

Special points of interest:

- Annual Meeting—January 26
- In Memoriam: Walter Landgraf
- Write for the newsletter!

President's Letter



This will be my final President's Letter inasmuch as my term of office expires at the Annual Meeting in

January. These past four years have been an exciting period both for the organization as well as the Office of State Archaeology. During this past year alone, working with Leanne Kennedy-Harty from the Museum of Natural History, we have been able to obtain a \$25,000 grant from the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor to support funding of the exhibits at the newly remodeled Archaeology Center. In addition, FOSA has contributed \$5,000 to further fund these exhibits.

While many things have been accomplished, others remain to be done. It is extremely important for an organization to

bring in "new blood" to continue to move forward with new ideas and new energy. Both the Board and the various committees that have been established offer a wide spectrum of opportunities for members to serve the organization. I would ask that if you are contacted and asked to serve in some capacity, be it on the Board or one of the committees, that you give the request serious consideration. The organization needs your input and ideas along with the financial support offered through your membership dues.

Regarding the upcoming Annual Meeting, we have been able to arrange for an exceptional speaker for the event. Richard Lawrence, Director of Underwater Archaeology at the North Carolina Department of

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News from the OSA

and the Museum

Natural History/Archaeology Center held our first "archaeology field school" for adults. Fourteen people from as far away as Virginia spent a full week with us at the Rogers Site in Lisbon, CT, excavating an important Pre-Contact Native American campsite along the Quinebaug River. We have heard nothing but positive feedback from the participants.

Needless to say, we could

This sum- never have undertaken such mer our office a large project without the cooperation and volunteerism of FOSA members. I hate to mention names due to fears of leaving folks out, but, we want to express our gratitude for the hard work of all of you that participated: Dave Cooke, Ken Beatrice, and John Spaulding who assisted during the orientation process; Paul Scannell and Cynthia Redman who instructed field school members on artifact processing and cataloguing

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Page 2 MEMBER NEWSLETTER

Radiocarbon Dating

Results from Beta Analytic Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory in Florida yielded a date of 550 +/- 50 BP or AD 1400 for the Indian Rock Site in Somers, Connecticut. This site produced clay pottery sherds and a Jack's Reef Corner-Notched projectile point of red jasper material.



A date for the Hellgate Rock Shelter in Durham, Connecticut proved to be very late and we strongly felt that the charcoal sample sent had to have been contaminated.

Dave Cooke

Condolences to the family of **Walter Landgraf**, FOSA member, who passed away unexpectedly July 23, 2007 in Lunenberg, Nova Scotia.

Walt will be most remembered for his many years as an inspiring teacher and as a fascinating speaker on natural history, specifically the beautiful forests of northwestern Connecticut. Walt was involved in the reopening of the Stone Museum in Peoples Forest in 1993. He served as president of the Barkhamsted Historical Society and was active in researching and lecturing on the colonial charcoal and iron industry in the area.

President's Letter

(Continued from page 1)

Cultural Resources will be making a presentation on the recovery of Blackbeard's (the pirate) flagship "Queen Anne's Revenge."

In 1996, a private research group discovered a ship-wreck in North Carolina thought to be Blackbeard's flagship. Since that time Richard has been involved in all phases of research and management for that project and is a part of the five-member *Queen Anne's Revenge* Archaeological Advisory Committee. Over the past thirty years Richard has investigated hundreds of underwater archaeological sites including prehistoric canoes, colonial sailing vessels, numerous Civil War shipwrecks, and coastal and river steamboats. Richard has

written numerous reports and articles on underwater archaeology and his presentation should be one of interest to everyone.

The annual meeting date is scheduled for Saturday, January 26, 2008 and will be held again at Smith Middle School Auditorium in Glastonbury. The business portion of the meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. with the featured presentation to start at 2:00.

In conclusion, it has been my pleasure to serve the organization as your president and I appreciate the support that you have extended. I look forward to seeing many of you at the annual meeting.

Roger Thompson President

News from the OSA

(Continued from page 1)

in the lab; and for Dave (again), Bruce Greene, Deb Labrie, Bill Schultz and all the members of FOSA that worked in the field that week.

Also, we wish to thank the Rogers family, whose cooperation, patience and goodwill allowed all this to happen.

