CNEA

Conference on
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Archaeology

NEWSLETTER

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CONFERENCE ON NEW ENGLAND ARCHAEOLOGY

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COVER: Chalcedony Blade
The Seekonk 2 Site (19-BR-72), Seekonk, Massachusetts
illustration by Pamela Rainey

CNEA Conference on New England Archaeology

NEWSLETTER

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CONFERENCE ON NEW ENGLAND ARCHAEOLOGY 1991 ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 11 & 12, 1991

Plans for the 1991
∫ 10th Anniversary Meeting ∫
of the Conference on New England Archaeology
at Sturbridge Village are currently underway!!

Be sure to reserve Saturday, May 11th
and Sunday, May 12th
for an enlightening weekend of
papers and presentations!

You are also invited to join us on
Saturday evening
for a special anniversary party,
including a buffet dinner.

Advance details will be provided
to all CNEA members in the upcoming newsletter,
or contact a steering committee member.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

CNEA'S UPCOMING TENTH ANNIVERSARY

Soon CNEA will be celebrating its 10th anniversary. I am currently preparing an article for the newsletter which looks back over the last 10 years and notes our accomplishments and what' s happened to us both as an organization and as individuals. I hope to be sending a questionnaire to all CNEA members to help us get at this information. Please look for this questionnaire in the future and return it as soon as possible. For many of you, you may expect a phone call from me once I have received the returned questionnaires to expand on points that you may have made. If any of you want to drop me a line indicating your concerns for archaeology today and identifying current issues and past successes, please feel free to do so at your earliest opportunity. Send all correspondences to me at...

Mike Roberts
Timelines, Inc.
316 Boston Road
Groton, MA 01450,
or give me a call at (508) 448-2585

Sincerely,

Mike Roberts
President

SUMMARY OF CNEA 1990 ANNUAL MEETING WORKSHOPS

MARGINAL ENVIRONMENTS: STRUCTURING ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH

by Mitchell T. Mulhulland
UMASS Archaeological Services
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

This CNEA workshop was offered at the 1990 annual conference and was conducted as a "brainstorming" session. Marginality was discussed, along with the utility (or otherwise) of the concept to archaeology. Following the manner described by King (1990), Marie Bourassa kindly offered to record the topics discussed in the workshop (Figure 1). Topics were rearranged into an hierarchical array after the session (Figure 2) because of time limitations.

Through the course of the discussion, larger questions related to the research of marginal environments emerged and centered on 1) understanding the relationship of peripheral areas of low use or different function to the higher population cores, and 2) understanding landuse, land stratification and group relationships of prehistoric or historic people.

Discussion focussed on what (if anything) a marginal environment is. The group concluded that the concept of marginality is chiefly in the eye of the beholder and is a figment of an imaginative research design. The uses and implications of marginality are so diverse that it is possible to hold a lengthy, in-depth discussion of the concept, only to discover in the end that all of the participants are talking about something different. In any research design, a thorough definition of the concept at the outset is crucial.

The discussion revolved around two commonly used definitions of marginal environments: Areas of Deficiency and Hinterlands.

> 1) Marginal environments often are defined on the basis of a deficiency or minimum. Such environments may contain a lower density of a particular resource than found in the areas where most people live, perhaps lack a transportation artery, or are characterized by limiting environmental characteristics or thresholds (e.g., climate, soils, low nutritional biomass, etc.) Generally, there is an assumption that marginal environments are less desirable than core areas and, in general, the inhabitants may be better off elsewhere. In some models, marginal areas are used as a last resort for people in the core areas when resources are depleted. The definition of marginal environments requires a careful consideration of the variables which cause the marginality. For example, if we are researching early historic agriculture (lacking advanced horticultural technology, hybrid plant and animal species, etc.), the interior uplands with shallow stony soils and short growing season might be considered marginal when compared with the fertile river valleys.

> 2) Margins also are borders or peripheries of some conceptually defined space, e.g., a hinterland or area of isolation between centers of activity or heaviest occupation; a buffer between cultural groups, etc. Such areas may have an adaptive advantage, as in the case of trade in which the inhabitants interact with the cores (or several cores). These areas also may be the location of reconnaissance or defensive sites important to maintenance of territories.

Research questions pertinent to definitions 1 and 2 are as follows:

- Is there any environment that was never used?
- Are there environments (areas) that were not used during specific times? - for specific functions?
- Are there environments that were used, but cannot be seen in the archaeological record? How do we detect them?
- What are the limiting factors that define the marginal environment?
- What are the important ingredients in defining marginality (e.g., elevation, climate, seasonality, time of occupation, accessibility, sources of attraction, position in a mosaic, importance of place, proximity to other groups)?
- What technological factors must be considered in defining the margins and their cores?
- What are the territorial or economic factors that define the marginal environment (e.g., economics, group composition, political divisions, scale)?
- What are the ramifications of defining a margin on the basis of one variable to the exclusion of others?
- What are the effects of the personal and political perceptions of archaeologists and historians on the definition of marginality?
- What are the sources of non-archaeological data available to define areas of marginality? For example, palynology (at the macro and micro scale), soils/sediments, geographic information systems, ethnographic analogy, etc.)

∞ What are the types of archaeological data to be considered to address questions concerning marginal environments, e.g., visibility, site function, artifact distributions, comparison of raw materials with other areas, status of goods, evidence of group social behavior, interrelationship of variables, degree of patchiness versus site density?

∞ What are the ramifications of defining a margin on the basis of one variable to the exclusion of others?

Figure 1
TOPICS DISCUSSED IN THE WORKSHOP (unsorted)

Core/fringe relationships

Functional use of different environments

Temporal or seasonal use of environments

Archaeological manifestations of marginality

The effect of technology in marginality

Adaptation in margins

Palynology

Soils and sediments

Environmental conditions

Distribution of lithic or other raw material sources

Geographic Information Systems

What is marginality?

Environmental adaptation

Environmental limitations to settlement

Ethnographic analogy

Perception of margins effected by modern political persuasions

Mutants living or working in marginal areas

Environmental thresholds

Uplands

Wide valleys

Definition of territory

Place importance

Rockshelter use

Site visibility

Interrelationship of variables

Scale of land use defining geographic cores/margins

Scale of subsistence zones

Changes in use of marginal area over time

Core areas versus site redundancy

Behavior of social units (family - band)

Degree of patchiness versus site density in marginal areas

Figure 2
RESEARCH TOPICS SORTED INTO HIERARCHICAL ARRAY

Three basic interrelated topics emerged:

1. Seek an understanding of the relationship of peripheral areas of low use or different function to the high population cores.

