

**P**ROFESSIONAL  
**A**RCHAEOLOGISTS OF  
**N**EW  
**Y**ORK  
**C**ITY



NEWSLETTER NO. 38  
 March, 1988

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Material for the PANyc Newsletter may be sent to Celia Orgel, acting editor, 360 Cabrini Boulevard, #3-G, New York, New York 10040. Please submit material at least 10 days prior to the next scheduled meeting.

# PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF NEW YORK CITY

Department of Anthropology  
New York University  
25 Waverly Place  
New York, New York 10003

4 February 1988

Mr. Adrian Benepe  
Arts and Antiquities  
City of New York  
Parks and Recreation  
The Arsenal  
Central Park  
New York, New York 10021

Dear Mr. Benepe:

I am writing to thank you for meeting with me to discuss the concerns of the Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC) regarding the protection of archaeological sites on New York City Parks Department property. These sites are a valuable part of the city's heritage and we appreciate your desire to develop procedures which will maintain the integrity of these rare and fragile resources.

As I told you and Mark Matsil at our meeting, we are willing to work with you to see that archaeology is incorporated into the Parks Department's land management program. Too frequently, over the years, we have had to call Parks on an emergency basis when we heard that a site was being destroyed. In far too many cases we were too late. There must also have been many instances of construction and maintenance activities in the city parks that damaged sites without our ever knowing about it. For example, we have expressed concern about work at Carl Schurz Park, Van Cortland Mansion, and Pelham Bay Park, as well as about unchecked vandalism at Bartow-Pell, Burial Ridge (Tottenville), and Alley Pond (Queens), and are also very concerned about proposed construction at Madison Square, Washington Square, and Claessen's Point (Bronx).

If it would be helpful, we would be happy to help set up an advisory committee to assist in developing a long term management plan and/or to assist with other problems or plans. We would also be happy to assist in developing interim as well as long term policies and procedures.

We are anxious that the Parks Department in the very near future develop regular procedures for handling responsibilities for archaeological resources on park lands. This could be accomplished through acquisition of qualified in-house personnel, contracting with outside consultants, or cooperative arrangements with appropriate city agencies.

For your information, I am enclosing with this letter a copy of PANYC's

Cantwell/Benepe p.2.

standards for report writing. I am also enclosing, under separate cover, a copy of a preliminary archaeological assessment of park properties that we prepared several years ago for your department. I should emphasize strongly, however, that this assessment is NOT, IN ANY WAY, a definitive statement of the archaeological potential of each of the listed properties. Areas of known sensitivity have been so marked. All other properties should and must be researched on a case by case basis.

We appreciate your concern for New York City's past and look forward to working with you. We are confident that a sound management plan, by integrating archaeological values with other cultural and natural assets, will enhance the overall contribution of the park system to the benefit of all of the people of New York.

Sincerely yours,



Anne-Marie Cantwell  
President  
Professional Archaeologists of New York City

Enc. 1

Enc. under separate cover 1.

NEW YORK CITY LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION GUIDELINES FOR ARCHAEOLOGY

The developer and his representatives should agree to develop and implement a plan to make possible to the greatest degree an archaeological investigation on the construction site itself and of the artifacts recovered from the site. Such plan shall be submitted to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for its approval. Archaeological work shall be agreed upon in advance of any pre-construction work being undertaken on the site.

An archaeological survey will be undertaken at the sole expense of the applicant and/or his successors in the interest of evaluating the historical significance of the construction site.\* The archaeological survey will be permitted to start as soon as possible before any construction, and construction will be staged so as not to interfere with archaeological work. The survey will encompass the following elements:

PRE-CONSTRUCTION CONDITIONS

1. Documentary Research to record the known history of the site, evaluate its archaeological potential and, if appropriate, to determine locations for field research. The result of this research must be submitted to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for its evaluation and approval before development of a field testing strategy.
2. Field Testing.
  - a. Should the documentary research demonstrate the need for archaeological excavation, a scope and budget for field testing must be submitted for approval by the Landmarks Preservation Commission.
  - b. The archaeological excavation effort will determine through field testing if any artifacts or other items of significance, such as house foundations, wells, privies or even sunken ships are contained within the selected areas. All necessary support facilities, machinery, and security will be provided during this process by the applicant and/or successors and the construction manager. Laboratory work is required.\*\* A written report of the findings must be submitted to the Landmarks Preservation Commission within one month after the completion of the testing phase.
3. The mitigation plan is to be discussed after an evaluation of archaeological resources is made by the archaeology team and the Landmarks Preservation Commission staff archaeologist. The field archaeologist will recommend in writing an excavation program which will include a mitigation plan (for further archaeological excavation), budget and revised scope. All necessary support facilities, machinery, and security will be provided during this process by the applicant and/or successors and the construction manager. Laboratory work is required.\*\* After satisfactory completion of excavation plan the Landmarks Preservation Commission will indicate that building construction can begin.

NEW YORK CITY LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION GUIDELINES FOR ARCHAEOLOGY

4. A Certificate of Occupancy will not be granted to the applicant and/or his successors by the Buildings Department until the Landmarks Preservation Commission has confirmed completion of all archaeological reports. An initial report documenting the entire field operation, its findings and a laboratory report and analysis of the site will be produced within one year after the completion of the fieldwork. A draft of the report will be evaluated by the Landmarks Preservation Commission archaeologist. An additional two months will be given for making suggested changes and alterations. Upon acceptance of the written final report, the Landmarks Preservation Commission will sign off on the archaeological aspect of the site.

(\*) Qualifications/Credentials. The Principal Investigator of all archaeological work must be certified by the Society of Professional Archaeologists (SOPA). Regarding documentary research reports, the Principal Investigator must be the primary author. Regarding archaeological excavations, if the Principal Investigator is not on the site during and for the duration of the project, then the Assistant Director and/or Site Supervisor must be SOPA certified.

(\*\*) Laboratory work will document the archaeological finds. An ongoing "laboratory" will be established near the site and will run concurrently with all phases of the field operation. All artifacts should be counted and catalogued in some manner. Laboratory analyses will continue beyond the end of the fieldwork. Conservation of the most endangered and informative objects, and a budget and time framework for completion of the laboratory work will be agreed upon among the archaeology team, the developer/owner and the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

4/87

CERTIFIED (SOPA\*) CONSULTANTS AND FIRMS THAT HAVE REQUESTED TO BE LISTED  
TO DO ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC RESEARCH FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROJECTS

I. Archaeology Firms

Envirosphere Company (Division of EBASCO)  
160 Chubb Avenue  
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071  
Attn: Dr. Joel Klein or Dr. Sydne Marshall  
201/460-5907

Greenhouse Consultants, Inc.  
54 Stone Street, Penthouse Suite  
New York, NY 10004  
Attn: Mr. William Roberts, IV or Ms. Nancy Stehling  
212/514-9520

Grossman & Associates, Inc.  
201 East 16th Street  
New York, NY 10003  
Attn: Dr. Joel Grossman  
212/473-2259

Heritage Studies  
R.D. #4, Box 864, Mapleton Rd.  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
Attn: Mr. Richard Hunter  
609/452-1754

Historic Conservation and Site Interpretation Inc.  
Box 111, R.D. #3  
Newtown, NJ 07860  
Attn: Mr. Ed Rutsch  
201/383-6355

Historical Perspectives, Inc.  
P.O. Box 351  
Riverside, CT 06878  
Attn: Ms. Cecelia Kirkorian or Ms. Betsy Kearns  
203/655-8680

Historic Sites Research  
P.O. Box 1386  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
Attn: Dr. Edward Larrabee or Dr. Susan Kardas  
609/921-8109

John Milner Associates, Inc.  
P.O. Box 231  
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054  
Attn: Michael Parrington  
609/234-6644

Key Perspectives  
250 West 100th Street, Ballroom Suite  
New York, NY 10025  
Attn: Dr. Karen Rubinson  
212/865-2102

Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.  
100 Halsted Street, P.O. Box 270  
East Orange, NJ 07019  
Attn: Mr. Terry Klein or Mr. Charles Lee Decker

201/678-1960

II. INDIVIDUAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSULTANTS

Dr. Joan Geismar  
40 East 83rd Street  
New York, NY 10028

212/734-6512

Dr. Nan Rothschild  
Department of Anthropology, Columbia University - Barnard  
116th Street and Broadway  
New York, NY 10027