Similar to last summer with the Broteer Venture Smith Project, and the Bulkeley Tomb Project before that, we tend to have these projects that require successive days in the field and laboratory. We can only take on such projects due to the volunteerism of FOSA members, and, we are most grateful. Thanks again for all your hard work and support.

Nicholas Bellantoni, PhD State Archaeologist Page 3 Fall 2007



Below Ground

Late spring rains made for a slow start for field work in 2007. Initially, I had hoped for an early start at the Town Farm in South

Windsor, but Mother Nature had other ideas. The excavations that were begun in the fall of 2006 were filled in with soil in order for the farmer to have clear sailing for this year's crops. This site will be reopened sometime in the future.

At the Gardner Site on Brook Street in Rocky Hill a series of test pits were excavated where an office complex is to be built in the near future. Numerous flint and quartz flakes had been found in the field along with an occasional projectile point. Aboriginal material proved to be very shallow and extremely scattered. No features were encountered in any of the test units and after several digs which covered the whole site operations were suspended.

Mid-June found us busy for a two-day period with Jim Doolittle of the Natural Resources Soil Conservation Service and his Ground Penetrating Radar. We worked in Rocky Hill, Glastonbury, Newtown, Milford, Westport and Norwalk.

In Rocky Hill we attempted to locate a horse watering trough that was buried adjacent to Old Main Street near the Rocky Hill-Wethersfield town line some time in the late 1920s. A recent homeowner who had to put additional drains in front of his house uncovered it about ten years ago and left it in place. We were unsuc-

Working at the Rogers site are FOSA president Roger Thompson, and FOSA members Dave Cooke and Anne Choquette working at the screen. Photo by John Spaulding

cessful in locating it with the G.P.R.

A stone boundary marker is still at large in Glastonbury after we gave it a shot with the G.P.R. This is in the area where Roaring Brook enters the Connecticut River.

In Newtown we assisted the Connecticut State Police in their efforts to locate an automobile believed to be buried in the back yard of a home which may contain a woman's body within the vehicle. Jim Doolittle's equipment located a mass of metal mate-



The face effigy from the Rogers site. It measures 2" high, 1-1/4" wide, and 7/8" thick. Photo by John Spaulding.

rial which will need to be excavated for verification. We will keep you updated on this one.

Milford, Westport and Norwalk all dealt with local cemeteries. Results in these varied. Early burials, 18th century to early 19th century, are difficult to ascertain while later burials pose very few problems. Jim Doolittle's report on these projects is available for those that are interested. Contact Nick at his office for more information.

The latter part of the 2007 dig season has been

dominated by the Rogers Site in Lisbon, Connecticut. This site first came to our attention when Richard Rogers, the owner of the property, brought some of the artifacts from the site to the Archaeology Exposition at UConn in the fall of 2006. One of these artifacts was an extremely rare human face effigy made of soapstone. This was the start of negotiations between Mr. Rogers and Nick for a controlled archaeological investigation of the site. Since late June we have averaged two digs a week at the site and this will continue until the end of October. It is anticipated that work here will extend into next year. There is much to be learned at this prehistoric site on the banks of the Quinebaug River.

Dave Cooke

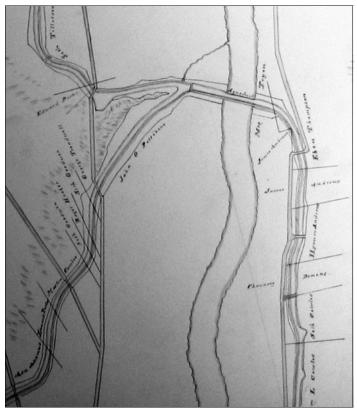
Page 4 MEMBER NEWSLETTER

The Farmington Canal

Perhaps the largest historical archaeological feature in Connecticut is the abandoned Farmington Canal. It was in operation from 1828 to 1848. The canal was built to connect New Haven Harbor to inland commerce and divert some of the business away from the Connecticut River.

Searching for its remains is a wonderful activity for people who like to explore and experience history first hand. The best time of the year to explore is in the late fall until early spring, when vegetation is defoliated. You will essentially be seeking the remains of a trench that was initially dug to the dimensions of 36 ft. wide on top, 24 ft. wide on the bottom and 4 ft. deep. A berm bordered one side and a 10-foot wide towpath bordered the other side. Of course, these dimensions have become diminutive over time.

