

## MINUTES

February 15, 2001

Members Present:

Glenn Andres, Architectural Historian, Vice Chair Ann Lawless, Citizen Member George Turner, Historic Architect David Donath, Historian Beth Boepple, Citizen Member Peter Mallary, Citizen Member, Chair Jim Petersen, Archeologist

Staff Present:

Emily Wadhams, State Historic Preservation Officer Nancy Boone, State Architectural Historian Sue Jamele, National Register Specialist Eric Gilbertson, Director

Visitors Present: Pam Daly, Consultant

The meeting was called to order at 9:21 a.m. in Conference Room 2, Third Floor, National Life Building, Montpelier.

- II. National Register Preliminary Review
  - A. Atherton House, Cavendish Ms. Jamele distributed a printed summary and photographs of the property. The owner is requesting the NR nomination. Ms. Jamele summarized the property (summary attached) and felt it is a good example of Cape Cod style from this time period. The Council gave a nod for this project to proceed.
  - B. Ruggles House, Burlington Ms. Jamele gave an overview (attached) of the property and stated it is a Tax Credit project. She suggested the property appears to be eligible under criteria A and C as an excellent example of historic elderly housing in Vermont and as an excellent example of an Italianate/French Second Empire style house. The Council agreed the project should proceed.
- III. State Register Review
  - A. Bostwick Farm, Shelburne Ms. Daly was hired to do an updated survey as many properties were omitted from the original survey done in 1977 and is







before the Council today to illustrate the need to expand the current state register survey. The current owners would like to build a retreat/conference center. A brief discussion followed a slide show of all the buildings. Mr. Petersen asked the Council is he is a conflict of interest considering his position at the University of Vermont. The Council felt it was not a conflict of interest. Mr. Petersen made a motion to accept the updated and correct state survey, Ms. Boepple seconded. The vote was unanimous to add the additional buildings to the current state survey.

- II. Minutes The minutes from the December 14, 2000 meeting were approved with one change on page 2, The Townsend Church, add "other" before revival details.
- I. Schedule The Advisory Council meeting for March 29<sup>th</sup> to be held in Montpelier, April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting to be held in Montpelier and a meeting was scheduled for May 15 with location to be decided at a later meeting.
- IV. Historic Preservation Grant Review Mr. Gilbertson distributed a two-page, bound summary sheet booklet of grant applications (copy attached) with scoring sheets. He explained the procedure to the members and made a presentation of one slide per project to give the Council an overview of all projects. The Council then viewed more slides, presenting each project in detail, and considered the proposed project. Each project was scored independently. After tallying the scores, the Council selected the projects listed below. Following the selection process, the Council determined all the buildings met the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

#### DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION FY01 – PRESERVATION GRANT AWARDS

GRANT #	TOWN	COUNTY	PROJECT	AWARD
01-06	Bethel	Windsor	Bethel Lympus Church	\$10,000
01-12	Brandon	Rutland	Brandon Town Hall	\$7,500
01-25	Vershire	Orange	Church-Orr House	\$10,000
01-31	Fairfield	Franklin	Fairfield Common School	\$7,000
01-05	Barre	Washington	First Church of Barre Universalist	\$10,000
01-09	Hartland	Windsor	First Universalist Society	\$10,000
01-38	Guildhall	Essex	Guildhall Public Library	\$8,000
01-20	Montpelier	Washington	Jacob Davis Farmstead	\$7,500
01-30	Bristol	Addison	Lawrence Memorial Library	\$1,150
01-35	Shoreham	Addison	Newton Academy	\$9,250
01-36	Brownington	Orleans	Old Stone House Museum	\$10,000
01-29	Pawlet	Rutland	Pawlet Village Graded School	\$9,350
01-16	Waterbury	Washington	Waterbury Congregational Church	\$9,489

Totals

\$109,239

Mr. Turner moved to accept the grants list as presented, second by Ms. Lawless, with changes in amounts to the following: Brandon Town Hall from \$10,000 to

\$7,500, Fairfield Common School from \$10,000 to \$7,000, Guildhall Public Library from \$10,000 to \$8,000, Jacob Davis Farmstead from \$10,000 to \$7,500, and Newton Academy from \$10,000 to \$9,250. The vote was unanimous.

V. Archeology Report

Mr. Petersen read the following report:

By this point, the 2000 archaeology field season has ended and Vermont archaeologists are hunkering down for the winter season of laboratory work, report preparation and planning for the future. Perhaps the most public pressing issue on the table is the matter of Monument Road in Highgate and the "unmarked" historic cemetery that was accidentally discovered there this year. As reported at past Advisory Council meetings, especially the October meeting, the Abenaki are strongly concerned about other undue disturbance there and elsewhere nearby. In fact, protection of Monument Road and nearby settings in Highgate, Swanton and even Alburg has become a very high priority for the Abenaki since the Monument Road disturbance was exacerbated by the accidental disturbance of at least one other Native American burial in Alburg this autumn. The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation has assured the Abenaki, local landowners and the broader public that they will coordinate development for a policy to address unmarked human graves in the coming months. The Swanton Historical Society, in collaboration with the Vermont Archaeological Society, has begun planning a public information session in the Swanton-Highgate area for some time this winter to help the local public better understand the prehistoric and historic occupation of the local area and broader Vermont. This will be a public presentation, not a debate, as conceived by planners of the event.

A second weighty matter recently before the public has been resolved, namely the development of rules related to Vermont archaeology and Act 250. As the Advisory Council knows, this has been a lengthy process. Several public hearings were held; at which time various constructive comments were made. However, the legal community seemingly challenged the very legality of some aspects of the Act 250 archaeology rules at one hearing. However, the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation and others, were prepared to defend the proposed archaeology rules when they were brought before the Vermont Legislature in the upcoming session. The Rules passed.

Ongoing discussions of archaeological prioritization in Vermont have continued among the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation staff and several external advisors since my last report. Political pressure seems to be partially directing this prioritization and the results seem to be mixed, perhaps limited to date, in part due to the paucity of background data and, fundamentally different opinions related to prioritization. Hopefully, this process and be put back on track in the near future.

Finally, recent lab work related to a prehistoric site in Alburg, studied in 2000 with funding from the Agency of Transportation, has produced rare evidence of prehistoric farming. Corn has been identified in association with remains attributed to the St. Lawrence Iroquoians, likely dated AD1400-1500. This represents only the third site in

Vermont with corn and the first attributed to the St. Lawrence Iroquoians. This site represents a highly significant discovery.

## VI. SHPO Report

Ms. Wadhams reported:

- The Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules has approved the Historic Preservation Rules dealing with archeology. They should be adopted next week and will go into effect March 15, 2001. Ms. Boone is currently working on a guidebook to assist folks with the changes. There will also be training available to District Coordinators.
- Archeology prioritization is still being worked on. They are currently looking into changing the predictive model.
- Shelburne Farms was named a National Historic Landmark.
- Staff is working on a job description in order to hire someone for a survey position. The Division is in a position to have someone come onboard and start planning the survey work.
- Ms. Wadhams attended a Rehabilitation Tax Investment Credit Workshop/Forum in Washington, DC. The forum was by invite only and there were 35 in attendance. They are talking about changing the program to make room for smaller projects.
- The Agency of Transportation Programmatic Agreement is finished.
- Downtown Legislation The Department of Housing is working with the Vermont Forum on Sprawl on writing a bill on downtown centers.
- The Vermont Congressional Delegation may be meeting with the United States Post Master General. Ms. Wadhams may attend to address the ever-growing concerns in Vermont.

The meeting concluded with discussion about appropriating for more grant funds for the next grant round. Mr. Mallary suggested the Council should continue to make it known that the grant program is always short on dollars.

Ms. Lawless moved to adjourn, second by Mr. Andres. The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.



## MINUTES

March 29, 2001

Members Present:

Peter Mallary, Citizen Member, Chair Glenn Andres, Architectural Historian, Vice Chair Ann Lawless, Citizen Member James Petersen, Archeologist

Staff Present:Emily Wadhams, State Historic Preservation Officer<br/>Nancy Boone, State Architectural Historian<br/>Eric Gilbertson, Director, Historic Preservation<br/>Shari Duncan, Administrative Assistant

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Peter Mallary at 9:02 a.m., in Third Floor Conference Room 1, at the National Life Building in Montpelier, Vermont.

