

# • EASTERN STATES ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

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BULLETIN No. 5 • NOVEMBER, 1946

## Eastern States Archaeological Federation, Bulletin No. 5, Nov., 1946

### Introduction

With this Bulletin a new scheme of things is inaugurated. We hope that it will be acceptable to the membership but if it is not we hope that you will write us and tell us what you wish. The idea is to publish as many reports and other such documents before the annual meeting of the Eastern States Archaeological Federation so that we can devote the time when we are together to a discussion of matters which are closer to our primary interest. This year it has been possible to shorten the business meeting considerably and in turn we have been able to add

to the program a number of papers dealing with archaeology.

The new system will work better once we get used to it. The Editor wishes to thank Mrs. Greywacz for having the bulletin printed in time for distribution at the meeting. It is a token of her unflinching interest in the Federation and her devotion to it.

FREDERICK JOHNSON, *Editor,*  
*R. S. Peabody Foundation,*  
*Andover, Mass.*

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### Reports of the Archaeological Societies for the Year 1945—46

*Connecticut.* The Archaeological Society of Connecticut held two meetings during the fiscal year just past. The semi-annual business meeting was held in New Haven on November 24, 1945, with thirty-six members in attendance. As a special feature of this meeting the members were given the opportunity of inspecting the new Hall of Southern New England Anthropology at the Yale Peabody Museum.

The annual meeting, held on May 11, 1946, also took place in New Haven. This meeting, attended by over fifty members, included an afternoon business and program session, followed by a dinner at the Hotel Garde. The highlight was a presentation by Dr. Dorothy Cross of the New Jersey State Museum on Excavations at the Abbott Farm.

Under the continued able leadership of President Lyent W. Russell, and with Mr. George W. Johnson as Secretary, the Society has continued to grow. It now has 310 members as compared with 287 reported at the annual meeting on May 11th.

The New Haven and Danbury Chapters continued active during the year, each conducting a series of meetings and field projects. Two additional local chapters were formed, the Nehantic Chapter at Niantic with Mr. Chapin Hubbell as Chairman, and Mrs. Gladys Avery as Secretary, and the Windham County Chapter with Mr. Walter G. Bruce as Chairman, and Miss Gertrude Pradel as Secretary.

The Connecticut Society is proud of its publications. BULLETIN No. 18 and BULLETIN No. 19 were issued during the year. BULLETIN 18 featured, among a group of fine contributions, Martin Thompson's Report on Excavations at the Powder Hill Site at Hazardville, Conn. BULLETIN 19 featured, also with other excellent material, C. C. Coffin's Final Report on the Eagle Hill Site at Milford, Conn. Five NEWS LETTERS were also issued which served to maintain interest and to keep the membership posted on the meetings and activities of the members. We are most fortunate in having Dr. Irving B. Rouse of the Yale Department of Anthropology as Editor of these publications.

Currently the Society is sponsoring a state-wide site survey, and as an additional project, arrangements have been completed for an educational display in the Hall of Southern New England Anthropology at Yale Peabody Museum which will illustrate the materials used by Indians of this area in the manufacture of stone artifacts.

In reporting "progress" for the Connecticut Society, we feel that we are not employing a vague term, but are accurately describing the progressive and cooperative spirit of a fine group of amateurs and professionals working together.

SAMUEL D. BOGAN,  
*Vice-President for Connecticut.*

*Delaware.* During the past year The Archaeological Society of Delaware held three meetings:

November 24, 1945—Address by Dr. Robert P. Elmer. Subject: "Archery and the American Indian." Dr. Elmer is an outstanding authority on Archery, and exhibited bows and arrows from many Indian tribes, including specimens made by Ishi, last of the primitive Indians of California.

March 1, 1946—Address by L. T. Alexander, former Lieutenant, U. S. N. Subject: "The Naked Naga of Assam." During his service in the U. S. Navy, Mr. Alexander was sent on a highly important mission to an isolated section of the Orient, where he encountered a very primitive people. His description of these people, illustrated by slides from his own photographs, was most interesting.

