Joint Conference of the Noreen Stonor Drexel Cultural and Historic Preservation Program and The Eastern States Archaeological Federation

Preliminary
Program and Abstracts

November 7-10, 2024
Salve Regina University
Antone Academic Center
56 Lawrence Avenue, Newport RI 02840

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Preliminary Program

Thursday, November 7

1-4:30 **Tours**
Salve Regina University and the Preservation Society of Newport offer two tours:
-The historic Breakers Mansion, owned by the Preservation Society of Newport County. Tours at 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.
-Salve's Historic Gems: 3 historic mansions on the Salve campus. Tours at 1:00 and 3:00 p.m.
Preregistration is required for all tours.

5:00-7:00 Registration Table, DiStefano Lobby
Antone Academic Center, Salve Regina University, Newport RI

7:30-9:30 President's Reception, Room TBD
Antone Academic Center, Salve Regina University, Newport RI

Friday, November 8

8:00-4:00 Registration Table, DiStefano Lobby
Antone Academic Center, Salve Regina University, Newport RI

Morning Paper Session – DiStefano Auditorium

8:15 **Welcome to Salve Regina University!**

8:30 **Thematic Session: The Critical Concerns of Preservation – Earth, Environmentalism, and the Natural World**

8:30 *The Geoarchaeology of New York's Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area*
Derrick Marcucci, Principal Archaeologist and Vice President, Landmark Archaeology, Inc.
Susan Gade, President and Principal Archaeologist, Landmark Archaeology, Inc.
Phillip Shnaider, Archaeologist, Landmark Archaeology, Inc.

We summarize a 3-year project within the Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area, a large wetland located in the Cayuga Lake drainage system, managed by the DEC and recipient of a grant by the New York Canal Corporation Reimagine the Canals Initiative project. The multi-year project has afforded the opportunity to conduct research related to the archaeology of wetlands, an eco-system that has been recognized as important to precontact people by avocation and professional archaeologists in New York for over 100 years. Wetlands provided an abundance of seasonally concentrated and predictably available plant and animal resources. Foraging groups aggregated on terraces for extending periods of time immediately adjacent to the wetlands at locations affording easy canoe access to wetland resources. These sites are typically large, muti-component, that yield high numbers and types of artifacts, and flora and faunal material, and contain features including houses and dark organic-rich buried middens. Not surprisingly, archaeologists have almost exclusively focused their research on these large muti-component precontact, and proto-historic aggregation sites situated along the dry land edges of the wetlands. In contrast, very little is known about precontact settlements and activities on adjoining landscapes around and within the wetlands. Our research is based on a geo-archaeological model, a perspective

that broadens the research settlement/subsistence picture and theme to include "around and within" wetland landscapes.

8:45 *The Impact of Historic Erosion Control Measures on Archaeological Site Formation Processes: The* Camp Ellis Jetty and Site 5.06, Biddeford, Maine
Gabe Hrynick, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of New Brunswick
Arthur W. Anderson, Associate Teaching Professor, University of New England

Site 5.06 is a Middle Maritime Woodland to Protohistoric period archaeological site in a sandy coastal setting at the mouth of the Saco River in southern Maine. Across the Saco River to the north is the community of Camp Ellis, which has gained fame for coastal erosion approaching a meter annually. The severity of this erosion is largely due to a stone jetty constructed perpendicular to Camp Ellis Beach in 1866 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that reflects wave energy onto Camp Ellis and limits the availability of sand to replenish the beach. These processes have resulted in a unique situation at site 5.06 where abundant heavy sand is deposited on the site while storms reshape and erode it. In this presentation, we review the site formation processes at 5.06 and the interpretive challenges they engender and consider the implications for managing coastal archaeological resources.

9:00 *Reconstructing paleoenvironments; exploring the paleobotany of late Pleistocene New England*
*Kaleigh Trischman, Undergraduate Student, Salve Regina University

In a region once covered in mile-high glaciers, northern New England during the late Pleistocene would have offered a sharp contrast to its current ecology. Little is known about the flora that once characterized this region, resulting in reduced comprehension of the subsistence patterns of its inhabitants. Human environmental interaction at the end of the Pleistocene is critical to our understanding of the fluted point period in New England. To understand this relationship, we conducted a palynological study of stratified soil samples from a fluted point site in northern Maine within the Munsungun Lake Formation. This identified floral species present during the late Pleistocene. Our results hope to increase knowledge of the efficacy of paleobotany within the region, and ultimately, to reconstruct a landscape that expands the context of a late Pleistocene Site

9:15 *Good Vibrations: Terrestrial and Intertidal Sediment Vibracoring as an Effective Tool for the Geoarchaeologist*
David E. Leslie, Principal Investigator, TerraSearch Geophysical, LLC; Heritage Consultants, LLC
William Ouimet, Earth Science Associate Professor, University of Connecticut

Vibracoring is a sediment coring method that utilizes a gas-powered vibrating head to drive a core barrel into sediments, reducing frictional and compressive disturbances and providing a continuous sample recovery. While geologists have traditionally utilized vibracoring in sub-aqueous environments to characterize inundated landscapes and sediment accumulation rates, these methods are rarely applied to terrestrial archaeological sites. Vibracoring represents a powerful tool for archaeologists to characterize the stratigraphy of sites, particularly those deeply buried and outside the reach of traditional excavation methods. Vibracoring in intertidal and inundated areas can also provide archaeologists with useful information regarding the inundation of sites through relative sea-level rise. Recovered cores also provide easy access to in situ analyses of site stratigraphy, including radiocarbon dating, Portable X-Ray Fluorescence, X-Ray Diffraction, and Loss on Ignition, among others. Recent investigations involving vibracoring studies at

known archaeological sites are discussed to highlight the importance and impact of this technique.

9:30 *Question and Answer Session*

9:45 **Coffee Break**

10:00 **Invited Session: A Little Bit of Everything from the World of CRM – New Research on Archaeological Sites in Rhode Island and Massachusetts**
Session Organizer: John M. Kelly, Principal Investigator, The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

10:00 *The Oldest Dates from the Ocean State: New Data for Late PaleoIndian Habitation in Rhode Island*
Erin Flynn, Principal Investigator, The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Two of the earliest radiocarbon dates in Rhode Island have been obtained from two different archaeological sites that help connect isolated PaleoIndian artifacts found in the state to the larger historic narrative of Native American habitation in the Northeast. The excavation of these sites, discovered during a CRM survey, were conducted within the Section 106 consultation process that dictated the extent and focus of the excavations. Charcoal recovered from intact cultural features provided valuable information about PaleoIndian settlement patterns. The dates further suggest that Late Paleoindian people in southern New England had a generalized mode of subsistence rather than following a specialized model, where a highly mobile group focused on exploitation of large, now extinct animal species. The Pine Swamp and Crossroads sites add to the growing body of evidence supporting Paleoindian Period occupation in southern New England in a variety of micro-environments.

10:15 *Sail Away on the Manisses Mishoòn: Recent Archaeological Contributions from Block Island's Great Salt Pond Archaeological District*
Joseph N. Waller, Jr., Senior Archaeologist, The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

The Block Island Wind Farm, the nation's first offshore wind energy project, was the first in a series of significant renewable wind energy projects proposed off the southern New England coast. Archaeological investigations conducted for the project have contributed to refining our understanding of Native American occupation and resource exploitation between 7500 and 500 B.P. This presentation will discuss the Project, which with the assistance of the Narragansett and Wampanoag Indian Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, led to the discovery of the significant Harbor Pond pre-contact Native American archaeological site and the and partial archaeological study of a substantial Late Archaic (5,000-3,000 B.P.) archaeological component on Rhode Island's largest offshore island.

