



# New York Archaeological Council

## NYAC Newsletter 2025

News from the President, Kate Whelan

Hi NYAC Members! This is Kate Whalen, the new president. I just wanted to write you to introduce myself and some of the plans I have for the next three years. I am a principal investigator at Chronicle Heritage in Buffalo (formerly Panamerican). I got my undergrad and grad degrees from University at Buffalo, where I worked with Doug Perrelli at Archaeological Survey. Buffalo is now my adopted home for me, my husband, our three kids, a dog and two cats. I'm a big Buffalo Bandits fan (the box lacrosse team here; Buffalo's best sports team, yes I said it). Growing up I've lived in the Capital District, Catskills, and graduated high school from Potsdam Central in Northern New York. Living in so many regions of our state is one of the reasons I got into archaeology and history as a kid.

I ran for president on a platform of advocating for our field with politicians, but also raising awareness of the benefits of archaeology to tourism boards, local decision makers, and the public at large. I want to expand NYAC's reach by building relationships with allied societies that are also facing funding and support cut backs. And lastly, I am trying to boost membership and figure out how to better engage with early career archaeologists in our state.

To that end we have a bunch of very exciting things cooking in the board room. We are working up ideas of workshops, not only for our members but also for adjacent fields that could benefit from learning more about what it is we do as CRM practitioners. We are looking for ideas and enthusiasm for pet projects that raise our organization's profile. If you have ideas, even just concepts of ideas, please reach out to me.

On that subject, my email is [kwhalen2@buffalo.edu](mailto:kwhalen2@buffalo.edu). If you email me I will try to get back to you in 48 hours. If you don't hear from me, please call or text me 315-212-6047 during the weekdays. Weekends are pretty busy for me with the kids, so weekdays are better if you need to talk.

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## President's Message continued

Two last items of business for the general membership over the summer:

- 1) The Board has approved professional insurance that will cover Board/Officer members. At the same time, is anyone interested in inviting your local representative to a site this summer? I sat in on a ACRA presentation where they are encouraging archaeologists throughout the country to invite State and Federal representatives to visit archaeological sites to see what it is we do, how we impact the local economy, how we do public outreach, and are funded by taxpayer dollars. Possible visitation sites do not have to tick all those boxes, but if you have something that was funded by a specific pot of government money, is part of heritage tourism and brings money into the local economy, or is just a really cool site, please contact me so I can help coordinate showing off your awesome work.
  
- 2) Please let me know if you are aware of a local cultural institution that has had its funding cut and could use some in-kind help from our membership. I'm thinking if there are local historical societies, historic homes, or libraries that have projects that have been stalled because of frozen federal funds, we could help? Things like digitizing, collections identification or research where we could give mutual support are the types of things that come to mind. But again, I would be interested in hearing lots of suggestions.

I hope everyone has a very productive summer!

Take Care,

Kate

## Past President's Message – June 2025

Folks, again a thank you for your support, engagement, and gentle rebukes during my tenure as President. My term, for me, was most often a pleasure, occasionally onerous, and always a learning experience. I hope to support Kate the same way Doug, Nina, and other past presidents supported me.

The emotion aside, I would like to take this opportunity to remind us all what we have done over the last three years, And, what we have committed to doing over the next several months.

Prior year highlights for me were:

- In 2022, initiatives that began before 2022 moved forward. Vivian James and her committee provided the templates for material specification sheets (MSS) and asked for completion of new MSS sheets as well. Almost simultaneously, Beth Selig and her group posted the First Edition of the Nomenclature Guidelines. Both initiatives have resulted in quality products that help us all do our jobs better.
- In the same year, we also commented on the Unmarked Burial Site Protection Act which was eventually enacted.
- In 2023, we reviewed and supported the Papscanee Island Historic District nomination. We also provided our comments on the FHWA Programmatic Agreement draft final to the lead agency.
- In 2024, Kate hosted the career opportunities session at the Spring meeting. We also finally agreed that professional insurance coverage was warranted to cover Board/Officers.
- We began an important discussion about A.I. and how to use it. Under Kate's guidance in the coming year, NYAC will begin preparation of protocols dealing with the use of AI in work plan, report, and research in general.
- Although we received great feedback from the Nations/Tribes on the nomenclature guidelines, we are still trying to determine how to engage with the Nations so that we can be more respectful of their cultural properties. Those discussions will continue in the coming years I am sure.
- This year, we provided comment to the FCC about CTIA and to the Department of Public Service's ("DPS") Office of Renewable Energy Siting and Electric Transmission ("ORES") about the Rapid Act.

