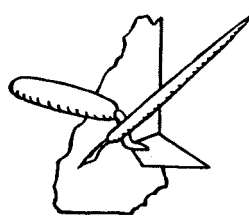


Volume 24 • Number 1 • Spring 2008



# New Hampshire Archeological Society Newsletter

ISSN 0545-1604

## NHAS Members & Friends Photo Log

Student and volunteer participants, including NHAS member Sally Strazdins (seated) at the 1795 Yeaton-Walsh house, site of the 2007 Strawberry Banke field school



Watching flint knapping this Spring at the Gault Site includes Jon Edsall, Nathaniel Kitchell, George Leduc, Mike Malburne, Will Maker and Dick Boisvert



**Consider becoming  
a member or asking  
a friend to join the  
NHAS.**



Peter Wiggin, Craig Brown and Dick Lunt  
at the Oyster River Site in 2007

**See the back cover for details to join.**

**New Hampshire Archeological Society**

**2008 Spring Meeting**

**Sunday, April 27th**

**Bailey Hall, Gorham Campus, University of Southern Maine**

See meeting flyer or [www.nhas.org](http://www.nhas.org) for complete details.

### *Inside the Newsletter*

**Page 2**

List of Officers  
President's Report

**Page 3**

Collections Committee Report  
Site Files Report  
*NH Archeologist* Sale

**Page 4**

Book Review

**Pages 5-7**

2008 Field Schools  
Strawbery Banke Museum  
Plymouth State University  
NHDHR SCRAP

**Page 8**

SCRAP at the Gault Site TX

**Page 9**

Project Archaeology

**Page 10**

NHAS Spring Meeting Notice

**Pages 10-11**

Event Calendar

## New Hampshire Archeological Society

### Officers

2008-2009

President: Elizabeth Hall  
296 Court Street  
Keene, NH 03431

First Vice-President: Karl Roenke  
719 N. Main Street  
Laconia NH 03246

Second Vice-President: Richard Boisvert  
NH Division of Historical Resources  
19 Pillsbury St., 2nd Floor  
Concord, NH 03301-3570

Treasurer: Mark Greenly  
84 Woodworth Avenue  
Portsmouth NH 03801

Secretary: Laura Jefferson  
254 Gould Pond Rd  
Henniker, NH 03242

Curator: Donald Foster  
Phillips Exeter Academy  
20 Main St., MSC#81337  
Exeter, NH 03883-2460

Editor: David Starbuck  
Dept. of Social Science  
Plymouth State University  
Plymouth, NH 03264

### Executive Board

Jon Edsall (2008)  
35 River Street Apt 4A  
Franklin, NH 03235

Mike Malburne (2008)  
6 Hunter Lane  
Merrimack 03054

Dawn Lassman (2009)  
20 Summer Street  
Milford NH 03055

Chris St.Louis (2009)  
72 Pleasant Street  
Littleton, NH 03561

Sheila Charles (2010)  
15 Boylston Ave  
Nashua, NH 03064

Pat Hume (2010)  
15 King Richard Drive  
Londonderry NH 03053

### Presidents Emeriti

Victoria Bunker	W. Dennis Chesley
Donald Foster	Justine Gengras
Robert Goodby	Mark Greenly
Paul Homes	Dennis E. Howe
Patricia Hume	Kenneth Rhodes
Jane Spragg	Eugene Winters

## President's Report

The NHAS spring meeting is scheduled with the Maine Archaeological Society at the University of Southern Maine in Gorham, Maine on Sunday, April 27, 2008. The program can be found in the enclosed flyer and on our website. This meeting is free and open to the public.

Members of the Executive Board are busy planning for the Annual Meeting this fall in the Concord area. Plans are also being formulated for Archeology Month in October. If you know of special programs and/or activities scheduled for October, please inform a member of the Executive Board.

The fall 2007 meeting at Strawberry Banke, Portsmouth, NH had an attendance of over 30 members and guests. Sheila Charles and the meeting committee members provided a varied and interesting program. During the Annual Meeting the election of the board was held with the current slate of officers confirmed. Elected to serve on the board were Mike Malburne, Sheila Charles and Pat Hume, who as a past president has been faithfully attending the board meetings for years without voting

privileges. The members present at the annual meeting voted to consolidate several small special funds and transfer them to the Collection Fund. After the meeting, Sheila Charles, Strawberry Banke's Staff Archaeologist, gave a guided tour of the facilities at Strawberry Banke.