212/280-4315

Dr. Karen S. Rubinson  
820 West End, #2B  
New York, NY 10025

212/865-7386

Dr. Frederick A. Winter  
Department of Classics, Brooklyn College  
Brooklyn, NY 11210

212/685-2837  
718/780-5191

(\*) SOPA - SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS

The New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission Guidelines For Archaeology  
specify the following minimum Qualifications or Credentials. The Principal Investigator must be certified by the Society of Professional Archaeologists (SOPA). Regarding documentary research reports, the Principal Investigator must be the primary author. Regarding archaeological excavations, if the Principal Investigator is not on the site during and for the duration of the project, then the Assistant Director and/or Site Supervisor must be SOPA certified.

Arnold Pickman  
150 East 56th Street  
NY, NY 10022

212 935-0123

## ABSTRACTS

An article on the ceramic chemistry project being conducted in New York has been prepared. It describes the rationale, methods, and overall strategies for archiving chemical data to serve in studies of ceramic provenience and technological change in New Netherlands/New York. The manuscript will be made available to PANYC members before publication in order to share the information. Permission to cite the ms. is granted, provided proper credits are given. A copy will be available from Dr. Karen Rubinson, PANYC President (key Perspectives, 250 West 100th Street, Ballroom Suite, New York, NY 10025) or from Dr. Allan Gilbert (Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology, Fordham University, Bronx, NY 10458). Please return the copies borrowed so that others may request them.



### **New Life for Ancient Turtle**

After hundreds of years perched above the Bronx River, an Indian petroglyph of a turtle is rediscovered. A drawing of it has been outlined to make it more visible. Page 12

Second Annual Symposium - Wave Hill  
PREHISTORY OF THE LOWER HUDSON VALLEY  
March 11, 1988

ABSTRACTS

PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH IN THE LOWER HUDSON  
VALLEY

A survey of the archaeological literature pertaining to the prehistory of the Lower Hudson Valley suggests that, since Carlisle Smith completed his major synthesis in 1950, most of the research in this area has served primarily to corroborate or illustrate Smith's cultural-historical sequence, or the work of similarly oriented researchers in neighboring areas. New ideas or innovative approaches are rarely encountered. While a number of factors have probably helped to create this unsatisfactorily static situation, it is suggested that the reestablishment of a more satisfying research environment will depend largely upon the identification of meaningful new research questions. These can provide both the inspiration and the organizational framework for new data recovery programs and new analyses of the enormous local collections now housed in the region's museums and universities. A few examples of such pivotal questions are tentatively suggested.

BERT SALWEN received his Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1965 and went on to teach at Bennington College in Vermont. He is currently a Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Doctoral Concentration in History and Historical Archaeology at New York University. Dr. Salwen has also been a consultant for the National Park Service as well as other government agencies.

## ABSTRACTS .2.

### THE MOHONK ROCKSHELTER: A MAJOR NEVILLE SITE IN NEW YORK STATE

The Mohonk Rockshelter is a multi-component prehistoric site situated within the 5,000 acre Mohonk Preserve, an intergral part of the Shawangunk natural area in New Paltz, Ulster County, New York. Excavation of the site by the New Paltz Archaeological Field School during the summers of 1982-1983 disclosed evidence for the presence of aboriginal occupations from most, if not all, of New York State's recognized stages of prehistoric development. Of particular interest was the discovery of 73 Neville projectile points. Until now, the late Early - early Middle Archaic Neville culture has been poorly documented for New York State. The discovery of such a large number of diagnostic artifacts from this culture therefore raises many questions about traditional interpretations of the state's archaeological record.

LEONARD EISENBERG received his M.A. in anthropology from the University of Arizona in 1968 and his Ph.D. in anthropology/archaeology from New York University in 1977. He is presently an Associate Professor of Anthropology at SUNY New Paltz and has authored numerous articles and a monograph on Hudson Valley prehistory.

### THE ORIGIN AND MOVEMENTS OF THE ALGONQUIANS: LINGUISTIC EVIDENCE AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS

Linguistic and archaeological evidence can indicate that Algonquians arrived in southeastern New York and elsewhere in Middle Woodland times. Recognition of this intrusion between 200 A.D. and 700 A.D. will have serious effects on prevailing models of continuity.

