# PROFESSIONAL

# ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF

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YORK

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Chris Ricciardi 2073 New YorkAVE Brooklyn, New York 11210-5413

Newsletter No. 67

May 1994

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Material for the PANYC Newsletter may be sent to Diana

Wall, Department of Anthropology, The City College of

New York, New York, New York 10031

NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING: 25 May 1994 Room 1127 Graduate Center, C.U.N.Y. Executive Board: 6:15 PM General Membership: 7:00 PM

#### Minutes of the PANYC General Membership Meeting 23 March 1994

President Anne-Marie Cantwell called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. The following committees will report: Awards, Burial Ground, Education, Legislation, Membership, Museum, Native American Affairs, Newsletter, Nominations, Public Program, and Research and Planning.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Harris reported a balance of \$1185.33. The NYS Department has refunded PANYC's penalty payment of \$150.

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Cantwell thanked Freeman for arranging the meeting room. She announced that Albert Anderson died; his death is a considerable loss to local archaeology, particularly in Staten Island where he had focused his research efforts. Edward Platt, an avocational archaeologist who has been working on Archaic through Woodland Period sites in Queens, will be addressing the meeting; he will be accompanied by Ed Pores, the President of the Long Island Chapter of the AIA. Cantwell received a telephone call from Gina Santucci of the NYCLPC requesting that PANYC review the research design for fieldwork associated with GSA's construction of an elevator tower adjacent to the Metropolitan Correctional Center and a tunnel under Pearl Street connecting the MCC and the new federal courthouse. There was some discussion as to the appropriateness of PANYC's acting as a review body, especially considering the potential for conflict of interest in that a number of PANYC members are associated with the project. Yamin pointed out that PANYC had reviewed the research design for the Courthouse Block site, so that a precedent does exist for PANYC review. Wall responded that this had been an exceptional case. The Executive Board felt that PANYC review would be inappropriate in this situation; the membership agreed.

Cantwell as outgoing President summarized the 1993-4 year. Positive accomplishments include continued work on establishing a repository for artifacts from NYC excavations and on the city legislation for the protection of archaeological sites. Cantwell expressed concern with poor attendance at PANYC meetings and her hopes that PANYC will continue efforts to provide a forum for discussion of ongoing research and archaeological issues.

AWARDS: There were no nominations for the 1994 Salwen Award and the PANYC Special Award; therfore, there will be no awards given at the PANYC Public Program this year.

BURIAL GROUND: Rothschild announced that the video on the excavation of the African Burial Ground is almost complete and has been shown to members of the Federal Steering Committee. GSA is soliciting comments prior to the final cut. It was recommended that PANYC request a screening.

<u>EDUCATION</u>: Schuldenrein stated he and Maria Schleidt continue to seek a sponsor for the educators' guide to archaeological resources. There is a possibility that the Rochester Science Museum will be willing to act in that capacity.

<u>LEGISLATION</u>: Geismar announced that a third draft of the proposed archaeological legislation will be forthcoming from the City Council's legal department.

<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>: The membership voted to accept Barbara Hildebrand's application for membership in PANYC. Dublin will send a letter welcoming Hildebrand to PANYC.

<u>MUSEUM</u>: Geismar reported that the MCNY is very interested in participating in a workshop on the logistics of setting up a repository for cultural material from NYC excavations and may be able to supply some funding.

NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS: Cantwell passed around a newletter, "Keepers of the Teasures," published by the Cultural Council of American Indians. The newsletter reports on issues concerning implementation of NAGPRA and, as such, should be of considerable interest to members. A subscription is \$10 and can be obtained by writing to Mary Stuart McCamy, Keepers of the Tresures, National Office, 666 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20003.

<u>NEWSLETTER</u>: Rebecca Yamin has resigned as newsletter editor. PANYC is requesting that someone step forward to fill her position.

NOMINATIONS: Dublin announced the results of the PANYC elections. Linds Stone has been elected President; Susan Dublin will be Vice President; John Killeen will be Secretary; and Wendy Harris will be Treasurer. A run-off vote was held to resolve the tie between Lauren Cook and Rebecca Yamin for the sixth place on the Executive Board, and Yamin was declared the winner. The new Executive Board members are Joan Geismar, Nan Rothschild, Joseph Schuldenrein, Diana Wall, and Rebecca Yamin. Cantwell will serve on the Board as will the newly elected officers.

<u>PUBLIC PROGRAM</u>: Stone reported that the PANYC Public Program will be held on 5/14/94 at the MCNY. This year's topic is "Trades and Markets of Historic New York." The flyers are ready for dissemination, and the program will be printed in the newsletter.

RESEARCH AND PLANNING: Harris announced that the PANYC symposium will be held in October on a date to be announced. Rothschild has proposed Barnard College as the setting, and the Executive Board has agreed to authorize the expenditure of funds for publicity. The symposium will be on paleoenvironmental reconstruction and will include 7-8 speakers drawn from the archaeological community and from other disciplines that have made contributions to paleoenvironmental research. These latter will include a geologist, a paleoethnobotanist, and possibly a palynologist. Archaeologists who have agreed to present include John Cavallo, Arnold Pickman, and Joseph Schuldenrein.

<u>OLD BUSINESS</u>: Howson inquired about progress on putting together a walking tour of archaeological sites in lower Manhattan; Wall reported that it is in the works. Harris announced that the Army Corps of Engineers has hired a new archaeologist, bringing the total of staff archaeologists to four. Daniel Pagano will be returning to the NYCLPC as of 4/11/94.

NEW BUSINESS: Cantwell turned the meeting over to Stone as incoming President. Stone thanked Cantwell for her ongoing service to PANYC, which was reiterated by the membership. Stone announced that the MCNY has invited PANYC to assist in mounting an exhibit on local archaeology at their NYC Gallery; more information will be forthcoming. In the meantime, a committee charged with working on this exhibit was organized. Members will include Stone, Berghoffen, Geismar, Rothschild, and Wall. Stone reported on pending federal legislation regarding the establishment of National Heritage Areas, which undoubtedly will include archaeological sites; she requested that PANYC support such legislation. In

keeping with Cantwell's concern that PANYC act as a forum for discussion of archaeological issues in the local community, Stone suggested that the Excecutive Board meet informally to exchange ideas. Geismar indicated that it would be more inclusive if such discussions were held in conjunction with PANYC meetings. The membership agreed. Wall reported that she had received a letter from Leonard Cohen soliciting input from the local archaeological community on reactivating the Metropolitan Chapter.