In the coming months, we all will be hearing more about the following items that were discussed in May's meeting.

- NYAC approved annual monies to support the newly created Charles Vandrei grants. The amount is still be worked out and Lisa is dealing with the Vandrei family on the matter. The Vandrei grants will complement the Funk Foundation grants.
- NYAC will continue to participate in the newly re-formed Professional Councils Workgroup which currently has professional archaeological councils representing Colorado, Michigan, New York (us), Pennsylvania, Utah, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. These councils have agreed to speak with a common voice on certain issues dealing with maintenance of regulations and laws that protect cultural resources.

## Past President's Message continued

- New York's Unmarked Burial Protection Act Burial Review Committee (BRC) reported on presentations about the Act to the Fordham Law Symposium and the New York State Conference of Coroners. Similar presentations will be made by NYAC members supporting Christine Reith (NY State Archaeologist) and Lisa Anderson (NYSM bioarchaeologist) who are both named members of the BRC. NYAC also has a member on the BRC and I will continue in that roll.
- A committee being led by Beth Selig will be compiling information about the existing SUNY field schools, the feasibility of NYAC running field schools through Empire State College, and other options. NYAC is also looking into creating scholarships for persons to attend field schools.
- NYAC also may offer other workshops including 1) preparation of NEPA level CATEX, EA, and EIS documents; 2) What is the Role of the Archaeologist in assisting Lead Agencies in the creation of Tribe/Nation Agency Consultation Packages.
- Sissie Pipes has asked that NYAC consider the creation of a Web Manager officer-level position to replace the role she has had for several years. She also presented a concept to expand the offerings presented on the NYAC website and she will be writing up the description of this over the summer.
- Throughout the meeting, the fallout from various federal-level EOs and other regulatory changes were subjects of discussion. Of particular concern were the loss of IMLS grants, changes to both NEPA and NHPA, the implementation of unrealistic review periods for projects impacting federal lands or with federal leads, and, somewhat surprisingly, changes to ESA definitions. Uniformly, the NYAC members support face-to-face meetings with our federal representatives (Senate and House), member-signed letters supporting (few) or opposing (many) federal level actions, and anything else we can do to keep the potential destruction of historic properties and TCPs on peoples' minds.
- Daria Merwin will be advancing a meeting with SHPO to get clarification on the criteria used to define CRIS Archaeological Buffer Areas, unmarked cemetery protections, and use of AI.

Again, thank you all -

Carol

## News from the New York State Museum, Cultural Resource Survey Program

### *Kaaterskill Creek Site*

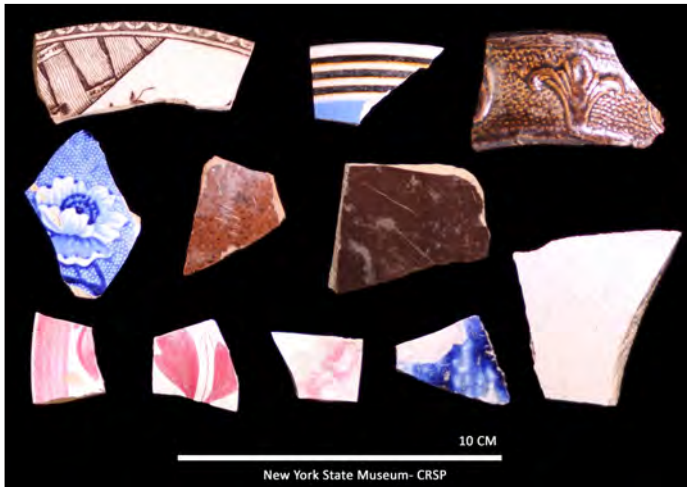
The Kaaterskill Creek site is a small pre-contact occupation identified in a 2022 reconnaissance survey conducted by CRSP staff in the Town of Catskill, New York. The initial Phase I survey, led by Amy Lynch, collected eight artifacts including a broken biface, flake debitage, and fire-cracked rock. A site examination further exploring the site was conducted in the summer of 2024, during which six units were excavated.

Overall, the work completed at the Kaaterskill Creek site documented a temporarily occupied habitation site. Recovered cultural material include a Greene style projectile point made from local chert, chert debitage, and several hammerstones. The point suggests an occupation date from 1,200 to 2,300 years ago, consistent with the Middle Woodland period.



