

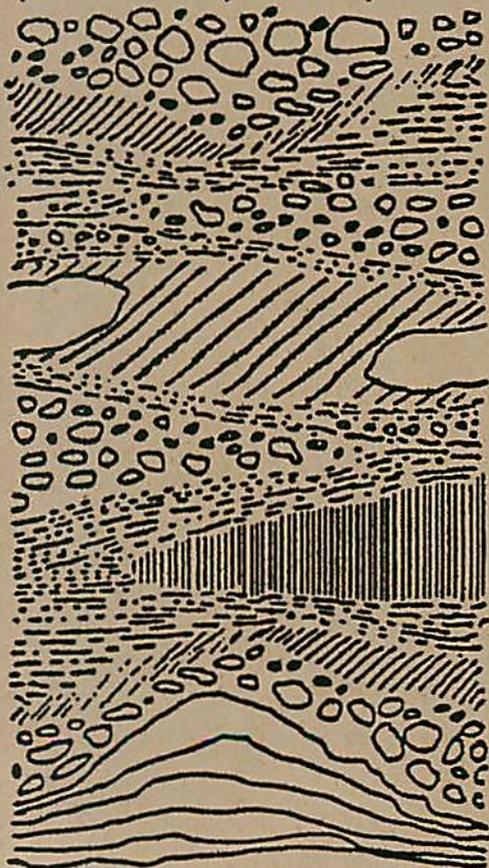
Symposium on the
ARCHAEOLOGY
of NEW YORK CITY

**Landscapes of Memory:
Cemetery Archaeology in New York and New Jersey**

**Twenty-fourth Annual PANYC Public Program
Museum of the City of New York
Sunday, May 2, 2004**

**Professional Archaeologists of New York City, Inc. (PANYC), is a
non-profit organization of local professional archaeologists
concerned with discovering and conserving our cultural heritage.**

open to the general public



**Landscapes of Memory:
Cemetery Archaeology in New York
and New Jersey**

**Twenty-fourth Annual
PANYC PUBLIC PROGRAM**

1:00-1:10

Opening Remarks and Welcome

Diane Dallal, South Street Seaport Museum

1:10-1:30

**The Birth, Life, Death, and Rebirth of
Gethsemane Cemetery, a 19th-Century
African-American Burial Ground in Bergen
County, New Jersey**

Joan Geismar, Ph.D., LLC

This is the story of a one-acre burial ground for Hackensack's black population that played a pivotal role in the desegregation of New Jersey's public cemeteries. What followed were decades as a family cemetery for local blacks and a potter's field for the county's indigent white males and stillborns, then abandonment and desecration and, now, its rebirth as a beautiful passive park. It is a story told through historical research and nonintrusive archaeological survey prompted by a dedicated county official who realized her dream.

1:30-1:50

**Tales of a Grave Undertaking: The
Intersection of Law, Tradition and
Archaeology at a Potter's Field**

Robert M. Jacoby, The Louis Berger Group

The Hudson County Burial Ground, or Potter's Field, operated from 1881-1962 as the receiving cemetery for the county almshouse, asylum, penitentiary, and infectious disease hospitals, located in Secaucus, NJ. Impacts from proposed construction of a Turnpike interchange necessitated removal of the dead, resulting in the disinterment of 4,572 individuals and the recovery of over 113,000 artifacts. Through a combination of map data, osteological analysis, and artifact analysis it was possible to identify nearly 90 individuals.

1:50 - 2:10

**You Can't Take It With You or Can You?
Grave Goods from the Potter's Field,
Secaucus, NJ**

Gerry Scharfenberger, Louis Berger Group

The term "potter's field" evokes images of destitute, sometimes nameless individuals buried in simple graves with virtually no adornment or worldly goods. However excavations at the Potter's Field in Secaucus, NJ have shown that people of all social and economic levels were interred with an astounding array of goods. This cemetery is

primarily associated with a number of Hudson Co. institutions, as well as towns and cities surrounding Secaucus. The burials date from the late 19th century, up to c.1962. This paper will provide a brief overview of the types and quantities of artifacts found, and the myriad data they impart about the social, cultural and economic profiles of persons who were largely forgotten in life, yet worthy of intense study in death.

2:10-2:25

Break

2:25-2:35

**PANYC Award for Outstanding
Contributions Made by a Non
Archaeologist to New York City
Archaeology:**

**Joan Maynard, Executive Emeritus, Society
for the Preservation of Weeksville and
Bedford-Stuyvesant History.** Presented by
Anne-Marie Cantwell, Ph.D., Rutgers University

2:35-2:55

**The African Burial Ground: Overview,
Research Update and Reburial**

Jean Howson, Howard University and RBA
Group

Jean Howson will present an overview of the African Burial Ground Project, give us a research update and also discuss the reburial of the human remains.

2:55-3:15

**Site of "Exceptional Tragedy" - The World
Trade Center Site**

Nancy Brighton, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Amidst the ongoing debate of what should or should not be built at the World Trade Center site, there has been a related discussion of the site's historic significance and the role of historic preservation in any future plans. This presentation is an outsider's perspective on this discussion and the development or redevelopment of this urban landscape.

3:15-3:30

Question and Answer Session

As always, we extend our thanks to the Museum of the City of New York for co-sponsoring this year's public program. Our special thanks to Candida Norton, Kristin Balicki, Kathy Benson, and Lavinia Mancuso.