The remainder of the meeting consisted of a report by Edward Platt on his work on prehistoric sites in Queens and his plans for future research. Platt was introduced by Ed Pores of the AIA. Platt reported on a number of sites in undisclosed locations in northern Queens County that have yielded cultural materials dating from the Archaic through the Middle Woodland Periods. The bulk of the material has consisted of lithics. One feature, a hearth, is reported, and at least one site may be stratified, this latter dating from Archaic to Middle Woodland, based on the lithics. Analyses of charcoal and soils are being conducted by Professors Bernstein and O'Shea at S.U.N.Y. Stonybrook. Platt stated that there are no excavations planned for this season, although he may conduct limited testing using volunteers. He feels that many of the sites are relatively undisturbed and potentially quite significant. In light of this, he is looking for a professional archaeologist to serve as Field Director for a 1995 field season. The membership expressed a lively interest in Platt's findings and there were a number of questions for Platt. At the end of the question and answer period, Stone thanked Platt for coming to speak.

No further business was brought before the membership.

Respectfully submitted, Susan A. Dublin, Secretary 1993-4

249 E 48th Street, #2B New York, New York 10017

22 April 1994

Mr. Leonard Cohan 30-2209 Newport Parkway Jersey City, New Jersey 07310

Dear Mr. Cohan:

I am writing on behalf of Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC) to express our support of your efforts to revive the Metropolitan Chapter of the New York State Archaeological Association. As you are aware, many of our members were, or are, also members of the Metropolitan Chapter. We would be pleased to provide any advice you may need in your efforts to regenerate the chapter.

Sincerely

Linda Stone

4/26/94

Den Ms. Stone:

Just minutes after josting the enclosed note of 4/26, I received your supportive letter which Diane Well and have- Marie Control told me would be forthering. I have also enclosed my original letter of 3/8.

I most coshing would welcome any advice from PANYE and shall try to telephone you at 212-888-3130 or you may neach me at 201-222-8282.

Sonad Shan
30-2209 Newfort Pruy.
Jessy City, NJ 07310

Memorandum To: Anne-Marie Bentarle 4/26/94 Mike Cohn allen Gilbert Edward Platt Diana Well you for were the only respondents to my letter of March 18 Willing for an initiative To nevir and reconstitute our Metopolisa.
NY Chapter of the NYS Archanological Association. All of you were encouraging and most supportive, but 21 other professional avocational, museum and political leaders have not responded. Reason for this non-response could be many, however I do not to the Det. feel that a promised meeting at this time would be very productive. It seems to me that to reach out to the undoubtally many people interested in our gala would require significant resources for a from Arniel, publicity and informational senjaign. Although disappointed I continue to be committed to revering our Chapter and to lending a hand to any reasonable effort in the felice. Any ideas ???? Gordially, 30-2209 Newport Pruy. Juny City NJ 073 10 201-222-8282

CC: Praidat V MB. Gorell, NYSAA

249 E 48th Street, #2B New York, New York 10017

22 April 1994

Ms. Renee Miscione General Services Administration 26 Federal Plaza Jacob K Javits Federal Building New York, New York 10278

Dear Ms. Miscione:

I am writing on behalf of Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC) to relay our interest in viewing the African Burial Ground Archaeological Project video prepared by your agency. We understand that all four parts are now either completed or ready for viewing and that the video was shown at a recent Federal Steering Committee meeting. We would like to arrange a viewing of the video for our membership. As an official interested party, we would like to express our enthusiasm for the production of the video and our support for its distribution. Because of the length of the video, we would have to arrange a membership meeting specifically for the purpose of viewing it, rather than at one of our scheduled business meetings.

Please let me know if viewing of the project video is possible and how we may go about arranging one for our membership. You may reach me at the above address or at (212)888-3130.

Sincerely,

Linda Stone

249 E 48th Street, #2B New York, New York 10017

22 April 1994

Honorable Maurice Hinchey United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515-6201

Ms. Claire Novak
National Coalition for Heritage Areas
P.O. Box 33011
Washington, D.C. 20033-0011

Honorable Bruce F. Vento United States House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515-6201

Dear Ms. Novak and Congressmen Hinchey and Vento:

I am writing on behalf of Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC) to express our support of your efforts to develop a National Heritage Area Legislation. The bill states its purpose "To provide for the preservation, interpretation, development and beneficial use of natural, cultural, historic and scenic resources that are a source of values important to the people of the United States through a national partnership system of heritage areas.". The key phrase is repeated throughout the proposed bill. We are concerned, however, that the word "archaeology" is not included the version of the bill we have read (H.R. 2416). While archaeology is generally subsumed under the phrase "cultural resources" in most existing legislation, it seems that the proposed heritage area legislation provides an opportunity to specifically include archaeology as a named resource in federal legislation which also governs other cultural resources.

Archeological resources also are a "source of values important to the people of the United States", as are historic, scenic and natural resources. Archeological resources are an important component of the three existing National Heritage Corridors and of the New York State Urban Cultural Parks System, all of which are proposed components of the National Partnership of Heritage Areas. Archaeological resources can date from both the prehistoric and historic periods in history. Any action which creates a subsurface impact within a heritage area may potentially adversely affect these important resources.

We see this proposed legislation as a mechanism for raising consciousness with regard to archaeology. We urge you to consider actually naming archaeological resources in any future drafts of the proposed legislation and in the final version of the National Heritage Area Act.

Sincerely,

Linda Stone

249 E 48th Street, #2B New York, New York 10017

13 May 1994

Mr. Brian Nagel, President New York Archaeological Council Rochester Museum of Science 657 East Avenue, Box 1480 Rochester, New York 14603

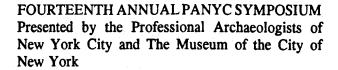
Dear Brian,

I am writing on behalf of the Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC) Events Committee. Attached is a copy of the report which will go in the next PANYC newsletter. We thought your membership might be interested in being informed about or in attending events we list. The listing was conceived as a way of letting our membership know about upcoming events which may be of archaeological interest and to provide an opportunity for members to have interchanges outside of our regular meeting format. We include information on any events within New York City as well as regional conferences. The report is prepared five times a year, for each of our newsletters, and includes events which will take place before the next newsletter is published.