There are a number of back issues of *The New Hampshire Archeologist* available. Volumes 1-18 are \$1.50 each ; volumes 19-25 are \$5.00 each; volumes 26-42 are \$6.00 each, and volumes 43-45 are priced at \$15.00 each. This is a good time to fill in missing volumes in your library. More details appear in this newsletter and on our website.

The Society's website ([www.nhas.org](http://www.nhas.org)) is continuing to improve. New additions include links to area archaeological societies, details of member activities, and regional, national and educational programs for teachers and students. Check out all the links on the site for more information.

*Elizabeth (Betty) Hall, President*

## Site Files Report

Things have been quiet over the winter with few sites to file, therefore we are up to date in our effort to record all site records. Tanya Kress from DHR and I have been reviewing some of the older files and have 'filled in the gaps' with information. The site files are housed at Phillips-Exeter Academy in Exeter, NH.

Archaeological researchers who wish to consult them should make an appointment with Don Foster, NHAS Curator. If you happen to be visiting Exeter, check out the artifact displays that Don Foster and Mark Greenly have set up in the basement hallway of the Academy Building.

*Pat Hume, Site Files Chairman*

---

## Collections Committee Report

The committee has finished its work on those CRM collections that, as we reported in the last newsletter, the Board agreed to de-accession. The collections from eight sites and three other CRM testing locations were all transferred to the Division of Historical Resources on January 17th. The last collection (from the Sportsman's Pond site, NH 49-01) was one that we first thought was from CRM work. It turned out to be from a field school conducted by George Nicholas for Franklin Pierce College, now Franklin Pierce University. As this material began as

the property of Franklin Pierce College, and a search of our files did not show anything to suggest that the material had ever been given to the society. We treated its transfer to Franklin Pierce as simply the return of a long-term loan. Professor Robert Goodby expressed his happiness to have the collection returned.

The committee will be continuing its work on the artifacts in the Finch and White collections, and on new sites identified by Bill White, as our time permits.

*Mark Greenly, Collections Chairman*

---

## Sale of Back Issues of the New Hampshire Archeologist

Now is a good time to fill any gaps you might have in your collection of The New Hampshire Archeologist. One of the Board's projects this year is to increase sales of the back issues of the journals. The number of copies remaining of each issue varies from none (the 25th Anniversary issue) to over 100. This stock represents a major investment the society has made over the years. We sell some copies every year by mail and at meetings, thanks to the efforts of Don Foster and Pat Hume, but the Board is looking for additional ways to turn this stock back into cash we can use for other activities.

The society's web page ([www.nhas.org](http://www.nhas.org)) has a downloadable document that lists the contents and price of

each back issue. As a start, the Board has decided to give quantity discounts: a purchase of 5 to 9 copies at one time gets you a 10% discount from the list price. A purchase of 10 or more copies at one time gets you a 20% discount.

We plan to have a good stock of issues for sale at the CNEA meeting April 19th and at our Spring meeting with the Maine Archaeological Society on April 27th. The Board is also pursuing other marketing approaches such as targeted advertising to CRM firms, libraries, etc., and possibly even eBay sales.

*Mark Greenly, Treasurer*

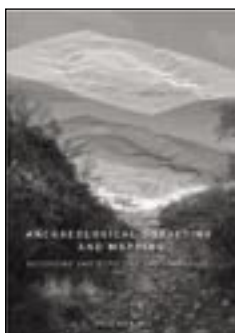
Please send all items for the newsletter to:  
Newsletter Editor  
New Hampshire Archeological Society  
P. O. Box 406  
Concord NH 03302-0406  
[nhasweb@yahoo.com](mailto:nhasweb@yahoo.com)  
This newsletter is published by the  
New Hampshire Archeological Society.

## Book Review

### *Archaeological Surveying and Mapping: Recording and Depicting the Landscape*

By: Phil Howard

Publisher: Routledge, London and New York, 2007



Mapping in the broad sense (i.e. capturing spatial information in the field, storing and analyzing it, and presenting it graphically) is one of the central aspects of archaeology. Books on this topic alone are uncommon. In the United States, it is usual to see mapping covered in a chapter of a comprehensive field manual. Over the years, books about surveying and/or mapping for non-surveyors (i.e. field scientists in various disciplines including archaeology) have more commonly appeared in the United Kingdom than in the US. Phil Howard, a member of the faculty of Durham University in the UK who specializes in surveying, Geographical Information Systems (GIS), and archaeological computing, continues this tradition. His book offers an overview of the modern archaeological mapping process, with various computer software programs completing all the processes after the initial data gathering.

