



Special points of interest:

- New book on the *Turtle*
- Archaeological Society of Connecticut (ASC)
- Connecticut Indians at European Contact
- FOSA website: <http://www.fosa-ct.org>



President's Letter

FOSA members and friends, FOSA's 13th Annual Meeting is over, the weather cooperated, and a large crowd listened with great interest as Professors Ron Beckett and Gerry Conlogue spoke about how they use modern medical technology to help uncover the secrets within mummies—done without damage to the mummies. We welcomed the co-sponsorship of the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and CT Archaeology Center and the Archaeological Society of Connecticut (ASC). In these years of diminishing funds, we need to work together to support the OSA and to further the cause of archaeology.

The past year has kept volunteers busy and the coming year promises the same. Volunteers continue their work at Horsebarn Hill on Mon-

days, cataloging artifacts and working on the library. A field trip with Ralph Lewis, PhD, to Rocky Neck State Park is planned for May 22. The former State Geologist will point out the various geologic landforms that he spoke about last year. There are also a number of digs planned for the summer. The Outreach Committee will again be busy and will need some volunteer help this summer at the various local events that FOSA participates in.

As we move into spring, keep an eye out for the email notices that Bonnie sends to the membership not only about FOSA but also events of interest to FOSA members. You can also go to our website, www.fosa-ct.org, for up-to-date information.

*Cynthia Redman
President*



News from the Office of State Archaeology

This spring we will be publishing an article entitled "The Search for Graves with Ground-Penetrating Radar in Connecticut," with James A. Doolittle of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). FOSA members who have been out in the field with us over the last many years, will recall that Jim Doolittle has assisted us in many projects across the state using geo-physical techniques at many sites, searching for unmarked burials, historic below-ground house features, and even buried statues!

Most recently, Deb Surabian

and Shawn McVey, soil scientists at NRCS, have assisted at the Venture Smith burial site and the search for Lt. Eugene Bradley's 1941 plane crash. Our office has been most fortunate in developing a working relationship with CT NRCS and we hope it is one that will continue into the future. The article will be published in the *Journal of Archaeological Science*.

As many of you know, our participation in a film for The History Channel, *MysteryQuest's* "Hitler Escapes," which aired in September, became an international media blitz. We were

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FOSA's Outreach Program

FOSA's Outreach Program was established with two main objectives in mind. The first is to help spread the word about archaeology in Connecticut and the importance of the Office of State Archaeology.

The second goal is to present archaeology to the public in a way that is both interesting and fun for everyone from tiny tots to seniors.

The thrill is immeasurable to watch a small child being encouraged to hold and examine an artifact that dates to perhaps 1,000 years and the chuckle they make when they realize that it is older than their parents! The delight in a child's eyes is tremendous when they are NOT told "don't touch."

Outreach volunteers gain great pleasure and knowledge from talking with people from all walks of life who attend events in which FOSA participates. Folks love to share their personal experiences and enthusiasm about archaeology.

In 2009, FOSA's Outreach Programs were invited to present exhibits in nine events throughout Connecticut.

These events included lecture series, science and educational programs for adults and children, Native American Festival and local towns' "Historic Day" celebrations.

Sincere gratitude to all the members who helped out in 2009 with special thanks to our two most recent recruits, Kristy Dahlstrom and Mandy Ranslow, FOSA's newest member of the Board of Directors.

We need volunteers to participate in these programs! Help "man" the FOSA table for an hour or for the day, your time is truly appreciated.

Volunteers may contact Outreach Committee Chairwoman Bonnie Beatrice at FOSAoutreach@hotmail.com or Volunteer Coordinator Bob Martinchek at Bobmartinchek@yahoo.com.

Watch your newsletter and emails for upcoming events of interest. Please make sure your email address is current so that you may receive the latest event announcements!

Bonnie Beatrice

Welcome New Members (since Oct. 1, 2009)

Patricia Albers, Manchester
Celeste Bayek, Glastonbury
Julie Brodeur, Niantic
Carrie Carr, Southington
Carolyn Clapp, Farmington
Kristy Dahlstrom, Killingworth
Ed Goodrich, Glastonbury

Lawrence S. Johnson, East Windsor
Jim Lyko, West Hartford
Stephen McKay, Manchester
Steven Murray, Oxford
Dan Olson, East Hampton
Maria and Jonathan Parr, Middletown
Megan Postemski, Lebanon

Peter and Brenda Ranslow, Wethersfield
Glenda Rose and Jack Morris, Glastonbury
Joseph W. Sullivan, Glastonbury
Deborah Surabian, Tolland
Deborah Turner, Coventry

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.

News from the Office of State Archaeology

(Continued from page 1)

approached by newspaper, radio and television from all over the world. UConn Communications provided the organizational support to help us deal with all the media requests. While we have received our share of media attention in the past, this was far and away greater than we had ever experienced before.

As FOSA members you knew that I could cause trouble in Connecticut, but, you didn't know I could do it internationally!

