

PROFESSIONAL
ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF
NEW
YORK
CITY

NEWSLETTER NO. 35
September, 1987



CONTENTS

Page

1. Minutes, General Membership Meeting, May 20, 1987.....	1
2. President's Correspondence.....	3
3. The Archaeology of Coastal New York in Retrospect, by Carlyle S. Smith.....	8
4. New York City Data on Urban Geography, by Joan H. Geismar.....	15
5. Media Coverage of Archaeology.....	23
6. PANYC Membership Application.....	30

Materials for inclusion in the PANYC Newsletter should be sent to the acting editor, Celia Orgel, 360 Cabrini Blvd., #3-G, N.Y., N.Y. 10040.

Minutes of the PANYC General Membership Meeting
CUNY Graduate Center, Room 1126, May 20, 1987
Cantwell called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the March 25, 1987 meeting were accepted with no changes.

Treasurer's Report: Winter, balance in PANYC account is \$1,371.64. Everyone who has not paid their dues has been notified. Non-payment of over-due membership dues will result in being dropped from membership list.

President's Report: 1) A letter was received from Sylvia Deutsch in response the March 16 letter in which PANYC expressed concern regarding the need for a better arrangement with the Buildings Department to avoid situations similar to what happened at 17 State St. Deutsch indicated that relevant City agencies share similar concerns as PANYC. 2) Scopes of work for archeological work were sent from DGS-Department of Real Property. Requirements include: SOPA certification of principal investigator. 3) C.W. Post Campus of LIU is offering a program on revised SEQR regulations June 4. 4) News from the SAA meeting in Toronto included a discussion of PANYC activities by Cantwell at the Bill Lipe - Grass Roots Archaeology workshop; and the Toronto Board of Education has a newsletter and informal network for grass roots archaeology.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Action: Wall noted that Platt was listed in the AIA fieldwork opportunities bulletin for excavation of a site in Queens. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to AIA expressing PANYC concern regarding this listing.

AIA Participation: Winter noted that the AIA has accepted the PANYC request for a panel presentation at the December meeting at the Marriott Hotel. Committee needs to meet to discuss details of presentation.

Awards: No report.

City Agency Policy: Henn reported on a committee meeting with LPC (Executive Director, Joseph Bresnan and staff) accomplishing the goal of clarifying Landmarks role in city archaeology. It was clarified that Landmarks does not have the legal ability to enforce CEQR in-so-far as it applies to other city agencies. Responsibility for enforcement of CEQR lies with City Planning and the Department of Environmental Protection as lead agencies under Executive Order 91. Included was discussion of the Commission's "Design Through Archaeology Project" which is a collaborative effort by the Department of Cultural Affairs and LPC to integrate archaeological work in the planning and design phases of capital projects. A general discussion of this meeting by the membership ensued.

Curation: No report.

Election: No report.

Legislation: No report.

Museum: Geismar reported progress in planning the archaeology program at The Museum of the City of New York and that arrangements have been made for seven speakers to participate in a Lecture Series which is scheduled to begin in October (one Sunday a month except holidays).

Native American Affairs: Cantwell reported on an excellent presentation by the Learning Alliance titled "Anthropology and the Question of Native American Sovereignty."

Newsletters: Betsy Kearns was acting editor for May issue with Orgel arranging photocopy service. Orgel volunteered to edit the next issue.

Public Program: Cantwell thanked Orgel for organizing the program and Rubinson for taking over the implementation and facilitating smooth presentation. All speakers were thanked for their participation and contribution. Orgel volunteered to computerize the program mailing list for next program notice mailing.

Research and Planning: No report.

Standards: No report.

OLD BUSINESS: Nurkin noted an article in The New York Times in which the First Circuit Court rules that State precedent follows Federal law. This would affect the Whydah for which there is no claim under MA state law but for which there is claim under Federal Admiralty law. Nurkin indicated that the currently proposed Shipwreck Act may under cut Federal Admiralty law by assigning legal responsibility of shipwrecks to the states.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Cantwell stated that the Executive Board agreed to have the general membership consider the option of allocating \$50 from the PANYC treasury for support of the SHA lobbying effort for passage of the Shipwreck Act. The membership voted on the option with the following results: 9 in favor, 2 against, 4 abstentions.
- 2) Rothschild reported on items heard by the SAA Board at their recent annual meeting in Toronto; these include the decision to join a suit with the NTHP against the Office of Surface Mining for destroying archaeological sites, and notice that the SAA has hired a management consultant to help the organization become more efficient.
- 3) J. Klein noted that the Toronto school system has a formal archaeology curriculum for sale.
- 4) Grumet reported that NJ DEP is embarking on an RP3 effort the contents of which are currently undergoing review.

Membership: Applications from Richard G. Schaefer and Randolph K. Taylor were considered and accepted by the general membership unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted, Daniel N. Pagano, PANYC Secretary 1987/88

PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF NEW YORK CITY

Department of Anthropology
New York University
25 Waverly Place
New York, New York 10003
12 June 1987

Dr. James Wiseman, President
Archaeological Institute of America
Box 1901
Kenmore Station
Boston, Massachusetts 02215

Dear Dr. Wiseman:

It has come to our attention that an archaeological field school to be directed by E. Platt has been included in the 1987 Guide to Field Opportunities in Archaeology.

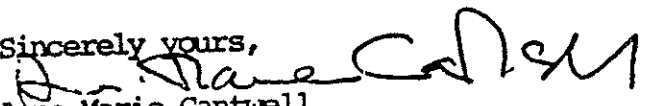
Unfortunately, Mr. Platt does not meet the minimum requirements set by New York City agencies to serve as a principal investigator or as a director of a field school. His research proposal for this field school at the St. James Church in Elmhurst, Queens has been reviewed by the New York City Landmarks Commission and was found to have been technically inadequate. In addition, it is our understanding that the Board of St. James Church has refused him permission to excavate on church lands.

In light of the fragility and rarity of archaeological resources in New York City, we would appreciate it if you would exercise utmost caution in accepting future listings for excavations within urban areas. We would be pleased to assist you in reviewing proposed listings within the New York metropolitan area for future bulletins.

In more general terms, we would suggest that it might be advisable for the AIA to review the credentials of all archaeologists whose projects are listed in the Guide to Field Opportunities.

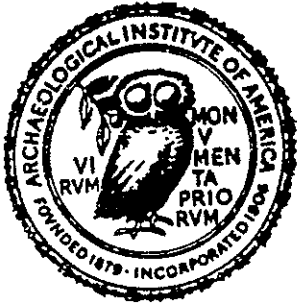
Thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely yours,


Anne-Marie Cantwell

President, Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC)

cc: F. Winter AIA-New York
E. Hercher AIA Committee on Professional Responsibilities



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

BOX 1901, KENMORE STATION, BOSTON, MA 02215

(617) 353-9361

8 July 1987

Ms. Anne-Marie Cantwell
President, Professional Archaeologists of
New York City
Department of Anthropology
New York University
25 Waverly Place
New York, NY 10003

Dear Ms. Cantwell:

Thank you for your letter of June 12 in which you expressed concern about the listing of a field project which did not meet the minimum standards set by New York City agencies.

We do not endorse the programs which are listed in the Archaeological Fieldwork Opportunities Bulletin, but we will establish a procedure for a closer screening process.

Yours sincerely,

James R. Wiseman
President, AIA

88 -

PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF NEW YORK CITY

Department of Anthropology
New York University
25 Waverly Place
New York, New York 10003
1 June 1987


Helen Hooper, Washington Representative
Society for Historical Archeology
3357 Runnymede Place NW
Washington, D. C. 20015

Dear Ms. Hooper:

On behalf of Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC), I am enclosing with this letter a check for \$50.00 to help the SHA in its efforts to support legislation that would give greater protection to historic shipwrecks. We are very concerned about this issue and would appreciate receiving up-to-date legislative reports from you.

