

Professional Archaeologists of New York City, Inc.

NEWSLETTER

No. 130

September 2007

PANYC

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Next Meeting:

Wednesday, September 19, 2007
Neighborhood Preservation Center
232 East 11th Street
New York, NY
6:30 pm

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Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC)
Minutes of the General Meeting, March 21, 2007

Notice of Upcoming Meeting: Wednesday, May 23, 2007, 6:30 PM
Neighborhood Preservation Center (NPC), 232 E.11th Street

Secretary's Report: The minutes from January's meeting were approved with one change in the NYAC section from Stone.

Treasurer's Report: A copy of the annual report for 2006 was passed out. There were a total of 39 members in 2006, assets totaling \$2599.49, no liabilities, and a net increase of \$173.35.

As of now there are 28 paid members and approximately \$3060 in PANYC's bank account. The annual report was approved by the general membership.

President's Report: Rothschild raised the issue that we may have to find a new venue for our meetings as the NPC is now charging \$20/hour. This may be affordable though as PANYC is now saving money with the electronic newsletter. The NPC say they may have scholarship money for us in the future as well, which would cover this cost. As of now, we are scheduled to meet at the NPC through May 2007. It was agreed to keep the meeting location the same for now.

Rothschild also announced that there was a three-way tie for two board positions in the 2007-2008 election. Pickman chivalrously offered to withdraw from the running making a run-off vote unnecessary.

She then described her recent visit to the DUMBO site of the screening for human remains related to the attacks on the World Trade Center. It is being run by the city's Medical Examiner's office. They now have 8 physical anthropologists on staff and are systematically searching the western side of the WTC site and Liberty Street. Both areas are gridded. There are plans to close a portion of the West Side Highway as well. The excavators are digging down to sterile soil with archaeological screeners at the DUMBO site going through the soil for human remains. She saw that HASMAT procedures are being followed. Many non-related 19th century artifacts such as ceramics and animal bone are being recovered in the process as the soil they are excavating is historic fill.

She then reported that Ricciardi has appealed to PANYC to write a letter to the Parks Department about their recent failure to recognize the significance of archaeology in this city. Parks is involved in a law suit surrounding some archaeological work done in Queens. They have begun to define archaeological research as that work only done on-site with no off-site research or writing of the report included in those parameters. The membership agreed that a letter should be written to the Parks Commissioner as well as to the Landmarks Preservation Commission and the Mayor. A group of concerned PANYC members will meet to draft this letter.

Committees:

Awards: There have been no nominations so there are no awards to hand out.

Elections: Rothschild was pleased to announce the results of the 2007-2008 election. The officers are as follows: Lynn Rakos: President, Linda Stone: Vice-President, Shelly Spritzer: Treasurer, and Lizzie Martin: Secretary.

The Executive Board members are Anne-Marie Cantwell, Diane Dallal, Joan Geismar, Joe Schuldenrein, and Diana Wall.

Congratulations to all!

Events: Wall has included a list of events that will be of interest to the membership in March's newsletter.

Government Affairs: Geismar does not have any specific news to report though preservation issues in general do seem to be getting better attention and our interests may be in better shape this year than last year.

Membership: Lauren Cooke has re-applied for membership. No vote was necessary as he was a member in the past. He will be sent a renewal form instead.

Met Chapter: Ricciardi announced that he will call a meeting of the Met Chapter for the end of April. This meeting will help him and the membership begin to plan for the future of the organization.

Newsletter: Ricciardi announced that there were two paper copies of the March newsletter printed this month. The rest went out electronically. He has started scanning back issues of the newsletter for archiving as well. Geismar will provide him with the issues she has saved and then he will see what issues they are missing.

NYAC: Stone reported from the last board meeting that their by-laws are being revised. She sent them PANYC's by-laws to use as a good model.

Public Program: PANYC's Public Program will be held on May 6th from 1-3:30PM at the Museum of the City of New York. Speakers and Topics: "A Seventeenth Century Dutch Windmill on Governors Island" by Holly Herbster, Senior Archaeologist, PAL; "Through the Fire: Stoneware Kiln Furniture and Kiln Wasters" by Meta F. Janowitz, URS Corporation; "The Emergence of the Tanning Industry In Lower Manhattan--A Landscape Perspective" by Joseph Schuldenrein (Geoarcheology Research Associates) and Rebecca Yamin (John Milner Associates); "The Great Docks at the Erie Basin" by Mary Habstritt, Chair, Preservation Committee, Roebling Chapter, Society for Industrial Archeology; and "Free to The Friends: Documenting the High Line" by Thomas Flagg and Gerry Weinstein, Society for Industrial Archeology and Photo Recording Associates.

Repository: Stone reported that GIPEC has rejected all development proposals and is now focusing on developing the public outdoor spaces to make Governors Island more attractive to prospective developers.

Website: Rothschild said that she looked on Columbia's website for the link to PANYC's website and could not find it. Ricciardi said he will look into it for the next meeting. The possibility was raised that we could afford the minimal fee for our own website. Ricciardi also offered to look into the Lott House system which may be a good example for us.

Old Business: Geismar will contact Dorothy Miner to discuss the interpretation of Landmarks laws with regards to archaeology.

New Business: There is a cocktail party for Citizens Emergency Committee to Preserve Preservation on Thursday, March 22, 2007 from 6-8:00PM. This committee is not well known to the membership. They appear to be interested in the preservation of structures. Various members offered look into their mission as they may be a good organization to work with when dealing with issues of interest to PANYC.

Lastly, Geismar brought up the issue that has been in the news about the preservation of the stairway that helped lead many of the survivors out of the WTC site. It is being treated like an artifact but the city and the developers are planning to only preserve a portion of it and not on the site itself. She will send out information on this topic if anyone would like to write a letter on behalf of preserving the complete stairway in situ.

The meeting was called to a close at 7:30PM.

