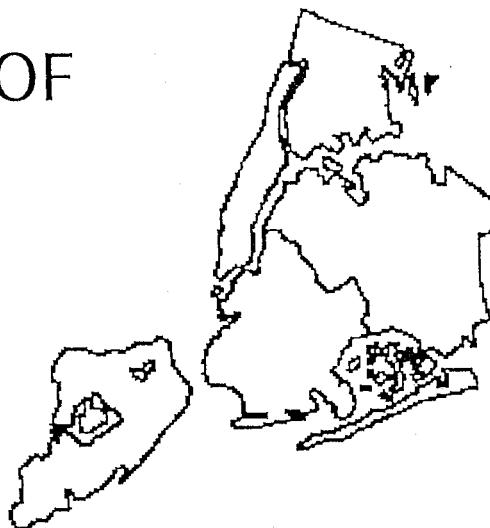


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Newsletter NO. 75

March 1996

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Materials for the PANYC Newsletter may be sent to:

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401 East 74th St. Apt. 21A
New York NY 10021

Home Telephone/Fax: 212 744-1592
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NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING: 20 March 1996
Room 1127 Graduate Center, C.U.N.Y.
Executive Board: 6:10 PM
General Membership: 6:30 PM

Minutes of the PANYC General Membership Meeting 24 January 1996

President Diana Wall called the meeting to order at 6:35PM. The following committees will report: Action, Awards, Burial Ridge, Events, Exhibit, Metro Chapter-NYSA, Newsletter, Nominations, Public Program, Special Publication and Symposium.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Harris reported a balance of \$1061.30 in the PANYC checking account. Harris also announced that the annual dues letter would be mailed by Killeen.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The minutes of the last meeting were accepted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Wall reported that she was informed by an Ellis Island worker of alleged violations of Section 106 in connection with excavation of a sewage line on the island in December. According to the worker, the area under excavation was deemed off-limits to all. Examination of the backdirt pile yielded bone and oyster shell. This discovery led the worker to solicit help. A faunal analyst declared the bone to be human. The bones were then examined by Lenore Barbier (AMNH) who went further to say that the bones represented one sub-adult, probably a teenager, individual. Wall then communicated with Dick Hsu (NPS) who suggested she contact Robert Kuhn (SHPO). Wall wrote to Kuhn, the text is in the last PANYC Newsletter, expressing our concern that the policy of allowing individual park superintendents to be overseers of these sorts of projects. Cantwell then spoke with Kuhn on this topic, Kuhn said he would make some phone calls and get in touch. He also said that the recent Government furlough had hampered progress on the matter. Wall received a phone call from Lynne Sullivan's office (Anthropological Survey, NYSM) regarding their proposal for a grant from the SAA to develop archaeological education programs for the general public, all agreed that PANYC should support this. Wall brought attention to two letters in the last PANYC Newsletter, one to Mayor Giuliani asking that his office continue to assist in the matter of the proper curation of the Metrotech collection, and the other to Jennifer Raab (NYCLPC) regarding establishing a protocol for safeguarding archaeological resources specially earmarked for protection (i.e., the African Burial Ground). The letter to Raab also addressed the issue of site significance and PANYC's concern that later sites (e.g., 19th century) may be considered less significant based on their age. The board discussed the possibility of a committee to investigate this issue and initiate discussion with NYCLPC on the process of weighing a site's significance. Wall, Kearns and Rothschild offered to be on this committee. Stone received a call from Kathy Benson's office (MCNY) regarding an MCNY proposal to the New York State Council for the Arts for funds to assist in education programs, it was suggested that perhaps an excavation of the Museum's backyard could be mounted for the public to get involved in, it was thought that PANYC could charge admission to fund the PANYC exhibit. All thought the idea was good, but that PANYC should not be involved as an organization.

ACTION: Stone spoke with Spritzer and learned that Spritzer had received additional Army Corps permit applications, including one for a Fresh Kills site and one for a Brooklyn shore site, both seemed to have archaeological potential.

AWARDS: Cantwell said that the call for papers for the PANYC Bert Salwen Best Student Paper Award and the announcement of the PANYC award for contributions to NYC archaeology by a non-archaeologist would be sent to Killeen who would include them in the dues reminder mailing.

BURIAL RIDGE: Cantwell announced that a series of phone calls and letters had been initiated and the responses were as follows: Henry Stern's office was concerned and recommended contacting Thomas Paolo (Commissioner of Parks). Paolo was also concerned and thought that perhaps measures to deter trespassers, looters and etc. (e.g., more poison ivy) might be installed. The National Park Service said they could not help, but suggested a call to Guy Molinari and perhaps the local police in Tottenville. The Tottenville police were interested and said that the National Park Service should have funds to protect the site and that they would inquire. Cantwell asked the PANYC members present for suggestions.

EVENTS: Stone reported that the NYSAA meeting would take place in the Archaeology Lab (Rm. 1127) at the Graduate School on February 27 and that Gary McGowan would speak on the DeBrock Wreck site.

EXHIBIT: Stone reported that the PANYC exhibit proposal had been accepted.

METRO CHAPTER-NYSAA: See EVENTS.

NEWSLETTER: The PANYC Newsletter will be mailed. Fitts explained that the NYC research bibliography would be included in several Newsletters because it is too large for a single issue.

NOMINATIONS: The committee will consist of Fitts, Cantwell and Wall. Killeen will mail the Nominations letter to the membership.