Good luck with your efforts on this issue of such concern to all of us.

Sincerely yours,



Anne-Marie Cantwell
President, Professional Archaeologists of New York City

Enc.

PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF NEW YORK CITY

Department of Anthropology
New York University
25 Waverly Place
New York, New York 10003
19 June 1987

Mr. Donald M. Reynolds
Curator of Parks
City of New York Parks and Recreation
The Arsenal
Central Park
New York, New York 10021

Dear Don:

I am writing to summarize the results of our meeting today at Madison Square Park. As you know from our earlier discussions, there had been reports of looting of archeological materials from the park.

Following these discussions and upon your suggestion, I visited the park to see what impact the current construction work there is having upon any potential archeological resources. On this initial reconnaissance, I and two other archeologists, Eugene Böesch and Joel Grossman, noted that the exposed surface areas contained quantities of oyster shell and historic ceramics. Upon hearing this, you suggested today's meeting.

This morning, Diana Wall, an archeologist, and I met with you and Dan Jeanette, the resident engineer, and inspected the site. Today's visit confirmed our earlier findings. This morning we again noted large quantities of oyster shell, glass and ceramics strewn throughout the entire area that had been exposed by the construction activities. The ceramics included blue shell edged pearlware (ca. 1780-1840) and white ware (ca. 1820-1900), Canton porcelain (popular ca. 1790-1840), as well as various light blue transfer printed whitewares (popular after ca. 1825) including some decorated with the Canova pattern, and plain ironstone (popular sometime after ca. 1850).

In the walls of one of the construction trenches, we also noted undisturbed stratigraphic layers, one of which could be an earlier ground surface, as well as later fill deposits. As mentioned above, there are, in addition, reports of 17th and 19th century coins, smoking pipes, bottles, and hearths removed or destroyed by looting activities at the park.

Clearly Madison Square Park has a strong potential for yielding information about the early history, or even prehistory, of the city. As we discussed

this morning, we strongly urge that as a first step a preliminary archeological study be done. This preliminary study would include documentary research followed by preliminary testing in those areas of the park that will be disturbed by construction activities. This initial study would provide an assessment of the nature, extent and significance of Madison Square Parks' cultural resources in the construction area as well as any appropriate recommendations.

I found our meeting this morning to be very enjoyable and profitable and I very much look forward to cooperating with the Department of Parks in preserving our city's heritage.

Sincerely yours,

Anne-Marie Cantwell
President
Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC)

P. S. I shall be out of New York for the month of July. Should you need to contact PANYC during this period, Diana Wall, immediate Past President will be here and you may contact her either at 249-8078 (home) or 998-8550 (bus). Thanks again for today's meeting.

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF COASTAL NEW YORK IN RETROSPECT

Carlyle S. Smith

(Abstract of a lecture given at the meeting of the Metropolitan Chapter of the New York State Archaeological Association, at Hunter College, New York, N.Y., May 14, 1987.)

I first became interested in local archaeology while I was a student at Great Neck High School. In 1932 I found a series of refuse-filled pits at Port Washington near the entrance to the area known as Manorhaven. Assisted by a couple of friends, a few pits were excavated. I assumed that there would be an archaeologist at the American Museum of Natural History who would be actively engaged in regional archaeology. I took my finds there and, upon finding the Department of Anthropology, I was met by Bella Weitzner who took me to see Nels C. Nelson. I remember him as a man with bushy hair turning from blond to white engaged in chain-smoking cigarettes which he stuffed into already overflowing seashells serving as ashtrays. After much careful scrutiny and the utterance of a few unintelligible exclamations, he informed me that certain items were cordmarked potsherds, others were chips of quartz, and that one bone was the humerus of a black bear. I was directed to the meager literature on local archaeology and purchased copies of such classics as Skinner's "The Indians of Manhattan Island and Vicinity" and Harrington's "An Ancient Village Site of the Shinnecock Indians".

I felt that I was off to a flying start. Little did I realize that I would conclude later that the published accounts followed the pattern of a period in which pottery, as a cultural determinant, was neglected and all of the material from an entire region was treated as though it came from one site or from one time horizon. Also, the

identification of sites with named ethnic groups without careful historical research was common practice.

As my interest and activities continued, I became annoyed at the fact that there were no archaeologists employed by any of the universities and museums in Greater New York who were actually doing local archaeology. I carried out most of my graduate work at Columbia University without the assistance of locally based professionals with an interest in coastal problems. Only Rouse at Yale and Byers at the R. S. Peabody Foundation displayed any research interest in which I was trying to do. Ritchie's work was focused too far to the north and without emphasis on ceramics. Data from New Jersey, under the control of Dorothy Cross, were just emerging without much interpretation.

Through the efforts of William Calver, the grand old man of historical archaeology, Ralph Solecki and I became acquainted with each other in 1937. Matt Schreiner and Stanley Wisniewski also came upon the scene. Allison Clement Paulsen assisted at one site. For the next ten years, with time out for military service, attempts were made by all of us to keep ahead of the bulldozers without institutional support. Research in old collections at the American Museum and the Museum of the American Indian enabled me to supplement the data and to complete an acceptable doctoral dissertation in absentia by 1949. By that time I had deserted Coastal New York for the Midwest where it was taken for granted that North American archaeology, locally centered, should receive top priority. Archaeologists focusing on other areas were luxuries at midwestern institutions.

The lack of interest in local archaeology among professionals in the East spanned the most critical period in urban development in Coastal New York, roughly from the the 1920's through the 1950's. During this same period archaeological investigations were being funded

and carried out throughout the rest of North America by local institutions and federal agencies.

The Southwest, Middle American and Andean areas were being investigated by North American institutions, largely in the Northeast. It was during this period that professionals elsewhere in the United States erected the framework of North American archaeology as we know it today.

While amateurs were working in a professional vacuum in most of the Northeast, great strides were being taken west of the Alleghenies in the 1930's as the result of strong professional interest at many institutions. Quite apart from locally financed excavations, there were archaeological projects funded by WPA (Work Projects Administration) utilizing the services of enemployed people in the field and laboratory under the supervision of graduate students from anthropology departments. People such as Solecki, Schreiner and myself gained archaeological experience in Nebraska on WPA projects, they as student assistants and I as a professional level supervisor. All of us applied our training to work on Long Island still without institutional support.

When I came to the University of Kansas in 1947 I was expected to do regional archaeology. I was given an office combined with a laboratory-storage area, a small budget, a vehicle, and, above all, time. My appointment called for one service course each semester in anthropology for the Department of Sociology. The rest of the academic year was for museum duties and research at the Museum of Natural History. In the summer I was to devote full time, at full pay, to archaeology. How much more would we know now about the archaeology of Coastal New York if only one institution in Greater New York had

created such a position? With a state-supported base from which to operate it was possible to obtain research grants and contracts from NSF and the National Park Service.

In my dissertation the basic problem consisted of presenting the prehistory of Coastal New York in a systematic and concise manner, using terms derived from the taxonomic system known as the McKern Classification. Purists have taken me to task because I already knew the approximate spans of the taxons in time and space, dimensions which are not part of the classification itself. It is now possible to transpose much of these into terminology in use at present by substituting phase for "focus" and tradition for "aspect."

My approach was holistic and I saw the taxonomic units a representative of past human behavior. Efforts were made to relate the units to ethnic and linguistic groups. Far too little on the biological characteristics of the people was known. In relating the archaeological to the ethnological I tried to merely summarize the findings and opinions of others. I made no attempt to present firm support for linguistic and quasi-political affiliations postulated by others.

