



PANYC



Professional Archaeologists of New York City – Newsletter

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I. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the year winds down, and the cold weather sets in, here is a quick update about some of what has been going on since the last newsletter.

A PANYC committee has begun working on a special publication featuring one of our founding members. All of us are very excited about this project and hope to share some details in the next newsletter issue.

The By-Laws committee continues to refine the potential updates and in 2014 the membership will have their chance to review and comment on the proposals.

The upcoming SHA Conference will be held in Québec City in January. There are two sessions featuring New York City archaeologist, including several PANYC members. We hope many of you will be attending.

Until then have a warm, safe and happy holiday season. Be sure to enjoy the merry and best to all in the New Year.

The next regularly scheduled PANYC meeting is Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at 6:30pm at The Neighborhood Preservation Center. We look forward to seeing you there!

II. MEETING MINUTES

PANYC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

May 15, 2013

Neighborhood Preservation Center

232 East 11th Street

New York, NY

6:30 PM

Present: Britt, Cantwell, Geismar, Linn, Loorya, MacLean, Meade, Pickman, Rakos, Ricciardi, Rothschild, Stone, Wall

President's Report: Loorya announced that PANYC has received 5 new member applications.

Secretary's Report: Linn will send out a copy of the March General Meeting minutes via email for approval. Linn thanked Geismar for her excellent job taking the March minutes on Linn's behalf.

During the Board meeting, Linn suggested setting up a Google Docs or Dropbox account for PANYC so that there is one central place for current membership lists, documents, etc. for Board members to share. Britt and MacLean pointed out that Dropbox works better for Mac users and that it might be a more secure site than Google Docs. The Board agreed this was a good idea, and MacLean will set up an account.

Treasurer's Report: Geismar reported on behalf of Spritzer that, as of 4/30/13, PANYC had 33 paid members and \$3697.11 in the bank.

Committee Reports:

Archive: Geismar reminded members that PANYC's archives are formally at the City Hall Library downtown; a copy of each newsletter is currently sent to that library. There are some materials (a static archive), however, at the South Street Seaport Museum (SSM). We need to decide what to do with these materials at the SSM.

By-Laws: Stone reported that the By-Laws Committee has suggested that any changes that the committee has put forth that the Board did not reach a consensus about should be revisited before being presented to the General Membership. The Committee also suggests discussion of two new issues. 1. Elections: In the past more people have been asked to run for election to the Board than there are seats, leading to some people losing in the election, an exclusionary practice that should be reconsidered. This process and the nominating procedure, in general, will be discussed and possibly changed. 2. The question of who can attend PANYC general membership meetings has been raised recently and should be discussed as well.

It was suggested that the Board have another separate meeting to discuss these and other issues related to the by-laws before the September meeting.

Education: Britt has volunteered to join Linn and MacLean on the Education committee, and the three plan to meet sometime over the summer to discuss possible outreach strategies.

Event Planning: Loorya proposed forming a new committee to coordinate PANYC events for upcoming General Membership Meetings. Loorya and Ricciardi volunteered for this committee. The Outreach Committee was eliminated due to inactivity. It was thought that the Event Planning Committee could take on some of the responsibilities of the Outreach Committee, since a major goal of the Event Planning Committee is to increase membership and encourage more members to attend meetings through talks and events.

HHT: Linn related that she receives emails from the HHT about their events and asked if members were interested in them. Members said they were and that Linn should forward the announcements to Martin for the PANYC calendar of events. Members also asked Linn to email Frank Vagnone, Executive Director of the Trust, to ask if the Trust might need more interns.

LPC: Geismar reported that Sutphin is aware that the NYC Dept. of Health laws about burials, requiring archaeologists to employ funeral directors to transport archaeological human remains, is problematic for archaeologists.

Membership: Five new members have applied to PANYC, Camille Czerkowicz, Diane George, Eva Hulse, and Timothy Kotlensky, and Theodor Maghrak. All were approved, one with the provision that he will not become a member officially until he completes his MA at the end of the summer, so as to fulfill all of PANYC's requirements for membership.