My thanks to the annual meeting committee for, once again, sponsoring a great presentation on "Mummies." Ron Beckett and Gerald Conlogue from Quinnipiac University did an outstanding job—informative and entertaining. And, somehow, we have to find another way to top it in 2011!

My heartfelt appreciation to all of you for the support you give to me and to FOSA.

*Nicholas Bellantoni, PhD
State Archaeologist*

From the Archaeological Society of Connecticut

March 2010

Dear FOSA Members,

It is with pleasure that I accept your president's invitation to address you via your newsletter. This is part of our initiative to move our two organizations together in a cooperative relationship that we hope will raise the visibility of archaeology in Connecticut. We further hope that this cooperation will strengthen our voice when it comes to convincing public officials of the importance of archaeology in the state and to support the Office of State Archaeology, as well as SHPO and other archaeologists who continue to help us protect our historic and prehistoric heritage.

I cannot stress strongly enough the importance of this cooperation in tough financial times when budgets are being cut everywhere, especially on the state level. Anyone who does not have a strong advocacy group will be feeling more than a financial pinch and possibly extinction. Archaeology is one of those areas which the layman tends to consider nice, as well as interesting, but non-essential. To convince those in budgetary power positions that this misconception is just that, a misconception of the importance of archaeology, we need the combined efforts of our two groups who helped to create and continue to support the Office of State Archaeology. It is only when we speak with one voice that we can begin to protect Nick and his budget, as well as marshal financial abilities to create opportunities such as estab-

lishing a position of assistant to the State Archaeologist, an initiative that our two groups are just beginning to explore together.

On an entirely different note, I wish to extend an invitation to all FOSA members to join the Archaeological Society of Connecticut for our Spring meeting in Danbury on April 24th. This meeting will be devoted to the archaeology and ethnohistory of Western Connecticut and marks the first time that we have devoted an entire meeting to the indigenous peoples of this end of the state at the time of Contact and just before. Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Laurie Weinstein and Dr. Cosimo Sgarlata of Western Connecticut State University, this unique program will be held at that university, marking the first time that ASC has met at that venue. FOSA members will be admitted at the same membership discount as ASC members. (Details on this program can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.)

As always I appreciate suggestions and constructive criticism and I hope that you will feel free to approach me with these at any of our combined events. It is only with your help that both of our organizations can forge a new era in archaeology for Connecticut. I look forward to seeing you in Danbury in April.

*Dan Cruson, President
Archaeological Society of Connecticut*

Update on the *Turtle* Submarine Project

In the Spring newsletters of 2007 and 2008, you read about the Old Saybrook High School Technical Arts students building a full scale working replica of David Bushnell's Revolutionary War submarine *Turtle* under the direction of their instructor Fred Frese and FOSA member Roy Manstan.

In October of last year, Roy and Fred presented a talk for FOSA members about this project, with a viewing afterward of the *Turtle* replica at the Museum of Early Engineering Technology, a short stroll from the lecture.

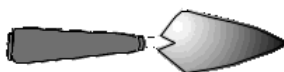
Now ... The story of the Revolutionary War submarine

Turtle has been told by Roy Manstan, with co-author Fred Frese, in their soon-to-be published book *TURTLE, David Bushnell's Revolutionary Vessel*. The book traces the origins of the many complex technologies that Bushnell incorporated into his unique "machine for the destruction of ships," including his invention of the propeller. Through a series of operational tests on a working replica, the authors speculate on the difficulties encountered by the original pilot, Ezra Lee, and why the mission to sink the British flagship *HMS Eagle* failed.

Bonnie Beatrice

FOSA Officers and Board Members

Cynthia Redman – President
Paul Scannell – Vice President
Dreda Hendsey – Treasurer
Jim Hall – Secretary
Bonnie Beatrice – Board Member



Bob Martinchek – Board Member
Gary Nolf – Board Member
Mike Raber – Board Member
Mandy Ranslow – (**New**) Board Member
Jim Trocchi – Board Member

Volunteer Profile

Kristy Dahlstrom is a new member of FOSA who has supported both field and outreach work. Kristy, a Connecticut native from Killingworth, found her interest in archaeology at an early age. "I first became interested in archaeology in first grade after a class trip to Yale's Peabody Museum. There was a Native American display with wax figures depicting an interpretation of what daily life might have looked like and next to it was a display of lithics. Looking back, the displays were nothing out of the ordinary, but I was glued to them. Ever since that trip I've wanted to be an archaeologist."

Kristy received her Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology at the University of Connecticut and earned her Master's Degree in Maritime Archaeology at the University of Southampton in the United Kingdom. Her master's dissertation topic was on "Paleoindian Migration into New England and the Canadian Maritimes."

When asked, "It must have been interesting conducting field work in the United Kingdom, did you experience any unusual finds or interesting stories?"

