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Information for Parks, Federal Agencies, Indian Tribes, States, Local Governments, and the Private Sector

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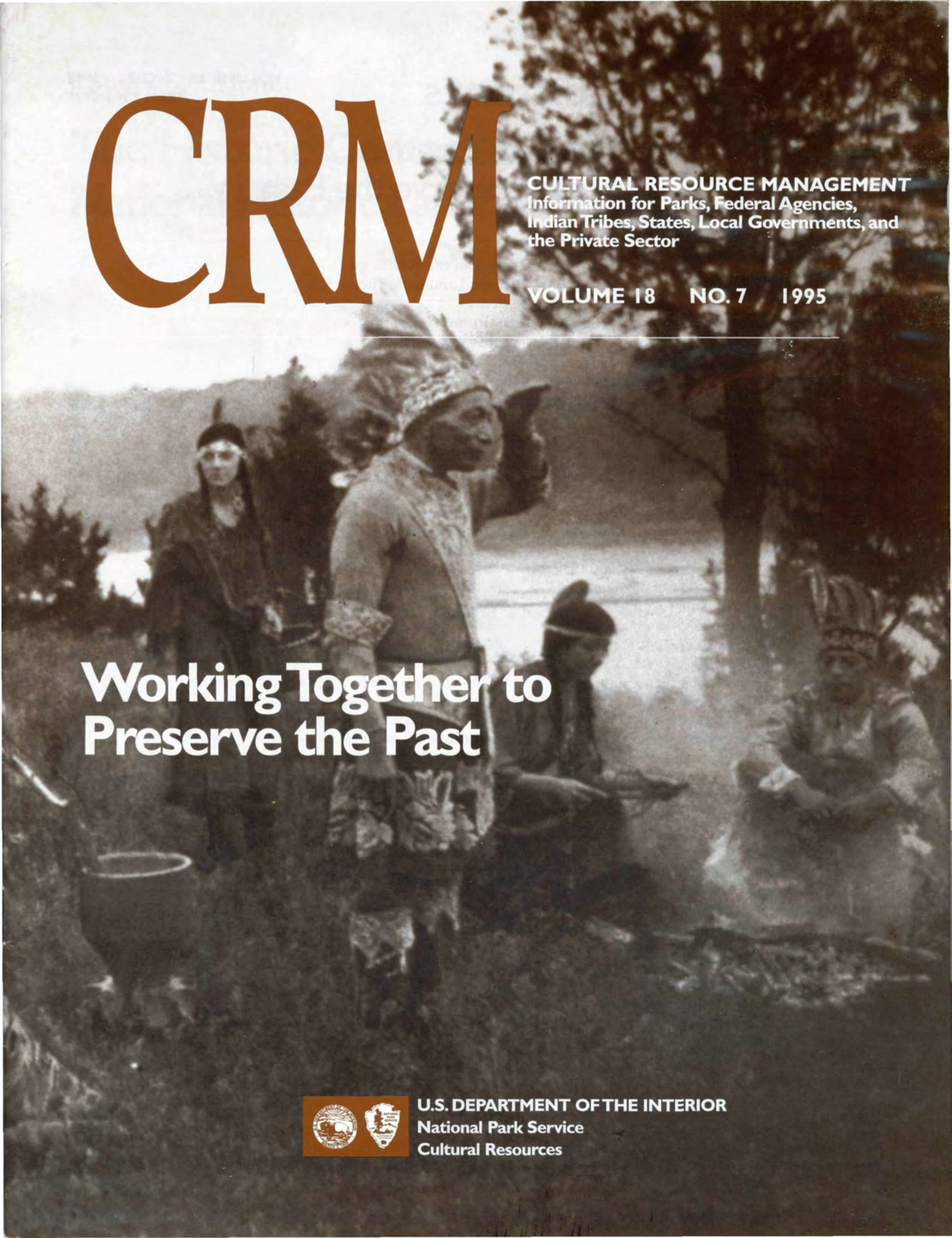

Working Together to Preserve the Past

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
National Park Service
Cultural Resources

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To promote and maintain high standards for preserving and managing cultural resources

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Cover photo: Mohegans gather at Shantok in the 1920s; detail of photo (see page 8) courtesy Mohegan Tribe Department of Cultural Resources.

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Robert S. Grumet

The Historic Contact in the Northeast National Historic Landmark Theme Study

An Overview

The papers in this special issue of *CRM* highlight some of the results of the *Historic Contact in the Northeast National Historic Landmark (NHL) Theme Study*, an innovative partnership project coordinated by the National Park Service Northeastern Field Office's Cultural Resource Planning Branch (CRPB) between 1989 and 1993. The project brought together colleagues in federal, state, and local government agencies, Indian tribes, and the professional and private communities in a 17-state area extending along the Atlantic Seaboard between Maine and Virginia. Working together, they developed a framework used to identify, evaluate, and nominate cultural resources documenting contact relations between Indian, European, and African people in the region from the 16th to the 18th centuries. The authors of the papers in this issue represent the full range of this constituency. Through their efforts, and those of the more than 200 specialists who provided information, review comments, and other technical assistance during project development, more than 800 sites and districts associated with contact were studied. Seventeen of these properties were subsequently designated as National Historic Landmarks for their associations with historic contact.

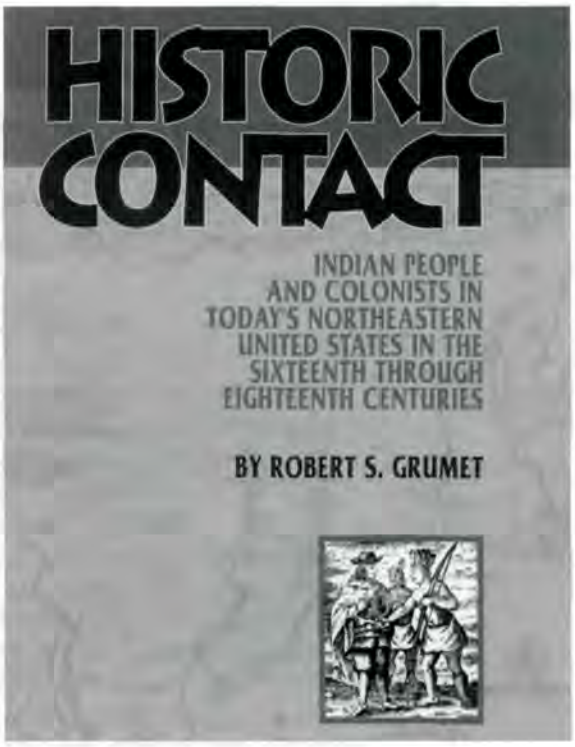
Woodcut produced for Thomas Campanius Holm in 1702, courtesy The Library Company of Philadelphia.

The project began as the first NHL theme study in 30 years to focus upon archeological resources. Adopting the National Register of Historic Places multiple property documentation format to eliminate needless repetition of information, the theme study became the first NHL project to employ the preservation planning historic context framework as a vehicle to systematically identify, evaluate, and nominate cultural resources on a regional basis.

Several groups played particularly significant roles in the theme study. The State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs) in each of the 17 states in the project disseminated project notices and drafts of project products to groups and individuals living or working within their states, relayed responses to CRPB staff, provided information from state site inventories, reviewed all project materials, and assisted in the identification and evaluation of potential NHL nominees. The Archaeological NHL Committee, a joint committee of the Society for American Archaeology and the Society for Historical Archaeology, organized professional peer review of project products and furnished other key technical assistance. And 22 colleagues made especially important contributions by voluntarily serving as nomination sponsors providing information and reviewing documentation for specific NHL properties. Several of these sponsors are authors of the site report papers in this issue of *CRM*.

Although the project formally ended with the designation of the last NHL in 1993, project partners continue to work to make the products of theme study research available to a broader public. Two sponsors, Ralph Solecki, for Fort Massapeag, and Herbert Kraft, for the Minisink Historic District, have published articles either reporting on their properties or using revisions of the NHL property nomination form in state archeological society journals. Articles containing adaptations of property nomination forms for four other NHLs designated through the theme study cur-

rently are in press. Project partners have also participated in NHL plaque dedications and other activities to increase public awareness of these nationally significant properties. Many further volunteered time to review chapters and provide other support as the theme study report completed in 1992 was revised for publication. The book resulting from this effort, entitled *Historic Contact: Indian People and Colonists in Today's Northeastern United States in the Sixteenth Through Eighteenth Centuries,* will be published by the University of Oklahoma Press this fall. It will be the first volume in the Press's "Contributions to Public Archeology" series, a new series dedicated to making the findings of CRM research available to wider audiences.



Robert S. Grumet is a National Park Service archeologist on the Resource Stewardship and Partnership Team, Chesapeake and Allegheny System Support Offices, Northeast Field Area, Philadelphia. He served as the Historic Contact NHL theme study project director and guest editor of this issue of CRM.

Project staff extends appreciation to National Park Service Associate Director Kate Stevenson; former Associate Director Jerry Rogers; Departmental Consulting Archeologist Frank McManamon; former chief, Interagency Resources Division, Larry Aten; chief, National Register Branch, Carol Shull; and chief, Planning Branch, Pat Tiller for their strong support of the theme study.

The NPS also gratefully acknowledges the assistance of David Brose, Shereen Lerner, and the other members of the Archaeological NHL Committee of the Society for American Archaeology and the Society for Historical Archaeology in the development of the Historic Contact theme study. They volunteered many hours of service during 1992 and 1993.

Carol D. Shull

A National Perspective

The remarkable range and diversity of the localities whose histories are described in the pages of this special issue of *CRM* show how the Historic Contact NHL theme study is an outstanding model for National Historic Landmark theme studies. The results of this project are not only 17 new National Historic Landmark designations but a book, a number of fine articles, and a study that can be used by anyone to evaluate and understand other places relating to contact between Indians, Europeans, and African people and to nominate them to the National Register. Perhaps best of all, the study brought together a variety of experts as partners and tested how we can work with them on identifying and designating National Historic Landmarks and educating the public about them, not just in this study but in other studies as well. In fact, guest editor Bob Grumet already is at work coordinating a new nation-wide theme study working with many of the partners who helped with the Historic Contact project to document and designate significant sites associated with the Earliest Americans.

The National Historic Landmark Survey was recently merged with the National Register, so that these programs can be administered more consistently and in tandem. The Historic Contact theme study is the first NHL theme study to use the National Register of Historic Places multiple property documentation format. This format has been so heavily used to streamline preparation of National Register nominations that over one third

of the nearly 65,000 listings in the National Register are part of multiple property submissions that, as Bob Grumet says in his introduction, eliminate the needless repetition of information. They also define in a clearly understandable way the kinds of characteristics a resource must have in order to be eligible for designation within a documented context. Right now, we plan for new NHL theme studies to follow this same model and for the multiple property documentation created for these new studies to be made widely available, so that others can use this research to identify additional properties not just for NHL designation but for National Register listing and determinations of eligibility as well. Popular publications will be another product. The National Historic Landmark Survey has several theme studies underway, including one on labor history in cooperation with the Newberry Library and a group of noted scholars, another on places related to the Underground Railroad, and a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-and Bureau of Reclamation–sponsored study on dams in the United States.

This year we will be considering what the National Park Service can do to facilitate the designation of National Historic Landmarks. Already, we know that we need to develop increasingly more effective guidance to assist those identifying, evaluating, and nominating resources as NHLs and to the National Register. We need to work with interested individuals and organizations to develop some consensus on priorities for studies and make these known so that the public will support us. We must seek more partnerships with universities, professional organizations, federal agencies, State Historic Preservation Officers, Indian tribes, and others to get these studies done. To the greatest possible extent, outside experts should be used to do these studies, not NPS staff. How can we make better use of National Register listing documentation to minimize the need for additional work? How can we educate the public better about NHLs, some of our nation's premier historic places? **Teaching with Historic Places** lesson plans for use in the schools have been prepared for some of them. Some will be showcased in the new National Register of Historic Places Travel Itinerary series. We are planning a new book on National Historic Landmarks, similar to the recently published *African American Historic Places* volume.

