

Professional Archaeologists of New York City

PANYC

NEWSLETTER

Number 93, November 1999

Contents

Minutes, General Meeting (Includes "Issues for PANYC's By-Laws")	1
Correspondence	5
"Monitoring as an Archaeological Field Strategy"	8
In the News	10
Events Calendar	15
Award Nomination: Non-Archaeologist	16
Award Nomination: Bert Salwen Award	17
PANYC Membership Application	18

Materials for the PANYC Newsletter may be sent to

Lynn Rakos
181 Thompson Street – Apt 6
New York, NY 10012
Home Telephone 212 387-0184
Office Telephone 212 264-0229
Office FAX 212 264-6040
Email rakos@nan02.usace.army.mil



NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING: 17 NOVEMBER 1999

New York Unearthed, 17 State Street

Executive Board: 6:00 P.M.

General Membership: 6:30 P.M.

Slides of the Harriman State Park hike will be shown during the General Membership meeting

Minutes of the PANYC General Membership meeting: 29 September 1999

President Dallal called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M. All those present stated their names for the benefit of individuals attending the meeting for the first time.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The minutes of the last General Membership meeting were accepted with the following corrections: Under **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** The cost for not for profit status would be *about* \$260. Harris did not recommend reforming the Stone Street committee. Under **NYAC:** Stone is co-chair of a Standards *sub-committee*. She has been *collecting standards* (not studying manuals) from other states. Basa approves of the *CEQR* (not *SEQR*) technical manual. Cantwell moved to accept the minutes and Harris seconded.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Freeman reported a balance of \$1873.98 in the PANYC treasury. Letters will be sent to 17 people who are in arrears. Newsletters and other mailings will not be sent after a grace period of one year, Dallal stated.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Dallal reported spending the summer answering phone calls, and writing letters about City Hall Park. She suggested that Harris, Cantwell, herself and one other person (people who are not City contractors) should be members of a City Hall Park committee. When does PANYC have the right to interfere in a project, Dallal asked. When a site is compromised, was the reply. She reported that there is no money to complete the City Hall Park project and expressed her concerns that the analysis and report will not be done. She expressed concern that the artifacts are getting moldy and stated that a schedule should be requested. A debate ensued about sending a letter regarding this subject. A letter could be worded to express our concern and ask about a schedule, stated Dallal. It was suggested that the legal ramifications of an injunction should be investigated. There is a binding report and we are just trying to determine if it is being adhered to, stated Geismar. Wall suggested speaking to the attorney.

Yamin said that the attorney, Marc Gerstman, had obtained records pertaining to the City Hall Park excavation through the Freedom of Information Act. This included a list a six consultants that was sent to certain City agencies. The choices seem to be unethical. Rakos asked if the scope of work for the project was available. The reply was negative. Geismar asked if anything further can be accomplished under the Freedom of Information Act. An attempt will be made. Can the attorney be asked if the requirement for a report was in writing, asked Morgan. So we agree that a letter should be written about the artifacts, at least, said Dallal. Yamin volunteered to write a formal letter with the questions that PANYC has about City Hall Park. Spritzer asked about other agencies that could help, including the Archaeological Conservancy and NYAC. Dallal wondered if the Daughters or Sons of the Revolution could be of assistance.

ACTION: Spritzer reminded the membership that site registration forms should be used for City sites. They are available from Cynthia Blakemore at the SHPO.

AWARDS: It's time to start thinking about awards, stated Cantwell. An announcement will be in the newsletter. No awards were presented last year.

EVENTS: Upcoming events announced by Stone are listed in the newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP: Letters were sent by Bonasera to several individuals requesting they join PANYC. No replies have been received yet.

METROPOLITAN CHAPTER OF THE NYSAA: The next meeting is October 12, Dallal stated. Ricciardi will speak about the Lott house.

NYAC: Harris is the Vice President, Stone is a Board Member. Harris presented a short report on City Hall Park at the meeting at Saint John Fischer in Rochester. NYAC has offered to draft a Board resolution regarding City Hall Park. Harris stated that the SHPO can "audit" CLGs. Archaeology Week will be in the spring. There is a corporate sponsor - Millenium Pipeline. The joint PANYC/NYAC Urban Standards subcommittee made it's report on monitoring, a first step in developing Standards. The report will be in the newsletter, the memberships' response is requested. The completed Urban Standards will be published in the State Standards for Investigations as an Appendix. A new NYAC committee was formed. It is called the Millenium Committee and will address innovative approaches in documentation and presentation of results of downtown Albany excavations. Stone stated NYSAA and NYAC will have a joint meeting in the Spring. Harris has membership applications for NYAC.

NEWSLETTER: Rakos said there would be a delay due to a broken copy machine. Geismar complemented her work.

PUBLIC PROGRAM: Geismar asked for suggestions regarding the program. Stone asked if the Public Program could coincide with Archaeology Week, but they occur at different times.

STONE STREET: Work is scheduled to begin October 4. The CRM firm Tracker is the archaeologist. Ed Morin at URS Greiner is the overseeing archaeologist.

URBAN STANDARDS: Stone related that the committee members are herself, Pickman and Harris. They completed a draft report about monitoring as an alternative to excavation. Stone asked for input from PANYC and NYAC. The committee would like to ammend the Standards in a format with many examples. The working draft will be in the next newsletter.

NOT-FOR-PROFIT STATUS: Geismar contacted the not-for-profit institute at Columbia University. Four students would like to work on our application. Geismar completed the form. Stone inquired about annual costs after the initial expenditure. We just have to file taxes quarterly, Rothschild replied. [Please see the attached questions regarding the not-for-profit status Certificate of Incorporation].