May 12, 1946—Address by Mr. Bennett Greig, formerly of the British Embassy in Peru. Mr. Greig lectured on archaeological and other cultural subjects, illustrated by colored motion pictures taken during his eight-year service in Peru.

Another meeting is being arranged for the near future.

A field trip during the year was made in early May to the aboriginal jasper quarries near Vera Cruz, Pa. Despite threatening weather, nineteen members and friends made the trip. Those who went were highly pleased, and gathered many specimens from this most interesting region.

I am sorry to report that our publications have been limited; one Bulletin and one News Letter have been issued.

I am happy to say that all our members who were in the armed forces have returned safely, and we are looking forward to renewed activity in the Society.

ARCHIBALD CROZIER,  
*Vice-President for Delaware.*

*Maine.* During the past summer archaeological work was carried on in the Union River Valley of Maine by the Robert Abbe Museum. It has been the intention of the workers to make a preliminary archaeological exploration of the Union River Valley, working two weeks on the east bank of the Union River at a salmon fishing site on the Smith farm at Ellsworth Falls, two weeks on a known hunting camp site at the mouth of Reed's brook, and two weeks more on burial grounds about Beech Hill. After as thorough an exploration of the latter two sites as time and the abnormally high water permitted, it was decided that it would be more advantageous to continue the excavation at the Smith farm.

As artifacts washed from the banks of the river were much in evidence, an intensive search for such material was undertaken when the water conditions permitted. Numerous test pits were dug in the area.

The most promising pits were used as the nuclei for further excavations. Although the excavations were not as extensive as we desired a satisfactory picture can be presented. The material presented further proof that the so-called "Red Paint" and the Wabanaki were one and the same. Many broken as well as unbroken artifacts common to the "Red Paint" graves were found on all sites in association with artifacts of the Wabanaki.

The survey was made possible by a grant-in-aid from the Department of Anthropology, University of Pennsylvania, and by the generous contribution of both time and personal finances of four students. Further survey work is being carried on in the Union River Valley. This will be resumed in the spring.

WENDELL S. HADLOCK,  
*Vice-President for Maine.*

*Massachusetts.* The spring meeting of The Massachusetts Archaeological Society was held in Springfield, Mass., on April 13, 1946. Dr. William B. Kirkman gave an address on Pre-Columbian Visitors from Europe. Mr. William Fowler talked on Primitive Wood Working in the Connecticut Valley. The talks were followed by discussions. The semi-annual dinner was held at the Hotel Springfield. Mr. Vincent J. Schaefer of the VanEpps-Hartley Chapter of the New York Archaeological Society gave a detailed description of the Schermerhorn site, a component of the Early Coastal Aspect.

The annual meeting was held in Plymouth, Mass., on October 12, 1946. Papers included "A Unique Grindstone from Historic Cornhill, Cape Cod, Mass." by Mr. Howard Torrey and "Pottery Types of the Plymouth District" by Mr. Charles Sherman. Mr. Lawrence Gahan described a Mousterian-Aurignacian Site in Germany. The afternoon session ended with "A Preliminary Report on the Titicut Site, Bridgewater, Mass." by Maurice Robbins. Following the annual meeting there was an address by Dr. Kirk Bryan of Harvard University, "Our Present Knowledge of Early Man in the New World."

The Society continues to grow. In April the Nipmuck Chapter was formed of members living in the vicinity of Worcester. General membership is still on the increase. All the chapters of the Society, except those which have not been reorganized following the war, are actively engaged in various kinds of archaeological work. The Holyoke and Nipmuck chapters have excavations under way or projected. The W. K. Moorehead Chapter excavated a particularly important site. It is located at a place which can be quite definitely identified as the Titicut of Colonial times.