PUBLIC PROGRAM: Wall will call Schuldenrein regarding reserving time for the program.

SPECIAL PUBLICATION: Cantwell reported that only 100 of the 500 PANYC Special Publication #1 remained making it a success. The Ingle and Wall document which may soon be PANYC Special Publication #2 was discussed and the consensus was that the document would be more successful if it was made available at the professional level.

SYMPOSIUM: Harris said that the committee needs to be reconvened. The committee will consist of Dublin, Harris, Cantwell and Freeman. Harris will be chair. Wall withdrew from the committee.

NEW BUSINESS: Wall will call the Historic Districts Council in an effort to align PANYC with other groups.

No further business was brought before the membership.

Respectfully submitted, John J. Killeen, PANYC Secretary 1995-6



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THE NEW YORK CITY LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION
100 OLD SLIP NEW YORK, NY 10005 TEL: 212-487-6800 FAX: 212-487-6723

December 26, 1995

Ms. Diana Wall
President
Professional Archaeologists
of New York City
411 East 70th Street
New York, New York 10021

Dear Ms. Wall:

I write in response to your letter of December 12, 1995. As you know from my previous meeting with the PANYC leadership, I appreciate the importance of protecting the City's significant archeological resources and applaud PANYC's work in this regard. I am happy to meet with you to continue our dialogue. Please contact my assistant Jeremy Kantrowitz (212-487-6792) to schedule an appointment sometime after the holidays.

In advance of our meeting, however, I would like to respond to a few specific points in your letter. You suggest that the Commission has allegedly failed to "establish a protocol to safeguard the archeological resources that were especially earmarked for protection at some of its designated properties." I am surprised at this comment since you are no doubt aware that there is a very exacting "protocol" now in place to ensure that archeological resources are protected. That protocol involves a standardized permit application and review process. Pursuant to this protocol, all proposed work is analyzed by Daniel Pagano, the Commission's staff archeologist, to determine the impact, if any, on protected archeological resources. Based on this review, and consistent with applicable laws and regulations, proposed work is approved, disapproved, or approved subject to specified modifications. As you also know, this protocol typically includes the involvement of an archeologist hired by the applicant to prepare the application and implement the approved archeological procedures.

However, to the extent your concerns are a reference to an additional protocol for the African Burial Ground and Historic Commons Historic District (hereafter the "ABG"), you should be aware that, in conjunction with Peggy King Jorde of the Mayor's Office, the Commission has established an intergovernmental working group to investigate the establishment of specific guidelines to govern all work within the ABG. We would be happy to have your comments once draft guidelines are promulgated. In addition, I am happy to report that, at the Commission's request, the Department of General Services ("DGS") is compiling a list of all planned or proposed projects that may affect the ABG, as well as a time-table for these projects. Our intention is for the Commission and DGS to use this list and time-table to develop a proactive plan for archeological testing in the ABG.

Finally, you allege that the Commission is determining that archeological sites have "no significance simply because they date to a specific time period." Although I am not sure what specifically you are referring to, I can state categorically that this is not the case. The Commission considers significance on a case-by-case basis, regardless of what resources -- e.g., Native American, 17th, 18th or 19th Century -- could potentially be affected.

I look forward to speaking with you about these issues in the near future. Again, thank you for your concern.

Sincerely,


Jennifer J. Raab, Esq.

cc: Peggy King Jorde, Mayor's Office
Senator David Paterson
Daniel Pagano



THE NEW YORK CITY LANDMARKS PRESERVATION COMMISSION
100 OLD SLIP NEW YORK, NY 10005 TEL: 212-487-6800 FAX: 212-487-6723

January 12, 1996

Ms. Diana Wall
President
Professional Archaeologists
of New York City
411 East 70th Street
New York, New York 10021

Dear Ms. Wall:

Your letter to Mayor Giuliani has been referred to the Landmarks Preservation Commission for a reply. I have raised your concerns with Sadie R. Mitnick, an attorney with Forest City Radner ("Forest City"). First, Ms. Mitnick informed me that Forest City is planning a permanent exhibition of archeological artifacts at 1 MetroTech Center. She said that Forest City is presently searching for a contractor to construct the permanent exhibit.

Second, in response to your concerns about missing artifacts, Ms. Mitnick contacted Barry Greenhouse Associates after receiving your letter and our call, and discovered that a significant number of boxes of artifacts were still at the archeologist's offices. These boxes are now at MetroTech. They have been inventoried and are available for review. According to Ms. Mitnick, all of the artifacts are now at the MetroTech storage site.

In regard to your final concerns -- that the artifacts are not being conserved or stored properly -- Ms. Mitnick has agreed to host a meeting at MetroTech to discuss these issues in detail. This meeting will include representatives from PANYC, Forest City, Greenhouse Associates, the State Historic Preservation Officer and the LPC. Ms. Mitnick will be contacting you shortly to schedule this meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Silberman".

Mark A. Silberman, Esq.

cc: Fran Reiter, Deputy Mayor
Sadie Mitnick, Forest City Radner
Jennifer J. Raab, Chairman, LPC
Valerie Campbell, Counsel, LPC
Daniel Pagano, Archeology, LPC

December 22, 1995

Ms. Linda Stone
249 East 48th Street, #2B
New York, NY 10017

Dear Linda:

The Program Steering Committee met yesterday and considered your second, more detailed proposal for *Defending New York City's Archaeological Heritage*.