About a quarter of the book covers basic surveyors' methods: determining the coordinates of points via the measurements of lengths and angles, sometimes with trigonometric computations. There is also a short chapter on the Global Positioning System. However, this is not the book to buy if your main goal is to learn field mapping methods. That is better treated in the various archaeological field manuals or in secondhand surveying text books from more than 40 years ago, i.e., the pre-electronic days of transits, compasses and tapes.

Howard then proceeds to the topic of computerized data storage, manipulation, and analysis. Not that hard-copy field forms are obsolete, but analysis and cartography are usually done digitally, so the transformation from hard copy data to digital data needs to be done at this stage of the process. Much of it can be done with common office software like spreadsheets and databases, as well

as with specialized software like GIS. Howard offers some very useful spreadsheet examples of the computations to convert field measurements into coordinate formats used by mapping and GIS programs. Modern surveying instruments perform these computations automatically and internally, but one of Howard's goals is to offer less expensive ways of doing things for archaeologists who do not have unlimited funds.

While the details and results of what an archaeologist finds within the site grid are often presented in isolation, maps of the site location, or of the location of several sites, commonly include some broader natural or cultural context. That context is provided by other maps or extracts from them, or by aerial photos and elevation data for terrain visualization. These other maps and files usually have two characteristics: (a) they are most often available as computer files, and (b) using them requires specialized software. Along this line, Howard offers his preferences for the common kinds of software an archaeologist is likely to use: Computer Assisted Drawing, GIS, and terrain visualization programs. He recommends less-expensive (or free) alternatives to the top-of-the line, expensive industry standards. His recommendations are vintage 2004, but a spot check on the Internet showed that they are still available.

His book is a good introduction to some of the things these various software packages can do. Almost half of the book is made up of case studies where the software is used in various archaeological projects. Five of the six case studies are in Europe, one in is New Mexico. While the step-by-step procedures he outlines are only valid for the specific software being discussed, his examples do introduce many useful GIS concepts.

Howard offers this book for two groups of people: those who will be doing the actual hand-on computer work themselves, and those who only want a basic understanding of what the software can offer. While much of the basic information he presents is available free on the Internet, it is very fragmented and therefore very time-consuming to find. Howard's book is worth a closer look if you want it all under one cover.

*Mark Greenly*

## 2008 Field Schools in New Hampshire

### Strawbery Banke Museum

The 2008 Strawbery Banke Museum's field school will take place from July 14 to July 25, 2008. The program will run from Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm each day. The field school is open to students (ages 14 years or more) and adults, with or without prior archaeological experience. Participants (limited to 16 individuals) have the opportunity to assist in the investigation of a historic site within the heart of Strawbery Banke Museum's campus to learn about the former occupants and proprietors, their activities, and the building they inhabited. The Archaeological Field School is also a valuable opportunity for career exploration and professional development.

You are invited to participate in this archaeological field school, which will focus on the investigation of the grounds of the Yeaton-Walsh House. The Yeaton-Walsh House, one of Strawbery Banke's unrestored historic buildings, has been identified as an endangered structure and consequently archaeological investigation is warranted preceding restoration. An archaeological investigation of the Yeaton-Walsh grounds has the potential to uncover evidence of former structural elements, the evolution of the property, and activities undertaken on the site by the multiple inhabitants. Thomas G. Yeaton built the Yeaton-Walsh House between 1794 and 1803 as a rental property. The tenant building was subsequently occupied by a succession of craftsmen, seamen, and laborers. After 1850, Michael Walsh, a sawyer, occupied the structure. The second floor of the Yeaton-Walsh House retains many original architectural features, such as cornices, doors and fireplaces. Also original are the handsome scrolled brackets and heavy handrail. The pilaster capitals on the doorway, typical of 18<sup>th</sup> century Portsmouth work, indicate the importance of style even in the plainest of structures.



The field school, directed by archaeologist Sheila Charles, will be an exciting adventure of discovery and an opportunity to investigate what it would have been like to live in Portsmouth at Strawbery Banke in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This creative archaeological quest will provide hands-on archaeological field and laboratory experiences, in accordance with archaeological standards of the US Department of Interior and the Society for American Archaeology Standards of Ethics. The field school will also include engaging opportunities to use scientific observation and techniques, and have FUN.