*Excavations at the Kaaterskill Creek site.*

### *H. Simon Site*



*19th century ceramics from the H. Simon site.*

The H. Simon site was first identified in late 2022 when a dense historic period sheet midden was documented as part of a reconnaissance survey led by Mickey Dobbin in Oneida County. The midden was linked to a structure labeled “H. Simon” on nineteenth century maps, which also depicted a wool carding mill nearby. A site examination was completed during the summer of 2023 during which nine units investigated the midden and targeted a number of other contexts at the site.

Documentary research revealed that Hartman Simon and his family emigrated to the United States during a wave of German immigration. They arrived in the village of West Branch in 1849 and brought skills relating to water-powered cloth manufacture. Over 5,000 artifacts were recovered at the site during the two phases of archaeological investigation, and the cultural material suggests that the family enjoyed a higher economic status than what was typical of the area at that time. As such, the Simons are an immigrant family notable as small-scale industrialists in a rural agricultural context, occupying a place between the piecework rural cottage industry of the early nineteenth century and the full-scale urban textile industries of the late nineteenth century.

*Black River Canal Lock #36 Site*

Another reconnaissance survey in Oneida County, this time led by Joshua DuBuque, identified the Black River Canal Lock #36 Site in June 2022. Work included surface survey and excavation of 94 shovel test pits, some of which were dug directly inside sections of a former canal bed and lock chamber. The feature, identified as Lock #36 of the Black River Canal, included both above ground and subsurface structural remains. Archaeologists identified portions of the upper and lower wingwalls, downstream and upstream lock gate recesses, and the canal prism floor. Architectural hardware related to the canal construction was also recovered including square cut spikes and nails, brackets, and mortar.

Operational between 1851-1924, the Black River Canal opened previously inaccessible portions of New York State to widespread markets via a lateral connection with the Erie Canal. Further, the Black River Canal Lock #36 Site contributes to our understanding of mid-nineteenth century transportation engineering.



*STP inside Lock 36.*

Submitted by Daniel E. Mazeau

## News from Curtin Archaeological Consulting, Inc.

Recent projects conducted by Curtin Archaeological Consulting, Inc. range widely, from the Saratoga region to Otego, Fishkill, Schoharie, Coxsackie, Pittstown, North Greenbush, and beyond.

### *The Meadow Street Precontact Site, Village of Otego, New York*

The Meadow Street Precontact site Phase 3 Data Recovery Project fieldwork was conducted in the Village of Otego, Otsego County. The fieldwork became quite exciting when the infamous July 16, 2024 storm flew in like the Wicked Witch of the West. We left the site early that day, and just in the nick of time: Twenty minutes later, the wind became strong enough to knock trees onto our shelters.



*The Meadow Street site. Excavation above the proposed water line.*



*July 2024 storm damage at the Meadow Street site.*

The area we investigated was the small part of the site where a new water well will be drilled and a connecting line will provide the well water to an existing distribution system. The Meadow Street site is located on alluvial terraces of the Susquehanna River, just below a glacial outwash terrace. The geomorphic context is similar to that of the Kuhr No. 1 and No. 2 sites on the Otego floodplain excavated by former New York State Archaeologist Robert E. Funk. The terrace sequence (T0 through T3) and the associated, approximate ages of terrace formation have been reconstructed based upon Funk's work with geomorphologists Robert Dineen, James Kirkland, and P. Jay Fleisher. The Meadow Street site occupation area is on T2 and, to a limited extent, onto T1. There was some limited vertical stratification of these de-

posits. The best stratified location was just below the present-day T1-T2 boundary, where silt and sand deposition was fast and relatively deep, and a thin, buried A-horizon preserved the surface of a gentle slope toward the river. This preserved, sloped land surface is below the A-B sequence which formed at the end of the T1 period of aggradation and leveled the ground surface at its landward edge; approximate elevation 1041 feet above mean sea level.