10:30 *Pauquunaukit (Pokonoket): Land at the Clearing – Investigations at the Pokonoket Sites and Surrounding Areas, Southeastern Massachusetts*
Kristen Jeremiah, Principal Investigator, The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Recent CRM investigations have shed new light on an area known to be an extensive Native American home site and cultural gathering place spanning back thousands of years to present day. The Pokonoket Cornfield Site in Dighton, Massachusetts, was first recorded in 1939 by avocational archaeologists who described it as being "a large habitation site of

indefinite size." Diagnostic artifacts suggested the site was occupied at least during the Late Woodland and Contact periods. Along the edge of the cornfield, a large oak tree known as "the Council Oak" is known to have been a seventeenth-century meeting location for King Philip (Metacom) and his Wampanoag warriors during Metacom's Rebellion [King Philip's War (1675-1676)]. Investigations conducted within the site and surrounding vicinity by the Public Archaeology Laboratory Inc. (PAL) for a proposed transmission line project recovered evidence to suggest an earlier occupation of the Pokonoket Cornfield site as well as a Middle Archaic occupation of an adjacent hilltop, designated the Pokonoket Hilltop site. New data from the Pokonoket Hilltop, Pokonoket Cornfield, and additional neighboring sites identified during PAL's investigations, contribute to the extensive record of Native American occupation of the Taunton River drainage basin dating back at least 8,000 years to the present day.

10:45 *Re-Examining the Pre-Contact History of Winter Island in Salem, Massachusetts*
John M. Kelly, Principal Investigator, The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Previous archaeological investigations on Winter Island in Salem, Massachusetts, have indicated that the 45-acre island was used as a settlement and burial site by pre-contact Native American groups during the Archaic and Woodland periods. These investigations identified eight seemingly distinct pre-contact sites spread across the landform. While it was suspected that occupation of some of the identified sites were related to the others, their precise relationships to one another were still unclear given the nature and extent of the testing that had been conducted. Recent archaeological investigations conducted by The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (PAL) have allowed for a re-examination of the identified sites and the pre-contact history of Winter Island. PAL's work has revealed that several of the previously identified sites are linked and has provided more information about the island's occupation and use by Native American groups.

11:00 *Transitional Archaic Lithic Technology at the Deadwood Site, Norton, Massachusetts*
Duncan Ritchie, Principal Investigator, The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

In southeastern New England Transitional Archaic Period (ca. 3200- 2600 B.P.) Coburn phase lithic assemblages are known mostly from cremation burial features at the type site on Cape Cod, the Mansion Inn (Wayland, MA) and Hawes (Lakeville , MA) sites. Coburn points are also known from mixed contexts on multi-component sites in the coastal zone and offshore islands. Situated within the interior of southeastern Massachusetts on the upper Taunton/Canoe River drainage, the Deadwood Site contained a distinct locus with Transitional Archaic Coburn and Orient Fishtail-like projectile points, other chipped and ground stone tools, a lithic workshop and hearth/firepit features. There was minimal overlap of this locus from other Archaic and Woodland period components on the site. The lithic assemblage in the Coburn phase component is dominated by rhyolite from a source in the Blue Hills about 20 miles (33 km) north of the Deadwood Site. This assemblage was analyzed to reconstruct a complete lithic reduction sequence from quarry blanks and primary stage bifaces to finished projectile points. The Coburn phase component is also a source of information about Transitional Archaic settlement and site selection criteria in the Taunton drainage basin.

11:15 *The Fox Creek Phase Along Broad Meadow Brook: Investigations at a Middle Woodland Site in the Blackstone River Drainage*
Samuel Marcucci, Project Archaeologist, The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc
John M. Kelly, Principal Investigator, The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc

Recent archaeological investigations identified and mitigated a portion of the Broad Meadow Brook Site in Worcester, Massachusetts. The investigations at the site, which is located along a branch of Broad Meadow Brook in the Blackstone River drainage, indicated that it was occupied during the Fox Creek phase of the Middle Woodland Period. The Fox Creek phase is one of the earliest phases of the Middle Woodland and generally dates from circa 1600 to 1250 BP. The majority of recorded Fox Creek sites in New England are on the coast, and the Broad Meadow Brook Site represents one of the few Fox Creek sites identified in the interior of Massachusetts. Data from the site has offered unique insights into and raised new questions about Fox Creek groups in the Blackstone drainage, including their selection and acquisition of stone raw materials for tool production and their decoration and use of pottery vessels.

11:30 *Historic Foodways in New England Through the Lens of Archaeological Plant Remains*
**Karen Stewart, PhD Candidate, Boston University/Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc

Focusing on archaeobotanical assemblages from historic sites in the northeast, I discuss both my research findings and the often-overlooked value of this resource. Analyzing historical plant remains deepens our understanding of landscapes, subsistence, foodways, and identity, offering critical data for local and regional studies. However, standard sampling practices are often more suited to pre-contact than historical material. I argue that practitioners who work with informed intent can save both time and money while still enriching our understanding of the historical archaeological record. I aim to inspire excitement about historical archaeobotany and provide adaptable methods that archaeologists can consider in their own practice.

11:45 *Reviving Snowtown: Collaborative Efforts in Rediscovering Providence's Forgotten Neighborhood*
Heather L. Olson, Laboratory and Collections Manager, The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Recent collections rehabilitation by the Public Archaeology Laboratory has revived interest in Providence's history, sparking collaborations among archaeologists, historians, archivists, students, government leaders, and community activists. The Snowtown Project, a key initiative, focuses on the history and memory of a working-class neighborhood erased by late. 19th-century municipal construction. This area once housed tenements, businesses, railroad facilities, and the original Rhode Island State Prison. Over the past five years, interdisciplinary researchers have aimed to enrich the city's historical narrative through extensive archival research, interpretation, and public programming. This paper will explore the ongoing and past efforts to interpret the history of one of Providence's most infamous early neighborhoods.

12:00 *Question and Answer Session*

12:15-1:30 **Lunch on your own**

Afternoon Paper Session – DiStefano Auditorium

1:30 **Thematic Session: The Critical Concerns of Preservation – Race and Racism**

1:30 *Systemic Bias & Racism of Preservation*
Frankie Vagnone, President, Twisted Preservation Cultural Consulting

This visual presentation will highlight real-life examples of how preservation and historic site interpretation have originated and been modified by degrees of bias and discrimination. Based on a series of Twisted Preservation Blog articles in 2020, Vagnone will present ten experimental concepts and outline ways that the concepts have resulted in narrow interpretations, selective storytelling, racial and gender erasure, limited preservation perspective, and biased policy and professional best practices.