- II. Minutes Mr. Andres moved to accept the February 15, 2001 minutes with a second from Ms. Lawless. The minutes were approved with the following changes: page 2, section IV, add " more" after viewed; page 2, top paragraph, add "if he is in"; Page 3, second to last paragraph, add "to be partially directing"; and page 4, after archeology guidelines, remove the second sentence.
- I. Schedule The Advisory Council meeting scheduled for April 13 to be held in Montpelier, the May 15 meeting to be held in Montpelier and June 15 possibly in Newport, Vermont.
- II. **Annual Meeting** The annual meeting was postponed until the April 13 meeting when more members will be present.
- IV. **Barn Grant Review** Mr. Gilbertson distributed a bound booklet of summary sheets of barn grant applications (copy attached) with scoring sheets. He explained the criteria and selection procedure to the members and made a presentation of one slide per project



to give the Council an overview of all projects. In a preliminary review before the meeting, DHP staff scored the applications and eliminated two of them from the final review round. The Council noted two applications, 01-09 Auclair Maple Sugar House and 01-35 Lareau Farm Dairy Barn, that they might want to put back in the final review round, after they reviewed the others. The Council then viewed more slides, presenting each final round project in detail. Each project was scored by individual members. The Council reviewed slides of 01-09 and 01-35 and decided not to score them after all. After tallying the scores, the Council selected the projects listed below. Following the selection process, Mr. Andres moved, second by Ms. Lawless that all the projects on the list below be funded, and that the buildings all met the criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The vote was unanimous.

## DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION FY01 - BARN PRESERVATION GRANT AWARDED

GRANT #	COUNTY	TOWN	PROJECT	AWARD
01-04	Essex	Bloomfield	Wes Bartlett Farm	\$7,500
01-10	Grand Isle	Isle La Motte	Harmon Noble Barn	\$7,500
01-11	Orange	Chelsea	Winterwood Farm	\$2,000
01-12	Addison	Leicester	Lajeunesse Dairy Barn & Corn Crib	\$7,500
01-19	Franklin	Berkshire Ctr.	Jewett Dairy Barn	\$6,180
01-23	Addison	Cornwall	Glen Dale Farm Barns	\$6,250
01-25	Windham	Guilford	Sunrise Farm Barn	\$7,500
01-26	Windsor	Hartford	Twin Meadow Farm Barns	\$7,500
01-28	Addison	Shoreham	Birdsall Barns	\$7,500
01-29	Rutland	W. Haven	Galick Farm Dairy Barn	\$7,500
01-30	Franklin	Fairfield	Green Wind Farm Cow Barn	\$6,500
01-32	Caledonia	Barnet	Ben Thresher's Mill	\$3,500
01-36	Windham	Brattleboro	Ray Family Farm Old English Barn	\$7,500
01-38	Washington	Waitsfield	Gaylord House & Barn	\$7,500
01-41	Windsor	Chester	Gaw Farm Barn	\$3,000
01-44	Caledonia	Ryegate	Nunivak Farm Barn	\$5,210
01-46	Orange	E. Topsham	Four Corners Bank Barn	\$6,000
01-48	Grand Isle	S. Hero	Maxham Farm Dairy Barn	\$7,500
01-49	Orange	Tunbridge	Whitney Round Barn	\$6,360
			Totals	\$120,000
lternate				
1-20 Add	dison Lincoli	h Three Bay	Hay Barn \$6,450	

Ms. Lawless moved to adjourn, second by Mr. Andres. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.



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State of Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation National Life, Drawer 20 Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

#### NOTICE

The monthly meeting of the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will be held on Friday, April 13, 2001 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Conference Room A/B, Sixth Floor, National Life Building, Montpelier, Vermont.

## AGENDA

1.	Schedule/confirm future meeting dates	9:00
II.	Minutes – March 29, 2001 meeting	9:10
Ш.	Annual Meeting – Election of Officers	9:20
IV.	National Register Final Review and Approval	9:30
	<ol> <li>Allis State Park, Brookfield</li> <li>Ascutney State Park, Windsor</li> <li>Coolidge State Park, Plymouth</li> <li>Elmore State Park, Elmore</li> <li>Gifford Woods State Park, Killington</li> <li>Maidstone State Park, Maidstone</li> <li>Mount Philo State Park, Charlotte</li> <li>New Discovery State Park, Peacham</li> <li>Ricker Pond State Park, Groton</li> <li>Sand Bar State Park, Groton</li> <li>Stillwater State Park, Groton</li> </ol>	
	12. Thetford Hill State Park, Thetford 13. Townshend State Park, Townshend	
	<ul><li>14. Underhill State Park, Underhill</li><li>15. Vermont State Ski Dorm, Stowe</li><li>16. Wilgus State Park, Weathersfield</li></ul>	
	<ol> <li>Taftsville Historic District, Woodstock, Hartford, Ha</li> <li>Piermont Bridge, Bradford VT/Piermont NH</li> </ol>	rtland

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## V. New Business

	<ul> <li>A. National Register Preliminary Review</li> <li>1. Nan Patrick Building, Burlington</li> <li>2. West Brattleboro Green Historic District</li> </ul>	10:30
	B. Preliminary Review Process	10:50
VI.	22 VSA14 Review	
	A. Chicken Bone Café, Burlington	11:20
	B. State Police Barracks, 4665 US Route 5, Derby	11:45
	Working Lunch	
VII.	SHPO Report	12:00
VIII.	Archeology Report	12:15
IX.	Old Business	
	A. Grants Programs Discussion	12:30
X.	CLG Grant Review	1:00
IV.	New Business Continued	
	C. Revised Archeology Guidelines & Predictive Model	1:20
	Revised Archeological Predictive	Model



#### MINUTES

#### April 13, 2001

 Members Present: Glenn Andres, Vice-Chair James Petersen, Archeologist David Donath, Historian George Turner, Architect Ann Lawless, Citizen Member Peter Mallary, Chair (arrived late)
 Members Absent: Beth Boepple, Citizen Member
 Staff Present: Emily Wadhams, State Historic Preservation Officer

Emily Wadhams, State Historic Preservation Officer Nancy Boone, State Architectural Historian Shari Duncan, Administrative Assistant Sue Jamele, NR/SR Specialist Elsa Gilbertson, Former NR/SR Specialist Chris Cochran, Tax Credit Specialist Judy Erhlich, Environmental Review Coordinator Jane Lendway, Vermont Downtown Program Giovanna Peebles, State Archeologist Scott Dillon, Survey Archeologist

Visitors: John Ostrum, Department of Buildings

The meeting was called to order at 9:25 a.m. by Glenn Andres, Acting Chair, in Confremce Room A/B, Sixth Floor of the National Life Building, Montpelier.

#### I. Minutes

The minutes from the March 29, 2001 meeting were reviewed and approved as is.

#### II. National Register Final Review

The Council received copies of all nominations prior to the meeting for review. Ms. Gilbertson showed slides of all properties being considered. The park nominations were

prepared by the UVM Graduate Program in Historic Preservation to help celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the State Park System in 1999. David Donath moved to nominate the properties under criterion A & C. Jim Petersen seconded. The Council commended the UVM Historic Preservation Program for preparing these nominations. The Council asked that the Department of Forest and Parks use special care to ensure the integrity of the buildings with their restoration. The motion passed unanimously. The properties included in this nomination are:

- 1. Allis State Park, Brookfield
- 2. Ascutney State Park, Windsor
- 3. Coolidge State Park, Plymouth
- 4. Elmore State Park, Elmore
- 5. Gifford Woods State Park, Killington
- 6. Maidstone State Park, Maidstone
- 7. Mount Philo State Park, Charlotte
- 8. New Discovery State Park, Peacham
- 9. Ricker State Park, Groton
- 10. Sand Bar State Park, Milton
- 11. Stillwater State Park, Groton
- 12. Thetford Hill State Park, Thetford
- 13. Townshend State Park. Townshend
- 14. Underhill State Park, Underhill
- 15. Wilgus State Park, Weathersfield

15. Stowe Ski Dorm, Stowe – David Donath made a motion to nominate under criterion A & C. Jim Petersen seconded. The vote was unanimous. There was some discussion about the relationship between the CCC and the parks.

17. Taftsville Historic District, Woodstock, Hartford, Hartland – David Donath stated that the Woodstock Foundation contributed half of the money to fund this project and he would be happy to recuse himself if the Council felt it was appropriate. There was some discussion and the Council felt David could vote on this project without prejudice. The Hartford CLG and Selectboard sent letters of approval that were read by Sue Jamele. Two property owners had submitted letters that were read and included a notarized letter from the Perry's asking to be excluded from the nomination and an un-notarized letter from the Fielders also asking to be excluded. There were many letters of support from property owners and a letter of support from the Regional Planning Commission. Central Vermont Public Service Board sent detailed comments. There was much discussion about whether or not the comments from CVPS should become part of the nomination but Elsa Gilbertson stated that the nomination is done as is and would have to be completely rewritten if they are to be included. She also stated that the letters and detailed comments received become a part of the record and didn't need to be actually written into the nomination. George Turner made a motion to accept the nomination under criterion A & C. Ann Lawless seconded. The motion passed unanimously.