What else should we be doing? How can we do this work cheaper and better? In the coming year, we will be looking to the preservation community for advice on how the NPS can make the NHL program more effective. Projects like the Historic Contact in the Northeast National Historic Landmark Theme Study are one way to achieve this goal. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make it happen.

Carol D. Shull is Chief, National Historic Landmark Survey and Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places.

Lloyd N. Chapman

The Most Important Things We Can Do

The *Historic Contact in the Northeast National Historic Landmark Theme Study* was completed as government-wide re-invention directives called upon the National Park Service to re-examine the effectiveness of its programs. The NPS strategic plan lists the following objectives as the "most important things that we can do" to fulfill the agency's mission to preserve and protect the nation's cultural and natural heritage:

- Establish a scientific/scholarly basis for resource management decisions.
- Strengthen protection of park resources.
- Achieve sustainability in all park operations and development.
- Help people forge emotional, intellectual, and recreational ties with their natural and cultural heritage.
- Lead in a national initiative to strengthen the recognition and perpetuation of heritage resources and their public benefits.
- Become a more responsive, efficient, and accountable organization.
- Pursue maximum public benefits through contracts, cooperative agree-

ments, contributions, and other alternative approaches to support park operations.

Although some of these objectives apparently focus on park system units, all broadly represent the general goals and priorities of the NPS historic preservation programs. Collectively, they provide a systematic framework for assessing the effectiveness of the theme study project in identifying, evaluating, designating, and preserving the National Historic Landmarks described by the authors of the articles in this issue of *CRM*.

All of the authors show how National Historic Landmark designation helps establish a scientific/scholarly basis for resource management decisions. Robert Bradley, for example, indicates how NHL documentation can help Maine Bureau of Parks and Recreation managers respond to erosion threatening site deposits at Pemaquid. Paul Huey shows how analysis of information preserved in the Fort Orange and Schuyler Flatts NHLs can contribute to more effective interpretation and management of other historic sites in New York. Melissa Fawcett eloquently demonstrates how ethnographic documentation of native oral traditions can help site managers and others appreciate the symbolic and spiritual significance of Shantok to the Mohegan people. And Mary Ellen Hodges and Randy Turner show how reassessment efforts recognizing previously undocumented Historic Contact components in the Camden NHL have contributed to the development of a five-year intensive survey of the Nanzattico community.

The high level of scholarship required for NHL designation provides the solid foundation essential for strengthening resource protection. The authors of the Norridgewock article show how systematic boundary survey required for NHL nomination contributed to the development of easements preserving archeological deposits at the Tracy Farm and Sandy River sites. Systematic research definitively demonstrating the national significance of Fort Orange archeological deposits played a major role in the decision to preserve surviving resources in place 17' below the interstate road-surface built above it.

Both Bradley's account of the history of preservation efforts at Pemaquid and Ralph Solecki's narrative tracing the more than 50-year-long struggle to rescue Fort Massapeag demonstrate how the NHL program can help sustain cultural resources in parks. Cowie, Petersen, and Bourque further show how interagency cooperation has supported development of research plans that balance research needs with preservation imperatives at the Old Point site in the Norridgewock NHL.

Fawcett convincingly shows how appreciation of all aspects of a site's significance can help people forge emotional, intellectual, and recreational ties with their natural and cultural heritage. By participating in the celebration dedicating Shantok as a NHL, Mohegan leaders and tribespeople reaffirmed their emotional ties to the site while demonstrating the importance of those ties to state and federal participants in the ceremony.

Public dedication celebrations like those held at Shantok strengthen recognition and increase awareness of the benefits of preserving America's most significant sites for future generations. Publications, like the several scholarly articles using theme study nomination text materials and the forthcoming University of Oklahoma Press Historic Contact volume, further enhance appreciation of heritage resources. Hodges and Turner document how the response of Virginia's archeological and preservation communities to the theme study and related projects has helped implement the Nanzattico Archeological Project and provided other opportunities for public involvement and education on many levels. And increased awareness of the national significance of the Old Point, Tracy Farm, and Sandy River sites promises to enhance preservation efforts at the severely threatened Norridgewock NHL.

The designation of all of the properties nominated as NHLs through the Historic Contact theme study depended upon the responsiveness, efficiency, and accountability of the many agencies and individuals devoted to the preservation of the nation's cultural heritage. The tribal historians, public archeologists, and university scholars who have written the papers in this issue reflect only a small portion of the diversity represented in the growing partnerships that are emerging to preserve archeological and architectural sites and districts in a time of dwindling resources and diminishing government funding. Theme studies like the Historic Contact project can coordinate efforts across state lines and disciplinary boundaries. They can enlist voluntary support (each NHL nomination sponsor in the Historic Contact theme study was a volunteer who donated time from their own work plans), increase professional involvement (project product peer review was conducted through a cooperative agreement with the Society for American Archaeology and the Society for Historical Archaeology), and more efficiently use limited state and federal resources (project costs, almost entirely in the form of staff-time, were shared by several cooperating agen-

cies). Their accountability can be measured by their use in resource management decisions and their ongoing value as interpretive resources supporting public presentations. By these measures, projects like the partnership effort, involving the authors of the papers in this issue and the several hundred other people who worked together on the Historic Contact theme study, may be considered among one of the most important things we can do.

Lloyd N. Chapman is NPS supervisory archeologist on the Resource Stewardship and Partnership Team in the Chesapeake and Allegheny System Support Offices, Northeast Field Area, in Philadelphia.

Veletta Canouts

The NHL Archeological Initiative

With the completion of the Historic Contact theme study to designate archeological properties as National Historic Landmarks (NHLs), the Archeological Assistance Program (AAP) has established the success of the NHL Archeological Initiative begun 10 years ago. The original initiative had two goals: (1) to develop nominations of new archeological properties, and (2) to increase professional and public awareness of the NHL program for long-term site protection.

Through the combined efforts of NPS regional AAP offices and the Archeological NHL Committee of the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) and the Society for Historic Archaeology (SHA), the number of nominations and listings for archeology has increased by almost 50 since 1988. In FY 1987, the AAP workplan identified NHLs as an important component of the program, with the support of the Cultural Resources Associate Director, then Jerry L. Rogers. AAP regional offices began actively to promote and solicit NHL nominations; these offices developed nominations on their own and in cooperation with NPS units and other federal agencies, tribal, state, and local governments and with private landowners. Nominations flowed in for all types of sites—from rock art to monumental mound constructions—from as far north as Alaska and south to Mississippi .

The Archeological NHL Committee has been instrumental in providing expertise for the peer review of these nominations. Operating under a Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperative Agreements with NPS, the SAA and SHA established formal review procedures. The first chair of that committee, Dr. David Brose, has since served on the Advisory Board for NHL designations.

The Archeological Assistance Program sponsored the preparation and publication of two technical briefs to promote archeology in the National Historic Landmarks program. The first brief, which described what NHLs are and how to nominate sites for NHL status, was published in 1988 (Technical Brief No. 3) and coincided with the AAP initiative to increase the number of archeological NHLs. Technical Brief No. 10, 1990, described how theme studies, which can integrate geographically or temporally dispersed sites, could be used for comprehensive planning. The author of the briefs, Dr. Robert Grumet, AAP staff member in the NPS Philadelphia office, demonstrated the applicability and efficacy of a thematic approach in the theme study highlighted in this issue of *CRM*.

Three National Park Service divisions, the Archeological NHL Committee, 17 State Historic Preservation Offices, several Native American tribes, and more than 200 professional and avocational archeologists and historians contributed to the study. Seventeen archeological properties representing 300 years of Indian, European, and African American interaction were added to the list of NHLs.

In 1992, this theme study and other successful NHL efforts were highlighted in a symposium, co-sponsored by NPS and SAA at the SAA national meetings in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The current "Earliest Americans National Historic Landmark Theme Study," a multi-year effort begun in 1994 to identify, evaluate, and designate archeological sites associated with the earliest sites of the nations first peoples, was similarly highlighted at this year's SAA meetings in Minneapolis at a workshop organized by AAP staff and SAA participants.

The goals of the NHL Archeological Initiative appear to be firmly grounded. The theme approach provides a context; the professional community is cooperating in promoting and reviewing NHL nominations; and the AAP is actively working

within parks and with other land managing agencies and organizations to identify and better manage significant archeological resources for the benefit of professional and public interests. Funding for these efforts has been limited to date, but as the Historic Contact theme study shows, the basis for NHL successes depends upon the willingness and cooperation of professionals and volunteers. We wish to express our appreciation and continued support for all of those who have contributed in the past or who hope to contribute to future NHL nominations.

Veletta Canouts is Deputy Chief, Archeological Assistance Program NPS, Washington, DC.

See page 14 for a partial listing of archeological National Historic Landmarks.

Melissa Jayne Fawcett

Shantok: A Tale of Two Sites

Shantok Burial and Festival Grounds: Sacred Site, Mohegan Nation

Fort Shantok: National Historic Landmark, United States of America

Mohegans gather at Shantok in the 1920s. Left to right: Myrtice Fielding, Burrill Fielding (Chief Matahga), Loretta Fielding, Lemuel Fielding (Chief Occum), Medicine Woman Dr. Gladys Tantaquidgeon, Elmer Fielding. Thames River in background.

Shantok tells a tale of two sites, or of one place viewed in two very different ways. To the National Park Service, Fort Shantok in the eastern Connecticut town of Montville, is a National Historic Landmark dedicated in 1993. It represents an archeological site of national significance in the early history of the United States. To the people of the Mohegan Indian Tribe, Shantok is a place of many stories. Some are ancient tales of great deeds by Sachem Uncas over three centuries old. Others are more recent, like my sister's wedding at Shantok last October, at which her nephew, David Uncas, sang a rap version of "Here Comes the Bride."

The spirit of Mohegan lies at Shantok. It is a place that we Mohegans come from, the place from which we draw strength, and the place where we ultimately journey to the Spirit Land. The Ancient Mohegan Burial Ground where many of our ancestors rest is the focal point of Shantok to Mohegan people. Marked burials range in age from five months to 350 years. Funerals for tribal members today still include the same offerings of arrowheads, tobacco, and prayers as in ancient times. But Shantok is not only a place of burials. It is a living village whose story-trails follow...

Seventeenth Century

Our elders affirm that an independent-minded Pequot Sagamore named Uncas arrived with his supporters from across the Massapequotuck River (now known as the Thames River) to form the Mohegan Tribe at Shantok in 1635. Tradition holds that those 17th-century Mohegans first landed in their dugout canoes at the site of Shantok Rock. Located in Shantok Brook, this rock was destroyed by railroad construction in the 1840s. It is our version of Plymouth Rock. At Shantok, the first Mohegans created a fortified village, held festivals, and buried their dead. Since that time, 13 generations of Mohegans have also lived, played, celebrated, and been buried there.

By the 1640s, the Massapequotuck River had become a busy place as English newcomers invaded the region. Uncas began forming alliances between his people and these Wannuxsug (pale strangers). Other tribes, like the nearby Narragansetts, resisted the invaders. Clashes over Native policies toward the English eventually led the Narragansetts to besiege Fort Shantok in 1645. The Mohegans were saved by the success of their Moigu (shaman) in a duel with his Narragansett counterpart. Our oral tradition tells us that our Moigu swallowed a silver bullet two times. Passing it through his navel both times, he then loaded the charmed ball into his musket. Taking aim, he shot

and killed the Narragansett shaman. Shortly thereafter, the Narragansetts raised the siege and returned to their homes. Those killed during the siege were buried at Shantok facing southwest, the place where corn came from.

Eighteenth Century

Things began to change during the 1700s. Although many Mohegans continued to bury their dead at Shantok in the traditional way, Christianized Mohegans were buried in an east-west direction at the nearby Cedar Swamp Burial Ground (known today as the Ashbow Burial Ground). These latter individuals were converted through the efforts of Mohegan minister Samson Occum and his sister Lucy Occum Tantaquidgeon. A notable preacher in his day, he is perhaps best known as the founder of Dartmouth College. An overpass named after Occum today leads to Shantok.