The Farmington Canal stretched from New Haven Harbor and continued north to the Massachusetts border, where it joined the Hampshire and Hampden canal, and then on to North Hampton, MA joining the Connecticut River. It was 80 miles long with 56 miles of it in Connecticut. This was the longest canal built in



Portion of the original engineering drawing for the canal in the town Farmington. Source: Connecticut State Library. Photo courtesy of Heritage Consultants Digital Library.

New England and it went through eight Connecticut towns: West Suffield, Granby, Simsbury, Avon, Farmington, Southington, Plainville, Cheshire, Hamden and New Haven. Plainville separated from Farmington in 1869, after the canal ceased operations.

Since the canal's abandonment in 1848, much of it has been lost to nature and human development. But, fortunately, there is still much remaining to experience, not only in the engineered water channel itself, but also in the remains of locks, culverts, aqueducts, hotels and taverns. The highlights that follow are just a few of the features you can observe just in northern Connecticut.

To get oriented in finding the canal's abandoned remains, go to the library reference section and copy the aerial topography maps of all the towns listed above. On many of these maps, "abandoned canal" is denoted in most areas where its remains are still visible. The canal follows close to the vicinity of CT/MA Route 10. Therefore, with camera in hand, park the car at some convenient point and get ready for an adventure close to home.

I will start the highlights of our journey at the Congamond Lakes near the CT/MA border and briefly describe what you can expect to see in the northern portion of Connecticut. The Farmington Canal got its name because the major source of its water came from the Farmington River and its tributaries. But the Congamond Lakes were also a huge source. They are 220 feet above sea level and its all downhill from here to New Haven Harbor. The Lake was part of the canal waterway. Horses trotting on a floating towpath pulled the canal boats through it. At the southernmost point of the Lake is an outlet where the southern route of the waterway heads into Connecticut and starts the beginning of our state's portion of the canal system. You will see a stone marker indicating MA/CT border and a large swampy area that once fed additional water needed to keep the canal filled. Continuing south this unnaturally straight waterway is pronounced until the old railroad abutments at Phelps Road in West Suffield. Here the canal route ends and its former channel is amputated and flows into a natural brook. Continuing south into Granby on Quarry and Hungary Roads is a Granby Land Trust sign denoting the location of a preserved section of the canal. Additionally, side streets

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Save this date!

Saturday, January 26, 2008

FOSA Annual Meeting

Smith Middle School, Glastonbury, CT

Featured speaker: Richard Lawrence, Director of Underwater Archaeology at the North Caro-

lina Dept. of Cultural Resources

Topic: The recovery of Blackbeard's flagship, "Queen Anne's Revenge"

Thank You for Your Donations

FOSA General Fund: \$25

Farmington Canal

(Continued from page 4)

off the above roads intersect the old canal bed and can be easily seen and photographed.

Just north of the former Granby Station, on Route 189, locks 1 through 6 once existed. They are difficult to distinguish because locals have long reused nearly all the masonry work. These 6 locks lowered the canal bed from 220 feet to 180 feet. The next lock is not encountered for another 30 miles in Southington.

Before we leave Granby we encounter Salmon Brook where a 40-foot culvert carried the canal bed. This culvert was the largest on its 80-mile course and endured over a hundred years of service for the canal and the later railroad. After flood damage in the 1930s, the culvert was replaced by a steel bridge, which still stands and is being converted for rail to trail use. A small section of the 40-foot culvert still remains, and is easily spotted from the steel bridge. It is my hope that this masonry will be preserved.

In Simsbury, the canal existed close to the Route 10 roadway and therefore has disappeared because of road expansion and development along it. But you still can view the remains of a section north of town near Simsbury Airport and another at the Canal Place housing complex in Weatogue. Also, the substantial remains of a culvert over Hop Brook, across from Ensign Bickford, can be seen.

The Avon Old Farms School has left much of the canal bed undisturbed and it is preserved in heavy growth. Also, the substantial remains of another culvert can be seen just before you leave Avon and enter Farmington. Some key remains in Farmington are the aqueduct and the Unionville feeder canal. On the west

side of the Farmington River banks, behind the Farmington Club complex, and on the east side off Route 10, the aqueduct abutment wings can be seen. Additionally, from the club's parking lot, the profile of the feeder canal can be observed in the distance. Further down on Route 10, Miss Porter's School has a building that was once the Union Hotel that served canal travelers.