1. Preservation is essentially an elitist, class-, and racially divisive activity.
2. History sites can perpetuate a divisive form of nostalgia that supports and validates racism and exclusion.
3. Preservation can limit inclusion and perpetuate racial & social bias.
4. Historical regulations, district codes, and Preservation restrictions can be latently economically restrictive and culturally exclusionary.
5. Historic districting and preservation code requirements can be a contemporary form of "redlining," which excludes a diverse economic group from land ownership.
6. Preservation is susceptible to the harshest form of capitalism in that only those historical sites targeted with money get preserved.
7. As Preservation has become more professionalized and can require a four-year degree, college has become more expensive, constricting the possibility of a racially, culturally, and economically equitable pool of professional practitioners.
8. Preservationists fetishize the built environment, and in itself is part of the problem.
9. Look at the money in Preservation. Money goes where it is told. There is nothing natural about the market economy or what gets preserved. Wealth Preserves Wealth.
10. Language as a tool of bias in Preservation

1:45 *A Name, A Voice, A Life: Interpreting the Stories of Black Newporters from the Page to the People*
Kaela Bleho, Collections and Digital Access Manager, Newport Historical Society

The nature of slavery and subsequent generations of violence, oppression, and disenfranchisement of people of African descent has ensured that most surviving archival records concerning slavery, and the lives of enslaved people center the enslavers. However, a deeper and more intentional study of historic documents reveals a wealth of voices and lived experiences relating to people of color: family relationships, business enterprises, births, marriages, and more. In 2020, the Newport Historical Society set out to move the enslaved, manumitted, and free people of color who lived in Newport between the 17th and 19th centuries from the margins of our collections to the center. In four years, the Voices From the NHS Archives research initiative has grown from a spreadsheet cataloging references to people of color in our manuscript collection to an interactive database and research tool that includes 4,000 digitized documents, over a dozen biographical histories, and records for more than 1,700 named people of African and Indigenous descent. This paper will address the racial biases inherent in studying surviving colonial-era documents, and how public historians can work to address and overcome them.

2:00 *The New Deal on Teaching the Histories of Indigenous Peoples*
LTJG Ammie Chittim, Instructor, United States Coast Guard Academy

Indigenous Peoples of the Americas are living, fluid cultures, with unique histories of resistance to colonialism. Unfortunately, courses focusing on Indigenous peoples are often taught as if these groups are static. This presentation will provide a modern approach to teaching the histories of Indigenous peoples of America at the Undergraduate level. This pedagogy centers around the idea that students today learn better through active learning processes, rather than traditional lecture-based programs. It combines both small- and large-scale collaboration activities and hands on learning to keep students continuously engaged. Key components of this strategy include technology integration, including AI generators and a fully amalgamated digital classroom, real-world relevance, and an interdisciplinary approach. There are numerous benefits of this style of teaching; some of these include a more engaged student body and the potential for a deeper, more enhanced learning experience.

2:15 *This is How Legends are Made: Colonialism and The Old Stone Mill*
*Dillon Coblentz, Undergraduate Student, Salve Regina University

Questions regarding the Newport Tower's origins arose in the early nineteenth century. Chinese, Portuguese, and English explorers were all considered possible pre-colonial builders of the tower. Though the most prominent pre-colonial theory to come out of the nineteenth century proposed that the tower was constructed by Norse explorers as early as the eleventh century. If true, the theory would have given a much older European antiquity to the area. Archaeological excavations led by William S. Godfrey during the nineteen forties proved a colonial era construction of the tower, therefore disproving the Norse theory. It did not, however, stop the theory from leaving a lasting impact on the city of Newport's culture. This presentation will examine the Newport Tower's Viking construction legend as an example of the colonization of the past, the archaeological investigation into the tower, and how archaeology can be used as a tool for decolonization.

2:30 *Crafting the Restorative Development District in Memphis, TN*
Greg Morrison, Executive Director/Historic Preservation Consultant, Historic Clayborn Temple/LRK Inc
Anasa Troutman, Executive Director, Historic Clayborn Temple, Founder of The Big We

The South Memphis Civil Rights Cultural District is a collaborative initiative led by Historic Clayborn Temple and its partners that brings together multiple projects to restore and enhance our South Memphis neighborhood's cultural and historical significance, while fostering community development and revitalization. The project includes the development of multiple historic properties, as well as housing and commercial development, creative entrepreneurship, street improvements and environmental sustainability efforts. Already, over 20 sites critical to the history of Memphis and the history of American and African American culture, have been identified in the two-mile radius around Historic Clayborn Temple. With a focus on helping to build the cultural and creative economy in Memphis, these African-American cultural heritage sites act as anchors for development featuring community owned housing, commercial, green space along with public safety and sustainability infrastructure.

2:45 *Applying a Technological Assessment to the African American Cemetery in Rye, New York*
Fiona Jones, Graduate Student, Syracuse University
Cole Peterson, Geophysical Specialitst, Heritage Consultants, LLC,
Brenna Pisanelli, Senior Project Manager, Heritage Consultants, LLC
David E. Leslie, Principal Investigator, TerraSearch Geophysical, LLC; Heritage Consultants, LLC

In Fall 2023, Heritage Consultants conducted a multi-faceted survey of the African American Cemetery located in Rye, New York, in conjunction with the Town of Rye and the Friends of the African American Cemetery, a local volunteer organization dedicated to restoring the cemetery and honoring those buried within. The survey included a ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey, documentation mapping of all cemetery elements, photogrammetric recordation of each headstone, and an Uncrewed Aerial Vehicle (UAV) survey. The cemetery elements were initially documented in a hand drawn map and recorded with an RTK enabled differential GPS. This combined multi-faceted approach led to the identification of 286 potential graves within the cemetery. The application of technological expertise has shed new light on the history as well as aided in future approaches to the preservation of the cemetery.

3:00 *An 18th/19th Century Detached Kitchen at Sellmans Connection (18AN1431)*
Barbara Israel, ESAF Representative, Archeological Society of Maryland

Excavation revealed a detached kitchen/slave quarter at Sellmans Connection, a Southern Maryland plantation house built in 1735 and substantially enlarged in 1841. These service buildings commonly occurred on plantations and farmsteads in the Chesapeake Region circa 1700-1864 (until Emancipation), typically housing the enslaved people who worked in them. Data on extant detached kitchens provide context for the Sellman kitchen and suggest several research questions. Architectural material, cooking utensils, and ceramic and glass wares provide a provisional model for detached kitchens assemblages.

3:15 *Question and Answer Session*

3:30 **Coffee Break**

3:45 **Invited Session: Working with Legacy and Distressed Collections – Insights and Case Studies**
Session Organize: William Farley, Associate Professor, Southern Connecticut State University

3:45 *Amidst Fields and Fluted Points: Evidence for Early Human Settlement in The Lower Quinnipiac River Valley*
Anthony Gambardella, Field Archaeologist, Heritage Consultants LLC.

This paper overviews the ongoing partnership between Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) and the North Haven Historical Society (NHHS), with a focus on the analysis of primarily pre-colonial Indigenous artifacts in the NHHS collections. These were collected and donated by avocational archaeologists throughout the 20th century and include numerous artifacts spanning the occupation of the Quinnipiac River Valley (QRV) including the Paleoindian period. The overdue analysis of these artifacts underscores the importance of investigating legacy collections and their potential to illuminate previously overlooked regions. The presence of Paleoindian and Early Archaic stone tools suggests a

deeper pre-contact cultural presence in the QRV. This preliminary study seeks to fill these lacunae and enrich our understanding of the earliest inhabitants of the area.

4:00 *Broadpoint Collections in the Northeast: Research, Results, and Reflections*
**Amy Fox, Graduate Student, University of Toronto

Broadspears, or broadpoints, are a diagnostic projectile point of the Eastern Woodlands and were the focus of my dissertation data collection circa 2015-2018. I visited nine collections facilities to photograph a total of over 600 points. Then, I studied their shapes using a geometric morphometric suite of measurements; the results are here discussed in the context of a history of archaeologcal practice. Overall, my broadpoint study serves as an example of a multi-site research project that a collections-based approach to archaeological research can support, the pros and cons of which finish the talk.