In conferring with Rouse I found that he was aware of two ceramic traditions in Connecticut: Windsor and Shantok. I could identify these on Long Island, but a third had never been named. I designated this as the East River tradition. Data on the Archaic were meager at the time. I avoided a firm conclusion as to the relationship of the non-ceramic components, simply designating the complex as the Preceramic. Evidence for a Paleoindian occupation was lacking at the time.

From the beginning of my research it was apparent that the solution to the problems of time and space relationships lay in an

intensive study of the pottery. In this I was handicapped because, except for Rouse, other archaeologists in the region tended to treat ceramic studies as not worth the effort. The small samples of artifacts of stone and bone caused me to let variations within these fall as they may and to be correlated later with ceramic classifications and seriations.

First I had to achieve a familiarity with the ceramics of the region so that I could feel confident in detecting mixed collections which were of no statistical value in computing popularity percentages. I narrowed the series of sites as best I could and made some significant discoveries. The most obvious one was that some sherds were tempered with shell and others with grit. When I compared the characteristics of the grit tempered body sherds with those that were shell tempered, I found that grit tempered sherds were more likely to be cordmarked and shell tempered sherds were more likely to be plain. Decorated sherds were sometimes rimsherds, but almost as often, from below the rim. More of the incised sherds were shell tempered and from collared and flaring rims. Most of the grit tempered sherds correlated with simple straight rims with stamped decoration. However, none of these correlations were absolute. By computing popularity percentages I found that I could arrange the collections in seriations with significant gradations.

Earlier workers were aware that collared rims, called "Iroquois", correlated with late sites containing trade goods of European origin. I found this to be true, so I knew "which end was up". I also found that wampum making was a late trait. Further, triangular projectile points were more popular in the later sites and a wider variety, still

including some triangular points, correlated with the earlier sites. Other artifacts were too rare for correlation.

In the Greater New York region the ceramic trends are clear in both the East River and the Windsor traditions. More undisturbed sites in New England are needed for a thorough testing of the method. It is worthy of special note that the use of shell temper is not necessarily a by-product of site location because the tempering material used at the inland Finch Rock House is derived from freshwater shells, not marine shells.

I became aware of the existence of valid ceramic types only after years of work with attributes for ordering collections temporally. However, I found it impossible to deal with types statistically because so few sherds in any collection were large enough to display all of the necessary attributes. For example, a small sherd bearing an incised line might have come from either a pot of the Bowmans Brook Incised type with a straight rim or from one of the type Eastern incised with a collared rim. Given the nature of the collections available, and to be excavated in the future, we may have to continue to rely on seriations based upon the popularity percentages of tempering materials and surface finishes along with decorative techniques. Types may be described without reference to exact percentages of occurrence.

After my interpretation of the prehistory of Coastal New York had been published I expected other investigators to pickup where I left off when new collections became available. I was in for a long wait of some thirty or more years. It was no help at all to have Ritchie omit the results of my work in the first edition of his Archaeology of New York State and to only pay lip service to it in the second edition. Further, opportunities to test my methodology were studiously avoided as as evidenced by his report on his work on Martha's Vineyard in which

the cursory treatment of the ceramic collections makes such an attempt ~~more~~ by a second party impossible to achieve.

A new academic generation is now engaged in renewed efforts to unravel the past of the area surrounding Long Island Sound. I need only to cite the accomplishments of Lucianne Lavin who, among others, has rediscovered the importance of detailed ceramic analysis as a means of discovering what happened here.

Department of Anthropology
University of Kansas

New York City Data on Urban Geography

compiled by Joan H. Geismar
40 East 83 Street
New York, New York 10028

the Urban Archaeology Workshop
Society for Historical Archaeology Annual Meeting
Savannah, Georgia
January 7, 1987

Introduction

The material presented here represents a small sample of data applicable to questions of New York City urban geography. In addition to a brief history of the city (page 1), a sketch map showing lower Manhattan's original configuration has been included (page 2) for reference to sites mentioned in the two tables presented in this packet. An analysis of landfill, which is clearly relevant to the question of urban geography, will be found in Table 12 (page 4); in Table 11 (page 3), placement and chronology of two ubiquitous features--cisterns and privies--has been presented in an attempt to look for patterns that may reflect urban development on the feature, lot, block, and city level of analysis. Compiled especially for this workshop, to a degree this study is mainly an exercise to explore comparing data from various sites. However, it does appear that cisterns built prior to 1780 were located in the middle of structures while those built later were more often placed to the left or right of a building, perhaps a reflection of changes in building design or technology. Those features found on lot lines suggest changes in lot configurations over time or, perhaps equally relevant to social history, social or economic interactions between neighbors. A selected bibliography, mainly listing sources cited in the tables, will be found on pages 5 and 6.

A Brief History of New York City

Joan H. Geismar

The history and development of New York City is so complex that even an expansive history would not do it justice. However, to condense the nearly four centuries since Henry Hudson first sailed up the Hudson in 1609 into a very cursory form is almost liberating.

From its inception, New York City has been founded on principles of trade and mercantilism. Its protected harbor and rich natural resources--initially focusing on the fur trade--undoubtedly motivated settlement by the Dutch in 1623 and made a takeover attractive to the English in 1664.

Under the Dutch, the shoreline of the colonial settlement had been altered, and the British, who received it by treaty in 1674 after a brief Dutch recovery, continued this pattern of development. Beginning with British control and continuing into the early years of the republic, a three-block strip was ultimately reclaimed from the East River below Canal Street and a one- to two-block segment was reclaimed from the Hudson River to the west. Moreover, the opportunity for settlement was expanded late in the seventeenth century by the British who extended the city's boundaries beyond Wall Street in the lower part of the island, opening all of Manhattan Island to ultimate development.

Land reclamation, northward expansion, and the evolution of specialized areas within the city--the establishment of neighborhoods--are among the factors that have shaped the complex modern city. Other variables include the action and interaction of and between the merchants and entrepreneurs who helped develop its potential as a world market. In 1898, New York's political complexity was compounded when the counties surrounding Manhattan were incorporated into the city, creating the five-borough municipality comprising Manhattan, Queens, Brooklyn, the Bronx, and Staten Island.

In 1977, New York City implemented an environmental review process (City Environmental Quality Review, or CEQR) that requires city agencies to review projects requesting variances. Among the issues to be evaluated is the cultural resources potential of a development site, and the guardian of this potential is the Landmarks Preservation Commission. To date, eight archaeological sites in Manhattan have been investigated under this review. Information from these investigations has expanded the city's written history and contributed to understanding its complexity.

Among the issues addressed in these investigations are those pertaining to the changing configuration of the city. This includes the process of land reclamation as well as lot and block patterning and the development of neighborhoods--all topics related to urban geography. The first explores the methods of and the motives for creating space; the latter two explore the organization of new and existing space into an urban environment.