In general, the committee liked the proposal. One suggestion was that every effort be made to enliven the exhibition with artifacts. In addition to the "selected artifacts" you list in the proposal, the Museum may be able to include some material from its collections--e.g., ceramics. It was also suggested that a case of your "tools of the trade" be included.

The committee asked about related programs, and that reminded me that we had discussed a simulated dig in the Museum's backyard. We should discuss this and other possible programs in the near future. Perhaps by the time we meet, I'll have a better idea of what MCNY artifacts might be available for the exhibition.

I look forward to speaking with you in the near year.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Benson
Head of Education

c/Jan Ramirez
Deputy Director for Programs and Collections

Defending New York City's Archaeological Heritage: The Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC)

The proposed exhibition will highlight PANYC's mission to protect New York City's archaeological resources. Focusing on our organization as an example of a local community of professionals working within the complex realities of one of the biggest cities of the world, one consequence of the exhibit will be to educate the public on the subject of archaeology within an urban setting.

The proposed exhibition will include two-dimensional panels containing maps, photographs, diagrams and exhibit worthy artifacts from a variety of excavations in New York City. Exhibition panels will focus on five themes:

- 1) Overview of New York City archaeology prior to the founding of PANYC
- 2) The founding of Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC)
- 3) Battles won
- 4) Battles lost
- 5) Ongoing issues

Since much of what PANYC does involves letter writing campaigns, we would like to include this as a overtaking image. We think an interesting way to incorporate these letters into the proposed exhibit will be to use them as a background or heading for all panels, visually tying them together. This could be effective by reproducing letters using a light gray, or other secondary color, to reproduce overlapping letters clearly showing the PANYC letterhead and the addressee.

The following discusses each of the exhibit themes and ties them into specific panels, including images which may be used. All panels will include text and photographs which relate to each theme. A composite object list by theme is provided at the end of the document.

Overview of New York City Archaeology Prior to the Founding of PANYC - One Panel

Archaeological discovery of New York City began almost a century before the founding of PANYC when late nineteenth century practitioners began documenting the fast-disappearing traces of the Native American presence in the New York Metropolitan area. These men in coats, ties and bowler hats - mainly William I. Carver, Alanson Skinner, and the younger Reginald P. Bolton - uncovered the poignant human burials and everyday trappings of aboriginal life and colonial settlement. Mostly these were found on Staten Island and in the Washington Heights section of Manhattan, areas that had not yet been graded for streets or development as housing and where more intensive Native American settlement appears to have been located. New Yorkers owe these pioneer archaeologists appreciation for finding and recording the scanty but conclusive evidence of Native American life in this area. Most of what was found came from the years just before or immediately after Europeans made contact with these "Stone Age" people, but some of it is possibly thousands of years old. The act of discovery and the tradition of documentation were continued by others, among them Ralph Solecki, later a founding member of PANYC. Before PANYC, there was no local professional organization to step in when the present threatened to obliterate the past and it seemed that valuable evidence of our buried history might slip through legislative cracks and be lost to the bulldozer.

Object List:

- Photographs from Bolton 1924 (*Washington Heights*).
- Dyckman Farm.
- Photograph of family group burial, view of skeleton.

1

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Photographs of Seaman Avenue site.

Photograph of grave of Recigawiwane and dog burial, Cooper Street.

Photographs from *History Written with Pick and Shovel*.

Photograph of Bolton and Carver excavating a fireplace of a British Officer's Hut, American Revolutionary.

Photograph of Indian Shell pit.

Photographs, Ralph Solecki at North Beach.

"Tiger" prov, 1950's photograph.

Founding of PANYC - Stadt Huys - Two Panels

Panel 1:

In 1978, just two years before PANYC was founded, New York City introduced the City Environmental Quality Review Act (CEQR). Under this regulation, and similar Federal and State legislation, scientific archaeological investigation of New York City sites began in earnest. In 1979, the Landmarks Preservation Commission contacted the local archaeological community for consultation because they were considering sponsoring the first large-scale archaeological excavation in New York City as a test case for urban archaeology in the city. In response, the archaeologists formed PANYC as a professional organization that would serve as an umbrella for working with the commission and other city agencies. The commission was considering requiring the excavation of the Stadt Huys Block, a site in the Wall Street district where New Amsterdam's first city hall had been located in the 17th century.

Object List:

- Photograph of Ralph Solecki of Columbia University, PANYC's first president.
- Photograph of Bert Salwen of New York University, "the father of urban archaeology".

Panel 2:

Working together, the Landmarks Preservation Commission (NYCLPC) and PANYC fought for the excavation of the Stadt Huys Block. Excavations began in the fall of 1979 and continued through the summer of 1980. The successful recovery of two tons of archaeological materials, dating from the 17th through the nineteenth century, proved that important archaeological remains were in fact preserved in one of the most heavily urbanized areas in the world.

Panel text will point out the complex nature of urban land use and archaeological excavation showing the variety of excavation equipment that was used, from back work with trowels as well as a display of selected artifacts. The Stadt Huys began as a tavern, then was converted for use as Town Hall when New Amsterdam was incorporated. As a test case, the Stadt Huys Block excavation was a success, demonstrating that archaeological sites can survive, even in a heavily urbanized setting.