4:15 *Collections Management as part of the Quinnipiac River Valley Project*
William Farley, Associate Professor, Southern Connecticut State University
Anthony Gambardella Field Archaeologist, Heritage Consultants LLC.
Julia Giblin, Professor, Quinnipiac University

Archaeologists have long understood the scholarly value and ethical responsibility owed legacy and distressed collections. Rising awareness of a widespread crisis in collections management has spurred new consideration and analysis of archaeological remains in, for example, historical societies, state and provincial storage, in the care of private collectors or amateur archaeologists, or stacked in the corners of archaeological laboratories. This session includes papers directly addressing this crisis and case studies that display the potentials and pitfalls of working with legacy or distressed collections.

4:30 *Early 20th Century Avocational Collections from Reversing Falls, Pembroke, Maine*
Arthur W. Anderson, Associate Teaching Professor, University of New England
Gabe Hrynick, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of New Brunswick

The early 20th century avocational collections from the site at Reversing Falls in Pembroke, Maine provide important context for understanding the results of extensive excavations carried out at the site by the Northeastern Archaeological Survey between 2017 and 2019. While these excavations suggested a Transitional Archaic component to the site which had been heavily impacted by erosion, the early collections fill out this picture significantly and provide perhaps the most extensively documented example of an emerging pattern of eroded Maritime Archaic antecedents to Woodland shell heaps east of Penobscot Bay.

4:45 *Question and Answer Session*

5:00 **"Knap-In"** in honor of Dick Doyle
Watkins Circular Courtyard, Antone Academic Center

6:00 **ESAF Board Meeting**
Boardroom, Wyndham Newport Hotel, Middletown, RI

8:00 **Canadian-American Friendship Party**
Location TBD

Saturday, November 9

8:30-4:00 Registration Table, DiStefano Lobby
Antone Academic Center, Salve Regina University, Newport RI

Morning Paper Session – DiStefano Auditorium

9:00 **General Session**

9:00 *Between Two Sources: Interpretations of the Dolly Copp and Dolly Copp II Sites in Randolph, New Hampshire.*
Stephanie Scialo, Graduate Student, University of Connecticut; Heritage Consultants, LLC
David E. Leslie, Principal Investigator, TerraSearch Geophysical, LLC; Heritage Consultants, LLC

During the 2023 field season, Heritage Consultants, LLC, conducted Phase IB and II excavations at the Dolly Copp and Dolly Copp II sites, located on terraces above the Moose River in Randolph, New Hampshire. Lithic artifacts recovered from both sites included large preforms, unifacial tools, wedges, overshot flakes, and channel flakes, suggesting they date to the Paleoindian era. Additionally, the Dolly Copp II Site contained a hearth feature dating to the early Holocene. This region of the White Mountains contains several Paleoindian sites, however most are located in high lookout areas above the river valley. These newly identified sites stand out as isolated sites within the river valley and display significant exploitation of local rhyolite sources from Jefferson and Mount Jasper. The sites fit within previously predicted settlement patterns of Paleoindians within the Israel and Moose River Corridor as ideal locations likely to retool while hunting within the valley.

9:15 *The Looter on the Levee: Discovery and Investigation of a New Multi-Component Indigenous Site in Avon, Connecticut*
Sarah Sportman, State Archaeologist, Connecticut Office of State Archaeology; University of Connecticut
Stephanie Scialo, Graduate Student, University of Connecticut; Heritage Consultants, LLC
David E. Leslie, Principal Investigator, TerraSearch Geophysical, LLC; Heritage Consultants, LLC

In 2024, the Connecticut Office of State Archaeology (OSA) was contacted by an individual who discovered a deeply buried archaeological site in Avon, Connecticut. Intrigued by geology and archaeology of the area, they conducted their own “investigation,” digging several pits near the confluence of the Farmington River and Thompson Brook. Their excavations reached a depth of more than 1.7 meters and produced artifacts spanning the Late Archaic through Paleoindian periods, as well as a deeply buried hearth feature. Realizing they found a significant site, the individual came forward and turned over all of the artifacts and their notes. In response, OSA organized a research team and volunteers to mitigate the damage and carry out additional limited archaeology, along with geophysical survey, and vibracoring. Here, we present the preliminary results of that work, which revealed an incredibly well-preserved cultural sequence spanning approximately 9,000 years of occupation along the Farmington River.

9:30 *Investigations of the Deeply Buried Clovis Occupation at the Barton Site (18AG3), Allegany County, MD*

Zachary Singer, State Terrestrial Archaeologist, Maryland Historical Trust
Brian Fritz, Quemahoning LLC; ArchaeologyX
David E. Leslie, Principal Investigator, TerraSearch Geophysical, LLC; Heritage Consultants, LLC
John Wah, Matapeake Soil & Environmental Consultants
Robert Wall, Lecturer, Towson University

The Herman Barton Village Site (18AG3) is located on an alluvial terrace along the North Branch of the Potomac River in Allegany County, Maryland. The site spans over 30 acres and is managed by the Archaeological Conservancy. This site is significant for its deeply stratified cultural deposits from Fluted Point occupations through the Contact period. This presentation provides an overview of recent investigations of the deeply buried Clovis occupation, which is located around 2 meters below the current ground surface. Systematic test pitting via the PaleoDigger resulted in the discovery of a new deeply buried activity area. A ground penetrating radar survey and examination of sediments through terrestrial vibracoring and hand auguring provide insights into site formation processes at Barton.

9:45 *New Insights on Late Pleistocene Peoples in Western New York*

Johnathan Lothrop, Curator of Archaeology, New York State Museum
Kevin P. Smith, Archaeologist, Smithsonian Institution Arctic Studies Center
Susan Winchell-Sweeney, Anthropology Collections Manager, New York State Museum

The Paleoindian archaeological record in what we now call western New York is best represented by Early Paleoindian sites dating to circa 12,800-12,200 calendar years before present, reflecting the first indigenous peoples in the region. Based on recent research, we discuss four investigated Early Paleoindian sites in the region: Kilmer in Steuben County, and Arc, Hiscock, and Lamb in Genesee County. After reviewing regional evidence for the deglacial sequence and post-glacial Ice Age environments and landscapes, we discuss relative dating of these four sites and toolstone profiles as evidence for seasonal mobility and interaction. Our primary focus, however, is in evaluating site/assemblage characteristics to generate behavioral interpretations of each locality as evidence of Early Paleoindian lifeways in the region.

10:00 *A Fluted Point Period Occupation at the Munsungun Lake Formation: The Doyle Locality*

Nathaniel Kitchel, Assistant Professor, Salve Regina University
Heather Rockwell, Assistant Professor, Salve Regina University

The Munsungun Lake Formation in northern Maine contains some of the most intensively used Indigenous toolstone quarries in northern New England, with particularly heavy use during the fluted-point-period. Since 2015 we have conducted archaeological surveys and testing in this region to identify and test previously unidentified chert quarries and stone tool manufacturing workshops. Despite nearly a decade of work, we had failed to identify clear evidence of a fluted-point-period activity area in the vicinity of the only currently known red chert quarry in the region. In the summer of 2024, the Salve Regina Archaeological Field School along with volunteers from the New Hampshire Archaeological Society conducted excavations and testing at the Doyle Locality, an artifact cluster first identified in 2021 located on a small rise on the edge of the larger PPE site. These excavations recovered two broken and one complete fluted points in an area less than two by two meters

square. Here we discuss our recent discovery and provide preliminary interpretations of this new fluted-point-period site.

