

Archaeotext



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



Club Meetings – Fall Academic Semester



Save These Dates! -

Nov 8 - Thurs 8:00 pm

**Four Millennia in an Ancient
Egyptian Province**

Dec 13 - Thurs

Pot Luck 7:00 pm Lecture 8:00 pm

**The Hiram Bingham Collection
from Machu Picchu**

Jan 26 - Sat 2:00 pm

FOSA Annual Meeting
A Classic Maya Tomb



November 8 - Thursday - 8:00 pm
Culinary Arts Dining Room - West Campus
"The Mo'alla Survey Project, Egypt"
Colleen Manassa - Yale Univ.

December 13 - Thursday - 8:00 pm
Pot Luck Appetizers 7:00 pm
GenRe Forum - East Campus
**The Hiram Bingham Collection from
Machu Picchu**
Richard Burger - Yale Univ.

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In 2008, Prof. Manassa established the Mo'alla Survey Project (MSP), which is currently in its fourth field season. The site of Mo'alla, on the east bank of the Nile forty-five kilometers south of Luxor, is well known as the location of the First Intermediate Period tombs of Ankhtyfy and Sobekhotep. The autobiographical inscription of the tomb remains one of the most celebrated of that period — Ankhtyfy describes in bombastic, and often unique terms, his position as the nomarch of the third Upper Egyptian nome and the measures — both peaceful and military — he instituted to expand his power base and aid nearby nomes. As informative as Ankhtyfy's inscription is, the texts within his tomb present only one facet of the history of the region. The Mo'alla Survey Project (MSP), directed by Colleen Manassa, and part of the Yale Egyptological Institute in Egypt, carried out its first field season during the winter of 2008-2009; our

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On November 23, 2010 Yale President Richard Levin and Foreign Minister García Belaunde of Peru agreed that Yale would return the objects that were excavated at Machu Picchu in 1912 by Hiram Bingham following his "scientific discovery" of the site in 1911. A second agreement created a long-term partnership between Yale University and the Universidad Nacional de San Antonio Abad del Cusco (UNSAAC), with the collaboration between both universities for the exhibition, conservation, and study of the objects; the second agreement also established the UNSAAC-Yale International Center for the Study of Machu Picchu and Inca Culture. The Center and the Machu Picchu objects will be permanently housed at the Casa Concha, a beautiful, historic, mostly 17th-century colonial palace with Inca foundations, which has recently been impressively restored by the University of Cusco's architecture school and Peru's National Institute of Culture.

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The Mo'alla Survey Project

work was made possible with the support of the William K. and Marilyn M. Simpson Egyptology Endowment. The goals of the first season were to provide the first archaeological survey of the environs of the Mo'alla (omitting the area of the free-standing hill that contains the tombs of Ankhtyfy and Sobekhotep), including any settlement sites in the area and Eastern Desert roads accessible from the region.

Under her direction, the MSP has surveyed an important northern extension to the Mo'alla necropolis (including a small Pan Grave cemetery) and rediscovered the ancient city of Agny. She also was the first archaeologist to map a desert road that connected the region south of Mo'alla with other points north and south in the Nile Valley. In 2010, her expedition discovered a previously unknown late Roman site in the north-eastern portion of the MSP concession.

Colleen Manassa (B.A., Yale 2001, Ph.D. 2005) joined the faculty of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations as the Marilyn M. and William K. Simpson Assistant Professor of Egyptology in 2006, and she was promoted

to Associate Professor in 2010. Her research interests include Egyptian grammar, New Kingdom literary texts, military history, funerary religion, social history, and landscape archaeology. She is the author or co-author of four books and over twenty articles, and directs an on-going archaeological expedition in Egypt.



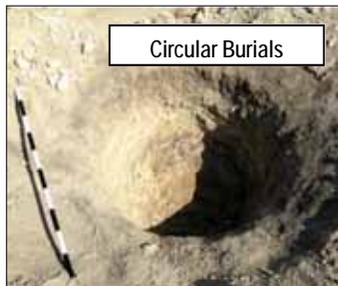
Openings of the tombs along the cliffs



The necropolis across the modern quarry



The remains of a mud brick vaulted tomb



Circular Burials



Pan grave ceramic sherds

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Please join Richard Burger (YC '72), the Charles J. McCurdy Professor of Anthropology and Chairman and Director of Graduate Studies of Archaeological Studies, for our Holiday Reception at 7:00 pm and a presentation at 8:00 pm on the innovative agreements, the creation of the new museum, the interpretation of the objects excavated by Hiram Bingham at Machu Picchu and on the educational programs of study and research to be based at the Center in Cusco.