DR. STUART FIEDEL received his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. He authored Prehistory of the Americas and has been the Principal Investigator of numerous cultural resource surveys.

### ABSTRACTS .3.

#### PETROGLYPHS IN THE LOWER HUDSON VALLEY AND COASTAL NEW YORK

Petroglyphs, or Native American rock carvings, have been found on several sites in the lower Hudson Valley and coastal New York. These unique rock art forms occur on boulders and bedrock ledges as well as on pebbles, some of which functioned as pendants or ceremonial objects. This slide presentation will describe these petroglyphs and attempt to explore their meaning, that is, who carved them, when and why.

EDWARD J. LENIK has been the Director of the Archaeological Research Laboratory, Van Riper-Hopper (Wayne) Museum for fifteen years. He is also the President of Sheffield Archaeological Consultants of Wayne, N.J., a private cultural resource management survey firm. Mr. Lenik is also an archaeological consultant for the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission. He has authored 5 books and 50 papers pertaining to the prehistory and history of sites in the Northeast.

#### COASTAL ADAPTATIONS OF PREHISTORIC NATIVE AMERICANS IN THE LONG ISLAND SOUND AREA OF NEW YORK AND NEW ENGLAND

This paper reviews the evidence for coastal adaptations among prehistoric American Indians in the circum-Long Island sound region of southern New York and southern New England.

Drawing upon paleoenvironmental and archaeological data, it discusses the when, what and why of coastal resource exploitation for the region, and the relationship of this economy to settlement and social organization. Models are presented to explain spatio-temporal changes in settlement pattern and in the adoption of maize horticulture.

LUCIANNE LAVIN is a curatorial affiliate in anthropology at the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History. She is also the editor of the Bulletin of the Archaeological Society of Connecticut. Dr. Lavin received her Ph.D. in anthropology from New York University and is a specialist in the archaeology and ethnohistory of eastern North America, especially New England and southern New York.

# New York City Environmentalism

By Howard Goldman

**I**n New York City, the environmental impact statement has been converted to an everything impact statement. This transformation is defeating its central purpose, and is rapidly supplanting established planning processes.

Environmental impact statements were born in the 1960's and 1970's. The Federal Government started the process with the National Environmental Policy Act. New York State and New York City followed suit with review processes intended to supplement other government planning processes.

Over the last 10 years, New York City's environmental review process has spun wildly out of control.

Instead of supplementing other decision-making processes, including the Uniform Land-Use Review Procedure, it threatens to envelop them. Instead of focusing on environmental issues, it has redefined "environment" to include social and economic concerns. And instead of improving the quality of governmental decision making by crystallizing environmental issues and allowing them to be weighed rationally against other concerns, it has overwhelmed and confused the public, decision makers and courts about what the environment is and how it should be treated.

The typical 1988 New York City environmental impact statement — there are any number of them — has been prepared by teams of consultants and lawyers for developers and governmental agencies. It runs hundreds of pages, took more than a year to prepare and covers innumerable major social and economic issues, including gentrification, recreation, schools, archeology, historicity, urban design, visual impact, taxes, utilities, police and fire services, zoning, community and neighborhood character, demographics, etc.

This typical statement is unwieldy, unfocused and increasingly incomprehensible. Community groups have found it necessary to hire consultants to explain it. Given the confusion over what should be in the statement, litigation becomes a crap shoot, with extensive argument over what was not covered, covered inadequately or covered incorrectly. Without guidelines, the courts are all over the lot.

Two interests have benefited from this confusion. Private-sector professionals who prepare, review and litigate environmental impact statements have found a bonanza. Groups advocating social or economic causes have discovered a new tool with which to gain objectives not obtainable through established legislative, administrative or legal processes.

Proposals for reform include limiting the scope of review to environmental, as against social and eco-

omic, issues; excluding categories of relatively minor governmental decisions and improving the administrative process by which the city reviews and approves environmental impact statements. All merit consideration. Some, including cutting back the scope to purely environmental issues, may require state legislation to clarify a poorly drafted statute.

However, speedy action is needed. Here is a proposal that can be carried out immediately: New York City should limit the length of all environmental impact statements to 50 pages. No technical appendices. No exhibits. No exceptions. Leave the technical backup in municipal files, where anyone can review it.