Object List

- Photograph of the back hoe working within the parking lot.
- Photograph of archaeological excavations in progress.
- Photograph taken from above providing an overview of the site.
- Reproduction of the Casella Plan.
- Drawing of Stadt Huys.
- Drawing and photograph of Lovelace Tavern and its basement floor.
- Photographs of privies, an eighteenth century well, and artifacts.

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Battles Won - African Burial Ground - Two Panels

In 1991, the first remains of what turned out to be the largest and earliest African burial ground ever discovered in this country was unearthed. Word of this important finding spread quickly and sparked interest among many segments of our community. At the invitation of State Senator David Patterson, a number of PANYC members sat on the oversight committee for the African Burial Ground project. The committee turned to PANYC for guidance on scientific issues such as appropriate excavation techniques. PANYC worked in cooperation with the committee and the community to ensure that the burial ground was excavated scientifically, while showing regard for the sensitivities of a very concerned and involved community, and later to cease excavation altogether when it became clear that an unacceptable large number of burials were in the path of construction as originally planned and to fight for the protection of the site.

PANYC's first award to a non-professional archaeologist outside of archaeology for his or her contribution to preserving archaeological resources was presented to Senator Patterson in April 1993. Panels will describe PANYC's involvement with Patterson's committee and the community with the emphasis on cooperation in a sensitive situation.

Object List:

- Photograph of politicians and PANYC members visiting the ongoing excavation of the African Burial Ground.
- Presentation of PANYC's Special Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Archaeology of New York City.
- Reproductions of newspaper articles about the project.
- Pure excavation photographs showing the skeletal remains.
- Artifact photographs of burial-related finds.

Battles Won - Atlantic Terminal Urban Renewal Area - One Panel

PANYC successfully persuaded the City, via the Department of Housing Preservation and Development, to reevaluate the archaeological potential of a site which was originally studied ten years ago under now obsolete guidelines and written off. Unauthorized artifact collection during construction of a portion of the Atlantic Terminal Urban Renewal Area (ATURA) housing project in Brooklyn focused on shaft features filled with household debris deposited when plumbing was installed in the middle of the nineteenth century. PANYC representatives provided the New York City LPC with information on the looting and encouraged reconsideration of the site's eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. Under the present guidelines the site met criteria of eligibility and the NYCLPC proceeded to require a new intensive-level documentary study for the portion of the ATURA project area that had not yet been developed. Field testing and data recovery are pending.

This panel will include text and photographs and will outline PANYC's successful efforts on the ATURA project and summarize the results of the documentary research and the results of subsequent field investigations. A sample of artifacts recovered will be displayed, as appropriate. Specific objects will be identified upon completion of archaeological investigations.

Object List:

- Photograph of site conditions while it was being looted.
- Photographs of archaeological excavations.
- Photograph of the City's project sign.

Selected artifacts from the excavations.**Battles Won - Ellis Island - One Panel**

Archaeological excavation on Ellis Island during the summer of 1992 uncovered the foundation of an early-19th century harbor fortification, later named Fort Gibson. The fort's massive stone walls once defined the northeastern shore of the island, but the structure's location relative to the shore had shifted inland through land reclamation. Although the National Park Service, under whose auspices the excavation was carried out, had no intention of leaving the rediscovered walls exposed, the island's Superintendent, Ann Belkov, and Michael Adlerstein, the Chief of Urban Projects for the National Park Service, responded to PANYC's entreaty to do so. The remains of the walls vividly illustrate how the island, originally comprising about 6 acres, had been expanded through landfilling at 27 acres, it is now almost five times as large). This was in addition to creatively exposing an archaeological feature to permanent view.

Object List:

Color photographs of the exposed foundation walls with Manhattan in the background.

Battles Lost - 17 State Street - Two Panels**Panel 1:**

A New York City developer, preparing to build a 42-story office tower at 17 State Street overlooking the Battery and New York harbor, applied to the Department of City Planning for a zoning variance that triggered the CEQR review process. Since the site was on a block in the heart of Dutch New Amsterdam, the NYCLPC's archaeologist flagged the project for an archaeological sensitivity study. Archaeologist Joan Geismar, who had undertaken the study early in 1986, was shocked to discover that bulldozers excavating for the building's foundation had already effectively destroyed any archaeological remains that might have been there. It turned out, for reasons that continue to be disputed, that the developer had obtained a permit to excavate the foundation for an "as of right building" while his project was undergoing environmental review for a variance.

This first panel will include text and photographs showing the destruction of the site and PANYC's involvement in bringing this controversial action to the political forefront.

Object List:

- 1986 photograph of deep foundation excavations.
- Copy of foundation permit ??.

Panel 2:

PANYC and NYCLPC were alarmed, not only because a particular potential archaeological site had been destroyed, but because the whole preservation process was threatened: if one developer could succeed in violating the procedure why would any developer comply? The city's Board of Standards and Appeals, a mediating body, held a public hearing where both PANYC and NYCLPC testified on the importance of CEQR in protecting the city's archaeological heritage. NYCLPC proposed that the developer receive a zoning variance only if he agreed to pay the penance of creating and maintaining a small museum on New York City archaeology at the site. The developer agreed, and *New York Unearthed: City Archaeology*, a public exhibit now administered by South Street Seaport Museum, opened in a small building in the plaza of 17 State Street in 1990.

This panel will focus on the creation of New York Unearthed and will show the completed building and exhibits.