Nineteenth Century

Mohegan people continued to bury their dead at Shantok throughout the 1800s. Tobacco was offered to the spirit of the deceased and spiritual leaders like Lester Skeesucks still sang the old death chant in Mohegan:

> *Yu ni ne-un-ai; ji-bai oke ni ki-pi-ai; ni mus se-chu*
> Here I am; Spirit Land I am coming; Must I pass away

Fielding Falls, located near the Burial Ground at Shantok, was a favorite tribal gathering spot during the 19th century. The falls were named for the Fielding family, the largest clan in the Mohegan Tribe. One member of this clan, Fidelia Fielding (1827-1908), was a traditionalist, teacher, and the last fluent speaker of our language. Two other clan members, Chief Occum (Lemuel Fielding) and Chief Matahga (Burrill Fielding), served as Mohegan chiefs in the early 20th century.

Between 1861 and 1872 Mohegan reservation lands were largely disbanded, leaving Shantok vulnerable to encroachment. Gradually, the State of Connecticut assumed control of many surrounding tribal properties at that time.

Twentieth Century

Shantok Burial Ground was taken from the tribe by the State of Connecticut by right of eminent domain through an act of condemnation in 1926. At that time, Shantok's roads were rerouted and the split rail fence around the burial ground was replaced with fort-like stockade fencing. A ball field was placed on top of the Dolbeare family's graves. . their location did not fit the state's park plans.

In spite of these affronts, the tribe remained actively involved at Shantok. In 1927, the pond at Shantok was renamed after Chief Harold Tantaquidgeon, who had saved a young woman from drowning there. During the 1930s, another chief, Little Hatchet (Courtland Fowler), assisted Chief Matahga in constructing the 100 "Giant Steps" near the pond under the auspices of the WPA. In 1936, a monument to Fidelia Fielding was placed at the Shantok Burial Ground. It was unfortunately vandalized on the night of its dedication, when the gold screws attaching the plaque were stolen.

As young people living on Mohegan Hill, members of our current tribal leadership ran down the path leading to Shantok to play in the woods during the 1930s and 1940s. They crossed the barway by the current park entrance to run to the old Tantaquidgeon, Fowler, and Fielding and Strickland homesteads on top of Mohegan Hill. The path was closed after a defense plant was built nearby during the 1950s. Local population soon exploded as the Shantok area began to develop.

In 1967, increased traffic congestion necessitated construction of the Mohegan Pequot Bridge immediately north of Shantok. Although bridge construction cut into Shantok's riverbanks, it did not directly damage the Burial Ground or village site. Mohegan leaders and tribespeople attended the bridge opening in traditional regalia. Chief Harold Tantaquidgeon participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony with Governor Dempsey. Recently uncovered archeological field notes from the Shantok Cove site surveyed during bridge construction mention discovery of a child's skeleton.

Dry-laid fieldstone foundation, Fort Shantok. Photo by Bert Salwen, 1962.

Mohegans were not informed of that burial desecration at Shantok.

Burial desecration has always been of concern to the Mohegans. In 1973, for example, Chief Little Hatchet posted the following notice in the Shantok Burial Ground:

> *The stone of Anna E. Nonesuch was stolen from this grave after being here for 100 years. It was stolen a short time ago. May the people who did this be cursed with a guilty conscience for the rest of their lives. With the help of God this stone may turn up sometime, somehow, somewhere... Please bring it back.*
>
> *Little Hatchet, a relative*

Little Hatchet was right to be hopeful for the stone's return. Sometimes, with patience, gravestones do come back. In 1991, the Mohegans repatriated the 18th-century Samuel Uncas gravestone from the nearby Slater Museum. It was formally re-erected at the annual August Mohegan Festival at Shantok that year.

During the 1970s, Shantok became part of a controversial Tribal Federal Land Claim, which stated that Shantok lands had been illegally taken from the tribe in violation of the 1790 Trade and Intercourse Act. Because of this pending land suit, as Tribal Vice-Chair, I opposed the State of Connecticut's nomination of the Shantok archeological site to the National Register of Historic Places in 1985. Mohegans insisted that only the tribe ought to submit Shantok's nomination, since Mohegans were the legitimate landowners. The state proceeded with the nomination, and Fort Shantok was listed in the National Register on March 20, 1986.

Shortly thereafter, the Mohegan Tribe was notified that Shantok was being considered for study as a potential National Historic Landmark. Although the tribe maintained the same position it had taken with the state, it did not actively oppose the nomination. Mohegan leaders and tribespeople gathered together with state and federal officials on October 13, 1993 to dedicate Fort Shantok as a National Historic Landmark.

The tribe's land claim was finally settled when the federal government formally recognized the Mohegan Tribe on March 7, 1994. Tribespeople journeyed one mile north from the tribal office to Shantok immediately upon receiving notice of Federal Recognition. We navigated the snow banks and cried with joy, thanking the ancestors who had brought us to that day. Federal acknowledgement legally justified the tribal claim for Shantok. Yet, in the Mohegan Settlement Act passed by the United States Congress later that year, the tribe received neither money nor the Shantok lands. Instead, the tribal was given permission to rebuy Shantok for 2.7 million dollars. At this writing, the Tribe anticipates imminent re-entrustment of the Shantok lands.

This summer an archeological field school is being conducted at Shantok. The archeologists are using ground penetrating radar and other unobtrusive techniques to survey the site. Shantok has been intruded on enough. Dr. Jeffrey Bendremer of Eastern Connecticut State University is directing this field school under the auspices of the Mohegan Tribal Cultural Resources Department. Students participating in the Mohegan Field School will be taught that they are studying something more than a mere archeological site. They will learn, as succeeding generations of Mohegan people have always known, that Shantok is a place of many stories. They will learn that Shantok is not just a storehouse of fascinating artifacts to be dug up and taken away. Shantok will not be presented to them as a mere agglomeration of postmolds, palisades, foundations, and other features. Working together with Mohegan elders, leaders, and tribespeople, they will come to understand that Shantok is the heartland of a nation.

Melissa Jayne Fawcett is Director of the Department of Cultural Resources, Mohegan Nation, Uncasville, CT.

On August 30, 1995, Connecticut Governor John Rowland signed into law a bill returning Fort Shantok State Park to the Mohegan Nation. This is the first parcel of land ever returned to the tribe. Tribal Elders and Tribal Council members traveled to Hartford to witness the historic signing. Prior to that transferal, the entire Mohegan reservation equaled 0.4 acres. This acquisition of the Shantok lands will increase the tribe's land base to 138.4 acres. The tribe wishes to thank the editors of *CRM* for featuring the history of Shantok at this important time.

—mjf

Robert L. Bradley

Pemaquid National Historic Landmark

Bellarmine stoneware jug

Nestled on a rocky peninsula adjacent to a small harbor in the mid-coast region of Maine is the site of Colonial Pemaquid, one of the nation's earliest and most historically-significant 17th-century settlements. This extinct fortified village, from its murky beginnings to its inglorious demise, was to play a dramatic role as New England's northeasternmost outpost, facing the French in Acadia.

Captain George Waymouth, an English explorer reconnoitering the Maine coast for potential settlement sites, visited the place briefly in the summer of 1605. Two years later the name Pemaquid was first recorded when members of the Popham Expedition landed there on their way to founding an ill-fated settlement at the mouth of the Kennebec River, just a few miles to the west. Captain John Smith of Jamestown fame noted it in 1614 as the site of a seasonal English trading ship's base, and soon thereafter it probably saw similarly seasonal fishing and fish-processing. There is evidence that a year-round settlement was established in 1625, though the earliest surviving land patent gives 1628 as the official founding date of a permanent community.

Colonial Pemaquid. Photo by Nicholas Dean.

Early Pemaquid prospered and grew quickly, its economy based on agriculture, animal husbandry, fishing, and fur trade with the Native Americans. An indicator of this growth is the £500 worth of "goods and provisions" which the English pirate, Dixy Bull, is reported to have carried off from Pemaquid in 1632. Another dramatic incident occurred three years later, when the ship "Angel Gabriel," carrying West Country immigrants, sank at Pemaquid in the great hurricane of August 1635, fortunately with little loss of life.

Prosperous though Pemaquid was in the mid-17th century, it had never been provided proper defenses, and it therefore had to be quickly abandoned when the first of a long series of frontier wars broke upon mid-coast Maine in 1676. A year later the site was resettled and provided with a wooden defensive work called Fort Charles. All seemed well until 1689, when Native Americans attacked the village and accepted the fort's surrender. After a brief hiatus in Anglo-American occupation of the area, the first English stone fort built in New England, Fort William Henry, was erected in 1692. Just how important Pemaquid was perceived as a strategic bulwark to protect southern New England is evidenced by the fact that the £20,000 cost of this fort amounted to some two-thirds of the entire Massachusetts Bay budget for that year.

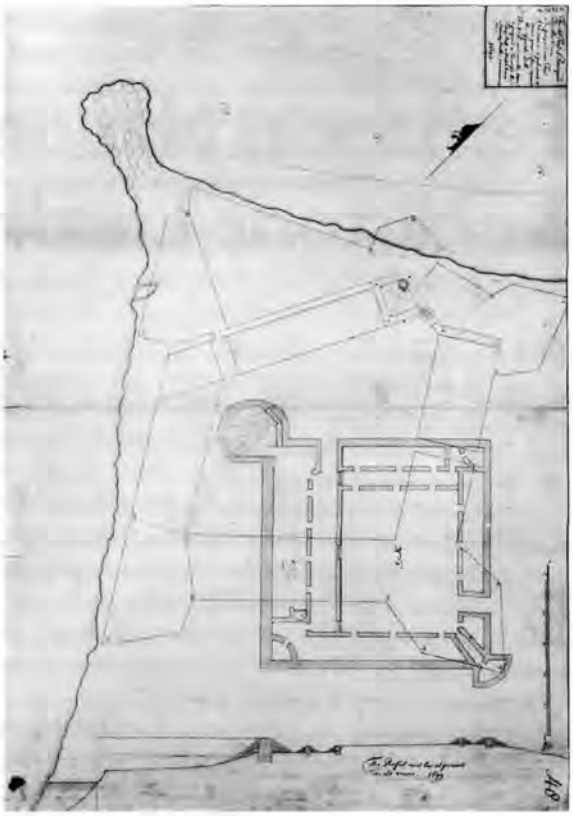
Despite Royal Governor Sir William Phips' boast that it was "strong enough to resist all the Indians in America," in 1696 it surrendered to a force of Native Americans with French support. Among its many design faults was the location of its well for drinking water—outside the walls of the fort. The loss of Fort William Henry was a severe psychological blow to the region, which thereafter for a generation was abandoned by Anglo-Americans.

Pemaquid was not repopulated until 1729, when a settlement of Scotch-Irish immigrants was established and the stone fort was re-erected and named Fort Frederick. A land dispute led to the eviction of most of the settlers in 1732, but from

then until 1759 the fort was garrisoned by Massachusetts militia. As the frontier wars ebbed and New England gradually pressed northward and eastward, Pemaquid lost its long-standing strategic significance, leading to the inevitable decommissioning of Fort Frederick. Well before the Revolution the site of the successive settlements and their forts became a farm and sheep pasture, an anti-climactic end to the most turbulent of histories.

This end, however, was a gift to Americans today, for no city grew up on the site to devastate its buried structures and associated artifacts. In fact, Pemaquid made a remarkable transition in the human mind from being a military outpost to being an historical shrine in the space of just 36 years, when in 1795 Maine's first great historian, James Sullivan, noted the site's dramatic history and the physical remains of both the settlements and the forts. The next major writer, William Williamson, made the point even more emphatically in 1832, and in 1836 the popular press focussed its attention on Pemaquid's history and remains. This attention continues to this day.

Sadly, beginning in 1836, all too many popular articles and books have been published which contain wild assertions about Pemaquid's history, a phenomenon which continues to this day. Suddenly, Pemaquid's history became shrouded in mystery, its beginning and ending dates unknown, the origin of its settlers unfathomable. The Vikings had to have settled there; certainly 16th-century Spanish and Portuguese; and don't forget a pre-English German colony, or was it French? Whatever, Pemaquid was surely the first European city in the New World. At least it far predated Plymouth, didn't it? A children's book of 1992 claimed that fact, and also claimed that Pemaquid featured America's first paved streets.



Col. Wolfgang William Romer's 1699 plan of the ruins of Fort William Henry, Pemaquid. Photo courtesy of British Public Record Office.

