Going back to 1998, volunteers from Connecticut, led by the late Brian Jones, Connecticut State Archaeologist, have joined in the SCRAP Octoberfest excavations. This year we have been able to return the favor with NHAS members volunteering at excavations on the Templeton Paleoindian site in Washington Depot, Ct. In June and over the Labor Day Weekend several volunteers including Dick & Deb Boisvert, NHAS President Linda Fuerderer, and Nathaniel Kitchel participated. Templeton is a multicomponent site with Archaic in the upper levels and a Paleoindian component beginning nearly a meter deep. Thus far the site has yielded hundreds of channel flakes and several fluted point fragments. This year’s work focused on a suspected habitation area and a point manufacturing area. One of the more interesting finds was a large flake blank made from chert from New York that was evidently destined to become a Paleoindian point had it not broken on site. The two pieces were found about 4 meters apart. The “big” find was a horse buried at the bottom at the deposits. This was an early 20th century draft horse whose grave had penetrated the Paleoindian deposits bringing artifacts to the near surface alerting the investigators to that early component. More investigations are planned for 2020 including a field school during the summer and another Labor Day excavation.
The NHAS
Annual Meeting
Strawberry Banke, Portsmouth

The 2019 Annual Meeting of the NH Archeological Society was held on Saturday, October 19th, at Strawbery Banke Museum in Portsmouth NH. Forty three members and guests attended.

The speakers offered presentations on sites in New Hampshire and Maine. Gemma Hudgell, Ph.D., Assistant Director and Principal Investigator, Northeast Archaeology Research Center, Inc, spoke on Two Newly Identified Early Holocene Sites on the Androscoggin River: The New Hampshire Department of Transportation Route 16 Project. Alexandra Martin, Ph.D., Archaeologist, Strawbery Banke Museum, spoke on Revisiting the 17th Century: Archaeology at the Sherburne House at Strawbery Banke Museum. David Trubey, Archaeologist and Review and Compliance Coordinator, NH DHR, spoke on Surveying New Hampshire’s State Reservations: Maximizing the Benefits of Public Archaeology. Nathaniel Kitchel, Ph.D., Robert A. 1925 and Catherine L. McKennan Postdoctoral Fellow, Dartmouth College, spoke on Recent Excavations at the Stevens Site: An Early/Middle Archaic Habitation in Northern Piscataquis County, Maine. Nathan D. Hamilton, Ph. D., Associate Professor of Archaeology, University of Southern Maine, spoke on the pre-contact Native American archaeology and first European occupation at Smuttynose Island, Isles of Shoals. Abstracts of their talks are available in the program for the meeting that can be downloaded from the NHAS website.

During the business meeting Tom Sherman and Judith Sadoski were each elected to a three-year term as Member-at-Large of the Executive Board. They replaced Pat Hume and Heather Tiberi, both of whom were leaving the Board.

Mark Greenly gave the Treasurer’s report for the year to date. Balance Sheet as of Oct. 15, 2019: Total cash assets: $28,704.05. Obligated funds $11,261.00. Unobligated funds $17,443.05. Cash flow for the year up to October 15, 2019: Income $4940.32, expenses $5350.03, negative cash flow $409.71

Mark explained that the negative cash flow was because the society paid for the 2018 issue of The New Hampshire Archeologist after the first of this year, so it appears on 2019 accounts rather than 2018 accounts.

Dick Boisvert presented Pat Hume with flowers and a card from the Board. Pat is leaving the Board after 12 years, but has been active since 1983 as either an officer (including President), a Member-at-Large of the Board, or a committee chair. She promised we will continue to see her at society meetings where will still be running the sales table. Heather Tiberi was not able to attend the meeting but Dick announced that 1st Vice President George Leduc would present her with flowers and card from the Board later that day.