Map of Sites Relevant to the Urban Geography Session, Urban Workshop,
 SHA Annual Meetings, Savannah, GA, 1987--New York City Sites



based on Dept. of City Planning Map, 1982

Note Locations are approximate

———— Greenwich Village Historic District (partial)

----- original shoreline (approx.) after Viele 1865



- 1 Sullivan St. 2 209 Water St. 3 Telco 4 Schermerhorn Row 5 175 Water St. 6 Barclays Bank
 7 60 Wall St. 8 Assay 9 Old Slip 10 64 Pearl 11 State House (Stadt Huys) 12 Broad St. Fin
 cial Center 13 Site 1 of the Washington St. Urban Renewal Area

Table 11. PRIVY-CISTERN DISTRIBUTION--NEW YORK CITY SITES (compiled by J. H. Geismar)

A. Sites with privies/cisterns constructed prior to 1780

Site ¹	# of lots in survey	Privy Locations				Date Range	Cistern Locations				Date Range
		L	C	R	LL		L	C	R	LL	
State House	10	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	early 17thc.-?
Broad St.	6	-	-	3 ²	-	1640-1710	1	3 ⁴	-	-	1640-1844
Barclays Bank	8	-	-	-	1 ³	-1780-1800	-	3	-	-	1750s-1775
Telco	14	-	-	-	2	-1780?-c.1816	-	-	-	-	-
	38	-	-	3	3	1640-1816	1	7	1	-	1640-1844

B. Sites with privies/cisterns constructed post-1780

Site	# of lots in survey	Privy Locations				Date Range	Cistern Locations				Date Range
		L	C	R	LL		L	C	R	LL	
State House	10	2	-	-	-	1780+?-?	-	2 ⁵	2	-	1780+?-?
Broad St.	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1780+?-1795
7 Hanover Sq.	10	-	1	1	-	1780/+?-?	1 ⁶	-	-	-	1780+?-?
Telco	14	-	-	9	-	1780+-late 19thc.	6	-	1	1	c.1816-late 19thc.
175 Water St.	8	5	-	5	-	1780+-late 19thc.	1	1 ⁷	4	-	1780+-1870+
Assay	8	3	-	-	-	1780+-Late 19thc.	-	-	1	-	1780+-early 19thc.
Sullivan St.	6	2	2	-	-	c.1826/7-1870	2	-	2	-	c.1826/7-1900
	62	12	3	15	-	1780+-late 19thc.	10	3	11	1	1780+-1900

C. Tally of privy/cistern locations reported from New York Sites, 1640-late 19th Century

Total Number of Sites	Total # of Lots	Privy Locations				Date Range	Cistern Locations				Date Range
		L	C	R	LL		L	C	R	LL	
8	70	12	3	18	3	1640-late 19thc.	11	10	12	1	1640-1900

L=left, C=center, R=right, LL=lot line (direction facing from street)

Note: most dates based on deposit rather than construction data

- 1 the data reported here were provided by the following: State House, Nan Rothschild; Broad Street, Diane DeLall for Joel Grossman; Barclays Bank, Terry Kleir; Telco, Diana Wall; 7 Hanover Square, Nan Rothschild for Rothschild and Pickman; 175 Water Street, Joan Geismar; Assay, Diana Wall for Wall and Henn; Sullivan Street, Bert Salwen
- 2 wooden cisterns/privies--function undetermined
- 3 a well used as a cistern, date unclear (Note: 2 wells on lot lines not included here)
- 4 wooden features
- 5 could predate 1780
- 6 may be a well
- 7 barrel/cistern that may predate 1780

Table 12. Landfill Sites Excavated in Manhattan (Geismar 1986)

Project	Landfill Dates*	Number of Blocks From Original Shore	Types of Waterfront Constructions	Year Tested/Excavated	Sources	Remarks
64 Pearl Street	Late 17th C.	1	Stone foundation walls	1980	Rothschild 1986; Personal Communication	First east-side fill site excavated. Basement excavations. Landfill structures similar in time and type to those at Hanover Sq. (see below).
7 Hanover Square	Late 17th C.**	1	Stone foundation walls	1971	Rothschild 1982	Stone foundations similar to those at 64 Pearl (see above).
Old Slip and Cruger's Wharf	1690-1800	3	Massive timber wharves (undressed logs)	1989	Huey 1984	Episodic wharf-building and landfilling. Observed wharves appear analogous to 175 Water St.
Telco Block	c. 1740-1775*	2	Cobb-crib (log) wharves; planked bulkhead	1981	Rockman et al. 1983; Wall 1986	Dates apply to episodic wharf construction. Possible that block and bridge construction was used, but speculative at present.
175 Water Street	c. 1740-1780	2	Wharf/grillage**; ship tied into planked bulkhead and stabilized with pilings	1981-1982	Geismar 1983; 672-712	Block structured c. 1754 when ship incorporated, but landfill process continued as late as 1780 or, with secondary filling, 1795.
209 Water Street	between 1775 and 1800(?)	2	Partially excavated ship	1978	Henn et al. N.D.; Brouwer 1980	Ship side and deck beams excavated. Landfill in and around hull.
Assay Site	1780s-1790s* (wharf and pier only)	3	Cobb wharf, block and bridge pier	1984	Wall and Henn 1986; Personal Communication	Time span of full fill maneuver presently unknown. Data currently being analyzed (Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.)
Barclays Bank	1694-1702*	1	Stone foundations and log cobb wharf.	1983-1984	Klein and Cohen 1986; Personal Communication	Stone foundations similar to 64 Pearl St. and 7 Hanover Sq.; Cobb wharf part of Rotten Row (Water St.)
Schermerhorn Row	1780-1810*	3	Log crib works	1977	Kardas and Larrabee 1979, 1980	Basement excavations, therefore dimensions of constructions unknown.
Site 1, Washington St. Urban Renewal Area	1797-1801 1807-1817	1 2	Log block and bridge (?) probably a pier	1984	Geismar 1986	First west side fill site investigated. Relatively rapid filling; no major fill-retaining features (large bulkhead, ship, etc located in site).

* Fill dates based mainly on historical documentation.

** Wharf/grillage is a term used to define wharfing later used as block foundations (Geismar 1983:672-712).

BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR NEW YORK SITES RELEVANT TO THE URBAN GEOGRAPHY
WORKSHOP, SHA ANNUAL MEETING, SAVANNAH, GA, 1987 (continued)

- Pickman, Arnold and Nan A. Rothschild
1981 64 Pearl Street: an archaeological excavation in
17th century landfill. Ms. on file, New York Landmark's
Conservancy.
- Rockman, Diana, Wendy Harris, and Jed Levin
1983 The archaeological investigation of the Telco Block,
South Street Historic District, New York, New York. Ms.
on file, Soil Systems, Inc.
- Rothschild, Nan A.*
1982 PANyc Newsletter 8:26. (Re: State House site)
- Rothschild, Nan A. and Diana diZerega Rockman
1982 Method in urban archaeology: the Stadt Huys block.
In Archaeology of Urban America, the search for pattern and
process, edited by Roy S. Dickens, Jr., pp. 3-18. Academic
Press, Inc., New York.
- Sapin, Wendy Harris
1985 Landfilling at the Telco Block. American Archeology
5(3):170-174.
- Salwen, Bert and Rebecca Yamin
1987 Sullivan Street, report in progress, with
contributions by Creighton, Diamond, Rippel, and Balliet.
Prepared for the New York University Law School.
- Wall, Diana diZerega
In press Settlement systems in historic archaeology: a case
study from New York City. SHA special publication in urban
archaeology. Edward Staski, editor.
- Winter, Frederick A.
1985 Stage 1a, Block 2172, Lots 16, 17, 68, 72, 4200
Broadway and 18-240 Nagle Avenue, Inwood, Manhattan.
Prepared for the New York City Board of Education by Key
Perspectives.

Note: reports for the State House (Stadt Huys) site (Rothschild et al.) and the Hanover Square site (Rothschild and Pickman) are in preparation, but no data concerning them were available at this writing.

