

A.S.C. NEWS

Issue No. 265

Newsletter of the Archaeological Society of Connecticut

April 2024

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April 10, 2024

Dear Members,

I hope that you are all enjoying this beautiful spring weather as it seems that winter is finally behind us. I am also very pleased to announce that our Spring Meeting is just around the corner. We will hold the meeting on May 11th, from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm, at the Mansfield Public Library, located along Warrenton Road (Route 89) in Mansfield. Admission to the meeting will be \$15 for non-ASC members, \$10 for ASC or FOSA members, and \$8 for students. This year we will have lectures on a range of subjects, including obsidian exchange networks within Late Classic Mayan societies, European Bronze Age mortuary customs as indicated from excavations in Hungary, recent excavations of a Terminal Archaic dwelling structure in central Connecticut, Ground Penetrating Radar studies of an 19th century cemetery in western Connecticut, and the LiDAR revolution of geomorphology studies of New England.

Following the presentations, there will also be a guided geologic tour of the surficial features evident within the Bradley-Buchanan woods, led by Dr. Will Ouimet, Associate Professor of Earth Sciences at the University of Connecticut. Please look for the Spring Meeting Program appended to this newsletter with detailed information about the meeting, presenters, and abstracts. We hope to see you all there!

In other ASC news, the 2023 *Bulletin of the Archaeological Society of Connecticut* has reached the printing stage. We will distribute copies at the annual Spring Meeting to all members, and if you can't join us, we will mail your copy in May. As in past years, we will also have extra copies of this issue and past issues of the *Bulletin* and other ASC publications available for purchase at the Spring meeting.

The Executive Board would also like to congratulate Ms. Katherine Harding, who we awarded the Brian Jones Grant. Katherine is a graduate of the Southern Connecticut State University Anthropology

Department, and her research will focus on a zooarchaeological analysis of faunal remains recovered from the Henry Whitfield House over the past several seasons of excavations by Southern. Please join me in congratulating Katherine!

Finally, please take a few minutes to peruse the remainder of the newsletter, there are several interesting research articles included in this edition! Members may also be interested in the field school opportunities in our region, which we have also included in this newsletter. Please also keep an eye out for the archaeological conferences this upcoming Fall season, when

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we will be inundated with regional archaeological conferences in southern New England! The Connecticut Archaeology Fair will be held on October 5th. The Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology annual meeting will be in New Haven this year and be held on October 17th through the 20th. Finally, the Eastern States Archaeological Federation annual meeting will be held in Newport this year on November 7th through the 10th. Please also keep an eye out for the Institute for American Indian Studies annual roundtable event, which is also held in the Fall.

ASC members who have been conducting archaeological research should consider submitting an article to the Editor of the *Bulletin*, Sarah Sportman, electronically at sarah.sportman@uconn.edu.

While the 2023 issue is out, now is a good time to be planning your 2024 submissions. Members should also consider submitting their active research proposals for the Brian D. Jones Research grant. Submissions for the grant are rolling, and funded on a case-by-case basis.

On behalf of the ASC Board of Directors, we hope that you enjoy this newsletter. We cannot wait to meet with you all on May 11th for our annual meeting!

David Leslie
President

**NEWS FROM THE
OFFICE OF STATE
ARCHAEOLOGY**

Dear ASC Members,

Spring is sprung (sort of!). We've already been out in the field a few times, completing a magnetometry survey at Bolton Heritage Farm at Rochambeau Camp #5, and on several walkovers. In April, we have a walkover planned at the pre-contact Grannis Island Site in New Haven, where UConn student Cassie Aimetti is organizing a vibracoring project to learn more about the site formation processes and the impacts of sea level rise on the landform.

We accomplished a lot in the lab this winter, and got almost all of the material collected in the field 2023 processed. We've been learning about artifact conservation and working on re-sorting the large collections from the Hollister Site by artifact type to facilitate analyses. When we're out at the Hollister Site in South Glastonbury this May and June, we're going to try a new strategy: each Friday we'll have a lab day, to better stay on top of the labwork and to begin a large project to cross-mend ceramics and other materials from the 2016-2019 and 2021-2023 field seasons at the site. OSA and FOSA will also be working with Dr. Kevin McBride and the UConn archaeological field school at Hollister, and we hope this plan will give the students some valuable laboratory experience to supplement what they learn in the field.

In May we'll be working with RHAM middle school in Hebron, running another excavation day for the students and on June 17th, OSA and FOSA will be at the town of Hebron's Juneteenth celebration

with a table about the archaeological work at the Peters Site. We don't yet have the rest of the field season completely planned out, but we will hold an adult field school through the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History in the second week of August, and we'll do our annual day of excavations at the Thomas Lee House in East Lyme in mid-August. We'll also be out at Putnam State Park in Redding in early September to work on a small survey focused on a previously unexplored part of the Revolutionary War encampment. If you are interested in getting involved with the fieldwork and public archaeology projects across the state, the best way to do that is to join FOSA, which organizes all of our volunteers.

This year, OSA and FOSA are working on a couple of exhibits with different groups across the state. We'll be meeting with the folks at Hammonasset Beach State Park to work on an exhibit that incorporates past materials excavated from the park, we're working with Bolton Heritage Farm on a small exhibit about the Revolutionary War-era Rochambeau encampment on that property, and with the Historical Society of Glastonbury to put together an exhibit on the Hollister Site.

The iCRV Radio show, the Archaeology of Connecticut, is still going strong. After a brief winter hiatus, the March and April episodes focused on archaeology in the New Haven area. In March we hosted Dr. Bill Farley (SCSU), Dr. Julia Giblin (Quinnipiac University), Paul Wegner (Institute for American Indian Studies), and historian and archaeologist Jim

Powers (Quinnipiac Dawnland Museum, Dudley Farm) to talk about their Quinnipiac River Valley Cultural Heritage Project. In April, we were joined by archaeologist and UConn Anthropology graduate student Brianna Rae Zoto for a discussion of our ongoing work with the Grannis Island collection, which is housed at OSA. If you missed a past show and want to catch up, they are all archived on the FOSA website at https://www.fosa-ct.org/iCRV_Slideshow_1.htm.

We're looking forward to an interesting spring and summer! I hope we get to see many of you in at the ASC and FOSA annual meetings this spring or perhaps in the field!

Best,

*Sarah Sportman
State Archaeologist*



Happy Spring, fellow ASC members!

As you read this, FOSA will have completed our annual meeting. For whatever reasons, this year it was tough finding an available speaker for various dates but we were saved by our own Nick Bellantoni, State Archaeologist Emeritus who is always a wonderful speaker and draws a great crowd! He has a new book out, "Hiking Ruins of Southern New England", and was scheduled to speak about it at our meeting. I hope some of you were in attendance. Our website at www.fosa-ct.org will have some photos and a recap posted for anyone who is interested.

Since the last newsletter, FOSA members continue to be very active at UCONN both in the lab cleaning, identifying and cataloging artifacts and, preparing the new location that has been allocated to the OSA. Scott Brady and volunteers have been working hard to prep the building to house all of the collections.

FOSA Vice President, Tom Ford, completed teaching his four-week Zoom Class (which turned into five weeks!): "Pre Clovis - A Critical Review". It was well-received and a great activity to keep us engaged through the winter. Tom always does a wonderful job creating and presenting educational opportunities for our membership.

We are also ready to help, as needed, with plans for CNEHA and ESAF later this year and are in the very early stages of starting to plan a project for the America 250 celebration in 2026.

Next on our agenda is field work, ready to start in May. We're cleaning our screens and doing deep knee bends so we'll be ready!