WEBSITE: The web site home can be easily found with not-for-profit status. stated Ricciardi. He is putting the website on his site to be perused. He said that CUNY can probably be used as a home for the web site.

OLD BUSINESS: Rakos stated that the logo is ready for the letterhead, newsletter, and public program. The typeface is debated again. Geismar suggested a bolder typeface heading for the next meeting. Two German businessmen purchased 17 State Street, related Dallal. Geismar wrote a letter in the newsletter regarding this. Morgan described her efforts to start an archaeology education program in New York City schools that will be funded by the Board of Education. She wrote a six week program that will consist of one hour classes. The classes will be taught by Jesse Ponz and Alyssa Loorya. Ricciardi stated that it was not possible to have the PANYC barbeque at the Lott house. Bonasera suggested that we try again next spring.

NEW BUSINESS: Ricciardi was called by Sutphin to investigate features on private property. He suggested that PANYC should consider writing a booklet to address the issue of encountered cultural material. This might be done as a joint PANYC/Landmarks effort. Geismar stated that Sutphin should ask others at Landmarks. She asked how the work would be implemented and what our advice would be. Freeman stated that a tricorn hat, purchased at Water Street, was shown on the Antiques Road Show television program. A discussion ensued about the sale of archaeological material and the possible source of the hat. The discussion reverted to the booklet. Yamin and Pickman suggested writing a letter to Bankoff and copying it to Raab. Ricciardi should collaborate. Dallal stated that more information about the hat is needed before anything could be done.

Geismar moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 P.M. and Morgan seconded the motion.

Nov. 10, 1999

Issues for PANYC's By-Laws

We have identified the following issues that we feel the Members of PANYC should consider as the organization prepares to become a not-for-profit corporation and to adopt a new set of by-laws. We will be happy to discuss these and any other matters at the Nov. 17 membership meeting.

- Jacqui Rubin, Stephen Lee

Morningside Heights Legal Services, Inc.
via Columbia University School of Law
Non-Profit Organizations Clinic

- 1) **MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING.** What is a Member in Good Standing? Do you need to be a Member in Good Standing to be allowed to vote? How long a grace period should be allowed for non-payment of membership dues before you lose your right to vote and any other membership rights? What happens if someone who is not a member in good standing pays their back-dues: do they need to re-apply to regain membership?
- 2) **TERM OF OFFICE FOR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.** Currently, PANYC must have elections for every position every year. Do you want to keep this? There are other alternatives. For example, you could have officers stay in their position for one year and directors for several years in order to have more stability on the executive board, rather than potentially replacing everyone each year. If you have directors for longer terms, you might want to stagger them so you only change a few each time.
- 3) **SPECIAL MEETINGS.** Currently, there is no way for the members to call a special meeting, and only the president can do so at the direction of the board. Should there be a procedure in which a certain number of members could request a special meeting?
- 4) **COMMITTEES.** We need to formalize the provision allowing PANYC to create and fill committees, and would like your input in doing so. Are the current procedures fine as is, wherein the president can appoint a committee without getting specific approval from either the Board or the Membership?

5) REMOVAL PROCEDURES

- a) **MEMBERS.** Do you want a procedure to remove members of PANYC? Currently, PANYC has left the procedure for removal open to be determined as it arises. You probably should think about setting the removal procedure now (you can still leave the grounds for removal open, but procedures should be set in advance). Should it be majority vote like any other action, or should it require a greater number of votes?
- b) **DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS.** PANYC currently has no procedures for removing directors or officers. We must set such procedures for the by-laws. Do you want members to have the power to remove directors or officers, or limit this to the board? Do you want to limit the grounds for removal?

6) SPECIAL KINDS OF VOTE.

- a) **DISSOLUTION.** Currently, PANYC has procedures to determine what to do if it is dissolved, but no procedures for when and how it will dissolve. What procedures do you want for dissolving PANYC? Dissolution can be by a 2/3 vote of members at a meeting, but we can set a higher threshold.
- b) **ANYTHING ELSE?** Are there any other matters which should require a vote of more than a majority of the members present at a given meeting?

PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF NEW YORK CITY

Honorable Rudy Washington
Deputy Mayor for Community
Development and Business
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

October 25, 1999

Dear Deputy Mayor Washington,

I am writing on behalf of the Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC) but also as a curator of archaeological collections with a profound concern for the artifacts excavated so lovingly, laboriously and expensively from City Hall Park.

As I write, approximately half-million artifacts are sitting in a storage facility in Virginia, unwashed and unstabilized. If left unprocessed, organic materials such as leather, wood and bone, will begin to sprout mold, if they have not done so already. At minimum, these artifacts should be sprayed with a fungicide so that the affected cultural remains will not begin to deteriorate, contaminate the collection, and result in far-greater processing costs.

The collection needs to be washed immediately, slowly dried, labelled, and if necessary, conserved. When these tasks have been completed, the analysis of the artifacts can begin and a final report written. It is hoped that the City will move quickly to provide funding for these tasks.

PANYC appreciates the difficulties in appropriating funds and resolving contractual issues. We support your efforts to resolve those problems. However, we urge you to help expedite the release of these funds so that work on the artifact processing, analysis and final report can commence. The archaeological collection from City Hall Park will become a significant research resource for New York City history only if the artifacts are interpreted in relation to their archaeological context. The report will, unquestionably, provide justification for the monies spent so far on the archaeological component of the renovation of City Hall Park.

We also respectfully request that you provide PANYC with a schedule for the above-mentioned tasks.

