



New Hampshire Archeological Society

Newsletter

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NHAS Advocates before the General Court

During the last legislative session, House Bills 1274 and 1285 would have dissolved the New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources. The dissolution would have moved the Division of Historical Resources and the State Library to the Office of the Secretary of State, and would have permanently abolished the State Council on the Arts.

Members of the NHAS stepped forward to testify on behalf of the DHR. At a hearing on January 12th NHAS President Sheila Charles provided written opposition to the bills. The testimony, in part, said that the:

...Department of Cultural Resources and Division of Historical Resources play an integral role in identifying and preserving our heritage and archaeological, architectural and cultural resources. These activities constitute their main responsibilities and priorities, and if abolished, the busy Office of the Secretary of State will be unable to give these New Hampshire irreplaceable, non-renewable resources the level of expertise and attention they deserve.

The NHAS was one of many organizations and individuals, including Representative Bill Belvin (R, Amherst) a member of the NHAS, who spoke at the hearing in opposition to the House Bills. The committee eventually stated to the full legislature that they were “inexpedient to legislate” and recommended that the bills not be passed. House Bills 1274 and 1285 were indeed defeated, and the status of the Department of Cultural Resources and its three divisions were sustained.



Bill Belvin, State Rep at Colebrook Site (I) and with fellow NHAS members Dick Boisvert, Laura Jefferson and Deb Duranceau at the Potter Site (above)

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ANCIENT (WEB)SITES

This is the seventh in a series reviewing websites and blogs of possible interest to the NHAS community

New Hampshire State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program

<http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/SCRAP.htm>



The New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program (SCRAP) is a public participation program for archaeological research, management, and education. The program is supported by state and federal funds, donated private funds, and the volunteered services of trained and certified avocational archaeologists, many of whom are NHAS members.

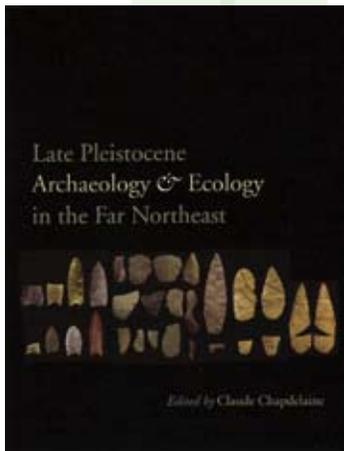


The SCRAP website lists lectures, workshops, field schools including available certifications, great educational papers concerning archaeology, and an informational presentation created by a former field school student, Katherine Russell. There are also links to information on the SCRAP prehistoric archaeological field school, the historical archaeology survey and mapping project, and participation at the Paleoindian Gault Site in Florence, Texas.

Deborah Duranceau
NHAS website editor

BOOK REVIEW

New volume published on the Northeastern Paleoindian



"The region Chapdelaine calls the Far Northeast was still cloaked with glacial ice when early bands of humans were already well established elsewhere on the North American continent. How they subsequently expanded northward and adapted to this bleak landscape once the ice melted is the subject of this fascinating volume. Leading scholars in the region have made the most of the latest finds to understand human adaptation in this corner of a long lost world. It is archaeological science at its best."— Dean R. Snow, professor, Pennsylvania State University.

These Palaeoindians, unlike their relatives to the south and west, were adapting to a nascent landscape emerging from the endless slumber of the Pleistocene and undergoing incredible changes within a relatively short span of time. They likely gazed at the melting ice mass and some even lived near the shores of the vast Champlain Sea. This book provides a much needed update of that incredible story of human adaptation on the very edge of the inhabitable world. — Dr. Jean-Luc Pilon, Curator of Ontario Archaeology at the Canadian Museum of Civilization.

Texas A&M University Press has released *Peopling of the Americas: Late Pleistocene Archaeology and Ecology in the Far Northeast* edited by Dr. Claude Chapdelaine, professor of archaeology at the Université de Montréal.

The volume covers research on sites from Nova Scotia and Québec, Canada extending to the Hudson Valley of New York. An article by New Hampshire State

Archaeologist and NHAS member, Dr. Richard Boisvert "The Paleoindian Period in New Hampshire" provides a comprehensive discussion of the Paleoindian sites, database and research issues conducted in the State.