*Respectfully,
Glenda M. Rose*

Unearthing History: The Discovery of a 12,500 year old Paleo-Indian Site Along the Farmington River in Avon, CT

Photo provided by Archaeological and Historical Services, Storrs CT



2024 series sponsored by a grant from



7:00 pm EST via Zoom
Free to attend.

Register at www.avonctlibrary.info

MARCH 7

The History of Native American Archaeology in Connecticut, presented by Nicholas Bellantoni, emeritus state archaeologist with the UCONN State Museum of Natural History and adjunct associate research professor in the Department of Anthropology. He will take the audience through the history of archaeology in CT bringing it up to present day with new discoveries and the process during the work at the Brian D. Jones Site.

APRIL 11

Bioarchaeology in North America: Ethics, Issues and Where the Field Stands in 2024, presented by Alex Garcia-Putnam, PhD, University of New Hampshire. He will talk about the field, basics of bioarchaeology, the lack of skeletal remains found in the United States and some of the reasons for, and implications of, that lack of data.

MAY 9

Foraging in the Paleoindian Period: A Macrobotanical Analysis at the Brian D. Jones Site in Avon, CT (tentative title), presented by Katharine Reinhart, Project Archaeologist/Botanical Analyst, Archaeological and Historical Services, Inc, Storrs, CT. She will focus on the analysis of plant evidence from the site to learn what they ate and where they found it.

SEPT. (tbd)

Microscopic Evidence for the Manufacture and Use of Stone Artifacts at the Brian D. Jones Site, presented by G. Logan Miller, Assoc. Prof. Anthropology, Illinois State University.

Watch the webinars from the 2021-2023 series on the Avon Library's YouTube Channel:
www.youtube.com/user/afplct

OCT. (tbd)

Update on the Brian D. Jones site in Avon, CT since discovery in 2019 presented by the team at Archaeological and Historical Services, Storrs, CT. October is Archaeology Month in Connecticut, so this presentation will be 90 minutes with time after for Q&A.

In partnership with



CALL FOR PAPERS
Council for Northeast Historical
Archaeology Annual Meeting

New Haven, Connecticut
October 17-20, 2024
Contested Landscapes



The Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology 2024 annual meeting will be hosted by the Connecticut Chapter on October 17-20, at the Omni hotel in New Haven, Connecticut. This year's theme "Contested Landscapes" reflects the historical processes that have shaped the modern city of New Haven.

Ancestral homelands of the Quinnipiac, New Haven was settled as a Puritan colony in the 17th-century and became one of the first planned cities in America. As a colonial settlement, New Haven developed into a vital New England port city and center of education, invention, and industry, but remained a contested landscape. The city was occupied by British troops during the Revolutionary War, enmeshed in the anti-slavery movement with the 1839 Amistad trial, and was home to 19th- and 20th - century immigration and labor struggles. In more recent times, New Haven has been a battleground for new and competing visions of urban space and identity, as the city's different communities grapple with New Haven's history to create and shape new places.

In this spirit, The CNEHA 2024 Conference invites sessions, papers, and posters that explore notions of landscape across the Northeast, and which address the myriad perspectives and innovative methods that archaeologists employ to understand the complexities of landscapes as active physical and cultural spaces. Topics could include:

- The ways people shape landscapes and are shaped by them.
- The intersection of landscape and memory, or landscape and identity.
- The ways contemporary landscapes embody or obscure histories.
- Environmental agency – ecological responses to cultural change and vice versa.
- Innovative use of archaeological methods to study landscapes – remote sensing (GPR, magnetometry, LiDAR, etc.); environmental archaeology – faunal, botanical, pollen, phytoliths, DNA, isotopes, etc.
- Landscapes of inequality (i.e., highways, redlining, reservations, company towns, plantations, colonial settlements, etc.).

Organized paper sessions, panel discussions, individual papers, and posters on these themes and subjects, as well as all other aspects of historical archaeology in the Northeast, are welcome. Organized session or panel discussion proposals of no more than 250 words should describe the theme of the session and the anticipated number of paper/panelists. Paper abstracts should be no more than 150 words and clearly describe the purpose of the research, the significance of the work, and a summary of the results. Papers are limited to 20 minutes and will be followed by a short Q&A period at the conclusion of each session. All organized session/panel discussion must be submitted by July 19, 2024 and all paper/poster abstracts must be submitted by August 9, 2024.

All lead authors(s) must be current members of CNEHA and must register for the conference (conference registration will open in May of 2024). Session/panel abstracts and paper/poster abstracts can be emailed to Sarah Sportman at sarah.sportman@uconn.edu. Additional conference information regarding registration, venue, banquet, tours, book room, etc. will be available on the CNEHA website (cneha.org).

CNEHA 2024
New Haven, Connecticut
Session, Panel, or Paper Abstract Submission Form

Author Name(s): _____

Affiliation(s): _____

Address of lead author: _____

City/ State/Province: _____

Zip/Postal Code: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Session/Paper/Poster Title:

Is your presentation part of an organized session? If so, enter the name(s) of the organizer(s) and contact information:

Please check this box if you wish to participate in the student paper competition.

Please include your paper/session abstract below, or attach it to this form.



**Eastern States Archaeological Federation
91st Annual Meeting
November 7-10, 2024
Newport, Rhode Island**



Conference Details

Location: Salve Regina University
100 Ochre Point Avenue
Newport, RI 02840

Room Rates: We have a block of rooms available at the Wyndham Newport at the following rates:
Thursday 11/7/24 @ \$159 plus 13% tax
Friday 11/8 @ \$229 plus 13% tax
Saturday 11/9 @ \$279 plus 13% tax

Call the hotel direct at (401) 324-6200. Reservations must be made by October 6 to qualify for these rates. Mention ESAF Annual Meeting to guarantee your rate.

Deadlines:

Abstract Submissions, Registration Fees, and Membership Dues for Presenters Due:
AUGUST 30, 2024

Registration for Non-Presenters:
OCTOBER 31, 2024

Conference Fees (in US Dollars):
Registration: \$45
Student Registration \$20

Saturday Banquet (Italian Buffet w/vegetarian options): \$50 per person

Banquet Speaker:
TBA

Registration & Abstract Submission Forms:
[Paper Submission](#)

Register by Paypal or by check with mail-in registration form at the [ESAF website](#).

Call for Papers

Abstracts (<150 words) are invited for papers and posters on topics related to the archaeology of eastern North America.

Proposals for organized thematic sessions are also welcome. Individual papers will be placed in general sessions. Posters will be centralized with a designated presentation session.

Primary authors must be members of ESAF for 2024. One paper per primary author. There is no limit on the number of junior co-authorships.

Student presenter scholarships are available for both podium and poster participants. Students must be currently enrolled and register for the conference by the deadline left. Registration and membership fees will be reimbursed at sign-in. Student authors may compete for The Student Paper Prize. See the ESAF website for rules and application.

Format:

The Annual Meeting will be presented in a hybrid format allowing both in-person and remote presentation and participation over Zoom. Remote presentations must be pre-recorded. See the ESAF website for format and submission. In-person papers will be presented live.

Submit Thematic Session Proposals and Questions about Abstracts to:
Heather Rockwell, Program Chair
(heather.rockwell@salve.edu)

For General Inquiries, Please Contact:
Zac Singer, ESAF President
(Zachary.Singer@Maryland.Gov)

Focus on FIELD SCHOOLS

Some of the most important archaeological research being done in Connecticut and surrounding states today is in the form of summer field schools sponsored by the State Archaeologist, several universities, Native American tribal governments and other organizations, while additionally training the next generation of archaeologists. In the following column, a feature in each April issue of ASC News, the field school directors describe their programs for the coming year.