Excavations of Ft. William Henry Officers Quarters.

Fortunately, over the century and a half in which this loud fiction has paraded as fact, generations of dedicated amateurs and professionals have studied Pemaquid's history and archeology in order to present the truth (which is, after all, an exciting enough story). In 1869 and 1871, the Maine Historical Society mounted pilgrimages to the site. In 1873, the first major history of the site was published. In 1890, local antiquary John Henry Cartland promoted the site's importance in the colonial history of New England. By 1909, the State of Maine owned the site of the forts and had faithfully reconstructed the great western bastion of the 1692 fort as a monument and museum. In 1923, Warren K. Moorehead tested parts of both the settlement and fort sites to find traces of a Viking presence. He found none. Beginning in 1965 Helen B. Camp excavated parts of the settlement site, leading to its purchase by the State in 1969. And from 1974 to 1980, Camp and I excavated superimposed ranges of officers' quarters of 1692 and 1720. More recently, field survey has

focussed on satellite sites of both centuries along the Pemaquid River, putting the core settlements and their forts in their larger context. The history of research at Pemaquid is almost as long and interesting as the colonial history of the community.

By the end of 1969, only a handful of Maine properties were listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Among them were Fort William Henry (December 1, 1969) and the Pemaquid Restoration and Museum (December 2, 1969). The former comprised the site of the two stone forts, while the latter covered the site of the successive settlements. On December 22, 1978, the Colonial Pemaquid Archaeological District was listed in the Register. This was meant to combine the two earlier nominations, to reach out to more distant satellite sites on the Pemaquid River drainage, and to provide much more detailed and up-to-date information in the statements of Description and Significance. At the time it was hoped that at some point the Department of the Interior would consider the site of the core settlements and the forts for National Historic Landmark designation.

This hope was realized when I collaborated with Robert S. Grumet in including Colonial Pemaquid State Historic Site among the Contact Period sites of the Northeast to be considered for this distinction. National Historic Landmark designation came on April 12, 1993.

Colonial Pemaquid qualified for this status for a number of reasons. Although much of the site of the settlements had been excavated in 1923 and between 1965 and 1973, large areas remain untouched, especially beneath modern roads and parking areas. Approximately seven-eighths of the sites of the two stone forts are unexcavated, while 100% of the wooden Fort Charles (1677-89) has yet to be investigated. Thus, while much is known about Pemaquid's structures and associated artifacts, much has been preserved and will continue to be preserved. The repeated rises and falls of the Anglo-American settlements and forts at Pemaquid mirror in a microcosm the tragic clash of the British and French empires on both sides of the Atlantic. They also represent the ever-evolving relations between Anglo-Americans and Native Americans, involving peaceful fur trading punctuated by tragic cycles of warfare and peace treaties. Pemaquid's history, in fact, is the sad history of Anglo-Native relations throughout the colonial period.

It is painfully easy to visualize a high-priced subdivision on the site ("Pemaquid Acres"), and this could so easily have been its fate. After all, until 1969 most of the designated land lay in private hands with no state or local restrictions at that time on its use. It is fortuitous that promotion of the site of the forts at the turn of the century and excavations in the site of the settlements in the 1960s each led to cumulative state ownership of most of the peninsula. Disturbance of soil on the site is prohibited by both state law and regulations. Mother Nature, however, respects only the laws of nature, and here the site is facing a severe threat. Land subsidence and rising sea levels, coupled with the exposed nature of the site, are causing serious erosion on the site of the settlements adjacent to the harbor. In 1968, when I was drawing plans of several of the settlement's 17th-century foundations, I noticed that the edge of the bank nearest Structure 10 was about 25' distant, well beyond a line of spruce trees. The approaching bank has since killed the trees, and it lies within 10' of the structure, which may well be Pemaquid's oldest, the cellar of a half-timbered, wattle-and-daub dwelling of the 1620s.

Interpretive signage at Colonel Pemaquid State Park.

Photos by Robert S. Grumet.

The author at foundation of a Pemaquid structure.

Archeological National Historic Landmarks

A Nationwide Sampler

Abbott Farm Historic District, Mercer County, New Jersey
Accokeek Creek Site, Prince Georges County, Maryland
Angel Mounds, Vanderburgh County, Indiana
Appalachicola Fort Site, Russell County, Alabama
Awatovi Ruins, Navajo County, Arizona
Aztalan, Jefferson County, Wisconsin
Bent's Old Fort, Bent County, Colorado
Big and Little Petroglyph Canyons, Inyo County, California
Big Hidatsa Village Site, Mercer County, North Dakota
Blood Run Site, Lyon County, Iowa
Cahokia Mounds, St. Clair County, Illinois
Clover Site, Cabell County, West Virginia
Cocumscussoc Archeological Site, Washington County, Rhode Island
Crow Creek Site, Buffalo County, South Dakota
Danger Cave, Tooele County, Utah
Deer Creek Site, Kay County, Oklahoma
El Cuartelejo, Scott County, Kansas
Etowah Mounds, Bartow County, Georgia
Folsom Site, Union County, New Mexico
Fort Christina, New Castle County, Delaware
Fort Hall, Bannock County, Idaho
Fort Michilimackinac, Cheboygan County, Michigan
Fort Rock Cave, Lake County, Oregon
Fort Western, Kennebec County, Maine
Graham Cave, Montgomery County, Missouri
Grand Village of the Natchez, Adams County, Mississippi
Horner Site, Park County, Wyoming
Indian Knoll, Ohio County, Kentucky
Ipiutak Site, Point Hope Peninsula, Alaska
Kathio Site, Mille Lacs County, Minnesota
Lamoka, Schuyler County, New York
Leonard Rockshelter, Pershing County, Nevada
Marmes Rockshelter, Franklin County, Washington
Mashantucket Pequot Indian Reservation Archeological District, New London County, Connecticut
Moccasin Bend Archeological District, Hamilton County, Tennessee
Nauset Archeological District, Barnstable County, Massachusetts
Ninety Six and Star Fort, Greenwood County, South Carolina
Parkin Indian Mound, Cross County, Arkansas
Pictograph Cave, Yellowstone County, Montana
Plainview Site, Hale County, Texas
Poverty Point, West Carroll Parish, Louisiana
Printzhof, Delaware County, Pennsylvania
Puukohola Heiau, South Kohala District, Island of Hawaii
Serpent Mound, Adams County, Ohio
Signal Butte, Scottsbluff County, Nebraska
Thunderbird Archeological District, Warren County, Virginia
Town Creek Indian Mound, Montgomery County, North Carolina
Windover Archeological Site, Brevard County, Florida

Information on these and the more than 150 other National Historic Landmarks primarily designated for their archeological values can be obtained by writing to Chief, National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Landmarks, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127.

Each year, according to law, the Secretary of the Interior reports to Congress on threats to National Historic Landmarks nationwide. Each year, every State Historic Preservation Officer supplies up-to-date data on the status of threatened Landmarks to the Secretary to assist in this process. And each year Maine's State Historic Preservation Officer has reported on the threat which coastal erosion poses to Colonial Pemaquid. It can only be hoped that the Landmark status in the near future will directly (through a special appropriation, for example) or indirectly (through heightened awareness of the site's significance on the part of non-federal funding sources) lead to effective erosion control measures.

Each year, thousands of people from across our country and from many foreign nations visit Colonial Pemaquid State Historic Site to walk among the excavated, stabilized, and interpreted structures, to climb the steps of the reconstructed stone bastion, and to pass through the on-site museum. Some are casual tourists. Others are maintaining a Pemaquid tradition dating from the earliest days of the settlement: they are launching their boats to go fishing. Still others are students of historical archeology, who know before they even enter the park that they will see structures and artifacts which span virtually the entire period of the Thirteen Colonies. Wherever they are from, if they are researching Anglo-American sites of the 17th or 18th centuries, Pemaquid is likely to help them. For that reason alone, America is fortunate that the repeated destructions and abandonments of Pemaquid in the Historic Contact period ironically contributed to the site's archeological preservation. Exactly 200 years ago the significance of the site's history and its remains were first recognized. It can only be hoped that 200 years from now the significance of the Colonial Pemaquid State Historic Site National Historic Landmark will be equally recognized and that there will still be intact archeological deposits to preserve.

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Paul R. Huey

The Fort Orange and Schuyler Flatts NHL

Detail of the ruins of the Schuyler house. Photo by Paul R. Huey taken after the 1962 fire.

Twenty-five years ago in the Hudson Valley of New York State there began a series of unprecedented archeological discoveries in historic sites. These discoveries opened a window of knowledge into the earliest period of that area's historic Dutch settlement, known previously only through an incomplete documentary record as well as through many traditions. Public interest and excitement were intense as the remains of an ancient, almost mythical, historical past suddenly became a physical reality as the result of a new initiative in archeological research.

Flowing to the Atlantic Ocean for hundreds of miles and cutting through the eastern Appalachians, the Hudson/Mohawk River system is unique in North America. The Hudson, a tidewater river reaching inland for more than 150 miles to the point where it joins with the Mohawk, provided an access deep into the North American continent and naturally attracted trade-oriented Europeans such as the Dutch early in the 17th century. Near the present city of Albany, New York, the Dutch established a small fort in 1614 to trade for furs with the Indians, but this installation was replaced in 1624 with a new post, Fort Orange, built some distance away. New Amsterdam was established in 1626 at the mouth of the Hudson and later became New York City. After 1630, farming and agricultural settlements were developed under the direction of Kiliaen van Rensselaer in the fertile valley area around Fort Orange, independent of the West India Company fur trade at the fort, and a small village that grew up adjacent to Fort Orange was officially set up as

Fort Orange, 1635, reconstruction. Oil painting by Len Tantillo.

the Company town of Beverwyck in 1652. This town developed into the city of Albany, while in 1658 a second town called Wiltwyck was established in the mid-Hudson Valley and later became present Kingston, New York. Finally, a third Dutch town, Schenectady, was established in the lower Mohawk Valley in the early 1660s, shortly before the English took the entire colony from the Dutch by force during peacetime in 1664.

Despite the rich 17th-century Dutch history of this region, coinciding almost precisely with the great Golden Age of Dutch culture in Europe, archeological research before 1970 in New York State had been limited mostly to sites of the 18th-century colonial British and Revolutionary War periods, although other archeologists who had worked at prehistoric Indian sites had also extended their work to include research at 16th- and 17th-century contact sites. As archeological sites and historic buildings were lost at an alarming rate in the 1960s, however, New York Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller in 1966 established the New York State Historic Trust. Placed within the Division of Parks of the Conservation Department, the Trust later became the Division for Historic Preservation within the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. The Historic Trust functioned as the State Historic Preservation Office at the same time it was given control of the system of about 30 State Historic Sites, many of which were already National Historic Landmarks. Charged by Governor Rockefeller with finding "new ways to use history to enrich the present," the Trust was to acquire, develop, interpret, and preserve the State Historic Sites as "tangible reminders of the sacrifices and accomplishments related to our heritage."

The State Historic Sites today reflect the different preservation philosophies and management policies that were followed at different times throughout the system's long history beginning with the acquisition of the first State Historic Site in 1850. Archeological resources were usually ignored and often were destroyed, but many of the State Historic Sites had become National Historic Landmarks by the time the Historic Trust established a statewide archeological research and management program for the Historic Sites under professional direction in 1969. Of all the State Historic Sites, at least three were representative of some aspect of New York's 17th-century Dutch history. In Kingston, the stone Senate House was built in 1676 on the prime corner lot of the stockaded town laid out in 1658. In Yonkers, Philipse Manor Hall stands probably where Adriaen van der Donck settled between 1646 and 1652, and, far up the Hudson River across from Albany, Crailo is an old Van Rensselaer family home that evidently stands where Dominie Megapolensis built his house in 1642. Each of these sites still has significant but finite buried archeological resources that, to varying degrees, have escaped destruction during previous site development. Crailo and Philipse Manor Hall were among the first sites in New York State to be designated as National Historic Landmarks, both having been listed on November 5, 1961.