Object List:

- Photograph of the 17 State Street building.
- Photograph of the entrance of New York Unearthed from the plaza.
- Photograph of exhibit.
- Photograph of artifact conservation laboratory.

Battles Lost - Looting - Photographs

A number of photographic images will be presented showing looted sites. In order to protect sites still in jeopardy, none of the photographic images will be identified by location.

Object List:

- Looters in the process of collecting artifacts from a construction site, with their faces removed.
- Construction site where features have been exposed and looted.
- Looted objects for sale in street flea markets.
- Looted prehistoric burial site.

Ongoing Issues - Politics and Legislation - One Panel

This panel will present PANYC's efforts in the areas of both politics and legislation. PANYC often uses appeals to our politicians to persuade agencies and developers to follow existing legislation and to provide archaeology with positive publicity. While CEQR dictates that archaeology be considered during development under certain conditions - mainly when variances or special permits are required - it is a limited guarantee. During its 15 year history, PANYC has tried to expand this protection through legislation, but so far this has been to no avail. In 1985, an attempt was made to augment the Landmarks Law that protects standing structures and creates historic districts but, with the exception of the newly-created Commons and African Burial Ground Historic District and the Van der Ende - Onderdonk House where archaeology is specifically protected, it does not cover archaeological resources. This attempt was unsuccessful. More recently, in 1992, the PANYC legislation committee drafted a law to ensure that archaeological resources on city-owned properties would be afforded the same considerations as those undergoing CEQR review. Unfortunately this draft legislation has been in limbo, but PANYC is continuing its efforts to provide this expanded coverage to city-owned properties not subject to CEQR review.

This panel will present text describing PANYC's role in advising public agencies. It will include images of politicians visiting archaeological sites and present part of our proposed legislation.

Object List:

- Reproduction of the position page of this proposed legislation.
- A photograph of the legislation committee in action ??.
- Mayor Dinkins visit to African Burial Ground site.
- Mayor Koch visit to Stadt Huys site.

Ongoing Issues - MetroTech - One Panel

This panel will tell the story of a major urban renewal project in Downtown Brooklyn and will show how federal laws governing the disposition of archaeological collections can be applied. The Environmental Impact Statement included a promise to create an exhibit of the archaeological collection. Excavations at the MetroTech site were completed in 1989. PANYC has been trying since then to ensure this promise is kept.

This panel will present images of this important New York City archaeological collection. It could be the first time any of these materials will have been seen by the general public.

Object List:

- Photograph of temporary artifact storage facility.
- Photographs of artifacts.
- Selected artifacts.

Video

Segments of videos highlighting local archaeological sites will be continuously shown.

Object List:

- *Breaking Ground.*
- *African Burial Ground: An American Discovery.*

Object List**Overview of New York City archaeology prior to the founding of PANYC**

- Photographs from Bolton 1924 (*Washington Heights*).
Dyckman Farm.
- Photograph of family group burial, view of skeleton.
- Photographs of Seaman Avenue site.
- Photograph of grave of Techgawawan and dog burial, Cooper Street.
- Photographs from *History Written with Pick and Shovel*.
- Photograph of Bolton and Carver excavating a fireplace of a British Officer's Hut, American Revolutionary.
- Photograph of Indian Shell pit.
- Photographs, Ralph Solecki at North Beach.
"Tiger" prow, 1950's photograph.

Founding of PANYC

- Photograph of Ralph Solecki of Columbia University, PANYC's first president.
- Photograph of Bert Salwen of New York University, "the father of urban archaeology".
- Photograph of the back hoe working within the parking lot.
- Photograph of archaeological excavations in progress.
- Photograph taken from above providing an overview of the site.
- Reproduction of the Castello Plan
- Drawing of Stadt Huys.
- Drawing and photograph of Lovelace Tavern and its basement floor.
- Photographs of privies, an eighteenth century well, and artifacts.

Battles Won**African Burial Ground**

- Photograph of politicians and PANYC members visiting the ongoing excavation of the African Burial Ground.
- Presentation of PANYC's Special Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Archaeology of New York City.
- Reproductions of newspaper articles about the project.
- Pure excavation photographs showing the skeletal remains.
- Artifact photographs of burial-related finds.

Atlantic Terminal Urban Renewal Area

- Photograph of site conditions while it was being located.
- Photographs of archaeological excavations.
- Photograph of the City's project sign.
- Selected artifacts from the excavations.

Ellis Island

- Color photographs of the exposed foundation walls with Manhattan in the background.

Battles Lost**17 State Street**

- 1996 photograph of deep foundation excavations.
- Copy of foundation permit ??.
- Photograph of the 17 State Street building.

- Photograph of the entrance of New York Unearthed from the plaza.
- Photograph of exhibit.
- Photograph of artifact conservation laboratory.

Looting

- Looters in the process of collecting artifacts from a construction site, with their faces removed.
- Construction site where features have been exposed and looted.
- Looted objects for sale in street flea markets.
- Looted prehistoric burial site.

Ongoing Issues

- Politics and Legislation
 - Reproduction of the position page of this proposed legislation.
 - A photograph of the legislation committee in action ??.
 - Mayor Dinkins visit to African Burial Ground site.
 - Mayor Koch visit to Stadt Huys site.
- MetroTech
 - Photograph of temporary artifact storage facility.
 - Photographs of artifacts.
 - Selected artifacts.

Video segments

- *Breaking Ground*.
- *African Burial Ground: An American Discovery*.