10:15 *Question and Answer Session*

10:30 **Coffee Break**

10:45 **General Session**

10:45 *An Overview of the Constitution Solar Site: An Archaic and Woodland Period Multicomponent Site in Plainfield, Connecticut*
Eric Heffter, Senior Project Manager, Heritage Consultants, LLC
David George, President and CEO, Heritage Consultants, LLC

This presentation provides an overview of the Constitution Solar Site, located in Plainfield Connecticut. Heritage Consultants, LLC, in support of Constitution Solar, LLC, conducted archaeological fieldwork at the Constitution Solar Site between 2017 and 2021, including a Phase III Data Recovery Project. In total, over 5,000 artifacts, consisting of lithic debitage, Native American Ceramics, as well as faunal and botanical ecofacts were recovered from the Constitution Solar Site. Additionally, at least 45 soil anomalies (including many cultural features) were encountered during the fieldwork. Cultural material from the Late Archaic period was the most frequently encountered at the Constitution Solar Site, particularly in Locus 4-1, although projectile points associated with the Middle Archaic and Woodland periods were also recovered. The material culture recovered from this site has implications for understanding Late Archaic land use and trade activity throughout the region.

11:00 *Life Across the Sound: The Winmar Homes Site and Late/Terminal Archaic Settlement near East Setauket, Long Island*
Christopher Brouillette, Field Director, Heritage Consultants, LLC
Brenna Pisanelli, Senior Project Manager, Heritage Consultants, LLC
David E. Leslie, Principal Investigator, TerraSearch Geophysical, LLC; Heritage Consultants, LLC

In February of 2024 Heritage Consultants conducted a Phase IA/IB survey of a proposed housing development near East Setauket, NY. This was followed by a Phase II investigation of the site in May. In the course of shovel test pit and 1x1 meter unit excavation, Heritage personnel recovered over a thousand artifacts of various lithic materials, predominantly quartz debitage along with lower numbers of exotic materials, dating to the Late and Terminal Archaic periods. Multiple partially intact cultural features were also identified as possible post molds. Analysis of the precontact lithic assemblage, along with the presence of the features, and the recovery of botanical and faunal remains from soil samples together provide insight on lifeways of the indigenous peoples who once lived within the project area, including settlement patterns, seasonality, and resource acquisition.

11:15 *On the banks of the Piscataquog: Result of excavations along Line J114 in Goffstown, New Hampshire.*

Brenna Pisanelli, Senior Project Manager, Heritage Consultants, LLC
Samuel Spitzschuh, Project Archaeologist, Heritage Consultants, LLC
David E. Leslie, Principal Investigator, TerraSearch Geophysical, LLC; Heritage Consultants, LLC

Eversource Line J114 follows along the north side of the Piscataquog River in Goffstown, New Hampshire. Archaeological investigations conducted within the existing corridor by Heritage Consultants, LLC, resulted in the identification of six precontact era sites. Investigations of the sites resulted in the recovery of diagnostic lithic tools and Native American ceramic as well as the identification of numerous cultural features, including hearths and cooking platforms. Radiocarbon dates collected from the features suggest that these sites were occupied and re-occupied during the Late and Terminal Archaic periods into the later Woodland era. The Piscataquog River was clearly an important resource that indigenous peoples organized their lives around during periods of technological and agricultural innovation. These investigations also document the utility of intensive archaeological testing, in contrast to more conservative archaeological sensitivity models; the initial Phase IB survey resulted in 450 shovel test pits, but only six percent (n=28) contained pre-contact artifacts.

11:30 *The Story of the Quarry; Insights into raw material introduction to trade networks of the Ten Mile River and beyond.*

Samuel Spitzschuh, Project Archaeologist, Heritage Consultants, LLC
Brenna Pisanelli, Senior Project Manager, Heritage Consultants, LLC
Christopher Brouillette, Field Director, Heritage Consultants, LLC
David E. Leslie, Principal Investigator, TerraSearch Geophysical, LLC; Heritage Consultants, LLC

During the 2024 field season Heritage Consultants conducted an archaeological survey on a parcel of land in Cheshire, Connecticut. The investigation resulted in the identification of three precontact era sites. A total of 473 lithic artifacts were recovered and a surface level quartz vein quarry was identified within the boundaries of the investigation. The lithic artifact assemblage of the sites was represented by various local and exotic raw materials. While the majority of the artifacts consisted of locally sourced material, the presence of exotic sources and the debitage assemblage suggests that lithic material procurement, tool production, and trade were occurring at the sites. While no temporally diagnostics have been recovered yet, analyses of the assemblage suggests a Late Archaic focus of activities. This presentation will discuss how these sites are informative about settlement patterns, lithic tool use, task specific activities, and trade networks within the Ten Mile River basin.

11:45 *Question and Answer Session*

12:00-1:30 **Lunch on your own**

Afternoon Paper Session – DiStefano Auditorium

1:30 **General Session**

1:30 *Citizen Scientists were an important part of my 20th century archaeology career: These volunteers helped me get the job done.*
Stephen Israel, ESAF Representative, Archeological Society of Maryland

My professional career has been a hybrid of Salvage, CRM Contracts, Federal Section 106, Section 110 Compliance and Review, public archaeology, and personal archaeological research. In each of these subfields I found opportunities for involving Citizen Scientist participation, for sharing ideas and knowledge, expanding the notion of contributing to the understanding and documentation of the past.

1:45 *Recent Lithic Sourcing Efforts in the Quoddy Region, Downeast Maine: Looking Back to Hinckley Point.*
Alexander Honsinger, Archaeologist, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB)
Alexandre Pelletier-Michaud
Arthur Anderson, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of New England
Gabe Hrynick, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of New Brunswick

A mudstone outcrop along the shores of Dennys Bay in Far Northeastern Maine has been suggested as the source of a distinctive speckled lithic raw material found throughout archaeological assemblages around Passamaquoddy Bay since the 1950s. Despite this long-standing association, scant evidence has been provided to confirm or deny the outcrop's role in pre-Contact lithic raw material economies. In this paper we present recent research using thin section analysis and X-ray powder diffraction which explores the relationship between artifacts and the prospective lithic raw material source. Concurrently, we also offer preliminary findings regarding the material's potential distribution throughout the greater Northeast. In the process, we also aim to demonstrate the multiscalar significance of lesser known but potentially highly recognizable lithic materials, with applications ranging from interpretations concerning local culture-historical chronologies, to broad, pan-regional social interaction.

2:00 **Thematic Session: The Critical Concerns of Preservation – Immigration and Immigrant Experiences**

2:00 *The Stranger's Disease: A Bioarchaeological Analysis of Yellow Fever Victims from Charity Hospital Cemetery #2, New Orleans, Louisiana (1842-1929).*
Alex Garcia-Putnam, Postdoctoral Scholar, University of New Hampshire

This work explores the (in)visibility of yellow fever in the skeletal remains of patients from Charity Hospital, an indigent hospital in New Orleans, Louisiana. From two skeletal samples (combined MNI of 99), this work focuses on the immigrant experience at Charity, and its links to yellow fever. Immigrants, especially from Ireland, had particularly high mortality rates from the disease. This skeletal analysis found that the remains of these patients showed few signs of poor skeletal health, in contradiction to health and mortality data presented in the hospital's records. Further, this particular burial ground was created because of elevated mortality from yellow fever epidemics in the 1800s. It is possible that these individuals died of diseases, such as yellow fever, that do not leave any skeletal indicators. This work has

implications for our understanding of both the disease, and the biases inherent in extrapolating from skeletal samples to past living populations.