2. Seek understanding of landuse and land stratification by prehistoric or historic groups.

3. Seek understanding of areas predicted to be less used than the central areas of high population density and use.

∞ *by studying Core/fringe relationships as expressed in ...*

Functional use of different environments

Temporal or seasonal use of environments

The effect of technology in marginality

Adaptation in margins

Place importance

Site visibility

Environmental thresholds

Core areas versus site redundancy

Scale of land use defining geographic cores/margins

Scale of subsistence zones

Perceptions of margins effected by modern political persuasions

Environmental adaptation

Environmental limitations to settlement

Behavior of social units (family - band)

Degree of patchiness versus site density in marginal areas

Changes in use of marginal area over time

Understanding and definition of territory

Environmental conditions

Geographic Information Systems

Archaeological manifestations of marginality

Distribution of lithic or other raw material sources

Soils and sediments

Palynology

Ethnographic analogy

Interrelationship of variables

Mutants living or working in marginal areas

Rockshelter use

through:

Integrated archaeological and ecological research

Archaeological survey and excavation

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC MARGINS: STRUCTURING ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH

by Beth Bower and Robert Paynter
Discussion Leaders

About 25 to 30 people joined a very spirited discussion about many aspects of the notion of marginality. The leaders tried to keep track of the discussion in light of four general issues:

- What is marginality?
- Is there a universal theory of marginality?
- What are appropriate methods and procedures for studying marginality?
- How does the notion of marginality in the contemporary world affect our archaeological constructions of the past?

Keeping track of our discussions was a bit like trying to herd cats; these issues did provide a useful pen (litter box?).

The discussion got around to defining marginality through considering how we explain and observe marginality, and thinking about the connotations of the word. People emphasized that marginality was a dynamic condition: what is marginal today is core tomorrow., And, that these changes resulted from the differential retention and loss of cultural traits. There was also considerable agreement that the processes affecting cultural trait retention and loss were quite different for prehistoric, contact and historic period peoples, thus making us wonder about imposing the notion on all of Massachusett's past.

Marginality was clearly imagined as a social phenomenon, a condition to be juxtaposed with centrality or core (or maybe even powerful). Keeping this social dichotomy in mind, the discussion took on issues of method and procedure by trying to associate dichotomous pairs. These started out as rather material, though didn't stay that way.

Central	∞	Marginal
Villages	∞	Camps
Planned Settlement	∞	Unplanned Settlement
Presence	∞	Absence
Accesible	∞	Inaccessible
Near	∞	Far
Many Things	∞	Few Things
High Diversity	∞	Low Diversity
High Quality of Life	∞	Low Quality of Life
Valued	∞	Unvalued
Hegemony	∞	Multiplicity

Well, now the group found this to be a pretty interesting list for a number of reasons. Pretty quickly the group recognized the social as well as temporal relativity of the notion of marginality: people on one side of a center/margin boundary do not necessarily see the issue of central/marginal the same as people on the other side. The embeddedness of a notion of marginality within a theoretical position also became clear. Do we mean marginal in terms of geography? ecology? means of production? ideology? all of the above? Interestingly, there was no effort to organize these various meanings of marginality into one coherent theoretical system, maybe because the task seemed too daunting. What did seem quite clear was that people and places are not essentially marginal; rather, they are marginal only in relation to other people and places. And then, only in light of a particular, contestible understanding of a person or place's position.

The fact that marginality is an evaluation (oftentimes contestable) carrying much of the present's freight also emerged from constructing this list. The group was quick to point out the stereotypes lurking behind some of the even most innocent of dichotomies in the list of traits. Is it surprising that people from an urban civilization find villages to be inherently more central than camps? Or, is it surprising that people going through the communications revolution consider accessibility more central than isolation? During the course of this self reflection, people seemed to become less enchanted with the notion of marginality, not solely because of problems in observation, but largely due to the problem of controlling unintended meanings. Dincauze's paper was mentioned as demonstrating how caught up in the present the notion of marginality is; and, also as a paper exemplifies how to control these unintended meanings and

thereby better see the prehistoric and contact period, and our own.

Marginality can be used intelligently if the connections of "marginality" to theories about the past, understandings in the present, as well as objects made and used in the past are kept in mind. If only the objects are considered, the group seemed concerned about the opening the concept creates for contemporary stereotypes and prejudices in our writings and discussion, writings and discussions supposedly aimed at exploring human diversity rather than enforcing our cultural assumptions.

Closure was not to be found. Unlike other discussions that don't seem to end someplace, there wasn't the sense of frustration. Everyone seemed to walk away with a clearer sense of how they would use the notion of marginality, and what they would look for in the work of others. We all agreed that we had already found interesting ideas on the subject in the work of others, namely the papers prepared for the session, papers that provided interesting material for the afternoon's ruminations.

CURRENT RESEARCH

Mortuary Research by the Massachusetts Historical Commission

contributed by Edward L. Bell
Archaeologist/Preservation Planner
Massachusetts Historical Commission

BOSTON: GRANARY BURIAL GROUND

Concurrent with the restoration of the John Foster William's Tomb by the preservation consultants Fannin/Lehner, Edward L. Bell and Peter Mills recovered several small fragments of bone from the disturbed topsoil above the underground vault. These remains, probably human bone, are likely to have been disinterred from surrounding graves during gravedigging and scattered during one or more of the cemetery beautification projects undertaken in the 19th and 20th centuries. Of interest, the foundation of the box-type tomb marker (constructed ca. 1813 over the brick-and-mortar burial vault) consisted of reused 17th century slate gravestones taken from other graves in the cemetery.

HADLEY:: HONEY POT ROAD

Edward L. Bell investigated the discovery of the remains of one individual believed to be American Indian. An artifact collector noticed the remains in a plowed field about to undergo mechanized disc harrowing and removed all the skeletal material he could find. Limited shovel testing in the area (conducted after it had been harrowed) failed to recover additional skeletal material or evidence of other graves. No artifactual material was recovered that could assist in dating the remains, but the sun-bleached color on some bone surfaces indicate that they were exposed on the surface for some time. No further investigations were recommended.

MASHPEE: SENECA ROAD/HERON WAY BURIALS

Peter Mills, Leonard W. Loparto, and Edward L. Bell retrieved human remains and artifacts (coffin wood, nails, textiles) from a backdirt pile that originated from the excavation of a house foundation on Seneca Road. Examination of the artifacts and remains suggests a late 18th or early 19th century date and are likely those of American Indians. Textiles associated

with the burials are being analyzed and conserved at the University of Rhode Island, Department of Textiles by Linda Welters and Margaret Ordonez with assistance from Kathryn Krawczyk. No further field investigations were recommended.

MASHPEE: SANTUIT POND ROAD

Connie Crosby, Leonard W. Loparto, Brona Simon, and Edward L. Bell investigated an unmarked Native American cemetery that dates as early as the later half of the 18th century. Skeletal material was recovered from backdirt in the vicinity by Simon during the construction of a house in 1988. Documentary research conducted by Loparto indicates that this area of Mashpee was owned by the Toby or Tobias family, whose Wampanoag descendants still reside in the area. Modifications of an existing electrical utility line in a private road resulted in the disturbance of one grave (Burial 1) which was excavated. Burial 1 appears to be an adult male, buried in a hexagonal coffin oriented north to south. Several cast pewter or alloy buttons and a copper or alloy button were aligned horizontally across what was the waist area and vertically in a pubic area. Two blue (possibly English) flint strike-a-lights or gunflint fragments were wedged under the right femur. One grave (Burial 2), identified in the profile of the utility trench can be preserved in situ. A third burial (Burial 3) was previously impacted by road construction and located under an active driveway. Burial 3 was excavated, and appears to be the remains of an adult, possibly female, buried in a hexagonal coffin oriented north to south. A copper or alloy straight pin was found in what was the neck region, likely indicating interment in a shroud. MHC will offer recommendations to the town and the private land owners to have the cemetery boundaries identified so that impacts to the historic cemetery may be avoided.