The 50-page limit would impose the focus and discipline needed to distinguish between what is important and what is not. It might make the statement understandable to the public and to governmental decision makers.

A 50-page environmental impact statement has precedent in New York. In 1982, the City Planning Commission and Board of Estimate approved new midtown zoning regulations — the most comprehensive rezoning effort in 20 years. Accompanying the proposal was a 50-page

environmental impact statement prepared largely in-house by the city planning department with help from the departments of environmental protection and transportation. The planning process for midtown zoning, supplemented by the midtown environmental impact statement, aired

and considered all relevant major social, economic and environmental issues in an exemplary manner.

The United States Supreme Court imposes a 50-page limit on briefs, which deal with our society's major policy issues. Surely, the courts would support a 50-page limit on environmental impact statements if New York City chose to impose it. □

Howard Goldman, a lawyer, has practiced environmental law in New York State and Alaska.

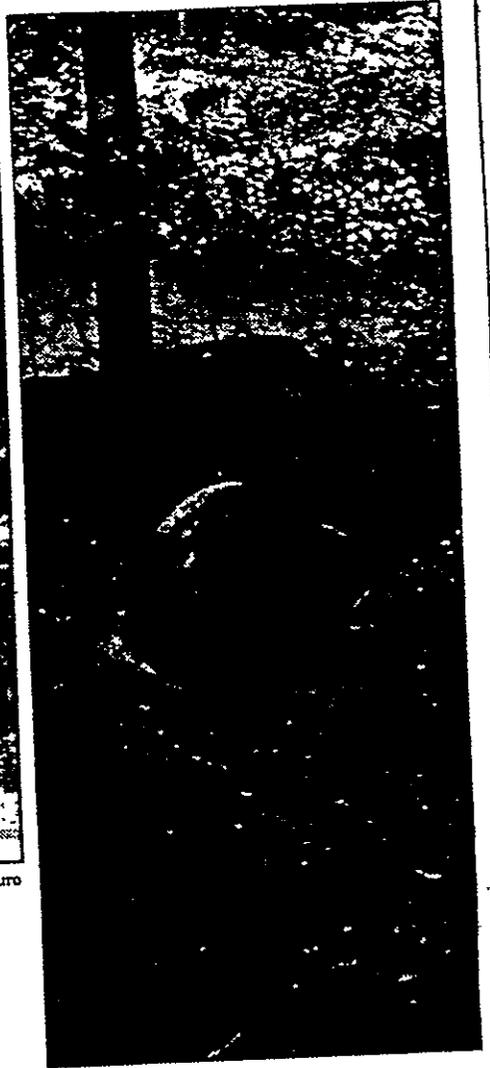
## Made Easier

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1988



The New York Times/William E. Sauro

On the hiking trail on the grounds of the New York Botanical Garden where a boulder bearing an Indian petroglyph was found were the discoverers of the boulder, from left: Bruce K. Riggs of the Botanical Garden; Beth M. Henriques of the Department of Cultural Affairs and Edward J. Lenik, an archeologist. Boulder is shown on the trail, right, in a photograph made last year.



## The Voice of an Ancient Bronx Turtle

By DAVID W. DUNLAP

Through uncountable hundreds of years, invisible to thousands of undiscerning eyes, a little carved turtle gazed inscrutably toward the Bronx River from its granite perch in a grove of hemlocks and beeches. The rediscovery and relocation of this rare Indian petroglyph were revealed yesterday by city officials.

The small boulder on which the figure was carved is now on display indoors at the New York Botanical Garden. It was spotted on the garden's grounds last year by Edward J. Lenik, an archeologist from the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission.

For the first springtime since it was given form by Delaware Indians some 400 to 1,000 years ago — perhaps as a clan

design, a hunting-ground designation or a symbol of the creation myth — the turtle will be far from its original home on a bluff above a gentle bend in the river.

It will also be far from the hands of vandals who had covered the rock with layer upon layer of spray-painted graffiti.

### Somewhere in the Garden

Existence of a petroglyph somewhere within the 250-acre Botanical Garden had been noted by an amateur archeologist more than a decade ago, Mr. Lenik said, but the exact whereabouts of the five-inch-long carving was unknown.