2:15 *The Architect of the Liturgy: The Forgotten Career of Charles Patrick Keely*
**William Godat, Graduate Student, University of Georgia

The mid-19th century was a time of unprecedented immigration from Ireland to the United States. One such immigrant was Charles Keely, an architect who would design and build an estimated six hundred Catholic churches and cathedrals through his many-decade career working throughout the United States and Canada. Despite his massive contributions to the field of architecture much of Keely's work has been forgotten or intentionally suppressed due to both his Catholic and Irish heritage. The purpose of my research was to uncover a monumentally important architect who has been largely forgotten about due to his status as an immigrant as well as his ethnicity and religion. My primary method of research was reading primary and secondary sources about Keely and his career. My research indicates that the suppression of Keely is a common story that repeats itself when discussing Irish Immigration to the United States; however, despite the suppression of his name Keely's many designs have persevered and greatly influenced American ecclesiastic architecture.

2:30 *From Mills to Mansions: Gilded Age Families and Their Legacy on Local Communities*
Christina Volpe, Curator & Site Administrator, The Barnes Museum

This session will explore the dual impact of Gilded Age manufacturing families and immigrant communities on the development of local built environments. It will highlight how these families' economic power shaped industry and influenced the immigrant experience, social structures, housing, and community institutions. Featuring a detailed case study of a prominent Connecticut family, the session will illustrate their contributions to both the physical and social landscape of the region. Additionally, it will discuss how small museums, using programs like The Barnes Museum's successful "History Pints," can better tell these stories, engaging the public and fostering a deeper connection to local history.

3:00 *Question and Answer Session*

3:15-3:45 **Business Meeting**

4:00 **Happy Hour (cash bar)**
CRM Expo and Poster Session
Young Building,
514 Bellevue Ave, Newport RI

Investigating Holocene sea level rise, fluvial and estuary processes, and indigenous occupation at the Grannis Island archaeological site in New Haven, CT.
Cassie Aimetti, Graduate Student, University of Connecticut
William Ouimet, Earth Science Associate Professor, University of Connecticut
Sarah Sportman, State Archaeologist, Connecticut Office of State Archaeology; University of Connecticut

To enhance the developing archaeological interpretation of human occupation on Grannis Island in New Haven, CT, sediment vibra-cores have been obtained across the terrestrial island and the surrounding estuary to better understand the landscape from a geologic perspective. The Grannis Island site demonstrates the relationship that local indigenous populations have had with Long Island Sound for

millennia. Excavations and ongoing research since the 1950s have produced diagnostic lithic artifacts spanning the Middle Archaic through the Late Woodland period, an extensive faunal assemblage, widespread hearth related features, and a shallow shell midden extending across the island. Newly collected sediment cores range between 1 and 6 meters in depth, and have undergone radiocarbon dating with preliminary results ranging between 500BP and 3,500BP to build a calibrated age-depth model of estuarine sediment accumulation in relation to onsite sea level rise. Select cores are continuing through a sequence of pXRF, LOI, and grain size analysis to build a comprehensive understanding of the site's stratigraphic sequence. Over five distinct units across the sediment cores showcase the diversity and sensitivity of geologic changes as a consequence of sea level rise, in addition to human influenced expressions across the landscape such as visualization of a shell midden and hearth features.

Walking Trail Showcasing Cultural and Historic Sites at the Norman Bird Sanctuary
*Sydney Dufresne, Undergraduate Student, Salve Regina University

The Norman Bird Sanctuary protects 325 acres of land and serves as a wildlife and environmental education center in Middletown, RI. This location is well known as a steward of biodiversity and houses a dozen sites that are important to the cultural heritage of Aquidneck Island. Seven of these ten sites were previously documented and mentioned in the current trail map. However, no signage explains their significance, and some trails go directly through the sites, potentially having an adverse impact. This project utilizes GIS and GPS technologies to plot a new trail that considers the existing trails and pinpoints the known areas of significance, including sites identified through the 2023 Salve Regina Compass Program. With the addition of this trail, all ten known sites of importance will be highlighted and can be easily labeled for visitors to learn about while not intruding on the preservation effort of the site.

Archaeology Fieldwork at Fort Butts,
*Genevieve Dockrey, Undergraduate Student, Stonehill College

Over the summer of 2024 I had the privilege to work on an architectural survey of Fort Butts in Portsmouth Rhode Island. Throughout the six weeks of work we conducted there I researched and formed my final project on a visual representation of what the barracks may have looked like. In this poster session I will demonstrate how I came to develop my final representation and why art is a vital part of architectural work.

PaleoIndian Period Materials from Kennebec County, Maine
Jaime Donta, Cultural Resources Specialist, POWER Engineers, Inc.
Stuart Eldridge, Cultural Resources Specialist, POWER Engineers, Inc.

Site 38.99 was initially recorded in 2008 in the course of testing within an existing electrical transmission corridor in Windsor, Kennebec County, Maine. Additional testing in 2009 established the site's affiliation with the PaleoIndian period, approximately 10-12,000 years ago. Site 38.99, which sits on a terrace overlooking a tributary of the Sheepscot River, was relocated in 2020 and subject to further survey. Numerous lithic artifacts, including a fluted projectile point, and one cultural thermal soil feature were observed during the 2020 survey. Results of the 2020 excavation will be discussed and articulated with the wider PaleoIndian cultural landscape in northern New England.

Floodplain History of the Middle Connecticut River and Its Influence on Precontact Settlement
Edward Moore, TRC Environmental Corporation

Archaeological testing of 17 sites on the Connecticut River provide depositional histories for the Pine Meadows, Great Plains, and Moose Plain point bars in Gill and Northfield, Massachusetts. Stratigraphy and radiocarbon dates indicate the point bar margins built during the mid to late Holocene. Alluvial deposits were examined up to a depth of four meters and suggest outward building of the point bars initially

occurred rapidly, comprised of alternating bands of silt and sand. Landform stability is marked by transition to homogenous silty fine sand to very fine sand overbank deposits with developed soil horizons. Radiocarbon dates suggest stability along the outer point bar margins occurred during the Late Archaic period. Older surfaces tend to occur at the upper ends of the point bars. Downriver portions reveal more dynamic and younger depositional histories. In contrast, testing at Barton Island in Turner Falls reveal a Late Pleistocene depositional sequence.

A Preliminary Study of Ceramics from Site ME 5.06, Biddeford, Maine
Emily Maillet, Graduate Student, University of New Brunswick and University of New England
Samantha Billmyer, Graduate Student, University of New England
Hannah MacLeod, Graduate Student, University of New Brunswick
Francis Barss, Graduate Student, University of New Brunswick
Katie Monson, Graduate Student, Memorial University

Site ME 5.06, located on the University of New England campus near the mouth of the Saco River in Biddeford, Maine was excavated by eight students in May/June of 2024 as a part of the University of New Brunswick/University of New England coastal archaeology field school. This poster is an interim report on the ceramics recovered during the excavation. Ceramics from the site include sherds dating from the Middle Maritime Woodland period (ca. 2200-1300 cal BP) and possibly later. A sample of artifacts is analyzed to present initial findings regarding morphology, decoration, and age. Additionally, as the five student authors are affiliated with the University of New England, the University of New Brunswick, and Memorial University of Newfoundland, this poster also demonstrates the utility of international and inter-university collaboration in archaeological undertakings.