*This selected bibliography relates to materials cited or submitted for use at the Urban Workshop; it is in no way comprehensive.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR NEW YORK SITES RELEVANT TO
THE URBAN GEOGRAPHY WORKSHOP*
SHA ANNUAL MEETING, SAVANNAH, GA, 1987

Compiled by Joan H. Geismar

-
- Brouwer, Norman
1980 The ship in our cellar. Seaport Magazine 14(3):20-23.
- Geismar, Joan H.
1983 The archaeological investigation of the 175 Water Street Block, New York City. Soil Systems, Inc. Ms. available at the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission.
1985 Patterns of development in the late-eighteenth and nineteenth-century American seaport: a suggested model for recognizing increasing commercialism and urbanization. American Archeology 5(3):175-184.
1986 Archaeological Investigation of Site 1 of the Washington Street Urban Renewal Area, New York City. Ms. The Cultural Resources Group, Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.
1987 Digging into a seaport's past. Archaeology 40(1):30-35.
- Grossman, Joel W.
1985 The excavation of Augustine Heerman's warehouse and associated seventeenth century Dutch West India Company deposits. Final report. Greenhouse Consultants, Inc., New York.
- Henn, Roselle, William Askins, Jed Levin, and Robert Schuyler
nd The Water Street site: final report on 209 Water Street. Ms. on file CUNY.
- Huey, Paul R.
1984 Old Slip and Cruger's Wharf at New York: an archaeological perspective of the Colonial American waterfront. Historical Archaeology 18(1):15-37.
- Kardas, Susan and Edward Larrabee
1980 Landmaking in lower Manhattan. Seaport Magazine 14(3):15-19.
- Louis Berger & Associates
1987 Druggists, craftsman, and merchants of Pearl and Water Street, New York: the Barclays Bank Site, New York, New York.

Salvors 'Mutilated' Ship, Expert Says

THE NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY, MAY 12, 1967

By the way, the salvors of the ship, the H.M.S. deStrak, were not the only ones to be criticized. The Federal Maritime Commission, in a report last week, said that the salvors had not done enough to protect the ship's remains from looting and vandalism. The report also criticized the salvors for not having a proper system of records to keep track of the items they had recovered. The report said that the salvors had not done enough to protect the ship's remains from looting and vandalism. The report also criticized the salvors for not having a proper system of records to keep track of the items they had recovered.

Treasure seekers are damaging historical relics.

By the way, the salvors of the ship, the H.M.S. deStrak, were not the only ones to be criticized. The Federal Maritime Commission, in a report last week, said that the salvors had not done enough to protect the ship's remains from looting and vandalism. The report also criticized the salvors for not having a proper system of records to keep track of the items they had recovered. The report said that the salvors had not done enough to protect the ship's remains from looting and vandalism. The report also criticized the salvors for not having a proper system of records to keep track of the items they had recovered.



The H.M.S. deStrak, sunk off Laves, Del., in a 1798 storm.

The salvors of the ship, the H.M.S. deStrak, were not the only ones to be criticized. The Federal Maritime Commission, in a report last week, said that the salvors had not done enough to protect the ship's remains from looting and vandalism. The report also criticized the salvors for not having a proper system of records to keep track of the items they had recovered. The report said that the salvors had not done enough to protect the ship's remains from looting and vandalism. The report also criticized the salvors for not having a proper system of records to keep track of the items they had recovered.



A worker uncovering a shoe on the hull of the deStrak in August, 1965.

In the Common, A Trove of Trash

BENEATH the soda cans and cigarette butts that litter the Boston Common lie layers of garbage worth looking at, according to a group of archeologists commissioned by the city to excavate the park.

With dustpans and trowels, the archeologists have spent 11 months digging in the public park, the nation's oldest, and have extracted refuse that spans the centuries back through the American Revolution to the founding of the Massachusetts colony. Aside from broken wine bottles, clay pipes, and military decorations, the team of 50 volunteers has also unearthed stone tools and weapons that they say date back 8,000 years.

"It's sort of thrilling to find these things in the middle of Boston," said Steven R. Pendery, the city's archeologist, who is in charge of the project.

It was started out of concern that construction projects that disturb the soil, like renovating the subway or installing new streetlamps, might destroy the park's historical record. Mr. Pendery said the Common was a fertile site for archeologists because, unlike New York's Central Park, it has been left largely intact since 1634. That was when John Winthrop and his neighbors raised \$150 to buy the land and designate it a public grazing ground. Livestock were outlawed from the park in 1830 when it became a recreation spot.

Last June the archeologists started digging in 100 test areas that had not been disturbed. Since then, they have confined their work to the five most fruitful sites. The one-meter-square holes dug each day are filled in every night so people will not tamper with or fall in them.

Mr. Pendery said the artifacts recovered so far included metal ornaments that may have come from horse bridles or military uniforms show that the park was used as an encampment by British soldiers before the Revolution, and the remains of animal carcasses and bits of glass and porcelain show that the park has been used illegally as a dumping ground over the centuries.

Illegal activities continue, "I'll be digging and all of a sudden marijuana smoke will float past me," said James Kences, a volunteer site supervisor with the project. Some artifacts will go on display in the lobby of City Hall this summer.

Park Service Plans to Launch Historic Places Data Bank

By PAMELA D'ANGELO

The National Park Service will inaugurate an on-line data base of its National Register of Historic Places this fall.

The data base will be available to federal and state agencies that routinely check the impact these sites have on federally licensed or funded projects. In addition, these agencies regularly nominate historic buildings, sites and objects for inclusion in the National Register. Agencies now will be able to look in

one place for information on historic properties, said Mary Farrell, a data base manager for the Register.

Register officials warned, however, that agencies should continue to check with state and local governments for this information, since the data base does not yet contain a complete listing.

John Byrne, a data base manager for the Register, said access to the data base will be phased in during the next year to avoid a deluge of subscribers.

Agencies will be given an access code

and a phone number, which will enable them to connect to the Register's Hewlett-Packard 3000 minicomputer free of charge. Users can use their terminals and modems to access the system 24 hours a day, Farrell said.

The data base includes over 50,000 listings of historic buildings, districts, structures, objects and sites that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering and culture. Listings include the Capitol Hill Historic District near the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C., and the Historic Hill District in St. Paul, Minn.

Users will be able to search the data base using a variety of subject categories, including the property name, the federal agency name (for data base subjects owned by the agency), the

architect's name, the geographical location and the architectural style. Also, pending nominations to the Register will be listed as well as those subjects already registered.

The Federal Highway Administration, which participated in the testing of the data base, will use the system when locating new highways, bridges and roads. The Army Corps of Engineers also has expressed an interest in the system, Farrell said. ◀

THE NEW YORK TIMES, TUESDAY, MAY 19, 1987

Massachusetts' Claim to Pirate Ship Is Denied

By MATTHEW L. WALD

Special to The New York Times

BOSTON, May 18 — Massachusetts has no rights to the wreck of a pirate ship found by a private salvager off Cape Cod, and thus cannot claim 25 percent of the treasure or limit the locations searched, a Superior Court judge has ruled.

The ruling, made public today, concerns the *Whydah*, run aground off Cape Cod by Samuel (Black Sam) Bellamy in 1717. According to Barry Clifford, who organized the effort that found the ship, it is the only pirate wreck ever found. The state plans to appeal the decision.

The state, through its Board of Underwater Archeological Resources, had granted a permit to Mr. Clifford's company, Maritime Underwater Surveys Inc., to search a portion of the area where he believed the wreck was

located, and later granted competing salvagers permission to look in nearby areas. The court decision allows Maritime "the right to salvage the wreck exclusively, no matter where its scatter has settled."

Lies Under 5 Feet of Sand

Allan H. Tufankjian, a lawyer for Maritime said, "It means we will not have people breathing down our necks, claim jumpers all around us."

The wreck, which now lies under about 5 feet of shifting sand, consists largely of scattered artifacts. The ship, built for the slave trade, has already yielded thousands of pieces of eight and a large quantity of "gold dust," actually gold chopped up to be divided

among the pirates, as well as cannon and other fragments.

Mr. Clifford would like to use some of the artifacts for a museum of pirate life, and said today that he had had discussions with the Boston Museum of Science and with the Walt Disney Company on such a project.

\$2 Million Spent Already

Mr. Clifford added that his company had closed a deal on Friday through E. F. Hutton that would provide \$2 million in private financing for further recovery efforts. About \$2 million has already been spent, he said.

The decision by Judge James J. Nixon, dated May 12, comes as Congress is considering legislation that

would give the state clear power to regulate maritime archeology.