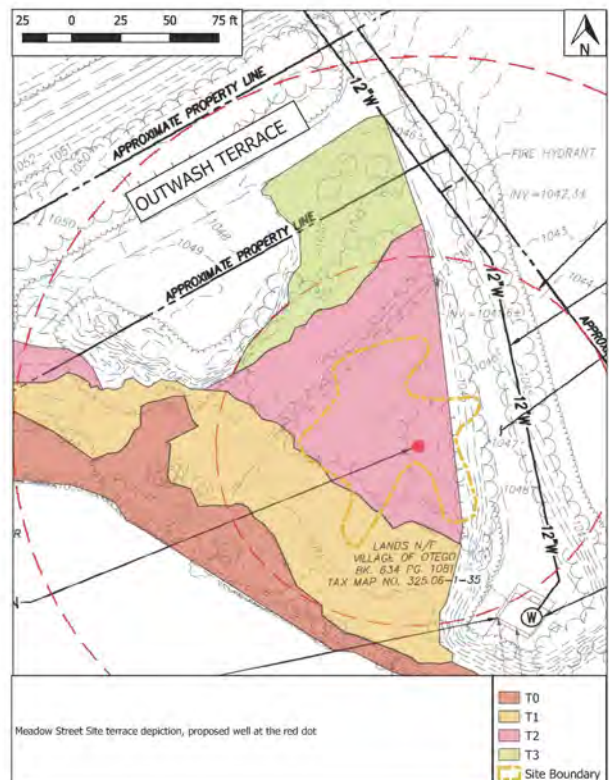


*Meadow Street Site, Unit 9, deep digging on the outer edge of Terrace 2.*



*Meadow Street Site: Looking up from Terrace 1 to Terrace 2.*

Based on the terrace sequence nearby that was worked-out and radiocarbon-dated by Funk and colleagues, T2 formed ca. 4000-1 BC, and T1 formed after ca. 1 BC. The usual stratigraphic sequence was an A-B horizon sequence, although in places an A-A-B sequence occurred. At the aforementioned deeper stratigraphy, the sequence was A-B-A-B, with the lower A preserving the degree and orientation of the slope before T1 stabilized. The earliest cultural material item found at the site was a fragment of a Rossville point in the lower A of an A-A-B sequence. The age estimate of this point type is ca. 500 BC-100 AD. Most of cultural materials were found in the upper stratigraphy, including either the undifferentiated A horizon or in the upper A. This component appears to date to about AD 800-1100 (Late Middle-Early Late Woodland) based on the recovery of several Levanna points and a Jack's Reef Pentagonal point. No pottery was found. The main lithic source appears to be glacially deposited Onondaga chert pebbles collected locally, although small amounts of Esopus chert and Pennsylvania jasper were also found. The lithic assemblage is currently being studied, and the report is scheduled for completion this summer.



### *Presentations and Public Outreach*

In May 2025 Ed Curtin and Jenna Hendrick presented papers at the annual meeting of the New York State Archaeological Association in Niagara Falls. Ed presented a paper titled “Jigansahse, the Peace Queen” in the session organized to honor Chuck Vandrei. Jenna presented a paper titled “Archaeology for the People.” Expanding on her paper from last year, in which she argued for the inclusion of vignettes into data recovery reports. By showing their many benefits as a science communication tool, Jenna provided examples of how to move these vignettes beyond the report to reach an even wider public. The month prior, Ed presented a paper titled “Skunny Wundy, Jiggon Sassy, and the Cat Tales Behind an Arthur Parker Children’s Story” at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Anthropological Association at Bridgewater State University. Both he and Jenna Hendrick presented at the annual conference of the Council on Northeast Historical Archaeology held in New Haven, CT in October 2024. Ed’s paper was titled “Parker, Harrington, and the Earth Islands of Western New York.” Jenna’s paper, titled “Small but Mighty: the Big Impact of Artifactual Outliers,” used a single piece of historically knapped glass found at the Hill Road Precontact site to show how artifactual outliers can still provide valuable data when combined with adequate documentary research. That same month, Ed made a guest presentation in Michael Gaige’s Skidmore College class: “Landscape Dynamics of the Saratoga Region”. Ed focused on local chert sources, including the bedrock and till sources from Cedar Bluff to Fish Creek east of Saratoga Lake. In September 2024, Kerry Nelson made a guest presentation in Lauren Roberts’ Skidmore College public history class. Kerry’s presentation was on archaeology in cultural resource management and focused on the Hemphill site in Malta, New York. The Hemphill site, a 19<sup>th</sup> century site with Euroamerican and African American house sites, is an excellent example to illustrate archaeology in CRM from the Phase 1A survey through Phase 3 data recovery, including both field archaeology and documentary research.