Current Research in New York City

The following projects are on-going or recently finished archaeological studies in New York City. To report current research please send abstracts of projects to the PANYC Newsletter editor.

Manhattan

Update on the African Burial Ground Archaeological Project
 Submitted by Gary McGowen
 John Milner Associates

Many readers may already be aware that the project has been divided into two distinct areas of study. One area is The Burial Ground and the other area is the non-burial component of the site.

Currently, non-burial component artifacts are being processed. Meta Janowitz, acting as a subconsultant to the project, is working with our in-house ceramic specialist to develop a typology for the kiln refuse related to the Crolius and Remmy potteries.

Conservation is continuing on the non-burial artifacts from the site. Conservation analytical on some of the artifacts from within the burial contexts sometimes provides surprising results. For example, a pendant was recovered from a child's burial and has recently been identified through these tests to be sterling silver.

As an update on the physical anthropology being conducted at Howard University, Michael Blakey's team has received a six month continuance to complete the cleaning, reconstruction and anthropometric analysis. Warren Perry has been brought

on to head up the analysis for the burial component of the project. He will be starting with the project later this month.

Funding Opportunities

Intermodal Surface Transport Enhancement Alternatives Grants (ISTEA)

ISTEA is a federally funded program for states to promote alternative forms of transportation. Their grants, however, are not limited to methods of transportation, but also are awarded to projects which are associated with the history of transportation. The following list shows the projects which received funding in the past two years and those proposed for this year. Although 1996 is currently slated as the last year of funding for the program, archaeologists should consider this source if funding is renewed. Contact Nan Rothchild for more information.

A= Historic/archaeological
 B= Bike/pedestrian/alternative transportation
 C= Scenic/landscape/environmental ¹²

ISTEA Projects

ROUND I Awarded 1994

On-Street Bicycle Parking Facilities
 Melrose/Metro North Station Redesign
 Bronx River Trailway
 Ferry Terminal Esplanade at Brooklyn Army Terminal
 Sunset Park Connector Bikeway
 Rockaway/Gateway Greenway
 Brooklyn/Queens Greenway Guidebook
 Downtown Flushing Pedestrian/Historic Improvements
 Flushing Meadows Pedestrian/Cultural Walkway
 Jamaica Center Intermodal Improvements
 Queens Pedestrian Bicycle Greenway
 Stuyvesant Cove Park and Bikeway
 East Village Area Pedestrian Improvements
 Pier 15 Rehabilitation-South Street
 Grand Central Terminal Concourse Ceiling Restoration
 North Shore Esplanade Extension

BOROUGH	TYPE
All	B
Bronx	B
Bronx	C
Brooklyn	B
Brooklyn	B
Brooklyn/Queens	B
Brooklyn/Queens	B
Queens	B
Queens	B
Queens	C
Queens	B
Manhattan	B
Manhattan	B
Manhattan	A
Manhattan	A
Staten Island	B

ROUND II Awarded 1995

Hutchinson Bikeway-Walkway
 Van Cortlandt Park Cross Country Trail System Reconstruction
 Brooklyn Heritage Trolley Project
 Ocean Parkway Bicycle Pedestrian Corridor
 Southern Parkway Greenway and Conduit Boulevard Connector
 Gantry Plaza/Queens West Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities
 Laurelton and Cross Island Parkway Greenways
 Grand Central Subsurface Pedestrian Network
 Washington Square Arch Stabilization
 Lenox Avenue (Malcolm X Boulevard) Corridor Study
 City Hall Subway Station Restoration
 Renwick Ruin Permanent Illumination Project
 Fifth Avenue Twin Lamppost Restoration
 Battery Maritime Building Historic Rehabilitation
 Waterborne Transportation-Manh. to Gateway Nat'l Rec. Area
 Staten Island Bikeway and Cultural Trail

Bronx	B
Bronx	B
Brooklyn	A
Brooklyn	B
Brooklyn/Queens	B
Queens	B
Queens	B
Manhattan	B
Manhattan	A
Manhattan	A
Manhattan	A
Manhattan	C
Manhattan	A
Manhattan	A
Man/Bklyn/Queens	B
Staten Island	B

ROUND III Proposed 1996

Greenway Guidelines
 Bike Parking II
 St. Mary's Greenway
 West Farms Zoway
 E.L. Grant Highway