CHATHAM: ALLEN POINT SITE

A single Native American burial was investigated by Leonard W. Loparto. The well-preserved and nearly complete remains were found during excavation for a private septic system. The remains had been removed by the police, but examination of the find spot and interviews with the excavators indicates that the burial was associated with a shell heap and was probably flexed. Cursory examination of the skeletal material indicate that the remains are those of an adult, possibly a female with considerable arthritic degeneration of the vertebrae. No further investigations were recommended.

Old Sturbridge Village
1990-1991 Research in Progress

contributed by John Worrell
Director of Research
Old Sturbridge Village

THE UPPER QUINEBAUG MILL STUDY

Old Sturbridge Village archaeologists continue a comprehensive survey of historic agriculturally based water-powered industries including grist, saw, carding, and fulling mills located in the upper Quinebaug River watershed from 1730-1860. This research is part of a larger project, "Tradition and Transformation: Rural Economic Life in Central new England, 1790-1850," partially funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. A general research objective of the project is to utilize all available data, physical and documentary evidence, in understanding how agriculturally based mills changed over time. A secondary goal is to examine what effects the entrance of textile factories and other larger scaled industries into the study area had on the agriculturally based mills.

Research presently focuses on the sawmill sites located within the central Massachusetts towns of Sturbridge and Southbridge and includes both archaeological investigation and documentary research. Field recording of all sawmill sites in Sturbridge and Southbridge will be completed by spring of 1991. The detailed analysis of selected sawmill account books in the study area will be ongoing throughout the winter and spring of 1991.

INVESTIGATION OF THE PLINY FREEMAN FARMSTEAD, STURBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

The multi-disciplinary investigation of the farmstead site and agricultural neighborhood of the early 19th century family of Pliny Freeman is one component of the ongoing, long-term study of early rural New England economic life entitled "Tradition and Transformation" that is currently being undertaken by the Research Department of Old Sturbridge Village under the direction of John Worrell. This property became part of the state highway system around 1950, at which time the house was removed to OSV where it serves as the centerpiece for the living history interpretation of farm family life. All other structures at the site were razed by the DPW and most features beyond the immediate house and barnlot lost integrity to highway construction. However, this season's excavation and recording at the site demonstrates that it retains important information for understanding both its domestic and agricultural history.

Holly Izard heads the extensive documentary study of the family, farmstead and neighborhood. C.J. Pelletier conducts properties research and mapping of the site and neighboring farmsteads. Myron Stachiw is conducting thorough architectural documentation of neighboring houses, barns and outbuildings. Greg Hill is developing computer programs to map

changes in individual property holdings and uses through time. He has also organized archaeological databases and set up a program for mapping distributions of nearly 300 categories of material culture and soil analysis by phases.

Site testing by the staff was followed by the annual OSV Archaeology Field School and a workshop for Friends of OSV. A field methods class conducted by Linda Ammons of Assumption College is working at the site during the fall as is a team of OSV archaeologists and field school alumni. Materials analysis, mapping and documentary research continues through the winter.

Among the more informative results of the investigation to date have been evidences of site alteration or preparation of trafficways and functional areas and the details of architectural sequencing. Earliest cultural evidences at the site relate to the construction of the 18th century County Road laid out according to a plan in the county commissioners' records, to run from the Meeting House in Sturbridge to Union, CT. The right-of-way appears to have been cleared by burning, followed immediately by application of a thin layer of gravel.

Stratified materials relating to the phase of initial construction at the site indicate a building sequence for the house involving (1) burning off the site; (2) erecting the chimney stack; (3) digging the foundation trench, building the foundation, erecting the frame; (4) digging the remaining cellar hole, using its ejecta to terrace a rear space; and (5) finishing the structure. Evidence of an early kitchen ell having a probable stone-floored, "split-level" dairy attached provided unanticipated architectural information.

The barn area was found to have been prepared by levelling a hillside and constructing a cobble-filled terrace to provide both drainage and excellent all-weather traffic access. Similar terracing for a woodshed provided dry elevation and allowed construction of split-level access: the elevated front for wood and beneath rear portions for swine. We have documented similar combinations elsewhere locally in both archaeological and architectural research.

At least one more full season is anticipated at the Freeman site.

University of Massachusetts Archaeological Services
1990-1991 Research in Progress

EPHRAIM SKERRY HOUSE, SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS

In early May 1990, University of Massachusetts Archaeological Services conducted a Phase II archaeological survey at the Ehpraim Skerry House, on the south shore of the North River in Salem. As part of a Massachusetts Department of Public Works planned by-pass linking Salem and Beverly, the Ephraim Skerry House (initially believed to be a 17th or early 18th century house), and part of its surrounding yard were surveyed for historic and archaeological

significance. The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities conducted an architectural history of the house. Its initial construction was found to be circa 1710, followed by a history of extensive remodeling and additions to the structure, which was not plumbed until the 1940's, and continued to be occupied until 1988. More information on this architectural survey is available from SPNEA.

Archaeological testing and investigation were directed by Ed Hood. A mixed sheet refuse deposit containing artifacts dating from the 1620's through the early 19th century was found in part of the house's front yard. Despite extensive testing in this area, no definable features were encountered. The early dated artifacts found in this deposit are believed to be associated with the "Old Planters Settlement" of 1626, which is known to have been located in this part of Salem. Phase I testing in near-by areas off of the Skerry House lot, found for the most part heavily built-up or otherwise disturbed deposits associated with the urban-residential character of this neighborhood. Though clear links with the Old Planters Settlement are difficult to make, the early through mid-17th century artifacts found on the Skerry House lot probably represent some of the only remains of this settlement. Little other substantial remains would have been left due to its short life and the insubstantial structures believed to have been built there.

A stone foundation believed to have been part of an 18th and early 19th century barn was also found in the front yard. Its fill contained part of a "Canova" Pearlware tea set dated to the 1830's and 40's. Associated with this assemblage were two glass cup plates made at the Sandwich Glass Works. Both have the same pressed design of a log cabin, cider barrel and American flag, and were created in conjunction with the William Henry Harrison "log cabin and hard cider" U.S. presidential campaign of 1840.

Two trash pits dating to the 1840's and 50's and a large associated sill stain were identified in the back yard area of the house. Both contained extensive faunal and ceramic assemblages. The ceramics consisted mostly of shell-edged Pearl-Whiteware, along with other examples of Canova style Pearlware and imported Canton porcelain. A complete catalog, MCD and Miller's status index calculations are detailed in the excavation report being prepared by UMass Archaeological Services.