18. Piermont Bridge, Piermont VT /Piermont NH – This nomination was prepared by the New Hampshire State Historic Preservation Office. The Council had previously received information on this nomination for review. David Donath asked if because the nomination was prepared by the New Hampshire Preservation Office if the Vermont SHPO was given an opportunity to comment on the Project. Elsa stated that any comments from the SHPO would be sent with the signed nomination. Jim Petersen made a motion to nominate under criteria C and Ann Lawless seconded. George Turner asked if a letter detailing the flood of 1927 should accompany the nomination. Glenn Andres noted that the flood of 1927 was already mentioned in the nomination and a separate letter was not needed. The motion passed unanimously.

#### V. New Business

A. National Register Preliminary Review

1. Nan Patrick Building, Burlington – Sue Jamele had previously sent the Council information on this project. She read a letter from the Burlington CLG approving the project. Sue's recommendation was to nominate under criterion A & C. The Council agreed the project was worthy of a nomination.

B. Preliminary Review Process – Nancy Boone explained to the Council that Chris Cochran, Tax Credit Specialist had come to the Council to discuss streamlining the review process. He stated that some of the projects were very clear and in order to speed up the review process maybe those very easy project need not be brought to the Council. The Council expressed concern over not seeing the projects. Emily stated that the Council would not be giving up any rights, they would simply not review every project that comes through. Sue said that a summary could be worked up to give the Council on the projects that were signed off on. Glenn made a motion to allow staff to make a preliminary judgement on tax act projects with provisions that staff will bring a summary to the next meeting for Council review. Jim seconded the motion. Dave asked if staff judgement of a project would bind the Council. Glenn thought no, that they were reserving the right to add comments. Dave stated that it was critical that the Council have the opportunity to see the projects as soon as possible following staff review. Emily noted that the borderline projects will always be brought to the Council for review. The vote was unanimous.

#### VI. 22 VSA14 Review

B. State Police Barracks, Derby – John Ostrum, an engineer from the Department of Buildings presented this project. He gave an overview of where the State Police are housed today and why they would like to build a new facility on this property in Derby. John had pictures for the Council to review. Some of the buildings on the property would be torn down and some of the buildings would be sold off. There is a barn that would be sold to a local person and moved 30 miles away. The motel units have been moved off site and the house is not spoken for. The State is looking for ways to recycle the buildings instead of demolishing them. John stated that the new facility could not be built if these buildings are not moved. The buildings do not fit into the State's needs for this facility. Judy Ehrlich, Environmental Review Specialist, did a site visit and stated that the property might be eligible for the State Register but wasn't sure it was worth trying to save. She said the property without the cabins was missing its feeling of originality and that neighboring properties were modern buildings such as McDonalds. John stated that what the State was looking for was permission to move the buildings. Glenn made a motion that the property was significant under criterion A. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. There was some discussion about the adverse effect. Dave made a motion that the Council found the removal of the buildings would be adverse. Jim seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The Council stated that there would need to be proper documentation of the property. Glenn moved that the following recommendations are being made, 1) request to consider re-use for the barn, 2) continue to find a new home for the cabin, and 3) document the cabin historically. Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### VIII. Archeology Report - As read by Jim Petersen

Although it remains difficult to imagine, the 2001 - 2001 laboratory season is ending and the 2001 field season will be here soon. In terms of the last season, work at UVM on the St. Johnsbury cemetery project is drawing to a close after a total of seven years of intermittent research for the New Caledonia County Courthouse. A total of 146 graves, containing a minimum of 152 individuals, were studied during four field seasons. The analysis of the 76 or so partial and complete human skeletons suggest that life in St. Johnsbury was rather typical of the United States in the era before modern medicine. That is, the average age at death was 31 years, and about 45% of these died before age 15; in fact, roughly 20% of the dead were younger than 2 years old. Many other interesting observations will be found in the field report to be submitted to the State of Vermont in the near future.

Work on revised archeological guidelines and prioritization continues at the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation. Giovanna Peebles plans have been shared with me and others will see them in the near future, presumably bringing the guidelines to the Council in May. Likewise, Greg Brown of the Department of Housing and Community Affairs recently prepared a draft policy statement for Native American human remains on Monument Road in Highgate, with obvious implications for other areas in Vermont too. Currently under review, the policy apparently will be important to the Abenaki's and local landowners alike. However, both groups have very different concerns, primarily the adequacy of coverage for the Abenaki and financial and property rights responsibility for the landowners.

Finally, one of the outstanding archeological prospects for the 2001 field season is related to the Chimney Point area in Addison, where very early 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century French settlement took place. Representatives of the DHP, UVM Anthropology and the UVM Canadian Studies Program plan to asses threats to house cellar holes attributable to natural erosion, current development and proposed development. If feasible, more substantial field work will follow in 2001 or 2002 to study these remains, representing the first substantial European settlement of Vermont, ca 1690-1759. I should also note that there will be a short archeological field school undertaken by Sheila Charles at

Mount Independence this summer, and there will be another public education field school this summer related to CCCH project in Chittenden County. As done in 2000, every effort will be made to involve the public in the CCCH archeological field work.

## III. Annual Meeting

Peter thanked both Glenn and David for the good work they have done. George made a motion for Glenn to stay on as Vice-Chair and Peter as Chair. Ann seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### I. Schedule

Meetings are scheduled for May 15, June 11 in Newport and July 19 in Swanton. It is noted that the locations may change.

## VII. SHPO Report

- Legislature Money for the Historic Preservation Grant and the Barn Grant Programs is looking good. Currently there is \$200,000 being considered for each program. It would have a lot of impacts on the Division but the increase in funds would make a huge difference to Vermonters.
- Federal Funding Federal money is not looking as good. There will be a decrease from the amount received last year. Last year 94 million was given to the states and this year the amount is 34 million.
- The extra money received last year is earmarked for: website development, developing a survey plan, development of new public handouts, computer upgrades, and database upgrades.

**IX. Grants Programs Discussion** – Eric Gilbertson handed out a sheet with recommendations for change to the Division grant program. The Council agreed with Eric's changes; photos in place of slides, encourage applicant to send in a map and scoring changes. Eric will bring the final scoring proposals to a later Council meeting.

X. CLG Grant Review – Jane Lendway came before the Council for the Annual request of approval of the CLG Grants. There is no competition for the money. Staff reviewed the projects and recommend that all projects be funded ( summary sheet attached). Glenn moved to approve all applicants. Jim seconded. The vote was unanimous.

#### IV. New Business

C. Revised Archeological Predictive Model – Giovanna presented the Council with information on the how the current predictive model works. She is before the Council today to ask that a revised predictive model be adopted by the Council today. The revised model is clearer, more accurate, better organized and better reflects the relative sensitivity of specific land forms. Jim felt that the new model may serve the

needs better. The Council stated they would want feed back on the impact of the new predictive model. Giovanna stated that by October they would be in a position to give a report. Ann made a motion to adopt the new predictive model. Jim seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45.



## NOTICE

The monthly meeting of the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will be held on Tuesday, May 15, 2001, at 9:30 a.m., in Conference Room #1, on the third floor of the National Life Building in Montpelier, Vermont.

## AGENDA

Ι.	Schedule/confirm future meeting dates	9:30
II.	National Register – Final Review A. Captains Louis & Philomene Daniels House, Vergennes B. Jerry E. Dickerman House, Newport C. District Number Four School, Craftsbury	9:45
III.	<ul> <li>National Register – Preliminary Review</li> <li>A. Random House, Calais</li> <li>B. Saddlebow Farm, Bridgewater</li> <li>C. West Brattleboro Green Historic District, West Brattleboro</li> <li>D. Williard Manufacturing Company, St. Albans</li> </ul>	10:15
IV.	22 VSA14 Review A. Chicken Bone Restaurant Review, Burlington, VT	11:15
Work	ing Lunch	
V.	SHPO Report	12:15
VI.	Archeology Report	12:30
VII.	<ul><li>22 VSA 14 Review Continued</li><li>B. State Police Barracks, Derby</li><li>C. Bennington Garage, Bennington</li></ul>	1:00



## MINUTES

May 15, 2001

Members Present:

Peter Mallary, Chair Ann Lawless, Citizen Member David Donath, Historian Beth Boepple, Citizen Member Glenn Andres, Architectural Historian George Turner, Historic Architect

Staff Present:

Emily Wadhams, State Historic Preservation Officer Nancy Boone, State Architectural Historian Sue Jamele, National and State Register Specialist Shari Duncan, Administrative Assistant

The meeting was called to order by Peter Mallary, Chair at 9:40 in Conference Room 1, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, National Life Building, Montpelier, Vermont.