Sincerely,



Diane Dallal
President, PANYC
c/o South Street Seaport Museum
17 State Street
NY, NY 10004

cc: The Honorable Jennifer Raab, NYCLPC
George Zellonakis, Department Parks and Recreation
Dr. Arthur Bankoff, NYCLPC
Petar Glumacs, Parsons
Robert Kuhn, SHPO

September 3, 1999

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR THE DREDGED MATERIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE
PORT OF NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY

Dear Interested Party:

This letter serves to notify you of the availability of the draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (draft PEIS) for the Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) for the Port of New York & New Jersey. The Notice of Availability will be published in the Federal Register on September 10, 1999. The comment period on the draft PEIS will be open until October 25, 1999.

TO OBTAIN A COPY

The DMMP Implementation Report and significant portions of the draft PEIS and the DMMP Technical Appendix are viewable through the District's Web page at the address: www.nan.usace.army.mil. Should you wish to receive the report (single copies can be obtained free of charge), you can request it through the District's web page; by writing to the address shown above; by faxing your name, address, city, state and ZIP code to 212-264-6040 Attn: Robert J. Kurtz; or by calling (212) 264-5798 leaving a message with you name and full address including ZIP code.

TO VIEW A COPY

The DMMP and draft PEIS are available for viewing at the following locations (not for loan):

<u>New York</u> Manhattan	New York District, COE 26 Federal Plaza Rm 2136 New York, New York	<u>New Jersey</u> Middletown	Middletown Township Library 168 Main Street Port Monmouth, NJ
Staten Island	College of Staten Island Main Library 2800 Victory Blvd. Staten Island, NY	Newark	New Jersey Information Center Newark Public Library 5 Washington Street Newark, NJ
Brooklyn	Kingsborough Community College Acquisition Library 2001 Oriental Blvd. Brooklyn, NY		

PUBLIC MEETINGS ON THE DRAFT PEIS

We expect that the public meetings on the draft PEIS will be held in mid-October at several locations in the region. We will notify you with a separate notice of the meeting dates, times, locations, and the format shortly. Verbal comments made at the public meetings, and written comments submitted by the end of the comment period will be given full consideration during the preparation of the final PEIS. Written comments may also be submitted until the end of the comment period on October 25, 1999.

Your comments with respect to the draft PEIS should be addressed to the PEIS Coordinator, Robert J. Kurtz, at the address shown above. Thank you for your continued interest and cooperation.

Frank Santomauro, P.E.
Chief, Planning Division

MONITORING AS AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD STRATEGY

Working Draft

Monitoring has gradually crept into CRM practice. It appears in many Scopes of Work and Memoranda of Agreement. Because power equipment is so costly, monitoring is presented to agencies and developers as a means to reduce costs of urban archaeological projects. But is it, in fact, a reasonable cost saving alternative? There are certain resources types that are routinely encountered in urban excavations that involve much earthmoving, and thus time and money to investigate, specifically landfill and waterfront structures (rivers and harbors). Thus there is much pressure upon archaeologists to use monitoring as an investigative technique. Monitoring as an evaluation/mitigation technique has become very controversial. A PANYC sub-committee was formed to discuss monitoring in urban situations. A framework for including/eliminating monitoring from archaeological explorations of urban sites was discussed.

One of the major problems with monitoring is that, by definition, it takes place when the contractor is engaged in construction. In practice, this usually results in a field situation in which the contractor, not the archaeologist is in control of the equipment and thus, actually controls the excavation process. The contractor may not be willing to have his equipment stand idle while the archaeologist investigates, records, etc. Also, in a construction situation, the power equipment operators are not usually able to do the careful stripping of sensitive areas as they would be if they were employed and controlled directly by the archaeologist.

The result is, therefore that in many monitoring situations any potential archaeological resources are destroyed without adequate archaeological excavation and with only minimal documentation of archaeological features and/or stratigraphy. Even where construction impacts only a portion of a site, the fact is that archaeologists will rarely if ever, have the opportunity to return to the site as part of the CRM process. Thus the excavation and recording carried out during the monitoring process is in most cases the only archaeological information obtained about the site.

In New York City there is an additional problem in addressing the application of NYAC standards. The NYAC Standards only discuss monitoring as part of a strategy during Phase 2 excavations while CEQR does not recognize a Phase 2. The CEQR Technical Manual: page 3F-15 says "In certain cases monitoring of construction by an archaeologist is sufficient to ascertain whether any resources are present." However, this gives no consideration to the remainder of the CRM process which would be required should the monitoring encounter archaeological resources. In these situations as well as those where monitoring is used as part of a Phase II and III evaluation/mitigation field strategy, it could only be implemented if all parties, including the developers, contractors, etc., were willing to see construction halted for a time sufficient to provide for adequate investigation if the monitoring archaeologist does in fact detect the presence of potentially significant resources. Nevertheless, the committee agreed that there are certain urban projects, where monitoring may be an acceptable strategy for determining if archaeological resources are present within a construction impact area.

After discussing possible field situations, the committee concluded that factors to consider when determining whether monitoring is acceptable could include:

1. Percentage of site area to be disturbed.
2. The types of resources which may be present

3. Degree of certainty that resources are intact.
4. The likely significance of those resources.
5. The archaeologist's level of confidence as to the integrity of the resources.

The general conclusion was that monitoring may be appropriate for sites which are rated low to moderate according to the above these factors, as indicated by the results of the Phase IA research. In any event, monitoring should never be considered an appropriate strategy within city, state, or national historic or landmark districts, or applied to a resource that has already been identified as a National Historic Landmark or listed on the State or National Registers of Historic Places.

To clarify situations in which monitoring might be used the committee suggests that we might start to define specific field scenarios where monitoring would or would not be appropriate according to the criteria noted above.