After the meeting a number of attendees took advantage of two tours. Alix Martin conducted a tour of several buildings at Strawbery Banke. Meghan Howey of UNH invited attendees to visit her dig at the site of the First Parish Church in Dover NH. The society thanks both of them for organizing activities that added to the meeting. Also, thanks to Strawbery Banke Museum for providing the meeting room and to Independent Archaeological Consulting, LLC, for sponsoring the morning coffee.
NHAS BOUNDS INTO THE 20TH (OR POSSIBLY 21ST) CENTURY

Deb Boisvert

The NHAS board has been forging ahead to update the Society’s technology and communication. In the last year you may have noticed email notifications of Society events through MailChimp. If you have not received these updates for events or the annual meeting please email secretary@nhas.org to make sure that we have your correct email. If you have taken the opportunity to go the nhas.org website you will see even more changes. In addition to materials from the old website you will find upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, member bios, and most exciting, a new interactive Archeo Travel map. As this map is filled we will see how NHAS has covered the world as tourists and researchers. We currently have markers on five of the seven continents. You can help with the website development by adding to the map, sending pictures and short articles (as short as 100 words), or website corrections to webmaster@nhas.org. Look for more changes in the coming months as we will be creating an online store and taking credit cards.

IN MEMORIAM

MARK GREENLY

Since the spring newsletter was published we have learned of the passing of two Past Presidents of the NHAS.

Jane Ellis Nichols Spragg MD, died June 1, 2019, at the age of 97. She practiced as a physician, in New Hampshire and elsewhere, from 1948 to 1987. She was also active in civil rights and public health issues. She was a Member–at–Large of the Executive Board in the late 1980s and early 1990s. She was President of the society from 1992 to 1994. She was also a member of the DHR SCRAP program. Her obituary, which provides more info about her life, can be found online at https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/concordmonitor/obituary.aspx?n=jane-ellis-nichols-spragg&pid=193058851

Paul E. Holmes died December 22, 2018 at the age of 96. He was a veteran of both World War II and the Korean Conflict. Later he worked for New England Telephone and Telegraph and Raytheon. He was active in church affair and the American Legion, and the Plaistow Historical Society. He was active in the society in a variety of positions on the Board for at least 20 years, as a Member–at–Large of the Board in early 1960s and again in the early 1980s. Between those periods he was Secretary/Treasurer in 1960s, President in the early 1970s, and Editor in the early 1960s and again in late 1970s. His obituary, which provides more info about his life, can be found online at http://obituaries.eagletribune.com/obituary/paul-holmes-1071949575
A recent emphasis, by the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (NHDHR), on completing state-sponsored archaeological field schools and volunteer-based surveys on state-owned lands is maximizing efforts directed toward teaching archaeological field methods and increasing public awareness by also directly contributing to the inventory, documentation, and management of archaeological deposits on state-owned lands in New Hampshire. Investigations such as these are contributing interpretive data that can be used by state land managers in the creation of interpretive displays to be placed in park facilities and signage to adorn trail systems, campsites, and other recreational areas as well as inform interpretive programing. Newly informed interpretive displays, signage, and programing not only create more interest in, and awareness of, archaeological resources on state-owned lands, but also aid land managing agencies in providing outstanding educational and inspirational experiences that in turn are likely to increase visitor attendance and revenue.

In 2019, the New Hampshire State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program (SCRAP), led by NHDHR staff, conducted archaeological field investigations at three locations in New Hampshire. These investigations focused on identifying, documenting, and interpreting Native American deposits at Livermore Falls State Forest, Pillsbury State Park, and Bear Brook State Park. A brief summary of the findings from each of the investigations is provided below.

**Livermore Falls State Forest, Holderness**
The Livermore Hollow Site (27-GR-236), located within Livermore Falls State Forest, was initially excavated primarily to investigate post-contact archaeological deposits associated with a 19th and 20th century industrial complex and associated residential occupation. However, during the initial excavations, a somewhat substantial pre-contact archaeological deposit was also identified. The 2019 SCRAP investigation at Livermore Falls State Forest focused on the pre-contact Native American deposit. This deposit consists of sherds of broken Native American ceramic vessels, chipped-stone tools and the chipping debris associated with the manufacture and maintenance of stone tools, bone fragments associated with mammals and fish likely procured and processed on site, and a hearth feature exhibiting fire-cracked rock (FCR), fire-altered rock (FAR), charcoal, and a fish bone.

