

VERMONT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

February 2013

The Vermont Archaeological Society Electronic Newsletter

Greetings!

Research Ongoing at Fort Saint-Jean

The summer of 2012 will mark the fourth summer of the Laval University field school excavations at the Canadian national historical site of Fort Saint-Jean. Fort Saint-Jean was originally founded in 1666 by the same Carignan-Salières regiment that constructed Fort Sainte-Anne on Isle LaMotte, Vermont. Over the next three and a half centuries the location has been home to numerous fortifications under the French, British, American and Canadian flags.



Birch bark remains recovered during the 2012 summer excavations at Fort St. Jean. Due to a number of attributes identified both in the field and laboratory, the feature has been tentatively identified as a portion of a birch bark canoe.

During the last four years, the Laval team has uncovered artifacts and architectural remains dating from throughout the fort's history. Some of the features uncovered include defensive trenches and stockade from the French fort of 1748, a shipyard dating from the French and Indian War, the remains

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VAS Spring Meeting May 4th

O'Brien Community Center, Winooski

"Revisiting the Winooski Site and The Middle Woodland Period in Vermont"

For this special Spring Meeting the VAS is bringing together several people who took part in the historic excavations at the Winooski Site in the 1970s and others to discuss the site, its importance, and more recent work on the Middle Woodland Period in Vermont. We are also hoping to produce a reissue of James Petersen's 1980 publication *The Middle Woodland Ceramics of the Winooski Site A.D. 1 - 1000*.

Reserve the date! Additional information will be available soon.

Renew Your Membership

Memberships are renewable on January 1st of each year. If you have not yet renewed (or wish to join) a membership application can be found on the VAS Web site at of birch bark construction and the officer's stable complex from the 1850s. Research plans for the 2013 field season include expanding excavations around identified features and exploring previously unexcavated ground.

The project is a true exercise in public archaeology, originating as a tripartite agreement between the Fort Saint-Jean Museum, Parks Canada and Laval University. Members of the interested public are welcome to visit the excavations and near-by Fort Saint-Jean museum Monday through Saturday between 8am and 4pm from mid-May through late June. The excavations are located on the campus of the Royal Military College-Saint-Jean, Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec, a quick 45 minutes north of the US/Canadian border crossings at Highgate, VT or Rouses Point, NY.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Project Field Director, Andrew R. Beaupré, at arbeaupre@email.wm.edu

- Submitted by Andrew R. Beaupré



Teacher Workshop April 19, 2013

The NH Division of Historical Resources in partnership with Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center is pleased to announce the next Project Archaeology Teacher Workshop to be held on April 19, 2013, at Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center in Laconia, NH.

The Workshop flyer and registration form are available for download on the NH Division of Historical Resources' website http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/programs/project_archaeology.html

This year we are introducing a new national curriculum, *Project Archaeology: Investigating Shelter*. Built on the Understanding by Design curriculum model, *Project Archaeology: Investigating Shelter* is a complete archaeological investigation of a shelter site through nine lessons and a final performance of understanding. Students learn the fundamentals of archaeological inquiry and conduct their own investigation of an archaeological site through maps, artifact drawings, oral histories, and historic photographs. Investigating Shelter curriculum guide is for students in grades 3 and up; however, the lessons are specifically designed to fit the Common Core State Standards for grades 3 through 5. This new curriculum is endorsed by the National Council for the Social Studies.

In addition to the workshop, participants will hear a presentation on archaeology in NH by NH State Archaeologist, Dr. Richard Boisvert, and be

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treated to a guided tour of Prescott Farm.

Past participants are welcome to take the workshop again (you will receive the new workbook, Investigating Shelter). Space is limited so register early! Registration ends April 5.

- Submitted by Shiela Charles

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