

Archaeotext

The Newsletter of the Norwalk Community College
Archaeology Club and
The Archaeology As An Avocation Program



Wetmore Collection, Norwalk Coast

Club Meetings – Spring Academic Semester



Save These Dates! -

March 12 - Thurs 8:00 pm -

**Bronze Age Burial Mounds,
Mummies from the Gobi**

April 2 - Thurs 8:00 pm -

**The Rise and Fall of Angkor:
Recent Research in Cambodia**

**March 12 - Thursday 8:00 pm
GenRe Foun – East Campus
Bronze Age Burial Mounds,
Mummified Remains from the Gobi
Dr. Bruno Frohlich
The Smithsonian**

**April 2 - Thursday - 8:00 pm
Culinary Arts Dining Room - West Campus
The Rise and Fall of Angkor:
A Report on Recent Research in Cambodia
Dr. Douglas O'Reilly
Yale University**

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The Smithsonian Institution has been conducting Archaeological research in Mongolia since 2003. Dr. Bruno Frohlich, a Smithsonian research scientist has focused on ancient and recent Mongolian mortuary practices and the forensic reconstruction of biological histories. His project is multi-disciplinary and represents the collaborative research between the Smithsonian Institution, the Mongolian Academy of Sciences and several universities from New Zealand, Denmark, the U.S.A., and England.

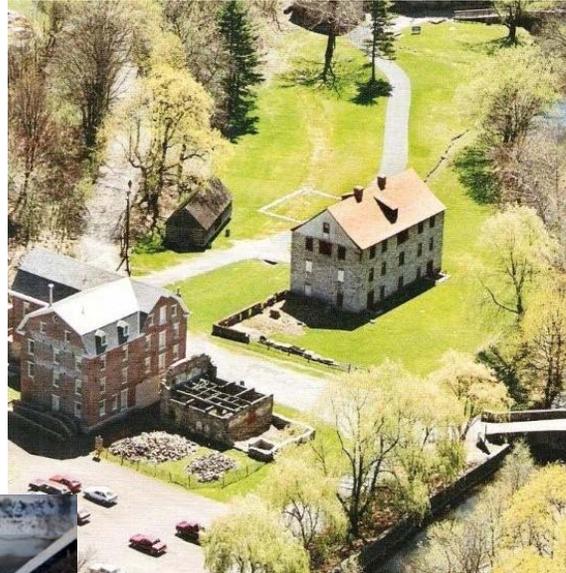
Bruno will present his recent field work encompassing the survey and excavation of Bronze Age burial mounds in the northern province of Hovsgol Aimag, the recovery of Khitan, Yuan and Ming period human mummified remains from Gobi burial caves, and the exhumation of executed Buddhist monks from 20th century mass burials outside Mongolia's capital,

Angkor has long fascinated Western scholars and the public alike. Since the rediscovery of the giant, enigmatic stone faces peering out of the jungle foliage we have been transfixed by the enduring question of who had build such incredible monuments and where had they gone. The answer of course is clear, the ancient Khmer built the monuments to honor their gods and to demonstrate the power of their rulers. Our April speaker will be archaeologist, Dr. Douglas O'Reilly who will discuss the history of the discovery of Angkor and explore the history of the site itself and provide an outline of current archaeological research looking at the fall of Angkor.

Dr. O'Reilly is a visiting Professor at Yale University and the Director of Heritage Watch, a non-profit organization working to preserve Cambodia's cultural heritage. Dr. O'Reilly also holds a post at

Moravian Dye Works—Yale Field School in Bethlehem, PA: **Betsy Wacker**

View of part of the Colonial Industrial Quarter, remaining dye works next to restored grist mill with only rafters from the ceiling of the 2nd floor. Tannery is beyond dye works.



Unit 2 inside the main dye works, the grain screw conveyor and underground trough

2008 Field School leaving for Bethlehem, PA



For the last two years, the month of October meant weekends packed into a Yale bus driving the Field School students, equipment, sleeping bags, and food to the Moravian Colonial Industrial Quarter of historic Bethlehem, PA. As the Teaching Fellow for the department's year long field techniques and lab course I was an instructor, chauffeur, and overnight chaperone.