**BY-LAWS
OF
PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF NEW YORK CITY, INC.
(PANYC)**

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**BY-LAWS
OF
PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF NEW YORK CITY, INC.
(PANYC)**

**ARTICLE I
INTRODUCTION**

Section 1. Name. The name of the corporation (the “Corporation”) shall be Professional Archaeologists of New York City, Inc. (“PANYC”).

Section 2. Purposes. The purposes of PANYC are to 1) protect and preserve the archaeological and historical resources of New York City, 2) educate and advise agencies and the general public on matters relating to the archaeology of New York City, and 3) promote cooperation and communication among professional archaeologists in New York City for the foregoing purposes.

**ARTICLE II
MEMBERS**

Section 1. Existing Members. All persons who were members of the unincorporated association known as Professional Archaeologists of New York City shall be Members of PANYC (“Members”).

Section 2. Eligibility for Membership. Membership in PANYC is open to any person who subscribes to PANYC’s purposes and who meets the following criteria:

- a. Applicants must have been awarded one of the following advanced degrees: an M.A., M.S., M.Phil., Ph.D, D.Sc., or official A.B.D., from an accredited institution in archaeology, anthropology, history, classics, or another related discipline with a specialization in archaeology;
- b. Applicants must have at least six weeks of professionally supervised archaeological field training and at least four weeks of supervised laboratory analysis and/or curation experience. Requirements for both field and laboratory experiences will be considered to have been met by attendance at an archaeological field school which meets the guidelines set by the Register of Professional Archaeologists (“RPA”). Applicants who have not completed an accredited field school can qualify for membership by demonstrating equivalent field and laboratory training under professional supervision.

- c. Applicants must have or demonstrate professional experience in one or more of the following areas of archaeological activity: field research and excavation, research on archaeological collections, archival research, administration of units within public or private agencies oriented toward archaeological research, conduct of cultural resource management studies, or teaching with an emphasis on archaeological topics. Applicants meeting the educational and training criteria and having other professional interest related to archaeology will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- d. Applicants must submit a written statement describing their professional interest in New York City archaeology. By becoming Members, applicants subscribe to the purposes of PANYC as set forth in Article 1, Section 2 and express their commitment to preserve, protect, and document New York City's archaeological resources, as well as to support research and to encourage publication of information recovered from those resources. In addition, by becoming Members, applicants agree not to engage in illegal or unethical conduct involving archaeological matters.
- e. Members may establish additional criteria for subsequent Members in order to further PANYC's purposes and goals.

Section 3. Application Process. Any person wishing to apply for Membership in PANYC should submit a copy of his or her resume or vita with the official application form, any other information describing how he or she meets the eligibility criteria in Section 2, and the statement of purpose described in Section 2, Subsection (d). To become a Member, an applicant must be approved by a majority of Members who are both present and eligible to vote under Article II, Section 7 at either a regularly scheduled Meeting of the Members or a Special Meeting of the Members.

Section 4. Meetings. The Members shall hold at least four membership meetings ("Meeting of the Members") each year for the transaction of business assigned to the Members under these By-laws. Meetings of the Members shall be held at the places, times and dates decided by the Executive Board, provided, however, that one of the Meeting of the Members shall be held during the month of March (the "Annual Meeting") to elect Officers and Members of the Executive Board, as well as to transact business assigned to the Members under these By-laws. The Executive Board may call a Special Meeting of the Members ("Special Meeting of the Members") at any time between regularly scheduled Meetings of the Members. In addition, five Members eligible to vote under Article II, Section 7 may call a Special Meeting of the Members by delivery to the Secretary of demand.

Section 5. Notice of Meetings. The Secretary shall deliver written notice, stating the place, date and time of each Meeting of the Members. Unless otherwise required by New York statute or provided by the Certificate of Incorporation of the Corporation (the "Certificate of Incorporation") or these By-laws, notice of any Meeting of the Members shall be in writing and shall be deemed duly given by regular mail, by federal express or any other generally recognized overnight delivery service, by fax with confirmation, by hand or by electronic mail not fewer than five nor more than sixty days before the meeting to each Member at the street, post office or

electronic address or fax number on PANYC's records. Notice of a Special Meeting of the Members may be given no less than 48 hours before the time at which the meeting shall be held, and such notice shall indicate the purpose for which the Special Meeting of the Members is called.

Section 6. Organization. The President shall preside at all Meetings of the Members; in the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall preside; in the absence of both the President and the Vice-President, the President's immediate predecessor ("Immediate-Past President") shall preside. The Secretary shall act as Secretary at all meetings of the Members; in the absence of the Secretary, the President shall appoint an acting Secretary.

Section 7. Voting and Action by Members.

- a. At any Meeting of the Members, only those Members who are present in person or by proxy and who have paid the annual dues stipulated by the Executive Board shall be eligible to vote in any matter put up for a vote to the Members. A Member who is in arrears may vote immediately upon paying his or her outstanding membership dues. Upon demand of any Member present and eligible to vote under this Section, any vote upon any question at the meeting shall be by ballot.
- b. Unless otherwise required by New York statute or provided by the Certificate of Incorporation or by these By-laws, any corporate action authorized by a majority of the votes cast at a Meeting of the Members shall be an act of the Members.
- c. Unless otherwise required by New York statute or provided by the Certificate of Incorporation or these By-laws, there shall be no quorum requirements for any meeting of the Members. The Members present, in person or by proxy, at any meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 8. Newsletter. All Members will receive the PANYC newsletter. Members will stop receiving the newsletter if they are more than one year in arrears.

Section 9. Removal. At any Meeting of the Members or at a Special Meeting of the Members, the Members may remove any Member with or without cause by a two-thirds vote of the Members who are present, in person or by proxy, and who are eligible to vote under Article II, Section 7. Notice of the removal vote as well as the grounds for the vote must be set forth in the notice of the Meeting delivered pursuant to Article II, Section 5 to all Members.