The town that is most proud of its canal heritage is Plainville. At Norton Park they have preserved the canal bed and keep it well trimmed and mowed to prevent it from being overgrown. Every applicable street in town has signage to denote the canal's former path through town.

There is more to be seen south of Plainville such as the beautiful restoration of lock 12 in Cheshire with its gatekeeper's house and a small museum. These highlights are just a sample of what you can view. There are many more obvious remains and not enough space to mention them here. With experience you will also be able to interpolate from the existing remains, where the now extinct once existed. I hope you get to enjoy this type of exploring and viewing of living history as much as I have.

Jim Trocchi

References:

- 1) Boats Across New England Hills The Story of the Farmington Canal. Compiled by Workers of the Writers' Program of the Work Projects Administration in the State of Connecticut: 1941.
- 2) Trout, Amy. *The Story of The Farmington Canal.* New Haven Colony Historical Society: 1995.

Page 6 MEMBER NEWSLETTER

What's Going on Around the Rest of the Country: "The History of the West is Written in Rock"

When Tim Urbaniak made presentations about American Indian art carved or painted on rock, he discovered that audiences sometimes were as interested in inscriptions made by white settlers at the same site.

In one case, a person in the audience recognized the name of his great-grandfather.

"These names meant something to people," Urbaniak said.

Realizing that more recent rock inscriptions had a yet-unrecognized importance, Urbaniak got a two-year, \$65,400 "Save America's Treasures" grant from the National Park Service to document them.

For the last year, Urbaniak, 51, a drafting and design instructor for 20 years at the Montana State University-Billings College of Technology, and the university's archaeology team traveled through Eastern Montana and parts of Wyoming and North and South Dakota to capture images of the inscriptions using high-tech equipment.

The team is made up of faculty, students, alumni and volunteers from the community.

It has provided technical expertise to agencies such as the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service and Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks documenting American Indian petroglyphs and pictographs and other historical sites.

By the time that the grant wraps up next year, the team will have visited hundreds of sites and studied thousands of inscriptions that include names, dates, figures, sayings and livestock brands carved into the rock.

Urbaniak's project primarily studies inscriptions done on sandstone made after Meriwether Lewis' and William Clark's trip through Montana.

One reason Urbaniak chose that era is because American Indian rock art has been and continues to be extensively documented, while more recent inscriptions haven't been studied as much, particularly in Montana.

One inscription that is well-known is Clark's 1806 signature at Pompeys Pillar.

Others quickly followed.

Fur trader Manuel Lisa and explorer John Colter both carved their names at sites in Montana only a few years after Clark.

Urbaniak found American Indian inscriptions of horses or a flint-lock rifle made during a transitional period during which local Indians had contact with whites. Names written on Independence Rock along the Oregon Trail in Wyoming also were part of Urbaniak's project, as well as inscriptions near later trails that veered north.

The ties between inscriptions and historical events sometimes are dramatic.

At Sheridan Butte near Terry, they found that a soldier, J. Bailey, was there on June 21, 1876.

Checking the date with historical documents, the team realized that Bailey was on the butte around the time that soldiers were stacking wood for a bonfire to celebrate the country's upcoming centennial.

Several days after Bailey carved his name, soldiers on the butte saw a riverboat carrying the wounded away from the Battle of the Little Bighorn.

Images of cattle began appearing on sandstone after cattle herds arrived in Montana in the mid-1800s. Cattle brands also appear some places.

"We draw what we know," Urbaniak, noting that American Indians drew or carved deer and elk.

In the late 1800s, Army scout Luther "Yellowstone" Kelly carved his name many times in the same place, indicating that he passed by several times over a period of time.

Many inscriptions remain a mystery, including "Arisona Kid 1931" found near Igomar.

Even more mysterious was the inscription, complete with misspelling, of "Alfred S. Lian deied Sept. 15, 1925." Urbaniak still wonders if the unfortunate man was actually buried there.

Civilian Conservation Corps and U.S. Geological Survey workers also left their mark in the 1930s and later.

Urbaniak hopes to check out Chinese characters incised into rock in Wyoming.