Activities will include:

- using historic maps, documents and photographs to help learn the story of the site and its occupants
- mapping and recording archaeological field data
- excavating units by defined natural or cultural levels and the recovery of ceramics, glass, structural material, tools, and other artifacts hidden for decades at a historic house site
- systematic documenting and recording of findings
- cleaning, identifying, cataloguing and researching recovered artifacts, in preparation for inclusion in the museum's collection
- entering computer data from the artifact catalogue into a spreadsheet program
- creating an exhibit documenting the field results.

In addition, guest speakers and field trips (e.g., Warren House) may be incorporated into the project, depending on weather conditions and availability. During New

#### Strawbery Banke Museum Is Seeking Researchers

Strawbery Banke is looking for individuals to process and report on soil, pollen and/or wood samples recovered from historic sites in Portsmouth, including the 1695 Sherburne House Site, 1816 Jefferson House Site, Follett Site, Shapiro House, Paul and Manning Wharf, Marshall Wharf, as well as Deer Street. These domestic and wharf sites included 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century features. The processing of these samples, recovered during archaeological investigations of the 1970s through the 1990s, is long overdue! Strawbery Banke Museum is willing to lend them out to local laboratories and students who will process these samples, which may provide significant information on historic site deposition and land use; environmental conditions; soil, feature, and structural composition; as well as the former occupants' diet and health.

Contact Sheila Charles, Strawbery Banke Museum Archaeologist for more information: [scharles@strawberybanke.org](mailto:scharles@strawberybanke.org)

Hampshire's summer season, field school participants will interact with the visiting public sharing information on archaeological methods and finds derived from their outdoor learning experience. If you would like to be part of the team unearthing information about four centuries of life in the Strawberry Banke neighborhood, join Strawberry Banke's Archaeological team in this two-week investigative archaeological experience.

In order to secure a reservation to participate in this field school, send your registration form and payment by June 1, 2008. The fee for this two-week field school is \$360 Museum members/\$390 non-members. Once we receive the form and payment, we will send a confirmation via email or regular mail (please indicate your choice on the registration form). Please see the registration form for information regarding our cancellation policy. If you are not currently a member of Strawberry Banke Museum and you would like to become a member now to take advantage of the discounted field school price, as well as many other special offerings, please contact visitor's services or apply on line at [www.strawberrybanke.org/membership](http://www.strawberrybanke.org/membership).

Please contact Sheila Charles, Archaeologist at Strawberry Banke Museum at [scharles@strawberrybanke.org](mailto:scharles@strawberrybanke.org) or call 603-422-7541 (Wednesdays only).

## 2008 SCRAP Field School



### Oyster River Environs Archaeology Project

A four-week archaeological field school will be conducted at the site of the Field-Bickford Garrison, located on Durham Point at the mouth of the Oyster River on Little Bay in Durham, NH. The Oyster River Environs Archaeology Project (OREAP) field school will be conducted under the auspices of the NH State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program (SCRAP) in cooperation with the firm of Crane and Morrison, a Cultural Resources Management firm based in Freeport, Maine. Craig J. Brown, Peter Morrison and Pam Crane will supervise the investigations in coordination with Dr. Richard Boisvert, New Hampshire State Archaeologist. The field school is open to the public and has the dual goals of investigating a highly significant early historic site while engaging members of the public in professional-quality archaeology.

The Field-Bickford Garrison was initially built prior to 1638 as a pioneer homestead, ordinary (tavern) and ferry

landing. It served as a key point of entry to the Oyster River Plantation, one of the first English settlements in New Hampshire. The site was one of the fortified structures attacked in the famous Oyster River Plantation Massacre of 1694 and survived a determined assault by an Abenaki force through the brave and clever actions of Thomas Bickford. The structure however has a far wider history, having been the property of Darby Field, famous as the first European to have summited Mt. Washington, and as a major economic nexus for the emerging colony. A preliminary inspection of the site has identified the probable house cellar and artifacts on the adjacent shore that date to the period in question.

The specific research objective for the 2008 field school is to continue work on the Bickford Garrison, define the limits of the structure, identify associated outbuildings and related ferry facilities, and establish a baseline of information for a broader investigation of this and related



Dr. Peter Sablock on the EDM during the 2007 season

Oyster River Plantation sites. The field investigations will incorporate standard archaeological field excavation techniques, working with a rigorously defined grid system and employing ground-penetrating radar and other remote sensing equipment. This investigation is designed specifically to lay the groundwork for longer-range research over the coming years.

The full cooperation of the property owners, Barbara and Helen Langley has been secured. The property also has a conservation easement held by The Nature Conservancy, whose cooperation and support has also been assured.