ARTICLE III
EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. Powers. Subject to any limitations imposed by action of the Members, the Executive Board (the “Board”) shall manage PANYC’s affairs and property and shall have authority to execute all powers and functions of PANYC, in accordance with the purposes set forth in the Certificate of Incorporation.

Section 2. Number. The number of Board Members (“Board Members”) constituting the Entire Board shall be ten. (“Entire Board” means the total number of Board Members entitled to vote if there were no vacancies.) The number may be increased or decreased by amendment of the By-laws, but no decrease shall shorten the term of any incumbent Board Member.

Section 3. Membership on Executive Board by Virtue of Office. The President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary shall be Board Members by virtue of their office. The Immediate-Past President shall be a Board Member by virtue of that status.

Section 4. Election of Other Board Members. The five Board Members not serving on the Board by virtue of their current or former positions as Officers (“Elected Board Members”) pursuant to the previous paragraph shall be elected according to the procedures described in Article V.

Section 5. Initial Directors. The Initial Directors shall be the persons named in the Certificate of Incorporation and they shall serve until the first Annual Meeting. At the Organizational Meeting of the Executive Board, the Initial Directors shall appoint the remaining Board Members. The Board Members so appointed will hold office until PANYC holds its first Annual Meeting.

Section 6. Term of Office. Each Elected Board Member shall hold office for a term of one year. Except in the case of resignation or removal under these By-laws, each Elected Board Member shall hold office until the expiration of his or her term and the election of his or her successor. Elected Board Members may serve an unlimited number of terms. Each Board Member serving on the Board by virtue of office (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the Immediate-Past President) shall serve on the Board until he or she is replaced in the office.

Section 7. Place and Time of Board Meetings. The Board shall hold Board Meetings (“Board Meetings”) immediately before any Meeting of the Members. Thus, the Board shall hold at least four Board Meetings a year at a time and place chosen by the Board.

Section 8. Special Meetings of the Board. The President, at the direction of the Board, may call a Special Board Meeting (“Special Board Meeting”) at any time and shall specify the time, place, and purpose of the meeting. Notwithstanding the purpose, any matter of business may be decided at a Special Board Meeting.

Section 9. Notice of Meetings. The Secretary shall deliver written notice to all Board Members stating the place, date and time of any Board Meeting. Unless otherwise required by New York statute or provided by the Certificate of Incorporation or these By-laws, notice of any Board Meeting shall be in writing and shall be deemed duly given by regular mail, by federal express or any other generally recognized overnight delivery service, by fax with confirmation, by hand or by electronic mail not fewer than five nor more than sixty days before the meeting to each Board Member at the street, post office or electronic address or fax number on PANYC's records. Notice of Special Board Meetings may be given no less than 48 hours before the time at which the meeting shall be held, and such notice shall indicate the purpose for which the Special Board Meeting is called.

Section 10. Emergency Matters. For any urgent matter that arises, the President may canvass the Board and make a decision based on the approval of the majority of the Board.

Section 11. Quorum and Voting. At all Board Meetings, a majority of the Entire Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Unless otherwise required by New York statute or provided by the Certificate of Incorporation or these By-laws, at any Board Meeting at which a quorum is present, the vote of a majority of the Board Members present shall be the act of the Board.

Section 12. Removal. A vote of a majority of the Board may remove any Board Member for cause at any Board Meeting, including a Special Board Meeting called for that purpose. Alternatively, at a Meeting of the Members or at a Special Meeting of the Members, the Members may remove any Board Member with or without cause by a two-thirds vote of all Members who are present, in person or by proxy, and who are eligible to vote under Article II, Section 7.

Section 13. Resignation. Any Board Member may resign from office at any time by delivering a resignation in writing to the President or the Board, and the acceptance of the resignation, unless required by its terms, shall not be necessary to make the resignation effective.

Section 14. Vacancies and Newly Created Board Memberships. The Board shall appoint a Board Member to fill any newly created Board Memberships and any vacancies on the Board. Except in the case of resignation or removal, Board Members so appointed shall serve until the election of their successors.

ARTICLE IV **OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES and AGENTS**

Section 1. Officers. The Officers of PANYC ("Officers") shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. All of the Officers must be eligible to vote under Article II, Section 7. No person may simultaneously hold the offices of both President and Secretary.

Section 2. Election and Term of Office. The Members shall elect the President, Vice-President and Secretary to a one-year term at the Annual Meeting according to the procedures in Article V. The Members shall elect the Treasurer to a two-year term at the Annual Meeting according to the procedures in Article V. Except in the case of resignation or removal under these By-laws, Officers shall continue in office until the expiration of their terms and the election of their successors. Officers may be elected to an unlimited number of terms; however, a President cannot serve consecutive terms in that office.

Section 3. Employees and Contractors. The Board may appoint employees and contractors to serve at the pleasure of the Board and to have the authority, perform the duties and receive the compensation, if any, determined by the Board.

Section 4. Removal. A vote of a majority of the Board may suspend the authority to act of any Officer for cause. In addition, a vote of a majority of the Board may remove any Officer with or without cause who holds that position pursuant to Section 5 of this Article. Alternatively, at a Meeting of the Members or at a Special Meeting of the Members, the Members may remove any Officer with or without cause by a two-thirds vote of all Members who are present, in person or by proxy, and who are eligible to vote under Article II, Section 7.

Section 5. Vacancies. The Board may elect a successor to fill a vacancy in any office, and the person elected shall serve until the next Annual Meeting and the election of his or her successor.

Section 6. President: Powers and Duties. The President shall preside at all Meetings of the Members, shall generally supervise PANYC's affairs and shall keep the Board and the Members fully informed. Together with the Treasurer, the President shall present at the Annual Meeting the report described in Article IV, Section 9. The President shall have any other powers and perform any other duties assigned by the Board.

Section 7. Vice-President: Powers and Duties. The Vice-President shall have the powers and perform the duties assigned by the Board. In addition, the Vice-President shall organize and conduct PANYC's public program. In the absence or inability of the President to act, the Vice-President shall perform all the duties and may exercise any of the powers of the President.