**I.** Schedule – A meeting was scheduled for June 11 to be held in Montpelier, July 19 in Bellows Falls and August 21 with a location to be determined later.

#### II. National Register Final Review

A. Captain Louis & Philomene Daniels House, Vergennes – The Members of the Council had been sent copies of the nomination prior to the meeting. Sue summarized its significance and recommended approval. Glenn moved to place the house on the National Register under criteria A & B. Jim seconded. The vote was unanimous. Glenn commented that he hoped the new owners would consider removing the aluminum siding.

B. Jerry E. Dickerman House, Newport – The Members of the Council had been sent copies of the nomination prior to the meeting. Sue summarized its significance and

recommended approval. This project is a rehabilitation that will provide 6 units of affordable housing. Glenn moved to place the house on the National Register under criteria A and C. Beth seconded. The vote was unanimous.

C. District Number Four School, Craftsbury – The Members of the Council had been sent copies of the nomination prior to the meeting. Sue summarized its significance and recommended approval under criteria A & C. The Council had some concerns about the lack of information on the belfry.

#### II. National Register – Preliminary Review

A. Random House – The Members of the Council had been sent copies of the nomination prior to the meeting. Sue summarized its significance and recommended approval. This is a possible tax credit project. Sue noted that there had been many changes to the house but it does retain some of the original windows and doors and the house will be reclapboarded. Glenn stated that the window replacement was extensive and there was roof detail added and that alters the character of the house. He said it looked like the frame was all that was left. Jim said the project had many flaws and asked how much integrity was left. Dave stated that if the framer had been a master framer it may constitute a nomination. George felt there was a lot of speculation and not enough information. Glenn suggested the owner develop the local significance and document the work of the carpenter. Jim said the nomination needed a broader context. Peter summarized that there needed to be more context developed around the association with the builder and suggested the Council would not encourage the owner to move on without that documentation.

B. Suddleow Farm – The Members of the Council had been sent copies of the nomination prior to the meeting. Sue summarized its significance and recommended approval. Glenn stated that this nomination had an important story to tell. Dave said that there were other parts to the history not detailed.

C. West Brattleboro Green Historic District, West Brattleboro – The Members of the Council had been sent copies of the nomination prior to the meeting. Sue summarized its significance and recommended a nod. This is a tax credit project that will include 3 buildings to be rehabilitated for affordable housing. The proposed district is the first phase of a larger district to be nominated later. Glenn stated that there is no question that there is a district but how did they come up with the boundries. Sue said that it seemed the most logical place as the properties included in the nomination sit on the green. David noted that if they didn't cut it off the way they did then there didn't seem to be a logical place to cut it off. Sue mentioned that many other properties could be included and will be added in another nomination at another time. The Council gave a nod.

D. Willard Manufacturing – Sue explained to the Council that this nomination wasn't ready and they would be coming to a future meeting.

#### IV. 22 VSA 14 Review

A. Chicken Bone Restaurant, Burlington – Nancy summarized what has been happening with this project. She stated that the building is slated for demolition. The

Council had many concerns about demolition and thought maybe other uses weren't properly researched. Glenn stated that the building had a rich history and many connections to the shipping business and the maritime connection is strong. Dave moved to make it significant under criteria A & B. George seconded. Jim noted that the building had many alterations and wasn't close to the original form. Ann mentioned that by tearing down the ell, a great deal of it's history would be lost. She said they had looked at many options for the el before thinking of demolition. The Council voted in favor of the significance except for Jim who was opposed. Emily noted that funding has been a very big issue with the Chicken Bone. George suggested adaptive use of the ell for housing. Nancy asked if the building is still a contributing structure to the district? The Council agreed that it was and the building would also stand on it's own. Glenn said the building was one of the first in that neighborhood. George stated that he did not want to see the ell taken and was in hopes that the owner might change their mind and consider keeping the ell. Dave made a motion that there is an adverse effect to taking the ell and at the very least it should be recommended there be detailed documentation of the building's history. Beth seconded. The vote was unanimous.

#### V. SHPO Report

The Department is just starting an employee paygrade review. There are many positions that are not receiving equal pay to equal jobs. The Agency of Transportation recently completed upgrades and many of their positions that are equivalent to the Divisions position are receiving much higher pay. This review will take a number of months to complete.

The Division has two 25 year employees, they are Eric Gilbertson and Giovanna Peebles. There will be a celebration of some sort in the future.

The Archeological Guidelines are not ready to be brought before the Council. They are much too broad as they are now. Looking for a draft that everyone can agree on. Hopefully the draft will be ready to bring to the July Council Meeting.

May 16 there will be a workshop for consultants to review the changes in the State Register review.

The Post Office guide that the Division has been participating in is complete. The publication will be available on the web. The Post Office has been asked to comment on the factual accuracy.

Emily will attend the National Trust Conference in October and will be managing a session on Post Offices.

The Lake Champlain Basin Program received funding from Congress to evaluate the Corridor Concept on Lake Champlain. Emily will be advising the steering committee.

A publication that the Division provides to the public, "Taking Care of Your Old Barn", has recently been reprinted.

#### IV. 22 VSA 14

B. State Police Barracks, Derby – John Ostrum was present to update the Council on what steps have been taken to find uses for some of the buildings on the property to be used for a new State Police Barracks. John stated that he had taken many steps to find a re-use. There is a local person interested in taking the barn, the cabin is definitely spoken for and the Gilman Housing Trust is interested in the house. Glenn noted that John has done a lot of work to find a re-use. The report was accepted by the Council and the project has approval to move forward.

C. Bennington Garage, Bennington – This project was not ready to come before the Council at this meeting but plans to attend in the near future.

#### VI. Archeology Report – As read by Jim Petersen

Well, the 2001 archeology field season is upon us with the advent of spring. However, due to ongoing contract negotiations with the Agency of Transportation, several of the general contractors for AOT have yet to begin work again for various studies involving archeology. Thus, it is possible that it will be a somewhat "slow" year for field work in Vermont.

In any case, I do have several important things to report. The first of these is the recent publication of the first Native American view of Vermont's prehistoric and historic past, as well as contemporary events, related by an Abenaki, Fred Wiseman. Wiseman's new book is entitled: The Voice of the Dawn: An Autohistory of the Abenaki Nation", and was recently published by the University Press of New England. It is an important contribution to the regional literature.

Secondly, I would like to call your attention to the upcoming "Abenaki Heritage Celebration" scheduled for May 26 &27, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the park in the center of Swanton. As in the past, it is open to the public

Giovanna Peebles has asked me to share information with the Council about the upcoming conference scheduled at Dartmouth College on May 25 through May 27. Entitled "On the Threshold: Native American Archeologist Relations in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century". Please see the flyer that I will pass around for further details. This promises to be an outstanding event.

Fourthly, I would like to call your attention to still another flyer that I will pass around related to the latest publication of the Vermont Archeological Society. Volume 3 of the Journal of Vermont Archeology has been published recently and as you will see from the flyer, it includes a cross-section of topics relevant to Vermont archeology, including Native American and Euro-American archeological topics.

Finally, work continues on the revision of the Guidelines for Vermont Archeology by the Division for Historic Preservation. These will likely come to the Council in the near future, presumably at its July meeting. The Division has also scheduled an important meeting for May 17 at Vermont College here in Montpelier related to adoption of National register criteria for the Vermont State Register, inviting all archeological and architectural historian consultants to attend. Various topics of state-wide importance will be covered. Emily told the Council that Commissioner Greg Brown had drafted a reburials policy for Monument Road. Local officials did not like it and are now working together to find a solution.

Emily noted that she has been assigned to the Governor's Commission on Native American Affairs.

Jim moved to adjour, Dave seconded. Meeting adjourned.



## MINUTES

June 11, 2001

Members	Present:
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George Turner, Historic Architect Glenn Andres, Architectural Historian, Vice Chair Ann Lawless, Citizen Member

Staff Present:

Emily Wadhams, State Historic Preservation Officer Sue Jamele, National Register Specialist Nancy Boone, State Architectural Historian

The meeting was held in Room 10 of the Statehouse in Montpelier. The Advisory Council informally discussed National Register issues prior to the meeting while waiting for additional members to arrive. Concerns expressed included: the use of landscape contexts for different types of village centers (hilltop, mill village, etc.); the future of historic district nominations in light of broadened individual eligibility in the shift to the National Register criteria in the State Register program; and, the use of information on patterns in the landscape described in NR nominations to advocate for good planning through continuation of those traditional patterns.