All	B
All	B
Bronx	B
Bronx	B
Bronx	B

Bronx Soundview Greenway	Bronx	B
Greenstreets-W181, University	Bronx	B
Fordham Road Streetscape	Bronx	B
Park Avenue	Bronx	B
Van Cortlandt Lakes	Bronx	C
Harlem River Restoration	Bronx	C
BQE Landscape	Bronx	C
Coffey St. Pier	Brook./Qns.	C
Pier at 69th Street	Brooklyn	B
Grand Army Plaza	Brooklyn	B
Brooklyn Bridge Anchorage Celi.	Brooklyn	B
Atlantic Ave. Tunnel	Brooklyn	A
Atlantic Ave. Control House	Brooklyn	A
Times Plaza	Brooklyn	A
Queensboro Bridge Access	Brooklyn	C
Randalls Island Ferry Dock	Man./Qns.	B
Harlem-Hudson Promenade	Manhattan	B
Eighth St. Enhancement	Manhattan	B
Midtown Pedestrian Project	Manhattan	B
Lower E. Side Artscape	Manhattan	B
Harlem Gateway Corridor	Manhattan	B
The Octagon Ruin	Manhattan	B
Eighth Ave. Enhancement	Manhattan	A
Stone St. Streetscape	Manhattan	A
Pier 15-Phase II	Manhattan	A
Railroad Float Transfer Bridge	Manhattan	A
Tweed Courthouse Stairs	Manhattan	A
City Hall Station II	Manhattan	A
Lincoln Square	Manhattan	A
Roosevelt Island in Motion	Manhattan	C
Broome Street Square	Manhattan	C
Finn Square	Manhattan	C
Third Ave. Viewing Garden	Manhattan	C
Rockaway Boardwalk	Queens	B
Forest Park Visitor Center	Queens	B
Rockaway Gatew.-Spring Creek	Queens	B
Alley Pond Path	Queens	B
Downtown Flushing II	Queens	B
Rockaway-Gateway II	Queens	B
Willow Lake Path	Queens	B
Fort Totten Access	Queens	B
Greenbelt N/S/Connector	Richmond	B
Snug Harbor Ferry	Richmond	B
Amundsen Trail	Richmond	B
S.I. South Shore Greenway	Richmond	B
St. George Ferry Terminal	Richmond	B
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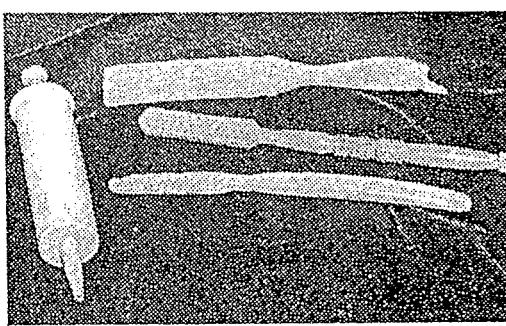
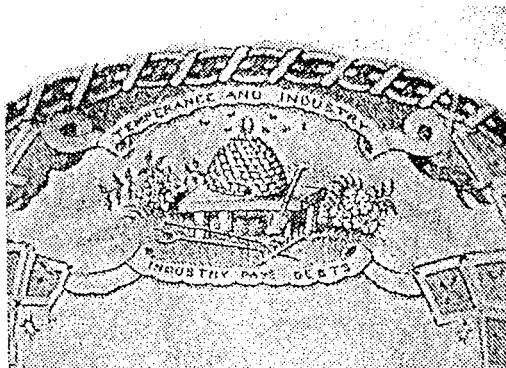
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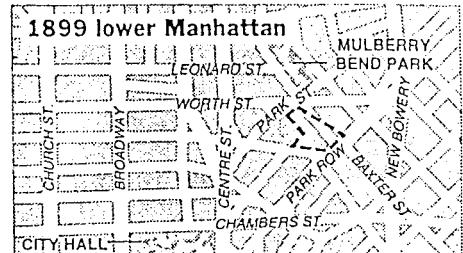
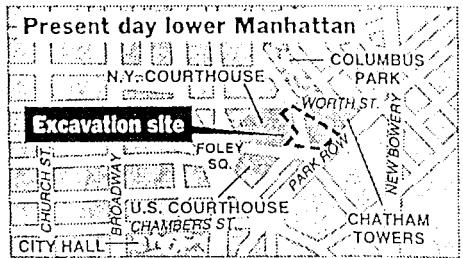
Neighborhood Report

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LOWER MANHATTAN



Photographs by Ruby Washington/The New York Times



SHATTERED NOTIONS "It is fascinating to have your preconceptions blown apart," said Dr. Rebecca Yamin (far left), the main architect of the Five Points project. Among her team's findings: a "Temperance and Industry" teacup (top), and bristleless toothbrushes (above).

Archeologists Dig Up a New Image for an Old Slum

Five Points, the 19th-century slum near what is now Foley Square, holds a special place in the lore of New York's ghettos and gangs. After visiting with a police escort, Charles Dickens wrote that "all that is loathsome, drooping and decayed is here." The journalist George G. Foster called it "a sight to make the blood slowly congeal." A contemporary of Mr. Foster described it as "the resort of burglars, thieves and desperadoes."

This was where the other half lived, the neighborhood that inspired Jacob Riis to call for clearing out the over-crowded, unsanitary tenements. Gangs like the Plug Uglies and the Forty Thieves became the stuff of urban legend: their exploits still figure in recent books like Luc Sante's "Low Life" and Caleb Carr's "The Alienist."

But new evidence suggests that Five Points may not have been the den of iniquity it was made out to be. A team of archeologists examining its remnants discovered artifacts of a hard-working, family-oriented population that was all but ignored in most chronicles of what was sometimes known as "the bloody ould Sixth Ward."

"It is fascinating to have your preconceptions blown apart," said Dr. Rebecca Yamin, the project's principal archeologist. "Our task is to make sense of a reality that is very different from what we had been told. We see artifacts of regular old domestic activities. It doesn't look as impoverished as we had expected."

Take the "Temperance and Industry" teacup. It came as a bit of surprise when the



A Five Points saloon on Election Day, 1858.

archeologists found the brown cup decorated with a portrait of Father Mathew — who led a temperance movement in Cork, Ireland, in 1838 — in the remains of a neighborhood famous for drunkenness, saloons and grog shops.