Section 8. Secretary: Powers and Duties. The Secretary shall:

- a. keep the minutes of all Board Meetings and Meetings of the Members;
- b. send a copy of the minutes of the Meetings of the Members to the established PANYC archives;
- c. serve or cause to be served all notices;
- d. maintain the records of the Nominations Committee and supervise the counting of ballots and certify the election to the Board, as discussed in Article V; and,

- e. perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and any other duties assigned by the Board.

Section 9. Treasurer: Powers and Duties. The Treasurer shall keep or supervise the keeping of complete and accurate books and accounts of PANYC and shall deposit all funds of PANYC in the name of PANYC in the banks or other depositories chosen by the Board. When requested by the Board, the Treasurer shall at all reasonable times exhibit the books and accounts to any Board Member, and shall perform any other duties assigned by the Board. At the Annual Meeting, the Treasurer, together with the President, shall present a report showing:

- a. the assets and liabilities of PANYC as of a 12-month fiscal period terminating not more than six months prior to the Annual Meeting;
- b. the principal changes in assets and liabilities during that fiscal period;
- c. the revenues or receipts of PANYC, both unrestricted and restricted to particular purposes, for that fiscal period;
- d. the expenses of PANYC during that fiscal period; and,
- e. the number of Members of PANYC and a statement of the increase or decrease during that fiscal period.

The report shall be verified by the President and Treasurer or by a majority of the Board Members, or certified by a public or certified accountant and filed with the minutes of the Annual Meeting. The report to the Board may consist of a verified or certified copy of any report by PANYC to the Internal Revenue Service or the Attorney General of the State of New York which includes the information specified above.

Section 10. Compensation. The Board shall fix the compensation, if any, of any Officer or employee. In determining compensation, the Board shall consider the compensation offered by comparable organizations for similar positions and shall document the basis for its decisions. If an Officer or employee is a Board Member, he or she may not participate in the discussion or the vote with respect to his or her compensation.

ARTICLE V **ELECTIONS**

Section 1. Nomination Procedures for Elected Positions. Prior to the first day of February each year, the President shall appoint a nominations committee (the "Nominations Committee"). Members of PANYC may forward suggested nominations in writing to the Nominations Committee. All suggested nominations must be received at least one month prior to

the date of the Annual Meeting.

Any Member who is eligible to vote under Article II, Section 7, receives at least five suggested nominations from the Members, and accepts the candidacy will be included on the ballot. At the discretion of the Nominations Committee, other Members may be placed on the ballot. By accepting the candidacy, the candidate asserts his or her willingness and ability to serve PANYC in accordance with Article II, Section 1 of these By-laws.

Section 2. Voting. The Nominations Committee shall be responsible for the securing of nominations of Officers and Elected Board Members. The Secretary shall prepare and distribute the ballot to Members. At least two weeks prior to the election, the Secretary shall send official ballots by mail to all Members. All nominees' names shall appear on the ballot, which shall be plainly marked with the official return date.

Section 3. Voting Procedures. Each Member eligible to vote under Article II, Section 7 may vote for one candidate for each office and each of the positions on the Executive Board as Elected Board Members by means of secret ballot. Ballots shall be returned to the Secretary prior to the date of the election and shall be counted by the Secretary. The candidate for an office who receives the highest number of votes shall be declared elected to that office. The five nominees for positions as Elected Board Members who receive the highest number of votes shall be declared elected as such. In the event of a tie vote, a run-off election shall be held during the next Meeting of the Members.

ARTICLE VI **COMMITTEES**

Section 1. Committees of the Corporation. The President shall appoint all other committees, which may include an advisory committee consisting of Members, and shall define the duties of the committees.

Section 2. Committees of the Board. The Board may establish and appoint an executive and other standing committees. The President shall appoint the chairperson of each committee. Each committee so appointed shall consist of three or more Board Members and, to the extent provided in the resolution establishing it, shall have all the authority of the Board.

Section 3. Special Committees. The Board may appoint special committees consisting of one or more Board Members. These committees shall have only the powers specifically delegated to them by the Board.

ARTICLE VII
CONTRACTS, CHECKS, BANK ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS

Section 1. Contracts, Checks and Documents. Unless the Board shall specifically require an additional signature, the Treasurer and the President shall each have the authority to sign alone, in the name of PANYC, all checks and all contracts authorized either generally or specifically by the Board. The President can determine who is authorized to sign other documents on PANYC's behalf. No instrument required to be signed by more than one Officer may be signed by one person in more than one capacity.

Section 2. Bank Accounts and Investments. The Board shall select depositories for the funds of PANYC and may hold PANYC's funds in cash or invest them in whatever real or personal property the Board thinks desirable.

ARTICLE VIII
OFFICE AND BOOKS

Section 1. Office. PANYC's office shall be at the location set forth in the Certificate of Incorporation or at another location chosen by the Board.

Section 2. Books. There shall be kept at the established PANYC archives, which are at the South Street Seaport Library at the time of the adoption of these By-laws, or at another location chosen by the Board, correct records of the activities and transactions of PANYC, including: a copy of the Certificate of Incorporation; a copy of these By-laws; all minutes of the Meetings of the Members; and all records maintained by or under the supervision of the Treasurer.

ARTICLE IX
AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendments of the By-laws. The By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Members eligible to vote under Article II, Section 7 at any Meeting of the Members, Special Meeting of the Members, or through a vote by mail ballot. The quorum requirement or the proportion of votes necessary for specified actions may be changed by a two-thirds vote of the Members eligible to vote under Article II, Section 7 at any Meeting of the Members, Special Meeting or through a vote by mail ballot.

Section 2. Proposal of Amendment. Amendment of the By-laws may be proposed by the Board or by petition of any five Members eligible to vote under Article II, Section 7.