Note: These field school schedules were current as of press time. Be sure to contact the individual field school organizer before making any plans to attend.

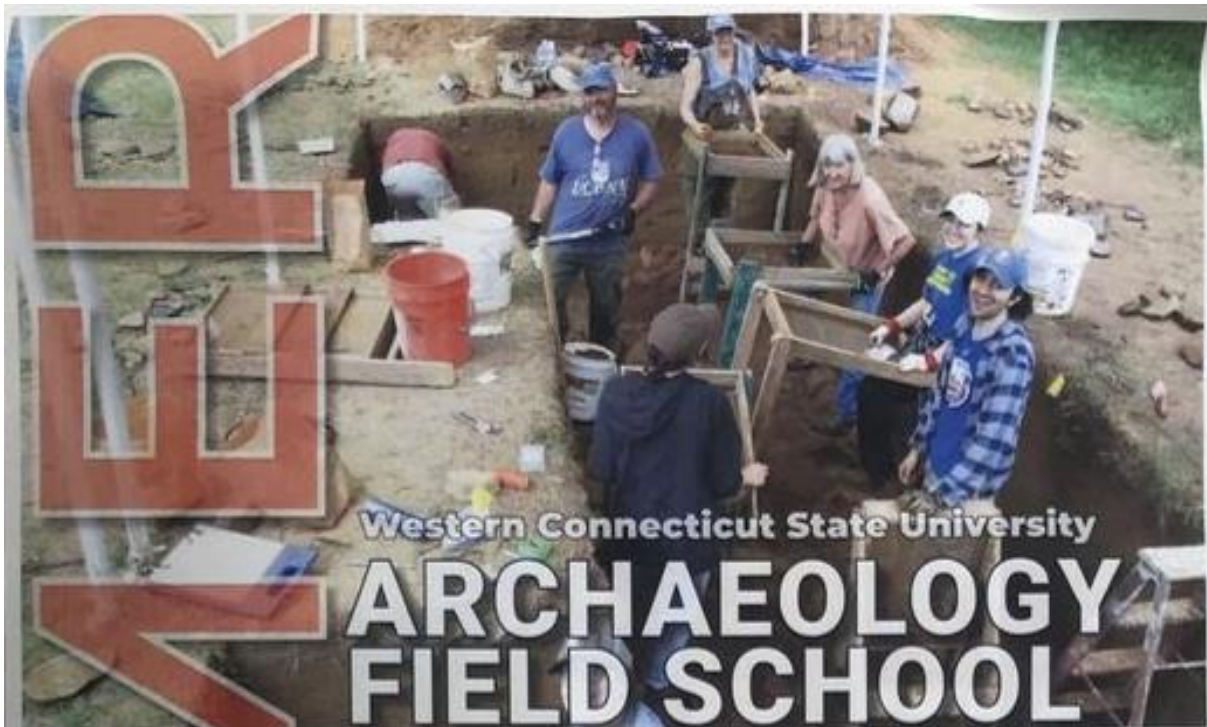
See flyers on following pages for:

- Southern CT State University Field School, May 20-July 19
- Western CT State University Field School, dates TBD
- UConn Field School in Contact Period Domestic & Battlefield Archaeology, May 20-June 21.
- Mohegan Archaeological Field School, June 24-July 26.
- UMass Amherst, May 21-July 3
- SCRAP (NH) Archaeological Field School, June 17-July 12
- Strawberry Banke, June 3-7



SCSU Archaeology Field School

ANT 305 Section 2
May 20th – July 19th
Flexible Schedules Offered, 3-6 Credits
contact Dr. Farley
farleyw1@southernct.edu



Western Connecticut State University

ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD SCHOOL

*Discover Native American History in Connecticut
Sign Up for ANT 229 Archaeology Summer Field School*

Participate in the excavation of a significant multi-component precontact site in Litchfield County, dating to the Late Archaic period (4000-2000 BC) and the Woodland period (700 BC-550 AD).

Learn how to participate in excavation at a high level, using professional field methods. Meet experts working from all over Connecticut and neighboring states. No experience is necessary—just a commitment to following directions and being a team player.

All equipment is provided. We'll have access to a tent to protect from sunlight and inclement weather.



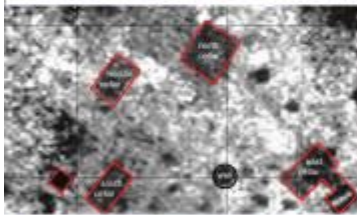
ANT 229 Archaeology Field School
Summer Session I, six credits
Monday – Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Contact Professor Faline Schneiderman
(schneidermanf@wcsu.edu) if you are interested
or have any questions.

UConn Field School in Contact Period Domestic & Battlefield Archaeology

May 20, 2024 through June 21, 2024



The University of Connecticut Department of Anthropology and the Connecticut Office of State Archeology will offer a field school in Contact Period & Battlefield Archaeology focused on the **John Hollister site in Glastonbury, CT.**

The Hollister site was occupied by English and Native people between 1651 – 1711 and consists of several domestic structures that have yielded thousands of seventeenth-century Euro-American and Native artifacts and food remains. Dozens of impacted musket balls were also recovered from metal detector surveys suggesting the settlement may have been attacked during King Phillip's War (1675-1676).

The **5-week, 4-credit field school** will include training in:

- Archaeological field survey and excavation
- Artifact conservation
- Cataloging
- Identification and analysis of 17th Century Euro-American and Indigenous material culture
- Research and field methods specific to battlefield archaeology

Fees: The five-week program will cost \$3,024.

In addition, there is a \$75 lab fee, payable on the first day of class.

Application and Registration: All students must fill out an application in order to be considered for the field school and receive a permission number so that they can register. **Contact Dr. Kevin McBride (kevin.mcbride@uconn.edu)** via e-mail for an application and more information on the field school.

For information on the registration process, go to www.summersession.uconn.edu.

Housing: University housing and meal plans are available, as well as some other options. Contact Res Life at 860-486-2926 for a summer housing application or go to this website to learn more: <http://www.reslife.uconn.edu/>

Mohegan Archaeological Field School 2024

June 24 - July 26

ANTH 149-FS



Tufts
UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Anthropology

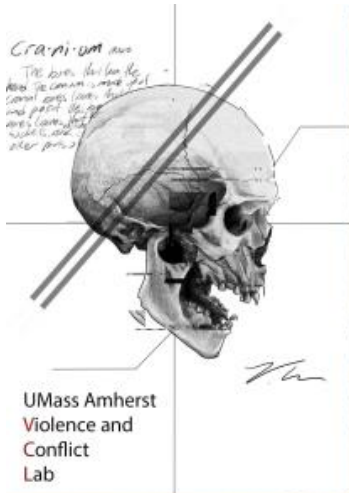


The Mohegan archaeological field school teaches archaeology using an innovative collaborative approach. Students learn archaeological method and theory while surveying and excavating colonial-era sites on the Mohegan Reservation in Uncasville, Connecticut. The Mohegan field school operates as an equal partnership between the Mohegan Tribe and Tufts Anthropology. The project is designed to respect the sensitivities, interests, and needs of the Mohegan Tribe while conducting rigorous archaeological research. The field school brings together students and staff of diverse backgrounds to learn about colonial history, Mohegan history and heritage, the history of North American archaeology, and—not least important—the often-troubled relationship between archaeologists and Indigenous communities. While taking the field

school, students stay on the Connecticut College campus.