Submitted by: Ed Curtin and Jenna Hendrick



## News from the Robert E. Funk Memorial Archaeology Foundation, Inc

Funk Foundation Announces Grant Awards for the 2024-2025 Grant Cycle

In December 2024, the Robert E. Funk Memorial Archaeology Foundation, Inc. issued grants supporting three new archaeological research projects. These awards were based on grant applications received by the October 15 deadline, and the grant awardees and their research projects include:

1. Timothy Abel: *Geophysical Prospection of Fort Brewerton, Brewerton, New York* (\$2,500).
2. Robert Kuhn and William Engelbrecht: *AMS Dating of the Eaton Site* (\$1,320).
3. Matthew Matsulavage and Albert Fulton: *Assessing the Ecological Impact of Settler Colonialism at the Forsyth-Warren Tavern Site, Cambria, New York* (\$2,250).

We look forward to receiving and disseminating reports on each of these research grants later in 2025!

As a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, the Funk Foundation is dedicated to supporting archaeological research by professional, student, and avocational archaeologists (<https://www.funkfoundation.org/>). Based on grant applications, we issue research grants of up to \$2500 for studies of New York State archaeology. Funding for these grants relies entirely on tax-deductible donations from organizations and individuals. The Foundation's Board of Directors serves in a voluntary capacity to review grant applications, award and oversee grants, and administer these funds. Donations help to ensure funding for small-scale research projects that make significant contributions to our collective understanding of the human past in the New York region. To donate, please visit our website: [www.funkfoundation.org/donate](http://www.funkfoundation.org/donate)

## Archaeological Management of Sugar Loaf Hill, a Sacred Shinnecock Ancestral Site

In 2025, Allison McGovern prepared an Archaeological Management Plan (AMP) for 520 and 563 Montauk Highway in Southampton, New York. These properties are situated within a sacred landscape comprised of the Sugar Loaf Hill mortuary and burial site. The Peconic Land Trust, in coordination with the Niamuck Land Trust, acquired, owns, and co-stewards the properties at 520 and 536 Montauk Highway in Southampton, New York. The Niamuck Land Trust is a Shinnecock member-led 501c3 that seeks to purchase, protect, and preserve the sacred ancestral sites of the sovereign Shinnecock Indian Nation. Due to the long history of sacred sites within and adjacent to these properties, the Peconic Land Trust and the Niamuck Land Trust proposed the creation of an AMP to document the land use history, the historic context, and known and potential cultural deposits within these properties.

The Sugar Loaf Hill site is verified through Shinnecock Traditional Knowledge, 20th century archaeological investigations, and 21st century ground-penetrating radar. The site was initially investigated archaeologically in the 1930s by amateur archaeologists Roy Latham and Charles Goddard, who created the Long Island Chapter of the New York State Archaeological Association. Between 1936 and 1937, Latham and Goddard's excavations unearthed a large main pit measuring 23 by 30 feet with smaller pits off the easterly side. They documented 41 graves with goods, 44 fused blocks of firemaking pyrites, 7 hearths (of which 5 were crematories; identified by bone in charcoal), mine deposits of red ochre including bands around 2 grave caches, bone ash deposits from cremation that took place elsewhere, grey slate and lithic projectile points, 60 steatite vessels that were ritually broken, two clay pottery vessels that were ritually broken, and Orient fishtail projectile points (Goddard 1936; Latham 1936). Most of the materials and features recorded are associated with a site type that archaeologists identified as the Orient Phase or Orient Culture. In the 1950s, then-NYS Archaeologist William Ritchie returned to the Sugar Loaf Hill site and other Orient Phase sites and further refined the chronologies through radiocarbon dating, thus associating the Orient Phase with a roughly 300-year period between 1043 (Sugar Loaf) and 763 BC (Jamesport) (Ritchie 1965:165). He noted that this period correlated with a cooling of the climate and drop in sea level (suggesting that habitation sites might now be inundated by subsequent sea level rise).



Despite the episodes of archaeological investigation that took place at the summit of Sugar Loaf Hill, the boundaries of the Sugar Loaf Hill cemetery site have never been defined through archaeological survey or ground penetrating radar. All surrounding properties have the highest potential for the presence of human burials, crematory, and artifacts of sacred meaning, regardless of ground disturbance in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. As such, preservation of the landscape, and site access for Shinnecock practices of ritual, ceremony, and commemoration, are the highest priorities for its conservation and management. Following guidelines established by the Department of Interior, this property is best understood as a Traditional Cultural Place (updated TCP Bulletin available here <https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/DownloadFile/713282>).