Last month, the Oceanography subcommittee of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, held hearings on legislation proposed by Charles E. Bennett, Democrat of Florida, that would protect such shipwrecks and give states more power to supervise their salvage.

Speaking in support of the bill, J. Jackson Walter, the president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, charged that an archeologically important wreck in Delaware had been "mutilated" by mishandling. Others have disagreed, and argued that salvagers should be entitled to the rewards in exchange for the risks they run.

"Salvors have always been encouraged to take chances with lives and

property" to recover merchandise, Mr. Clifford said in a telephone interview today. "Whether six months old or 300 years old, it really doesn't make that much difference, except when it is 300 years old, you employ strict archeological methods."

He said that despite the decision, he would continue to work with the state board.

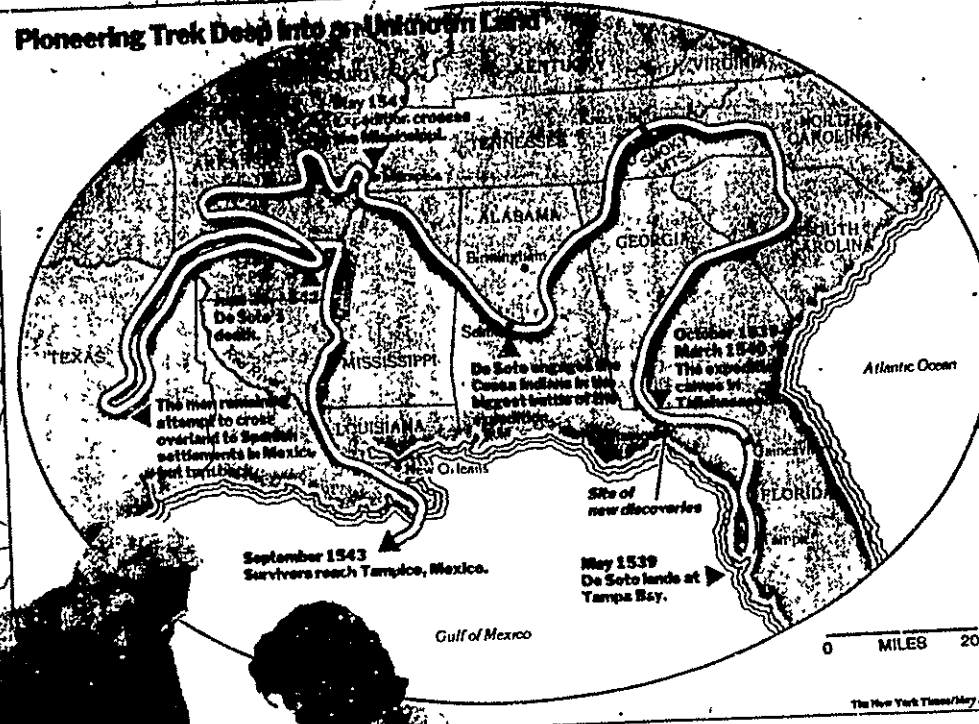
Judge Nixon, in a 38-page decision, rejected the state's argument that a 1953 Federal law, the Submerged Lands Act, which grew out of a dispute in California over offshore drilling, conferred sovereignty. The state law by which Massachusetts sought to regulate the salvage operation, he ruled, conflicted with Federal admiralty law and "violates the maritime principle that the open waters be freely navigable."

De Soto's Trail: Courage and Cruelty Come Alive



Hernando De Soto

Pioneering Trek Deep Into an Unknown Land



What may be the most important site found so far is under study in Florida.

By JOHN NOBLE WILFORD

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Archeologists and historians are finally on the tracks of the first large party of Europeans to plunge deep into the interior of what is now the United States.

They are finding a trail of artifacts and other clues left by Hernando De Soto and his soldiers nearly 450 years ago as they explored from Florida to the Appalachian Mountains and then out to Texas, looking in vain for gold and glimpsing the many aboriginal people whose lives would never again be the same.

What may be the most important De Soto site is emerging here, under great oak and hickory trees dripping with Spanish moss. Digging into the red clay of what once was Apalachee country, archeologists are finding among Indian goods some early 16th-century glass beads and ceramic fragments, iron nails and boot tacks, lead shot and rusted pieces of European armor.

With each turn of the spade and each sifting of soil, archeologists are discovering more reasons to believe they have uncovered part of De Soto's first winter camp. Finding it could be especially revealing, scholars said, because this was where Europeans had their first prolonged contact with Indians of the Southeast, an encounter marked by the bloodshed and disease that portended their eventual downfall.

On a ridge just east of the Florida state capital, the new discovery suggests, probably stood the principal town of the Apalachee, a prosperous farming people described by a De Soto expedition member as "very tall, very valiant and full of spirit." Excavations have been under way since March on six wooded acres amid motels and shopping centers.

This is probably the place where the bold and ruthless De Soto and his soldiers arrived in October 1539 after a 300-mile march from their landing site, presumably at Tampa Bay. A full generation after the voyages of Columbus, nearly 30 years before the founding of the first Spanish settlement at St. Augustine and half a century before Sir Walter Raleigh's ill-fated Roanoke colony on the Carolina coast, De Soto was on the first leg of Spain's most ambitious expedition to explore, conquer, fortify and settle La Florida, the present Southeast United States. When Ponce de León first set foot on the peninsula in the spring of 1513, he called it Pascua Florida, meaning flowery Easter.

De Soto and his expedition of 600 men (and two women) had slogged through swamps and crossed dark rivers, the Withlacoochee, Suwan-



Uncovering Clues in Florida

B. Calvin Jones, at left, and Gary Shapiro, both archeologists, examine artifacts that may have been left by De Soto's expedition at its winter camp in Tallahassee in 1539. Mr. Jones discovered the site in March and excavated many glass beads, pieces of armor and other evidence.

The New York Times/May 19, 1987

Continued on Page C2

Continued From Page C1

ties and Aucilla. When they learned from Indian prisoners that the Apalachee town Anasco was near, one 16th-century account has P. de Soto and his cavalry "galloped their horses across the intervening two leagues, lancing every Indian encountered on both sides of the road."

The Spanish remained at Anasco until the next March, feasting on corn, beans and pumpkins they seized from the Indians. It was an unquiet time. Twice Indians set fire to the Spanish camp. They ambushed soldiers venturing out of camp, killing at least 20. The Spanish were amazed to learn that their chain-mail armor, a tusting burden in the humid climate, was ineffective against the Indians' stone arrowheads.

This may be why B. Calvin Jones, an archeologist for the state of Florida, began finding so many tiny links of the chain mail when he began digging at the site March 11. Mr. Jones has a reputation of having an uncanny nose for buried archaeological treasures, and he had long suspected that a 17th-century Spanish mission might have stood there. As soon as he heard that developers were planning an office complex on the site, he hurriedly dug five test holes.

At first, Mr. Jones said, he was sure he had found the lost Tama mission, but then he began to find pieces of Indian pottery and Spanish beads that predate the mission period. And metal detectors led him to the chain mail. They seemed to be in nearly every trench Mr. Jones dug. The Spanish had perhaps discarded their vulnerable armor when they de-camped.

"We Were All Dancing"

"It took three or four days for it to dawn on me," Mr. Jones said the other day, recalling his realization in April that he had very probably found the winter camp of De Soto. Other archeologists and historians who have examined the site and the artifacts are reaching the same conclusion.

Standing near a trench was Charles Ewen, a University of Florida archeologist who has taken over direction of the excavation. He was holding a tiny glass bead with a blue chevron pattern, found the day before. "We were all dancing for a while yesterday," he said. "So far in Florida, this type bead is only found associated with De Soto."