The course is conducted as an in-person intensive in Connecticut. The course hours are approximately 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday-Friday. Transportation from dormitories to field sites and any course related field trips will be provided. Combination of classroom learning via lectures, speakers, readings, etc. and field learning, including daily fieldwork.

Students interested in enrolling should complete this application: <https://forms.gle/bdPdDuxV1jsQswv37> The program will begin reviewing applications on March 1 and will continue accepting applications until the program is full. Feel free to contact Dr. Craig Cipolla with any questions (Craig.Cipolla@tufts.edu).



**Applications due
by April 12, 2024**



**University of Massachusetts Amherst
FIELD AND LABORATORY METHODS
IN BIOARCHAEOLOGY AND FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGY
May 21 – July 3, 2024**



Course Description:

This course introduces students to the role of the biological anthropologist, archaeologist, and forensic scientist in excavations of human remains. This field school is particularly unique because we work in collaboration with the UMass Chan Medical School's Division of Translational Anatomy and Anatomical Gift Program. Students will also receive lectures from experts in political science, federal Indian law, criminal law, historical archaeology, the US State Department, and law enforcement.

For more information

Visit:

<https://www.umass.edu/anthro/>

OR:

Email – bioarch@anthro.umass.edu

SCRAP Archaeological Field School

JUNE 17 – JULY 12, 2024

The 2024 NH State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program (SCRAP) archaeology field school is structured in two sessions, each two weeks long (June 17 – June 28 and July 1 – July 12). Fieldwork will take place daily on weekdays from 8 AM to 4 PM. Attendance on Thursday, July 4 will be optional due to the holiday.

Sessions 1 and 2 will take place at Mollidgewock State Park in the town of Errol, NH. Field school participants will engage in excavation on a terrace of the Androscoggin River containing pre-contact Native American deposits focusing on an intact feature and an artifact concentration identified during previous field investigations. Students will document specific activity areas that are associated with the site. Data recovery techniques, artifact identification, and excavation documentation skills will be taught. Primitive camping (i.e., no showers or flush toilets) is available at the Mollidgewock State Park campground; however, participants must make their own arrangements by visiting the state park's facility reservation website <https://newhampshirestateparks.reserveamerica.com/>.

Individuals interested in participating should complete the program form found on the back of this flyer and include a brief statement describing their reasons for wanting to participate in the field school. There is a \$50 participation fee to help the program defray costs of supplies and instructional materials. Successful participation at the field school will earn credit toward SCRAP certification for Survey and/or Excavation Technician status. Please note that participation involves somewhat arduous tasks that require the ability to spend a great deal of time routinely standing, bending, crouching, kneeling, lifting, and walking in highly variable weather conditions.

Fieldwork and instruction will be directed by Mark Doperalski, an archaeologist with the NH Division of Historical Resources. The field school will conform to standards for archaeology set by the National Park Service.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mark Doperalski
NH State Archaeologist
603-271-6433
mark.w.doperalski@dncr.nh.gov





June 3-7, 2024, 10 AM - 4 PM

Join the Strawberry Banke Archaeologist for a hands-on introduction to professional archaeological lab methods. Learn about ceramic technology and identification, the history of glass bottles, and the significance of “small finds.” Then, see how archaeological research provides a foundation for museum interpretation. This workshop is intended for students majoring in history, anthropology, museum studies, or related disciplines. Ages 16 and up. Members \$200; Nonmembers \$250.

CURRENT RESEARCH

New Archaeological Investigations of the Revolutionary War-Era Rochambeau Camp #5, Bolton, Connecticut

Sarah Sportman, Office of State Archaeology

In 2023 the Connecticut Office of State Archaeology (OSA) directed a new archaeological investigation of the 1781 Rochambeau Camp #5, in Bolton, Connecticut, in collaboration with the Connecticut State Library’s Digging into History Program for high school students from Connecticut and France. The 2023 work was the follow-up to the 2019 program that brought Connecticut high school students to Seicheprey, France, where they worked with French students to clear and restore a section of WWI-era trenches once occupied by Connecticut soldiers. This time, the goal was to find an archaeological site in Connecticut with a French connection, where the students could learn about archaeology, as well as the historical relationship between the U.S. and France. In collaboration with the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office (CTSHPO) and the town, we settled on Camp #5 in Bolton.

Camp #5 is one of several stops along what is today known as the Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route. The route marks the path taken by allied French Expeditionary forces under the command of Jean-Baptiste Donatien de Vimeur, comte de Rochambeau, in 1781 as they moved from Newport, RI, across Connecticut to Phillipsburg, NY, to meet up with the Continental Army. From there, the combined French and Continental forces continued south to Virginia, where they defeated the British at the Battle of Yorktown, a decisive victory in the American fight for independence.

The French Expeditionary Forces crossed Connecticut in four divisions, marching one day apart. Most of the daily marches were about 15 miles, and the troops then set up camp each night at pre-determined locations along the route. Each succeeding division stayed at the same campsite, so each camp along the route was occupied for four days. The French army camped at Bolton between June 21 and 25, 1781. Each night the artillery detachment camped on the south side of Bolton Center Road, while the Infantry camped at what is today Bolton Heritage Farm, on the north side. The general layout of the camp is depicted on a map from the journal of Louis-Alexandre Berthier, who served in the French Expeditionary Corps (Figure 1).