Kingston in 1969 was experiencing urban renewal which threatened many archeological resources within the area of the 17th-century town. In May 1969, the Historic Trust excavated several test units near one of the old stone houses of the town in search of evidence of 17th-century occupation, and this work uncovered small-sized red bricks the full significance of which was not immediately recognized. Nevertheless, stratigraphy was also identified that suggested early grading and the proximity of a corner bastion of the stockade, and these discoveries delighted the public. The newspapers reported in detail what was found, but the excitement was nothing compared to that of July 1970, when Bert Salwen and Sarah Bridges uncovered actual remains of the 17th-century stockade wall of the town directly across the street from Senate House State Historic Site, where urban renewal plans called for a new street to be graded and built. Bert Salwen and Sarah Bridges had been enlisted by the Historic Trust to do this work.

Upriver, in Albany, where not even a single 17th-century structure remained standing in the old city since the last was demolished in 1941, construction during 1970 of a new arterial highway along the river constituted a potential threat to archeological sites dating from the city's earliest history. Of concern to the Historic Trust was

the route of this highway which was headed directly toward where documentary research indicated that Fort Orange had stood from 1624 until 1676. Working with the State Transportation Department, the Historic Trust arranged for a test excavation to be dug by machine at a specified location to search for 17th-century Dutch material that might relate to Fort Orange. At this time, no distinctively Dutch 17th-century artifacts had ever been excavated in Albany, and the material that had been found in Kingston was too limited in amount to form a basis for the identification and study of 17th-century Dutch material culture.

The results of the initial test excavation at the presumed site of Fort Orange early in the morning of October 20, 1970, exceeded all expectations. At first, nothing was found as the machine excavated though 19th-century cellar fill into the natural clay below; the cellar of the house, built in the 1790s, had obliterated the remains of Fort Orange, although it was well known among 19th-century historians that Simeon DeWitt had built this house on the then-visible remains of the post. Then, as the excavation was widened to extend beyond the cellar wall, the first glass trade beads, mouth harp, and fleur-de-lis pipe stem appeared, indicating that material remains of 17th-century Dutch colonial culture had at last been discovered in the modern city of Albany. The mechanical digging was stopped immediately, and the point of origin of the artifacts was soon determined. Careful hand excavation quickly revealed cultural stratigraphy in the area beyond the cellar wall of the DeWitt house, and attention was then focussed on recording the soil profile and clearing an area in which to reveal features.

As it became clear that a rich stratigraphic sequence of 17th-century occupation levels with associated Dutch yellow bricks, delft sherds, beads, tobacco pipes, delicate glassware, and many other artifacts had in fact been found, a brief statement and press release was prepared. The next day there was sensational but remarkably accurate press coverage in the two Albany newspapers and on the three local television channels. As the exposed soil profiles were carefully cleaned and recorded, additional discoveries included a fragment of Rhenish Westerwald salt-glazed stoneware with a seal dated 1632, misread at first as 1612. This, too, was reported by the newspapers, and a snow fence was erected for safety while interpretive hand-out sheets were prepared for the growing crowd of eager, interested onlookers who gathered to watch each day. A regular visitor to the site was Albany Mayor Erastus Corning, who, with a life-long personal interest in Albany history, was as thrilled as any citizen of the city could be. He continued unobtrusively to provide constant support, encouragement, and assistance throughout the duration of the project. From this moment there began, it seemed, to be a general public reawakening of interest in and appreciation for Albany history; what for so long had been the intangible, romantic myth of Dutch history in a distant 17th-century past suddenly become a physical, archeological reality. The effect was almost magical.

Fort Orange—Helderberg Workshop student during initial work.

As the magnitude of the discovery became apparent, the Transportation Department rearranged its construction schedule to permit a maximum amount of time for the investigation. The small crew of Historic Trust archeologists under this writer's direction, assisted at times by a number of volunteers who had previous professional training, worked the entire winter of 1970-71. It was a record cold winter, with heavy snow, but the work continued non-stop under a shelter erected by the Transportation Department. The work continued until the portion of the site was completely excavated that otherwise would have been damaged and disturbed by the construction of the crash walls built between the northbound and southbound lanes of Interstate 787. There was, of course, strong public interest in stabilizing and preserving *in situ* the fragile remains that were uncovered by redesigning the highway to bridge over the site, but there was neither the technology nor the funding for such a project. Instead, by the time the excavations were completed in March, the site had produced a wealth of new information about 17th-century Fort Orange and the Dutch material associated with it. Remains of four separate structures inside the fort, a section of the south moat, part of a stone ravelin, and a section of the path leading from

Schuyler Flatts—Schuyler house, c. 1940s.

the east entrance and the Hudson River had been found.

Many other fragmentary archeological sites from the 17th-century Dutch period undoubtedly remain to be found in the oldest parts of the city of Albany, as well as outside the city, but these resources are extremely limited and finite. Outside of Albany, only a few Dutch colonial farm sites of this century have been located. One of these, the historic Schuyler Flatts farm, was also threatened in 1971. Located north of Albany, the site was fortunately west of Interstate 787, the new arterial highway, but it was close to the route of a new sewer line also being constructed that year. It was on land owned by a restaurant company, and although the Flatts farm was on the fertile alluvial Hudson River flood plain, commercial development of the property with a new restaurant as well as a housing complex seemed inevitable.

The Schuyler Flatts is perhaps most famous as the subject of much of the book *Memoirs of an American Lady* by Anne Grant. She described the farm during the French and Indian War when it was the annual campground for British troops in the campaigns against Canada. The historic Schuyler house described by Anne Grant stood at the Flatts until it burned in 1962, vacant and abandoned. The farm had been purchased by the Schuyler family in 1672 from the Van Rensselaers, but the farm had been established 30 years earlier. Well situated on the trade route to Canada, the Flatts was the most fertile area of land north of Fort Orange, and in 1642 Adriaen van der Donck settled there against the wishes of Kiliaen van Rensselaer. Van Rensselaer ordered Van der Donck to move elsewhere in 1643, and prominent Dutch trader and frontier diplomat Arent van Curler built a new farm house on the farm that year.

There was already interest in the Town of Colonie in preserving the site, perhaps as a small park, but it was likely the property would soon be developed. With permission of the property owner and with the encouragement of the chairman of the Colonie Town Planning Board and, in particular, of Jean Olton, the town historian, the Historic Trust organized the first excavations at the site during the summer of 1971. The Flatts site offered the potential for useful research relating to the Schuyler family and to Philip J. Schuyler, the Revolutionary War general whose early military experience as a militia captain occurred at the Flatts in 1755. In 1762, he built a great Georgian mansion still standing in Albany and open to the public as Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site; it has been a National Historic Landmark since 1967. In addition, the 17th-century history of the Flatts site would make it a significant source for archeological comparisons with Fort Orange.

The initial excavations revealed interesting 18th-century and late 17th-century features including walls and a cobblestone courtyard. Prehistoric sites were also uncovered and recorded not far away directly in the path of the sewer line. The features were interpreted to the public and to fifth, sixth, and seventh grade Town of Colonie students during a three-day event organized by the Heldeberg Workshop, a local educational institution, and by the newly-formed Town of Colonie Historical Society. Tours of the excavations were given to 1,200 school children. This memorable event was featured in an article published in *Holiday Inn Magazine* the following summer, as excavations began in a different part of the site. These excavations revealed a much older feature which dated to the 17th century and was found to be the remains of a large, filled-in cellar. The cellar had been built of wood and was exactly the size of the cellar that Van Curler reported building in 1643. It had collapsed apparently between the time Van Curler died in 1666 and the farm was sold to the Schuylers in 1672.

Finally, in 1975 the Town of Colonie was able to purchase a part of the archeological site in order to preserve it for future development as a historical park. The site, however, extends into a large adjoining parcel of nine acres which the County of Albany acquired in 1981. By 1990, the County was considering the transfer of its property to the Town of Colonie, a proposal that was

greatly encouraged by the National Park Service Historic Contact theme study and the designation of the site as a National Historic Landmark in November 1993. The additional nine acres was conveyed to the Town by the County in February 1995, making the goal of developing the area into a historical park much more feasible.

There are many problems to be overcome and many threats, both potential and real, to the Schuyler Flatts as well as Fort Orange. The Schuyler Flatts site has suffered greatly from vandalism since 1974 as a result of illegal trash disposal as well as artifact looting. Remains of Fort Orange still lie safely buried under Interstate 787, but there have been recent proposals to rebuild Interstate 787 in an underground tunnel so that it does not separate the city of Albany so completely from the Hudson River. The designation of Fort Orange as a National Historic Landmark in November 1993 is a timely reminder that the site is buried there. Meanwhile, much work has been done with the collections from the Flatts and from Fort Orange, and much work remains to be done. Charlotte Wilcoxen, a volunteer, worked with the 17th-century ceramics for several years and published the results. The present writer based his doctoral dissertation on the Fort Orange material, and another graduate student, Lon Bulgrin of Binghamton University, is developing a dissertation proposal using the Schuyler Flatts collections.

The material from these sites has facilitated the development of a clearer understanding of 17th-century Dutch colonial material culture in the New World, and it also represents an important, if neglected, period of New York State history. The Fort Orange and Flatts artifacts enabled the immediate recognition of a 17th-century Dutch tobacco pipe, as well as Dutch yellow bricks and green-glazed floor tiles, that were excavated at Philipse Manor Hall State Historic Site. Fragments of 17th-century roof pantiles were discovered at both Crailo and Senate House State Historic Sites and were compared to those from the Flatts and Fort Orange. Dutch floor tiles, bricks, and other building material from the 17th century were unexpectedly discovered in rescue excavations at Clermont State Historic Site, an 18th-century country estate on the Hudson River that became a National Historic Landmark in 1972. Dutch ceramics, trade goods, and other material that could be dated to the first half of the 17th century on the basis of the Fort Orange collection were found in a rescue excavation at Crailo, giving support to the early dating of that site. The beads and other trade material from the Flatts and Fort Orange provide a means of distinguishing Dutch from French and/or English trade material at Ganondagan State Historic Site, which was a Seneca Indian village in western New York from about 1670 to 1687 and has been a National Historic Landmark since 1964. In 1986 the 17th-century Dutch artifacts from the Flatts and Fort Orange formed the basis for a comprehensive permanent interpretive exhibit on the Hudson valley Dutch at Crailo State Historic Site. Such collections, rescued from threatened sites, provide a necessary regional context for the understanding and interpretation of preserved sites such as the State Historic Sites, where limited and finite archeological resources must be carefully protected and thoughtfully managed for both present and future research needs.

Schuyler Flatts—Field school excavation Van Curles house site.

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Ralph S. Solecki

The Rescue of Fort Massapeag

At the end of a street in the suburban community of Massapequa, in the Nassau County town of Oyster Bay, New York, is an oversized quarter-acre corner lot with a couple of thin groves of trees on it. If one peers closely at the grassy surface, some weak linear relief could be seen on the eastern and southern ends. Small white things peeping through the sod are not paper scraps, but broken clam shells. A wooden sign post identifies this mini-park as the site of the 17th-century Indian fort and a historic landmark.

Behind the erection of this bit of intelligence is a story, of which this little tract is tangible evidence which by happy chance was preserved for us.

Fort Massapeag is named after the local Indians, the Massapeags (also called the Massapequas), who resided on Fort Neck in the early and middle years of the 17th century. Through the persistence of a local historian, the Town of Oyster Bay was persuaded to buy the land in 1958 to set aside as a public park in order to preserve its history.

Fort Massapeag is the only Indian fort known to exist on western Long Island. As a historic gem of the first magnitude, I sponsored its nomination as a National Historic Landmark in 1989. The property was designated four years later (Solecki and Grumet 1993). Worth telling is the story of how the fort was saved from destruction.

The first real knowledge we have of Fort Massapeag is a communication by land owner Judge Samuel Jones to Governor De Witt Clinton and read by the latter before a New-York Historical Society meeting in 1811 (Clinton 1821). In this letter, Judge Jones relates what his father had told him as a young boy about the fort site. The fort palisades, which formerly stood on an embankment surrounded by a ditch were by then gone, but the earthen features were still quite visible. Judge Jones told of another palisade fort which had stood on the southern point of the "Salt Meadow." But this one had eroded away. Judge Jones also related the local tradition of a disastrous conflict between the Massapeag Indians and the English under Captain John Underhill. Although the exact site of this fight remains unknown, many local historians have identified Fort Neck as the scene of combat. Other records, however, indicate that the battle occurred elsewhere (Solecki n.d.).