The properties referenced in the AMP are collectively stewarded, and the owners seek protections through agreements with the Town of Southampton. In the spirit of this collective stewardship, the AMP was designed as a planning document intended to strengthen relationships between key stakeholders - individuals, organizations, and agencies who are responsible for managing and preserving the site - through transparency in decision-making, thus enabling stakeholders to make informed and sustainable decisions that can preserve the significance of the site in the present and for future generations. The AMP also outlines the archaeological sensitivity of the surrounding area, provides a history of archaeological investigations within the properties, defines site significance(s), and identifies potential impacts to preserving and maintaining site significance.

The Peconic Land Trust and the Niamuck Land Trust continue to work with the Town of Southampton to ensure protection of the Sugar Loaf Hill sacred landscape. In February of 2025, NYAC President Carol S. Weed was asked by Tela L. Troge, Esq. (Shinnecock Indian Nation) to write a letter of support for the AMP that would be shared with Town of Southampton officials. That letter was sent February 20, 2025. The AMP circulated among the NYAC Board, as well as the Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC) and the New York State Archaeological Association (NYSAA) Cemetery Committee. Individuals who supported the report were encouraged to reach out to Town of Southampton officials with supporting letters.

#### References:

Goddard, Charles. 1936. Goddard Notes from Sugar Loaf, Shinnecock, Site. Notes on file, Southold Indian Museum, accessed through the NYS Cultural Resource Information System.

Latham, Roy. 1936. The Third Component of the Orient Focus Burials, Sugar Loaf, Shinnecock Hills, Southampton Township. Notes on file, Southold Indian Museum, accessed through the NYS Cultural Resource Information System.

Ritchie, William A. 1959/65. *The Stony Brook Site and Its Relation to Archaic and Transitional Cultures on Long Island*. New York State Museum and Science Bulletin 372. The University of the State of New York, The State Education Department.

Submitted by: Allison McGovern



## HPA Funds

Hello NYAC Members,

As you probably know by now the HPA funds for fiscal year 2025 have been frozen (the funds that support SHPOs and THPOs, amongst other archaeological and preservation entities). Also the budget for FY 2026 is recommending no funding at all for the HPA. To this end, I would like to ask you to call your members of Congress to register your opinions on this matter. For your convenience, a form letter can be found on the following page. The board is going to submit this on behalf of the membership to the State Senators (but feel free to call or email them on your own if you feel like it!). You can find your federal representative's contact information at this link: <https://www.congress.gov/members/find-your-member>

Please let me know if there are other funding streams or legislation that you feel NYAC should be advocating for or alerting the membership about. This includes on the State level.

Thanks for your help!

Submitted by: Kate Whalen



# New York Archaeological Council

Kathryn Whalen, Ph.D., RPA  
Phone (315) 212-6047  
Kwhalen2@buffalo.edu

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

June 12, 2025

Your House Member Here  
Their Office number  
Washington, DC 20510

**SUBJECT:** Release of FY 2025 Historic Preservation Funds

Dear House Member:

Please take action today to publicly urge the administration to immediately release the FY 2025 Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) grants for State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs and THPOs). Without this duly appropriated and enacted money, SHPOs and THPOs will have to lay off staff, and will not be able to carry out their responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of identifying and protecting archaeological sites and other historic properties impacted by federal infrastructure projects and other undertakings, endangering these irreplaceable resources.

New York State SHPO specifically leads the nation in the number of consultation reviews, use of historic tax credits, and listings on the National Register. It administers historic preservation environmental reviews under state and federal Historic Preservation Acts, which includes reviewing all undertakings of state or federally funded, licensed, or permitted projects for a total of 11,000+ substantive reviews annually. It also administers the state and federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit programs, a significant driver of economic development and affordable housing efforts in NYS.

We are also asking you to support robust funding for the HPF in FY 2026. Unfortunately, the president's budget request calls for defunding SHPOs and THPOs. If this were to occur, projects would come to a halt, thus jeopardizing billions in investment, destroying thousands of jobs in the cultural resource management industry, and resulting in irreversible damage to or destruction of historic landmarks and archaeological sites. Without SHPOs and THPOs and private-sector experts, all preservation work will be left to understaffed and underfunded federal agencies, and the voices of states, tribes, and local communities will be silenced when it comes to preserving their own heritage--precisely the opposite of the intent of the NHPA.

When the FY 2026 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies bill comes up for a vote, it is critical that it provide substantial funding for SHPOs and THPOs. The budget implication of the elimination of the HPF will create a significant slowdown or potential halt of infrastructure and historic tax credit rehabilitation projects reviews once projects are passed to NPS for final review – discouraging private investment and hampering community and economic growth.