A Million Sunrises At Schoodic: A StoryMap on the Muted Histories of Schoodic Peninsula, Acadia National Park
**Deirdre McGrath, Graduate Student, University of New Brunswick

ArcGIS StoryMaps offers a way to encourage connections with culturally important places by delivering digitally accessible archaeological educational materials to audiences across distances. This project aims to assist in the telling of a fuller story of Acadia National Park by communicating the marginalized histories of Black and Indigenous Peoples, with archaeology serving to activate perspectives silenced in the written record. In one locale the homestead of Thomas Frazer, a free Black man and his family, from the late 1700's co-occurs with a 3000-year-old Ancestral Wabanaki shell bearing site. Due to homeland dispossession, there are a multitude of issues surrounding Wabanaki access to cultural places in Acadia. In addition, this site is one amongst many in Acadia which are at-risk due to climate change. This project demonstrates how StoryMaps may serve as one elementary tool for bringing place to people when there are hurdles to bringing people to place.

Evidence for Late Maritime Archaic period occupations in interior riverine New Brunswick
**Joshua Cummings, Graduate Student, University of New Brunswick

For more than a century Late Maritime Archaic occupations have been documented in riverine and coastal Maine. Contemporary Late Maritime Archaic occupations have also been documented in Newfoundland, Labrador and on the Quebec North Shore. In contrast, the Canadian Maritimes have often been viewed as an area with relatively sparse Late Maritime Archaic occupation. We believe this perception is at least in part the result of sea level rise and dam construction that has inundated many Late Maritime Archaic archaeological sites. Here we present previously unpublished evidence indicating that Late Maritime Archaic occupations were as broadly distributed in the middle Saint John, Tobique and Miramichi river valleys as they were in interior riverine Maine.

Historic Glass & Significance
*John Pelrine, Undergraduate Student, Salve Regina University

I will be presenting a poster based on how different types of historic glass can be identified. I will go into depth about the certain markings & features on different bottles and how they can be an important indicator of the significance of a historic site. I will also go into detail about the factory code information that is put on bottles beginning in 1903. Many previous historians have only focused on non-machine-made bottles, however it is important to understand the significance of these date code systems leading up to the 1950s. My examples will include artifacts recovered from the Newport Historic Spring site. Lastly, I will also focus on different types of glass manufacturing methods, and how they can be identified based on markings on glass.

Plenty of Fish: Identifying Use of Freshwater Resources at Woodruff Cave
Elizabeth Reed, Research Associate and Project Archaeologist, The Institute for American Indian Studies; Archaeological and Historical Services, Inc.

Woodruff Cave, located near Lake Waramaug in New Preston, Connecticut, is a multi-component Native American site that exhibits exceptional preservation of faunal remains. Researchers with the Institute for American Indian Studies (IAIS) have been reanalyzing this collection since 2021 to shed new light on the assemblage and reassess previous interpretations of the assemblage. Fish remains were only identified in the shallow, recently developed stratigraphy of the site; however, absorbed lipid analysis conducted on ceramic sherds from the Woodland component of the site indicates regular use of fish. This poster touches on osteological preservation in a region where such preservation is rare, as well as the importance of returning to legacy collections with new methodology, technology, and research goals.

Banquet and Keynote Address
Ballroom, Young Building
514 Bellevue Ave, Newport RI

6:00 Dinner
7:30 Keynote Address

Preservation for the Present: Reimaging Institutions as Instruments for Remembrance & Change

Rebecca J. Bertrand, Director, Newport Historical Society

On the cusp of 2026, the semi quincentennial of the founding of the nation, the Newport Historical Society is embarking on a transformational journey. This keynote addresses how our institution is actively re-examining the narratives we present to the public. As a nonprofit organization founded in 1854 to preserve and interpret the history of Newport County, we are working to actively move beyond a singular historical viewpoint to acknowledge and explore the stories often silenced. The Newport Historical Society is utilizing exhibitions, archival research, and digital tools to amplify previously underrepresented voices. This keynote conversation explores the power of these initiatives to foster a more inclusive understanding of Newport's past – a past that informs not only our sense of community's identity but also paves the way for a more just future.

The address will explore the process behind multi-year efforts to center the experiences of Black and Indigenous people, including a preview of new and exciting work to come. We are making space for underrepresented voices through the growing Voices from the NHS Archives database, compelling exhibitions, and beyond. We invite you to join us for one such exhibition–A Name, A Voice, A Life: The Black Newporters of the 17th-19th Centuries–on view during the conference at the NHS Resource Center. This address will explore the potential of historical institutions to serve as powerful instruments for remembrance, understanding, and positive change.

Rebecca J. Bertrand stepped into the role of executive director of the Newport Historical Society in January 2023. She oversees the stewardship of some of Newport's most important historic properties, including the Colony House, the Great Friends Meeting House, the Brick Market and the oldest house in Newport, the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House; the curation and maintenance of a robust collection of over 500 years' worth of artifacts, documents, and photographs; and a menu of public programs including the Museum of Newport History and other exhibits, tours, publications, and immersive learning experiences that bring history to life in the present.
Bertrand is a passionate nonprofit leader and spent seven years at Newport FILM, a non-profit year-round documentary film series. Most recently, she was Executive Director of the New York Yacht Club Foundation for Historic Preservation, and previously served as Director of Development at the Newport Art Museum. She is on the board and leadership team of Preserve Rhode Island and supports the Rhode Island Humanities as a committee member and has served a grant panelist for Rhode Island State Council on the Arts. Bertrand has deep roots in the Newport community: she is a graduate of Salve Regina University with a degree in Cultural and Historic Preservation. She is a past recipient of the Young Alumni of the Year Award and continues to support Salve as a proud alumna. Bertrand holds a M.A. from the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture at the University of Delaware with a certificate in Museum Studies.

Sunday, November 10

Morning Paper Session – DiStefano Auditorium

9:00 ***Thematic Session: The Critical Concerns of Preservation – Women and Gender***

9:00 *Adaptively Reimagining Modern Houses of Worship: A Case Study of the Chicago Loop Synagogue*
Chanen Hanson, Architectural Historian, JLK Architects

Whether Modern, Byzantine, Neoclassical, or otherwise, religious buildings of all ages and styles in the United States have undergone adaptive reuse since as early as the mid-twentieth century. Popularity of the automobile and increased secularization in the decades following World War II contributed to the closure of many religious spaces, a trend which continues still today. Yet, there are countless examples nationwide of how new life can be brought to these former houses of worship as restaurants, offices, and private homes. Just as common, though, are those religious congregations which seek not to abandon their spaces, but instead ask how they can reimagine their historic house of worship to become more dynamic and relevant to the present cultural landscape. This is the case at Chicago Loop Synagogue. As the name suggests, the building is situated in the "Loop" at the heart of downtown. Built in 1957 to serve the city's working professionals, the mid-century modern design is characterized by clean lines, geometric shapes, and a harmonious use of materials. It is a testament to not only Chicago-based firm Loebl, Schlossman and Bennett's adaptive and people-centered design philosophy, but also the successful collaboration between artist and architect. Abraham Rattner, a distinguished expressionist painter, designed a striking, colorful stained glass curtain wall, titled "Let There be Light," which dominates the primary facade at 2.5 stories in height and serves as a focal point for the main sanctuary space. The building is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing resource to the West Loop-La Salle Street Historic District. In 1978, architectural historian and author Brian De Breffny wrote that the building houses "[p]erhaps the most beautiful synagogue interior in the United States." Despite its historic status, location in the heart of a city celebrated for its architecture, and praise by architectural and art historians alike, Chicago Loop Synagogue is at risk of closure. Since 2020, a once robust community has been reduced to less than 20 members resulting in financial distress. The congregation, like many others nationwide, is looking for ways to continue practicing in its historic house of worship while offering additional programming beyond that traditionally seen at a synagogue. So, the building doesn't need to be adaptively reused, it needs to be adaptively reimagined. This case study explores strategies for preserving the significant features and spaces of the historic synagogue with an eye toward the future.