Though the whole yard could not be investigated, it is quite clear that a transition from "sheet" disposal of refuse in the 17th through early 19th centuries to the use of discrete trash pits during the early 19th century took place at this site. This is essentially the same pattern found all over New England on similar urban sites such as found at the near-by Narbone House lot excavations (conducted by the National Park Service).

IN SEARCH OF A 17TH CENTURY FORTIFICATION, HADLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

During the spring of 1990, under a grant from the Hadley Historical Commission, Rita Reinke and Ed Hood, of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, conducted a documentary and archaeological survey of the town of Hadley to discover whether remains of its 17th century palisade still exist. Town meeting records, deeds and other sources, were used to guide the

archaeological survey in the West Street area of Hadley. The "fortification" was maintained from 1675 to approximately 1693. Its form appears to have varied over that time. In 1677 the town records refer to a breastwork, but in December of 1678, the town dictates that the "length of the staffs shall be ten feet long...three fingers thick, set two feet into the ground".

Several properties in the old village section were surveyed. In some areas, floods, particularly those of the 1920's and 1930's had swept away any traces of the palisade. In other areas, more recent barns or other farming activities may have obliterated all traces of the old fortification. However, in at least one area, the remains of the ditch and bank construction had survived. A ditch was found, at least 45 cms. deep, and one meter wide. Next to the ditch and running parallel to it, was a shallower trench for the palisade's posts. The bank portion of the fortification in this area had been removed since the palisade was abandoned, and the land surface raised by the deposition of almost two feet of assorted fill.

UMASS SUMMER ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL, DEERFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Bob Paynter, Rita Reinke, Jim Garman, and Mark Bograd, spent 6 field weeks at the E.H. Williams site in Deerfield, Massachusetts. The field school contributes to Paynter's ongoing study of the changing landscapes and class relations in New England. This year (the fifth at E.H. Williams) build on the work of 1986 and 1987 and focussed on the northern portion of the site. The intensively utilized nature of the farm was clearly established by the excavations. Twentieth century clothes-line poles gave way to landscaping fill from the mid-19th century. This fill was lain over the remains of two 19th century cobble floors, apparently related to overlying outbuildings. Portions of a late 18th-early 19th century privy were also recovered. On the last day of fieldwork a feature which seems to be a builders' trench, possibly dating from the 18th century, was uncovered. Cross-mending of ceramics, and parasite analysis of the privy material are being conducted this fall. Plans are already in the works to return to this site in future years.

INVESTIGATIONS AT THREE LATE PREHISTORIC-CONTACT PERIOD SITES IN THE MIDDLE CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY

During the summer of 1989 the University of Massachusetts Field School under the direction of Eric Johnson, Art Keene, Liz Chilton and George Stillson conducted site examinations at three Late Prehistoric-Contact Period sites representing a range of Native communities, site types and time periods. The purpose of the investigations was to assess site integrity and research potential, as part of a long-term program of research on cultural processes of the last millennium in the middle Connecticut Valley. At Bark Wigwams, a Late Woodland-early 17th century site on the Connecticut River alluvial lowland, surface collection yielded point provenience data on thousands of artifacts including 17th century materials of Native

American and Dutch origin. Limited subsurface testing was conducted in order to begin an investigation into the sites's geomorphology with the goal of locating intact portions of the site. At Fort Hill in Springfield, a mid-late 17th century palisaded village, remote sensing and limited subsurface testing revealed numerous truncated features and 17th-century materials. Results indicated that portions of the site were untouched by a 19th century excavation. The third site investigated was Pine Hill, a high knoll in the floodplain of the lower Deerfield river. Here, excavations revealed a multi-component deeply stratified site which included Late Prehistoric-Contact Period artifacts and a high density of features. In 1991, we plan to continue work at Pine Hill in order to obtain dates for the components, unravel the site's complex stratigraphy and unusual geological history, and ultimately to understand land use patterns at the site.

Prehistoric Settlement and Land Use:
Determining a Hierarchy of Site-Locational Attributes

contributed by Dena F. Dincauze
Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Field research carried out by the students in Dena Dincauze's Spring semester class on archaeological survey has helped clarify a hierarchy within the group of site-locational attributes commonly employed for estimating landform attractiveness for prehistoric settlement or use.

The area chosen for survey in 1990 was located at a major confluence of streams within the Fort River basin of Hampshire County. The Fort River is a minor tributary of the Connecticut River, draining an upland divide between the Connecticut and Chicopee River basins. The Fort River drains southern Amherst and Hadley, and portions of adjacent hill towns. The confluence also marks the site of the outlet of an undated late-glacial lake, younger than glacial Lake Hitchcock. The stream confluence occurred near a marshy area productive of wildlife, was bordered by level or slightly sloping landforms with soils considered well drained by the USDA/SCS soils survey, and was ringed with active springs. These attributes led the student teams to expect archaeological sites at the survey location. Furthermore, the age of the sites was expected to shed some light on the drainage date of the lake.

Soil coring and shovel test pitting were carried out in locations expected to be maximally attractive for prehistoric settlement. The survey team found active subsurface drainage within .5m of the surface on much of the landform, and evidence in the form of iron concretions that an extensive sandy area is also poorly drained, at least seasonally. The water table is held at a high level by the heavy clay soils of the old lake bed. No trace of prehistoric land use was encountered in the area, nor is there any report or obvious evidence of sites nearby.

The conclusion is that areas and landforms otherwise highly attractive for settlement or camping were avoided by prehistoric peoples because of (seasonally) damp soils. Poor drainage, therefore, seems to have outweighed all the attractive attributes of the area. We conclude, furthermore, that the USDA/SCS soils descriptions are unreliable in respect to this salient attribute.

Prehistoric Settlement and Land Use, southeastern Massachusetts
A Multidepositional Prehistoric site in the Lower Ten Mile River Drainage

contributed by Mary Lynne Rainey
The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc., Pawtucket, RI

During the 1990 fiield season, the Public Archaeology Laboratory completed numerous Phase I Intesive surveys for the Algonquin Gas Transmission Company as a result of their proposed pipelines throughout southeastern Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. As is often the case, many of their proposed routes pass through areas identified as the locations of known prehistoric sites most of which were found by avocational collectors or amateur archaeologists during the first half of this century. An example was investigated this summer during a Phase I intensive survey of a proposed 1.6 mile pipeline loop is Seekonk, Massachusetts. Located within the Seaboard Lowland physiographic region, the route intersects the Runnins River and heads west towards the lower Ten Mile River, where it follows along a high bluff at one of the River bends. It was at this point along the Ten Mile River where a known prehistoric site, 19-BR-72, was identified through background research conducted at the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