Considerations include:

1. Size of Construction, Site, or Areas to be Disturbed

The committee examined various project types including construction involving entire city blocks, those involving single house lots and those involving only installation of utilities. An example of a situation in which monitoring is not appropriate is a construction project involving an entire city block where there is some certainty that resources survive intact. However if only a sewer line is to be installed in the same block, impacting only a small percentage of the site, monitoring may be appropriate.

2. The Nature of the Resource and Level of Site Integrity

Monitoring may be appropriate when certain resource types are involved, such as uniform linear features such as mill races, railroad beds/embankments, etc. The thinking here is that monitoring could be used to locate such non-artifact bearing features, and if accidental damage occurs, the information loss would be more limited in scope. However, monitoring may not be appropriate in a situation where prior research indicates there is a high probability that intact and significant archaeological deposits and features exist. Here the risk to unique, possibly significant, deposits is too great.

The need to compile additional scenarios which would define situations where monitoring may or may not be an appropriate field investigation strategy was identified. The committee would like to receive input from others on this. We would be very interested to hear other archaeologists' thoughts and experiences with monitoring, particularly in urban situations.

Wendy Harris
Arnold Pickman
Linda Stone

DOWNTOWN EXPRESS

THE NEWSPAPER OF LOWER MANHATTAN

VOL. 12 • ISSUE 9 • SEPTEMBER 21 - OCTOBER 4, 1999

At long last... A park to be proud of at City Hall

By JOSH ROGERS

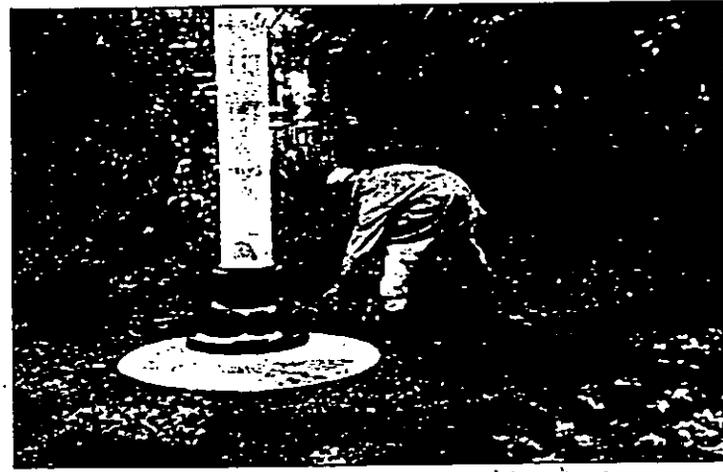
If New York ever gets a reputation as a city that truly cares about parks, observers will likely look back to October 1999 and the opening of the new City Hall Park as the point when perceptions started to change.

The level of landscaping in the park, the attention to details — such as an historic fountain, fence, and benches, and four different historic lightpoles (some are gas-powered) — seem so out of place in one of the city's parks it will astonish most New Yorkers used to a City Hall Park that in the past more resembled a parking lot with broken concrete, modest landscaping, and pathways with garbage cans cluttering the middle.

A grand opening ceremony is tentatively scheduled Oct. 7.

"Can you smell the park, it smells like a park," gushed Parks Dept. landscape architect George Vellonakis, while giving a recent tour to Friends of City Hall Park, a neighborhood group.

Because of the secrecy surrounding the



A worker plants a shrub in City Hall Park, scheduled to reopen Oct. 7.

park's redesign and concerns about access and possible hours the park would be open, the group had been skeptical of the plan, but they literally applauded Vellonakis after seeing his work.

"It's like meeting the modern-day Olmsted," one member told him referring to one of the designers of Central Park.

"It's as beautiful as any park in Paris," said Friends' president Skip Blumberg.

For his part, Vellonakis likes the Central Park comparison.

He spoke of the 19th-century fountain, originally built for the park and later moved to the Bronx. "The only other fountain that compares in majestic qualities is Bethesda terrace [in Central Park]."



Continued on next page

City Hall Park: A place to be proud of

Continued from page 1

The base is the original and the fountain was restored to its original look. It will be lit up all night long with gas lights, to create an old-style look.

Four of the lampposts near the City Hall building will also be powered by gas and the lampposts leading to the building will have hidden bulbs so they will look like the old gas lampposts.

There will be historic lampposts along Broadway and Park

Row from the Brooklyn Bridge to Ann St. so the whole area surrounding the park will have a different feel. When the renovation of the park's other landmark building, Tweed Courthouse, is complete in a few years, there will be historic lights on Chambers St., as well.

"Look at the rolling hills," said Vellonakis. "It's like Central Park."

The "hills" are actually only three feet or so, but with additional trees all along the outskirts of the park it gives the feeling

you're removed from the city when you're in the middle of the park.

Ed Skyler, spokesperson for Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, said the park's costs are now up to \$28 million. Originally, the plan was thought to be a \$10 million project, but then improvements to the areas around the park were added to the plan and costs went up to \$22 million. Skyler said with the discovery of more human remains than was expected, costs went up further. Vellonakis,

said over 20 archaeologists were consulted on the project. In addition some of the bids were

more than expected.

The remains of at least 50 individuals, believed to have lived in the park's alms house were discovered during construction and are now being studied at the Smithsonian Institution. Eventually they will be reinterred near where they were found — in a triangular patch at the east end of the park near the Lexington Ave. subway entrance.

'As beautiful as any park in Paris.'

"No other administration would have done this," said Vellonakis, who has worked for the city over the last 15 years. "You have a mayor who is the most aesthetic person who ever worked in city government." He said Giuliani has authorized three gardeners to work on the park full time and maintain the flowers, trees, and bushes.