The NHPA and HPF facilitate economic growth while protecting the past. By ensuring that SHPOs and THPOs receive their FY 2025 funding, and by allocating \$70 million for SHPOs and \$34 million for THPOs in the FY 2026 HPF appropriations bill, Congress can ensure its position as a steward of our nation's history, while helping grow the nation's economy.

Sincerely,  
Your name here

## News from the NYAC Awards Committee

At NYAC's annual meeting on May 2, the Awards Committee presented Founders Awards to Drs. Marie-Lorraine (Sissie) Pipes and Joel Klein.

### Founders Award: Dr. Marie-Lorraine Pipes

Nominated by Dr. Ann Morton

Pipes earned her BA from NYU, MA from Hunter College (CUNY), and PhD from the University at Buffalo. She is a longtime member of NYAC, serving in several positions, such as President, Board member, and Chair of the Collections Committee.

In her nomination letter, Ann Morton states that Sissie has a gift for looking at an issue or problem and developing a solution. For instance, finding a home for orphaned CRM artifact collections resulted in her organizing and conducting the NYAC Museum and Repository Survey, the first one undertaken in New York. The resulting report is a valuable resource for archaeologists. She also digitized the Bulletin of the NYSAA to make underutilized but valuable literature freely accessible to all.

Sissie has worked as a professional zooarchaeologist since 1986 and has taught at five NYS colleges and universities. She currently teaches at Geneseo. Her CV lists dozens of technical reports and 20 professional publications.

Her recent research projects include:

- Lamoka Lake in collaboration with the Rochester Museum and Science Center;
- Onondaga Sequence Project with Jim Bradley and Greg Sohrweide;
- Schuyler Flatts and Fort Orange with Paul Huey;
- Eaton Site with Bill Englebrecht; and currently
- River Lea site in Beaver Island State Park with Ann Morton. Her work on the faunal remains from this site identified a new way to see formerly enslaved persons (maroon communities) using types of artifacts (bone tools) that had not been previously considered.

As Ann notes, Sissie believes that the knowledge we acquire through our privileged access to the past must be shared, and she puts that belief into practice with articles, lectures, presentations, and public outreach.

Her professionalism, passion for archaeology, and commitment to sharing it with others make her an ideal recipient of the NYAC Founders Award.



## Inside Story Headline

Dr. Marie-Lorraine  
Pipes awarded the  
Founders Award.

## Founders Award: Dr. Joel Klein

Nominated by Dr. Tim Lloyd

The NYAC Awards Committee is honored to present a Founders Award to Joel Klein in recognition of his outstanding contributions to archaeology and historic preservation. Tim Lloyd of OPRHP submitted the nomination, with supporting letters from Sydne Marshall, Pat Heaton, and Paul Huey.

A lifelong New Yorker, Joel earned his degrees from City College of NY and NYU. At City College, he studied under Jerry Jacobson; at NYU he was advised by Bert Salwen and Howard Winters.

Joel joined NYAC in 1972 as a founding member, serving on the Executive Board, as Contracts Committee Chair, and as the first NYAC newsletter editor. He co-founded PANYC and held multiple national positions while mentoring numerous professionals in CRM policy and procedures. Joel served terms as a PANYC Newsletter Editor, Board member, Vice President, and President (1983).

In 1976 Joel became the first archeologist specifically hired by the NYS Office of Parks and Recreation (now OPRHP) Field Services Bureau to carry out project reviews under the newly issued federal regulations. Along with Sarah Bridges and Lenore Kuwik, he co-authored the Procedures for the Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties in NYS. That document informed the NYAC Standards in use today. Of particular importance, he participated in the first CRM project in New York State in advance of EPA-funded construction. This sewer project was part of the NYAC lawsuit that forced the US EPA to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.



Throughout his career, Klein worked at various companies, most recently John Milner Associates, until retiring in 2014. His staff recall learning the meaning of professionalism and stewardship with respect to cultural resources management.

Joel felt that his most impactful work was guiding the Coalition of 9/11 Families from 2003–2006, ensuring Ground Zero received proper historic preservation recognition. His advocacy helped block legislative changes that would have weakened NHPA protections.

Joel Klein's career reflects a deep commitment to preservation, advocacy, mentorship, and leadership within CRM and the general archaeological community. The Awards Committee recognizes the significant contributions of Joel Klein with a NYAC Founders Award.