Met Chapter: Rothschild and Wall are the new co-presidents of the chapter. The next Met Chapter event is on Tuesday, May 21st. Joe Schuldenrein will speak at Columbia University (951 Schermerhorn Ext.) at 6pm. In September, Jean Howson will speak about her work in Newark. There is also a plan in the works for a chapter trip before the end of the month to the Seneca Village exhibit at City College and to the exhibit about the need for a repository for NYC's archaeological finds at Columbia.

Newsletter: Members thanked Ricciardi for another excellent newsletter. Ricciardi encouraged members to contribute to the newsletter. He hopes especially to include short updates about current fieldwork. Please send him a paragraph or two and a photo.

The costs to produce the newsletter are now very low, because almost all of the members have elected to receive electronic copies. Only 3 copies are sent in hardcopy by mail.

NYAC: Stone reported that she and Geismar attended the last NYAC meeting in Watertown, NY. The program focused on the state burial bill. Mackey (former senior scientist with the OPRHP) and Anderson (head of the NYAC committee about the bill) spoke. Sutphin also shared her comments. Each of the three gave their own personal opinions about the bill; they were not representing the agencies for which they work.

The current draft of the bill is problematic for many reasons. Primarily, it does not address the funeral director issue. Anderson will be meeting with Assemblyman Englebright's staff to discuss PANYC's and NYAC's concerns about the bill. Anderson is optimistic and believes that the committee in charge of revising the bill will address our concerns and reissue a draft of the bill. The new version of the bill has more supporters in the legislature than the earlier version.

Anderson and Mackey suggested that PANYC, NYAC, and other archaeological organizations in the state provide a letter of support to Assemblyman Englebright, when the bill incorporates the changes that NYAC and PANYC have recommended. Stone suggests that both PANYC as an organization and members of PANYC as individuals send a letter of support. The latter are especially important. NYAC will put together a template that Stone will distribute to PANYC members once Anderson meets with Englebright's staff and has a better sense of the direction the bill is headed.

Stone reminded members that the next NYAC meeting is in the fall in Albany. The theme will be archaeology related to disaster and emergency management issues.

Parks: Geismar reports that there has been some debate about what to do with the headstone that was uncovered during her excavation of Washington Square Park. There is some concern that it would rapidly degrade if displayed outdoors.

Public Program: Members thanked Loorya for organizing this year's successful public program. There were approximately 104 attendees. A few people reportedly went to the South Street Seaport Museum, because they did not know about or remember the change in venue. Members pointed out that next year we should make sure that the curtain on the stage does not obstruct presenters from seeing their own slides.

Repository: Geismar reports that the former space of NY Unearthed, which had been a potential repository site, is no longer a possibility because it was so badly damaged by Hurricane Sandy. It was totally flooded and would have to be completely gutted and rebuilt.

The idea of using Fort Totten seems to have evaporated.

Rothschild's Museum MA students' exhibit at Columbia is about the need for a repository. Geismar said that it is a wonderful and well-presented exhibit that everyone should go to see.

Website: Loorya reports that the email account connected to the PANYC website only has 1MB of capacity and was therefore put out of order when someone sent a large attachment. A few people told Loorya at the Public Program this year that they had tried to email PANYC and their emails were returned as undeliverable. Loorya thus suggests we update our account to one with greater capacity. Pickman will research other plans. Britt and Loorya volunteered to work on the website committee. Current website committee members are thus Pickman (chair), Stone, Rakos, Britt, and Loorya.

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Hedy Page's Paintings and Memorabilia: Cantwell related that Hetty Page came to the Public Program and inquired about contacting archaeologists who had worked at the Five Points site to help her complete a painting she made of the excavation. She is a painter of archaeological sites who lives in Long Beach. Cantwell says that her paintings are beautiful and that the MCNY has one.

On each of her paintings, Page lists the names of the archaeologists she depicts, but she is having trouble completing the Five Points painting. She has completed outlines of figures and has photographs of faces of the archaeologists, but needs help putting together the faces with the bodies. She also hopes that the archaeologists will be willing to write about some of their reflections about the site.

According to Cantwell and Stone, Page has a whole archive of things from the archaeological sites she had painted, such as menus, newspaper articles, and photos, and that a museum might be interested in archiving it. Stone related that Page told her at the Public Program that Page was worried that all of her memorabilia might be destroyed in the next big storm by flooding at her house. Page also said that she thought there should be some kind of educational program about archaeology outside of schools for children, because she is always so inspired by the enthusiasm of children for archaeology.