The Phase I survey, carried out in the spring of 1990 confirmed the presence of this prehistoric site extending for most of the project area's length along the Ten Mile River. Recovered prehistoric artifacts were chiefly lithic debitage, although several tool fragments were found (Mansion Inn, biface fragments and a scraper). An assortment of raw materials was represented in the assemblage, including Attleboro red felsite, felsite, quartz, chert, rhyolite and hornfels. Of particular interest was a fragment of a slate gorget exhibiting a single drill hole. These finds supported a recommendation to return for a site examination, which was undertaken in the late summer. The site examination produced evidence for intensive Native use of this section of the lower Ten Mile River over different time periods of the cultural chronology. Over 1400 artifacts were recovered, including Small Stemmed and Levanna points, 45 tools fragments, pottery fragments, and a range of non-local lithics such as cherts, jasper and chalcedony (see cover illustration, chalcedony blade). Of great significance, in regards to recent and ongoing studies of trade and exchange within the Ten Mile River drainage, is the predominance at the site of Attleboro red felsite artifacts ranging from tools and tool fragments to core fragments to flakes and shatter. At least ten of the fourteen excavation units uncovered evidence for intact activity areas reflective of a multidepositional prehistoric site. Late/Transitional Archaic and Early Woodland radiocarbon dates have been recieved (see pages 31-34).

In October, the MHC determined that the sites along the terrace are eligible to the National ansd State Registers of Histoic Places as a district of prehistoric cultural activity. A data recovery program has been developed to mitigate the impacts of Algonquin's proposed line.

Ongoing Research in Connecticut:

"Lighthouse Village", Barkhamsted, Connecticut

contributed by Ken Feder
Director of the Farmington River Archaeological Project (F.R.A.P.)
Department of Anthropology, Central Connecticut State University
New Britain, Connecticut

In the field season of 1990, funded by a grant from the Foundation For Field Research, we excavated a portion of the Lighthouse Village site in Barkhamsted, Connecticut. According to legend, the Lighthouse was first occupied in 1740 by james Chaugham, a Narragansett Indian from Block Island and his white wife, Molly Barber. The couple had eight children during their occupation of the village. Those who married into the family and settled in the village included Indians, white settlers, and freed African-American slaves. The village was occupied until the 1850's when various forces led to abandonment.

During the course of our field research, sixteen one-meter-square units were excavated. Artifacts recovered include a small number of eighteenth century, glazed redware sherds and much larger quantities of nineteenth century English ceramics, kaolin pipe fragments, iron nails, and brass buttons. Initially the village was quite isolated; its isolation was purposeful as legend maintains that James and Molly married against the wishes of her father. Highway construction in 1772, however, placed the Farmington River Turnpike immediately adjacent to the village. Trade items became far more accessible to the Lighthouse inhabitants and this is evidenced by the artifact assemblage.

Two men listed in the Barkhamsted vital records as "Mohegan Indians" married into the family, as did one local Indian (presumably a member of the Tunxis tribe), at least one freed black slave, and a number of local whites. Some of these new families continued living at the site. The offspring of these unions are listed variously in the vital records as being Indian, Creole, mixed, white, and, in one case, "nearly white". Oral histories maintain that several of the inhabitants made their living making and selling baskets. Recently examined primary documents support this assertion; the occupation of several Lighthouse inhabitants is listed in the Barkhamsted vital records as "basketmaker".

In the fall of 1990 and the spring of 1991 the focus of this project will be on primary documents. Current plans involve a second field season at the site in the summer of 1991.

The Public Archaeology Survey Team,
1990-1991 Research in Progress

contributed by Meg Soulsby
The Public Archaeology Survey Team
Department of Anthropology, University of Connecticut
Storrs, Connecticut

NATIONAL REGISTER DOCUMENTATION OF FOUR ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

Kevin McBride and Mary Soulsby of the Public Archaeology Survey Team (PAST) researched and prepared National Register of Historic Places documentation for four archaeological sites in Connecticut: the Lighthouse Site, the Simeon North Factory Site, the Little Pootatuck Brook Site, and the Old Mine Park Site.

∞ As discussed in Ken Feder's article (page 18), the Lighthouse Site in Barkhamsted, is the site of a community of displaced Native Americans, Euro-Americans, and African Americans. The community was established around 1740 by James Chaugham, an Indian who married May Barber, a white woman. James and Mary and their children were joined by numerous other displaced persons. The village was occupied until circa 1860. Document research and archaeological testing have been conducted on the site by Kenneth Feder of Central Connecticut State University. Dr. Feder has identified seven house foundations, a cemetery, fireplaces, and other features, plus a nonrandom distribution of late 18th and early 19th century Euro-American and Indian artifacts. The artifacts correlate well with the documentary evidence available.

The artifacts, features and structural remains identified at the Lighthouse Site are unique in that they represent a mixture of Native, Black and Euro-American technologies. The research and information potential of this site is extremely high. The site is a rare example of a historic period settlement formed by individuals representing very different cultural backgrounds, blending various aspects of their cultures to produce a successful community. The site will provide valuable information concerning a little known aspect of the American historical experience.

∞ The Simeon North Pistol Factory Site, in Berlin, is a late 18th-early 19th century industrial site associated with the changes that took place in manufacturing processes during the initial stages of the Industrial Revolution. The factory was in operation from approximately 1795 until 1843 and is the site at which small arms were produced under the first federal pistol contract in 1799. After 1813, North shifted the focus of his operation to a new site in Middletown, and thereafter his factory in Berlin was engaged in the production of parts for the pistols made in Middletown. All production at the Berlin factory stopped in 1843 and the factory was destroyed in a flood in 1857.

The site was originally located by several members of the American Society of Arms Collectors in 1986. Recognizing the potential archaeological sensitivity and significance of the site, they contacted Allen R. Saltus, Jr., an archaeologist and research in residence at the Center for Regional Studies at Southeast Louisiana University, to conduct an archaeological survey of the property. Limited archaeological investigation conducted at the site demonstrated intact archaeological materials that reflect the factory's structural remains, activity areas, arms manufacturing processes, and the types of tools and machinery used in the processes. Recovered archaeological materials reflect every gun part in all stages of manufacture from raw iron to finished product. The structural collapse of the factory in the 1857 flood served to preserve much of the archaeological integrity of the site. The lower (cellar) structure appears to have imploded, with the upper floors collapsing downward, sealing the lower levels in a stratified context.

In addition to issues related to the processes of industrialization, the site has the integrity and potential to address such issues as early fabrication of firearms, types of arms and other materials made at the site, how the site supported North's Middletown factory, what tools were utilized at the site, and what the nature and distribution of activities were within the factory site.

The birth, growth and decline of this factory provide an excellent illustration of the development of the early U.S. arms manufacturing industry. But North's factory was also instrumental in developing and implementing manufacturing techniques which were adopted and made standard by many other industries. North is credited with being one of the first, if not the first, to implement the concept of parts interchangeability, and he made numerous changes and advances in machinery to achieve and improve interchangeability. North made specific innovations which were later adopted by some of the largest gun manufacturers, and he made several advances in tooling and manufacturing, including the construction of the first known milling machine in America, which he invented in 1816 to improve barrel-turning.