Mr. Turner expressed a desire to see the Survey take a broad view of patterns and types of buildings and landscapes.

The meeting was called to order by Glenn Andres at 10:40. There was not a quorum.

I. Schedule – The Advisory Council confirmed July 19<sup>th</sup> and August 21<sup>st</sup> for dates. The September meeting will be September 20<sup>th</sup>, pending confirmation with other members.

Emily invited the Council and the PTV to the Retreat on July 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at the Lake House. The Division would reimburse mileage.

## III. National Register - Final Review

Due to lack of a quorum, the Council was not able to review final National Register nominations.

## IV. National Register – Preliminary Review

<u>A. Martin Brown Barn, Wilmington</u> – The Council reviewed a short summary of the history of the barn, a 1937 photo showing the prior structure, old slides showing the rebuilt (1933) sections of the barn. The Council said they needed more information. The farm context is gone and the house is owned by a different party. The owner wants to nominate it individually. She would like a grant. She may do a tax credit. The Council recommended that she proceed, with a caution that nomination will not necessarily bring a grant. She would need to hire a consultant to create Registration Requirements for its type, and then justify that it met them. The information supplied is confusing and Ms. Jamele will talk further with the owner.

Prior to the meeting, the members had reviewed materials on the properties below, and concluded that they all appear eligible for the National Register.

B. Peacham Village Historic District, Peacham

C. Green Bay Historic District, Peacham

D. 31 Intervale Avenue, Richford

A. 19 Powell Street, Richford

#### V. SHPO Report

Emily passed out copies of the Division's capital budget, as passed by the Legislature. The appropriation was close to the Governor's recommended amount.

The Historic Preservation grants were allocated \$200,000 and the barn grants will receive \$140,000, up from \$100,000 last year.

Emily shared a list of capital budget 'deli' projects. They totaled over \$800,000 in historic building projects. She noted that there are several other historic building projects that were funded out of "one-time" appropriations.

The Historic Sites Education Program Position was funded for another year.

The Downtown Program will receive \$1 million (The request was \$2 million).

There will also be \$800,000 for transportation and related infrastructure projects in the Downtown Program (\$400,00 already allocated from previous continuing commitments.)

Emily described the Division's efforts for the Vermont History Expo on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

VI. Glen noted that Middlebury College has offered to fund \$1 million for a new archive center for the Sheldon Museum and College archives. They studied a new 4-story building in Frog Hollow that would rise to the back of the Sheldon's gardens, but the estimate was \$3 million. As an alternative, te Museum is looking at buying the Italianate commercial building to the west of The Museum and rehabilitating it for an archive.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40.





## NOTICE

The monthly meeting of the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will be held on Monday, June 11, 2001, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 10 of the State House, State Street, Montpelier, Vermont.

#### AGENDA

I. Approve minutes of May 15, 2001 meeting

II. Schedule/confirm future meeting dates

#### III. National Register - Final Review

- A. Roswell Butler House, Newport
- B. Ezekiel Emerson Farm, Rochester
- C. Jericho Rural Historic District, Hartford and Norwich
- D. Waitsfield Common Historic District, Waitsfield

## IV. National Register - Preliminary Review

- A. Martin Brown Barn, Wilmington
- B. Peacham Village Historic District, Peacham
- C. Green Bay Historic District, Peacham
- D. 31 Intervale Avenue, Richford
- E. 19 Powell Street, Richford
- V. SHPO Report

Working Lunch

VI. New Business



## NOTICE

The monthly meeting of the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will be held on Thursday, July 19, 2001 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., in the Town Hall in Bellows Falls, Vermont.

## AGENDA

I.	Schedule/confirm future meeting dates	9:30
II.	Minutes – June 11, 2001 meeting	9:35
III.	Welcome from the CLG	9:45
IV.	New Business A. Reallocation of FY2000 CLG Funds	9:55
V.	SHPO Report	10:05
VI.	Archeological Guidelines	10:15
	Lunch	12:15
VII.	<ul> <li>National Register Final Review and Approval</li> <li>A. Roswell Butler House, Newport</li> <li>B. Ezekiel Emerson Farm, Rochester</li> <li>C. Jericho Rural Historic District, Hartford and Norwich</li> <li>D. Waitsfield Common Historic District</li> </ul>	1:00
VIII.	National Register Preliminary Review A. Brooksville Historic District B. Londonderry Inn, South Londonderry C. Blair Farmhouse, Manchester	1:30
IX.	Archeology Report	2:00
x	Walking Tour	2:15



#### MINUTES

July 19, 2001

Members Present:

Peter Mallary, Chair Ann Lawless, Citizen Member Beth Boepple, Citizen Member David Donath, Historian George Turner, Architect James Petersen, Archeologist

Members Absent: Glenn Andres, Vice Chair

Staff Present:

Emily Wadhams, SHPO Nancy Boone, State Architectural Historian Shari Duncan, Administrative Assistant Giovanna Peebles, State Archeologist Scott Dillon, Survey Archeologist Sue Jamele, NR/SR Specialist Chris Cochran, Tax Credit Specialist

Visitors:

Richard Ewald Ellen Howard

The meeting was called to order by the Chair in the Bellows Falls Town Hall.

#### I. Schedule

Meetings are scheduled for August 21 in Montpelier, September 21 in Burlington and October 29. Locations are subject to change.

## II. Minutes

George moved to accept the June 11, 2001 minutes as is. Jim seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

## III. CLG Welcome

Richard Ewald and Ellen Howard were present from the Bellows Falls CLG. They had handouts and photos to depict what Bellows Falls is in the process of doing. There was discussion about upcoming projects and concerns in Bellows Falls.

#### IV. New Business

A. Reallocation of FY2000 CLG Funds – Chris Cochran asked the Council to reallocate CLG funds to provide training that is tentatively set for September 7, 2001. Jim made a motion to reallocate the money. Ann seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

## V. SHPO Report

- Two RFQ's were received by the Division for the survey planning project. The Division is in hopes to start the project in the fall of this year.
- The Historic Preservation Fund in Washington has been cut to levels below last years money. Currently in the House is 42 million which is more than half of last years dollar amount.
- Emily attended the Preservation Roundtable Retreat in Grand Isle. There was a good turn out and gave preservationists an opportunity to discuss what is happening across the state.
- Nancy has been involved in Act 250 hearings at Middlebury College. The Division does not agree with the proposed changes.
- There is an Upper Story Task Force being formed. Emily and Nancy will be a part of the group that will meet until December. A report will be given to Legislature.
- Emily asked if they might invite Jim Richardson to the next Council meeting to discuss the State House Expansion Project. The Council agreed they should.

## VI. Archeological Guidelines

Giovanna Peebles and Scott Dillon gave an overview of the draft guidelines (attached). They explained some of the information included in the guidelines and how they work. Division staff are now reviewing the draft and will comment to Giovanna. The guidelines will remain interim until final comments are received. Discussion followed.



#### VII. National Register Final Review and Approval

A. Roswell Butler House, Newport – The Council had previously received information pertaining to this property (attached). Sue summarized the significance of the property. George made a motion to approve the nomination under criterion C, seconded by Jim. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Ezekial Emerson Farm, Rochester – The Council had previously received information pertaining to this property (attached). Photos were passed around and Sue summarized the significance of the property. The Council agreed that the photos didn't appear to match the text of the nomination pertaining to the history of the house. The Council would like clarification and will look at this nomination at a future meeting.

C. Jericho Rural Historic District, Hartford and Norwich – The Council had previously received information pertaining to this property (attached). Sue summarized the significance of the property. The CLG and Selectboard sent an approval letter. George stated that there is a property missing from the nomination. The Miller property should be included. He noted the Millers would be most interested in being included in the district. Jim made a motion to approve the nomination under criteria A and C, seconded by Ann. The vote was unanimous. The Council recommend the CLG to come back with an amendment to add the Miller property to the district.

D. Waitsfield Common Historic District – The Council had previously received information pertaining to this property (attached). Sue summarized the significance of the property. There were two comment letters received by Sue. There was one objection letter from a property owner that did not want their property included in the nomination and a letter of approval from the Waitsfield Selectboard. David made a motion to approve the nomination under criteria A and C, Jim seconded. The vote was unanimous.

#### VIII. National and State Register Preliminary Review

A. Brooksville Historic District – The Council had previously received information pertaining to this property (attached). Sue summarized the significance of the property. The Council stated they would need to see more information and suggested they get technical assistance to push criterion D.