The publication can be obtained from TAMU Press at: <http://tamupress.com/product/Late-Pleistocene-Archaeology-and-Ecology-in-the-Fa,7166.aspx>

IN MEMORIAM – ED MCKENZIE

The last issue of the newsletter contained a short notice that longtime NHAS member Ed McKenzie died on April 24th of this year. That announcement did not begin to do justice to Ed's many contributions to the Society and to New Hampshire archaeology over more than 45 years.

Ed was born in Plaistow, NH in 1925. During World War II he was a gunner on a B-17 and when his plane was shot down over Austria, he spent time in a German prisoner of war camp. When the war ended, Ed returned to Plaistow where he worked for several utility companies in jobs that varied from radio operator to financial officer. He retired in 1985 and moved to Albany, NH.

Ed and his family joined the NHAS in the early 1960s. At various times in the 1970s and 1980s he served as editor of the newsletter, member of the Executive Board, First Vice President, Membership Secretary, and Treasurer. He was active on several committees: the Eddy Site fund, Bylaws revision, and the history of the Society. The Society recognized Ed with its highest honor, the Chester Price Award, in 1986 and he continued to be active in the Society for another 20 years.

Ed was a newspaperman and writer and brought those skills to the Society when he wrote the "Chips and Fractures" column – a folksy update chronicling the activities and adventures of members. After moving to Albany he began another column called "From the North Country" which he continued until 2006.

Ed considered his role as a "voice and presence of the Society north of the lakes." His numerous other contributions to the newsletter included editorials, descriptions of archaeological sites in the north country, and reports of sites he had visited on his travels in Europe.

Few people have had as long and varied association with the Society and we will certainly miss him. It is fitting to end this with an excerpt from a Letter to the Editor he wrote for the newsletter in 1990 that seems to best express his vision for the NHAS.

"In my thirty-something years of association with the NHAS, many prehistoric sites have been "dozed" without analysis, and uncounted structures have been mounds or cellar holes slipping into obscurity. We used to think, "Oh well, the old timers will always remember historic material, it's being recorded, and most prehistoric sites will just lie there undisturbed. Well, brothers and sisters of the crossed trowel and pen, we don't, it isn't, and they won't. I am convinced that all of us, institutions and individuals, all are needed in the cause described in Article II of our bylaws, "to promote, stimulate, encourage, educate, exchange, and preserve."

Contributed by Mark Greenly and Pat Hume



INVITE A FRIEND TO JOIN THE NHAS!

Members participate in events such as the Archaeology Fair at the Boston Museum of Science in October, the annual meeting at PSU, or the SCRAP field school at the Jefferson VI site. Mike Malburne, George LeDuc, Abbie Young, Tanya Krajick, Heather Rockwell and Karen Malburne are a few NHAS members shown. For your convenience a membership form is included in this newsletter.



2012 FIELD SCHOOLS

SCRAP at the Jefferson VI Paleoindian Site *or "How to grow a Paleoindian site in your own backyard."*

The 2012 SCRAP field school returned to the Jefferson VI site and resumed excavations begun in 2011. The six week investigation included expansion of two excavation blocks. Each block represented a probable short term encampment situated on a vantage point overlooking the Israel River valley to the southwest.

The larger A Block, overseen by NHAS member Heather Rockwell, achieved a total size of 4 by 5 meters (with a one meter extension to the east). These



Kathe Lewis and George LeDuc and a STP

excavations rounded out the finds from the previous season and essentially defined an apparent short term (single?) occupation. Two fluted point bases were found in 2011, but were small and not diagnostic as to point type. However this year a substantial portion of a fluted point made of Jefferson Rhyolite was retrieved. The point closely resembles a Michaud-Neponset style point with its eared base and recurved lateral margins. Debitage and a few retouched flakes dominated the inventory in the A Block, further supporting interpretations of a short term hunter's encampment made by NHAS member, Bruce Rusch, who presented this research at the 2012 Society for American Archaeology meetings in St. Louis, Missouri.