While most inscriptions are considered to have been carved by the person named, some inscriptions are patently fake, including one that read "Lewis + Clark" surrounded by a heart.

"We're fairly certain this isn't authentic," Urbaniak said.

Dates cut into stone can be misleading. A year could be the year that the inscriber was there, the year (Continued on page 7)

Page 7 Fall 2007

Welcome New Members

Paula Adams – Lisbon Stephen Bartkus – Watertown Art Lundeberg – Manchester Carolyn Read-Burns – Lisbon



Oops! Did you forget to renew your membership? Memberships are renewable annually in January. Single \$25.00, Family \$35.00. Make check payable to *Friends of the Office of State Archaeology, Inc.*, P.O. Box 380845, East Hartford, CT 06138-0845.

FOSA Officers and Board Members

Roger Thompson – President Cynthia Redman – Vice President Dreda Hendsey - Treasurer Paul Scannell – Secretary Frank Pearson – Board Member Bonnie Beatrice – Board Member Ken Beatrice – Board Member Gary Nolf – Board Member Mike Raber – Board Member Jim Trocchi – Board Member

History of the West

(Continued from page 6)

of his or her birth, or, later on, the year that a person graduated from high school.

Not everything the team documents is a name or date. A three-dimensional face is carved into a cliff in the Cave Hills of South Dakota.

The project follows inscriptions all the way into the mid-20th century.

On Castle Butte north of Forsyth, Urbaniak found peace signs and names of people he knew, including that of his late brother, Tom.

"It is important to document prehistoric and historic inscriptions before they are erased by either weather or vandalism," Urbaniak said.

At Capital Butte in Southeastern Montana, an 1891 inscription made by a cavalry soldier now is gone after the rock face collapsed.

Urbaniak also has seen places where power tools were used to cut American Indian art out of the rock.

The project has raised interesting questions about what is art, what is history, what is vandalism and when does vandalism become art or history.

The team found places where people carved their names across prehistoric art without regard of what was there.

Although some of the inscriptions that Urbaniak is documenting are what some might consider to be vandalism, he doesn't want that activity to be romanticized or condoned. And he doesn't want people to continue to mark up rock.

Contemporary inscriptions not only may deface older markings, creating them is illegal on public lands.

Urbaniak used 21st-century technology to capture the inscriptions and make the images available to those who want to study them in the future.

The grant provided funds to buy a \$30,000 threedimensional scanner that sweeps the surface of the rock or object with a laser and produces a computerized image. Another piece of equipment produces replicas of the inscriptions.

Both pieces of equipment can be used by College of Technology students beyond this project to better prepare them for future jobs, Urbaniak said.

The Heritage Inscription Project will produce a Web site open to the public this fall.

The special collections section of the MSU-Billings Library will house more detailed information, computerized images and a data base of thousands of inscriptions for professional researchers.

Locations of many of the inscriptions will be filed with the Montana State Historic Preservation Office and accessible only to people doing valid research.

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Page 8 MEMBER NEWSLETTER

Henry Obookiah and His Delayed Trip Home

A trip to the Big Island of Hawaii earlier this year brought my wife and me into contact with a small piece of Connecticut history. The story has its beginning during the latter part of the 18th century with the birth of a young Hawaiian by the name of *Opukaha'ia*. From his own account, written much later, both of his parents were killed during one of the frequent territorial wars that were fairly common with primitive tribes. Opukaha'ia, who was 10 or 12 at the time, fled from the warring parties carrying his infant brother on his back. A spear thrown by a tribal adversary found its mark and killed his baby brother.

After living for some time with an uncle, Opukaha'ia yearned to leave the island and find a place to live in peace. With the arrival of a sealing ship in Kealakekua Bay, he saw his opportunity to flee the island. Upon boarding the ship, he met another Hawaiian lad, Thomas Hopoo, and together they arranged to leave the island. It was while Opukaha'ia was on the ship that the sailors anglicized his name to Henry Obookiah; the name we commonly use when referring to him today.

It was two more years before the ship finally returned to its home port in New York in 1809. The captain of the ship took the two young lads to his home in New Haven. While some attempt had been made to teach the young lads reading and writing while on board the ship, it was not until Obookiah met Edwin Dwight, a student at Yale College, that he began to make real progress.