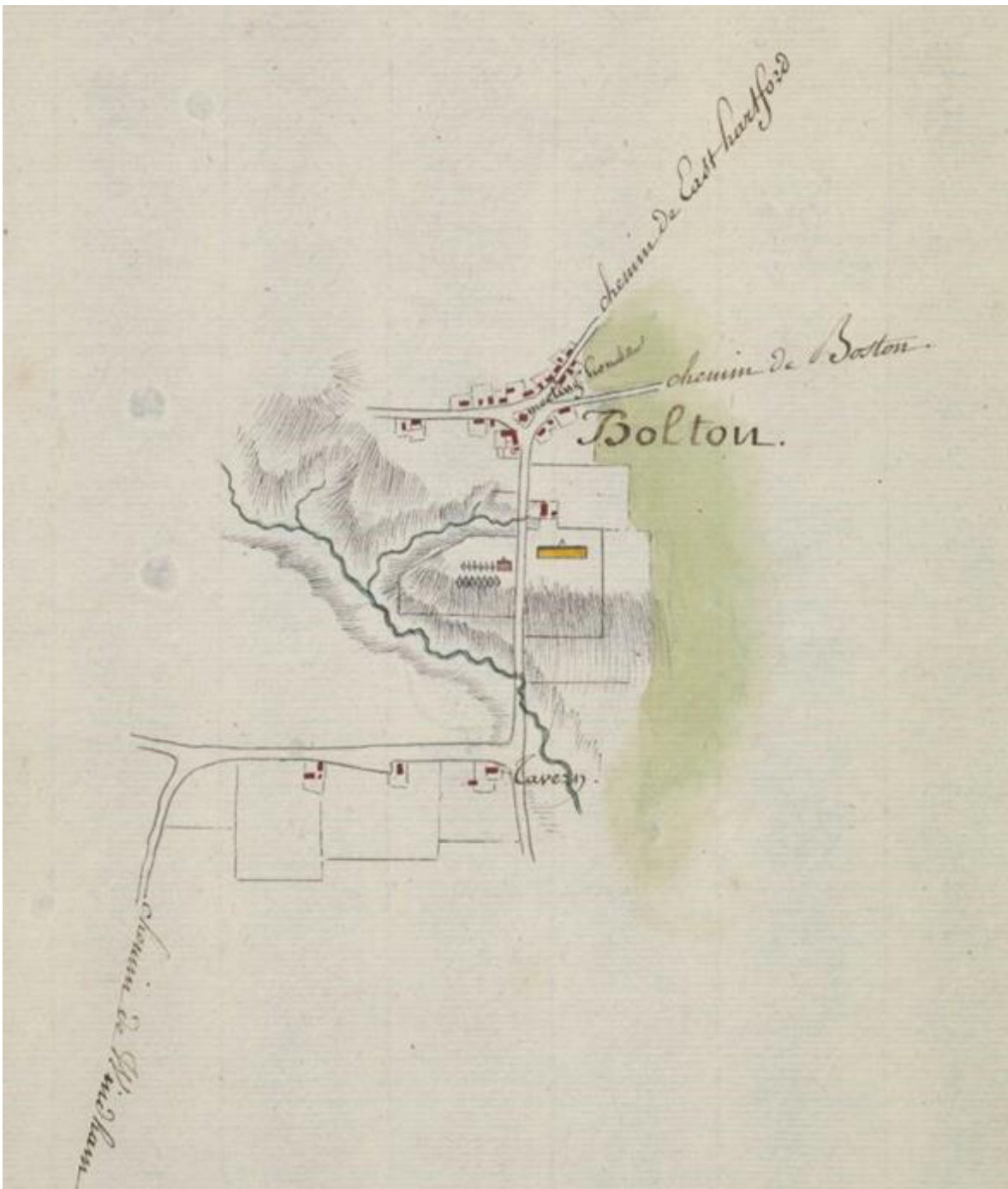


Figure 1. Map of Camp #5, Bolton, CT from the journal of Louis-Alexandre Berthier.

The Camp #5 infantry camp site is located on what is today Bolton Heritage Farm in the town of Bolton, Connecticut. The property is a designated State Archaeological Preserve and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The fields comprising the site were used for agricultural crops and pasture and have never been developed, so they retain much of the 18th-century landscape and character. To lay the groundwork for the students' project in July of 2023, OSA worked with several collaborators to locate a portion of the site where limited, targeted excavations had the potential to provide new information about the site.

Our work built upon previous research at Camp #5 that was carried out by PAST, Inc. and Keegans Associates, LLC in 1998 (Harper et. al 1999). In 1998, the State of Connecticut sponsored research to identify the route and campsites of the French army in Connecticut. The work included historical research, mapping, and archaeological investigations to confirm, define, and evaluate the integrity of eight of the campsites, including Camp #5 in Bolton. This project verified the location of Camp #5 and included a systematic metal-detecting survey of the site to search for material culture associated with the 18th-century French troops. The researchers verified the location of the French infantry camp on what is now Bolton Heritage Farm, and recovered over 50 objects likely related to the encampment, including musket balls, regimental buttons, 18th-century coins, and draught animal hardware (Harper et al. 1999). Unfortunately, all data regarding the specific locations of the recovered artifacts has apparently been lost, so we knew that artifacts were found across the site, but we had no information about their spatial distribution.

In preparation for the most recent work at the site, OSA coordinated with several collaborators to carry out metal-detecting and geophysical surveys of the property. Because it is a State Archaeological Preserve, our goal was minimal ground disturbance. First, we worked with battlefield archaeologist Dr. Kevin McBride (UConn) to arrange an intensive metal detector survey of the previously identified encampment area at Bolton Heritage Farm. This work was carried out to identify concentrations of late 18th-century and/or military artifacts to help guide the locations of subsurface archaeological testing and geophysical survey. This time, with the benefits of modern technology and detailed record keeping, the locations of all recovered artifacts were recorded with a hand-held GPS device, to facilitate mapping of artifact distributions across the site. Following the metal detector survey, OSA worked with remote sensing specialist Dr. David Leslie of Heritage Consultants, LLC, and TerraSearch Geophysical, LLC, to carry out ground-penetrating radar (GPR) and magnetometry surveys of the encampment area (Figure 2). These non-invasive geophysical techniques provide information about potential buried cultural features, like hearths, that may be related to the encampment.



Figure 2. Heritage Consultants, LLC, staff member collecting ground-penetrating data at Camp #5, Bolton.

The results of the metal-detecting and geophysical surveys were then mapped and overlaid in GIS, to help us identify areas of archaeological interest at the site. The metal detecting survey identified 52 objects that are potentially related to the encampment. These objects, which are similar to those recovered during the initial survey in 1998, included regimental buttons, dropped musket balls, buckle fragments, 18th-century coins, and fragments of molten lead (Figure 3). Several concentrations of artifacts were identified, including clusters of regimental buttons.