Please let me know if you think the report would be of interest to NYAC members and if you would like to receive future Events Committee Reports.

Sincerely,

Linda Stone



#### TRADES AND MARKETS OF HISTORIC NEW YORK

1:00 - 2:00

#### WELCOME

Linda Stone, Chair, PANYC Public Program 1994

#### CITY ROPEWALKS: A CONFLICT OF NEEDS

Speakers: Betsy Kearns and Cece Kirkorian Historical Perspectives

Ropewalks, the long and narrow shed structures where imported fibers were twisted and turned into rope, dotted New York's early landscape. The first was established in Manhattan in 1719; by 1883 there were fourteen rope manufacturers in Brooklyn alone. But as the city became more crowded its need for growing room came in direct conflict with the ropewalk manufacturers' need for large areas of uninterrupted space. As the nineteenth century progressed, ropewalk complexes adapted to encroaching urban sprawl in various ways in their continuing effort to produce this essential commodity.

#### HEALTH AND HYGIENE IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY GREENWICH VILLAGE

Speaker: Jean Howson

This talk discusses aspects of health and hygiene, both public and private, as reflected in excavated remains from the Sullivan Street site in Greenwich Village. Artifacts such as patent medicine bottles, toothbrushes, and syringes offer a glimpse at how people dealt with day-to-day concerns in a time of changing conceptions of disease, hygiene, and medical practice. Evidence from the excavations shows how public health strategies affected private hygiene as backyard cisterns and privies gave way to city water and sewer systems. Remains from a physician's house and a tenement are compared.

#### UP IN SMOKE: RECOGNIZING THE INVISIBLE

Speaker: Diane Dallal

South Street Seaport Museum

Dutch women played a key role in the making and selling of pipes that reached New York in the 17th century. Their presence has been concealed, however, as a result of reporting biases that distort the reality of pipe production. The literature supports the myth that pipemaking was a male profession when, in fact, it was

an activity practiced by both men and women. Until recently, archaeologists have focused on the chronological aspects of clay tobacco pipes. This paper will demonstrate that urban pipe assemblages can also be use to enhance our understanding of trade networks, ethnicity, gender, and the creation of identity.

15 minute break

2:15 - 3:00

#### **CHANGING TASTES**

Speaker: Marie-Lorraine Pipes Louis Berger & Associates

Almost from its inception, New York City has had a market system where people went to buy fresh produce supplies, as well as animal products. Over time the types of food that people eat has varied and changed. Faunal remains have been found at several sites throughout New York City dating from the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries. Theses bones provide a clear picture of a city rising to meet the dietary needs of its inhabitants by regulating meat markets, and exploiting wildlife resources, and by overseeing the provisioning of the city by outlying farms. Looking at the archaeological record this paper will explore the basic trends in animal consumption from the seventeenth century to the nineteenth century. These trends will be considered in terms of cultural factors and economic forces operating on the system of supply and demand.

#### SHOPPING IN THE WEST VILLAGE - NINETEENTH CENTURY STYLE

Speaker: Nancy Brighton New York University

Nineteenth century descriptions of New York City markets and shops provide a list of a wide variety of items, many from exotic locales, that were available for purchase. Most of these shops were located in and around residential areas, making these products accessible to many households. The excavation of a nineteenth century privy at 153 West 12th Street yielded a large number of artifacts, such as plates, teacups, coffee beans, and bottles, which were originally purchased in New York City, possibly from merchants located on adjacent Sixth and Seventh Avenues. The purpose of this paper is to look at these items and the locations of stores in the neighborhood surrounding West 12th Street to see where the residents may have shopped for these goods, and to determine what others, that were not recovered from the feature, may have also been available.

#### U.S. Tries to Hide Indian Ruins From Intruders

#### By BARRY MEIER Special to The New York Times

HOLLY RUINS, Colo. — Forget about finding this place on a road map ever again. And don't bother looking for Cutthroat Castle nearby.

These and three other groups of tumbledown stone towers used more than 600 years ago by Anasazi Indians — the Hackberry, Horseshoe and Cajon Ruins, a few bumpy miles from here — are also set to slip beneath the cartographic sands of time.

Maps have long given the traveler and armchair explorer alike a guide to a region's peaks and rivers, pinpointing cities as well as spots of historic and cultural interest. But as tourists, looters and nature lovers increasingly pour into the West, Federal agencies and others are working to remove some archeological sites and other places of interest from maps in the hope that people will pass them by or be forced to register with those supervising the ruins before visiting them.

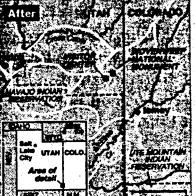
#### **Rough Love**

Take the case of Holly Ruins, which like neighboring sites is an unguarded, outlying part of Hovenweep National Monument, an archaeological park that straddles the border of Colorado and Utah. The number of people visiting here has doubled, to 30,000, in the last five years.

"People are loving these ruins to death," said Ellen K. Foppes, a National Park Service official and the superintendent of Hovenweep, who noted that some tourists were even sleeping inside the ruins.

As a result, Federal officials here asked the Automobile Club of Southern California last year to remove Holly and the four other outlying Hovenweep sites from the next edition of its "Indian Country" guide, which





The New York Times

A new tourist map (bottom) of the Hovenweep National Monument omits the Indian ruins.

will will be available this summer. The road map is a popular tourist guide to the Four Corners region of the Southwest, so detailed that it is used by the fictional Navajo police heroes of the mystery novels written by Tony Hillerman.

The Hovenweep sites are not the

# New maps of the West won't show where archeological treasurers are.

only ones scheduled to be excised from road maps this season. Layna Browdy, a spokeswoman for the Automobile Club, which is based in Los Angeles, said her organization was also complying with a request to remove from the Indian Country map the location of the Awatobi ruins, which lie just east of the Hopi reservation in northeastern Arizona.

Soon, the motor club will also stop showing the location of two petroglyphs on its area map of San Bernardino County, Calif. Ms. Browdy said Federal officials were concerned about possible damage to the wall carvings.