Section 3. Notice. All proposed amendments shall be mailed to PANYC's Members

by the Secretary at least 7 days before a Meeting of the Members or a Special Meeting of the Members in which the amendments are to be considered. In the case of a mail ballot, to be counted as votes, ballots must be returned to the Secretary within 30 days of the mailing.

Section 4. Effective Date. The amendment and provisions of the By-laws shall be effective immediately upon their adoption and shall supersede and nullify all conflicting By-law provisions and all amendments and provisions not mentioned herein.

ARTICLE X **DISSOLUTION**

Section 1: Procedures for Dissolution. PANYC may be dissolved for any reason by a two-thirds vote of all Members eligible to vote under Article II, Section 7.

Section 2. Disposal of Assets. Upon the dissolution of PANYC, after paying all of its liabilities, PANYC shall, through its Board, donate all of its assets in equal parts to the New York State Archaeological Council and the Metropolitan Chapter of the New York State Archaeological Association. In the event that either of these organizations is unable to accept the assets of PANYC, then the assets will go in their entirety to the other organization. In the event that both of these organizations are unable to accept the assets of PANYC, all assets shall be donated to the Society for American Archaeology.

This consent may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

Dated: _____

New York City, New York

Diane Dallal
INITIAL DIRECTOR

Joan H. Geismar
INITIAL DIRECTOR

Patience Freeman
INITIAL DIRECTOR

Michael Bonasera
INITIAL DIRECTOR



City of New York
Parks & Recreation

The Arsenal
Central Park
New York, New York 10021

Adrian Benepe
Commissioner

June 27, 2007

Ms. Lynn Rakos
PANYC President
230 6th Avenue, Apt. 4
Brooklyn, NY 11215

Dear Ms. Rakos:

Thank you for your letter regarding the archeological services as they pertain to Parks Capital Projects.

On June 15, 2007, the Specifications and Estimating and the Historic Preservation divisions of Parks met with the Director of Archaeology at the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission to discuss revisions to our standard specifications for archaeologists.

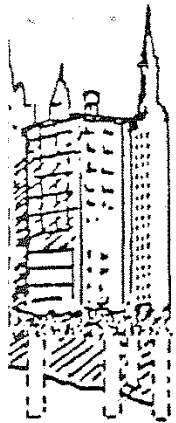
We discussed various types of conditions that could be found on our sites and we now have a clearer understanding of the scope of work that could be required. We will be revising our standard specifications and customizing them based upon site-specific information when possible.

We appreciate your feedback and hope that these changes will address the concerns expressed in your letter. If you have any further questions, please call John Krawchuk, our Director of Historic Preservation, at (718) 760-6549.

Sincerely,

Adrian Benepe



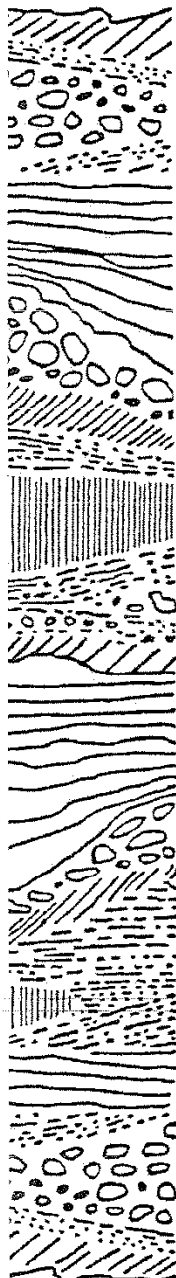


Professional Archaeologists of New York City, Inc.

230 6th Ave., Apt 4
Brooklyn, NY 11215
July 6, 2007

Mr. John Krawchuk
Director of Preservation
New York City Department of Parks and Recreation
Olmsted Center
Flushing Meadows-Corona Park,
Flushing, NY 11368

PANYC



Dear Mr. Krawchuk:

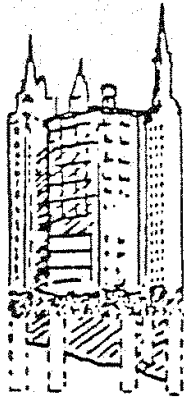
I am writing on behalf of Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC). We are in receipt of a letter from Commissioner Benepe (copy enclosed) indicating that the Historic Preservation and Specifications and Estimating divisions of Parks met with the Director of Archaeology at New York City Landmarks on 15 June to discuss revisions to your standard specifications for archaeology. We were very pleased to hear that revisions are being considered. In his letter to us, Commissioner Benepe indicated that Parks would appreciate our feedback.

We welcome the opportunity to review the proposed revisions. As you may know, PANYC has members with experience in all aspects of archaeological contracting issues including consulting archaeologists and government agency employees who handle archaeological contracts on a regular basis. PANYC would be pleased to offer our insight to facilitate your department's contracting processes. In addition, perhaps we can offer our expertise when it comes to the stewardship of Parks-owned archaeological resources. We look forward to working with you and would be pleased to set up a meeting at your convenience.

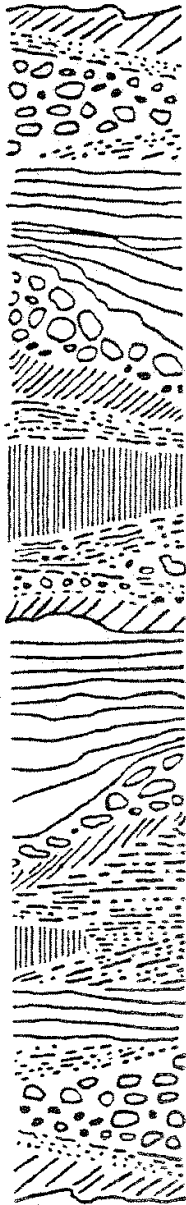
Sincerely,

Lynn Rakos
PANYC President
(917) 515-4154
PANYC2006@yahoo.com

CC:
Honorable Michael Bloomberg, Mayor
Mr. Adrian Benepe, Commissioner, Parks
Ms. Amy Freitag, Parks, Deputy Commissioner, Capital Projects
Mr. Charles McKinney, Parks, Chief of Design
Ms. Deborah Howe, Parks, Assistant Counsel
Honorable Robert B. Tierney, Landmarks Preservation Commission, Chairman
Ms. Amanda Sutphin, Landmarks Preservation Commission, Director of
Archaeology



PANYC



Professional Archaeologists of New York City, Inc.