B. Londonderry Inn, South Londonderry – The Council had previously received information pertaining to this property (attached). Sue summarized the significance and past around colored postcards of the Inn. After some discussion of the integrity of the property, the Council agreed more information was needed to fully evaluate the eligibility of the property under the National Register criteria.

C. Blair Farmhouse, Manchester – The Council had previously received information pertaining to this property (attached). Sue summarized the significance and past around photos. Sue stated that much of the original has been lost but there is enough

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to be eligible under criteria A and C. George stated there is more information needed about the interior of the building. Dave said he thought the property was marginal and more information is needed on the interior. There was no nod given the degree of the exterior.

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Meeting adjourned at 2:20 for a walking tour of Bellows Falls.



#### NOTICE

The monthly meeting of the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will be held on Tuesday, August, 21, 2001 at 9:45 a.m., in the Ethan Allen Room at the State House in Montpelier, Vermont.

#### AGENDA

I.	Schedule/confirm future meeting dates	9:45
'II.	Minutes – July 17, 2001 meeting	9:50
III.	Grants – Maximum Grant Award	10:00
IV.	New Business	
	A. Archeological Predictive Model – Doug Frink	10:15
V.	Staff/Program Introductions – VT Downtown Program	11:15
VI.	SHPO Report	11:35
VII.	Archeology Report	11:45
	Lunch	12:00
VIII.	State House Expansion Update	1:00



#### MINUTES

August 21, 2001

Members Present:

Peter Mallary, Chair Glenn Andres, Vice-Chair James Petersen, Archeologist David Donath, Historian George Turner, Architect Ann Lawless, Citizen Member Beth Boepple, Citizen Member

Staff Present:

Emily Wadhams, State Historic Preservation Officer Nancy Boone, State Architectural Historian Shari Duncan, Administrative Assistant Giovanna Peebles, State Archeologist Scott Dillon, Survey Archeologist Jane Lendway, Vermont Downtown Program Joss Besse, Vermont Downtown Program

Visitors Present:

Doug Frink, Act Consulting Trisha Harper, State Architect David Schutz, Curator for State Buildings Jim Richardson, Director of Facilities for State Buildings

The meeting was called to order by Peter at 9:59 in the Ethan Allen Room at the State House in Montpelier.

#### I. Schedule

Meetings are scheduled for September 20 in Burlington, October 29 in Middlebury, November 27 in Burlington and December 17 in Montpelier. Locations may change.

II. Minutes – Will be reviewed at a future meeting

#### III. Grants – Maximum Grant Award

Emily stated there is \$200,000 for Historic Preservation Grants and \$140,000 for Barn Grants. She is asking what the Council feels is appropriate for a maximum grant award. She stated the Division had no strong opinion on the grant award amount. There were many options discussed. Jim made a motion to raise the Historic Preservation Grant Award amount to \$15,000 and the Barn Grant Award amount to \$10,000 with and emphasis on giving more grants with less money. Beth seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### IV. New Business

A. Supplementary Archeology Predictive Model, presented by Doug Frink, Archeology Consulting Team, Essex Junction, VT. – Materials from Doug Frink at previously been sent to the Council. Giovanna handed out additional information. Doug summarized his reason for being before the Council today, he stated that the Council needed to decide to accept the models or not at today's meeting. Doug noted that the models are not intended to replace the Division's model, they are intended to be used in conjunction with the Division's model.

Doug gave an overview of ACT's two models and their differences. The two models are the Forest Community Model and the Post Glacial Lake Model. Jim stated that anything that supplements existing ways of getting information and builds on the Division's model can only be helpful and suggested the Council be in favor of and accept them today. Jim made a motion to accept the models and request that Doug report back in 6 months time. The motion is to include that these models dovetail the current Division model and does not replace or exclude the current model but is used as a further refinement. George seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### V. Staff Introductions - Vermont Downtown Program – Jane Lendway and Joss Besse

Jane and Joss explained their backgrounds and involvement with designing a Downtown Program based on the National Trust's Main Street Program. The two major activities are training/technical assistance and to administer the Downtown Act. They explained how Downtown Revitalization has come along way in the last few years mostly due to a lot of volunteers. Currently there are 13 designated downtowns in Vermont which represents 25% of Vermont's population.

Joss explained that the training and technical assistance is a somewhat serious and formal program. They work with communities through a series of events:

- First year covers the basics on how the committee will work
- Second year economic issues (marketing analysis) and what strategies can be developed





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- Third year marketing promotion
- Fourth year development to downtown
- Fifth year maintenance function, ongoing management

Jane stated that in 1998 Legislation provided a mechanism for communities to be eligible for state funds through Downtown Designation. Designation requires a huge commitment and must have a comprehensive focus, adequate water and sewer, adequate staffing and be within a National Register District. Communities must meet the definition of a downtown written by Legislature. The definition does not work in very community so the definition is in need of change to cover those communities such as Colchester, Willliston, Essex and South Burlington.

Jane noted there is a Vermont Downtown Conference to be held on September 21 in Montpelier.

## VIII. State House Expansion Update - Trisha Harper, Jim Richardson & David Schutz

Trisha explained to the Council that \$400,000 has been appropriated by Legislature to the Department of Buildings to undertake planning and design of an addition to the State House to enhance food service preparation and delivery in the State House cafeteria and to increase the space available to house standing committees. She noted that the work on the cafeteria will be finished before the next session.

Trisha handed out copies of the RFQ for the expansion that had been sent out. She noted that they received 28 back. The committee will now narrow the field down to 5 firms that will be asked to submit a design for the expansion. She explained the design requirements and guidelines (attached) to the Council.

There was discussion about the Council's involvement in the project. Peter stated that the Council had a strong desire to stay apprised to the issues involving the State House. Both Trisha and Jim assured the Council that they would be involved and it was important to them to know the Council's opinion on the expansion project.

#### VI. SHPO Report

The Post Office Manual is complete. It can be found on the Preservation Trust of Vermont Website.

The Upper Story Task Force is now formed and will begin meeting next week. The groups purpose is to find ways to encourage growth in town/village centers.

Senator Jim Jeffords is proposing 25 million for historic barns.

The Monument Road Taskforce policy is complete. They have made a proposal to the State on dealing with human remains. There were town officials, abenaki and property owners that worked on the policy. Much effort went into the work.



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Emily met with the Blairs from Alburg yesterday. They are the owners of a gravel pit where human remains were found. They are not willing to sell the property at this point and Emily is unsure if the State would purchase the property at this point. Emily will meet with April St. Francis next week.

#### VII. Archeology Report - Read by Jim Petersen

Archeology in Vermont continues to face many of the same issues, some positive and some negative. On the positive side, planning for Vermont Archeology Week, or VAW, has produced a solid program for the week of September 16 - 22. There will be several dozen events included in this year's VAW, ranging from a talk of Route 78 archeology work in Swanton (to be presented at the Pavilion Building in Montpelier) to the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Atlatl (spear thrower) Contest at Chimney Point. Once again, the 2001 VAW is jointly sponsored by the Division for Historic Preservation and the Vermont Archeological Society (VAS), with the generous financial support of the VAOT and Federal Highway Administration. Giovanna Peebles has brought us more information about the 2001 VAW this morning.

Also, I want to bring the annual meeting of the VAS to your attention. It is scheduled for October 13 in the Burlington area and a substantial patron to the program will be dedicated to historic military – related archeology, including local talks on Mount Independence and perhaps on the Hubbardton Battlefield. I should emphasize that the keynote speaker will be Doug Scott from the National Park Service, who will speak on his recent research at the Custer Battlefield in Montana, and related research. Doug's research has had national visibility in terms of his revisions and demonstration that Custer and his troops blundered, fought and in the end, ran. This talk will be well worth hearing!

On the more negative side, the VAOT, as predicted, only recently solicited proposals for statewide Archeological Consultants and will not make any decisions on this until latest August, or more likely September, thereby effectively losing all of the 2001 field season. This may be due, in part, to the recently increased work load place on the VAOT due to the Programmatic Agreement.

Another even more woeful tale I would like to report concerns a prehistoric archeological site identified near Route 2 and Industrial Avenue in South Burlington through a study for VAOT project. Being located on private property, the site was destroyed by the landowner this summer without any further study and no one had a means to prevent this destruction. This pints out a loophole in site protection statewide, even where Federal Section 106 had led to identification of sites in the first place.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.