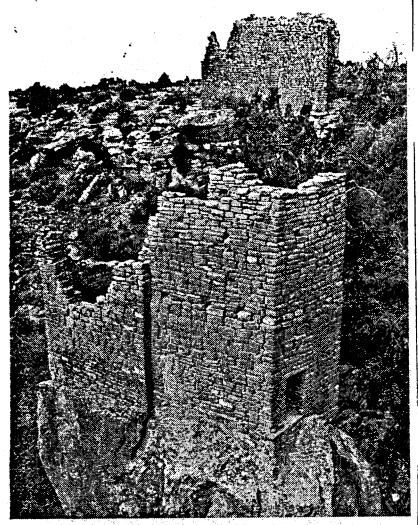
The effort to hide the location of archeological sites has arisen from a \$70 ving concern of Federal authorities and researchers in recent years, one far more worrisome than tourism — looting. Under Federal law, Government officials may keep secret the location of a historic ruin and may reject efforts to use the Freedom of Information Act to prize disclosure of it. It is also now commonplace for Federal and state authorities to keep mum about the precise location of new finds.

Recently, for example, when officials of the Bureau of Land Management made a public presentation about the "Mesa" find, an ancient Indian hunting camp in Alaska, they described its whereabouts only in general terms. Though Mesa lies 200 miles from the nearest road and can be visited only by helicopter, agency researchers said such obstacles would not dissuade determined looters.

ers.
"You don't want to encourage people to go out of their way," said Marilyn Nickels, who heads the bureau's Division of Cultural Management

But the Government has unwittingly proven to be its own worst enemy in the matter, thanks largely to the activities of the nation's map-making agency, the United States Geological Survey. After decades of surveying the nation's contours and visual land-

continues . - .



To protect the sites, Federal officials are planning to remove from maps references to ruins like those at the Hovenweep National Monument, an archaeological park that straddles Colorado and Utah.

marks, the agency produced a trove of directions for treasure-hunters that were available for inspection in about 1,200 academic and public libraries across the country.

"It is not unusual for violators who are caught looting sites to have these maps," said Richard Waldbauer, an archeologist with the National Park Service.

#### **Deletions Now Standard**

Chuck Ogrosky, an official in the national mapping division of the Geological Survey, says that when a particular map is revised any archeological or historic site is deleted unless the responsible agency says otherwise. Though the survey recently tinkered with maps of Colorado, erasing the location of some Anasazi cliff

dwellings, other maps can go decades before such a revision, Mr. Ogrosky

The issue of what should appear on maps has now gone beyond the archeological community to pit longtime Western residents against newcomers. Recently, a small monthly publication, Catalyst, in Salt Lake City carried a diatribe against the author. of a guidebook who had disclosed the location of a little-known route that led through a rock wall into a natural amphitheater in Canyonlands National Park in Utah.

The Park Service, which has a "don't tell unless asked" policy to-ward revealing the location of certain areas, had left the route's location off its maps.

# **Ethnic Cleans**i ld-Fashionec

By R. Brian Ferguson

Dutch lived around here long ago, but few that. Now is a good moment to look back. n April, 1644, the colonists around the town of he three-year conflict ended, the Dutch enterprise know more about the city's early history hree hundred and fifty years ago this month huddled at the tip of Manhattan hose two peoples were locked in mortal struggl EW YORKERS know that Indians nember — or forget New Amsterdam earing

took the Dutch olorer Henry Hudson's risit in 1609 to plant their colony. When some years after ex

comed them, wanting cumstance if nothing else, the two peoples

to trade. By force of cir dians usually wel

they did settle, the In-

colonists meant little or

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From the Dutch

no profit from the col

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England.

unsuccessfully to stim troons), new incentives did succeed in luring late immigration by creating a landed gentry tlers by the  $1640_8$  Around Manhattan, trading furs from Indians most colonists made a living. An increasing num ver of European farmers wanted land, Indian land they were buying sole and permanent ownership the Indians saw the same payments as purchasing ownership clashed with was how a few made money, but farming was hor those of the Europeans. While the Dutch though but not exclusive, and not forever. ndian ideas about land

er, the total population in all of New Netherland

probably did

of Manhattan. Alongside them were

This mutual accommodation was possible only so little. Although the privately owned Dutch West ord to Fort Orange (Albany) to the Delaware Riv-

3ronck, who gave his name to the Bronx -

on widely scattered farms.

secure. Many of the settlers

clashes.

because the poorly administered colony had grown ndia Company claimed land from around Hart

pendent local bands

by the late 1630s the local peace seemed

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treated each other with

ench as

NEW YORK NEWSDAY, FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 1994

# Ethnic Cleansing

- Continued from page A38

flicts over title and trespass multiplied. Settlers' livestock wandered into Indian cornfields, and sometimes wound up as dinner.

In 1638, William Kieft replaced Wouter von Twiller as the company's director of local operations. In the pages of history, Kieft gets no respect. His bravery impugned by contemporaries, his incompetence established by a later inquest, Kieft has taken the rap for starting a futile, disastrous war. But the steps taken toward war were supported by many of New Amsterdam's leading citizens, who wanted to humble the independent Indians.

Trouble brewed in several violent incidents from 1640 on. The flow of new colonists intensifed conflicts over land, and local Indians resented Kieft's unilateral imposition of a tax on them "in peltries, maize, or wampum." When the Raritan Indians were accused (some say falsely) of killing some colonists' pigs on Staten Island, the Dutch killed several Raritan and tortured one of their leaders. The Raritan retaliated by killing four farmers. Three more Dutchmen died in separate incidents. Kieft and a board of citizens decided to make a dramatic show of force at the first opportune moment. That came in February, 1643.

3

dian camp at Corlear's Hook just below the despite strenuous warnings from some among the colonists that they could not win such a war. Near midnight on Feb. 25, 1643, one Dutch party surprised the Indians camped near present-day Liber-Williamsburg Bridge). It was slaughter. Upwards of 200 Indians died that night. In the cold, quiet air, the screams could be heard clear across the Mohawks from upstate, recently victorious over Mahican and flush with firearms, attacked the musketless Wecquaesgeek across the river from Manhattan. When the victims joined the Hacken-Pavonia (now a stop on the PATH line), Kieft and ty State Park, while another attacked a second Insack and sought protection with the patroon at company decided to put their war plans into effect, North (Hudson) River.