At the annual meeting the following officers were elected: President, W. Elmer Ekblaw; 1st Vice-President, Henry Hornblower, 2nd; 2nd Vice-

President, Benjamin L. Smith; 3rd Vice-President, Dr. Henry F. Howe; Secretary, William S. Fowler; Treasurer, Winthrop F. Barden; Editor, Douglas S. Byers; Trustees for three years, Leaman F. Hallet and Jesse Brewer.

FREDERICK JOHNSON,  
*Vice-President for Massachusetts.*

*New Jersey.* The membership of The Archaeological Society of New Jersey now totals 214, an increase of nine over last year.

Quarterly meetings were held throughout the year. Guest speakers included: Dr. Mary Butler, who spoke on "Two Lenni Lenape Rock Shelters on Darby Creek, Delaware County, Pa.," and Carl Manson who talked about "The Early Affinities of the Marcey Creek Site, Virginia." The speaker scheduled for the annual meeting in May, Carlyle Smith, was unable to attend due to the railroad strike. The fall meeting was held in the private museum of Arthur C. King, Toms River, and a guest speaker was dispensed with so that more time could be spent in viewing Judge King's vast collection.

TWO NEWS LETTERS, Nos. 14 and 15, were issued and a Bulletin was instituted. BULLETIN No. 1 is now in press. It will include minor notes and three major papers: "The Indians and Ocean County" by Harold K. Woolley, "A Narraticon Village Site in Gloucester County, New Jersey" by Charles F. Kier, and a report on the Bevans Rock Shelter which was excavated in 1931 for the New Jersey State Museum and the University Museum by Dorothy Cross assisted by members of the Archaeological Society. The first bulletin is the work of Society members only, but it is hoped that as the series gets under way, others will contribute. A monograph series was also started with a contribution from Frank G. Speck entitled "Eastern Algonkian Block-stamp Decoration: a New World Original or an Acculturated Art." Owing to the moving of the archaeological laboratory of the State Museum, Dorothy Cross was unable to finish "Archaeology of New Jersey" Vol. II—The Abbott Farm, which is being underwritten by the Society. This volume certainly will be released during 1947.

The Society is cooperating with the project of the Indiana Historical Society in tracing the migration of the Delaware. Catherine McCann has been awarded the fellowship for New Jersey. She has made the archaeological laboratory of the State Museum her headquarters, but will work throughout the state.

No Society-sponsored field work was undertaken, but members investigated on their own. One of the Society's members, Willena Dutcher, is making a

survey of New Jersey bannerstones and other members have been supplying her with data from their collections.

ARTHUR C. KING,  
*Vice-President for New Jersey.*

*New York.* The three chapters of the New York State Archaeological Association have been active in a number of different fields during the past year. Except in the case of the Lewis Henry Morgan Chapter, at Rochester, most of the active field work has been done by individual members.

The Morgan Chapter has planned and is putting into effect a thorough reorganization of its activities. Monthly meetings from September through May will cover, informally, subjects of fundamental importance in archaeology and anthropology, and a Working Projects Committee has been established to define and formulate an activity program. The Chapter has published, in cooperation with the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences, Dr. William A. Ritchie's "An Early Site in Cayuga County, New York: Type Component of the Frontenac Focus, Archaic Pattern." A second report, "A Stratified Prehistoric Site at Brewerton, New York," covering Dr. Ritchie's work at the Wickham Site, is in press. The latter report casts new light on the relationships between the Owasco Aspect and the Point Peninsula Focus of the Vine Valley Aspect in western New York.

Dr. Charles F. Goddard, President of the Long Island Chapter, reports that the Chapter has been actively engaged in planning a museum of its own. The Chapter has shown a considerable increase in membership during the year. Late in the summer a tour of the principal excavation sites on which the Chapter and its members have worked was made, as a means of emphasizing the types of location which have proved to be important on eastern Long Island.