Our ultimate goal is to bringing to light an immensely important and complex, though poorly understood, era of New Hampshire's early colonial history. Previous research

and publication by Craig J. Brown has helped clarify the circumstances of this site and its associated history; however our investigations have only a small portion of the historic potential has been revealed. The archaeological investigations will add considerable empirical data to the historic record.

For additional information on the OREAP field school please call 603-271-3558.

## 2008 SCRAP Field School

### Paleoindian Survey of Northern, NH

A second 2008 SCRAP field school will explore new areas of known Paleoindian sites. This will entail surveying and recording newly discovered sites and expand systematic investigations in order to evaluate site boundaries, content and significance. Preliminary finds strongly suggest the presence of a quarry and associated workshop in close context with other Paleoindian sites. This area will be recorded and potential research parameters will be defined and evaluated. In addition, previously unexplored areas will be selected for systematic survey to test predictions for the location of additional Paleoindian sites.

Participants in the field school will be instructed in the fundamentals of archaeological survey excavation



techniques. The principal field methodology will entail excavation of 50cm shovel test pits and excavation of one meter square test pits, with the objective of obtaining stratigraphic as well as horizontal contextual data. The students will be taught artifact recognition skills, field data recording techniques and basic laboratory methods. Completion of the field school will provide a solid introduction to field methodology equivalent to that employed in cultural resource management evaluation projects. Fieldwork will be supplemented with lectures by specialists in related fields.

The field school will take place from June 23 through July 18 and will be conducted in two sessions, each two weeks long, beginning June 23 and July 7. Investigations will be conducted Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 4:00pm, with occasional evening lectures and workshops.

The field school will be based at the Jones Cottage in Randolph, NH. Participants will have space for tent camp-

ing with access to shower and sanitary facilities. The field laboratory and kitchen/dining area will be housed in the historic cabin. A fully equipped kitchen will be available for communal meals. Cost for lodging is \$50 per week and costs for meals is estimated at \$35 per week.

The field school is co-sponsored by the NH Division of Historical Resources under the State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program (SCRAP) and Plymouth State University. All fieldwork and instruction will be directed by Dr. Richard Boisvert, New Hampshire State Archaeologist, and conforms to the standards for Archaeology set by the National Park Service.

Participants may obtain academic credit through Plymouth State University at either the undergraduate or graduate levels. Each week of participation is equivalent to one credit, and students may register for two to four credits. Credit students will be evaluated on their participation in field and laboratory work, plus completion of a research project. Costs for the field school credit include a \$50 equipment and supplies fee, plus tuition and registration fees. For more information on PSU's credit program contact Tamara Cocchiarella for undergraduate credit at 603-535-2228 or [tcocchiarella@plymouth.edu](mailto:tcocchiarella@plymouth.edu). For graduate credit information contact Lisa Dalzell at 603-535-3097 or [ldalzell@plymouth.edu](mailto:ldalzell@plymouth.edu).

Individuals may participate as SCRAP volunteers. There is no fee for participation as a volunteer; however we request a \$35 donation to defray costs of supplies and instructional materials. Volunteers will receive the same instruction as credit students. Successful completion of the fieldwork will earn SCRAP certification for Survey Technician.

Additional information on both SCRAP field schools can be obtained by contacting Richard Boisvert at the Division of Historical Resources at 603-271-6433 or email [richard.a.boisvert@dcr.nh.gov](mailto:richard.a.boisvert@dcr.nh.gov).



## SCRAP at the Gault Site, Texas

During the first week of March, 17 volunteers from SCRAP traveled to Texas to work at the Gault Site. This is a major site, even by Texas standards. It covers over a square mile and has an occupation beginning at least as early as the earliest Clovis occupations and persisting intermittently through all of prehistory and into the early historic era. The site as such has been known for nearly a hundred years and was the focus of professional and amateur archaeological investigations as well as unvarnished dig-for-profit relic hunters (one could dig for a day and keep the finds for \$25).

Michael B. Collins, a prominent Texas archaeologist, briefly investigated the site in 1991 and then later in the 1990's initiated a formal research project to salvage data before the site was developed for private housing. Thus in 2000, 2001 and 2002, SCRAP sent teams to volunteer at the site. The invitation was spawned by the long relationship between Collins and myself dating back to my early years as a graduate student.

The experiences there were rich and eventful. We found Pleistocene bison and horse remains, a Clovis point, a rare bone point also probably Clovis, Clovis blades and blade cores, as well as fire ants, killer bees, tornados and one suicidal turkey that plummeted to the bottom of a deep pit.