Workers have also recovered shards of olive jars from the De Soto period and numerous links of chain mail. "We may never get any better proof than that," said Gerald T. Milanich, curator in archeology at the Florida State Museum in Gainesville and leader of a project to reconstruct De Soto's route in Florida.

Jim Miller, the Florida State Archeologist, said: "We believe it's the De Soto camp," adding, "Truth in archeology is usually an accumulation of supporting evidence, and the evidence points to this being one piece of



Associated Press/Mark Foley

Archeologists digging into red clay of what is believed to be Hernando de Soto's first winter camp in Tallahassee, Fla., and, inset, 16th-century links of chain mail found at the site.



Soto for five months."

Meanwhile, Florida officials have held up the office project. George Firestone, the Secretary of State, said he would propose a plan this week to purchase the land, which the developers say is worth \$1.1 million, so it can be preserved as a historic site.

The discovery, if confirmed by further excavation and research, would be the crowning achievement of recent scholarly efforts to determine more precisely the route of the De Soto expedition from 1538 to 1543. The work has already resulted in many revisions in the course as it has been outlined in history books.

Scholars began with a more thorough analysis of the three previously known firsthand narratives of the expedition written by participants. Another document, written by a priest who accompanied De Soto, was found recently in Spain, and it provided new insights into the Indians encountered in South Carolina. Much of the research is coordinated by the Institute for Early Contact Period Studies at the University of Florida

often vague about distances traveled and landmarks along the way, it was still possible to reconstruct much of the trail. "One river crossing may sound just like another," said Dr. Milanich of the Florida State Museum. "But, if the narratives describe a swamp, then a swift river, then an Indian village and then a region of broad roads and good agriculture, those conditions may only fit one locality."

Then it is left to the archeologists to go into the field and look for relics where a camp or Indian village should be. In Florida, where the most concerted effort has been made so far, 167 sites have been examined in the last two years. Of these, Dr. Milanich said, 42 were found to be Spanish, and about half of these bore traces of De Soto's presence.

Re-examination of the narratives, combined with excavations, led Dr. Milanich and Charles Hudson, a professor of anthropology at the University of Georgia, to conclude that De Soto's party landed in May 1539 at Tampa Bay near what is now the

camp at the mouth of the Little Manatee River. Experts have been arguing for years over whether De Soto landed there or to the south, perhaps at Charlotte Harbor.

Digging at an Indian Mound

Excavations at an Indian burial mound in Citrus County, between Tampa and Gainesville, yielded chisels, iron spikes, one piece of armor and hundreds of beads, including several with the same chevron pattern found at the Tallahassee site. Archeologists consider these beads the best markers for De Soto's presence. At the same site, called Tatham Mound, Jeffrey M. Mitchem of the Florida State Museum and Dale Hutchinson of the University of Illinois, reported finding the skeletons of 74 Indians apparently buried at the same time. They are assumed to be victims of an epidemic, possibly of smallpox or other European diseases against which the Indians had no immunity.

Elsewhere on the De Soto trail, however, archeologists have found little evidence of mass burials. Dr. Milanich disputes the idea, advanced by some historians, that European diseases spread so rapidly through the Indian population that they reached inland villages before De Soto did. Dr. Milanich attributed descriptions of abandoned villages not to epidemics but to fear of De Soto, whose reputation as a rapacious warrior did precede him.

Disease took its toll soon enough. Two decades later, another Spanish expedition, which included a few of De Soto's men, revisited some villages of the Coosa Indians in Northeast Alabama and found the whole society in collapse, with towns abandoned and the population decimated. Similar death and change followed throughout the Southeast.

"As a result," Dr. Milanich said, "the Indians encountered by Spanish missionaries in the 17th century and by English traders in the 18th century were very different from those present at the time of De Soto." To learn more about the Indians as they were at the time of their first contact with Europeans is one of the overriding reasons for the new studies.

North and Across the Smokies

After their winter at the Apalachee village, De Soto and his companions headed north in March 1540, traveling through Georgia and the Carolinas and across the Smoky Mountains into Tennessee. Dr. Hudson and his students at the University of Georgia are concentrating their studies on De Soto's route after leaving Florida.

"I feel confident that we have a route for the De Soto expedition that will stand up to the test of time," Dr. Hudson said.

His research shows that De Soto reached farther north than had been thought, crossing the mountains to Chisla, an Indian town on an island in the French Broad River near what is now Newport, Tenn., not far from Knoxville. De Soto expected to find

After all, earlier conquistadors had found riches in the mountains of Peru and Central Mexico.

Seeing that these mountains offered no mineral wealth, De Soto marched southwesterly down the Tennessee River Valley into the lands of the Coosa, in Northern Georgia and Alabama. The Coosa, ancestors of the Creek Indians, had a more politically complex society than the people De Soto had encountered to the south.

It was the Coosa who engaged De Soto in the fiercest battle of the expedition, at a town called Mabila. The Indians surprised the Spanish at night and might have overwhelmed them, if the expedition's horses had not stampeded, alerting the soldiers. Dr. Hudson's revised route places Mabila near Selma, Ala., considerably north of earlier proposed locations. But he conceded that archeologists have yet to find any tell-tale relics where the town should be.

Despite serious losses, the expedition continued west in Northern Mississippi and in May 1541 came upon the Mississippi River, which De Soto called Rio Grande. Where the ex-

Finding a glass bead with a blue chevron pattern on it had the scientists dancing.

pedition built rafts and crossed the river has long been disputed. From recent evidence, Dr. Hudson said, "a strong case has emerged for a crossing in Northern Mississippi just a few miles south of Memphis."

De Soto traveled from hill to hill in Arkansas, still looking for gold. At the same time, the Coronado expedition, begun in 1540, was conducting a similar gold seeking survey in the Southwest. After going as far as Oklahoma, a disappointed De Soto turned back to the Mississippi River, where he died of a fever on June 20, 1542.

The expedition, under Luis de Moscoso, then tried to achieve its other objective, the establishment of an overland route linking La Florida with Mexico, then called New Spain. The arid plains of Texas proved inhospitable, so the Spanish returned to the Mississippi, built boats and floated down to the Gulf of Mexico in the summer of 1543. In September, the 311 survivors reached a Spanish settlement on the coast of Mexico, ending a long, frustrating journey.

In terms of the contract drawn up between the King of Spain and De Soto, the expedition was a failure. "They never were able to establish an overland route to Mexico or forts or settlements," Dr. Milanich said. "They never found any great wealth. If there had been gold in the Southwest, the Spanish would have made a bigger effort to settle, and surely

'Grave' matters attract history buffs

By JAMES BERZOK

Motorists along South Middlebush Road in Franklin Township who from time to time notice people pattering around in an old graveyard should not fret.

They are not grave robbers, but historical researchers studying the first settlers of the Central New Jersey region.

Charles Bello and Richard Grubb, who run a historical consulting firm in Highland Park, have embarked on a project to map and inventory the 15th Century graveyard at the Wyckoff House, the former residence of a prominent Dutch farming family now maintained by the Meadows Foundation.

"It's never been recorded how the Dutch buried the dead. Burial reflects historical, ethnic and sociological patterns, but it's because death was treated as a mundane experience that their attitudes about it were never record-

ed," Bello said. "The type of grave marker can tell a great deal about an ordinary person.

"For the common farmer, what is written on the tombstone is often the only thing we have to go by," he added. "And if it tells us anything that we didn't know before, it's worth it."

Bello, Grubb and Robert Hayton, caretaker of the Wyckoff House, are conducting the research on their own time, spurred by their collective interest in Central Jersey's Dutch colonists. Some 300 headstone inscriptions and the exact location of the graves are to be logged for the first time.