Kristy replied, "I have yet to be on a dig where there haven't been interesting finds or fun stories. However, there is one that I would classify as most satisfying, for lack of a better term. When I was an undergrad, I worked on a site in Ireland for six weeks. To give a brief overview, the site is located at the sloping base of a mountain. The obvious features at the site are the remnants of a nineteenth century deserted village, however, in the middle of that village is what was thought to be a souterrain. We found quickly that it was not just a chamber built into the ground but there was a large cairn surrounding the feature. At that point there was talk that it may be a megalithic tomb. So our job that summer was to find the perimeters of the cairn. My location turned out to be just beyond the perimeter, down slope of the souterrain. The location also happened to be in a nineteenth century potato field, also known



Kristy Dahlstrom at Manstan Rock Shelter. *Photo by Ken Beatrice.*

as a lazybed. So for five and a half weeks I troweled, only revealing an occasional shriveled-up potato until finally two days before we were going to close up the site for the season, I uncovered a Neolithic stone bead made of serpentine. It was only 4 mm in size, so how I saw it given the soil's color and moisture content, I will never know. Our abridged hypothesis was that the bead was once associated with the souterrain/tomb and due to gravity and the slope of the mountain it ended up where it was found, however that was based on pure conjecture."

This past summer Kristy supported the excavation of the Manstan Rockshelter. "I was very excited to be given the opportunity to work on this site, not only because of the possibility of further uncovering evidence of a Paleo occupation, but because it was also practically in my back yard. As for the rockshelter itself, I was quite impressed. Clearly, a location has been utilized from Paleoindian times to present. Although some of the stratigraphic integrity of the rockshelter may have been compromised by past excavations, I believe that there is much to be gained from the artifacts that were recovered. I also believe that the area surrounding the rockshelter holds great promise and should be surveyed."

Kristy has also donated her time at FOSA exhibit tables during the Native American Festival held in Madison at Hammonasset State Park and the Big Y Kids Fair held at the Connecticut Expo Center in Hartford.

Currently, Kristy is employed at the University of Connecticut and is working at the Thermo Luminescence Laboratory. Along with being an active member of FOSA, she is also a member of the Society of American Archaeology.

Friends of the Office of State Archaeology would like to thank Kristy for all her service and wish her the best in her plans to earn her PhD in osteo/bioarchaeology.



Kristy Dahlstrom at Big Y Kids Expo. *Photo by Bonnie Beatrice.*

Kenneth Beatrice

FOSA Annual Financial Report

Calendar Year 2009

Beginning Balance 1/1/2009 **\$4,683.37**

Income

Dues & Donations \$7,513.35

Total Income **\$7,513.35**

Expenses

Office Expense - Postage, Newsletters & Copies \$957.38

Office Expense -Treasurer \$59.98

U.S. Postmaster - P.O. Box \$95.00

Connecticut Secretary of the State \$25.00

Speaker Expense \$894.84

The Hartford – Insurance \$500.00

Sprint \$585.17

Transfer to C-14 Account \$225.00

Donations \$447.00

Website \$323.79

Equipment \$505.29

Special Supplies \$161.72

Audit \$200.00

Total Expenses **\$4,980.17**

Ending Balance 12/31/2009 **\$7,216.55**

DR. DOUGLAS JORDAN RADIOCARBON FUND

Beginning Balance 1/1/2009 **\$2,092.80**

Income

Donations \$425.00

Expenses \$0.00

Ending Balance 12/31/2009 **\$2,517.80**

Thank You for Your Donations (Since October 1, 2009)

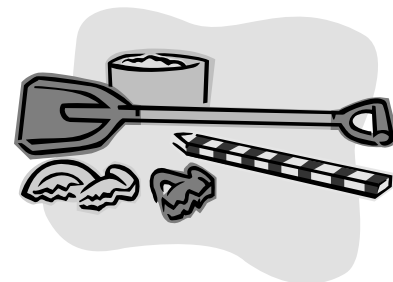
FOSA General Fund

Kathie Kelleher, Narragansett, RI
Barbara Manstan, Westbrook
Bob Martinchek, Newington
Patricia Reardon, Windsor
James Trocchi, Windsor
Lee and Carol West, Wethersfield
Phillip and Marilyn Wilsey, Newington

Anonymous

Dr. Douglas Jordan Radiocarbon Fund

Henri Coppes, MD, Westbrook
John and Betsy Corrigan, Washington
Carol Davidge and Garry Clifford, Eastford
Jeff Pudlinski, Litchfield



Updates from Mashantucket

This article is a glimpse of the many projects undertaken at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center during the summer and fall of 2009. The first two articles discuss features excavated at Sandy Hill and site 72-277. The third article is an update on the “Battlefields of the Pequot War” Project.