Edwin Dwight and other Yale students began to tutor Obookiah, and Edwin's uncle, Yale President and Congregational minister Dr. Timothy Dwight took Obookiah into his own home. Later, after leaving New Haven, Obookiah moved from farm to farm around Torringford and Litchfield, Connecticut, Andover, Massachusetts and Hollis, New Hampshire, planting, harvesting and always studying. Under the tutelage of various instructors, in a single decade, Obookiah went from illiteracy to eloquence and excellence in speech and writing.

By 1817, a dozen students, six of them Hawaiians including Obookiah, were training at the Foreign Mission School in Cornwall, Connecticut to bring the Christian faith to people around the world. However, the following year Obookiah fell ill with typhus fever. Though at first seeming to respond to treatment,

Obookiah soon grew weaker and died on February 17, 1818. Before he died, Obookiah expressed his desire to return to Hawaii when he said, "Oh! How I want to see Hawaii! But I think I never shall—God will do right—He knows what is best."

Obookiah was buried in a hillside cemetery in Cornwall, Connecticut, where he remained for 175 years. In 1993, a group of his descendants, spearheaded by Deborah Lee, a distant cousin to Obookiah, arranged for the remains to be returned to Hawaii. Connecticut State Archaeologist Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni assisted by Dave Cooke, Dick LaRose, Gary Hottin and Mike Park, who was Dr. Bellantoni's instructor of osteology at Central Connecticut State College, performed the exhumation over a two-day period in July Obookiah's remains were then removed to Henry Fugua's funeral facilities in the north end of Hartford. It was here that Dr. Bellantoni and Mike Park did a complete forensic examination of the bones after which they were placed anatomically in a koa wood coffin that had been flown in from Hawaii. Large green ti leaves that were brought by his descendants from Hawaii were placed in each corner of the coffin for Henry's return journey home.

Following a memorial service at the United Church of Christ in Cornwall, Obookiah's remains were returned to Hawaii and re-interred at Kahikolu Cemetery in Napo'opo'o, overlooking Kealakekua Bay in South Kona; the bay where he first fled his native land so many years before.

After Obookiah's death, his friend, Edwin Dwight, (Continued on page 9)



Hawaiian grave site of Henry Obookiah. Photo by Roger Thompson.

Page 9 Fall 2007

Spotlight on Volunteers

Annually, the University of Connecticut hosts a summer mentorship program, "UConn Mentor Connection." This 3-week course gives a select group of high school students the opportunity to go beyond the classroom and experience first hand, areas of their interest. While living on campus the pupils work directly with professors and volunteers in a "hands on" environment.

This year the Office of State Archaeology had the privilege of mentoring three enthusiastic students.

From left to right in photo are: Lucas Codognolla, age 16, attends Westhill High School in Stamford. Lucas is active in his student government, he is on the track team, yearbook staff and he volunteers his "spare time" cleaning local parks, and helping the senior citizens in his town. At the Mentor Connection Farewell Banquet, Lucas gave the opening "Welcome and Site Reflection" speech.

Courtney Margid, age 16, attends Wilton High School. Among Courtney's diverse interests are participating in the "Little Theatre Club" and she is an avid tennis player.

Upon completion of her 3 weeks, Courtney stated that archaeology would be a fun activity to volunteer for in the future.

Alexander Aflalo, age 17, attends Stamford High School and belongs to their chess club and writers club. He also does volunteer work at the Norwalk Maritime Aquarium. Alex's wide range of hobbies include juggling and collecting antiques and coins. This interest in antiques is what led him to choose Archaeology within this Mentor Program.

While they all agreed that "there is not much

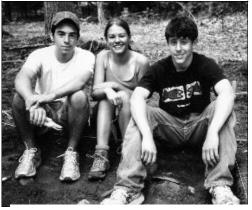
money in Archaeology as a career," they also showed a great enjoyment and passion for the experience of it.

Lucas: "Archaeology is important to me because you get to understand the past, how our ancestors lived and their principles of life. I have had lots of fun. Dr. Nick is certainly a character."

Courtney: "I've learned that it's not just the main artifacts that make the site, but it's the little things too. Getting dirty never felt so clean. Dr. Nick is one of the best mentors ever! While other mentors do lab work, we get to travel around with him."