The essence of the project is to map and inventory the graves. It centers on understanding the burial grounds as a reflection of human behavior," Bello said. "We know that others outside the Wyckoff family were buried there. Was any preferential treatment given to those outsiders? If so, what can that tell us about their society? These are some of the questions



At the South Middlebush graveyard are, from left, Charles Bello, Princeton archeologist, Richard Grubb, New Brunswick historian, and Bob Hayton of Franklin Township, caretaker of the Wyckoff house, on whose grounds the cemetery is located

we'd hope to answer."

Relatively little is known about the Dutch colonial lifestyle. While researchers have examined aspects of their day-to-day lives, few, if any, have studied their attitudes towards death, Bello said.

Grubb, the group's historian, said this project could establish more concrete genealogical connections between those buried in the cemetery and recorded information on the greater colonial Dutch population of the region.

He said the original Wyckoff farmhouse was built around 1709 after Dutch families migrated to the area from Brooklyn. The burial ground, some 500 feet from the house, was used primarily for the families of John and Peter Wyckoff, but neighbors also were interred there.

The cemetery was decded to the township in 1811 and remained in use until the late 19th century, Grubb added, noting the latest tombstone is from the 1890s.

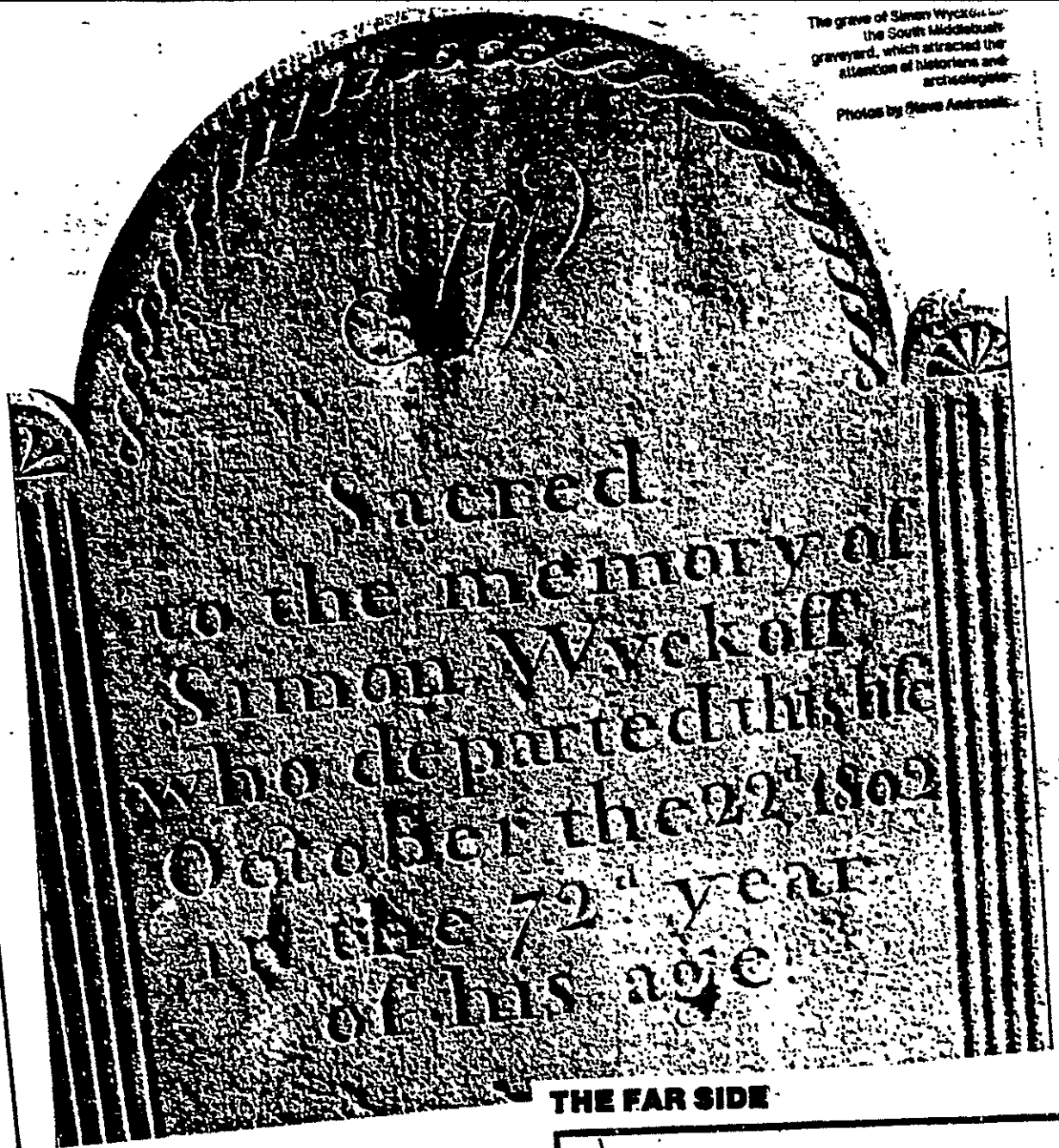
The Wyckoff cemetery is one of three Bello and Grubb are studying in the New Brunswick area. "We hope we can tease out significant trends and correlations from the study, but we're only in the inductive stage right now," Bello explained.

"These are real historical resources. The stones are weathering and if nothing is done it will come to a point where we will not be able to read the inscriptions any longer," he noted. "The real value of all of this is that we're only now gathering the data."

"It wasn't until the 19th Century that documentation of the Dutch society and culture became available," Grubb added.

The cemetery study is being conducted in conjunction with an archaeological dig closer to the house. The researchers believe a number of significant artifacts can be unearthed to aid in documenting Dutch colonial life.

The grave of Simon Wyckoff in the South Middlebury graveyard, which attracted the attention of historians and archaeologists.
Photos by Steve Andrzejak.



Sacred
to the memory of
SIMON WYCKOFF
who departed this life
October the 22^d 1802
in the 72^d year
of his age

THE FAR SIDE

28



5-5

Early archaeologists

THE FAR SIDE

Gary Larson



"Well, well — another blond hawk —
Conducting a little more 'research'
with that Jane Goodall tramp?"



"Listen ... I'm fed up with this 'weeding out the sick and
the old' business ... I want something in its prime."

**PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF NEW YORK CITY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Membership in PANYC is open to any professional archaeologist who subscribes to the purpose of the organization and who meets the following criteria for Education, Training and Professional Activity:

- a. Applicants must have been awarded an advanced degree, such as 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 other germane discipline with a specialization in archaeology.
- b. Applicants must have had at least six weeks of professionally supervised archaeological field training and at least four weeks of supervised laboratory analysis and/or curating experience. Requirements for both field and laboratory experience will be considered to have been met be attendance at an archaeological field school which meets the guidelines set forth by the Society of Professional Archaeologists.
- c. Applicants must demonstrate professional experience in one or more areas of archaeological activity, such as: 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, review of archaeological proposals and/or cultural resource management studies for public agencies, or teaching with an emphasis on archaeological topics. Applicants meeting the education and training criteria and having other professional interests related to archaeology will be considered on a case by case basis.
- d. All prospective applicants must be approved by a majority of members present at a regularly scheduled meeting of the general membership. All members receive the Newsletter and other PANYC publications.

The 1986 membership dues are \$12. Nonmember subscriptions to the Newsletter are \$6.00. If you are interested in applying for membership in PANYC or in subscribing as a nonmember to the PANYC Newsletter, complete the below form and mail it to: Daniel Pagano 315 Ave.C Apt.1-A

New York, N.Y. 10009 (212) 553-1134

Name _____

Address (Business) _____

Please indicate preferred mailing address.

Telephone (_____) _____

(Home) _____
 Telephone (_____) _____

Are you a member of the New York Archaeological Council? _____
 or of the Society of Professional Archaeologists? _____

Please attach Curriculum vitae or resume.