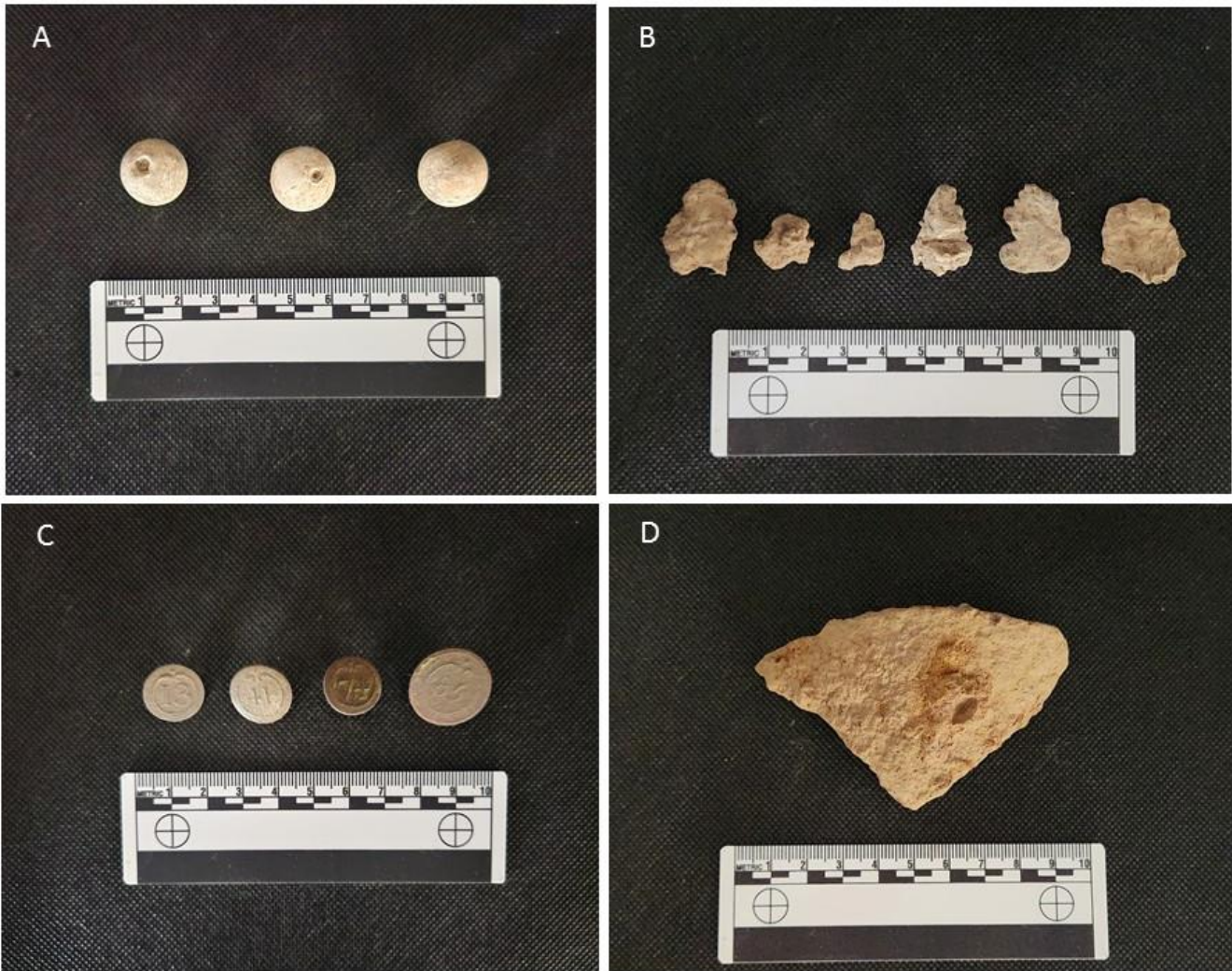


Figure 3. Representative sample of metal detector finds from 2023 investigations at Camp #5. A. dropped musket balls, including two exhibiting marks that show they were removed from the barrel; B. fragments of molten lead, likely dropped during the manufacture of lead shot at the site; C. a sample of French regimental buttons representing 13th (Bourbonnais), 41st (Soissonais), 74th, and 85th (Saintonge) divisions; D. a fragment of large iron kettle.

The GPR survey identified what appears to be the remnants of a large, circular trench feature, approximately 4.5 meters (~15 feet) in diameter. When both the GPR data the metal detecting finds were mapped together, it was clear that one set of regimental buttons and other artifacts clustered around this feature (Figure 4). Given the size and shape of the feature, our working theory was that it might represent an earthen camp kitchen (Figure 5). Magnetic anomaly readings recorded during the magnetometry survey also indicated an area of elevated magnetic readings in this area; heating soils in a hearth or earth oven transforms iron that may be weakly magnetic into more strongly magnetic forms, suggesting another possible line of evidence pointing to an earth oven. These camp structures were commonly used by 18th-century American and European troops, even during short-term encampments. In fact, there is a first-person account of French troops building and using such kitchens on the March across Connecticut. In June of 1781, Captain Samuel Richards (1090:74-75), a first lieutenant in the 3rd Connecticut Regiment, recorded the following observation:

“Rochambeau with his five thousand soon moved on: as they passed thro' Farmington in Connecticut I being there at the time - had a fine opportunity of

seeing them ... I viewed their manner of encamping over night, the perfect mechanical manner of performing all they had to do: such as digging a circular hole & making niches in which to set their camp kettles for cooking their food.”

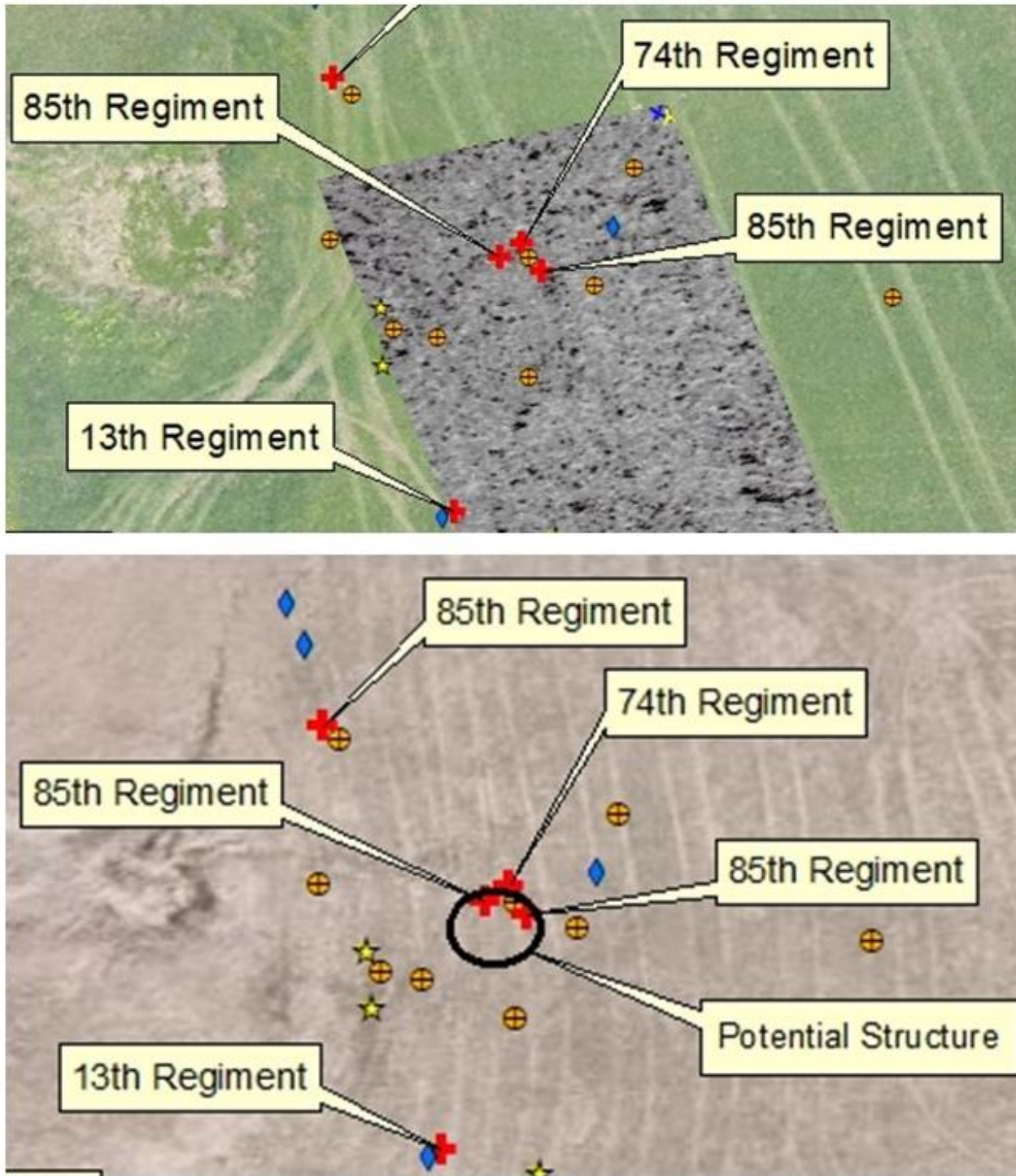


Figure 4. Detail, ground penetrating radar and metal detecting results, showing the location of the concentration of artifacts and circular GPR feature that was the focus of the Digging into History excavations. The upper image shows the GPR and metal-detecting results and the bottom image shows an outline marking the identified feature.



Figure 5. Reconstruction of circular camp kitchen at Fort Ticonderoga. Photo by David Leslie, July 2023.

Given the cluster of artifacts and the potential GPR and magnetic feature, this location was chosen for the student excavations. Our plan was to excavate several 1m-x-1m units to the base of the plowzone, to look for traces of the feature identified in the GPR survey and hopefully find additional period artifacts. Unfortunately, the weather last summer didn't cooperate. When the French and Connecticut high school students visited in July, we had several inches of rain. Our attempt at excavations failed due to the wet conditions. We only got a little way into the plowzone before we had to call off the dig. Instead, we worked with the students to teach them about metal detecting, geophysical survey methods, and archaeological laboratory methods, using artifacts from other OSA projects (Figure 6). While the archaeological excavation portion of this project was unsuccessful, the students enjoyed the experience and learned a lot about archaeology. Additionally, the metal detecting and geophysical surveys provided new information about the site and indicate that despite centuries of plowing, Camp #5 retains

some potential for intact archaeological features. This is important information, as there have been some concerns that 20th-century agricultural practices at the site may have obliterated any cultural features.