230 6th Ave., Apt 4
Brooklyn, NY 11215
September 12, 2007

Mr. John Krawchuk
Director of Preservation
New York City Department of Parks and Recreation
Olmsted Center
Flushing Meadows-Corona Park,
Flushing, NY 11368

Dear Mr. Krawchuk:

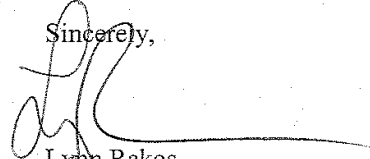
Once again, I am writing on behalf of Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC). I was delighted to speak with you last month about the Parks Department's revised archaeological specifications/Request for Proposal (RFP). We obtained one of your newly issued specifications/RFP and have found admirable changes including Parks' recognition that work on an archaeological project may occur outside of the field and that various disciplines may be required to provide a complete analysis. Of course, requiring your consultants to follow the Landmark Preservation Commission's "Archaeological Guidelines for Archaeological Work in New York City" and requiring them to confer with LPC is commended. We were, however, disappointed to hear that Parks' lawyers found it a potential conflict for PANYC to provide comments and support in the revision of the specifications/RFP.

As you may know, PANYC is a diverse group of archaeologists with a professional interest in New York City archaeology. PANYC's main mission is to educate and advise agencies and the general public on matters relating to the archaeology of New York City. PANYC is not a trade organization for cultural resource management firms. In fact, most of our members work for government agencies, academia and in museums. We do not see our review of the Parks Department's archaeological specifications/RFP as a conflict of interest as it is in everyone's best interest--the Parks Department and the archaeological community-- to ensure that historic resources within Parks' jurisdiction are addressed in a responsive, appropriate, and timely manner.

As archaeology is very project specific, "boiler plate" language, which we noted in the specification/RFP we saw, can be inadequate or misleading when the template is not edited to the specific work at hand. We suggest that Parks retain an on-call archaeological consultant not only to determine when archaeological work is required, but also to provide input on specifications/RFPs (of course this consultant would be recused from bidding on any Parks Department project he or she had advised).

Our membership would be pleased to share its collective expertise and, if you think it appropriate, offer constructive advice on archaeological issues to the Parks Department. We encourage you to contact us.

Sincerely,



Lynn Rakos
PANYC President
(917) 515-4154
PANYC2006@yahoo.com

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Honorable Michael Bloomberg, Mayor
Mr. Adrian Benepe, Commissioner, Parks
Ms. Amy Freitag, Parks, Deputy Commissioner, Capital Projects
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Honorable Robert B. Tierney, Landmarks Preservation Commission, Chairman
Ms. Amanda Sutphin, Director of Archaeology, Landmarks Preservation
Commission
Dr. Arthur Bankoff, Archaeology Advisor to the Chair, Landmarks Preservation
Commission



Volume 19 Issue 54 | May 25 -31, 2007

Letters to the editor

Stairway is a treasure

To The Editor:

Re “Steps to folly” (editorial, May 18 – 24):

Had the “Survivors’ Staircase” been buried and then discovered by future archaeologists, it would be declared an extraordinary “find.” Although the Staircase now ascends to nowhere, it is unique as the only surviving architectural feature of the original World Trade Center site. On Sept. 11, 2001, for many survivors it was the last available exit from the collapsing buildings.

It demands protection and appreciation and begs for recognition as a remnant of a colossal urban feature that speaks with the eloquence of the world’s great archaeological treasures. Like those treasures, it marks a place and — in this case — a cataclysmic event and a heroic recovery effort. Because this stairway is an actual survivor of that event and became a craggy ruin when it was deconstructed during the clean up of the entire site, it has the power to speak to us now and to generations to come, without excavation and without the rediscovery of an archaeological find.

To dismantle this unique piece of history and incorporate a few elements into or near the new office tower planned on the site, or to display some of its treads in the memorial museum, would be mistake. It can be likened to taking a stone or two from the Coliseum in Rome, or from the fortress of Massada in Israel, and expect them to resonate as they do in situ or in their entirety.

Gov. Spitzer is to be commended for stepping in to allow for a thoughtful resolution to the issue. The “Survivors’ Staircase” is a unique witness to history that must be allowed to speak to future generations, as do the world’s other great archaeological treasures.

Joan H. Geismar

Joan H. Geismar is a founding member and past president of the Professional Archaeologists of New York City.

flashlight beam was shining on the dash. "Did you just take a piss?" a police officer asked. He issued the Wingmen a citation—a substantial blow to the evening's profits, which, on a weeknight, rarely exceed two hundred dollars. This prompted McCue to recount the unfortunate experience he had with the owner of a pickup truck, who tried urinating in an empty Coors Light bottle and ended up spritzing the steering wheel.

Between jobs, the Wingmen stopped for burgers at the Wendy's drive-through and pointed out the local sights: Bruce's house ("We played summer hoops with his kids"), Bon Jovi's house ("You see him at the fair a lot"), Geraldo's old house. At 1 A.M., they got a call from a bartender in Sea Bright, who had evidently been sampling the merchandise, and after that they were summoned to the Celtic Cottage in Long Branch. Journey was playing on the jukebox while, outside, a couple embraced in an alley: a kind of Jersey Shore idyll.