Cantwell suggests that PANYC help Page to show her work, perhaps at next year's public program or at a place like Fraunces Tavern. Loorya suggested an online exhibit of Page's work, where archaeologists who worked on the Five Points site could contribute. Loorya volunteered to photograph Page's paintings. Members believed that a combination of an online and offline exhibit would be ideal, and perhaps the MCNY would be interested, because they already have one of her paintings. The SSM might be another good venue, given that a lot of Page's paintings are of sites downtown.

The newly formed Event Planning Committee will pursue these ideas. Cantwell will send Loorya Page's contact information.

2. Meeting dates for 2013-2014:

September 12th (Thursday)

November 12th (Tuesday)

January 15th (Wednesday)

March 20th (Thursday)

May 20th (Tuesday)

Meeting adjourned at 7:30PM

Respectfully submitted by Meredith Linn, PANYC Secretary.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

2013-2014 Scheduled Meeting Dates

September 12, 2013, Thursday
November 12, 2013, Tuesday
January 15, 2014, Wednesday
March 20, 2014, Thursday
May 20, 2014, Tuesday

Current Board Members (2013-2014):

President: Alyssa Loorya

Vice President: Linda Stone

Secretary: Meredith Linn

Treasurer: Shelly Spritzer

Board Members: Kelly Britt
Anne-Marie Cantwell
Joan Geismar
Jessica Striebel-Maclean
Lynn Rakos

Past President: Christopher Ricciardi

To Contact any Officer or Board Member please email: info@panyarchaeology.com

IV. Recent LPC Approved Reports

AECOM.

- 2013a Phase IB Archaeological Boring Survey for the New York Proton Center East Harlem, Manhattan, NY. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.
- 2013b Phase 1A Archaeological Survey Report LaGuardia Airport Central Terminal Building Redevelopment Queens Borough New York City. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.
- 2013c Addendum Phase 1A Archaeological Survey Report LaGuardia Airport Central Terminal Building Redevelopment Queens Borough New York City. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.

AKRF.

- 2013a Phase 1B Archaeological Survey - Bronx Zoo Parking Lot and Roadway Improvements: Jungle World Road, Bronx, New York, SHPO Project Review Number: 08PR01059, LPC Project Number: NLA/106-X.
Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.
- 2013b Phase 1A Archaeological Documentary Study, Capital Project SEQ200464: College Point West Outfall and Infrastructure Improvements, Queens County, New York. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.

Archaeology Resource Services.

- 2013 Phase 1A Archaeological Investigation Halletts Court 8-28 28th Avenue Astoria, New York. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.

Bergoffen, Celia J.

- 2013 Phase IA Archaeological Assessment, Astoria Cove, Block 906, Lot 12, and Block 909, Lot 35, Borough of Queens, New York. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.

Chrysalis Archaeological Consultants, Inc.

- 2013 Phase 1A Historical Documentary Report and Archaeological Assessment of the Reconstruction of the Parking Lot and Comfort Station located at Totten Avenue and the Cross Island Parkway (aka Little Bay Park), Queens, (Queens County), New York (A010-112-M)). Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.

Chrysalis Archaeological Consultants, Inc. and URS Corporation.

- 2013 City Hall Rehabilitation: Archaeological Project 2010-2011. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.

Geismar, Joan.

- 2013 Removal of Intrusions from the Burial Ground of the Flushing Meeting House of the Religious Society of Friends, 137-16 Northern Boulevard (Block 4977, Lot 26), Flushing, Queens. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.

Geismar, Joan H. and Geoarchaeology Research Associates, Inc.

- 2013 Geoarchaeological Assessment of Soil Sediments from 85-15 Queens Boulevard (Block 1549, Lots 28 and 41), Elmhurst, Queens County, New York: An Archaeological Mitigation. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.

Historical Perspectives, Inc.

- 2013a Phase 1A Archaeological Documentary Study Worth Street Reconstruction, Centre Street to Mott Street, New York, New York. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.

- 2013b Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study – Fort George Hill Mixed Use Development Project, Block 2170, Lots 180 and 190, Manhattan, New York. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.