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Asking More Than Where: Developing a Site Contextual Model Based on Reconstructing Past Environments

Douglas S. Frink

Baywood Publishing Company, Inc. 26 Austin Ave., Amityville, NY 11701 call (516) 691-1270 fax (516) 691-1770 orderline (800) 638-7819 e-mail: baywood@baywood.com web site: http://baywood.com



## ASKING MORE THAN WHERE: DEVELOPING A SITE CONTEXTUAL MODEL BASED ON RECONSTRUCTING PAST ENVIRONMENTS

DOUGLAS S. FRINK Archaeology Consulting Team, Inc. Essex Junction, Vermont

#### ABSTRACT

Contract archaeology accounts for the majority of archaeological studies conducted in Vermont. As these studies serve the development community, the focus of investigation has been to identify and avoid sites, not to research and evaluate the information they contain. Native-American site locational models have limited application because they are based primarily on the landforms' proximity to water. The Archaeology Consulting Team is developing a contextual model based on reconstructing the pre-European settlement environment. Hypotheses comparing expected size and function of Native-American sites in different environments can be posed at the Phase I level of archaeological studies. Furthermore, with Phase I level data, these hypotheses can provide the framework for research designs at Phase II and III levels of archaeological study.

#### INTRODUCTION

Archaeological studies contracted through the environmental review process during the past twenty-five years constitute well over 90 percent of the archaeological research conducted in Vermont. While contract archaeology has provided information regarding the number and diversity of Native-American archaeological deposits, the lack of research-oriented studies has resulted in a dearth of cultural syntheses of past peoples. Research has been conducted primarily by individuals and private organizations, as Vermont has no graduate programs in

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archeology. Contract archaeology has primarily focused on locating sites and on avoiding and preserving these resources. The few projects requiring Phase II and III level archaeological studies have provided tantalizing insights into individual sites, but the database remains too small to apply anthropological theories.

The need for cultural synthesis within contract archaeology has led archaeologists to borrow information from outside the region, and assume, without foundation, that cultural similarities exist. While projectile point styles may correspond, cultural patterns and processes may be uniquely configured within discrete territories and dependent on geographic and ecological limitations. Archaeologists synthesize information from Phase I level studies because the database of fully excavated sites is inadequate and does not provide a sufficient sampling of the range of cultural expression. Contract-oriented archaeological research has focused on the development of predictive settlement location models, rather than on cultural synthesis and explanation.

Settlement models have been used in cultural resource management (CRM) for many years to predict Native-American archaeological site locations. The models have provided the means to determine *a priori* those parts of the land-scape where CRM studies are needed. However, these models are inherently limited, and they have restricted the types of anthropological information collected during archaeological studies. The settlement models primarily determine archaeological sensitivity according to a landform's proximity to water. A given area is defined as archaeologically sensitive only if it is within a certain distance to an existing or former river, stream, or lake. Although some models include variables for soil drainage characteristics, landform genesis, slope, and aspect, an area's proximity to water is the dominant factor used to locate Native-American sites.

Settlement models based on an area's proximity to water are structured by the one dimensional question of "where are we most likely to find Native American sites?" Early Native Americans, like any cultural groups, depended on water for consumption and cleaning and to transport themselves. This dependency is taken as *prima facia* support for the prediction that sites will be found within a certain economical distance from water.

While the premise may be sound and the effectiveness of these settlements models has been demonstrated, what anthropological information can be obtained from knowing site locations? Yes, we are finding cultural material with which we define sites, but what cultural conclusions may we draw from this material? All too often, CRM reports, especially Phase I study reports, consist of an inventory of recovered data with little more than vague references to anthropological questions about the culture in question. We must look beyond the location of a site (where), and include who, what, why, and when to obtain anthropological knowledge about past cultures. We will be able to interpret the interactive system of variables solved by past cultures when we begin to address these questions.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY MODEL

An archaeological site is the product of human behavior and natural processes which have evolved beyond the event of human activity into the present archaeological phenomenon. The archaeological site is originally created as an expression of human behavior by people who chose to occupy a particular place to perform specific activities. Anthropological knowledge about human behavior will be within the context and the content of the archaeological site. Artifact inventories and their relational patterns documented during excavation are the content of the site. The artifacts may provide information about the people who once used them, but cannot alone describe human behavior. The setting—time, place, and general surroundings in which people chose to conduct various activities—forms the context of the site.

To improve the anthropological value of our predictive models, the Archaeology Consulting Team has undertaken a long term study to reconstruct the forest communities which provided the physical contexts for early Native Americans and their settlement sites. While recognizing that the Native Americans' need for water would influence settlement location choices, we suggest that they did not live by water alone. Specific resources for food, shelter, tool manufacture, ceremonial materials, medicines, and trade goods are all considered important needs of early Native Americans. The environmental setting within which Native Americans lived was composed of a complex mosaic of biological communities and geological formations. People chose to establish their particular settlements within this mosaic to best satisfy their perceived needs.

Archaeologists can reconstruct a shopping list of potential resources available at a given archaeological site if the site is viewed within its specific environmental context. The potential cultural interface between these resources and people can then be hypothesized. Why would a cultural group choose to settle within a given ecological community? At what time of year, When, would these resources be most readily available? How would they be most efficiently obtained? Over the past four years, we have been developing an environmentally based Native-American settlement model within Vermont. This model poses the multiple interactive questions of why, when, how, and where. Chittenden County, located in the Lake Champlain Valley, was selected as our primary study area due to the relatively abundant environmental data and number of identified Native-American archaeological sites.

Pollen core studies from Vermont suggest probable changes in the composition of the forest communities due to fluctuations in temperature and precipitation over the past 14,000 years. These studies suggest that a post-glacial boreal environment was evolving toward conditions somewhat warmer and drier than today when human settlement began in the Champlain Lowlands around 11,000 to 12,000 ybp (Carr, Worley, and Davis, 1977; Whitehead and Bentley, 1963). These pollen analyses suggest only one major climatic change, which occurred sometime

between 9,500 and 9,000 years ago. The evidence suggests a relatively rapid change in the forest community from the boreal-like forest dominated by spruce (*Picea spp.*) to the transitional mixed hardwoods-white pine (*Pinus strobus*)— hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) forest environment.

Recent research examining ice core samples in Greenland (Mayewski et al., 1993; Taylor et al., 1993) indicates that the Late Pleistocene environment, rather than gradually shifting, abruptly changed from a cool to a warm climate. Evidence from ice core samples reveal an average increase of 7°C (12.6°F) over a period of twenty-six years around 11,660 ybp (Alley et al., 1993). This abrupt rise in temperature would have allowed a woodland environment to flourish in this region when Native Americans arrived and settled in present day Vermont. Recent palynological evidence from archaeological sites in southern New England supports the establishment of the transitional mixed hardwoods-white pine-hemlock forests prior to, or contemporaneous with, the Paleo-Indian period (McWeeney, 1995). If mixed hardwoods forests similar to modern forests developed earlier than previously theorized, a process of coadaptation between forest environments and the newly arrived human species may characterize this time period. Furthermore, this coadaptation may have influenced the apparent stability of these forests to the present time (Flannery, 1995).

The pollen and ice core sample studies both indicate that minor long-term temperature and precipitation fluctuations have occurred during the past 9,000 years. The presence and absence of certain tree species correlate with these fluctuations. However, no evidence exists of significant changes in the general characteristics of forest communities during this time. The assumption that forest communities have remained relatively stable during the past 9,000 years is further supported by the degree of pedogenic development in many Chittenden County soils. The soil profile development suggests that the environmental conditions in the area have been relatively stable for the past 5,000 years or more (Curtis et al., 1976; Moore, 1982).

When European Americans began to settle in this region approximately 350 years ago, they cleared the land and obscured the composition of the former forest communities. The composition of modern forests has been affected by this clearing, agricultural use, selective logging, the introduction of new species, and the loss of other species due to introduced diseases from Europe.

## SEEING THE FORESTS FOR THE TREES

Our reconstructions of forest communities are based primarily on soils and topography (Allen, 1989) and secondarily on tree species recorded in original land surveys of Chittenden County (Siccama, 1971). These reconstructions have been used to identify some of the ecological environments which existed prior to European settlement. The USDA Soil Taxonomic System is based on the five interdependent factors that form soils defined by Jenny (1941): parent material, climate, relief, time, and biota. As the coevolution of soils and biological communities is fundamental to the soil classification system, a direct correlation between soils of similar geneses and forest communities is possible if all other factors remain constant (Frink et al., 1994). [Certain tree species will overcome other species in one soil type, but fail to successfully complete in another soil type.]

We have defined nine general forest communities by soil association for Chittenden County, Vermont (Allen, 1989). In most cases, these forest communities differ slightly from definitions established by foresters and ecologists (Ricklefs, 1973; Spurr and Barnes, 1980). The defined forest communities are more general and inclusive, and biased by the research focus of potential human use and exploitation. While the relationships between the specific soils and forest communities presented below are unique to the Northeast, this modeling process may be easily adjusted and applied to other regions.