"Vince!" a young man yelled as Falcetano crossed the street. This was Pat, a repeat caller. Pat introduced Falcetano to Mike, the man with the keys. "You do anything to this car, my dad will fuck you up," Mike said as he and Pat and two blond women climbed into a Lexus with South Carolina plates. The car pulled out. Mike turned to face the back seat. "Patty, you got beers at your house?" he asked. But Pat was momentarily preoccupied with the young woman who was straddling his lap. A few minutes later, after the drop-off, Springsteen's "Hungry Heart" came on the radio, and the Wingmen, together again in Dannen's mom's Caravan, began to sing.

—Ben McGrath

SKUNKED



There might be an appliance theme to the haunting of the Merchant's House, a nineteenth-century town house in the East Village that was owned by a single family until 1933, when it was turned into a museum. In the nineteen-

seventies, someone decided to fit the kitchen with a cast-iron stove. One day, the story goes, a museum worker witnessed the stove shaking violently, as if someone were pushing it from behind. In the early nineties, the museum's curator installed a computer. The machine froze every time she typed "Tredwell"—the last name of the house's original owner. "Well, not every time, but three out of five," Pi Gardiner, the museum's current executive director, explained one night recently. "Our theory was that the spirits were, like, 'What is all this new-fangled technology?'"

Gardiner was discussing these and other bizarre happenings with Dan Sturges, a paranormal investigator who has been brought in to case the house. (The staff is compiling a book called "Some Say They Never Left: Tales of the Strange and Inexplicable at the Merchant's House Museum." Sample entry: "Coming from the Bedroom Floor below, I heard what sounded like running and stamping by small children.") Sturges, who is bald, tattooed, and beefy—more Stay Puft Marshmallow Man than Ghostbuster—agreed that the technology theory was plausible. "It could be that the spirits in the house are frustrated," he said. "All the psychokinetic or telekinetic energy and the anger—that can really screw up computers."

Seabury Tredwell, the patriarch of the presumed ghost family, bought the house for his wife and their seven children in 1835. When he died, his kids stuck around—most notably Gertrude, the youngest, who stayed until her death, at the age of ninety-three. Sturges, a veteran of more than fifty missions with Paranormal Investigation of NYC, is searching for their spirits pro bono. (He did the same for the Belasco Theatre and for the restaurant One If by Land, Two If by Sea. He supplements his income with acting gigs; see the 2002 Hungry Man "XXL" commercial.)

Sturges unpacked his equipment: a digital-video recorder, two electromagnetic-field meters, a thermocouple—like an iPod, with a metal coil to tell temperature (you look for cold spots)—a digital camera, and a tape recorder. "My dad was a fisherman," he said. "I tell people I go out fishing. You don't always catch something. Plenty of times, you get skunked."

In the parlor—heavy red curtains, a portrait of a dour-looking Seabury Tredwell—Sturges checked the temperature: eighty-one degrees. He ran an E.M.F. device over a piano, which Gertrude is said to play in the early evenings, and spoke into the tape recorder: "This is Dan in the parlor. E.M.F. is constant." He snapped a few pictures of a long, narrow mirror—perfect for apparitions—then went out to the hallway. "When I first started doing this, I didn't tell a lot of my friends," he said. "Because I knew I would get goofed on endlessly. The guys at the gym didn't know about it until they saw something on the news. They were, like, 'Dude, is that you?'"

In Mrs. Tredwell's bedroom, there was a white marble fireplace (the scene of more rumored sightings) and a sign in curvy Victorian script: "The Lord Is My Shepherd/I Shall Not Want." Sturges photographed both items. In the kitchen, which was dank and filled with shadows, he found the haunted stove. Using the tape recorder, he conducted an Electronic Voice Phenomena test. "Is there anybody in the kitchen tonight?" he asked. ("Ideally, we would hear, 'Yes! It's Gertrude!'" he explained.) No reply. In the family room, he inspected two mannequins—one bald, both in yellowed nineteenth-century dresses. He held up the recorder again: "If there's anybody here in this room, can you make a noise? . . . Can you shake the chandelier? A knock on the wall or the ceiling would be great." There was a sort of shuffle outside, on East Fourth Street, but Sturges dismissed it.

In 1997, with the help of a grant from Brooke Astor, who died last week, ownership of the house passed to the City of New York, and it is now overseen by the Parks Department. The other day, Adrian Benepe, the parks commissioner, said that he is open to the possibility that the house is haunted. While visiting last year, he noticed a worn white hairbrush in a display case. "In the old days, people brushed their hair obsessively," he said. "If you run a hairbrush through someone's hair for dozens of years, isn't there some sort of resonant static electricity that stays there forever?"

—Lizzie Widdicombe

EVENTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST - Compiled September 2007

EVENT	SPEAKER	TIME	DATE	LOCATION	CONTACT INFORMATION	FEE
Exhibit: Listening to Our Ancestors: The Art of Native Life, North Pacific Coast			9/12/07-7/20/08	George Gustav Heye Center, NMAI	http://www.nmai.si.edu/	free
Exhibit: The Age of Rembrandt: Dutch Paintings in the Metropolitan Museum of Art			9//18/07-1/6/08	Metropolitan Museum of Art	www.metmuseum.org	pay what you wish, but something
Exhibit: the Creative Photograph in Archaeology			9/27/07-19/9/07	Thomas J. Walsh Art Gallery, Fairfield University	www.fairfield.edu/art_ex_photogarch.html	
Symposium: The Creative Photograph in Archeology			9/27/07	Fairfield University	www.fairfield.edu/art_ex_photogarch.html	
Talk: Roman Metalwork in the North: Trade, Diplomacy, and Power	Erik Jensen, Columbia University	4-5:30	9/20/07	951 Schermerhorn	Cm2418@columbia.edu	free
Talk: Sacred Gifts	tba	4 pm	9/26/07	Grace Rainey Rodgers Auditorium	www.metmuseum.org	Free with museum admission
Discussion: Summer Fieldwork/Current Research, New York Archaeological Consortium		2-4 pm	9/28/07	612 Schermerhorn, Columbia University	Cm2418@columbia.edu	Free
Professional Meeting: Roebling Chapter SIA Annual Symposium on Industrial Archaeology in New York		9:30-5 pm	10/27/07	Hall of Sciences, Drew University, Madison, NJPhiladelphia	917 515 4154	\$25 in advance, \$30 at the door
Professional Meeting: Theoretical Archaeological Group			5/25/08-5/28/08	Columbia University		

In addition, a new permanent exhibit, New Greek and Roman Art, has opened at the Metropolitan Museum of Art; other permanent exhibits relevant to archaeology include those at the Metropolitan and Brooklyn Museums on Egypt, at the AMNH's Hall of South American Peoples, and at the Metropolitan on Western Asia and the Far East; there are also permanent exhibits that might be of interest to archaeologists, including one on slavery at the New-York Historical Society and one on the history of Brooklyn at the Brooklyn Historical Society.