Submitted by: Nina Versaggi

## Inside Story Headline

Dr. Joel Klein awarded the Founders Award.



## NYAC Dues Notice 2025

**REMINDER!** Your 2025 dues are due. Annual dues are \$25.00 for full members and \$15 for graduate students and associate members (What a great deal!).

New York Archaeological Council 2025 dues are now due. Please remember that any NYAC member who falls more than two years behind in dues payments will be removed from the member list. In order to return to membership, the current and previous year's dues must be paid.

If you are not sure where you are in your dues payments, send an email to Ann Morton ([aewmorton96@gmail.com](mailto:aewmorton96@gmail.com)) who will check for you.

Please make your check payable to NYAC and mail to: Ann E. W. Morton, NYAC Treasurer, 1215 Macedon Center Road, Macedon, NY 14502 (dues may also be paid using PayPal by sending funds to Ann at [amorton@fisherassoc.com](mailto:amorton@fisherassoc.com); please be sure to include a note for any funds donated beyond annual dues).

For Pay Pal—use email [amorton@fisherassoc.com](mailto:amorton@fisherassoc.com) (does not work for anything else). If you don't have a PayPal account and don't want to create one, send me an email at [aewmorton96@gmail.com](mailto:aewmorton96@gmail.com) and I will send you a PayPal invoice that you can pay using a different method.

Submitted by: Ann Morton

## New York Archaeological Council Dues Notice 2025

New York Archaeological Council 2025 dues are now due. Please remember that any NYAC member who falls more than two years behind in dues payments will be removed from the member list. In order to return to membership, the current and previous year's dues must be paid.

The Archaeology Month, NYAC 50th Anniversary Fund, Educational Outreach, and Robert E. Funk Memorial Foundation and the Legal Defense funds need support. Please feel free to use this opportunity to make an additional tax-deductible contribution to one or more of these funds. We are also seeking funds to celebrate NYAC's 50th anniversary year.

Please also consider an extra amount for one of our Funds: Educational Outreach, Legal Defense, or the 50th Anniversary. We are a registered public charity (501c3) so all donations are tax deductible. You may also contribute to the Robert E. Funk Foundation, or the Charles E. Vandrei Jr. Grant. We will send your donation on to them.

Please check here if you are a NYAC Founder's Award recipient (awardees receive lifetime membership) \_\_\_\_\_

NYAC Member	\$25.00	\$_____
Graduate Associate	\$15.00	\$_____
Associate Member	\$15.00	\$_____

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If you are behind in your dues, that amount is included here:

\$\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make an additional contribution to:

Archaeology Month	\$_____
Legal Defense Fund	\$_____
Educational Outreach	\$_____
Robert E. Funk Memorial Foundation	\$_____
NYAC 50th Anniversary Fund	\$_____
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$_____

**Member Information** Please check here if any information has changed \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Work Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to **NYAC** and mail to: Ann E. W. Morton, NYAC Treasurer, 1215 Macedon Center Road, Macedon, NY 14502 (dues may also be paid using PayPal by sending funds to Ann at [amorton@fisherassoc.com](mailto:amorton@fisherassoc.com); please be sure to include a note for any funds donated beyond annual dues).



## NYAC Fall Meeting 2025

The NYAC fall meeting will take place October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, in the Capital District. Location, times, and agenda to follow. A Zoom link will available for those who wish to attend virtually.

This fall we will host a program about the use of A.I. in archaeology. I would like to present the membership with a workshop style program where we have presentations about the types of A.I., their uses, pros and cons in their application to archaeological data and report writing, and the current state of ethics. I am soliciting questions, concerns, and suggestions for this program. Please email me at [kwhalen2@buffalo.edu](mailto:kwhalen2@buffalo.edu) with any thoughts you might have. Looking forward to seeing you all in the fall.

## NYAC Newsletter

*For the 2026 newsletter, please submit by **May 15**.*

*Submit news in Word to Laurie Miroff by email at  
[lmiroff@binghamton.edu](mailto:lmiroff@binghamton.edu).*

*Note: please submit photos as .jpg files.*

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## New York Archaeological Council

### Executive Officers

President: Kate Whalen

Vice-president: Joe Diamond

Secretary: Daniel Mazeau

Treasurer: Ann Morton

### Board Members:

Lisa Anderson

Allison McGovern

Daria Merwin

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Beth Selig

Carol Weed



<https://nysarchaeology.org/nyac/>