Indeed, the park was long thought to be a political loser because any money being spent would be seen as benefiting the city's politicians. But it also benefits the tens of thousands of nearby workers and residents.

Also previous plans were derailed when there was talk of removing all of the park's cars. There will still be 45 spots, a reduction from about 100. But they will not block the view of City Hall.

Mike Clendenin, spokesperson for Council Speaker Peter Vallone, said clearly some members who were parking in the park will sometimes have to park in a designated section near the Brooklyn Bridge, but details are not yet clear.

"I haven't heard too much grumbling," he said. "All of the grumbling has been over the fact that the public has had restricted access."

Earlier this year, police officials said the park would likely close at 1 a.m. every night, like other city parks. They did say restrictions on pedestrian access to areas near City Hall might be eased a bit to allow another path between Broadway and Park Row. Businesses east of Park Row have complained they have been hurt because of the park's closure during the construction

period. As part of the redesign, the paths were rearranged to create better north-south and east-west connections.

The south end of the park will have a 17th-century entrance which will have a view of the fountain and the trees leading up to City Hall. From the fountain, visitors have a good view of the Municipal Building crown, but the City Hall top is blocked by trees.

"It has more of a romantic feel about it," said Vellonakis. "If everything's limbed-up, it becomes so urban."

Between now and the opening, stones with information about the city and park history will be installed in various parts of the park, chrysanthemums will be planted, and the southern entrance will be finished. A 25-foot fir, which will be decorated every December and be the permanent Christmas tree, will be planted in front of City Hall.

The most work to be done is just outside the park. The southern traffic island, once a concrete slab taken over by motorcycles, has been more than doubled and will be a new park of its own — Millennium Park. The exit to the Brooklyn Bridge is being reconfigured to make it safer for pedestrians and cyclists. The subway entrance on the bridge will be removed for safety reasons and more green space will be added as well.

"It's so well-thought out it's really beautiful," said Barbara Lipski, after the tour. "We deserve this beautiful park."

Letters to The Editor

City Hall bodies

Downtown Express
9/21/99 - 10/4/99

To The Editor:

Josh Rogers, author of "50 more bodies uncovered near City Hall" (Downtown Express, August 24), did a commendable job reporting upon the discoveries in City Hall Park. However, a few details need clarification:

To begin with, I am the president of PANYC, the Professional Archaeologists (not Architects) of New York City. On June 30, I wrote to Commissioner Jennifer Raab at the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission expressing PANYC's concern that proposed plans for paving over the human remains in City Hall Park and/or construction of a walkway over the burials, (many of which appeared to be located in shallow graves only 4-12 inches below ground surface), would expose them to negative forces such as ground percolation, freeze-thaw conditions, or crushing under the weight of the walkway. My letter also expressed PANYC's hope that if burials discovered near the Lexington Avenue subway line (an area which might have once been the Almshouse Cemetery), should need to be moved, time would be set aside for study by a physical anthropologist and the burials reinterred. Commissioner Raab, however, never responded to my letter.

Soon after the letter was written, however, PANYC found it encouraging to learn that a conservator associated with the archeological project had been instructed to take measures to protect the burials from the very same "negative

forces" mentioned in PANYC's letter to Commissioner Raab. It is hoped that these measures will be sufficient to prevent the human remains from being crushed under the weight of tons of concrete should the proposed walkways not be redesigned to circumvent the burials. Perhaps, it would have been prudent to remove the remains, study them and inter them elsewhere.

Diane Dallal

Downtown Express

Vol. 12 (9).

Sept. 21 - Oct. 4, 1999

Daily News 9/23/99

German dealmakers target city

A duo of German baby-boomer investors who have been snapping up Manhattan buildings are adding two new trophies to their expanding portfolio.

Aby Rosen and Michael Fuchs' RFR Holdings has signed a \$120 million contract for 17 State St., the sleek, curved, reflective-

glass skyscraper facing Battery Park.

The pair also are set to sign a deal today to buy the 27-story tower at 757 Third Ave. at E. 47th St., for \$103 million.

"These are both great buildings in outstanding locations," Rosen said yesterday.

The purchases are just the latest chapter in what has been one of the most remarkable real estate runs of the 1990s.

Fuchs and Rosen, both 39-year-old residents of Manhattan, now own 12 apartment buildings and 17 office towers, including such landmarks as 521 Fifth Ave. and Lever House, on Park Ave. at E. 53rd St.

The two scions of wealthy Frankfurt families also have put together a prolific residential development arm that has built more than 1,000 apartments on the upper East Side.

So what's their strategy? Rosen said RFR has an edge over other buyers because it closes deals quickly, a product of being relatively small and



**LOCATION
LOCATION
LOCATION**



PETER GRANT

having ready access to financing. "They might be able to pay 10% more than we do, but we can close in 45 days if we need to," he said.

Also, because of RFR's success in its early acquisitions, there's a long list of German banks and investors eager to join them in future deals.

"To date, they have a fairly spotless reputation," said Woody Heller, of real estate brokers Jones Lang LaSalle. "As a result, they've been very effective at attracting capital."

Rosen said they have no intention of slowing down. "We love the city," he said. "We think this is a great time to keep on buying."

The Daily News
September 23, 1999

"New York Unearthed" is located in the building discussed in this article (17 State Street).

JOHN TIERNEY

The Big City

Open Market For Artifacts Aids All Sides

THE Brooklyn Museum of Art is taking on Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani in court, but its officials haven't yet dared to strike the supreme blow for artistic freedom. They haven't thrown the city's money back in Mr. Giuliani's face.

