



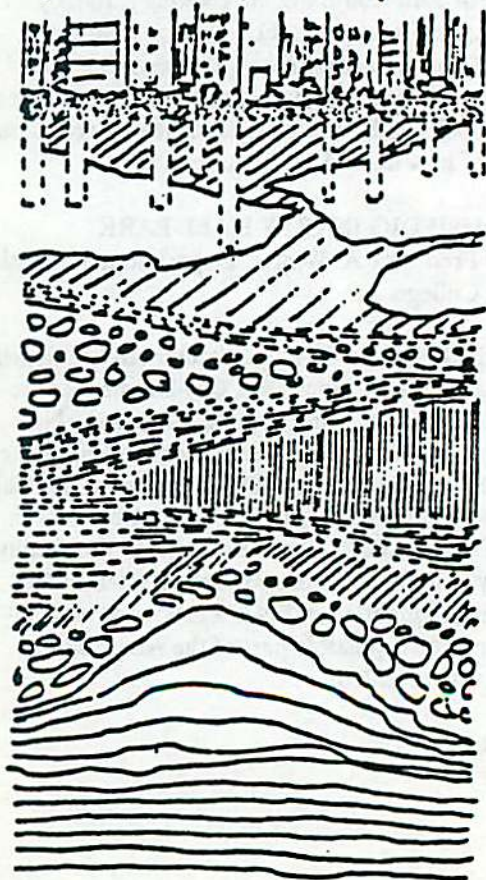
Symposium on the

ARCHAEOLOGY of NEW YORK CITY

The Professional Archaeologists of New York City
and the Museum of the City of New York present
The Twelfth Annual PANYC Symposium
Saturday, May 9, 1992

Hidden Beneath Our Feet

open to the general public



As always, we wish to thank those who made this year's PANYC Symposium possible. This includes many staff members of the Museum of the City of New York, particularly Andrew Svedlow, Associate Director of Programs, Cheryl Barthelow, Associate Head of Education, Mary Stiles and Laura Dickstein of Museum Education, and Liz Smith, Public Relations Manager. We also thank Susan Dublin of PANYC and all those who participated in the program and all those who attended.

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1:00-2:00

WELCOME

Joan H. Geismar, Chair, PANYC Public Program 1992

TEACUPS AND OPIUM: LIFE ON A 19TH-CENTURY BROOKLYN BLOCK

Speaker: Joan H. Geismar, Archaeological Consultant

In the spring of 1991, five privy pits were excavated in yards of a Brooklyn block on a property owned and to be developed by the Catholic Medical Center of Brooklyn and Queens. The trash discarded in these pits by the block's mid- to late-19th century residents tells us about their daily lives. The field work and findings of this archaeological investigation indicate that teacups and opium were both part of life in Brooklyn a century ago.

BOILED TURKEY AND OYSTER PIE

Speaker: Barbara F. Davis, Archaeologist/
Faunal Analyst

The story of 19th-century home cooking is told by what the cook threw away. Food bones from the Mugavero site in Brooklyn show the residents' food preferences, shopping patterns, and cooking practices. Old cookbooks and market manuals help to round out a picture of how many Victorians dined.

THE ALMSHOUSE DIG IN CITY HALL PARK

Speaker: Frederick A. Winter, Department of Classics,
Brooklyn College

In 1989, the Brooklyn College Summer Archaeological Field School and the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission, in cooperation with the New York City Department of General Services, conducted archaeological investigations in Manhattan's City Hall Park. The dig site was located between City Hall and the Tweed Courthouse to its north, in the vicinity of the city's first Almshouse which was established in 1736 and dismantled in 1797. Portions of an 18th-century structure, possibly part of the Almshouse complex, was revealed.

Break (10 minutes)

2:00-3:00

SALWEN PRIZE (PANYC STUDENT AWARD) 1992

Presented to Jean Howson by Anne-Marie
Cantwell, Chair, PANYC Awards Committee

SEEKING PIERRE TOUSSAINT

Speaker: Spencer J. Turkel, Metropolitan Forensic
Anthropology Team

After the New York Catholic Archdiocese nominated Pierre Toussaint for canonization, it was decided that his remains should be moved from the cemetery of the original St. Patrick's Cathedral on Prince Street in "Little Italy" in order to provide greater accessibility for those who wished to adore him. Unfortunately, this proved to be more difficult than expected, and the Metropolitan Forensic Anthropology Team was asked to help locate and exhume the remains. This talk documents how this was accomplished, and especially how it was proved that the exhumed skeleton actually was that of Pierre Toussaint who died in 1853.

FIVE POINTS POTTERY

Speaker: Meta F. Janowitz, Louis Berger Assoc., Inc.

Among New York City's lesser known industries are the stoneware manufactories that flourished in the 18th and 19th centuries. Near City Hall, the Crolius and Remy families had their pottery works and kilns where they made the durable, attractive pots and jars that were used daily by the city's residents. Recent excavations have opened a window through which we can learn more about these pots, now the prized possessions of collectors, and their makers.

THE 290 BROADWAY SITE: EXPLORATIONS INTO AFRICAN-AMERICAN CULTURE, LIFE, AND DEATH

Speaker: Michael Parrington, Historic Interpretation
and Conservation, Inc.

The excavations currently taking place at the 290 Broadway site in Lower Manhattan must be one of the lengthiest excavations in New York. For the forty or so archaeologists currently working on this General Services Administration site, digging up the remains of the African-Americans buried there has become a way of life. Over the past eight months, over 300 burials have been excavated at the site by Historic Conservation and Interpretation, under the direction of Michael Parrington and a team of physical anthropologists affiliated with Lehman College. This talk will describe some of the insights into African-American culture and lifeways in 18th-century New York that have come from the ongoing research.