Under the supervision of NHAS member Abbie Young C Block, situated 30 meters west of A Block, was expanded from 8 to 18.5 square meters. Two fluted point fragments were documented here in 2011 and three more were added this season, including a small non-diagnostic Munsungun chert basal fragment, a Jefferson Rhyolite corner and lateral edge and a basal section made of probable Jefferson Rhyolite. Interestingly, the largest basal fragment falls into the Bull Brook variety of point while the smaller fragment more closely resembles a Michaud-Neponset variety.

Karen Malburne and Linda Fuerderer screening



Dick Boisvert and Abbie Young discuss field strategy

Scrapers and retouched flakes were scarce, but two conjoining scraper fragments were found associated with a large stone feature. A concentration of large split flat stones was found in the western section of the excavation block with a small patch of soil containing charcoal bits. This feature is rare in the Israel River Complex and may represent a cooking feature or possibly the center of a sweat lodge.

At the onset of the field school the managers of the Applebrook Bed & Breakfast invited us to extend our research into a field to the north of the block excavations. The north edge of the field was marked by a small brook flanked by cattails. This unusual setting was viewed as being possibly attractive for habitation and the site grid was extended into this area. Eventually 188 shovel test pits were excavated under the supervision of Mike Malburne, then completed by Steve Whitten. Of these, 80 STPs contained lithic artifacts. This newly defined extension of Jefferson VI is also Paleoindian in age. A fluted point tip was found in the northwest portion of the field, and 60 meters southeast an unfinished fluted point fragment and abandoned preform were found. Also located in the southeast portion of the field was a shovel test pit with 65 flakes, nearly all of which were Munsungun chert. Debitage was broadly distributed through the field and additional concentrations of artifacts are likely.

The 2012 field school significantly enlarged the size of Jefferson VI, nearly tripling the site size and doubling, at least, the number of occupational areas. Consistent with other sites in the Israel River Complex, no other time periods are represented in the site assemblage. Additional research is warranted on the northern extension of the site and as yet the site boundary is not fully defined. The Jefferson VI site appears to contain a series of hunters encampments. Their placement on the landscape would have provided excellent views of the Israel River Valley and the caribou herds that would have been migrating through the valley. One can imagine hunters camping on the shoulder of the slopes watching and waiting for the herds to appear so they could harvest the all important meat, antler and hides.

Richard Boisvert, SCRAP

Future Archaeologists at Camp

The Junior Archaeology Summer Camp conducted by Strawberry Banke Museum, was held July 30th through August 3rd on the grounds of the museum in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The camp was designed to introduce thirteen to fifteen year old students to the world of Historic Archaeology. Utilizing a variety of experiential activities, nine students were taught the basic principles and ethics of archaeology.

The program was designed with a very strong “hands-on” component. Each student received their own dig kit containing the tools needed to participate in the week long experience. At the end of the camp, each student elected to keep their dig kit, an indicator of interest in additional study.



Junior archaeologists at the Strawberry Banke Museum camp

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

The excavators recovered over two hundred artifacts ranging from the time period of the late eighteenth century to the mid twentieth century. It was also determined that the site had been greatly disturbed. The artifacts found included ceramics, glass, architectural components and personal adornment items.



The curation department staff, Elizabeth Farish and Tara Vose, worked with the students to emphasize the importance of searching historical records when doing archaeological field work. They explained the many sources used by archaeologists before field work is conducted. The instructors had students examine documents used in preparation for the field work at the Winn House.

The field work component focused on the 1795 Winn House grounds due to restoration plans that required on new fence and concrete HVAC pad. Prior to construction there was a need to determine if the project would disturb a significant archaeological site.

Students established a one meter test pit along the new fence line and a second pit at the HVAC site. The dig was supervised by Jim McDevitt, archaeological educator, with consultation by Sheila Charles, the Strawberry Banke archaeologist. The students received extensive training in excavating, screening and artifact recovery. The student archaeologists were also instructed in how to map and profile test pits.

Strawbery Banke archaeology laboratory supervisor, Sally Strazdins, and Bethany Cook, the Strawberry Banke archaeology intern, worked with the junior archaeologists to teach them techniques used in processing recovered artifacts. They also taught them the methods used at Strawberry Banke Museum for studying, cataloging and storing recovered cultural materials. The students cleaned and sorted all their recovered artifacts.