Mandy Ranslow

While primarily known as an Early Archaic site comprising of a series of pithouse features, Sandy Hill, located on the Mashantucket Pequot Reservation, is beginning to reveal a more complex sequence of occupations. Ongoing excavations have yielded a series of large pit features which AMS dating reveal to be part of the Early to Middle Woodland period. The circular pits measure up to two meters deep, share a complex set of strata nearly identical in each feature, contain a central post mold at the bottom, and are completely devoid of artifacts. Once thought to be peripheral to the site, their sheer volume (over a dozen have now been identified) point towards a significant Woodland presence at Sandy Hill.

Excavations would produce some resolution. The results have not disappointed. Shortly after the discovery of the pit, a second identical feature was found adjacent, and it is likely the two overlapped. A singular oval ring of post molds, extending over a meter and a half into the ground was also discovered to have encircled both features. A large ground stone pestle found in the first feature provides the first confirmed artifact any of the pits has yielded. The morphology of the features compares favorably to Late Woodland storage pits found at the Tocks Island Site in the Upper Delaware Valley, excavated by Herbert Kraft in the 1970s. In addition, a projectile point found adjacent to the two features bears a close resemblance to the “Tocks Island Point,” a regional Mid-Atlantic point type. While the 2009 discoveries have broadened our understanding of the Woodland occupation of Sandy Hill, additional research and excavations will be required to fully comprehend the nature of this settlement and its associated features.

Noah Fellman

Excavations at site 72-277 on the Mashantucket Pequot

Reservation have been completed after two years. Feature 9 was discovered and excavated over a period of six weeks. It encompassed an area two meters in length and three meters in width. The deepest portions of the feature extended to a depth of over 100 centimeters, where it reached sterile glacial soils and ended abruptly (Figure 1).

Feature 9 was initially noticed as a bright orange soil discoloration about 20 centimeters below surface (cmbms). This soil discoloration was bisected in a north to south orientation in order to determine its depth. The bright orange discoloration ended around 40 cmbms, while a bowl shaped black-brown soil discoloration continued until about 73 cmbms. The feature was then bisected east to west to further determine its extent. This portion of Feature 9 contained artifacts consisting of argillite, quartzite and chert

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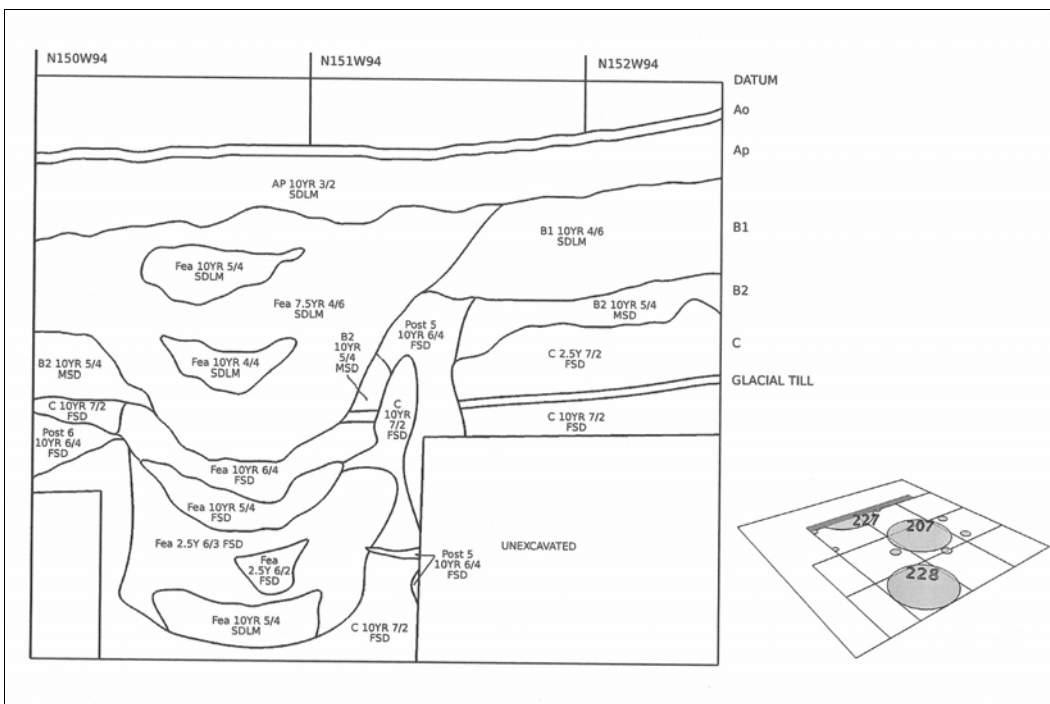


Figure 1: A Profile view of Feature 227. *Graphic by N. Fellman.*

Past excavations have yielded more questions than answers as to the nature and function of the features, so when one was discovered in the middle of a proposed pipeline route in the summer of 2009, it was hoped that new excava-

tions would produce some resolution. The results have not disappointed. Shortly after the discovery of the pit, a second identical feature was found adjacent, and it is likely the two overlapped. A singular oval ring of post molds, extending over a meter and a half into the ground was also discovered to have encircled both features. A large ground stone pestle found in the first feature provides the first confirmed artifact any of the pits has yielded. The morphology of the features compares favorably to Late Woodland storage pits found at the Tocks Island Site in the Upper Delaware Valley, excavated by Herbert Kraft in the 1970s. In addition, a projectile point found adjacent to the two features bears a close resemblance to the “Tocks Island Point,” a regional Mid-Atlantic point type. While the 2009 discoveries have broadened our understanding of the Woodland occupation of Sandy Hill, additional research and excavations will be required to fully comprehend the nature of this settlement and its associated features.