Kieft thought the Indians would be cowed into submission by the unprecedented carnage. He was wrong. A terrible war broke out all around New Amsterdam, intermixed with diplomacy and punctuated by uneasy truces during farming seasons. Indian raids in the winters of '43 and '44 drove the Dutch behind the town walls, their bouweries (farms) in flames. New Rochelle, Newark Bay, Gravesend in Brooklyn, and Maspeth, Queens,

were among the sites of bloody surprise attacks. The Dutch retaliated with major expeditions against large settlements, a form of total war entirely unknown to the Indians. The Dutch hired John Underhill, who learned this style of killing from English campaigns against Scots and Irish, and who had helped the Puritans massacre the Pequot Indians in 1637. In two rapid strikes, Dutch forces slaughtered by musket and fire about 120 Canarsee near Hempstead, and more than 500 Indians near Pound Ridge in Westchester.

New Amsterdam itself was torn apart by the

New Amsterdam itself was torn apart by the war. A former ally of Kieft, thinking he was being blamed for starting it, tried to shoot the director in his own home. An hour later, the man's servant tried again. Disillusioned colonists filled the ships returning to Europe. But while Indian warriors outnumbered Dutch by perhaps five to one, their independent local bands could not operate as coordinated units to destroy New Amsterdam. Most did not want to drive out the Dutch, hoping instead to recetablish a peaceable co-existence. Everyne was tired of wer.

On Aug. 30, 1645, under a blue sky, notables of many Indian peoples met at the Dutch fort (the site of the U.S. Customs House). In solemn treaty, both sides agreed to keep the peace, resolve all

grievances by negotiation, administer prompt justice, and not enter the others' settlements with arms. The treaty held for a decade under the new and much more adept director, Peter Stuyvesant. But in 1655, while Stuyvesant was away leading an expedition against the Swedish colony on the Delaware River, a second war broke out.

A heavy-drinking disgruntled former town official killed an Indian woman picking peaches in his orchard, and for a day, a loose coalition of Hudson River Indians rioted in the streets of Manhattan. It got much worse, especially across the Hudson, but ended quickly. A more protracted war involved the Esopus around Kingston in the early 1660s, ending just before the English takeover in 1664.

By the time the English claimed New York, the native people of this area had been devastated by war, disease and liquor. Fewer than a thousand remained on all of Long Island. The once formidable Rockaway were reduced to 10 families. Those who survived saw their cultural identities perish. Ultimately only a few Lenni Lenape (Delaware) bands who migrated west escaped the destruction of the region's Indians. As for Kieft himself, he was recalled to Holland to face charges concerning his war, and died in a shipwreck off the coast of Wales.



Indian canoes and Dutch sailing ships dominate this early view of New Amsterdam.

# 10,000 bodies buried under fairway?

## 1800s plot for quarantine patients may now be 18th hole at Silver Lake

By PAUL M. McPOLIN ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

In 1856, a newspaper editorial complained of a "horrible midnight procession" down the cobble-stone streets of Staten Island.

"In spite of the indignant protests of our people," the twice-weekly Staaten Islander grumbled, "the odious dead carts of the Quarantine have... stolen along our streets at night, loaded with the victims of contagion."

The 19th-century Tompkinsville quarantine was described in terms modern editorial writers reserve for the Fresh Kills landfill. Indeed, it warehoused disease-ridden immigrants who were perceived as little more than human refuse.

The yellowed clipping is a glimpse of the immigration-era mindset, and is a clue for those seeking to learn more about our immigrant fathers and the fates they suffered on Staten Island.

Some Irish-American activists and historians today are trying to determine if the horse-drawn hearses were traveling under the cover of darkness to a graveyard — described as a "patch of low ground" near Clove Road — that later became the 18th fairway of

(See BURIED, Page A 8)

**A8** 

## Buried

(From Page A 1)

Silver Lake Golf Course.

Their question: Was Marine Cemetery, which vanished before the golf course opened in 1929, the main burial site for as many as 10,000 quarantine patients during the late 1840s and 1850s?

There is no question the cemetery existed, but no one knows for sure if it was the final resting place for quarantine patients. In fact, no one knows exactly where any of the tens of thousands of immigrants who died in the rudimentary hospitals were buried.

"The fact that we don't have documentation doesn't mean it doesn't exist," said Borough Historian Richard Dickenson, who believes further study is needed before a conclusion can be reached on Marine Cemetery. "It's hard to prove, but it's hard to disprove."

Early documents point to the existence of several church burial grounds and potters' fields that could have served the penniless patients, but the references are vague and often raise more questions than they answer.

Activists, historians intrigued

There is enough, however, to intrigue Irish-American activists and historians. The majority of quarantine patients in the late 840s and early 1850s — about the time the cemetery first surfaced — are presumed to have been Irish immigrants, since they were the largest and most sickly wave of settlers entering America at the time.

Researchers are still uncovering information on the Irish potato samine which, abetted by English

landlords, caused millions to perish or flee Ireland in those years.

What happened to the destitute travelers on the "coffin ships" and upon landfall in Tompkinsville - haunts their descendants, including Thomas Fawcett, a retired Castleton Corners firefighter whose research spurred local efforts to learn more about of the quarantine immigrants.

Fawcett, an Emerald Society member, has led the drive to establish a monument in Battery Park commemorating the Irish

In anticipation that the existence of unmarked mass graves under the 18th fairway can be confirmed, local Irish-American leaders are already discussing a movement to reconsecrate the ground, or to establish an immigrant memorial. There also has been talk of launching a movement to exhume the remains, if they are proven to exist and if the site is considered anthropologically significant.

When recently informed of the possible existence of an immigrant burial site, Borough Parks Commissioner Thomas Paulo said, "As soon as we get documentation, I will be willing to work with anyone on an appropriate designation of the area.

An Advance inquiry into the mystery became a voyage through local history, beginning with the quarantine's opening in

Long before Ellis Island became an immigrant processing station, Tompkinsville quarantine was the first stop in the Port of New York for foreigners. The

complex of hospitals and shanties was located in a large waterfront tract bounded roughly by Slosson Terrace on the north and what is now Victory Boulevard on the south. It encompassed separate hospitals for small pox and yellow fever, as well as four piers and two graveyards.

Ship could be detained 30 days A quarantine officer would tender out to the ships, ask for an accounting of the dead and talk to the ship's doctor about cases of contagious diseases aboard. If passengers showed signs of sickness, the ship could be detained at the dock for 30 days; ships that appeared "clean" were waved on. The corpses were carried off and the sick - suffering from yellow fever, cholera, typhus, small pox were put in the quarantine's hospitals.