∞ The Little Pootatuck Brook Archaeological site in Southbury is a late 17th to early 18th century Pootatuck Indian village. The Pootatucks figure prominently in the political, economic, social and religious history of western Connecticut in general and the lower Housatonic River Valley in particular, from the earliest recorded European contact until the mid-17th century. The site is significant not only for its potential for enhancing understanding of Native American lifeways in the region, but also because of its association with and importance to the Indian peoples of western Connecticut, particularly the Schaghticokes of Kent and the Golden Hill Paugussetts of Trumbull, as a site of historical and spiritual importance. Many of the Pootatucks who left the Pootatuck Reservation in Southbury between 1706 and 1758 removed to the Schaghticoke Reservation in Kent. Although the site itself was likely abandoned by the mid-1700s, historically the general area of the upper Housatonic River Valley continued to be used for ceremonial purposes by members of the Paugussett tribe. This practice continues into the present.

Although archaeological testing of the site has been limited, a sufficient amount of work

has been conducted to demonstrate the presence of intact cultural features and a well-defined distribution of artifacts. Preserved subsurface features and a range of European and aboriginal artifacts recovered from the site provide information about the structure, content and organization of the site. There are intact features and archaeological deposits, including hearths and structural remains associated with dwellings, artifacts of European and Native American manufacture, plus food remains. This archaeological context for interpreting changing Indian cultural patterns in the late 17th and early 18th centuries. Most of the area has not been excavated and retains its integrity as one of the best examples of a late 17th to early 18th century Indian village in western Connecticut.

The Old Mine Park Archaeological Site in Trumbull is the site of various efforts at mining from the mid-18th century to 1916, and even today students, geologists, and amateur mineralogists come to the area to collect samples of a variety of minerals. It is the site of the first tungsten mine in the United States and the place at which topaz was first found in America. At the height of the mine's activity in 1900, the site included a large mill, shop, office, and laboratory, and a spur connecting the mill with the tracks of the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad. Pits, shafts, tunnels, and two lime kilns were distributed throughout the property, as were roads, paths and tramroads. All of the mine buildings burned down in a fire in 1916.

Relatively little seems to have been disturbed at the Old Mine Park Archaeological site since the town of Trumbull took possession of the property in 1937 and made it into a park. The park's hiking trails follow the mine's roads and tramroads, and mineral pits and shafts have been undistubed with the exception of the collection of samples by local "rockhounds". Tunnels, veins, pits, shafts, and a lime kiln have been fenced but left untouched. No above-ground remains of the mill building, shop, laboratory and office are visible today. The building remains were removed, but their sites have been left undisturbed and are now occupied by a picnic area and playground. Intact archaeological remains are likely buried beneath the ground surface.

The Old Mine Park Archaeological Site is very important for the role it played in mineralogy and in the development of technologies of extraction and processing of minerals, particularly tungsten. The site reflects the transition from very small-scale collection of a variety of minerals in the mid-18th century, to small-scale exploitation of limestone in the 18th and 19th centuries, to pioneering attempts at intensive large-scale mining of tungsten in the late 1800's and early 1900's, when the commercially valuable properties of tungsten were first realized. Many individuals attempted to make their fortunes by exploiting the various minerals at the site - a pattern of entrepreneurship repeated throughout American history. Although the tungsten mine was not a commercial success, it was the first such mine in the United States and played a vital role in developing appropriate methods of extraction and processing of tungsten which were later applied in more successful mines in the American West.

No archaeological work has been conducted at the Old Mine Park Site, but a visual inspection indicated that disturbance in the area has been very limited. Adits, tunnels, and shafts, plus the buried remains of the tungsten mine buildings and the "infrastructure" of the

tramroads, provide a rare opportunity to study 18th and 19th century technologies of mineral extraction and processing. Unusually detailed descriptions of the site and the tungsten mine are available, including the physical layout, the processes by which tungsten was extracted and processed, and even the machinery used in the mill. This documentary data, when combined with the archaeological data, could help provide a more complete picture of the mining activities at the Old Mine Park Archaeological Site.

EXCAVATION OF A LATE 17TH CENTURY PEQUOT BURIAL GROUND

During the spring of 1990, PAST, in conjunction with the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, excavated a late 17th century Indian burial ground. The cemetery, on private property, had been accidentally unearthed by the landowner. Document research indicated that the area was once part of the Mashantucket Pequot Reservation between 1667 and 1720. Preliminary analysis of the material culture supports a late 17th century date for the cemetery. A wide range of Native and European artifacts and textiles were recovered. One of the more interesting aspects of the material culture is the wide range of Native-manufactured beads, amulets, and animal effigies. In addition to producing important information on Pequot culture, demography, and mortuary practices, the excavation was significant because of the involvement and support of the Mashantucket Pequots. All phases of the excavation project have been funded and actively supported by the tribe, whose members have participated in all phases of the project. Analysis is proceeding rapidly in order to facilitate reburial of all excavated material in the near future.

RECENTLY RECEIVED RADIOCARBON DATES

From Tewksbury, Massachusetts...

Date: *8,460 ± 60*

Laboratory: *Beta Analytic* Lab number: *Beta 40117*

Institution responsible for the excavation: *PAL, Inc.*

Principal Investigator(s): *Suzanne Glover*

Name of Site: *Heath Brook Site*

Town: *Tewsbury* U.S.G.S. Quad: *Wilmington* State: MA

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): *Charcoal*

Describe feature or object that was dated:

Feature 15 was a small fire pit found 60-70 cm below the surface in the southwestern section of the site.

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) <u>directly</u> associated with the date:

NONE

Bibliographic references:

Glover, Suzanne and Diana Doucette
(in prep) *<u>"Data Recovery Program - Heath Brook Site (19-MD-22)"</u> to be submitted to Quincy & Company, Boston, MA. PAL, Inc. Report No. 378*

From Tewksbury, Massachusetts...

Date: *8,360 ± 80 B.P.*

Laboratory: *Beta Analytic* Lab number: *Beta 40119*

Institution responsible for the excavation: *PAL, Inc.*

Principal Investigator(s): *Suzanne Glover*

Name of Site: *Heath Brook Site*

Town: *Tewsbury* U.S.G.S. Quad: *Wilmington* State: MA

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): *Charcoal*

Describe feature or object that was dated:

Feature 10 consisted of a shallow plate feature found 60-65 cm below the surface in the north central section of the site. It was possibly fire related and/or used for food preparation.

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) directly associated with the date:

NONE

Bibliographic references:

Glover, Suzanne and Diana Doucette
(in prep) *"Data Recovery Program - Heath Brook Site (19-MD-22)" to be submitted to Quincy & Company, Boston, MA. PAL, Inc. Report No. 378*

From Warwick, Rhode Island...

Date: *870 ± 80 B.P.*

Laboratory: *Beta Analytic* Lab number: *Beta 27937*

Institution responsible for the excavation: *PAL, Inc.*

Principal Investigator(s): *Alan Leveillee and Jordan Kerber*

Name of Site: *Lambert Farm Site*

Town: *Warwick* U.S.G.S. Quad: *East Greenwich* State: *RI*

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): *Shell*

Describe feature or object that was dated:

A dog burial covered by a shell mound.