Updates from Mashantucket



Figure 2: A profile photo of Feature 9. *Photo by E. Heffter*

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flakes, as well as high concentrations of wood charcoal.

The bisections revealed that the feature continued to the south and east of the original excavation area. This part of the feature differed from the original portion. No orange soil discolorations were present and the feature became larger and bowl shaped (Figure 2). Some areas of the feature had bands of soil that alternated between dark brown soil (similar to other parts of the feature), and sterile, gravelly sandy soil. Few artifacts were found in this portion of the feature, save for high concentrations of wood charcoal and a few charred botanicals. This feature appears to consist of two components. The portion of the feature containing the alternating bands of soil may be the remains of a tree throw. The portion of the feature with the bright orange discoloration (which indicates burning), may have been the location of a hearth.

Eric Heffter

Do you want to become actively involved in
FOSA?

Send an email to FOSA's Volunteer Coordinator
Bob Martinchek at bobmartinchek@yahoo.com
to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

The Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center continues its endeavors in the “Battlefields of the Pequot War” project, funded by the National Park Service Battlefield Protection Program. This past fall, the museum began metal detection and archaeology in Mystic, Connecticut, working to uncover battlefield artifacts at Porter’s Rocks, where English and Native troops camped the night before the battle at Mystic Fort, and at Pequot Hill, the site of Mystic Fort. Document and material culture research continues to uncover new facts about the Pequot War, including new primary source narratives, additional English and Native veterans previously unknown to researchers, and insights into 17th century sites in Connecticut. Plans for 2010 include resuming battlefield archaeology at the sites in Mystic, continued document research, and the launch of a new “Battlefields of the Pequot War” project website. For more information about the project, please call (860) 396-6868, or contact Dr. Kevin McBride at kmcbride@mptn.org.

Laurie Pasteryak



Figure 3: An MPMRC Researcher uses a metal detector. *Photo by L. Pasteryak.*

Connecticut Indian Demographics at European Contact

The following is a revision of a paper I did many years ago. It is based on primary, secondary and literary resources along with anthropological studies to produce a monograph of what the Connecticut human landscape was like when the first Europeans, mostly English, first stepped foot on this land.

INTRODUCTION: All the aboriginal inhabitants of Connecticut are classified as Algonquian, a group of people living along the Atlantic coast from the present day Maritime provinces of Canada to the Carolinas. They all spoke a distinct language that varied in dialect from group to group.

Within the boundaries of present-day Connecticut lived various groups or bands of Indians. Because of their social organization, reference to tribes of Indians doesn't seem to be technically valid in southern New England, according to Bert Salwen (1978): "Above the village level, multi-village alliances undoubtedly played an important role, but it is not really clear if these were enduring or highly structured enough to be classified as true 'tribes.' Pre-1620 descriptions of eastern Massachusetts social units generally speak only of individual villages or loose groupings of villages" (Salwen 1978:167).

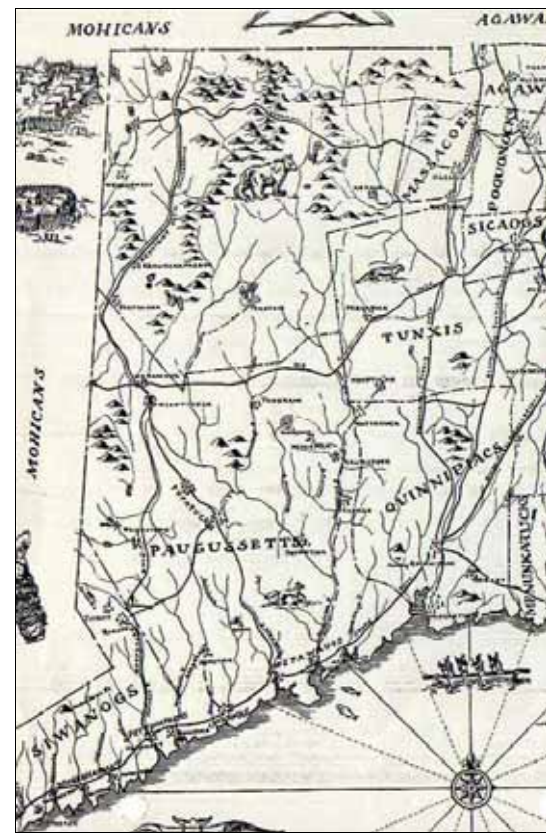
POPULATION ESTIMATES: Total population estimates between 1600-1650 for all these groups and bands of Indians inhabiting Connecticut prior to European contact range from 6,000 to 20,000. The higher population figures were abstracted from John Winthrop's Journal (1630-49), which gives a figure of 12,000 to 15,000, and John Trumbull's history (1926), which gives a figure of 16,000 to 20,000. Lower population figures of 6,000 were given by John De Forest (1851:45-68) and Forest Morgan (1904:48-49). Sherburne Cook used other criteria besides historical records. He took into account primitive family size, number of people residing in a dwelling, the area a village encompassed and the amount of food grown or gathered. From his analysis, he estimates the population to be close to 10,000 total individuals.