Alex: "Archaeology is important to me because it

helps me understand the present via examination of the cultures of the past. I am thankful have Dr. Bellantoni as a mentor. He has introduced me past."



Lucas Codognolla, Courtney Margid, and Alexander Aflalo. Photo by Ken Beatrice.

Our thanks go out to Lucas,

Courtney and Alex for adding their youthful exuberance to OSA and FOSA's lab and field work. Whether this experience leads to a future in archaeology or another field, our best wishes to you!

Ken Beatrice

Henry Obookiah

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published the young islander's "Memoirs" in the form of a brief biography. The little book so stirred the interest of New Englanders in Hawaii as a field for missionary work that in 1820, fourteen missionaries volunteered to carry his message to the Hawaiian Islands. One of those sailing with that first company of missionaries was Thomas Hopoo, the fellow Hawaiian who had traveled to America with Obookiah.

While my wife and I were in Hawaii, we had the opportunity to meet Deborah Lee and to visit the

cemetery where Obookiah was re-interred. At that time we also attended a special service commemorating Henry Obookiah. Most of the Christian churches in Hawaii, on one Sunday in February, continue to remember and honor Obookiah as the first Hawaiian convert to Christianity and a young man whose zeal was the inspiration for the first missionaries who ventured to Hawaii. And now, after so many years, Obookiah is finally home.

Roger Thompson

Page 10 MEMBER NEWSLETTER

ASC Meeting Morning Session in Review

The Archaeology of Ecology was the theme of the ASC Spring Meeting held on April 14, 2007, at the Briarwood Community Center, in Worcester, MA. The meeting was held in conjunction with the Massachusetts Archaeological Society. I can't guess at the number of attendees, but it was well attended, according to Lee West.

Early arrivals were greeted with coffee and doughnuts in the attractive communal area of the facility and we were thus fortified for a morning of presentations. The day's format followed what I call an academic approach. Each presenter had 25 minutes for his/her presentation followed by 5 minutes for questions. The presentations that I heard were interesting and informative. My only criticism is that when graphs in a Powerpoint presentation are displayed, care should be taken NOT to use small print that can't be read by the viewers. A handout of important graphs would be a great solution!

After opening remarks of welcome by the president, the program began with a presentation by Maurice Foxx, Chairman, Massachusetts Commission

on Indian Affairs. He spoke about *Native Perspectives on Ecology*. Among the points he made were:

- Teaching about nature is handed down orally generation by generation.
- "The hardest thing is living in both worlds."
- We need to just sit and let the stillness of nature pervade our being.
- The way you live with the environment is a reflection on who you are.

Susan Jacobucci, MA, Boston University, MAS Trustee, presented *Changes and Continuities in the Landscape;*Analysis of Pollen and Charcoal from the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation Reservation.

The focus of her study was the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation in North Stonington, CT. The title of her presentation is the title of her Masters' thesis in which she investigated how colonialism would affect indigenous land and resource management techniques. Her results indicate that the Pequot continued their long-standing history of land and resource management techniques.

(Continued on page 11)

Book Review

The Overstreet INDIAN ARROWHEADS Identification and Price Guide by Robert M. Overstreet

The word "price" in this book's title is anathema to the archaeology profession. Finding and removing artifacts from a site for private collections and profit is undocumented looting. There are laws against this on government owned property, but it is legal on private lands with owner's approval. These lithic finds are irresistibly appealing in form to the observer and collector but when found and removed without any documentation they have lost their context and serve no use to science and history.

Briefly, this publication professes the merits of collecting and the value to collectors of Native America lithic artifacts. There is no thought given to accurate documentation, scientific removal, or the use of modern archaeological practices. They do talk about replicas and casings of originals for collection and sale, which shouldn't be a problem as long as they are well documented and labeled as such.

An early opening discussion of paleo or fluted points is interesting and has a credible conjecture on this lithic technology's origin and spread into the Americas. The book's main merit is its usefulness as a guide to Native American lithic identification. It has over 900 pages of beautifully photographed points; many are actual size and some are in color. The points are grouped into 9 geographic regions within the continental U.S. They are each labeled by their classification, name and the time period they relate to in the archaeological record. Last, it has an excellent lithic terminology glossary for reference.