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) directly associated with the date:

A platform pipe, two ground stone axes, a gaming stone and a hammer stone.

Bibliographic references:

Kerber, Jordan, Alan Leveillee and Ruth Greenspan
1989 "An Unusual Dog Furial Feature at the Lambert Farm Site, Warwick Rhode Island: Preliminary Observations." In Archaeology of Eastern North America, Vol. 17.

From Warwick, Rhode Island...

Same as previous page

Date: *870 ± 80 B.P.*

Laboratory: *Beta Analytic* Lab number: *Beta 27937*

Institution responsible for the excavation: *PAL, Inc.*

Principal Investigator(s): *Alan Leveillee and Jordan Kerber*

Name of Site: *Lambert Farm Site*

Town: *Warwick* U.S.G.S. Quad: *East Greenwich* State: *RI*

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): *Shell*

Describe feature or object that was dated:

A dog burial covered by a shell mound.

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) <u>directly</u> associated with the date:

A platform pipe, two ground stone axes, a gaming stone and a hammer stone.

Bibliographic references:

Kerber, Jordan, Alan Leveillee and Ruth Greenspan
1989 "An Unusual Dog Furial Feature at the Lambert Farm Site, Warwick Rhode Island: Preliminary Observations." In <u>Archaeology of Eastern North America</u>, Vol. 17.

From North Kingstown, Rhode Island...

Date: *560 ± 70 B.P.*

Laboratory: *Beta Analytic* Lab number: *Beta 24108*

Institution responsible for the excavation: *PAL, Inc.*

Principal Investigator(s): *Alan Leveillee*

Name of Site: *Hoskins Park/South Wind*

Town: *North Kingstown* U.S.G.S. Quad: *Wickford* State: *RI*

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): *Shell*

Describe feature or object that was dated:

Large shell and refuse midden.

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) <u>directly</u> associated with the date:

Late Woodland (Levanna) and Contact (Apricot)

Bibliographic references:

Leveillee, Alan and Renee' Van Coughyen
1990 <u>The Hoskins Park and South Wind Sites - A Program of Archaeological Data Recovery in Rhode Island's Coastal Zone Volumes I and II.</u> Manuscript on file at The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc., Pawtucket, RI.

From North Kingstown, Rhode Island...

Date: *3820 ± 150 B.P.*

Laboratory: *Beta Analytic* Lab number: *Beta 26111*

Institution responsible for the excavation: *PAL, Inc.*

Principal Investigator(s): *Alan Leveillee*

Name of Site: *Hoskins Park/South Wind*

Town: *North Kingstown* U.S.G.S. Quad: *Wickford* State: *RI*

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): *Charcoal*

Describe feature or object that was dated:

Hickory nut roasting feature.

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) directly associated with the date:

Small Stemmed and Orient projectile points

Bibliographic references:

Leveillee, Alan and Renee' Van Coughyen
1990 *The Hoskins Park and South Wind Sites - A Program of Archaeological Data Recovery in Rhode Island's Coastal Zone Volumes I and II. Manuscript on file at The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc., Pawtucket, RI.*

From North Kingstown, Rhode Island...

Date: *3870 ± 60 B.P.*

Laboratory: *Beta Analytic* Lab number: *Beta 27084*

Institution responsible for the excavation: *PAL, Inc.*

Principal Investigator(s): *Alan Leveillee*

Name of Site: *Hoskins Park*

Town: *North Kingstown* U.S.G.S. Quad: *Wickford* State: *RI*

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): *Charcoal*

Describe feature or object that was dated:

Stone lined hearth.

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) directly associated with the date:

Small Stemmed and Orient projectile points

Bibliographic references:

Leveillee, Alan and Renee' Van Coughyen
1990 *The Hoskins Park and South Wind Sites - A Program of Archaeological Data Recovery in Rhode Island's Coastal Zone Volumes I and II. Manuscript on file at The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc., Pawtucket, RI.*

From Tiverton, Rhode Island...

Date: *4000 ± 110 B.P.*

Laboratory: *Beta Analytic* Lab number: *Beta 9875*

Institution responsible for the excavation: *PAL, Inc.*

Principal Investigator(s): *Alan Leveillee*

Name of Site: *Peckham Farm*

Town: *Tiverton* U.S.G.S. Quad: *Fall River* State: *RI*

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): *Shell*

Describe feature or object that was dated:

Shell midden feature

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) directly associated with the date:

Small Stemmed projectile point

Bibliographic references:

Leveillee, Alan and Renee' Van Coughyen

1990 *The Hoskins Park and South Wind Sites - A Program of Archaeological Data Recovery in Rhode Island's Coastal Zone Volume I. Manuscript on file at The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc., Pawtucket, RI.*

From Seekonk, Massachusetts...

Date: *2350 ± 80 B.P.*

Laboratory: *Beta Analytic* Lab number: *Beta 39676*

Institution responsible for the excavation: *PAL, Inc.*

Principal Investigator(s): *Deborah Cox*

Name of Site: *Seekonk 2 Site (19-BR-72)*

Town: *Seekonk* U.S.G.S. Quad: *East Providence* State: *RI-MA*

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): *Charcoal*

Describe feature or object that was dated:

Small circular cooking hearth .

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) directly associated with the date:

One fragment of aboriginal pottery (above feature), pentagonal shaped argillite projectile point,hornfels biface, cacined bone.

Bibliographic references:

The Public Archaeology Laboratory Inc.

1990 *"Phase II Site Examination Status Memorandum for the Algonquin Gas Transmission Company Proposed 1.6 mile 24-inchPipeline Loop; The Seekonk 2 and Seekonk 3 Prehistoric Sites (MHC #19-BR-72 and 19-BR-345), Seekonk, Massachusetts Docket Number CP89-656-000"on file at PAL, Inc., MHC and Algonquin Gas Transmission Company.*

From Seekonk, Massachusetts...

same as previous page

Date: *2350 ± 80 B.P.*

Laboratory: *Beta Analytic* Lab number: *Beta 39676*

Institution responsible for the excavation: *PAL, Inc.*

Principal Investigator(s): *Deborah Cox*

Name of Site: *Seekonk 2 Site (19-BR-72)*

Town: *Seekonk* U.S.G.S. Quad: *East Providence* State: *RI-MA*

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): *Charcoal*

Describe feature or object that was dated:

Feature 1 - small circular cooking hearth .

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) directly associated with the date:

One fragment of aboriginal pottery (above feature),one pentagonal shaped argillite projectile point,one hornfels biface,and cacined bone.

Bibliographic references:

The Public Archaeology Laboratory Inc.
1990 "Phase II Site Examination Status Memorandum for the Algonquin Gas Transmission Company Proposed 1.6 mile 24-inchPipeline Loop; The Seekonk 2 and Seekonk 3 Prehistoric Sites (MHC #19-BR-72 and 19-BR-345), Seekonk, Massachusetts Docket Number CP89-656-000"on file at PAL, Inc., MHC and Algonquin Gas Transmission Company.