According to eyewitness accounts, as many as 150 ships would clog New York Harbor on a given day waiting for inspection by a

quarantine officer.

Before it was burned to the ground in 1858 by a mob of locals enraged by periodic epidemics and the broken promises of health officials, the quarantine processed hundreds of thousands of immigrants, and treated up to 9,000 per year on its grounds. As many as 1,500 died there every year.

According to "Staten Island and Its People," by Charles W. Leng and William T. Davis, "steerage passengers in those days were packed by hundreds in tiers of bunks down in the holds of the ship. Some of the voyages lasted six weeks, hatches shut down in bad weather, with disease following poor ventilation, stale water and decaying food. Quarantined ships anchored in front of the hospital and the shore were constantly strewn with filth of every

Author Henry David Thoreau, who summered on Emerson Hill in 1843, described the scene this way: "Sixteen hundred immigrants arrived at quarantine ground on the Fourth of July, and more or less every day since I have been here. I see them occasionally washing their persons and clothes: or men, women and children gathered on an isolated quay near the shore, stretching their limbs and taking in the air; the children running races and swinging on this artificial land of liberty, while their vessels are undergoing purification."

There is evidence that by the late 1840s, the two cemeteries within the walled confines of the quarantine were filling up. And local opposition was rising.

"During an extremely sick season," the Staaten Islander wrote, "we had protested against the unchristian and brutal burial of the dead in trenches, three or four deep, the last pile of coffins left entirely uncovered by earth, and exposed to the rays of the sun until

the next day."

No one knows exactly when the quarantine began stealthily carting bodies outside the grounds at night, but some surmise it was during the peak immigration between the late 1840s and 1856, when the first newspaper reference appears. In 1858, the rectangular graveyard - called Marine or Hospital Cemetery, encompassing almost four acres - first appeared on borough maps.

Facts aren't easily known

How long the cemetery operated and how many bodies may have uitimately been buried there is not easily known. According to Stephanie Schmidt, a researcher and director of the Alpine, N.J.based Great Famine Association, Marine Cemetery was one of several sites that were probably used at some point for quarantine dead.

Seguine's Point, between present-day Lemon Creek and Wolfes Pond parks, was a burial ground for yellow fever victims. But it was more heavily used in the late 1800s, when man-made Hoffmann and Swinburne islands became quarantine centers.

St. Peter's R.C. Church in St. George, which ministered to the Irish immigrants and whose founding pastor died from a contagious disease apparently contracted in the quarantine, also may have taken some bodies. The church has no death certificates from that time, however.

The Reformed Church of Tompkinsville, which later became Brighton Heights Reformed Church, also was known to minister to quarantine patients. They

were associated with a man named Cooper, who later opened a graveyard across Victory Boulevard from Marine Cemetery that became Silver Mount Cemetery.

Entrepreneurs also may have opened small graveyards to gain i government contracts for disposing corpses. There also are vague references to a crematorium near the quarantine.

# Burial ground under fairway? It seems so

#### **Location matches** 1849 description

By PAUL M. McPOLIN ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

A key clue in the mystery of Marine Cemetery — a long-lost graveyard that is now the 18th fairway of Silver Lake Golf Course — has been uncovered by a New Jersey researcher.

Local historians and Irish-American leaders are trying to confirm that the cemetery was the main burial ground for the 19th-century Marine Hospital Quarantine in Tompkinsville, and whether it still holds the remains of thousands of immigrants.

Long before Ellis Island, the waterfront complex was the first landfall in the New World for immigrants entering the Port of New York. Tens of thousands of immigrants, including famine families from Ireland who crossed the Atlantic in "coffin ships" in the late 1840s and early 1850s, were treated there. More than 8,000 immigrants are believed to have died in its hospitals and shanties from contagious diseases between 1847 and 1858.

Until now there was no official documentation linking Marine Cemetery, a four-acre graveyard off Victory Boulevard that vanished when the golf course was built in 1928, to the quarantine.

But 19th-century newspaper references, old maps and local popular history pointed to that conclu-

 Spurred by an Advance inquiry, Stephanie Schmidt, director of the Alpine, N.J.-based Great Famine Association, which examines the history of the Irish diaspora, recently located annual reports of the state commissioners of emigration. They represent the first solid evidence that quarantine patients, perhaps thousands, were buried under what is now a municipal golf course.

An 1850 entry reads: "By the 5th section of the Act of 10, April 1849, the commissioners of emigration were bound, as soon as practical after the passage of said law, to prepare a new burial ground for the Marine Hospital and cease burials on the old ground.

"After many fruitless attempts to secure a favorable and unobjectionable ground, the commissioner succeeded in buying four acres of land in the township of Castleton, Staten Island, so situated to be at the greatest distance from an inhabited neighborhood and over 40 rods [600 feet] from the nearest public road and yet not more than about one mile distant from the Marine Hospital.

'About half of this ground has been enclosed by a high Close fence with well-secure gates inside of which all burials have

(See BURIAL, Page A 2)

#### (From Page A 1)

taken place since the 15th of August last ... The commissioners believe that by this arrangement to have satisfied on this point all reasonable wishes of the inhabitants of the neighborhood of the Marine Hospital.'

The commissioners, however, badly underestimated the rancor of community opposition. In 1856, the Staaten Islander newspaper complained about the "horrible midnight procession ... of the odious dead carts of quarantine" as horse-drawn hearses made their way up the hill to Silver Lake. The editorial lauded a local blockade of the quarantine station and, two years later, an angry mob burned the complex to the ground.

With the quarantine destroyed, the 1860 annual report showed the commissioners recommending the sale of Marine Cemetery, as well as a yellow-fever burial ground at Seguine's Point in Prince's Bay.

The entries clear up several murky questions. It confirms that a four-acre site in Castleton was the main burial ground for the massive quarantine operation. This site is unquestionably Marine Cemetery, since it was the only four-acre graveyard in Castleton situated about 600 feet from the neerest fold. The cemetery was about a mile and a half from the quarantine, which was located between Slosson Terrace and what is now Victory Boulevard.

The reports strongly suggest that Marine Cemetery was in use a minimum of nine years — from August 15, 1849, until at least Sept. 2, 1858, when the quarantine was torched. Its use may well have continued past the arson, when the city established a quarantine ship in New York Harbor.