Figure 6. Digging into History students at Bolton Heritage Farm, July 2023, learning about the use of metal detectors in archaeology.

References

Harper, Mary, Bruce Clouette, and Ross Harper. 1999. *The Rochambeau Project: Historical and Archaeological Documentation of the French Army's Marches Through Connecticut in 1781 and 1782*. Prepared for the Connecticut Historical Commission, PAST, Inc. in association with Keegans Associates, LLC.

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What is it? What is it used for?

Craig Nelson



What is it? It is a spoolstone. What is it used for is a different question. One we have to ask even if there is only a remote possibility of coming up with an answer. The artifact in this article is one I found many years ago while walking a corn field known as 6LF1 (Hopkins site). I have shown it to many professional archaeologists over the years. The ones I have talked to in Connecticut say they have never seen one, it is interesting, but don't waste your life trying to know what it is. The archaeologists in New York have seen them. There are a few in the State Museum in Albany, NY. Ed Curtin



responded verbally and said don't waste your time. But is it a waste of time to ask? I most likely will never know the answer. It still has to be asked. The same goes for many artifacts in museum vaults or on collector shelves. We have to ask. We are human and curious.

So, I will tell you a little about my spoolstone and what I have been able to find out about those found in New York. Item 6LF1N -105 is first mentioned in an article by David Thompson in 1973. He wrote this "cylindrical object has constricted sides, and relatively flat, but uneven ends." This shape is the reason it is called a spoolstone. It is 55.39 mm long with a diameter of 28.78mm at one end narrowing to 24.18mm in the center and 27.11 mm at the other end and made of steatite (verbal John Pawloski, Ct Museum of Mining and Mineral Science). It has been pecked and some polishing has been applied to the cylinder and the ends. It would be nice to look at it under large magnification. Is there any residual material on it? Who knows?

What I have been able to find out is spoolstones are found in the Hudson River valley albeit not many. The earliest recorded record I have found is by A. C. Parker (1920). The ones found in situ come from Middle Woodland Sites, such as South Cruger Island and Lotus Point sites (W.A. Ritchie -1958)

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PARKER, Arthur C., N.Y. State Museum Bulletin, July -August 1920, The Archaeological History of New York. Page 66 and plate 10

Ritchie, William A., an introduction to Hudson Valley Prehistory, NY State Museum Bulletin #367 January 1958

Thompson, David, Bulletin of the Archaeological Society of Connecticut, Number 38 "Preliminary excavations at the Hopkins Field (6LF1) page 17

Craig Nelson is a longtime ASC Member and Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Institute for American Indian Studies in Washington, CT

CALENDAR

To help members plan their calendars, we post the dates of meetings of local and national interest

April 17-21, 2024, Society for American Archaeology 89th Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA

October 19-22, 2024, Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology (CNEHA) Annual Meeting, New Haven, CT

November 7-10, 2024, Eastern States Archaeological Federation (ESAF) 91st Annual Meeting, Newport, RI

January 8-11, 2025, Society for Historical Archaeology Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA

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ASC ON-LINE RESOURCES

ASC Bulletins at UConn Digital Archives

Bulletins #77-80 (2015-2018) recently added to archive. Complete collection back to 1934 now available.

ASC Newsletters at UConn Digital Archives

Newsletters from 1939-1954, 1999-2018 currently available. For more recent newsletters, see the ASC website

Membership Form

I want to apply/renew membership in the Archaeological Society of Connecticut (ASC) to promote archaeological research, conservation and service. Enclosed are my dues for the

membership category: (circle one). . Note the increase in dues from last year which was necessary because of higher printing and postage costs – this is the first increase since 2002.

- Individual* \$30.00
- Student** \$15.00
- Institutional* \$50.00
- Life* \$350.00
- I would like to add a tax-deductible donation in the amount of \$_____.*

Today's Date _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____

Affiliation: (For students)

The newsletter will be sent to you electronically unless you

indicate otherwise below:

I wish to receive ASC News by mail instead of electronic delivery

*Student Membership includes electronic newsletters, hard copy bulletins, and for each new member one back issue of the bulletin of your choice subject to availability.

Send payment to Lee West, ASC Membership Chair, 366 Main St., Wethersfield, CT 06109 or online at [ASC website](http://www.ctarchaeology.org/)

ASC Website

<https://www.ctarchaeology.org/>

Editor's Note: ASC News is published three times a year, in September, January/February and March/April. Please address inquiries and contributions to

future issues to *ASC News*, Lee West - Editor, E-Mail: lfwest@sbcglobal.net

At the Museums

Peabody Museum Reopens

After a 4-year renovation, the Peabody Museum in New Haven reopened to the public on March 26, 2024. The famous dinosaurs and the mural are back, but gallery space has increased by more than 50% and all exhibits have been replaced or refurbished. Hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10am-5pm, and Sunday noon-5pm. Admission is free. For more information see <https://peabody.yale.edu>



Archaeological Society of Connecticut 2024 Spring Meeting



**Mansfield Public Library
54 Warrentville Road
Mansfield, CT**

Saturday, May 11th

Admission: Non-members (general public) - \$10, Members (ASC/FOSA) - \$8, Students - \$5
Any questions regarding meeting please contact: David Leslie – Dleslie@heritage-consultants.com

- 9:30 AM** **Registration begins (with coffee and doughnuts)**
- 10:15 AM** **Welcome, announcements – David Leslie, President, ASC**
- 10:30 – 11:00 AM** **The Cutting Edge Capital: Obsidian Exchange Networks at Late Classic Cotzumalhuapa**

David McCormick-Alcorta

Obsidian sourcing studies have a long history in Mesoamerica, but few have concentrated on the Pacific Slope of Guatemala. Here, I present the results of sourcing analyses on 15,603 obsidian artifacts excavated from Late to Terminal Classic (650-950 CE) manufacturing discard and consumption contexts at Cotzumalhuapa, Guatemala. Chemical compositions analyzed via portable X-ray fluorescence spectrometry (pXRF) were compared with existing geological datasets to identify all but four of the artifacts analyzed. Because the region lacks suitable raw materials for chipped stone tools, Cotzumalhuapa was entirely reliant on imported obsidian for cutting edges. Large amounts of manufacturing debris indicate that unfinished obsidian came, minimally, from three sources. However, artifacts from consumption contexts indicate that finished tools made of obsidian from, minimally, three other sources were also imported. The results demonstrate that obsidian tool manufacturers primarily utilized material from two sources modeled



as having been distributed by different networks in earlier periods and a third rarely exploited source. Furthermore, the importation of finished tools from sources not present in manufacturing dumps indicates interaction networks outside Cotzumalhuapa's political orbit.

My training and experiences as an Anthropological Archaeologist and Museum Professional have given me the opportunity to work in field, laboratory, and museum settings in Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, and the United States. As an archaeologist, it is crucial not only to share the insights of our labor with our peers but also with the host community and the public at large. My dissertation research examines the political and economic dynamics at Cotzumalhuapa, a Late-Classic Mesoamerican capital. I currently serve at the Mohegan Tribal Historic Preservation Office and Archaeology Department as the Archaeology Lab and Collections Supervisor.