9:15 *"Mrs. Almy keeps a house:" Exploring the Architecture and Material Culture of Boarding*
Emilie Johnson, Curator of Arts and History, Thomas Jefferson Foundation at Monticello

On June 14, 1784, guests arrived at Mary Gould Almy's boarding house on Thames Street in Newport. They included Thomas Jefferson, on his way to sail for a political posting in France, and his 11-year-old daughter Martha. Robert Hemmings, an enslaved man who would conduct their horses back to Virginia, traveled with them, along with his younger brother James Hemings, who the Jeffersons took with them to France. They spent two nights with a woman who exercised her business acumen through the management of a well-respected and popular Newport establishment that hosted a wide array of travelers and activities. This paper explores Almy's boarding house as a locus of feminine economic opportunity and risk in the

early republic. Using Mary Almy's house as an example, one can reconstruct the architecture and material culture of boarding, reading the adapted domestic structures and the furnishings, textiles, and accoutrements that filled them. Examining the spaces and activities that filled such rooms adds layers of feminine and enslaved presence to historic cityscapes, even more important now as Mary Almy's boardinghouse was demolished more than 100 years ago. Even though this will be an imaginary reconstruction - and for the locals, I hope you will never look at the Mary Street parking lot quite the same! - this approach can be applied to various types of historic occupation to better understand and more accurately reflect the complexities of our historic communities and the people who lived and worked in them.

9:30 *Question and Answer Session*

9:45 **Coffee Break**

10:00 **General Session**

10:00 *Mounds, Missions, and Myths: Archaeological Investigations in the Great Oxbow of the Upper Connecticut River Valley*
Jonathan Alperstein Graduate Student, Dartmouth College
Nathaniel Kitchel, Assistant Professor, Salve Regina University
Madeleine Macleesterm, Assistant Professor, Dartmouth College
Grace Ward, Research Associate, Dartmouth College
Jesse Casana, Professor, Dartmouth College

The Historic Oxbow District of the upper Connecticut River Valley remains today as one of the most important agricultural centers for Northern New England. This location, historically known as Cowass(Coos, Cohass, etc.), is the Abenaki placename translated as "the place of the pines." This area was known in the 17th century to be the location of an Abenaki fort and a place of refuge for other Indigenous peoples to live as they fled colonial aggression and violence with early European settlers. In the 18th century, this region became a critically important place for the Seven Years' War and a strategic spot during the Revolutionary War. Today, this history is well known to the community. Still, the exact location of these early colonial features and the extent of the Indigenous occupation of the region has been lost to time. Combining remote sensing and geophysics, we can propose possible locations for some of these historically significant sites and map new elements, including Indigenous architecture, that have not been done before.

10:15 *Colonial Encounters in Coastal Maine: Archaeological Investigations on the Pemaquid Peninsula*
Jesse Casana, Professor, Dartmouth College

The estuaries of the St. Johns and Pemaquid Rivers, Maine, are home to some of the earliest English colonial settlements in North America, with the establishment of a fishery in 1604 at Damariscove Island, and the subsequent growth of a town and fort on the mainland at nearby Pemaquid. Yet the stories of these European colonists and their encounters with Eastern Abenaki and other Indigenous communities throughout the 17th century remains poorly known historically, while limited previous archaeological research has been challenged by the low visibility of cultural remains in these rugged coastal landscapes. This paper presents initial results of a new regional archaeological research project that is seeking to better document the settlement and land use histories of the Pemaquid region. Relying on a suite of remote sensing technologies, including drone-based lidar, thermal

imaging, and near-infrared mapping, as well as ground penetrating radar, electrical resistivity, and magnetic gradiometry, we are working to better define the extent, character, and distribution of archaeological remains at numerous sites in the region. Our results offer exciting new insights into the archaeological landscape, and lays the foundation for future investigations into the early colonial history of coastal Maine.

10:30 *Archaeological survey at Fort Butts Hill, Portsmouth RI*
Alexandra Uhl, Lecturer, Stonehill College

The Butts Hill Fort site lies on a strategic hill in the town of Portsmouth, Rhode Island in Northern Aquidneck Island. Having a strategic view of Bristol Ferry and Howland Ferry, the site played a role during the important Battle of Rhode Island in 1778, hosting British, American, and French forces at different points in the conflict. In early summer of 2024, the first of a multi-year archaeological preservation and research project at Butts Hill Fort in Portsmouth, Rhode Island began, facilitated through partnerships made between the Battle of Rhode Island Association (BORIA), Stonehill College, and The University of Kentucky. During a month-long field school run through Stonehill College, students learned grid planning and data gathering for remote sensing in an archaeological context, collecting Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) data using a MALÅ RAMAC GPR CU II module. The major aim of this project was to survey areas within and surrounding Butts Hill Fort to identify architectural and battlefield points of interest within and outside of the fort respectively. Such results would enable BORIA, who currently lead efforts to conserve the site, to confirm historical maps of the fort, better understand the site history, plan for the non-destructive implementation of permanent signage at the site, and plan for the implementation of future archaeological surveys of the site. Preliminary analyses of the GPR data collected show signs of the many structures we sought to locate through GPR such as the barracks. As we go through the data, we hope to locate the privies, magazine, and learn more about the evolution of the fort structure as it was repeatedly built on by British, French, and American groups. We hope also to identify potential for excavation and metal detection and will present our results come the conference start.

10:45 *Acknowledging Archaeological Biases: A Case Study of Rural Industrial Sites at Devil's Hopyard State Park*
Linda Seminario, Project Archaeologist, Heritage Consultants, LLC
Brenna Pisanelli, Senior Project Manager, Heritage Consultants, LLC

While Devil's Hopyard State Park in East Haddam, Connecticut is
well-known for its natural beauty and hiking trails overlooking the Eightmile River, it once served as the industrial center for the town of Millington. Despite the common practice of early rural communities containing small water powered mills for local economic production, not many of these sites have been studied by professional archaeologists in the region, especially in the state of Connecticut. In 2023, Heritage Consultants, LLC, was contracted to complete an archaeological survey of Chapman Falls in Devil's Hopyard State Park. This survey resulted in the identification of an archaeological site related to the industrial and domestic use of the landscape from the late-eighteenth through early nineteenth centuries. This paper presents a preliminary analysis of the site identified during Heritage's survey and considers the paucity of archaeological research on rural industry in Connecticut and New England as a whole.

11:00 *The Differential Diagnosis of Osteomyelitis Variosola: understanding osteological changes caused by smallpox and the potential applications to New England archaeology*
Marina Nadeau, Field Director, Heritage Consultants, LLC

Osteomyelitis variosola is a bone disease triggered by the variola virus (smallpox). Despite up to 20% of clinical smallpox patients demonstrating osteological changes, fewer than 10 cases of osteomyelitis variosola have been identified in the archaeological record worldwide. The underrepresentation of osteomyelitis variosola in the archaeological record, particularly from areas with documented smallpox cases, likely stems from the lack of widespread knowledge of the osteological changes associated with smallpox which may have resulted in the misdiagnosis of smallpox as other diseases. The application of the guidelines outlined in this paper to previously excavated skeletal collections in New England would have far-reaching implications; not only could this data aid in the understanding of both the short and long-term effects of smallpox on an individual scale, but also on the effects that smallpox had on the paleopathological landscape of colonial and post-colonial New England.

11:15 *Question and Answer Session*