From Seekonk, Massachusetts...

Date: *2460 ± 70 B.P.*

Laboratory: *Beta Analytic* Lab number: *Beta 39678*

Institution responsible for the excavation: *PAL, Inc.*

Principal Investigator(s): *Deborah Cox*

Name of Site: *Seekonk 2 Site (19-BR-72)*

Town: *Seekonk* U.S.G.S. Quad: *East Providence* State: *RI-MA*

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): *Charcoal*

Describe feature or object that was dated:

Feature 8 -an irregularly shaped soil stain containing charcoal chunks and four pieces of quartz chipping debris, within an oxidized soil matrix.

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) directly associated with the date:

NONE

Bibliographic references:

The Public Archaeology Laboratory Inc.
1990 "Phase II Site Examination Status Memorandum for the Algonquin Gas Transmission Company Proposed 1.6 mile 24-inchPipeline Loop; The Seekonk 2 and Seekonk 3 Prehistoric Sites (MHC #19-BR-72 and 19-BR-345), Seekonk, Massachusetts Docket Number CP89-656-000"on file at PAL, Inc., MHC and Algonquin Gas Transmission Company.

From Seekonk, Massachusetts...

Date: *3660 ± 60 B.P.*

Laboratory: *Beta Analytic* Lab number: *Beta 39675*

Institution responsible for the excavation: *PAL, Inc.*

Principal Investigator(s): *Deborah Cox*

Name of Site: *Seekonk 2 Site (19-BR-72)*

Town: *Seekonk* U.S.G.S. Quad: *East Providence* State: *RI-MA*

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): *Charcoal*

Describe feature or object that was dated:

Feature 2 -circular concentrated deposit of charcoal chunks.

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) directly associated with the date:

NONE

Bibliographic references:

The Public Archaeology Laboratory Inc.

1990 *"Phase II Site Examination Status Memorandum for the Algonquin Gas Transmission Company Proposed 1.6 mile 24-inchPipeline Loop; The Seekonk 2 and Seekonk 3 Prehistoric Sites (MHC #19-BR-72 and 19-BR-345), Seekonk, Massachusetts Docket Number CP89-656-000"on file at PAL, Inc., MHC and Algonquin Gas Transmission Company.*

From Seekonk, Massachusetts...

Date: *3630 ± 80 B.P.* repeats

Laboratory: *Beta Analytic* Lab number: *Beta 39676*

Institution responsible for the excavation: *PAL, Inc.*

Principal Investigator(s): *Deborah Cox*

Name of Site: *Seekonk 2 Site (19-BR-72)*

Town: *Seekonk* U.S.G.S. Quad: *East Providence* State: *RI-MA*

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): *Charcoal*

Describe feature or object that was dated:

Feature 5 -consolidated charcoal deposit within an oxidized rocky matrix.

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) directly associated with the date:

Quartz scraper.

Bibliographic references:

The Public Archaeology Laboratory Inc.

1990 *"Phase II Site Examination Status Memorandum for the Algonquin Gas Transmission Company Proposed 1.6 mile 24-inchPipeline Loop; The Seekonk 2 and Seekonk 3 Prehistoric Sites (MHC #19-BR-72 and 19-BR-345), Seekonk, Massachusetts Docket Number CP89-656-000"on file at PAL, Inc., MHC and Algonquin Gas Transmission Company.*

PUBLICATIONS, NEW REPORTS and REFERENCES CITED IN THE TEXT

Dincauze, Dena F.

1990 Review of "Conceptual Issues in Environmental Archaeology", edited by J. Bintliff, D.A. Davidson, and E.G. Grant, 1988, Edinburgh University Press. In Antiquity, Vol. 63, No. 241:855. Oxford.

1990 "Geoarchaeology in New England: An Early Holocene Heat Spell?" In Review of Archaeology, 10(2): 1-4. A review of "Fluvial Sedimentation in Response to Postglacial Uplift and Environmental Change, Missisquoi River, Vermont" (1988) in Quaternary Research 30:190-203, by G. Robert Brakenridge, Peter A. Thomas, Laura E. Conkey, & Jane C. Schiferle; and "The Bolton Spring Site, Connecticut; Early Holocene Human Occupation and Environmental Changes in Southern New England" (1988) in Geoarchaeology, 3:221-234, by Robert M. Thorson and Kevin McBride.

1990 "A Good Product Mislabled." In Current Anthropology, 31 (2):221-223. A review of Archaeological Thought in America, 1989, edited by C.C. Lamberg-Karlovsky. Cambridge, University Press.

King, Thomas F.

1990 "A NART in the Northeast: An Example of Hierarchical Ordering of Archaeological Research Topics." In Conference on New England Archaeology Newsletter 9(1):4-12.

Luedtke, Barbara E.

1990 Report on an Archaeological Survey of World's End, Massachusetts. Submitted to The Trustees of Reservations and to the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

CONFERENCE ON NEW ENGLAND ARCHAEOLOGY REQUEST FOR ARTICLES

Please submit a brief paragraph on your current New England Archaeological research for inclusion in the next CNEA Newsletter. Include a title and the name of the person or institution responsible for the article. Clean graphics can be inserted into articles if available. Also submit any new bibliographic titles for books, articles, reports, etc. in American Antiquity format. Thank you.

Please return by February 15, 1991 to:

Mary Lynne Rainey
The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.
387 Lonsdale Avenue
Pawtucket, RI 02860

or to your local CNEA Steering Committee representative. If possible send your contribution on a computer diskette (with paper copy) using a Macintosh application or an ASCE file format. Please specify the computer model and word processor operating system used to create your file. Your diskette will be returned to you. Begin by stating your research topic, research questions, and how your data are used to answer your research questions.

NAME:

INSTITUTION:

MAILING ADDRESS:

BIBLIOGRAPHIC ENTRY:

RESEARCH TOPIC:

C-14 DATES (See page 39)

PLEASE MAIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

REQUEST FOR RADIOCARBON DATES

Please report C14 dates as fully as possible.

Date: _____ +/- B.P.

Laboratory: _____ Lab number: _____

Institution responsible for the excavation: _____

Principal Investigator(s): _____

Name of Site: _____

Town: _____ U.S.G.S. Quad: _____ State: _____

Sample (charcoal, shell, bone, etc.): _____

Describe feature or object that was dated:

Diagnostic artifacts (temporal or cultural) **directly** associated with the date:

Bibliographic references:

CNEA NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION POLICY

The purpose of the CNEA newsletter
is to strengthen communication and facilitate a
continuous interchange among archaeologists who work in
New England.

To this end researchers are encouraged to submit
short abstracts on their current research by topic or region,
bibliography, and radiocarbon dates.

One volume of the newsletter will also include a position
paper which is solicited by the steering committee
addressing the annual meeting topic.
Any other submitted papers
will be reviewed by the steering committee prior to their
inclusion in the newsletter.