11:00 – 11:30 AM Studying the Remains of Bronze Age Funerary Urns from Hungary

Julia I. Giblin

The Bronze Age Körös Off-Tell Archaeology Project (BAKOTA) is an international team of scholars and students who have been working to better understand ancient mortuary customs at a Bronze Age cemetery located in eastern Hungary. From 2011 to 2019, the BAKOTA team excavated 84 human burials from the archaeological site of Békés 103. We estimate that these burials represent only a small fraction of what was once a very large cemetery that included over two thousand people. Most of the people buried in this cemetery were cremated, and then the cremated bones were placed in a ceramic urn. Cremation is a mortuary custom that became common during the Bronze Age in Europe; however, many different funerary rituals were practiced throughout Hungary, and little was known about the people and burial customs in southeastern Hungary (known as the Otomani-Gyulavarsánd tradition) prior to BAKOTA excavations. Radiocarbon dating indicates that the cemetery was in use for several centuries spanning the European Bronze Age (roughly 2,460 – 1,010 BCE) a time known for agricultural intensification, conflict, large scale human movement, and social inequality. In this talk, I will provide some archaeological background for the region and time period, summarize our methods and findings, and explore current efforts to better understand and steward the collection and land for future generations.



Julia I. Giblin is Professor of Anthropology in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Quinnipiac University (QU). She specializes in the archaeology of Neolithic and Bronze Age Hungary and uses techniques such as isotope analysis to reconstruct ancient diets, movements,

and mortuary patterns. Dr. Giblin co-directs the Bronze Age Körös Off Tell Archaeological Project (BAKOTA) as well as the Bioanthropology Research Institute at QU (BRIQ). She teaches introductory and mid-level anthropology/archaeology courses at QU, and also teaches in the Interdisciplinary and Environmental Studies programs. More recently, Dr. Giblin has started to focus coursework and scholarship on ways that the university community can better understand and respect Indigenous connections to the land that the university occupies.

11:30 – 12:00 PM An Exploration of Late-Terminal Archaic Domestic Architecture and Settlement Patterns in Southern Connecticut

Brenna Pisanelli

Archaeological investigations have resulted in evidence that suggests a shift in settlement patterns occurred in Connecticut during the Late and Terminal Archaic periods from interior wetlands to large river drainages. While sites dating to the Late Archaic period are common throughout the New England region, the archaeological record concerning settlement patterns, occupational duration, and domestic architecture remains lacking. Archaeological data collected between 2021 and 2022 from the Tenmile River Native American Site, in Cheshire, Connecticut, provided compelling evidence for a small to medium sized, round domestic dwelling structure likely dating to the Atlantic Phase of the Terminal Archaic period. This paper aims to explore Late and Terminal Archaic architecture, and how understanding the types and sizes of domestic dwellings as they relate to seasonal and longer-term occupations, may provide insight into shifts in technology and lifeways during these time periods.



Brenna Pisanelli is a Senior Project Manager at Heritage Consultants and graduated from Roger Williams University in 2017 with a Bachelor of Science in Historic Preservation and a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology & Sociology as well as Art & Architectural History. She earned her Master of Arts degree in American Studies from Brown University in 2019. Working from an interdisciplinary lens, her research focuses on how concepts surrounding authenticity and historical narrative impact the construction of cultural identities and sense of place, and how this informs our preservation practices. She believes in the importance of public outreach and creating visibility and accessibility within the industry.

12:00 – 1:45 PM Lunch (on your own)

1:45 – 2:15 PM

A Multifaceted Approach to Cemetery Surveys: Lessons from Geophysics, Geodetics, and Plain Old Walking Around

Cole Peterson and Fiona Jones

Geophysical surveys, particularly of areas with suspected human burials, have grown increasingly popular over the last quarter-century within the field of archaeology. A thorough approach to burial ground documentation, fully equipped with 21st century technology, can involve such disparate techniques as ground-penetrating radar (GPR), geographic information systems (GIS) recording, three-dimensional modeling of the survey area (as performed with LiDAR and digital photogrammetry utilizing a recent iPhone Pro model), and finally a comprehensive physical walk-over of the cemetery in question. A survey along these lines at the Lonetown Cemetery (or Isaac Hamilton Cemetery) in Redding, Connecticut, provides a useful example of how the merger between sophisticated technology and intimate physical understanding of a landscape can result in the identification of unmarked burials, as well as shedding light on historical cemetery layout and burial practices. Armed with this information, our team was able to make detailed analyses of the locations of possible unmarked burials at the site, as well as recommendations regarding the commemoration of presently unmarked burials in the region.



Mr. Peterson, a Connecticut native, received a B.A. in History and Economics from Bard College at Simon's Rock in 2021. He has worked in archaeology in New England since then, with experience in both field and laboratory settings. His research interests include the 17th century in the Native Northeast, coastal geoarchaeology, marine shell analysis, and improving the use of non-invasive survey methods within a cultural resource management context. He now works as a Geophysical Specialist at Heritage Consultants.

Ms. Jones received her B.A. in biological anthropology with a minor in law from the University at Buffalo in 2021. She has extensive archaeological experience in cultural resource management and public archaeology in New England beginning in 2016. Fiona dedicated some of her undergraduate studies to GIS. In addition to her work at Heritage as a Geophysical Specialist, Fiona works for the University of Rhode Island as a repatriation coordinator. Her interests include decolonization and human rights as they apply to archaeology and geophysical sciences.

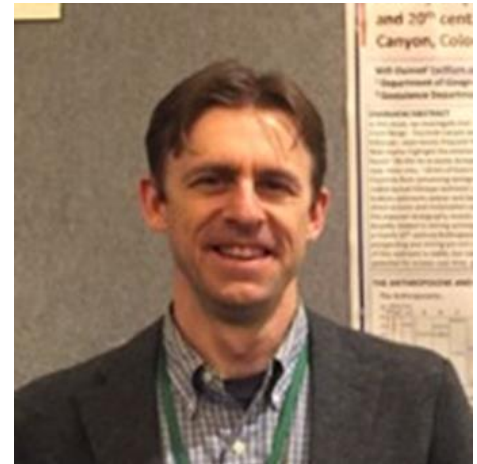
2:15 – 2:45 PM

The LIDAR Revolution in Earth Surface Mapping

William Ouimet

This presentation explores the use of airborne laser scanning (e.g., LiDAR) throughout New England and how it has revolutionized investigation into the geologic history of the region and the last 300 years of landscape and land use change.

Will Ouimet is an Associate Professor in the Department of Earth Sciences at the University of Connecticut. A western Massachusetts native, he received a B.A. from Williams College in 2001, a Ph.D. from MIT in 2007, and joined UConn as faculty in January 2011. Dr. Ouimet is a geomorphologist who studies surface processes, erosion, landforms and landscapes around the world.



2:45 – 3:00 PM

Business Meeting/Elections

3:00 – 4:00 PM

Geologic Tour of the Bradley-Buchanan Woods

Dr. Ouimet will lead a geological exploration of the Bradley-Buchanan Woods. We will discuss the preserve's glacial history, kettle holes, and last 16,000 years of environment change preserved in sediments at the bottom of nearby Echo Lake.

3:30 – 4:30 PM

Reception

Directions to the Spring Meeting:

FROM ROUTE 95

Take the Route 140 South exit to Route 106 East. Travel through the business district of Mansfield. At the third set of lights, after the Dunkin' Donuts, take a right onto Hope Street. A gas station is on the corner. The library is next to the gas station on your left.

FROM ROUTE 495

Take the Route 140 North exit to Route 106 East. Travel through the business district of Mansfield. At the third set of lights, after the Dunkin' Donuts, take a right onto Hope Street. A gas station is on the corner. The library is next to the gas station on your left.