After the three year research period, Collins was able to negotiate a remarkable turn of events –he was able to purchase much of the site and witness its transfer to the Archaeological Conservancy. With the site now safely protected from development, the Gault School of Archaeological Research private non-profit corporation was created. It was under the guise of the GSAR that SCRAP was invited to return to help sustain their long term research objectives.

Most of the NH contingent flew to Austin on March 1<sup>st</sup>, the advance team having arrived three days earlier, and we took immediate residency in our tents. We worked through March 8<sup>th</sup> and decamped to Austin and the promise of motel beds and hot showers. The experience was as fascinating as it was demanding. We worked inside

permanent shelters (think steel and vinyl Quonset huts) but screened out in the open with the help of fire hoses. This was necessitated by the fact that the soils had the consistency of partially hardened Elmer's Glue (with a little pigment). Each bucket load produced hundred. - if not thousands - of chert debris and artifacts. Weather conditions required hardy volunteers. The first full day began at 34 degrees and never reached 50. Some subsequent days were rather balmy, getting closer to 70, but the Texans were convinced that we had packed our highly variable winter weather with us. We lost two tents to high winds one day and woke up to snow covered prickly pear cactus later in the week. And then there were the showering facilities. Mere words on a page cannot convey the full impact of unmodified Texas spring water in an outdoor shower stall in March.

Archaeologically we also had a great time. Much of our effort was expended on digging Early Archaic and Late Paleoindian deposits that were found miraculously preserved from early 20<sup>th</sup> century looters. Perhaps it was because excavation required pick axes. These deposits overlay thick Clovis components (based on a test pit excavated by GSAR last year). SCRAP's goal was to record the undisturbed early Holocene levels and get the program closer to the Pleistocene deposits. In the process we recovered dozens of tools, many kilos of debitage and a pair of classic small hearths. We were also tasked with excavating a one meter test pit in another area of the site with the expressed goal of documenting the Clovis levels and seeking potential pre-Clovis components. This we excavated to a final depth of more than two meters below the surface.

The Pre-Clovis vs. Clovis First controversy has been hotly debated in American archaeology and there is evidence that the Gault site has lithic artifacts that may date to before 14,000 years ago. Whether or not the SCRAP excavations retrieved data certifying a pre-Clovis occupation is not yet known; we achieved the deepest levels only on the last day at the site, and there has been no opportunity for detailed analysis. The possibility remains and we look forward to the results.



Our stay in Texas also had the benefit of touring the Gault collections housed in Austin and receiving detailed



Richard Boisvert and Mark Greenly look on as Michael Collins describes some of the Gault Site artifacts

explanations by Collins, Bruce Bradley – a well known flint knapper and pre-Clovis advocate – now at Exeter University in Britain.

For additional information, log on to the Gault website ([www.texasbeyondhistory.net/gault](http://www.texasbeyondhistory.net/gault)).

Kurt Masters has also created some highly

entertaining video of the NH crew digging and screening which you can view on YouTube.com (enter ‘Gault Site’).

The hardy volunteers (most of whom are current or former NHAS members – including six member of the Executive Board) included: Kurt Masters, Heather Rockwell, Jon Edsall, Laura Jefferson, Mark Greenly, Linda Fuerderer, Matt Krohn, Karen Malburne, Nathaniel Kitchell, Yvonne Benney, George Leduc, Kalila ToubaHerring, Chris Idzik Mike Malburne, Will Maker and Dawn Lassman.

*Richard Boisvert*  
NHDHR

## PROJECT ARCHAEOLOGY NEWS

The next *Project Archaeology* Teacher Workshop is scheduled for April 11, 2008 at Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum in Warner, NH. The workshop is sponsored by the NH Division of Historical Resources, NH State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program, and Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum.



*Project Archaeology* is an educational program sponsored by the Bureau of Land Management. The goal of this program is to educate students to take responsible and thoughtful actions towards our archaeological heritage.

The *Project Archaeology* Teacher Workshop is designed for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade level educators and other individuals or organizations interested in teaching students that America has a rich and fascinating past, that the archaeological evidence of that past is fragile and threatened, and that we all have a responsibility to see to its wise use.

The class will be taught by NH *Project Archaeology* co-

ordinators, Sheila Charles and Tanya E. Kress, and will include a presentation on the archaeological resources of New Hampshire by the State Archaeologist, Dr. Richard Boisvert. After the workshop participants will be taken on a guided tour of Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum.

For more information about *Project Archaeology* and the upcoming workshop visit the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources’ website at [www.nh.gov/nhdhr/](http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/) and click on “Project Archaeology” under Quick Links.