The time span is important because it offers clues to how many people are possibly buried at Silver Lake, and to their origins. The reports say that 8,300 people died in quarantine between 1847 and In the absence of hard evidence, however. Marine Cemetery — which was situated less than two miles from the quarantine station, and was isolated and quite large — is the most obvious site.

Even if Marine Cemetery at Silver Lake was utilized for only 10 years, and conservatively estimating that only 500 bodies were buried there each year, the 18th fairway may be the final resting place for 5,000 immigrants. Most of them are probably Irish, with a significant number of Germans, mixed in. Heavy German immigration began in the early 1850s.

What happened to Marine Cemetery is the biggest mystery of all. The Parks Department took title to the Silver Lake Golf Course land in 1928, but its borough superintendents' reports from 1928 through 1930, when the remains presumably would have been found, mentions nothing about graves.

Confusing the issue is Davis' documentation of 33 headstones at Marine Cemetery in 1888. The monuments were for American sailors who died in quarantine, Davis claimed. While Davis' writings confirm the existence of the cemetery, the historian may have underestimated the graveyard's scope. Why, for example, would a four-acre cemetery contain only 33 graves? Perhaps because most of the quarantine immigrants were penniless, either had no family in America or had not yet located them, and could not have afforded markers.

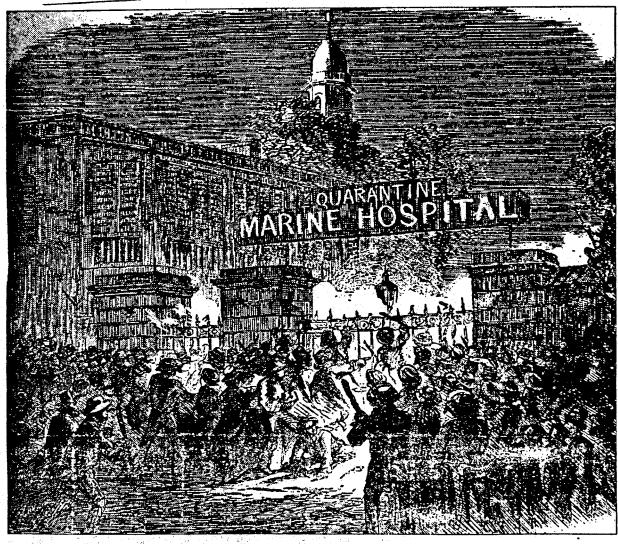
The best available information comes from a 1939 Advance story detailing the Silver Lake Park "tombstone mystery." A Parks Department official is quoted as saying that the Davis-described tombstones were removed from the weed-choked tract when the golf course was being built in 1927.

Most importantly, however, is the officials' assertion that the bones were never molested and were probably simply sodder over. If the remains of 30-ode Americans are still under the 18t' fairway, chances are the bones c perhaps thousands of immigrants which Davis did not know existed are too.

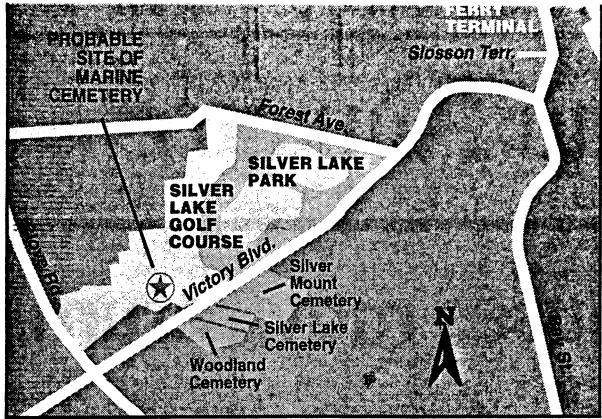
William Reilly of Great Kills district director of the Ancien Order of Hibernians and a member of the state board, wants to know for sure.

"I'm not saying we're going to dig it up and make it a Holocaust Museum, but I would like to see something there in memory of the people who came over," he said.

William Counihan, a Hibernian official from Dongan Hills, agreed. "They walked into the arms of death," he said.



Before it was burned to the ground in 1858 by a mob of locals enraged by periodic epidemics and the broken promises of health officials, the Quarantine Marine Hospital processed hundreds of thousands of immigrants, and treated up to 9,000 per year on its grounds. As many as 1,500 died there every year.



Assuming that an average of 800 people died at the station each year, the bones of 7,000 bodies could be beneath the 18th fairway.

Important questions remain. Who were these people? Where did they come from? Are the remains still there? If they are, what should be done about them?

Without patient registers or burial records, it is impossible to know exactly who died in quarantine. It is presumed that most were Irish, since they were the largest and most sickly wave of settlers entering America at the time. A significant number of German immigrants were also processed there.

Researchers believe Marine Cemetery was probably a potter's field where immigrants, most of whom had no family or ones who could not afford markers, were buried in coffins piled in trenches three and four deep. The more fortunate were probably laid to rest in small private cemeteries and church graveyards that dotted the North Shore.

No one knows for sure if bodies are still there. A Parks Department official, in a 1939 Advance interview, claimed that during the golf course's construction in the late 1920s several gravestones were removed but no bones were touched. The park commissioner's annual reports from 1928 to 1930 make no mention of gravestones or corpses.

Since an Advance report last week first publicized the mystery, some historians have joined the search for answers.

Vince Sweeney, the curator of history at the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences, St. George, where much of the circumstantial evidence was first unearthed, said the mystery has sparked enough local interest to warrant investigation.

"I'm in the process of contacting the New York State Archives," Sweeney said last week. "We're going to start our search this afternoon."

"I think this [new] information ... really does confirm this," he added. "We're going to try to get names and numbers. We want to get as much information as we can to add to our collection. This has generated a lot of interest."

William Reilly, of Great Kills, a state official of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, said he has begun his own inquiry and that the state and national organizations are being notified of developments. Local Hibernians are already discussing ways to recognize the site and the people who may be buried there.

Borough Park Commissioner Thomas Paulo said if documentation is secured he "would be willing to work with anyone on an appropriate designation of the area." ADVANCE MAP/SUSAN MCDERMOTT

Ms. Schmidt, who has been researching the the Irish Famine for five years, is grateful the mass tragedy in Ireland — and the fates the immigrants suffered in Tompkinsville — is finally getting the public's attention.

