six proposals in response to its Spring 2016 request for proposals. Based upon the review of the proposals, Funk Foundation grants have been awarded to Albert E. Fulton II and Joshua Kwoka.

Albert Fulton is a doctoral student in the Department of Geography, Michigan State University. The grant will assist his dissertation research by providing radiocarbon dates. His project is titled: "Holocene Paleoecology of Native American Land-Use Dynamics in the Genesee Valley, West-Central New York State, USA." This work will be applied to the paleo-environmental analysis of a sediment core from the Rush Oak Openings (ROO) wetland site situated in the Genesee Valley region.

Joshua Kwoka, Ph.D., is a Research Assistant Professor at the University of Buffalo. His project is titled: "Identifying Late Woodland Communities of Practice: Debitage Stylistic Variation and Residency Patterns at the Simmons Site, Town of Elma, New York." The Simmons site is a protohistoric/early historic Iroquoian site in Erie County excavated in the 1960s by Marian White.

Update on the Richard Wakeman Grant

David Moyer of the Upper Susquehanna Chapter, NYSAA has forwarded the second radiocarbon date partially funded by the Funk Foundation for Richard Wakeman's analysis of the Behnke Farm site. Pending final reporting, this date is believed to be associated with a Late Archaic period, Snook Kill component at the Behnke Farm site in the Upper Susquehanna region. The date's conventional radiocarbon age is 3780±30 BP. The calibrated result (95% probability) is Cal BC 2290 to 2135 (Cal BP 4240 to 4085). Dave Moyer also sent a draft of Mr. Wakeman's final report. We are grateful to Dave for assisting Mr. Wakeman with the completion of the grant reporting. Both proposed radiocarbon dates have now been received by Mr. Wakeman and reported to the Funk Foundation.

Contact the Funk Foundation:

By calling Ed Curtin at (518) 928-8813 or emailing ecurtin12003@yahoo.com.

Submitted by: Ed Curtin on behalf of the other Funk Foundation Directors (Alfred Funk, Paul Huey, Jon Lothrop, Patterson Schackne).

NYAC ANNUAL AWARDS

Ellis McDowell-Loudon received the NYAC Founder's Award at the Fall 2016 NYAC meetings in Binghamton. Bill Engelbrecht and Dolores Elliott wrote her nomination letter.

President Doug Perrelli presents Founder's Award to Ellie McDowell-Loudan.

Ellis McDowell-Loudan, Founder's Award

Ellis McDowell arrived in Cortland from the South with a new PhD and two small children. It was August, 1973. That fall she started her more than forty-year career as a Professor of Anthropology and Archaeology at what is now SUNY Cortland. There she taught many anthropology courses and she held almost yearly archaeological field schools assisted by her husband, Gary Loudan. She also took on several CRM projects in central New York.

Based on her extensive teaching experience she wrote a book, published in 2002, *Archaeology: Introductory Guide for Classroom and Field*. In 2013 she authored *Human Evolution and Survival: Candid Conversations on the Human Story*.

Her extensive investigations of fish weirs have added new discoveries to the little understood prehistoric activity of fish procurement. Contrary to some people's beliefs, her local archaeological projects have demonstrated that there was, indeed, a prehistoric occupation in the area now encompassed within the boundaries of Cortland County.

Soon after she came to New York she joined the newly organized New York Archaeological Council and became one of the first Presidents. In the following years she took on other responsibilities by joining and chairing several committees. Among those that she contributed to were Contracts, Publications, Human Remains, and Action Committees. She served on the Board of Directors in many capacities for over forty years. She had almost perfect attendance for all those years. (Perhaps her only absence was this April when she was originally scheduled to receive this award.) Her involvement and contributions have made her an integral part of NYAC.

For forty years she has been a member of the Iroquois Studies Association, a non-profit organization that promotes the understanding of the past and present of the Haudenosaunee. The Iroquois Studies Association has recently incorporated the Conference on Iroquois Research (the Iroquois Conference) into its programs. She has been President for many years and hosts the annual meeting at Cortland.

Dr. Ellis McDowell-Loudan has played and continues to play a major role in New York State archaeology and Iroquois studies. She deserves NYAC's Founders Award.

NYAC AWARDS

Student Paper/Poster 2017 Competition: NYAC offers two student prize awards of $250 each, one for the best student paper and the other for the best student poster. The competition is open to any undergraduate or graduate student performing research on a topic related to New York State Archaeology.

NYAC Founders Award: This prize recognizes individuals who have assisted with preservation and research efforts in New York State Archaeology.

Submission: Submissions for both the student prizes and Founders Award should be submitted electronically. For the student prizes, attach the paper or poster to an e-mail. For the Founders Award, attach the nominations letter and supporting documents. Submit to: William Engelbrecht, engelbwe@gmail.com.

Deadline: March 1 with winners announced at the Spring NYAC meeting.

For More Information: Please check the NYAC website or e-mail questions to William Engelbrecht, engelbwe@gmail.com.

Submitted by: Bill Engelbrecht

NYAC NEWSLETTER

For the Spring 2017 newsletter, please submit by April 15.

Submit news in either Word or WordPerfect to Laurie Miroff by email at lmiroff@binghamton.edu. Note: please submit photos as .jpg files.

***NOTE**: If you change your email address or would like the newsletter sent to another email address, please forward the address to me.*