*Tanya E. Kress*  
NHDHR



2007 Project Archaeology Workshop at Strawberry Banke

## Notes on NHAS 2007 Annual Meeting

The New Hampshire Archeological Society held its 2007 Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 20th, at the Tyco Visitors Center, Strawberry Banke, Portsmouth NH. The meeting was very well attended, with 53 people there. They were welcomed by Betty Hall, President of NHAS, and Lawrence Yerdon, President of Strawberry Banke.

Craig Brown presented an overview of the Oyster River Environs Archaeological Project, a multi-year, multidisciplinary survey and excavation project sponsored by the New Hampshire State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program (SCRAP) in partnership with Crane & Morrison Archaeology, Freeport, Maine. The project's aim is to reconstruct the cultural history and land use patterns of the prehistoric and historic peoples who have lived within the Oyster River and Lamprey River watersheds. His presentation served as a lead-in for the next two talks.

Peter Morrison, of Crane & Morrison Archaeology, discussed the 2007 SCRAP field school that conducted fieldwork at the Field-Bickford Garrison House site, Little Bay, Durham, NH, aimed at confirming the precise location of the house, which was built around 1640. Shovel test pits were laid out across the open knoll overlooking the bay. Block excavations at promising areas located a stone-lined cellar and a variety of artifacts datable to periods from the middle 1600s through the early 1800s. The evidence supports a tentative conclusion that the cellar found by the field school represents part of the garrison house.

Mark Greenly of SCRAP followed with a talk about how historical information and computer technology helped narrow down the most likely location of the Field-Bickford garrison house.

An 1816 deed described a property line in relation to the house, but none of the markers for the property line can be found today. Information in the deed allowed the individual courses of the property line to be correctly plotted relative to each other; historical information from the US Geological Survey allowed the line to be plotted relative to magnetic north. Mapping software then helped determine the range of plausible answers to the question of where the line actually fell on the ground. The results showed that the cellar uncovered by the students is within the area consistent with the deed description of the garrison house.

Edna Feighner, NH Division of Historical Resources, reported on the results of the 2007 SCRAP field school at the Webster Farm, Franklin, NH, whose aim was to determine the location of the Salisbury (or Stevenstown) Fort from the mid-1700s. Shovel test pits sampled areas near the Webster Family cemetery, finding a variety of historic artifacts. Ground-penetrating radar provided information on sub-surface anomalies in the area. Investigation of these anomalies uncovered a line of buried boulders at the edge of a terrace overlooking the Merrimack River. Because this line extended for 125 feet, which is the documented length of a similar fort, the conclusion is that the boulders are likely part of the foundation of Salisbury Fort.

Sheila Charles, Strawberry Banke Archaeologist, reported on the 2007 Field School at the Banke, which focused on the grounds of the ca. 1795 Yeaton-Walsh house. No former excavations have occurred on the property. The students uncovered materials from the construction and repair of other, vanished buildings on the site. Also found were domestic trash deposits from the late 18th to the 20th centuries which included ceramics, kitchenware, and food remains.

After lunch, President Betty Hall convened the Business Meeting. Sheila Charles and Pat Hume were elected to three-year terms on the Executive Board.

One notable attendee at the meeting was Bill White of Exeter. He is one of the few charter members of society from its founding in 1947 who is still with us. It is always good to see him at the Society's events.

Archaeologist Nate Hamilton of the University of Southern Maine invited the society to hold a joint meeting with the Maine Archeological Society in April 2008 at the USM campus in Gorham Maine.

Following the meeting, Sheila Charles led a tour of the archaeology at Strawberry Banke.

*Mark Greenly*

## Upcoming Events

### Third Annual Knap-In at USM

April 26<sup>th</sup> marks the 3rd Annual Knap-In at the University of Southern Maine. Initiated by the Geography-Anthropology Student Association (GASA) in 2005.

Flint knapping is the ancient practice of creating stone tools. This increasingly popular art form has spawned national publications, websites, and gatherings called Knap-Ins. GASA's Knap-In is a fantastic way to engage and inform the community about the Geo-Anthro program at USM. It's also just plain fun to

spend a day learning about knapping technologies and checking out the displays and presentations.

This year, the GASA will host the joint meeting of the New Hampshire and Maine Archaeological Societies. For more information, visit [www.usm.maine.edu/gany](http://www.usm.maine.edu/gany) or contact the Geography-Anthropology Department at 207-780-5321 for more details on the Knap-In.