The dye works site, located downslope from the village founded in 1741 and alongside the Monocacy Creek (a tributary to the mighty Lehigh River) consists of the stone and brick ruins of the original structure that housed first a fabric dyeing enterprise, a 19th c. granary, a 1940's auto parts junkyard,

and finally a restored public space. By 1756 the area was dense with 40 crafts and industries, millraces and waterwheels, and all the human and animal impact that was inescapable with such activities. The Moravians, immigrating from Herrnhut in Bavaria, were a pietist, communal, missionary-oriented denomination determined to establish an economically viable headquarters in North America. The dye works consisted of a core building with only 1.75 of the two-story walls exposed and a smaller annex of four foot high walls present. Over the two dig seasons, 3 units were strategically placed to sample the areas outside and adjacent to the front door (Unit 1), inside the main building nearest the common wall with the nearby Luckenbach Grist mill (Unit 2), and in the annex (Unit 3). Artifacts, soil types, features, and stratigraphy largely corroborated known timelines of the occupation and use of the structure. Unit 1 revealed the expected and orderly layers of cinder from the junk yard period, and soils from the earlier transition of the building to a granary for the mill. Regularly interspersed were fine layers of silt due to alluvial events from the nearby, volatile Monocacy Creek.

Unit 2 revealed an amazing feature - an intact screw conveyor and horizontal track used to return grain from the granary to the mill, by way of a trough underneath the railroad siding that then separated the buildings. Unit 1 was excavated to a depth of over 1.5 m where it appeared that some of the original slate and brick walkways and

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Professor Wiegand Presents at NISOD Conference

Last fall, Professor Ernie Wiegand, as one of Norwalk Community College's outstanding teachers was selected to receive an award from the **National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development** at their 31st annual conference this May in Austin, Texas.

Professor Wiegand will lead a roundtable session at the conference. Entitled "Creating the Citizen Archaeologist" at the Community College, it will focus on the role of community colleges to enable students to become "citizen archaeologists" through active, "hands-on" classes that promote learning while also providing service to the community and the discipline. The results of the NCC Archaeology as an Avocation Program will provide an illustration of public service for which the community college is uniquely equipped. Congratulations Ernie, on receiving this honor!

ASC Spring Meeting

April 18, 2009

Essex Town Hall

"75 Years of the Archaeological Society of Connecticut"

Talks will center on what we have learned and how archaeology has changed since the founding of the society.

March 12 - Thursday 8:00 pm
Bronze Age Burial Mounds, from the Gobi
Dr. Bruno Frohlich

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Ulaanbaatar. His forensic reconstructions identify the causes of death, establish nutritional status, and provide group identification and kinship relationships. By studying the human variation within and between populations, he is able to reconstruct demographic profiles, population continuity and differentiate between nomadic versus sedentary behavior.

Bruno Frohlich is a Anthropologist with the Smithsonian Institute's Anthropology Department. He is a statistician and physical anthropologist with multiple degrees from the University of Copenhagen and the University of Connecticut. He specializes in Middle Eastern skeletal biology, Arctic and Sub-Arctic skeletal biology, forensic anthropology, remote sensing, geophysical methods and computed tomography.

Bruno Frohlich will be speaking on Thursday, March 12th, GenRe Forum, East Campus; refreshments at 7:30 PM; lecture at 8:00 PM.



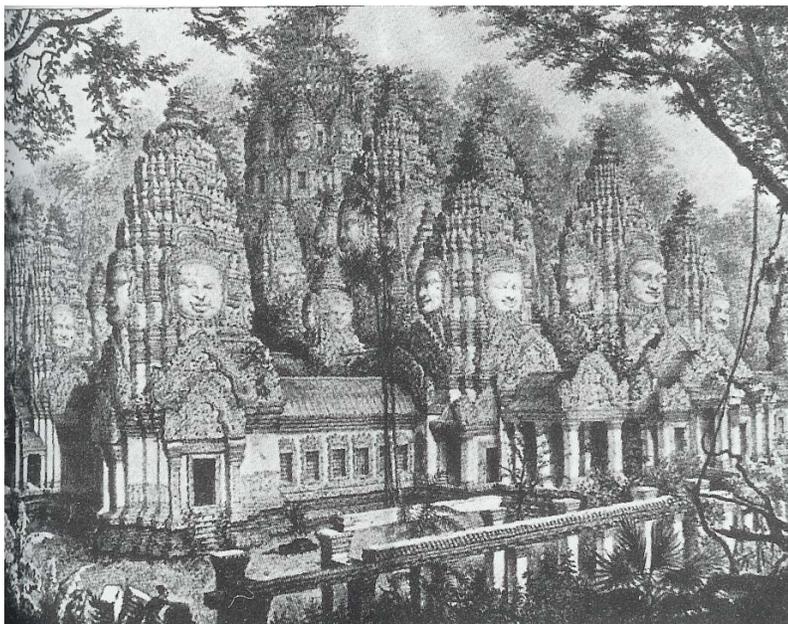
Aerial View of Angkor Complex

April 2 - Thursday - 8:00 pm
The Rise and Fall of Angkor:
Recent Research in Cambodia
Dr. Douglas O'Reilly

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the University of Sydney in Australia. He is the Deputy Director of the Greater Angkor Project that is exploring the decline of Angkor through archaeological research. Dr O'Reilly has lived in Cambodia for the past 7 years, working in various capacities for UNESCO, Heritage Watch and as an academic researcher. In addition to his research at Angkor he has recently been awarded an Australian Research Council grant for work on Prehistoric populations in Cambodia.