There are newer studies that may have come up with different population estimates for this 1600-1650 time period and for the various groups discussed below. In the near future I hope to review and report any dramatic differences to you.

TERRITORIES: *Reference the accompanying 1625 Connecticut map (Spiess 1933) as you read the following.* The major bands of Connecticut Indians can be divided into four major regions of the state. Those living in the southeastern region of the state along the shore were the Western Nehantics, Mohegan-Pequot and possibly the East Nehantic. Another region is the northeast where a sparse population of Nipmucks lived. Next we have the River Indians in the central

region living close to the Connecticut River Valley and its tributaries, from the Massachusetts line to Long Island Sound. The last bands we will discuss resided west of the Connecticut River, along the shore, and comprised the Quinnipiacs, Hammonassetts, Paugussetts and Siwanogs. The only large area that is not mentioned as having any inhabitants is the northwest area of the state, because there has been no convincing evidence of indigenous Indians living here at the time of European contact, with the exception of roaming Mohawks or hunting parties.

"[T]he country now known as Litchfield County, together with the northern part of Fairfield and the western part of Hartford counties, presented an uninhabited wilderness. The birds built their nests in its forests, without being disturbed by the smoke of a single wigwam; and the wild beasts, who made it their home, were startled by no fires save those of a transient war-party, or a wandering hunter" (De Forest 1851:51). In contrast, John Swanton says that "The northwest corner of Litchfield



Map of Connecticut in 1625 (Mathias Spiess, 1933)

County was occupied by the Wawyachtoc, a tribe of the Mahican Confederacy of the upper Hudson, though their main seats were in Columbia and Dutchess Counties, N.Y." (Swanton 1953:29).

In the southeast region of the state, east of the Connecticut River along the shore (the present day town of Lyme), lived the Western Nehantics. Their territory went as far east as the Nehantic (Niantic) River, had a population estimated at 250 (Salwen 1978:169), and their earliest sachem known to us was named Momojoshuck, followed by Ninigret (De Forest 1851:180).

The Mohegan-Pequots were the most numerous of the

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Connecticut Indian Demographics at European Contact

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Indians in Connecticut and perhaps the most destructive and oppressive. The following excerpt is in reference to Connecticut Indians traveling to Plymouth Plantation seeking English assistance. "But afterwards ther coming a company of banishte Indeans into these parts, that were drivene out from thence by a potencie of ye Pequents, which usurped upon them to drive them thence ..." (Bradford 1908:371). In addition, "The most terrible of all those Nations were the Pequot: who with their dependng Tribes



soon entered on a Resolution to Destroy the English out of the Country. In 1634, they killed Capt. Stone and all his Company, being seven besides himself, in & near his bark on the Connecticut River. In 1635, they killed Capt. Oldham in his bark at Block Island; and at Long-Island they killed two more cast away there. In 1636, and the following Winter and March, they killed six & took seven more at Connecticut River: Those they took alive they tortured to Death in a most barbarous Manner. And on April 23, 1637,

they killed nine more and carried two young Women Captive from Wethersfield" (Capt. John Mason 1736:iv by Rev. Mr. Thomas Prince).

The Pequot territory went "from the Niantic River on the west, their forts and wigwams extended along the rude and stony hills of New London County to Wecapaug, ten miles east of the Paucatuc River that divides Connecticut and Rhode Island" (De Forest 1851:58). This roughly encompassed the present-day towns of New London, Groton, Mystic and Stonington along the shore and inland north 15 to 20 miles.

It has been written that Pequot tradition speaks of

them migrating into Connecticut from the Mid-Hudson Valley as late as the turn of the 17th century (Rainey 1936:6). This tradition has been debated by anthropologists because of later archaeological and linguistic findings (Snow 1980:331).

By 1640 the Pequots split because of a disagreement in who would succeed as sachem (Rainey 1936:7). De Forest (1851:66-67) gives the genealogy of Uncas' family as given by himself in 1679. In it, Uncas claimed to be a great-grandson on his mother's side of Tamaquashad, chief of the Pequot at the time of their invasion of Connecticut. "Dr. Speck (1909:184) states that the two tribes were linguistically identical and formerly, if not a single people, were at least very closely related tribes" (Rainey 1936:7). Thus, the territory was split between the two groups around the English contact period, with the Pequots in the south and the Mohegans in the north at the present day City of Norwich under their sachem, Uncas. The population estimates of both groups at contact were 4,000 warriors (Gookin 1675:7), although Mooney has their total population around 2,800 (Salwen 1978:169).