---

### Conference on New England Archaeology Annual Meeting

April 19th, 2008, Pierce Hall, Franklin Pierce University, Rindge, NH

*"Challenging Our Assumptions: Creating and Revising Our Ideas about Site Location"*

9:00 Registration, Coffee

9:30 *A Missing Link on a Marginal Landscape*, Mary Lynne Rainey (Natural Resource Group, LLC)

10:00 *Insights into Lithic Distribution, Feature Locations and Cultural Resource: Testing from the Vergennes Substation Native American Site*, Christopher Donta (UMass)

10:30 *Assumptions, Archaeology, and the Allusive: The Pre-Contact Native American Village Question*, Joseph Waller and Alan Leveillee (Public Archaeology Laboratory)

11:00 *Predictive Modeling in Missing Person's Cases*, Ann Marie Mires (Anna Maria College, Mass. State Medical Examiner's Office)

11:30 *This Old Wetu: Identifying Native Households at the Muttuck-Pauwating Site, Middleboro, Massachusetts*, Craig S. Chartier (Plymouth Archaeological Rediscovery Project)

12:00 Lunch

1:00 CNEA Business Meeting

1:30 *Predictions Big and Small: Searching for Illusive Maize Agriculture in Rhode Island*, Pierre Morenon (Rhode Island College) and Tonya Largy (Independent Consultant)

2:00 *Archaeological Sampling in the Soils of the Champlain Valley, Vermont: Site Prediction in Problematic Soils*, Mitch Mulholland (UMass)

2:30 *Hard Work, Informed Guesswork, and Chance: Seeing Cultural Landscapes and Sites*, John R. Cross (Bowdoin College)

For directions to campus, please visit the FPU web site: <http://www.franklinpierce.edu> Directions for parking will be posted on campus on the day of the meeting. For any questions, contact Bob Goodby at [goodbyr@franklinpierce.edu](mailto:goodbyr@franklinpierce.edu)

---

### New Hampshire Historical Society Presents: Spring Lecture Series

History of Portsmouth's Moffatt-Ladd House Showcased

Portsmouth's Moffatt-Ladd House is among the best-preserved and finest Georgian mansions in all of the United States. How this house, built in 1760s, survived and witnessed history is a tale that is being told in *Women of the Moffatt-Ladd House*, an exhibition on view at the New Hampshire Historical Society's museum.

In conjunction with the exhibition, the New Hampshire Historical Society will present a four-part lecture series. The lectures will be held on Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m., April 6 through April 27, at the Society's library, located at 30 Park Street, Concord. Admission to the lectures is free for New Hampshire Historical Society members; \$5 for nonmembers.

Lecture Series Schedule:

Sunday, April 6 – "Circumstances of Imperious Consequence": Insecurity, Independence, and History in the lives of the Women of the Moffatt-Ladd House, 1763-2007" by Barbara McLean Ward.

Sunday, April 13 – "Portsmouth Possessions: Furniture from the Moffatt-Ladd House" by Gerald W. R. Ward.

Sunday, April 20 – "Moffatt-Ladd: Grandest of the Grand Houses of the 1760s" by James L. Garvin.

Sunday, April 27 – "When Shipping Was King: Portsmouth and the Atlantic World in the 18th Century" by W. Jeffrey Bolster.

---

### Massachusetts Archaeological Society

Archaeological Society of Connecticut

Joint Spring Meeting

May 3, 2008

The Thomas J. Dodd Research Center – UConn, Storrs CT

[www.massarchaeology.org](http://www.massarchaeology.org) or [www.connarchaeology.org](http://www.connarchaeology.org)

---

### Vermont Archaeological Society

April 26, 2008

Bennington Museum, Bennington VT

[vtarchaeology.org/cms/events](http://vtarchaeology.org/cms/events)

The New Hampshire Archeological Society  
**Membership Application**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening)

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

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 (U.S. dollars) indicated for the desired type of membership:

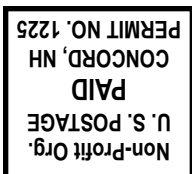
\_\_\_\_\_ Individual (\$25)

\_\_\_\_\_ Institution (\$35)

\_\_\_\_\_ Senior or student (\$18, photocopy of valid student ID required)

\_\_\_\_\_ Lifetime membership (\$425)

**Mail to:** New Hampshire Archeological Society  
Attn: Treasurer  
P.O. Box 406  
Concord, NH 03302-0406



New Hampshire Archeological Society  
PO Box 406  
Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0406