The Native American ceramic sherds identified at the site appear to come from
relatively thick-walled, grit-tempered vessels exhibiting a smoothed-over and/or cord-marked surface treatment. Vessels exhibiting these characteristics are generally attributed to the Early Woodland period, indicating that the Pre-Contact deposit, or at least portions of it, likely date to roughly 3,000 to 2,000 years ago. Archaeological data suggests that Early Woodland subsistence practices focused on hunting, fishing, and gathering near large lakes and streams. This coincides well with the location of this site on the banks of the Pemigewasset River.

The chipped-stone artifact assemblage is dominated by chipping debris or flakes, the byproduct of stone tool manufacture and maintenance. This indicates that the manufacture and maintenance of stone tools was an important activity at the site. Despite this fact, few stone tools were discarded on site. Stone tools that were discarded on site can be best characterized as expedient flake tools and crudely fashioned bifacially worked stone. One of the tools observed at the site appears to be an expediently made spoke shave fashioned from a chert flake. It is likely that more formal tools were manufactured and maintained on site as well, but were retained for later use elsewhere.

Observations of the chipped-stone assemblage indicate that stone tools were crafted from a myriad of raw materials including rhyolite, hornfels, quartz, crystal quartz, and chert. A number of flakes exhibit the exterior surface of their parent nodule or cobble, demonstrating that the material used was likely picked up on site in the form of small cobbles. Additionally, with the exception of the chert material, which represents a very small portion of the assemblage, the chipped-stone raw materials utilized on site are locally available. The more exotic and higher quality material, chert, may be more well represented in small sized flakes at the site, the result of stone tool maintenance, as tools made of high quality exotic material are generally held onto, or curated, and maintained longer than those made of poorer quality, local materials. The 2019 investigation at the site sought to sift a portion of the excavated soil matrices through a 1/8-inch mesh screen to test this theory. The results of the ongoing laboratory analysis will be forthcoming.

The hearth feature exhibiting FCR, FAR, charcoal, and a fish bone, was excavated as part of a 2-meter by 3-meter excavation block. The feature was bisected and excavated separately from the surrounding matrix. Well preserved charcoal was collected from between and directly beneath the FCR/FAR. Excavation of the surrounding matrix found lithic debris and Early Woodland period potsherds at the same level as the hearth feature. The matrix below the hearth feature level was found to be archaeologically sterile. Analysis of the charcoal collected from within the hearth feature yielded AMS dates of 2,750 to 2,710 CAL Yr. BP (800 – 770 B.C.), consistent with an Early Woodland period occupation. The charcoal was found to represent a shrubby plant species likely belonging to the genus Vaccinium in the family Ericaceae. There are 13 species of this genus native to New Hampshire and all are perennial shrubs or subshrubs (blueberry [7 species], cranberry [2 species], lingonberry, deerberry, velvetleaf huckleberry, and dwarf bilberry). In summary, the environmental setting and archaeological findings associated with the hearth feature suggest that approximately 2,800 years ago, fish caught in the adjacent Pemigewasset River were cooked or smoked upon a platform of rocks that had been placed upon a bed of hot
coals generated by the burning of locally available perennial shrubs.

**Pillsbury State Park, Washington**
The 2019 SCRAP investigation at Pillsbury State Park was carried out to determine the presence or absence of pre-contact archaeological deposits along the relatively flat, well-drained areas perched on the south shore of Butterfield Pond. Prior to the 2019 SCRAP investigation, no archaeological sites had been identified within the 5,000-acre state park. Furthermore, the survey area falls in Sullivan County, an archaeologically underrepresented portion of the state. As of 2018, only 59 archaeological sites had been identified in the county.

Three pre-contact archaeological sites (27-SU-69, 27-SU-70, and 27-SU-71) were identified during the initial testing at Pillsbury in 2019, which focused on “The Narrows” and former stream confluences. Native American artifacts identified include chipped-stone tools and the chipping debris associated with the manufacture and maintenance of stone tools as well as FCR and FAR. Additionally, a potential hearth feature was identified and preserved in place for future excavation planned for the summer of 2020.