The week ended with a reception for the families and friends of the students, held at the Educational Center at Strawberry Banke. Students presented their findings to the group and displayed the artifacts recovered from the Winn House site. Several of the adult guests asked how they could participate in a similar program, a measure of the success of the Junior Archaeology Camp.

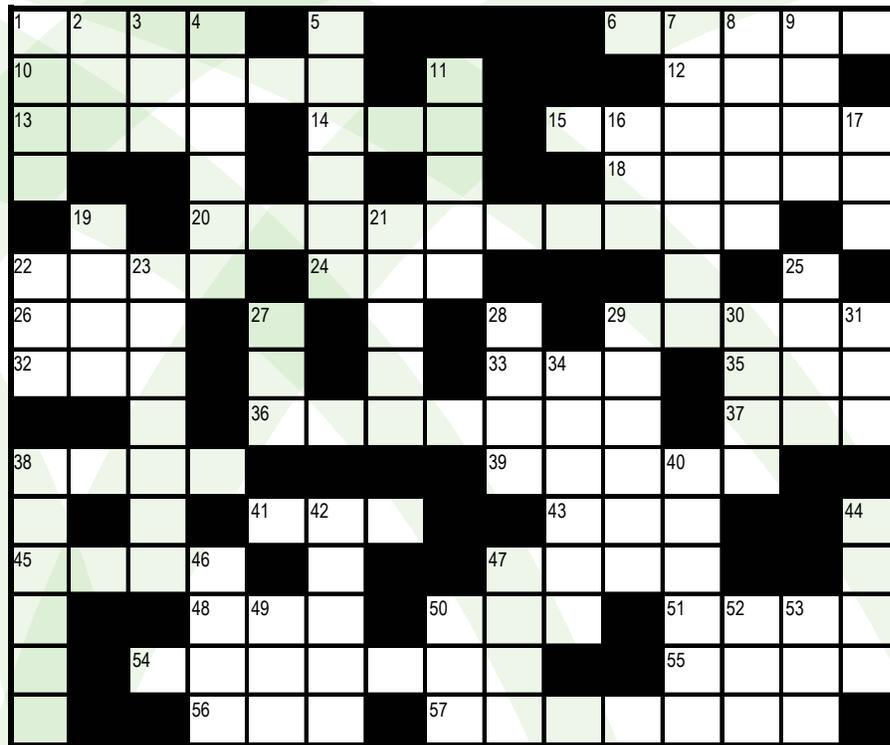
Submitted by Jim McDevitt and Sheila Charles
Strawbery Banke Museum

PUZZLE #6

Vol 28 Number 2

6

Autumn 2012



Across

- 1 Cause pain
- 6 Paleolithic statuette
- 10 Land measures
- 12 Pack ____, desert rodent
- 13 Bragg or Knox
- 14 Japanese cultivated carp
- 15 The side exhibiting cortex or previous flaking scars
- 18 A group of points or stone tools
- 20 ____ Army, found
- 22 Location where stalagmites are found
- 24 What everything revolves around
- 26 Mined material
- 29 Used in some burials
- 32 Sn, on the table of elements
- 33 US agency established in 1970
- 35 Long period of time
- 36 Decorated cave in Dordogne, France
- 37 Bronze or copper, e.g.
- 38 Maize
- 39 Response
- 41 Native American tribe from Utah and W. Colorado
- 43 Time reference (Abr.)
- 45 Bird of prey; Bad omen to some native peoples
- 47 A family group
- 48 Trim; clear an area to screen or dig
- 50 Sutton ____;
- 51 A sign
- 54 Complex earthen mound site, in the US
- 55 What a clock tells you
- 56 System used to collect, store & analyze the land
- 57 Wide, level geological feature