Some important names of prominent Pequots up to the contact period were Tamaquahad, the earliest sachem known to us. Muckqundowas followed him; he in turn was succeeded by his son Woipeguand, who in turn was also succeeded by his son Wopigwooit, their sachem at the initial contact time.

One last band in the southeast that is mentioned in the literature is the East Nehantics. It is possible that if the Pequots came into Connecticut at the turn of the 17th century from New York, they settled in the territory previously held by the Nehantics. This split the Nehantics into an east and west group with the east group settling in Rhode Island with the Narragansetts. "Of these, the Western Nehantic are undoubtedly a distinct group as they were cut off from the Eastern Nehantics by the Pequot invasion and closely resemble the Narragansett" (Rainey 1936:8).

In the northeast part of the state in Tolland and Windham counties were the Nipmucks. Their territory extended into Connecticut but their principal seat was in Massachusetts (De Forest 1851:57, Rainey 1936:7). The population of the whole Nipmuck group is said to be about 500 (Salwen 1978:169). Therefore, if we proportion it to their total territory in Massachusetts and Connecticut, I speculate those residing in Connecticut alone could probably be no more than maybe 50.

Moving into the central portion of the state, north up the Connecticut River, were several River Indian bands. Some 8-10 miles west of the Connecticut River along the Farmington River were located the Tunxis or Sepores Indi-

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Connecticut Indian Demographics at European Contact

(Continued from page 9)

ans (Morgan 1904:50). Their territory was the present towns of Farmington, Southington, most of New Britain, and Berlin, Bristol, Burlington, Avon and Plainville. Their population was estimated at about 400 (Salwen 1978:169).

North of the Tunxis was a small area occupied by a band called the Massacoets in the present towns of Simsbury, Canton, and parts of Granby, East Granby, and Barkhamsted. Their principal village was Weatogue (Spiess 1933:20). This group is referenced in the early Windsor land deeds (1642:195) as Poquonock, where their sachem Nassahegan refers to them as his western boundary.

About 5 miles west of the mouth of the Farmington River is said to be the main camp of the Poquonocks. Their territory was essentially present day Windsor, Windsor Locks, and parts of East Granby and Bloomfield. Besides their main village they also had a village known as Matianuck that was the area south of the mouth of Farmington River and stretching to Hartford (Spiess 1933:27). Matianuck is mentioned in the Windsor land deeds (1670:227) but originally purchased in 1633. The Poquonock sachem at contact time was Sheat or Seheat.

Closely related to the Indians of Windsor but living on the east side of the Connecticut River from them were the Podunks. It is believed that they had the largest Indian village in the state, covering several hundred acres (Spiess 1933:1). The heavy concentration of artifacts that have been found there indicates this. Many are displayed at South Windsor's Wood Memorial Library. Their territory was bordered on the west by the Connecticut River, and ran east to Bolton, north to East Windsor and south to Glastonbury. Their population was estimated to be in the realm of 300 (Salwen 1978:169). The 300 figure may also include the Poquonocks, since the above reference is not clear. Their sachem at contact time was called Nattawanot.

North of the Indians of Windsor were the Agawams from Massachusetts. Their territory was in the present towns of Suffield, Hartland, Granby, East Granby, Enfield and east to Nipmuck country.

Just south of the Windsor Indians at Matianuck were the Indians who populated Hartford, called the Saukiogs or Sicaogs. Their chief sachem when the English arrived was Sequassen, son of Sequin. The deeds showing that Sequassen sold land in the Tunxis territory to Europeans implies that Sequassen held the allegiance of the Tunxis (Spiess 1933:18).

South of Hartford were the Wangunks, whose territory was on both sides of the Connecticut River, from Wethersfield to Middletown on the west side and Glastonbury to the country of the Western Nehatics (Lyme) on the east side. Their population was estimated at around 400

(Salwen 1978:169).

In the southwestern region of the state resided the Quinnipiacs, who "extended along the shore from Milford to Madison; holding the bay of New Haven and the little rivers that emptied into it as fishing places" (De Forest 1851:48). In simpler terms, their territory comprised the present towns of Meriden, Cheshire, Wallingford, Hamden, North Haven, East Haven, New Haven, Branford, North Branford and parts of Bethany, Prospect, New Britain and Waterbury. According to De Forest's research in the records of New Haven Colony, when their land was sold in 1638 their population was about 200-250, and of these 47 were 47 (De Forest 1851:48). The Quinnipiacs are also referred to by the name Quiripi. Momauquin was the sachem of this group at contact time.