If anyone knows of archaeological events or exhibits which they would like listed, please contact Diana Wall either by e-mail at ddizw@aol.com or by mail at Department of Anthropology, The City College, New York, NY 10031.

CALL FOR PAPERS

21th ANNUAL HIGHLANDS ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

THE 2007 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

will be held on

Saturday, October 27, 2007

at the

**Lautenburg Visitor Center, Sterling Forest State Park
115 Old Forge Road, Tuxedo, New York**

The North Jersey Highlands Historical Society & The Inc. Orange County Chapter, New York State Archaeological Association are hosting this annual conference.

Nestled in the heart of the forest, the beautiful Lautenburg Visitors Center overlooks Sterling Lake. The Center contains several wonderful exhibits relating to the iron history and natural history of Sterling Forest.

Researchers and enthusiasts, professional and avocational, are invited to speak at Saturday's conference. Presentations on historic or Native American topics should be twenty-five minutes long and may be illustrated with slides or other graphic materials. Both carousel slide and PowerPoint projectors are available.

Kindly submit a title and abstract to Edward J. Lenik, Program Chair, via email at edlenik@hotmail.com or snail mail at Edward J. Lenik at 100 Deerfield Road, Wayne, NJ 97470-6414.

Questions? Call Ed Lenik at 973-835-0770 between 9AM and 4PM Monday through Friday.

REGISTRATION: The conference is free and open to the public. No registration is necessary.

BOOKROOM: Books on historical and Native American topics will be available for sale. Please let Ed know if you need a table in the bookroom.

Manhattan Borough President Scott M. Stringer presents

USING NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES TO RESEARCH NEW YORK CITY HISTORY

A Free Public Workshop

Hosted by the Office of the Manhattan Borough Historian

Saturday, September 29

10:00a to 2:00p

The Municipal Building (Near City Hall)

An historical newspaper archive can be a source of incomparable information, but to the uninitiated researcher it can be a source of bewilderment as well. Which papers existed when? Which ones are indexed? Digitized? Searchable? Which ones had a political bias? Which ones were illustrated? Or ran death notices? Or had a sports page?

The two experts leading our workshop will address questions like these and more, with an emphasis on mid-19th to mid-20th century New York City papers. Maira Liriano of the Milstein Division of U.S. History, Local History & Genealogy at the New York Public library will demonstrate how to navigate and search the library's vast world-class newspaper collection. Then Dr. Thorin Tritter, research fellow on the history of publishing in North America at the University of London, will present a brief history of newspaper publishing in New York City, providing descriptive profiles of the major papers. Michael Miscione, the Manhattan Borough Historian, will preside over the event.

Lunch will be served.

REGISTRATION & MORE INFORMATION:

The workshop is free and open to the public, but advanced registration is required. To register, or for more information, call (212) 669-8089 or email boroughhistorian@manhattanbp.org. Provide the names of all attendees and a contact phone number or email address.

LOCATION:

Municipal Building, One Centre St., 19th fl. (at Chambers St., opposite the NE corner of City Hall Park). Use the building's south entrance. Note: Photo ID is required to enter the building.

DIRECTIONS:

Subway: Take the 4, 5, or 6 to Brooklyn Bridge/City Hall; or the J, M, or Z to Chambers St.; or the R or W to City Hall.

Bus: Take the M15, M103, M22, M1 or the B51.

Michael Miscione
Manhattan Borough Historian
Office of Manhattan Borough President
Municipal Building, One Centre Street, 19th floor
New York, NY 10007
212/ 669-8089 (voice)
212/ 669-4900 (fax)
boroughhistorian@manhattanbp.org

TAS Archaeological Services, LLC
P.O. Box 247
Grantham, NH 03753

August 13, 2007

Mr. Christopher Ricciardi
4110 Quentin Road
Brooklyn, NY 11234-4322

Re: PANYC Events Report

Dear Chris,

Please pass this on to the current editor of the PANYC Newsletter for the "Events" Section. I don't know who the current officers are.

Title: Evidence of West Cellar Entrance/West Yard Activities

Event: New addition to exhibit

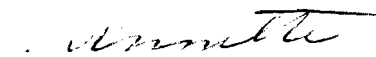
Date: Perm. Exhibit

Location: Rock Hall Museum, Lawrence, NY (45 minutes by LIRR, 2 blocks from
Lawrence Station)

Contact: 516.239.1157; rockhallmuseum@aol.com

Fee: Free

Thank you,


Annette Silver

Enc. Info re exhibit

(past member of PANYC)

If you are interested in joining PANYC or if you would like to subscribe to the PANYC Newsletter, please complete the form below and return it to:

Elizabeth Martin, PANYC Secretary
250 East 90th Street – Apt. 4N
New York, NY 10128

NAME:			
ADDRESS:			
PHONE:		E-MAIL:	

Please indicate preferred mailing address and check below as appropriate.

I wish to apply for membership to PANYC and would like to receive the application form _____

I wish to subscribe to the PANYC Newsletter (Fee \$10) _____

I wish to make an additional donation to PANYC _____