The VanEpps-Hartley Chapter has not worked in the field during the year, although permission has again been obtained to do some final work on the Schermerhorn site near Schenectady, a station of the "Early" Focus of the Coastal Aspect, and at least one more field trip will be necessary to complete the excavation of the stratified Van Orden site near Catskill, which represents the "Late" Focus of the same aspect. The most important work of the year is being carried on by a group of members who are engaged in documentary research on the Mohawk occupation. The group is headed by the Very Rev. Thomas Grassmann of Tekakwitha Friary, Fonda (the site of the so-called "Lower Castle" of the Turtle Clan, Caughnawaga, from about 1667 to 1693), who is making a thorough search and study of the source materials on the Mohawks in this country, Canada, and during the past spring in Rome

Belgium, and London. Chapter members who are familiar with the Mohawk sites are supplementing this documentary work with site studies which promise to cast new light on the probable locations of the three clan "castles" and their satellite settlements during the Colonial period. The Chapter itself hopes to excavate part of the Caughnawaga site as its next major field project. Vincent J. Schaefer, President of the VanEpps-Hartley Chapter, is also planning an informal lecture-discussion series of monthly meetings, to begin in January, which will cover archaeological methods and problems and analyze the various cultures of New York State as they appear in the Mohawk-Hudson drainage area. It is hoped that renewed field work may be planned as an adjunct to this "course," and that reorganization of the Chapter's collections at the Schenectady Museum will make it possible to prepare reports on past work for publication in the State Association series.

P. SCHUYLER MILLER,  
*Vice-President for New York.*

*North Carolina.* The Archaeological Society of North Carolina has not been prepared to engage in field work this year. Considerable material, however, from a former mound excavation is held for study and preparation of a report.

The archaeological laboratory and repository at the University of North Carolina were closed on account of wartime restrictions and have not been re-opened.

Papers by Bartoni and Stinespring will be issued this fall.

The Society has thirty-eight members. The annual meeting is held in December at the state capital, Raleigh, in connection with the groups representing the State Literary and Historical Society.

DOUGLAS L. RIGHTS,  
*Vice-President for North Carolina.*

*Pennsylvania.* The post-war program of The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology is now getting under way. The Historical Commission has begun reconnaissance work in Tioga County. As a result several village sites which were partially destroyed by the spring floods were tentatively identified as Canandaigua Woodland. Several local chapters of the State Society are now undergoing reconversion.

CLAUDE SCHAEFFER,  
*Vice-President for Pennsylvania.*

*Rhode Island.* After having been inactive during the last two years of the war The Narragansett Archaeological Society of Rhode Island resumed its activities in the Spring of 1946.

The Society is now engaged in excavating a camp site and shell heap on the southern shore of Rhode Island. To date numerous bone and stone artifacts have been recovered. Also an interesting double burial has been opened. The site covers a considerable area and perhaps it will take several seasons to recover sufficient data to permit the publication of a detailed report.

FREDERICK A. HAWKSLEY,  
*Vice-President for Rhode Island.*

*Virginia.* The Archaeological Society of Virginia now has 59 members. During the past year it has held three meetings. A special meeting was held on June 23, 1946. This was in the nature of a visit to Jamestown Island, Virginia, as a guest of Mr. J. C. Harrington, Superintendent of the Historic Parks. Twenty-six members and guests attended the meeting and Mr. Harrington gave an interesting talk about the archaeological program at Jamestown. The group visited a number of excavations and also inspected the laboratory in order to see the material which had been brought to light.

The Society has been fortunate in securing the Indian collection of one of its members, Dr. Henry Marshall, now deceased. The collection was purchased by Dr. John S. Scott and turned over to the Society eventually to be placed in the new Museum of Science which it is hoped will be established in the near future. Plans for the museum have been drawn up; the collections will be housed as soon as the planning committee can secure quarters.

The Society has not done any work on archaeological sites but various members have investigated surface sites near Richmond where artifacts were found. It is hoped that a State Archaeologist will be appointed and that he will be able to carry on the work initiated by the Society. The Society will be reorganized during the coming year.

J. B. BRITTINGHAM,  
*Vice-President for Virginia.*