After receiving his undergraduate degree in archaeology from Yale College and completing his doctoral work at UC Berkeley, Richard Burger became a member of the Yale faculty in 1981. Richard Burger is C.J. MacCurdy Professor of Anthropology at Yale University and Curator of South American Archaeology at the Yale Peabody Museum. He has served as Director of the Yale Peabody Museum, Chair of the Dumbarton Oaks Senior Fellows Committee for Pre-Columbian Studies and is current President of the Institute of Andean Research. He is currently the Chairman of the Council of Archaeological Studies at Yale.

An archaeologist specializing in the Central Andes, Burger has carried out research in Peru for over two decades. He has directed

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Our December meeting will take place at the GenRe Forum on the East Campus. At 7 pm in the Atrium, members will have the opportunity to mingle with old friends and make new ones over our annual "holiday hors d'oeuvres", a delicious selection of delicacies assembled by our club members. Please bring your own special treat to the meeting to share with your fellow archaeology buffs! The program portion of the meeting will start at 8 pm.

Archaeology Society of Connecticut - Fall Meeting & Gungywamp



Circular Burials

The Archaeological Society of Connecticut held its Fall meeting recently at the Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center in Mystic, CT. The meeting was titled “Studies in Stone: Interpretations of Local Stone Features” and was attended by about 50 people and featured several talks in the morning. After the talks were completed, a tour of the Gungywamp site was given by a member of the Nature Center. This site has some unique stone structures that some believe were built by a group of ancient Irish monks.

The morning session speakers included Vance Tiede who talked about the possible early Irish Christian Monks presence at Gungywamp and

proposed several research designs to prove this theory. He was followed by Dr. Wade Tarzia who discussed “a folkloric approach to alternative archaeology” using examples from Ireland and the Mystery Hill site in New Hampshire. The next speaker was Elaine Thomas, Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Mohegans, who spoke from the Native American perspective on stone structures using some examples from the Mohegan Reservation. The final speaker in the morning session was Dr. Ken Feder who spoke about the “convergence of evidence” using the “sacrificial table” at the Mystery Hill complex in New Hampshire as an example to show how researchers use multiple pieces of evidence that converged on the same explanation to sustain a particular theory. All the talks were informative and led to some interesting discussions.

The weather in the afternoon was the perfect temperature for a walk in the woods. Our guide, Al Brown from the Nature Center led the group to the various stone structures encompassing the Gungywamp complex. Here are a couple of photos of the tour for our readers. Anyone interested in more information about this site should check out the web page of the Gungywamp Society (no longer active) at www.gungywamp.com.



Stone chamber

Stone circle



Stone foundation to the Adams family farmhouse



Friends of the Office of State Archaeology FOSA - Annual Meeting - Save the Date!

“Death Comes to the King: A Classic Maya Tomb at El Diablo, Guatemala”

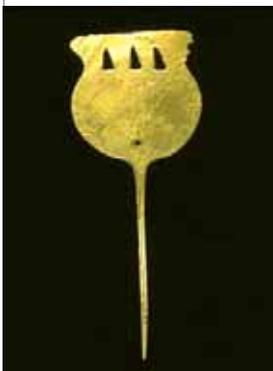
When: Sat. January 26, 2013 Where: Smith School, 216 Addison Rd., Glastonbury, CT
What: 1:00 pm FOSA Annual Meeting - followed by our speaker at 2:00 pm
Guest Speaker: **Stephen Houston, Brown Univ.**

In 2010 a rich and enigmatic tomb was discovered at the Classic Maya cith of El Zotz, Guatemala. Found on a hill high above El Zotz in a place called El Diablo or “The Devil”, the tomb lay within a building covered with solar and celestial imagery.

This talk reports on the meaning of this tomb and its sculpted building. To a striking extent,

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excavations at Chavin de Huantar and Huaricoto in Peru’s northern highlands and at Cardal, Mina Perdida and Manchay Bajo on Peru’s central coast. In Peru, Burger has taught on the archaeology faculties of Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos and the Pontificia Universidad Catolica. Burger also served as Chair of the Senior Fellows of Pre-Columbian Studies at Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, DC. Burger has written numerous books and articles on South American prehistory.



both burial and structure reveal new evidence about local dynasties at the time of origin.