There were plenty of other surprises among the 850,000 artifacts that Dr. Yamin and her team are analyzing: matching Staffordshire tea sets suggesting domesticity, high-quality bone toothbrushes indicating attention to hygiene, and fabric swatches, pins and thimbles bearing witness to honest work in the needle trade.

Then there was the monkey skeleton: the archeologists were a bit puzzled until Claudia Milne, who does historical analysis, discovered that the census listed eight residents of Baxter Street as organ grinders.

The artifacts were unearthed when the United States General Services Administra-

tion decided to build the new Federal courthouse on Foley Square; Federal law requires archeologists to excavate historically valuable sites before such construction.

Now Dr. Yamin and her team from John Milner Associates in Philadelphia spend their days in a laboratory underneath the United States Customs House in the World Trade Center assembling, photographing, X-raying and analyzing the artifacts. Their findings were first reported in *The Village Voice*.

Each archeologist has a specialty; Paul Reckner's is clay pipes. Many were decorated with shamrocks and Irish Home Rule slogans; several have the compass that denotes Freemasonry. "It shows it was a complex neighborhood," Mr. Reckner said, adding, "People cared about social action, philosophy and religion."

The picture the scientists paint is not entirely rosy: one rear tenement was built over part of a cistern. "The sanitary conditions were absolutely abysmal," Dr. Yamin said. "We're trying to learn about the struggles of everyday lives."

James P. Shenton, a professor of history at Columbia University known for his walking tours of Five Points, said the discoveries underscored the fact that the law-abiding citizens of crime-plagued neighborhoods are often ignored. "The unusual, the deviant and the distorted is news," he said. "If you think about Harlem, what do you think about? Go to Strivers Row or Sugar Hill. It ain't what you think. Which is the real Harlem?"

MICHAEL COOPER

PANYC EVENTS COMMITTEE REPORT - March 20 - May 31, 1996

EVENT	SPEAKER	TIME	DATE	LOCATION	PHONE #	FEE
The Social Anthropology of a Colonized Nation: The People of Puerto Rico After a Half a Century	Antonio Lauria-Perricelli	7:30 PM	Mon 3/21	NY Academy of Science	212-838-0230 x.234	\$27 non-members
Contact Sites in New England	Robert Grumet	7:30 PM	Tues 3/26	American Museum of Natural History	212-769-5310	yes
Religious Factors in Inca Imperialism	Prof. Geoffrey Conrad, NYU	6:15 PM	Thurs 3/28	Hagop Kevorkian Center, NYU, 50 Wash. Sq. South		free
Municipal Arts Society Village Tour	Francis Morrone	1 PM	Sat 3/30		212-935-3960	
Wrought in Common Clay: A Century of New York Stoneware	Rebecca Yamin	6:30 PM	Thru 4/14	New York Historical Society	212-873-3400	admission
Rediscovering Five Points: The Evolution of a Neighborhood, the Construction of a Slum	Cynthia Copeland	1 PM	Tues 4/16	Abigail Adams Smith Museum, 421 E 61 St.		free
Where Was Seneca Village? Walking Tour	many		Sun 4/18	New York Historical Society	212-873-3400	
New York State Archaeological Association Annual Meeting	David Garrard Lowe	1 PM	Fri 4/26 - Sun 4/28	Sparrowbush		
Sanford White's Greenwich Village Tenement Trash	Ruth Abrams & Joan Geismar	6 PM	Sat 5/11	Beaux Arts Alliance	212-639-9120	
New York Then and Now: Upper West Side	exhibit		Wed 5/15	Lower East Side Tenement Museum	212-748-8753	\$7; \$5 museum members
Symposium: The Archaeology of Immigration at the Five Points Site	Rebecca Yamin & Stephen Jaffe, etc.		Thru 5/19	New York Historical Society	212-873-3400	admission
Memory: Luba Art & Making of History	exhibit		Thru 9/8	South Street Seaport, AA Low Building, John St.	212-748-8753	fee
Gaelic Gotham	exhibit		Thru 10/27	Museum of African Art	212-966-1313	\$4
				Museum of the City of New York	212-534-1672	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.

PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF NEW YORK CITY²⁵

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:

- a. Applicants must have been awarded an advanced degree (M.A., M.S., M.Phil., Ph.D., D.Sc., or official A.B.D.) from an accredited institution in archaeology, anthropology, history, classical studies or other germane discipline with a specialization in archaeology.
- b. Applicants must have at least six weeks of professionally supervised archaeological field training and four weeks of supervised laboratory analysis and/or curation 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 by the Society of Professional Archaeologists (SOPA).
- 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 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.
- e. Applicants should submit a statement of purpose that includes their interest in New York City archaeology. Members of PANYC have a commitment to protect and preserve the city's archaeological resources and to support research and encourage publication of information recovered from those resources. Members will not engage in illegal or unethical conduct involving archaeological matters. In applying for membership it is expected that an individual is in agreement with these goals. PANYC is not an accrediting organization and is not to be used as such.

Application for membership shall be in writing and shall include a copy of the applicant's resume or *vita*.

We invite anyone interested in New York City archaeology to subscribe to our Newsletter and to attend our general membership meetings and annual Public Symposium.

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 John Killeen, PANYC Secretary, 58 Garnsey Pl., Belford, NJ 07718.

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Please indicate preferred mailing address and check below as appropriate.

I wish to apply for membership to PANYC (Dues \$15) _____

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Amount of additional donation to PANYC _____

Signature

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