- 2013c Phase IA Archaeological Documentary Study - 1 Maspeth Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11211 Block 2892, Lot 1 (former Lots 2, 3, and 6) - LPC # Board of Standards and Appeals / 12BSA101K. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.

Hunter Research, Inc.

- 2013 Preliminary Archaeological Assessment Central Park Forts Landscape Reconstruction Project. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.

Langan Engineering.

- 2013 Gowanus Canal Bulkhead and Cribbing Documentation at Carroll Gardens, 365 Bond Street and 400 Carroll Street, Brooklyn, New York. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.

RBA Group.

- 2013 Archaeological Documentary Study for the West Thames Street, Pedestrian Bridge. Report on file with the City of New York – Landmarks Preservation Commission. New York, New York.

V. Report From The Field

Geoarcheology Research Associates (GRA) is currently in the analysis phase of the Riverside 2 Project, on the Upper West Side. GRA's team of archaeologists is in the process of interpreting the cultural landscape of the Riverside project area and the surrounding neighborhood. A total of approximately 10,000 artifacts were recovered from the project area. GRA has established a base timeline for the stratigraphic context and is currently analyzing artifact types and sediments.

The majority of archaeological findings were housed in a complex of historic sediments, some of which are traditionally classified as "fill". In many cases the presence of intact stratigraphic units and primary sediment matrices underscored the integrity of historic features that dated to the mid-late 19th century and earlier. Important features include a small harbor dating to the early 19th century, traces of the Hudson River Railroad, a dense deposit of household and manufacturing waste (including well-preserved leather and bone artifacts) from the mid-late 19th century, and the remains of the Union Stockyards. Project data have been entered into ArcGIS to allow for spatial and temporal reconstructions. GRA is looking forward to continuing this historical analysis, and contributing to the preservation of urban landscape history.



VI. UPCOMING EVENTS

Event	Location	Date	Contact
Brooklyn Abolitionists: In Pursuit of Freedom	Brooklyn Historical Society	Ongoing through 2018	http://brooklynhistory.org/exhibitions/currency.html
Photographs of New York City Landmarks	Brooklyn Historical Society	October 2013 through May 2014	http://brooklynhistory.org/exhibitions/currency.html
The Gilded City: Beaux Arts New York	Museum of the City of New York	November 21, 2013 at 6:30pm	http://www.mcny.org/event/gilded-city-beaux-arts-new-york
From Dutch Traders to Yankee Merchants	New York Historical Society	November 24, 2013 at 5pm	http://www.nyhistory.org/programs/dutch-traders-yankee-merchants
How Plants Domesticated Humans	American Museum of Natural History	December 4, 2013 at 6:30pm	http://www.amnh.org/learn-teach/adults/scicafe/scicafe-how-plants-domesticated-humans
Charleston's Unknown Black Cemetery	Archaeological Institute of American – Staten Island – Wagner College	December 8, 2013 at 8pm	http://www.archaeological.org/events/13417
American Anthropological Association – Annual Conference	Chicago, IL	November 20- 24, 2013	http://www.aaanet.org/meetings/index.cfm
Society for Historical Archaeology – Annual Conference	Quebec City, Canada	January 7-12, 2014	http://www.sha2014.com/
Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology – Annual Conference	Long Branch, NJ	November 7- 10, 2014	

NOTE: to view the web page please move your mouse over the highlights blue web address, hold down the “Ctrl” (i.e Control) key and click on your mouse at the same time. Your web browser will automatically open to the web page.

VII. MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP/NEWSLETTER/INFORMATION:

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:

Meredith Linn,
PANYC Secretary
Email: mbl2002@columbia.edu

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE: _____

ZIP (+ FOUR): _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Please indicate preferred mailing address and check below as appropriate.

I wish to apply for membership to PANYC, which includes subscription to the Newsletter, and would like to receive the application form (\$15) ____

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

I wish to make an additional donation to PANYC ____

I wish to receive the PANYC Newsletter in digital (e-format) ____

I wish to receive the PANYC Newsletter in printed (mailed) form ____

The PANYC Membership package can be found at: www.panycarchaeology.org

If you have any questions please email: info@panycarchaeology.org