A small band that resided along the shore in a little territory east of the Quinnipiacs was the Menunketucks. They were governed by a squaw sachem named Shaumpishuh, a sister to Momauquin, sachem of Quinnipiac. According to Guilford records their population was comprised of 14 men, 6 women and 14 children when they sold their land to the Europeans (Spiess 1933:29). The band's territory included the towns of Guilford and most of Madison.

Also on the shore, east of the Quinnipiacs and the Menunketucks, stretching to the Connecticut River were the Hammonassetts. The present towns of Saybrook, Essex, Old Saybrook, Westbrook, Clinton, and part of Killingworth were their territory. According to De Forest (1851:52) their population was few in number.

Paugussetts inhabited the present day towns of Monroe, Huntington (Shelton), Trumbull, Bridgeport, Stratford, Milford, Orange and Derby, encompassing the lower Housatonic and Naugatuck River Valleys. Their territory estimate is based on information from land deed sales made by the Paugussetts (De Forest 1851:49-50). This group also includes as many as five other bands in the vicinity, known along the shore as the Wepawaugs and Unkawas, and further inland to the north along the Housatonic and Naugatuck Rivers as the Potatucks, Pomeraws and the Naugatucks. The population of all of them is estimated to be about 400 (Salwen 1978:169).

Down in the southwest panhandle of the state was a group from present-day New York called the Siwanogs. "An old Dutch map of about 1614, published in New York Document Collections of History, I (1856), shows western Connecticut occupied by a group of Indians designated as 'Makimanes.' Writing in 1625, (de Laet 1811:296), distinguishes a group of Indians along the southwestern shore of Connecticut as 'Siwanoos ...'" (Rainey 1936:8).

In conclusion, I have referred to the political organiza-

(Continued on page 11)

Meetings and Announcements

Saturday, April 24, 2010 – 8:30 am to 5 pm. **Archaeological Society of Connecticut Spring Meeting.** Location: Western Connecticut State University, Danbury, CT. Admission \$10.00 public; \$8.00 members of FOSA and ASC; \$5.00 student with ID.

8:30 am – coffee and pastries. 9:30 am – Welcome by Laurie Weinstein, Chair and Organizer. 9:35 am – *Problems in the Archaeology and Ethnohistory of Western Connecticut*, by Daniel Cruson, ASC President. 10 am – *American Indian Language Studies in Connecticut from Stiles to Speck*, by Kathleen Bragdon, PhD, Dept. of Anthropology, The College of William and Mary. 10:30 am – *Reconciling “Residence” and Mobility: Native Communities in 18th and 19th century western Connecticut*, by Christine N. Reisner, PhD candidate, Anthropology, Brown University. 11 am – *The Archaeology and Ethnohistory of Frontiers and Cultural Brokers, Examples from Easton and Redding, CT*, by Stuart A. Reeve, Tetra Tech EC, Inc.; David Silverglade, Historical Society of Easton; Kathleen von Jena, Redding

Town Historian. 11:30 am – *Gunfight at the Federal Corral: Some thoughts on the role of expert witnesses in Gristedes v. the Unkechaug Nation, 2008-2009*, by John A. Strong, PhD, Professor Emeritus, Long Island University.

Noon to 1:30 pm – Lunch Break. 1:30 to 1:45 – Quick Business Meeting. 2 pm – *The Archaeology and Ethnohistory in Connecticut’s Northwest Corner: The Mahikan Connection*, Lucianne Lavin, PhD, Institute for American Indian Studies. 2:30 pm – *Henry Stephen Toncus (1817-1895): A Hypothesis in Indian Community Refuge*, Kate April, Independent Scholar. 3 pm – *Looking for the Indians: The Little Known Heroes of the Revolutionary War*, by Laurie Weinstein, WCSU and Samantha Mauro, WCSU. 3:30 pm – *The Fairfield Swamp Fight*, by Kevin McBride, PhD. Kevin McBride’s talk is still tentative. 4 pm to 5 pm – Roundtable Discussion by Presenters: Comments and Connections across Western Connecticut, Long Island Sound and elsewhere.

Visit the FOSA website, www.fosa-ct.org, for more information about archaeology and our organization, how FOSA members and volunteers provide support for the Office of State Archaeology, past FOSA newsletters, upcoming events, and links to related websites.

Connecticut Indian Demographics at European Contact

(Continued from page 10)

tion of Indians in the state as either groups or bands depending on their population. It appears that most of those mentioned do not go beyond the ranking of bands, which are defined as a set of nuclear families that regularly live and travel together. On the other hand, tribes are defined as a set of extended families or lineages that regularly reside together for at least part of the year. The Mohegan-Pequot is the only group at this time that might be considered a tribe.

Jim Trocchi

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Nick Bellantoni, Ron Beckett, Bonnie Beatrice, Gerald Conlogue and the Mummy at the 2010 Annual Meeting. Photo by Ken Beatrice.

We would like to hear from YOU! Please send your comments and ideas related to FOSA or the FOSA Newsletter to Mae Johnson at mpjohnson@snet.net.

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