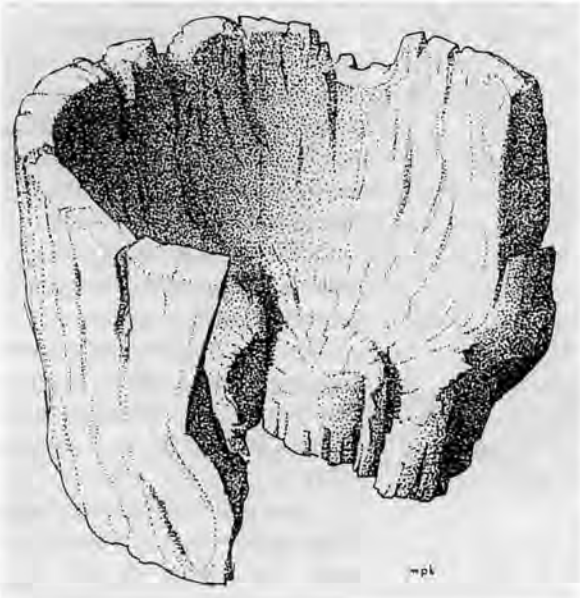
Aside from passing references in books as the site of the "only battle with the Indians on western Long Island," more than a century passed before the fort locale was again brought to public attention. Few people knew about the fort's location. Only a few artifact hunters and curiosity seekers dug their way into the earthen embankment or sifted through nearby midden deposits.

All this changed when the Harmon National Real Estate Corporation acquired this part of Fort Neck and announced plans for construction of a large residential development named Harbor Green in 1933. Workmen were soon clearing areas of land to the north of the old fort site. First one, then 20 more human skeletons were unearthed by the workers. These discoveries revived the story of an Indian massacre at Fort Massapeag. Alerted by newspaper stories of the finds, local treasure seekers soon descended upon the area. Given free access by the property owners, they began to systematically ransack the locale.

Fortunately, Charles E. Herold, a local Seaford historian, managed to convince the developers to save the still-undisturbed Fort Massapeag site area. Planning to preserve the locale as a centerpiece of their development, they cleared the brush from the property and fenced it in during the spring of 1934. It is unfortunate that the extensive deposits to the north of Fort Massapeag did not receive similar treatment. Located directly in the path of the bulldozers, the deposits were stripped piecemeal by local artifact hunters and destroyed. It is unfortunate that these deposits did not receive the attention of trained archeologists while they were still untouched. It is important to remember, however, this was a period when few archeologists interested in the metropolitan New York area were employed in regional universities or museums.

News of the finds at Harbor Green attracted the attention of several young members of the Flushing Historical Society and their friends. The roster of investigators reads like a who's who of Northeastern archeology. A promising young amateur named William Claude salvaged burials at Harbor Green from 1933 until his tragically premature death in 1934. Portions of his collection are today preserved at the Nassau County Museum at Garvies Point. Containing a substantial assemblage of prehistoric material, the collection lacks historic trade goods, which were recovered in numbers at the fort site. Claude left no notes about the recovery of the Indian burials, but did photograph them *in situ* from several angles. No mention was made of any artifacts associations with skeletons, and we assume that there are none. Nor was there any mention of any evidence of foul play. An examination of Claude's photographs indicates that the interments were primary burials. They were not, however, carefully buried. It is possible that they met death elsewhere, and were brought back to the village site. Residences now cover the old burial ground and village site of the Indians on Harbor Green. However, reminders of Massapeaqua's prehistoric past are evident from time to time when stone projectile points, potsherds, bone fragments, and broken old pieces of chalky white clam shells turn up under lawns in the Harbor Green area.

The late James Burgraff intermittently worked in the area between 1936 and 1938. His collection, the largest body of material drawn from the locale, is presently curated at the New York State Museum in Albany. Burggraf regarded the site as a single component occupation. He further thought that the midden was an unstratified deposit. He was the first to note that large areas of the midden had been disturbed by looters. He recovered numerous cut whelk columellae (the central sections of the shells), and hundreds of small bits of the purple anterior sections of large hard clam shells throughout the midden.



Wooden mortar found at the Fort Massapeag Site by William Claude in 1934 or 1935.

Several members of the Flushing Historical Society paid visits to Fort Massapeag in 1937 and 1938 to sample site deposits and examine the area's stratigraphy. Two Society members, myself and Carlyle S. Smith, later went on to earn doctorates in anthropology. Smith's doctoral dissertation findings, which remain the seminal synthesis of coastal New York archeology, drew heavily on his work at Fort Massapeag (Smith 1950). Other Society investigators, like Matt Schreiner and Robert Kusy, became respected avocational regional specialists.

Fort Massapeag was a remote locale during the 1930s. It could not be approached by car. Vehicles had to be parked about a quarter of a mile away on the newly cut street where the Harbor Green site deposits had been found and destroyed. The fort site lay in a growth of young trees and tangled brush. There was an opening to the south overlooking the vast salt meadow, with the Great South bay shimmering in the distance. The brush and vegetation had been cleared all around the ditch area, leaving the embankment still covered with young woody growth. The ditch, about 2' deep, could be easily traced around the almost perfect square measuring about 100' on each side. There were appendages on the northwest and southeast corners, which probably served as bastions for defense. A level area cutting through the embankment and crossing the ditch at the southeastern corner of the site probably served as the fort's entry way. A 50'-long shell midden heap located beyond this area appeared to be a good clue confirming this interpretation. It seems logical that occupational refuse would be dumped at a convenient exit. Spade tests conducted inside the enclosure brought up nothing but gravelly earth, a disappointment. The interior was quite overgrown and one had to hack one's way in through the brush and thickets.

On closer inspection, the shell midden turned out to have been damaged by treasure hunters. Undulations in the low hummock revealed the tell-tale marks of shovels holes. Indeed, it was difficult to find an intact spot in the midden not yet touched by the spade. One of the more practical minded collectors used an unarcheological potato hook in order to get through the masses of shells, an unorthodox but sadly effective use of the instrument.

Artifacts were recovered at depths ranging from 6" to 8" below the ground surface. Sterile soil appeared at about a foot to a foot and a half from the surface. In one afternoon, the group recovered

a brass mouth harp bearing a stamped trade mark "R", a white clay European pipe bowl with the trademark "EB" within a circle on its heel, several white clay pipestems, a white quartz arrowhead, a grooved stone axe-head, a number of stone flakes, several potsherds, and some worked whelk columellae and worked quahog shell pieces. A test cut made across the southern embankment did not reveal palisade post molds.

The Indian burials were not touched by the Flushing group with the exception of a test pit excavation by Schreiner. The investigation of the fort site with its proven potential of historic colonial trade goods plus the Native American Indian artifacts was considered to be more interesting. Furthermore, the Fort Massapeag trade artifacts, especially the white clay trade pipes, were distinctive enough to place them in the catalog of known dated trade goods. We now know that the pipes were fabricated in the Netherlands about the middle of the 17th century. This confirmed written documents indicating that the Massapequas living in the Oyster Bay area of western Long Island were under the dominance of Dutch colonists from New Amsterdam (present day New York).

Some of the Native American artifacts, such as the grooved stone axe and the stone arrowhead, were similar to types made before the coming of the Dutch. Among the Indian potsherds were examples of Shantok wares. This pottery was named after certain distinctive diagnostic ware originally identified at the Fort Shantok site in Connecticut. Indians living in this area suffered greatly in a terrible massacre committed by

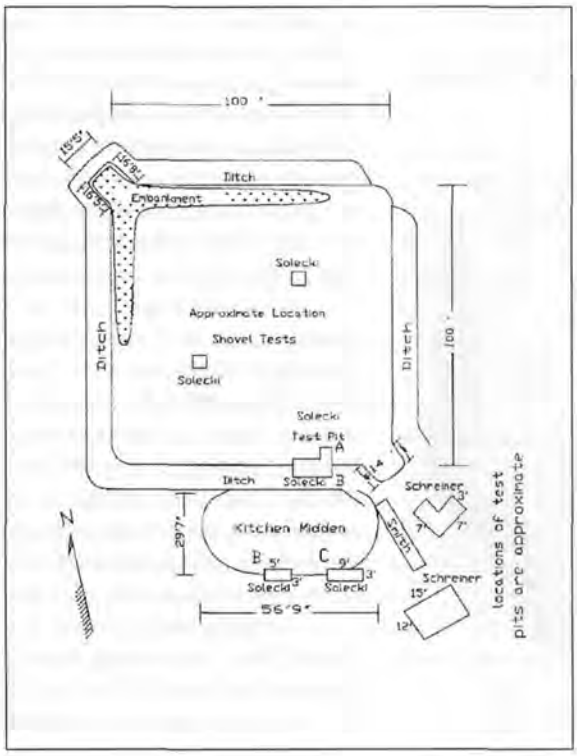


Diagram of Fort Massapeag test excavation and features, 1937-1938. Courtesy of the author.

The author, Ralph Solecki, at Fort Massapeag, 1938. Photo courtesy of the author.

English troops led by captains John Mason and John Underhill in 1637 during the Pequot War. Many survivors of the conflict were subsequently forced to become servants of Long Island Indians who had aided the English. Sherds from their distinctive vessels have also been found at the contemporary Fort Corchaug on eastern Long Island (Solecki 1950).

Discoveries of masses of worked shells revealed the strategic importance of Fort Massapeag as a wampum manufactory. Scores of columellae, central stems of periwinkle shells, were found. These were detached from the enclosing shell, ground to shape by grit stones, and cut into lengths of cylindrical beads. These were drilled with iron "muxes" or drills. Long Island was famous for its sea shells, and the beads, highly regarded among the Indians, were in high demand among northeast native people. When colonial coinage became scarce, good wampum became very acceptable at agreed-upon exchange rates. Amplifying the ramifications of the wampum trade, it was soon discovered that after the very profitable fur trade local Indians suffered because of the depletion of the fur bearing animals, an alternative strategy had to be found. Luckily a solution was not long forth coming. This was to trade European goods for local wampum, and then in turn take this commodity to trade with the northern Indians for their beaver pelts (Burgraff 1938).

Mention is made in the colonial documents of the construction of a Dutch fortification at Oyster Bay in 1656 (Solecki and Grumet 1993;

Solecki n.d.). We suggest that because Massapequa originally was called "South Oyster Bay" up to over 100 years ago, it is conceivable that the Massapequa fort was the structure ordered built by the Dutch. The bastions on the northwest and southeast, offering covering fire along the walls, more closely conformed to European military architectural conventions. Moreover, the rot resistant cedar palisade posts found along the embankments earlier in the century were cut and pointed with iron rather than stone axes.

We are fortunate to have four independently made scale maps of the Fort Massapeag earthworks. The first of these was drawn by Solecki with Schreiner's help in 1937. Unknown to them, Carlyle Smith and a friend made others one year later. Surveyors of the town of Oyster Bay produced a fourth plot map in 1950 depicting planned "paper" streets crossing the fort site boundaries. Here we have the all too familiar race of the real estate developer rushing through construction in order to forestall any objections. Indications grimly suggested that the old promise made in 1933 had evidently been forgotten.

Happily, another preservationist named John O'Halloran rose to meet this challenge to the site's continuing survival in 1953. Finding the site totally obscured by dense vegetation, O'Halloran had to relocate the fort embankment from the air. He then invited Carlyle Smith to revisit the site. Information gathered during this visit, published the following year (Smith 1954), helped O'Halloran convince the Town Board of Oyster Bay to agree to acquire the tract on August 4, 1953. Five years later, the town purchased the land and made it part of the municipal park. Shortly thereafter, a wooden marker noting the significance of the site was erected at the locale.

The park had been quietly maintained as a passive use area for more than 25 years when the Oyster Bay town historian Dorothy Horton McGee emerged as the most recent champion of Fort Massapeag preservation. Responding to a New York State Historic Preservation Office notice requesting information on potential National Historic Landmark property nominees, Ms. McGee suggested that Fort Massapeag be considered for designation through the Historic Contact theme study. Working closely with National Park Service staff and myself, her efforts finally resulted in the designation of Fort Massapeag as a National Historic Landmark on April 19, 1993. The nomination form prepared for the site subsequently became the first of several theme study property reports published in scholarly journals (Solecki and Grumet 1994).