The surest way to avoid politicians' meddling is to avoid politicians' money, which is why the most innovative curators have historically been the ones with independent means. They've instead relied on private donors — like the millionaires who endowed New York's private museums of modern art when the new works were shunned by the Met — and on the proceeds from paying customers.

The Brooklyn Museum has never attracted donations and crowds as easily as its rivals in Manhattan, so it has become dependent on the city for a third of its operating budget. The show opening on Saturday should contribute to this year's bottom line, but sensationalism is a questionable long-term strategy.

Even if the museum prevails in court and keeps its subsidies, it may suffer in future city budgets. And no matter how many people flock to the new "Sensation" show, the excitement will eventually subside. The exhibits of maggots, sliced cows and elephant dung will probably not become beloved parts of the permanent collection, if only because of the smells.

A better long-term strategy might to be exploit the museum's most valuable assets: its antiquities and its scholars. It has a trove of pieces from Egypt and other ancient civilizations, most of them in storage because the museum doesn't have room to display even 10 percent of its 1.5 million objects. Why not sell some of them and profit from the booming market for antiquities?

The very notion horrifies curators and archeologists, and not only because commercialism offends their genteel sensibilities. They've seen too much history de-

stroyed by profiteers in antiquities. Precious sites are being ruined by the careless digging of looters, and the treasures unearthed are lost to scholars once they disappear into private collections.

"Archeologists know that the existing gray market causes problems," said Richard L. Stroup, an economist at the Political Economy Research Center in Bozeman, Mont. "Unfortunately, they don't realize that a more open market could largely displace the gray market. It would help preserve sites and benefit everyone — museums and researchers as well as private collectors."

Today's gray market is the result partly of laws in some foreign countries against trafficking in "national treasures," and partly of archeologists' reluctance to sell their discoveries. They prefer to keep the finds in universities or museums.

THEIR intentions are noble, but the perverse effect is to give owners of historical sites little incentive to protect their property against treasure hunters. Many secretly sell off treasures themselves. Some even destroy artifacts to evade laws restricting development on historic sites.

Dr. Stroup and a colleague, Matthew Brown, propose that archeologists take a lesson from miners and oil drillers in sharing underground wealth. If property owners collected some sort of royalties from the artifacts discovered on their land, they'd become ardent preservationists.

"They'd want archeologists to dig carefully and wring every bit of information from the site," Dr. Stroup said. "An artifact becomes much more valuable when it's officially documented and comes with a history of the site and the people who lived there. A treasure hunter who digs up a few pots or arrowheads can't provide that kind of value."

Once the artifacts were studied, archeologists could keep the most valuable ones for museums and sell off the rest. The buyers could be required to keep the items' whereabouts listed in a central registry and to make them available periodically for museum shows and further analysis as new research tools become available.

The way Dr. Stroup sees it, the only losers would be today's treasure hunters. Archeologists would have more intact sites to excavate and more money to finance their work, and they'd still have access to the artifacts they'd sold.

Private collectors would be happily displaying items that are now sitting in museum basements, which already contain far more dusty crates than the world's archeologists could ever examine. And the museum officials with the courage to clean out those basements would have enough money to stop begging from politicians.

GREG SARGENT

Critics Digging for Dirt As City Hall Park Reopens

The new, high-tech City Hall Park, complete with security cameras, pop-up bollards to keep out suicide bombers, spiffy bluestone walkways and a new fountain, is set to be unveiled with great fanfare on Oct. 7. But two rather disparate groups—City Council members and archeologists—won't be joining in the celebration. Both groups are furious with the Giuliani administration's handling of the much-hyped renovations.

The reopening of the park would seem like the perfect chance for the Mayor to silence critics who painted this high-profile project as a symbol of this mayorality's excesses. Around City Hall, the inconveniences of construction sparked an endless amount of jocular conspiracy-mongering. (He's building an underground system of tunnels! He's laying the groundwork for Fortress Rudy!)

Yet, given the project's \$28 million price tag, and the secrecy which some say has shrouded questions of cost, critics are greeting the ribbon-cutting with something less than enthusiasm. For one thing, City Council members are upset about the project's cost. And it may get worse: In an unintentional tribute to the other famous building on the park's grounds, the Tweed Courthouse, City Hall officials have told associates that they will soon ask for more money to cover cost overruns.

What's more, Council members complain that City Hall has kept the project's true cost in the dark. Herb Berman, the chairman of the Council's finance committee, told *The Observer* he has been asking City Hall since May to provide his staff with a detailed cost breakdown. The requests have gone unheeded.

"I am totally frustrated," Mr. Berman said. "It causes one to believe that there is something to be embarrassed about."

Meanwhile, a number of archeologists are upset because city officials quietly reburied at least 11 bodies from the 18th century that were unearthed during the nine-month excavation. The archeologists had hoped to exhume and study the remains. But Jennifer Raab, the chairman of the city Landmarks Preservation Commission, which is monitoring the archeological component of the park's renovation, insists that there never was a plan to do anything but rebury the bodies.

Gary McGowan, the main conservator on the project, told *The Observer* that further study of the bodies could have settled a question that has tantalized some archeologists: whether the now-famous African Burial Ground, the final resting place of some 18th-century slaves, stops at Chambers Street, as old maps show, or whether it reaches into City Hall Park. In Mr. McGowan's opinion, various physical details make it almost certain that the bodies were those of former residents of a nearby almshouse, and that they're not associated with the Burial Ground. But he conceded that

he couldn't be absolutely sure without further study.