Dr. Douglas O'Reilly will be speaking on Thursday, April 9th, Culinary Arts Dining Room, West Campus; refreshments at 7:30 PM; lecture at 8:00 PM.



REPORT FROM THE LAB
AND FROM THE FIELD

Come and volunteer in the NCC Archaeology Lab or Excavate in the Field!

Archaeology Lab

Our lab work this semester will be the continuing cataloging and study of the artifacts from the Gallows Hill site. Due to a shortage of classroom space, the Archaeology Club laboratory sessions will be limited for the spring semester. Lab sessions will take place from 5-9:00 pm in room W-131 on the following dates:

- February 5 and 19,
- April 30, May 5 and
- May 14.

As an alternative location for the labs is being sought for the remaining Thursday nights, keep in touch with Ernie Wiegand at 857-7377 to see if a room has been found.

Field Excavation

Fieldwork will also resume at Gallows Hill starting with the last weekend in March and continuing through mid-May. This spring, we will finish the area containing a late 18th century structure and will begin testing other portions of the site which are known to contain evidence of a Late Archaic period (c. 2500-1700 BC) occupation. As of press time, the schedule is for the dig to take place between 9-4:00 pm on

- March 28,
- April 5, 11, 19 and
- May 2, 10 and 18.

As the schedule is subject to change due to field and weather conditions, call Ernie for the latest information a few days before the scheduled field session.



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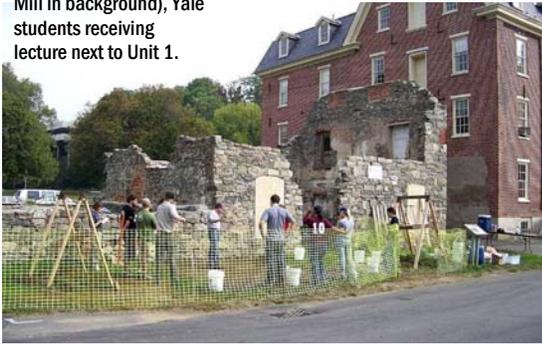
Editorial Staff: Ernie Wiegand - Faculty Advisor
Neal Konstantin Dawn Brown Bob Steele

dressed stone porch footings were exposed. An extensive number of metal objects dating from early 19th c. nails and spikes to auto parts were unearthed. A complete array of ceramic sherds, dating from c. 1800 to the end of the century were present, validating the known occupancy of the upstairs of the dye house, by the Mattias Weiss family, from its inception as a working building to purely a residence. Also found were shell and bone (perhaps from a nearby restaurant in the 1920's), copious amounts of both domestic and industrial glass, buttons, beads, a c. 1900 coin, various types and brands of brick, anthracite and slag, and some antiques metal toys, among other artifacts.



Unit 3 in the annex of the dye works, students using the Total Station to "shoot out" the coordinates for later 3-D graphics

Dye works (Luckenbach Mill in background), Yale students receiving lecture next to Unit 1.



The students continue to process and catalog the artifacts as well as analyze their data for the final site report due in May. My thesis will integrate both dig seasons and will be completed by March 2010 in time for the spring graduation.

Unit 3 in the annex, extensive overburden on top and collapsed building materials



Spend a week this spring digging at Topper in South Carolina!

Join a fun group of volunteer avocationalists, graduate students and professionals for a week of excavation at one of the most important and oldest sites in the Americas. The Topper Site in Allendale County, South Carolina, excavated by Dr. Al Goodyear of USC, has a large Clovis as well as controversial Pre-Clovis components. For two of the last three years NCC has been represented at this fascinating dig.

Weeks are May 4, 11, 18, 25 and June 1. Some NCC club members will attend the week of May 18th. Cost is only \$466.00 which includes lunches and dinners. Drive, or fly into Charleston, Atlanta, Charlotte or Columbia, SC. For more information contact: www.allendale-expedition.net



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NCC Archaeology Club, 188 Richards Ave. Rm W236, Norwalk CT 06854

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Receiving the newsletter by email will save the club \$2 per newsletter

NCC's Holly Cuzzone holds a Clovis chopper, freshly plucked from the sandy soil at Topper.