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Properties Designated Through the Historic Contact Theme Study

The following list contains the 14 properties designated as NHLs and the three existing NHLs for which a new thematic component was added through the Historic Contact theme study. Sponsors provided documentation, contacted landowners, reviewed nomination forms, and were given the opportunity to formally present the nomination to the History Areas Advisory Board in Washington, DC.

Property	Sponsor
Camden Historic District NHL (thematic upgrade) Caroline County, Virginia	Mary Ellen N. Hodges Martha W. McCartney E. Randolph Turner, III
Cocumscussoc Historic Site Washington County, Rhode Island	Patricia E. Rubertone
Cushnoc Archeological Site Kennebec County, Maine	Leon E. Cranmer
Fort Massapeag Archeological Site Nassau County, New York	Ralph S. Solecki
Fort Orange Archeological Site Albany County, New York	Paul R. Huey
Fort Shantok Archeological Site New London County, Connecticut	Kevin A. McBride Lorraine E. Williams
Mashantucket Pequot Indian Reservation Archeological District New London County, Connecticut	Kevin A. McBride
Minisink Historic District Sussex County, New Jersey and Pike County, Pennsylvania	Herbert C. Kraft
Mohawk Upper Castle Historic District Herkimer County, New York	Dean R. Snow
Nauset Archeological District Barnstable County, Massachusetts	Francis P. McManamon
Norridgewock Archeological District Somerset County, Maine	Bruce J. Bourque Ellen R. Cowie James B. Petersen
Old Fort Niagara Archeological Site NHL (thematic upgrade) Niagara County, New York	Douglas Knight Patricia Kay Scott
Pemaquid Archeological Site Lincoln County, Maine	Robert L. Bradley
Pentagoet Archeological District Hancock County, Maine	Alaric Faulkner
St. Mary's City Archeological District NHL (thematic upgrade) St. Mary's City County, Maryland	Henry M. Miller
Schuyler Flatts Archeological District Albany County, New York	Paul R. Huey
Ward's Point Archeological Site Richmond County, New York	Jerome Jacobson

Mary Ellen N. Hodges and E. Randolph Turner, III

Historic Contact at Camden NHL

Reverse of silver medal inscribed, "Ye King of Machotick." Photo by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources courtesy of the Virginia Historical Society.

The Camden National Historic Landmark, located in Caroline County, Virginia, comprises approximately 1,400 acres of bottomland along the southern shore of the Rappahannock River situated about 50 kilometers below the falls of the river at Fredericksburg. Listed in the National Register of Historic Places on November 17, 1969, the property was recognized for the outstanding architectural significance of the magnificent manor house which has been the focal point of Camden plantation since 1859. Considered "one of the most complete and best preserved Italianate country houses in America," the structure earned Camden designation as a National Historic Landmark on November 11, 1971.

For many years, however, the significance of Camden was underestimated by the preservation community. This situation changed in 1984 when a survey completed by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR), then known as the Division of Historic Landmarks, showed that, in addition to its surviving architectural features, the property holds a rich and diverse array of archeological resources which had been largely overlooked. Preserved within the soil at Camden is a complex record of the lives of the many groups of Native American and Anglo- and African-American peoples who have called the middle stretches of the Rappahannock River their home over a period spanning almost ten thousand years.

Ironically, in 1968, in an article on Camden for the magazine *Arts in Virginia*, architectural historian Richard Howland commented that appreciation for the plantation's mid-19th-century manor house represented a notable change in professional interests, which merely 40 years earlier had overwhelmingly favored the 18th century. Of course, rather than remaining static since 1968, the interests of historic preservation have continued to expand. We now concern ourselves with an even wider range of resource types, whether they be architectural or archeological, which we consider fundamental to a comprehensive understanding of America's past. In the more than 25 years that have passed since the property's registration, the results of the VDHR's archeological survey of Camden illustrate the benefits of being mindful of these changes in our own perceptions and occasionally taking the time to re-examine and reevaluate the properties we believe we already understand.

Although both the 1969 National Register and the 1971 National Historic Landmark nomination reports focused on the Camden manor house, each also included a brief description of one archeological site on the property, 44CE3. Tested in 1964-65 under the direction of Howard A. MacCord, Sr., then State Archeologist with the Virginia State Library, the site yielded numerous Native American and Anglo-American artifacts dated c. 1680-1710, including a silver medallion inscribed "Ye King of Machotick." In 1882, a similar medallion inscribed "Ye King of Patomeck" had been found at an unrecorded location on the plantation. In an excavation report which appeared in the Archaeological Society of Virginia's *Quarterly Bulletin* in 1969, MacCord interpreted site 44CE3 as the remains of a single cabin occupied during the late-17th century by members of an Indian family who may have been tenants of an English planter.

MacCord continued to study the archeology of Camden intermittently from the late 1960s through the mid-1970s, and it was the results of these later investigations which initially encouraged VDHR archeologists to return to the property in 1983. By 1976, MacCord had identified 12 archeological sites at Camden. Although MacCord never had the opportunity to publish these findings, both his field notes and artifact collections were filed at the VDHR where they were available for study. A review of these by VDHR staff a few years later presented quite a surprise. Six sites surveyed in the immediate vicinity of 44CE3 had produced artifact assemblages similar to the excavated site, thereby suggesting that the story of Native American settlement on the property during the late 17th century was far more complex than earlier understood. This portion of the Camden property clearly required re-examination, so

arrangements were made between VDHR staff and MacCord to visit the property together in the fall of 1983.

One trip to Camden quickly suggested that the entire property had enormous potential for containing numerous still unidentified historic and prehistoric archeological resources. With the support and encouragement of landowners Mr. and Mrs. Richard T. Pratt, and of farm manager Mr. John Davis, the VDHR initiated an archeological survey in December 1983 with fieldwork continuing intermittently through the following year. Conceived as a reconnaissance survey, the project had two major objectives: 1) to produce a more complete archeological inventory of the Landmark, and 2) to gather preliminary information on archeological site types and their distribution in a floodplain setting within the middle Rappahannock River Valley. While the field survey was conducted, then VDHR staff historian Martha W. McCartney examined numerous historical records pertinent to the region and interviewed Mr. Pratt, whose family has held the Camden property continuously since the late 18th century.

These activities fully proved Camden's enormous archeological potential and significance. Included among the 95 localities identified in the survey were a wide variety of site types capable of providing important new information on historic contact relations. When the northeast sector of the property containing 44CE3 was re-examined, for example, it was found to contain 19 additional sites representing components of a mid- to late-17th-century Native American village. The archeological remains of this village are widely distributed along a terrace extending 850 meters parallel to the Rappahannock River. Although the terrace has been plowed and is littered with stone tool manufacturing debris dating from the Archaic and Woodland periods, sites of historic Native American occupation are still distinguished on the ground surface as discrete concentrations of ceramic sherds and oyster shell. Of the 20 sites identified, eight containing very dense concentrations of debris are believed to represent locations of house structures within the village. More widely dispersed dwellings may also have been identified at two other surveyed sites. Both were separated from the main village by small streams running west and southeast of the main village.

Camden surface survey. Photo courtesy of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

When compared to the artifacts recovered from an earlier Late Woodland period (c. A.D. 900-1600) village also identified at Camden, the ceramics associated with the Historic Contact period Native American settlement pose some interesting questions regarding the movements and subsequent social integration of diverse groups of native peoples during the colonial era. The majority of ceramics from the historic village are typologically related to the Potomac Creek series, a type of sand-tempered pottery commonly associated with Late Woodland period sites within the Inner Coastal Plain and Piedmont of Virginia and Maryland. Also found at the historic village, however, are small quantities of shell-tempered ceramics apparently derived from the Outer Coastal Plain Late Woodland Townsend ceramic tradition. Despite their differences, both ceramics show the influence of European pottery styles in their form and preparation.

Martha McCartney's examination of 17th- and 18th-century records brought to light a wealth of information to complement the field investigations at Camden. Documents affirmed that many Native American peoples were displaced from their original homelands by expanding English colonial settlements during the 1600s. In an effort to relieve tensions between the two groups, the Virginia colony set aside several tracts of land along the Rappahannock River as preserves for the native peoples. By the mid-17th century, the Nanzattico Indians held one of these preserves, which encompassed land on both sides of the Rappahannock River in the vicinity of Camden and Portobago Bay to the east. Documents indicate that a village of Portobago Indians was located with the Nanzattico settlement near the mouth of Portobago Creek in 1657. In 1684, at the behest of the colonial government, the Rappahannock Indians were transported from their lands downriver to the Nanzattico preserve.

Writing of his visit to a Native American village in or near the Nanzattico preserve in 1686, Durand de Dauphine, a French Huguenot, noted: "These savages have rather pretty houses, the walls as well as roofs ornamented with trees." The native people de Dauphine met wore both European and traditional garments, and the

Colono ware spoon

women "made pots, earthen vases, and smoking pipes [which] the Christians buying these pots or vases fill them with Indian corn which is the price of them."

Other documents chronicle colonial penetration of the area. Among the earliest patents to land in and around Camden was Sir Thomas Lunsford's 1650 3,000-acre claim. In 1670, Lunsford's daughter Katherine received permission to seat the property, provided "that [it] may not prejudice the Indians now living upon part of the said land." A plat prepared in 1738 to resolve a complex land dispute depicts the old Lunsford patent and identifies its northwestern portion as the "Middle Town. " This area corresponds to the location of the large historic Native American archeological complex identified during the Camden survey. The Nanzattico community eventually dissolved as English settlers seized its lands. Following the murders of several settlers in 1705, the colonial government ordered all Nanzattico adults deported to Antigua and the children sold into indentured servitude. Not all Indians were forced from the area at that time. In the 1920s, for example, anthropologist Frank Speck found that as many as 500 people in the nearby Virginia counties of King George, Essex, and King and Queen traced descent from Indian ancestors.

The settlement discovered in the VDHR survey comprises one of the largest late contact period archeological complexes yet identified within the circum-Chesapeake region. It contains deposits that have yielded and remain capable of yielding important new information on the cultural adaptations of native peoples during a very disruptive period characterized by the displacement of many groups. Situated as it was within the frontier of the Virginia colony, the settlement's deposits can also provide investigators with new insights into the nature of social and economic relations between Native Americans and European settlers.

The results of the VDHR Camden archeological survey were summarized in a formal addendum to the original National Register nomination form and submitted to the Keeper of the National Register in September 1986. This report subsequently became the basis of another addendum expanding the areas of significance encompassed by the Camden National Historic Landmark undertaken as part of the Historic Contact theme study. Working with Mary Ellen Hodges, who had directed the Camden survey while she was a staff archeologist with the VDHR, and with Martha McCartney, former VDHR historian, VDHR archeologist E. Randolph Turner, III sponsored preparation of this addendum. Turner coordinated the sponsorship of the VDHR Camden National Historic Landmark thematic upgrade and other Historic Contact theme study efforts with his office's Virginia Company study.

A site visit conducted on May 7, 1991, confirmed both the intact nature of Camden archeological deposits and the continuing support of the Pratt family for the preservation of cultural resources on their property. Addendum information recognizing the national significance of archeological resources associated with Historic Contact period Native American life at Nanzattico was formally incorporated into Camden National Historic Landmark documentation by the National Park System Advisory Board on August 11, 1993.

Spurred on by the publication of Stephen R. Potter's study, *Commoners, Tribute, and Chiefs: The Development of Algonquian Culture in the Potomac Valley* (University Press of Virginia, 1993) and stimulated by the response of the state's archeological and preservation communities to the Historic Contact theme study and the VDHR's Virginia Company research project, Department archeologists have recently completed the first season of a five-year project to more fully study the Nanzattico Indian community. The Nanzattico Archaeological Research Project will look at archeological and written records to more accurately identify archeological indicators of local occupation, trace the evolution of the Powhatan and Patawomeck chiefdoms, and assess the effects of contact with Europeans in the lower Rappahannock Valley. Enlisting the services of volunteers and undertaken in an area where archeological resources are facing unprecedented residential and industrial development pressure, the project will serve as a model for public involvement and educational training in archeology through such activities as avocational and teacher training, innovative use of video as an educational medium, and participation in Virginia Archaeology Month and the new Teaching Through Historic Places programs. Information preserved at the Camden National Historic Landmark and other locales associated with the Nanzattico preserve also will be extremely valuable for promoting and assisting heritage educa-

tion and tourism programs associated with the upcoming Four Hundred Year Jamestown Anniversary in 2007 sponsored by the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, and the National Park Service.