When the bodies were discovered in June, the city's archeologists were ecstatic. They saw a rare chance to illuminate the

ing examined, the artifacts themselves are sitting in crates in a warehouse in Virginia—growing moldy, according to one archeologist close to the project. And the city has thus far refused to guarantee that full funding will be made available to study the historical treasure trove and produce a report on the find.

Archeologists had hoped the discovery would shed fresh light on a little-understood population: the impoverished residents of the area around the park, which in the 18th century comprised the northern

some preservationists who speak of unpleasant run-ins with the no-nonsense chairman.

LET THEM REST

In an interview with *The Observer*, Ms. Raab defended her handling of the City Hall dig. She argued that the renovation of City Hall Park had always primarily been a construction project—and that archeologists had been called in mainly to insure that no historical remains were destroyed.

"From day one, this has been a construction project," Ms. Raab said. "The protocol was always not to exhume people who were buried 200 years ago, but to protect them and let them rest. And I'm very comfortable with that decision."

Ms. Raab also said it would be premature to fret about the artifacts. The city, she said, would decide how much money to commit to their study when archeologists working on the project submitted a proposal with a full cost estimate of the remaining work.

This talk is not likely to soothe the anxious archeologists. After all, they ask, why did city officials dig up the artifacts if they aren't prepared to fully commit to their study?

"Excavation without study is not archeology, it's destruction," said Elizabeth Himeifarb, an editor at *Archeology* magazine. "If the city doesn't find the money for a report, they spent a lot of time and tax dollars doing what a bulldozer could have done in two hours. It's like hand-washing paper plates before throwing them away."

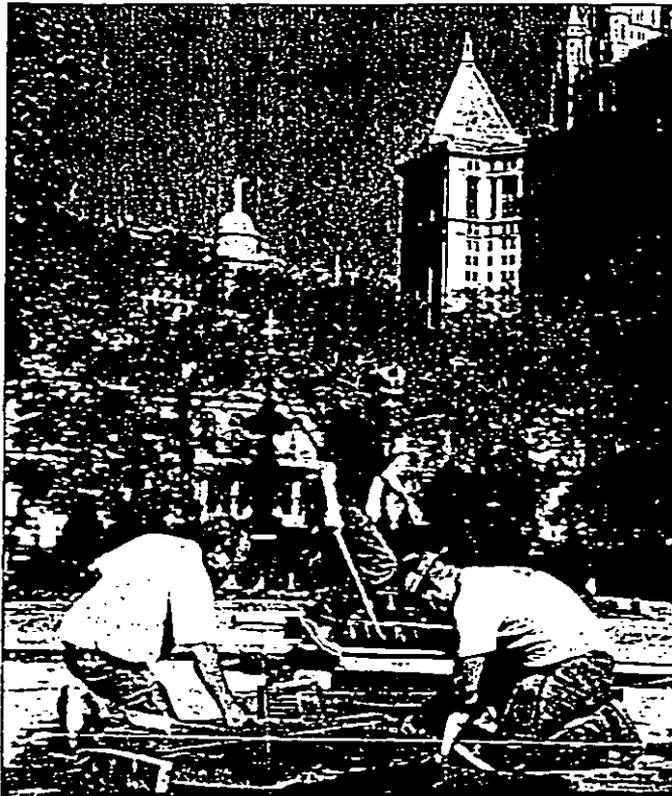
The discovery of the bodies last spring certainly made for good press at a time when the inconveniences of construction around City Hall Park evoked screams from civil libertarians, good-government types and City Council members outraged at their loss of parking perks. Deputy Mayor Rudy Washington, who is overseeing the entire park reconstruction, practically wept in print at the thought of the forgotten souls who would now be given a voice by archeologists.

"We have some babies with their mothers," a wistful Mr. Washington told *The New York Times* at the time. "These people are totally forgotten."

But to hear the city's archeologists tell it, they will remain eternally mute if city officials fail to fully examine the remains. Archeologists would have liked to settle some questions: Are the bodies the remains of residents of the almshouse? Are they the remains of British Revolutionary War soldiers, or even American prisoners of war held captive by the British?

The artifacts also may answer such questions. But according to City Hall's critics, the artifacts aren't receiving the care needed to salvage them for further study, which means their value as testament to the past may soon be lost forever.

"Nobody's washing them or touching them," lamented Ms. Dallal. "When you remove them from the ground, it subjects them to physical and chemical shock that accelerates deterioration in a very dramatic way," Ms. Dallal added. "You need to stabilize them. They should be taken care of immediately."



City Hall Park will soon feature a new look, but some people want to know where the bodies are buried.

lives of 18th-century New Yorkers. But the thrill of discovery quickly turned to dismay. "The study of these remains would have given them a voice," said Diane Dallal, the president of Professional Archeologists of New York City. "This is why we died." "This is how old we were when we left the earth." "I was a man." "I was

fringe of the city. Before City Hall was built in 1812, the meadow-blanketed region was home to military barracks, gallows and an almshouse for "disorderly persons," "parents of bastard children" and "servants running away or otherwise misbehaving themselves."

Much of the archeologists' rage is di-

'The study of these remains would have given them a voice.'

—Diane Dallal, president of Professional Archeologists of New York City

a woman." "I was a child." "This is what my life was like."