As it turns out, it was in plain view, right in the middle of a popular hiking trail. But the granite boulder surrendered its secret slowly and holds other

mysteries that will probably never be solved.

Unless one knows to look for a turtle, the petroglyph's shallow form escapes detection. It first reveals itself as an oval — about 3¾ inches long by 2½ inches wide — that seems too fine and deliberate to have occurred naturally on the randomly pockmarked rock surface.

After the shell becomes clear, four stubby feet come into view, followed by a spiky tail and finally, the head, which is twisted to face the river and seen in profile, complete with the creature's left eye. There are indecipherable markings on the carapace.

The petroglyph came to light during a field survey of the Botanical Garden

*Continued on Page B4*

## Voice of an Ancient Turtle Resounds From the Bronx

*Continued From Page B1*

under a program run by the Department of Cultural Affairs and the landmarks commission to test archeologically sensitive sites under the jurisdiction of the cultural affairs agency.

Mr. Lenik was with Bruce K. Riggs, a Botanical Garden official; Beth M. Henriques of the cultural affairs agency and Daniel N. Pagano of the landmarks commission. Near the end of a long day of hiking, they were headed back to their cars when Mr. Lenik noticed the boulder.

"Instinct told me that a solitary rock had to have something on it," he recalled. "I said, 'You guys go ahead — I've got a hunch.'" A moment later, Ms. Henriques said, the archeologist was whooping it up like "an excited 12-year-old."

### Fitting Into Context

Given the vandalism that had been inflicted on the rock, there was almost no question about removing it. But Dr. Sherene Baugher of the landmarks commission first contacted the American Indian Community House to ask for guidance.

"We take account first and foremost of any religious beliefs or sensibilities," she said.

The chance that the petroglyph

may be the work of a clever forger cannot be completely ruled out, Mr. Lenik said. "But it fits with the people of this area," he said, "and fits into the context, a glacial boulder on the Bronx River, with Indian sites close by. And although the crudity of the design is not necessarily an indication of age, you do have to consider it."

Two other turtle carvings have been discovered in this area, he said, but they were on much smaller stones, more in the nature of pendants. One was found in Setauket, L.I., in the early 1900's. The other was found at Howland Hook, Staten Island, in the 1960's.

The petroglyph is on display in the Watson Building of the Botanical Garden, from 8 A.M. to 6 P.M. every day.

**PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF NEW YORK CITY - PANYC  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Membership in PANYC is open to any professional archaeologist who subscribes to the purpose of the organization and who meets the following criteria for Education, Training and Professional Activity:

a. Applicants must have been awarded an advanced degree, such as an M.A., M.S., M.Phil., Ph.D., D.Sc., or official A.B.D., from an accredited institution in archaeology, anthropology, history, classics or other germane discipline with a specialization in archaeology.

b. Applicants must have had at least six weeks of professionally supervised archaeological field training and at least four weeks of supervised laboratory analysis and/or curating experience. Requirements for both field and laboratory experience will be considered to have been met by attendance at an archaeological field school which meets the guidelines set forth by the Society of Professional Archaeologists.

c. Applicants must demonstrate professional experience in one or more areas of archaeological activity, such as: field research and excavation, research on archaeological collections, archival research, administration of units within public or private agencies oriented toward archaeological research, conduct of cultural resource management studies, review of archaeological proposals and/or cultural resource management studies for public agencies, or teaching with an emphasis on archaeological topics. Applicants meeting the education and training criteria and having other professional interests related to archaeology will be considered on a case by case basis.

d. All prospective applicants must be approved by a majority of members present at a regularly scheduled meeting of the general membership. All members receive the Newsletter and other PANYC publications.

The 1988 membership dues are \$12. Non-member subscriptions to the Newsletter are \$6. If you are interested in applying for membership in PANYC or subscribing as a non-member to the PANYC Newsletter, complete the form below and mail it to: Daniel N. Pagano, c/o Landmarks Preservation Commission (NYC), 23rd floor, 225 Broadway, NY NY 10007

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Business) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Home) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate preferred mailing address.

Are you a member of the New York Archaeological Council? \_\_\_\_\_  
or of the Society of Professional Archaeologists? \_\_\_\_\_

Please Attach Curriculum vitae or resume.