Down

- 1 To equip with a handle
- 2 Past
- 3 Simply put, what a pirate says, times three
- 4 Ground stone, commonly found out west
- 5 Long and narrow, steep-sided ridges
- 7 A glacially transported rock
- 8 Famous lines of Peru
- 9 State settled by Mormons in 1847
- 11 Moche tomb; the richest found in the Americas
- 16 Autumn month
- 17 Allow
- 19 Highland Peruvian empire, pre-dating the Inca
- 21 Remains
- 22 Camping bed
- 23 The bulb of percussion is found on this side
- 25 After a long day in the field, relax with one of these
- 27 Broken/worn projectile point may be repurposed as
- 28 Ursa major animal
- 29 Valley in Mesoamerica; home to Monte Alban
- 30 Ingredient necessary in making pottery
- 31 Compass direction
- 34 Common pre-Contact southwestern home
- 38 Fluted point
- 40 Underwater gateway from fresh to salt waters
- 42 Contour maps
- 44 Wind-blown land form; found in the desert & coast
- 46 By-product of 47-down
- 47 Train fuel, in the old west
- 49 Neighboring state to Ind.
- 50 Flower bud
- 52 By way of
- 53 Flightless bird, native to Australia

Created by Dawn Lassman

2012 Annual Meeting

Forty four NHAS members and guests enjoyed the hospitality of Franklin Pierce University in Rindge for our annual meeting on October 27th. Presentation topics included:

- Mound builders in Michigan by Dr. Meghan Howey of University of New Hampshire
- Jefferson VI Paleoindian site by New Hampshire State Archaeologist Dr. Richard Boisvert
- Searching for precontact sites in the White Mountains by Dan O'Toole of the White Mountain National Forest
- Quartz technology at Gulf of Maine Archaic sites by Dr. Brian Jones of Archaeological and Historical Services.

During the Annual Meeting, the Executive Board said farewell to Don Foster, who retired from the Board after more than 30 years as the Society's Curator (and other offices as well). Outgoing President Sheila Charles will become the new NHAS Curator. New faces on the Executive Board are Karen Malburne of Merrimack, NH and Bruce Rusch of Sudbury, MA.

The slate of Officers passed during the 2012 Annual Meeting includes Mike Malburne as the next President of the Society. Abstracts of the presentations and a list of Officers can be found on the society's website: www.nhas.org.

EVENTS



FPU student Page McGroarty shows Linda Fuerderer how to use an atlatl

The last and most unusual event of the day was an atlatl demonstration by the FPU Anthropology club's atlatl team. There was a chance for meeting participants to try throwing darts using an atlatl. This was harder than it looked, and a Styrofoam deer 40 or 50 feet away proved to be in little danger.

Mark Greenly, Treasurer



Outgoing NHAS President Sheila Charles received thanks from the NHAS Board and flowers presented by Second Vice-President Dick Boisvert

Solution to Puzzle #6

H	A	R	M	E				V	E	N	U	S			
A	G	R	E	E	S	S				R	A	T			
F	O	R	T		K	O	I		D	O	R	S	A	L	
T		A		E	P				C	A	C	H	E		
	W		T	E	R	R	A	C	O	T	T	A		T	
C	A	V	E		S	U	N			I		G			
O	R	E		A		I		B		O	C	H	R	E	
T	I	N		W		N		E	P	A		E	O	N	
			T		L	A	S	C	A	U	X		A	G	E
C	O	R	N							R	E	A	C	T	
L		I		U	T	E			B	C	E			D	
O	W	L	S		O				C	L	A	N			U
V			L	O	P			H	O	O		O	V	E	N
I			C	A	H	O	K	I	A			T	I	M	E
S				G	I	S			P	L	A	T	E	A	U

References used for puzzle solutions:
www.archaeologywordsmith.com
www.dictionary.com

2002 *Archaeology: The Definitive Guide*. Barnes and Nobles Books

Please send all items for the newsletter to:
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nhasweb@gmail.com
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The New Hampshire Archeological Society
Membership Application

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

To apply, please fill out this form and mail it with a check made out to the New Hampshire Archeological Society or NHAS for the amount (USD) indicated for the desired type of membership:

- _____ Individual \$25
- _____ Institution \$35
- _____ Senior (65+) \$18
- _____ Student \$18 (photocopy of valid student ID required)

Mail to: New Hampshire Archeological Society
Attn: Treasurer
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Concord, NH 03302-0406

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**New Hampshire
Archeological Society**

2012 - 2014

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