"It's not as glamorous as a cliffside in Ireland overlooking the Atlantic," she said. "I have a feeling if it wasn't in a Staten Island golf course but in the middle of Central Park, it would be more interesting" to others.

"The Irish famine happened and was quickly forgotten," she said. "It's only now, 150 years later, that people are actually acknowledging what happened."

She said part of the reason so little is known about the Marine Cemetery, or the plight of Irish immigrants in general, is that it entails delving into the "dark side" of American history.

While Ellis Island has been reborn as a polished monument to the promise and hope of an immigrant nation, yellowed newspaper clippings and a golf course are all that remain of what was once considered New York's albatross.

"It shows how difficult and horrible the conditions were for those who came over," she said. "And they came over in droves anyway because things were so desperate."

# PANYC EVENTS COMMITTEE REPORT

EVENT	SPEAKER	TIME	DATE	LOCATION	PHONE #	FEE
Society of Industrial Archaeology Conference			Thurs 6/2 - Sun 6/5	Toronto	613-730-0932	
The Rape of Europa: Europe's treasures in the Third Reich and World War II	Lyn Nicholas	1:30pm	Sun 6/5	Metropolitan Museum of Art: Rogers Auditorium	212-570-3949	free with admission
Lecture series on New York City Archaeology		6:30pm	6/7,14,21	Abigail Adams Smith Museum, 421 E 61 St	212-838-6878	\$\$
The History of New York's Water Supply System	Sydney S. Horenstein	7:00-8:30pm	'Thurs 6/9	American Museum of Natural History	212-769-5305	\$25 for both
A Billion Year Odyssey-New York's Geology			Thurs 6/16			
Native American Films and concert		6:00 or 7:00pm	Tues. 6/21	Cooper Hewitt Museum	212-860-6321	free
The Tribe called Wannabe: American Indians by Design (lecture and concert)	Rayna Green	e:00pm	Tues 6/28	Cooper Hewitt Museum	212-860-6321	free
Images Before Us: the American Indian (lecture and concert)	Beverly R. Singer	6:00pm	Tues 7/12	Cooper Hewitt Museum	212-860-6321	free
Bronx bridge and industry bus tour	Tom Flagg		Sun 7/17		Bierce Riley 201-455-0491	
Red Path Design (lecture and concert)	Richard Walthers	6:00pm	Tues 7/19	Cooper Hewitt Museum	212-860-6321	free
Manhattan by the Sea architectural cruise	Laurie Beckelman	7:00-10:00pm	Wed. 7/20	West 42 St. Pier (Cooper Hewitt Museum)	212-860-6321	\$35 member \$45 non
Royal Tombs of Sipan	Exhibit		6/24 - 1/1/95	American Museum of Natural History	212-769-5100	Special admission
Native American Heritage - 12,000 Years in Queens County	Exhibit		7/15- October	Queensboro Community College Art Gallery	718-631-6396	
The Hero Twins of Ancient Maya	Exhibit		Thru 9/2	Metropolitan Museum of Art		
AIA meeting and lecture			Week of 9/19	ТВА	212-865-2102	

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.



### New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189

518-237-8643

#### Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau Survey Questionnaire

The Field Services Bureau is undertaking the development of a long-term Historic Preservation Plan, the first comprehensive plan in twenty years. This plan must be completed by June 1995. Please answer the following questions to help us plan for the future and gauge our success at meeting our mission and goals. Please return it to Vic DiSanto, Program Analyst, OPRHP, Peebles Island, P.O. Box 189, Waterford, NY 12188. Thank you for your help.

#### Mission Statement

The mission of the Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau is to advocate the preservation of New York's historic and cultural heritage through the identification, evaluation, registration, and protection of its significant buildings, structures, objects, places, and landscapes.

#### Goals

To promote the use, reuse, and conservation of significant properties for the pleasure, education, inspiration, welfare, recreation, prosperity, and enrichment of the public.

To protect, enhance, and preserve those resources which are significant to New York's diverse history and culture.

To foster pride in our collective heritage by education and advocacy, in active partnership with public and private organizations, schools and institutions.

To coordinate state and federal preservation programs through consultation with individuals, organizations, and governmental agencies.

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air Good	d Very Good	Excellent
2 3	4	5

the quality of our Survey and Planning program?	1	2	3	4	5
the quality of our Environ- mental review program?	1	2	3	4 1 4 4	5
the quality of our library?	1	2	· · · · <b>3</b>	<b>. 4</b>	5
the courtesy and helpful- ness of our staff?	1	2	3	4	5
the knowledge of our staff?	1	2	. 3	4	5
Overall, how well do you feel we lived up to the promises and commitments of our mission?	1	2	3	<b>4</b>	5

Based on your needs, what types of historic preservation programs or workshops would you consider useful? (Check all that apply.)

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation and its application to historic landscapes.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation and its application to archaeological sites.

Historic Preservation Grant Programs.

National Register of Historic Places. The National Register program is a recognized and visible component of local planning, and benefits the state by promoting tourism, economic development and appreciation of historic resources.

Survey and Planning. The Survey and Planning Program is fundamental to comprehensive planning and registration activities. Surveys assist land-use planning efforts by enabling FSB to evaluate historic significance and identify threatened property and building types.

What can SHPO do to promote public awareness concerning archaeology?

What archaeological resources are threatened in your community?

Who do you go for information on archaeological sites?

If you have ever used the SHPO library, have you found it well-organized and easy to use?

Would accessibility to site information via GIS be useful?

What issues would you like to see addressed in the plan or in future questionaires?

Do you have any additional comments?

Do you want to be put on the State Plan public meeting mailing list?

#### **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. At least six weeks of professionally supervised archaeological field training and four weeks of supervised laboratory analysis and/or curation experience are required. Requirements for both field and laboratory analysis may be 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. All members receive the Newsletter and other PANYC publications.
- 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. PANYC is not an accrediting organization and is not to be used as such.

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 with your resume or CV and statement of purpose to John Killeen, PANYC Secretary, 3235 Hull Ave., Bronx, NY 10467.

NAME

BUSINESS

HOME

ADDRESS

Please indicate preferred mailing address and check below as appropriate.

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

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

Amount of additional donation to PANYC

Signature