The archeologists also are upset because some half-million artifacts discovered during the excavation may be facing an uncertain fate. While many of the fragments are be-

rected at Ms. Raab and the Landmarks Preservation Commission. A lawyer who served as issues director for Mr. Giuliani's 1989 campaign, Ms. Raab has been credited with streamlining cumbersome Landmarks regulations, but she has also unsettled

PANYC EVENTS COMMITTEE REPORT - November 19, 1999 - January 31, 2000

EVENT	SPEAKER	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	PHONE #	FEE
Margaret Mead Film & Video Festival		thru 11/20/99		American Museum of Natural History	212-769-5200	varies
A Winter's Festival at Leffert's Homestead		Sun 11/28	1-4:PM	Leffert's Homestead, Prospect Park, Brooklyn	718-788-8500 x401	\$8
Sunset Park: The Old Neighborhood	Joe Svehlak	Sat 12/4	1-3:30 PM	43 rd St and 4 th Ave., Brooklyn	718-788-8500 x401	\$8
Kwanzaa Film Festival		Sat 12/18	12-5 PM	ABG - OPIE	212-432-5707	free
A New Waterfront for a New Century	exhibit	thru 12/31/99		South Street Seaport Museum, Melville Gallery	212-748-8786	admission
Society for Historical Archaeology		1/4-9/2000		Quebec City	418-691-6869	\$70/130
Archaeology of the Ancient World	William Scott Green	1/30/99	7:30 PM	92 nd Street Y	212-996-1100	\$20
\$24: The legendary Deal for Manhattan	exhibit	thru 3/9/2000		New York Historical Society	212-873-3400	admission

If any members have events which they would like listed, please contact Linda Stone by phone or fax at (212)888-3130 or by mail 249 E 48 St. #2B, New York, NY 10017.

ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

**NOMINATIONS REQUESTED FOR
SPECIAL PANYC AWARD
FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY A NON-
ARCHAEOLOGIST TO NEW YORK CITY ARCHAEOLOGY**

PANYC (Professional Archaeologists of New York City) is pleased to request nominations for a special award honoring non-archaeologists or institutions who have made outstanding contributions to the furtherance of New York City archaeology. Please send three copies of the letter of nomination documenting the nominee's qualifications to Anne-Marie Cantwell, PANYC Awards Committee Chair, Apt. 5-C, 14 Stuyvesant Oval, New York, New York, 10009. Nomination must be received by March 15, 2000. The award will be presented at the PANYC Public Program at the Museum of the City of New York.

PANYC EVENTS COMMITTEE REPORT - November 19, 1999 - January 31, 2000

EVENT	SPEAKER	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	PHONE #	FEE
Margaret Mead Film & Video Festival		thru 11/20/99		American Museum of Natural History	212-769-5200	varies
A Winter's Festival at Leffert's Homestead		Sun 11/28	1-4:PM	Leffert's Homestead, Prospect Park, Brooklyn	718-788-8500 x401	\$8
Sunset Park: The Old Neighborhood	Joe Svehlak	Sat 12/4	1-3:30 PM	43 rd St and 4 th Ave., Brooklyn	718-788-8500 x401	\$8
Kwanzaa Film Festival		Sat 12/18	12-5 PM	ABG - OPIE	212-432-5707	free
A New Waterfront for a New Century	exhibit	thru 12/31/99		South Street Seaport Museum, Melville Gallery	212-748-8786	admission
Society for Historical Archaeology		1/4-9/2000		Quebec City	418-691-6869	\$70/130
Archaeology of the Ancient World	William Scott Green	1/30/99	7:30 PM	92 nd Street Y	212-996-1100	\$20
\$24: The legendary Deal for Manhattan	exhibit	thru 3/9/2000		New York Historical Society	212-873-3400	admission

If any members have events which they would like listed, please contact Linda Stone by phone or fax at (212)888-3130 or by mail 249 E 48 St. #2B, New York, NY 10017.

ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

**NOMINATIONS REQUESTED FOR
SPECIAL PANYC AWARD
FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY A NON-
ARCHAEOLOGIST TO NEW YORK CITY ARCHAEOLOGY**

PANYC (Professional Archaeologists of New York City) is pleased to request nominations for a special award honoring non-archaeologists or institutions who have made outstanding contributions to the furtherance of New York City archaeology. Please send three copies of the letter of nomination documenting the nominee's qualifications to Anne-Marie Cantwell, PANYC Awards Committee Chair, Apt. 5-C, 14 Stuyvesant Oval, New York, New York, 10009. Nomination must be received by March 15, 2000. The award will be presented at the PANYC Public Program at the Museum of the City of New York.

ANNOUNCEMENT

BERT SALWEN AWARD

FOR THE BEST STUDENT PAPER ON NEW YORK CITY ARCHAEOLOGY

A prize of \$100.00 will be awarded by the Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC) to the author of the best paper on New York City archaeology written by a student in fulfillment of an academic requirement. Although preference may be given to papers written using materials from contract archaeology projects in the City, the competition is not limited to such research. Both graduate and undergraduate students are urged to apply. Papers should be no longer than 50 pages and must be submitted in duplicate. The deadline for submission is March 15, 2000. Please send manuscripts to Anne-Marie Cantwell, PANYC Awards Committee Chair, Apt. 5-C, 14 Stuyvesant Oval, New York, New York, 10009. The Bert Salwen Award will be presented at the PANYC Public Program at the Museum of the City of New York.

PLEASE POST

If you are interested in joining PANYC or if you would like to subscribe to the PANYC Newsletter, please complete the form below and return it to Michael Bonasera, PANYC Secretary, 65-62 Saunders St. #7D, Rego Park, NY 11374

NAME:			
ADDRESS:			
PHONE:		E-MAIL:	

Please indicate preferred mailing address and check below as appropriate.

I wish to apply for membership to PANYC and would like to receive the application form _____

I wish to subscribe to the PANYC Newsletter (Fee \$10) _____

Amount of additional donation to PANYC _____

181 Thompson #6
Ny, Ny 10012

Chris Ricciardi
2073 New York Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11210-5423