**Bear Brook State Park, Allenstown**
Bear Brook State Park comprises nearly 10,000 acres of land in southeastern New Hampshire. The 2019 SCRAP investigation at Bear Brook State Park was carried out to determine the presence or absence of pre-contact archaeological deposits along a relatively flat, well-drained terrace overlooking the confluence of Bear Brook with the Suncook River. Based on several factors including environmental conditions and known history, it is likely that the park contains numerous pre-contact and post-contact archaeological sites, particularly in areas adjacent to water resources and/or transportation corridors such as former trails and roadways. However, prior to the 2019 SCRAP investigation only three archaeological sites had been documented and recorded in the park, one pre-contact site and two post-contact sites.

One archaeological site (27-MR-434) was identified during the initial testing along the Suncook River in 2019. The site contains both pre-contact and post-contact components. The post-contact component, increasing in density with increased proximity to a cellar hole located 60 meters from the terrace edge, consists of ceramic vessel sherds, window glass fragments, square nails, and a kaolin pipe stem fragment. The pre-contact Native American deposit, appearing to be more dense near the edge of the terrace, consists of chipping debris associated with the manufacture and maintenance of stone tools, calcined bone, a Late Woodland period ceramic vessel sherd, FCR, FAR, and a potential hearth feature. The hearth feature was preserved in place for future excavation planned for the summer of 2020. The 2020 investigation in Bear Brook State Park will continue to focus on the identification and documentation of pre-contact archaeological resources along the Suncook River.
Another decade is behind us as we slide into 2020. The NHAS has been thriving for 73 years.

Looking back on the last seven decades at the successful programming, journals and meetings, we should be proud of the commitment to archeology by so many members.

As the world progresses, so does the society. We are generating new ideas for programming as well as moving forward with technology upgrades. Archeology Month 2020 is just around the corner and we are investigating some new ideas for fun and informative programs. The poster is being designed, the spring meeting is being planned and board members are lining up events for the calendar. Please check our website for programs of archeological interest around the state all year.

At the Annual Meeting the Executive Board said goodbye to Heather Tiberi and Pat Hume. A big thank you to Heather for her work. Heather has presented at Archeology month events and spearheaded work on our Face Book page and website. Heather continues to educate youth in history and archeology and we look forward to working with her again in the future.

We would like to thank Pat Hume for her work and dedication to the society for over 40 years. Pat has been active in the society since the early 80’s. She has held several board and committee positions over the years including President of the Society. In addition, Pat has kept the site files up to date and organized, acting as Chair of the Site File Committee for almost 30 years. Her work on the Executive Board and the knowledge she has contributed has been invaluable. We look forward to continuing to tap her vast knowledge and Pat is excited to keep her role as top sales person at the book table at society meetings.

Joining the Executive Board this year is Tom Sherman. Tom has volunteered at NH SCRAP field school since 2009. His involvement with non-profit organizations in the US and abroad for the past 45 years includes: Managing Agency for International Development programs in Yemen and Lebanon, Co-Founder and current Chairman of the Board of Volunteers for Peace International Voluntary Services, board member of the Allegheny Valley project which conducts archaeological excavations and community archeology outreach programs in New York state. Tom has been a Yoga, Tai Chi and Mindfulness Meditation teacher in NH for over 30 years.

Also joining the Executive Board is Judy Sadoski. Judy has lived in Keene, NH for 30 years. She retired after 24 years from the City of Keene and enjoys travel, time with family and many outside activities. Judy is a member of several local boards and a Rotarian. With retirement, she’s had time to pursue her interest in archeology - particularly paleo-archeology. Judy discovered NH SCRAP through a poster and began participating in SCRAP field schools in 2016 in Holderness.

As always, I am eternally grateful to the members of the Executive Board for their hard work and enthusiasm. I look forward to celebrating our 75th anniversary with you in 2022, and remember April is Archeology Month in New Hampshire.

**Linda Fuerderer**  
President,  
New Hampshire Archeological Society
The New Hampshire Archeological Society Membership Application

NAME: ________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: _______________________________________________________________________

PHONE: ___________________________________________________________________________

EMAIL: _____________________________________________________________________________

To apply, please fill out this form and mail it with a check made out to the New Hampshire Archeological Society or NHAS for the amount (USD) indicated for the desired type of membership:

______ Individual $25

______ Institution $35

______ Senior (65+) $18

______ Student $18 (photocopy of valid student ID required)

Mail to: New Hampshire Archeological Society

Attn: Treasurer:

P.O. Box 406
Concord, NH 03302-0406

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