More than a tomb, the Diablo find show s how royal families took hold of a landscape some 1600 years ago.

Lid in the form of the Collared Peccary Hog.



Chaac the Maya deity with his lightning axe, Chaac strikes the clouds and produces thunder and rain.



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Pottery Shard, highly decorated - Topper Site -
Allendale County South Carolina

Archaeological Associates of Greenwich - The Bruce Museum

Thursday, 8 p.m. November 15 - RIT Professor Andrew Moore

"Traveler's Tales - Ancient Civilizations"

Well-read Europeans and Americans in the early 19th century and even into the 20th century believed that the civilizations of the ancient world had disappeared. Professor Moore will argue otherwise. He will point out that the physical remains of these ancient civilizations were ever-present in the landscape of Western Asia. He will also cover the early travelers, the pilgrims to the Christian, Jewish and Moslem Holy places, the scholars, traders and diplomats. He will then describe the monuments the early travelers found. He'll conclude with the discussion of several key archaeological investigations during the twentieth century.

Andrew Moore is Professor of Archaeology and Dean of Graduate Studies at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). At RIT he oversees 90 graduate programs enrolling 2,900 students in RIT's eight colleges and overseas campuses. His field experience includes Co-Director of Early Farming in Dalmatia Project, Director of the Jericho Project in the Jordan Valley and Director Tell Abu Hureyra (that he spoke to the AAG about a few years ago) among other reconnaissances of prehistoric sites in Syria and Iraq and Turkey. His undergraduate and graduate degrees are from University of Oxford. He is presently the First Vice President of the Archaeological Institute of America that means he will be the president of the AIA in 2014.

AAG & Museum members no charge; walk-ins \$15.



Anthropology and Archaeology Courses this Spring at NCC

Introduction to Archaeology (ANT 121), will be held on **Tuesdays and Thursdays** from **1:00-2:20 pm**. This course, taught by Ernie Wiegand, provides an introduction to prehistoric archaeology and Northeastern prehistory, and will include weekend "dig" sessions at a prehistoric Native American site dating to over 4,000 years ago. Recovered artifacts will be studied at class lab sessions, with students interpreting their finds in a written site report.

Physical Geology (GLG 121), will be taught by Ernie Wiegand on **Mondays and Wednesdays** from **9:00-11:50 am**. The course offers an introduction to physical geology, and examines the composition of the earth, and the forces, both external (glaciers, rivers, oceans, wind and gravity) and internal (plate tectonics, volcanism, earthquakes), that shape our world.

Cultural Anthropology (ANT 105). This is an introduction to Cultural Anthropology. Two sections of the course are offered, both on **Mondays and Wednesdays**. Section 1 is from **10:00 am -11:20 am** and section 2 is from **1:00-2:20 pm**. Taught by Mary Frances Carmell, the course illuminates social systems and patterns of behavior the world over. From tribal societies to enclave communities in our current times, under examination will be those beliefs, values, customs, rituals, laws and material culture - all those social structures that provide identity and that inform and explain a people's world view.

This Spring semester at NCC offers three classes, including a course in specific archaeological skills. Courses can be applied towards the "Archaeology as an Avocation" certificate program. Courses are described at the right, and registration information is available from the Records Office at 203-857-7035 or the Archaeology Office, 203-857-7377.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN THE LAB

The Archaeology Club lab sessions are held each Thursday night from 3:30 – 8 pm in room W-015 of the West Campus. This room is located in the basement at the north end of the West Campus building, below the atrium (follow the signs on the walls of the atrium or call Ernie at 857-7377).

Although most of the Gallows Hill artifacts have been processed, the materials from this fall's dig season remain to be done. In addition, some materials from previous club digs are being readied for work, including the Incerto House artifacts and ecofacts from this emergency salvage dig conducted in 2001-02. No previous experience in the lab is necessary – we'll show you the basics of processing and cataloging the artifacts. Call Ernie Wiegand at the Archaeology Office for additional information (857-7377).

Register in January!

Cover Photo - The Spotted Horses of
Peché-Merle Cave near Dordogne, France
16,000 ybp, the Magdalenian Period