Searches on Amazon.com lists the book at \$15 to \$20, depending on new or used. The only reason I have a copy is because I found it at a discount bookstore for \$2.00. I think that this book should be taken for what it is worth, a quick and easy guide for identification and naming of prehistoric lithic artifacts.

Jim Trocchi

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Meetings and Events

On the Trail of the State Archaeologist - Nick's Lectures. These lectures are generally free and open to the public. Contact hosting organization for more information:

Bristol Historical Society, 98 Summer St., Bristol, CT. **Thursday, October 18, 7 pm.** 860-583-6309.

Fairfield Historical Society, 636 Old Post Rd., Fairfield, CT. **Tuesday, October 30, 7 pm.** 203-259-1598.

University Day. Connecticut Audubon Society at Glastonbury, 1361 Main St., Glastonbury, CT. Saturday, November 3. 860-633-8402.

Walking Weekends: Dr. Nick will lead a walk Monday, October 8, 9 am to 11 am, Natchaug State Forest, Eastford, CT. Nick will guide a walk in the Natchaug Forest as a part of the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor's annual "Walking Weekends." This walk will examine the ruins of the birthplace of General Nathaniel Lyons, a Union Commander during the Civil War and other points of archaeological interest.

Archaeological Society of Connecticut Annual Meeting, Saturday, October 13, 9 am to 4 pm. Institute for American Indian Studies, 38 Curtis Road,

Washington, CT. This year's theme for the ASC meeting is "Connecticut Archaeologists Around the World" showcasing the work of Connecticut archaeologists around the globe. Admission: \$10 for the general public, \$8 to ASC members and \$5 for students with ID's. For further information visit the IAIS website, http://www.birdstone.org/.

Westport Historical Society's Annual Lantern Tour. Willowbrook Cemetery, 395 North Main St. (Rt. 136), Westport, CT. Sunday, October 14. Call Peter Jennings 203-222-1424 for more info.

Cedar Hill Cemetery Haunted History Lantern Tour, 453 Fairfield Ave., Hartford, CT. Friday, October 26, 7-9 pm. Bring a flashlight. Tickets will be on sale from 7-8:30 pm. Admission \$8.00, members \$5.00.

Stones of Heritage and History. Corinthian Masonic Lodge, 30 Main St., North Haven, CT. Sponsored by the North Haven Historical Society, Corinthian Masonic Lodge and Connecticut Gravestone Network (CGN). Saturday, November 3. Doors open at 9 am. Admission \$5.00. Two lectures, morning and at 1 pm.

ASC Meeting

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niques during colonial times.

Lucinda McWeeney, Ph.D., Consultant in Archaeobotany, presented *Digging for Ecological Evidence: What Methods Do We Use*

A few points:

- Flotation is used to recover organics.
- Fibers used in fired vessels can be recovered and identified.
- Pollen deteriorates under aquatic conditions; stone tools can hold pollen so wash carefully!

Pre-registration was an option offered to attendees. At that time you were asked to reserve a lunch if you wished to and it appeared that most did. The lunch was served by the Center and was an excellent selection of sandwiches, salads and luscious chocolate brownies for dessert.

After the lunch break, the following presentations were made:

Developmental History of the Lower Connecticut Valley, by

Dr. Brian Jones, Ph.D., Senior Archaeologist, P.A.S.T.

Archaeobotanical Contributions to Paleo-Environmental Studies Daniel Forrest, Ph.D., Senior Archaeologist, P. A.S.T., spoke about the importance of Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM).

Tonya Largy, M.A., Consultant in Archaeobotany, Maize Agriculture in Coastal Rhode Island: Imaginative, Illusive or Intensive?

Emigrants in a Marshland Paradise:Environmental Changes and the Re-peopling of Long Island Sound, Lucianne Lavin, Ph.D., Director of Research and Collections, Institute for American Indian Studies.

These were followed by a panel discussion. The day ended with a wine and cheese reception, hosted by Central Massachusetts Chapter MAS. Unfortunately, I had to leave early so didn't have the opportunity to hear the last two presentations nor to attend the social period.

Friends of the Office of State Archaeology, Inc.

P.O. Box 380845 Hartford, CT 06138-0485



Newsletter Committee: June Cooke, Mae Johnson, Kristen Keegan, and Jim Trocchi.

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