Mary Ellen N. Hodges is an archeologist with the Virginia Department of Transportation, Suffolk.

E. Randolph Turner, III is an archeologist with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Richmond.

Much of this article is adapted from "Camden: Another Look Seventeen Years After Registration", an article by Mary Ellen N. Hodges published in the Fall, 1986 issue of the magazine *Notes on Virginia*. Appreciation is extended to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources for permission to reprint this material.

Ellen R. Cowie, James B. Petersen, and Bruce J. Bourque

Research and Preservation at Norridgewock NHL

Communion vessel lid inscribed with the seal of Sebastian Rale's Jesuit Seminary at Lyon found at Old Point. Photo by Bruce J. Bourque.

The Historic Contact period village at Norridgewock is well-known in colonial history as a 17th- and 18th-century Native American community on the border between French and English colonial territories (Morrison 1984). It was reported as early as the beginning of the 17th century, perhaps by Samuel de Champlain and certainly by Samuel Purchas in 1625, although it is best known through accounts of the Jesuit priest Sebastian Rasle who later resided there for about 30 years (Prins and Bourque 1987; Sprague 1906). Although much has been written about the Historic Contact period native community at Norridgewock, the archeological potential of several sites at the locale has not been demonstrated until recently (Cowie and Petersen 1992; Prins and Bourque 1987). This overview of the Norridgewock Archaeological District National Historic Landmark provides an example of the compatibility of both site preservation goals and archeological research, and shows that the two can beneficially work hand-in-hand.

The Norridgewock National Historic Landmark presently encompasses three separate archeological properties in the towns of Norridgewock, Madison, and Starks in Somerset County, Maine; the Old Point Mission site (ME 69-2), the Sandy River site (ME 69-24) and the Tracy Farm site (ME 69-11). Although the Old Point Mission and the Tracy Farm sites were previously known to local artifact collectors and, in the case of the Old Point Mission, from a rich historical record, the University of Maine at Farmington Archaeology Research Center (UMF) conducted the first systematic excavations in the area in 1988 and 1990. All three sites are located on land adjacent to the Weston Hydroelectric Project, a facility owned and operated by Central Maine Power Company (CMP), the largest utility in the state. Like many such facilities in Maine, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license for the Weston Project was due to expire in the early 1990s. UMF was contracted by CMP to conduct archeological phase I survey and phase II testing along the margins of the 39.8 kilometer (24.8 mile) long hydroelectric head pond. Of the 41 aboriginal sites identified by UMF, four were found to contain deposits dating to the Historic Contact period. Of these four sites, three were determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. These same three sites were later designated as the Norridgewock Archaeological District National Historic Landmark on April 12, 1993.

The Sandy River site (ME 69-24) is located in the town of Starks near the confluence of the Kennebec and Sandy rivers. First identified by UMF investigators in 1988 (Torrence, et al. 1990), phase II testing in 1990 identified the presence of singularly well-preserved deeply buried deposits dating from 600 to 300 years ago. Several hearths, a probable roasting pit, and a buried living surface were found beneath buried alluvial deposits indicative of frequent flooding. One of the most exciting finds was the discovery of a large portion of a St. Lawrence Iroquoian pot in a datable fea-

Norridgewock on 1776 Arnold map.

ture. Belonging to a type rarely found in Maine sites (Petersen 1990), radiocarbon analysis dated the pot to A.D. 1450 +/- 110. Discovery of carbonized corn, squash, and other plant remains in two features revealed evidence of seasonal occupation. Analysis of these and other findings indicate that the Sandy River site was probably abandoned as a habitation when its occupants moved to more permanent year-round settlements on higher, rarely flooded ground at and around the Tracy Farm and the Old Point Mission villages.

Although cultivation has not damaged the deeply buried Sandy River deposits, erosion caused by the fluctuating water levels of the Weston Hydroelectric Project head pond threatens portions of the site (Cowie and Petersen 1992). In response to this threat, current plans call for mitigation of a small portion of the property through intensive excavation.

The Tracy Farm site is located 500 meters (1,640') to the north of the Sandy River locale. Long known to amateur collectors, the site was first subjected to professional investigation when anthropologist Harald E.L. Prins visited it in 1983. Checking out a 1647 account suggesting that the earliest Norridgewock community was located on the west bank of the Kennebec across from the later Old Point Mission, Prins found evidence of occupation on the surface of cultivated land within the Tracy property (Prins and Bourque 1987:138). Subsequent visits to the site, including one with Bruce Bourque of the Maine State Museum, affirmed the possibility that Tracy Farm was the setting of the early Norridgewock settlement.

First tested by UMF archeologists in 1988, Tracy Farm was more intensively examined during phase II testing in 1990. Many of the more than 15,000 artifacts recovered during testing near the surface or in the hearths, pits, and other features preserved below the plow zone were associated with terminal Late Woodland and Historic Contact period occupations (Cowie and Petersen 1992). Glass beads, European white-clay tobacco pipes, and other unmistakable evidence of European contact were found in several features. Half of the contents of all features uncovered during this phase were removed for study and preservation for future investigation.

A post mold outline measuring 25 meters (82') long by 5 meters (16.4') wide uncovered at the site represents the first discovery of archeological evidence of a longhouse dwelling found in northern New England (Cowie and Petersen 1992). One of the three pit features within the longhouse was tested. Analysis of the contents of this feature revealed a European white clay tobacco pipe bowl, glass beads, animal bones, and carbonized wood, butternut shell, and other plant remains. Collectively, these deposits represent a unique resource preserving evidence of the time when Native Americans were first interacting with Europeans in the region.

Erosion presently threatens the southeastern margins of the site deposit at Tracy Farm. Responding to this threat, mitigation excavations were conducted in this area during the summer of 1995 by a UMF field school in archeology. The

View of east wall profile of test units N50-51 E190, showing complex stratigraphy and features 2, 4, 5 at the Sandy River site. Feature 5 has been radiocarbon dated to A.D. 1650. Note range pole marked in 20 cm increments. Photo courtesy UMF ARC.

Catholic communion service artifacts found at Old Point. Photo by Bruce J. Bourque.

project was sponsored by CMP and the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, and supported by a volunteer project of the Maine Archaeological Society. Findings from field school investigations will be incorporated in Cowie's dissertation research.

The Old Point Mission site is located on another high terrace opposite the Tracy Farm on the east bank of the Kennebec River in the towns of Norridgewock and Madison. The history of Norridgewock mission village at Old Point is both fascinating and tragic. Extensively documented and widely known, the Abenaki village and associated Jesuit mission at Old Point played a significant role in the Indian and French struggle to maintain control in the region during the late-17th and early-18th centuries. The Old Point mission was originally established in the mid-1690s when Jesuit missionary Sebastian Rasle travelled from Quebec to Norridgewock. Shortly thereafter, many Abenakis living on the Tracy Farm site moved across the river to Old Point. Father Rasle lived at Norridgewock for nearly 30 years during a tumultuous time of warfare and frontier conflict. The Old Point mission village was abandoned and destroyed by British troops during Queen Anne's War (1702-1713). Rebuilt with British help when the New Englanders tried to win the Abenakis to their side after the war ended, Norridgewock nevertheless ultimately became a staging ground for raids against British colonizers encroaching on Indian lands along the Kennebec River. This cycle of encroachment and retaliation finally led to the outbreak of a new conflict in 1722 most widely known to today as Dummer's War, after the Massachusetts lieutenant-governor who led provincial troops against the Indians until 1727. Unsuccessfully attacked when the conflict first broke out, the town was destroyed when a force of more than 150 New England troops killed Rasle and as many as 60 townsfolk on August 23, 1724. Reoccupied by a small group of Abenaki in 1726, the site was finally abandoned in 1754 after the Kennebec Proprietors constructed posts uncomfortably close downriver at Fort Western and Fort Halifax.

Interest in the Norridgewock mission extends back to the early 1800s (Prins and Bourque 1987). Father Benedict Fenwick of Boston instigated purchase of a portion of Old Point in 1833 and sponsored construction of a monument honoring Rasle at the locale. Ironically, the Abenakis killed in the attack are not mentioned on the monument's bronze plaque. Warren K. Moorehead conducted the earliest known professional archeological investigations at Old Point during the early 1920s (Moorehead 1922). In 1967, Dean Snow, then a professor at the University of Maine, visited the site and recorded it in the Maine Site Survey files. The locale was then tested by UMF in 1988 and 1990.

Testing by UMF investigators confirmed that looters drawn to the site in part by the presence of the Rasle monument have extensively damaged significant portions of Old Point archeological deposits for more than a century. Hundreds of artifacts, including portions of Rasle's communion service, have been taken from the site. Many of these collections have been since donated to the Maine State Museum, which has recently mounted an exhibit featuring them.

Supported by the Maine Historical Preservation Commission, UMF, and volunteers, Cowie conducted limited fieldwork at Old Point in 1992 and 1994 as part of her dissertation research. These field investigations focused on the delineation of the historically-documented palisade and uncovered several thousand artifacts, along with over 140 post molds, storage pits, hearths, and other features.

The absence of aboriginal manufactures in Historic Contact period deposits at Old Point affirms that the Abenakis abandoned much of their traditional technology by the time they moved to the Jesuit mission. Site deposits contain glass beads, wine, and case bottle fragments, copper and brass tinkling cones, projectile points, and

General view of the long house post mold pattern at the Tracy Farm site, facing southwest. Photo courtesy UMF ARC.

beads, metal fragments, gun hardware, lead shot, and European gun flints. Discovery of English gun flints suggests contacts with British traders farther down the Kennebec River.

Only 12 features have been fully tested thus far. Atlantic salmon and other animal bones and floral remains of corn and European peas have been identified in portions of feature fill subjected to flotation analyses that separate small bones and other usually undetected remains from excavated soil.

Concerned by continued threats caused by looters and recreational vehicle drivers motoring along the several dirt roads that criss-cross the site, Bruce Bourque suggested that the Norridgewock area be examined for potential National Historic Landmark nomination as part of the Historic Contact theme study in 1989. Shortly thereafter, UMF staff members Ellen Cowie and James Petersen offered to contribute findings made through their Weston Hydroelectric Project surveys to the study. Working together, Cowie, Petersen, and Bourque helped prepare the nomination form, which was presented by Bourque at a meeting of the History Areas Advisory Board in Washington on January 12, 1993. Three months later, the Secretary of the Interior formally designated Norridgewock as a National Historic Landmark.

Although landowners have supported the designation, none have yet approved erection of a plaque that may direct further unwanted attention to a site long threatened by destructive looting. Designation has, however, contributed to preservation efforts at Norridgewock. The recognition of Tracy Farm and Sandy River as nationally-significant sites, for example, facilitated development of a conservation easement protecting site deposits written by Maine Historic Preservation Commission archeologist Arthur Spiess when the Tracy property was foreclosed by the Farmer's Home Administration in 1994. Later that year, Dr. Spiess worked with the National Park Service to develop a plan for Historic Preservation Fund support for Cowie's dissertation research at Old Point that balanced research needs with preservation requirements.

A monument to Sebastian Rale and the Indian victims of the 1724 British attack at Old Point. Bruce Bourque (left) and Alarick Faulkner (right) in foreground. Photo by Robert Grumet, 1990.

The future of the Old Point Mission site remains uncertain. The Madison Paper Company, which owns most of the site area, has clearly expressed an interest in protecting the site. Looters, however, continue to damage site deposits. New partnerships need to be developed between scholars, government agencies, state professional and avocational societies, and the local community to increase public awareness of the importance of protecting these national treasures. Only then can the future of the past at Norridgewock be assured for all Americans.

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