#### Northern Hardwoods-White Pine (Oak Dominant)

This forest community favors soils that form in freshwater deposits and are low in base salts. A widely diverse, low density concentration of floral and faunal resources is expected, with the greatest [amount of] resources available from late spring to late fall (Figure 1).

The prevalent floral species found in the northern hardwoods-white pine (oak dominant) forest community include white (Quercus alba), red (Quercus rubra), black (Quercus velutina), and chestnut (Quercus prinus) oaks, white pine, American chestnut (Castanea dentata), hemlock, sugar (Acer saccharum) and red (Acer rubrum) maple, paper (Betula alba papyrifera), black (Betula lenta), and yellow (Betula lutea) birch, white ash (Fraxinus americana), pin cherry (Prunus pennsylvanica), and beech (Fagus grandifolia). Nuts and seeds from most of these trees are available during the autumn months, while pin cherry provides fruit during the summer, and sap (sugar) is available from the maple and birch in the early spring. The understory includes shrubs like highbush blueberry (Vaccinium corymbosum), mountain cranberry (Vaccinium vitis-idaea), gooseberry (Ribes spp.), currant (Ribes spp.), grape (Vitis spp.), and barberry (Beberis vulgaris), and produces small fruits from early summer to early winter. A variety of fleshy roots, tubers, and small fruits, available from spring to late fall is found in the herbaceous plants, like the spring beauty (Claytonia virginica), Indian cucumber (Medeola virginiana), and wood strawberry (Fragaria virginiana).

In addition to plant resources, this forest community also provides a variety of animal resources. The concentration of acorns in particular, as well as other mast harvest, aggregates white-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus), black bear (Ursus americanus), eastern gray (Sciurus carolinensis) and red (Tamiasciurus hudsonicus) squirrel, eastern chipmunk (Tamias striatus), and wild turkey (Meleagris

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Figure 1. Northern hardwoods-white pine forest communities; oak dominant. Chittenden County, Vermont.

gallopavo). In preparation for winter, white-tailed deer and other mammals make use of essential nutrients and fats provided by acorns (Stokes and Stokes, 1986). Ruffed grouse (Bonasa umbellus), woodchuck (Marmota monax), and gray fox (Urocyon cinereoargenteus), forage for seeds, small fruits, and, in the case of the fox, rodents, year round. The procurement of meat and hides from the faunal community should be reflected in a given site's artifact assemblage. This would include burned and discarded bone as a by-product of butchering and meal preparation, as well as tool kits reflecting hunting, butchering, and hideprocessing activities.

Native-American sites in the northern hardwoods-white pine (oak dominant) forest community are expected to reflect the exploitation of particular resources found within this forest community. Small to moderate-sized seasonal hunting and gathering sites, and resource processing sites are anticipated.

## Northern Hardwoods-White Pine (Maple, Ash, and Beech Dominant)

This forest community inhabits soils that form in well drained, shallow glacial till. Sugar, nuts, and wood are available in addition to a widely diverse, [low density concentration] of other floral and faunal resources. The greatest biomass occurs between the early spring and late fall (Figure 2).

Deciduous, broad-leafed trees form the canopy. Common species of maple include sugar, striped (Acer pennsylvanicum) and red. Other tree varieties include white pine, yellow and paper birch, northern red oak, eastern hornbeam, pin cherry, basswood (*Tilia americana*), black cherry (*Prunus serotina*), and hemlock. Shrubs found within this forest community include Canada yew (*Taxus canadensis*), beaked hazel (*Corylus cornuta*), elderberry (*Sambucus spp.*), high bush viburnum (*Viburnum opulus*), wood strawberry and prickly gooseberry (*Ribes cynosbati*) (Marchand, 1987; Benyus, 1989).

A maple, ash, and beech forest includes an upper mast of all three species, but maple will eventually dominate the upper story as the forest evolves. Maple has a wide seed dispersal, but when a mature maple falls, ash will grow in the newly cleared earth. Ash has a greater seed dispersal than maple, although it requires more sun and optimizes the light from the opening in the forest canopy. Beech has fewer seeds than maple and ash, but beech seeds are much larger and often germinate directly beside their parent trees. Beech also clones itself from suckers rising up from its roots. The seeds from less abundant trees, like birch and pin cherry, may lie dormant for as long as fifteen years.

The understory includes a variety of wildflowers. Blood roots (Sanguinaria canadensis), trillium (Trillium spp.), foam flower (Tiarella cordifolia), starflowers (Trientalis borealis), round-lobed hepatica (Hepatica americana), yellow dogtooth violets (Erythronium americanum), Mayflowers (Epigaea repens), Dutchman's breeches (Dicentra cucullaria), spring beauties (Claytonia virginica), jack-in-the-pulpit (Arisaema atrorubens), wild ginger (Asarum canadense), and wild sarsaparilla (Aralia nudicaulis) are representative species within the community. These flowers take advantage of tree falls and the resulting additional light. The growth and reproductive cycle of the understory takes approximately six weeks to complete (Johnson, 1980). A wide variety of herbs and other plants used for medicines are also available.





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Figure 2. Northern hardwoods-white pine forest communities; maple, ash, and beech dominant. Chittenden County, Vermont.

The forest community produces small fruits, seeds, and nuts, attracting songbirds, owls, turkeys, hawks, small mammals, such as squirrels and porcupine (*Erethizon dorsatum*), and large mammals, like bear and deer. Some predators, such as hawks, owls, and foxes, are in turn attracted by the other birds and mammals feeding in the forest (Brown, 1969).

The maple, ash, and beech forest provides the most floral and faunal resources for human use between spring and late fall. Notably, Native Americans would collect and process the sap of sugar maples in the early spring, and in the fall would collect and process beech nuts and the game attracted to this mast harvest. Small and moderate-sized processing camps and kill spots are expected within this forest community.

# Northern Hardwoods-White Pine (Oak, Ash, and Hickory Dominant)

Although similar to the previous community, this forest grows in soils that form in somewhat well drained, deep saltwater deposits that are high in base salts (Figure 3). A high nut biomass, along with wood resources, is available, in addition to a widely diverse, high density concentration of floral and faunal resources from early summer until late fall.

The species found in this forest community are similar to that of the maple, ash, beech dominant community. However, white oak, red oak, and hickory, which thrive in deeper, base saturated soils, will dominate maple and beech. This forest community supports a highly diverse floral and faunal population. White pine, white, black and red oak, sugar maple, beech, several species of hickory, and hop hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*) trees dominate the canopy of the forest. Numerous herbaceous plants, including trillium, columbine, hepatica, wild ginger, lilies, and ferns, as well as woody shrubs, such as high bush blueberry, compose the understory (Harris, 1990). Mammals that are common to this environment include black bear, white-tailed deer, red fox, weasel (*Mustela spp.*), red squirrel, and white-footed mouse. Many song birds, partridge (ruffed grouse), turkey, amphibians, and reptiles also live in this environment (Johnson, 1980).

The largest biomass for the oak, ash, and hickory forest occurs between early and late fall. Again, small and moderate-sized processing camps and kill spots are expected within this forest community.

#### Northern Hardwoods-Hemlock-Spruce

This forest community is generally found on soils that form in the lower Green Mountains foothills (Figure 4). These soils commonly support softwoods such as eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*), red spruce (*Picea rubra*), and balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*), and hardwoods including red maple and aspen (*Populus spp.*) (Babcock, 1981). Some of the most common herbaceous plants include red trillium (*Trillium erectum*), foamflower, starflower, hepatica, trout lily, wood anemone (*Anemone quinquefolia*), orchid (*Orchidaceae spp.*), Dutchman's breeches, wild sarsaparilla, violet (*Viola spp.*), jack-in-the-pulpit, closed gentian (*Gentiana andrewsii*), aster (*Aster spp.*), fern, club moss (*Lycopodium spp.*), and horsetail (*Equisetum spp.*) (Johnson, 1980). Seeds and small fruits are available during late summer and early autumn.





Figure 3. Northern hardwoods-white pine forest communities; oak, ash, and hickory dominant. Chittenden County, Vermont.

Mammals which may be found in this forest include white-tailed deer, fisher (Martes pennanti), porcupine, black bear, bobcat (Lynx rufus), red fox, snowshoe hare (Lepus americanus), red squirrel, and white-footed mouse. Some mammals once present in this forest environment, are now extinct like, catamount (Felis concolor) or have left the region such as the timber wolf (Canis lupus). Birds include owl, American crow (Corvus brachyrhynchos), Eastern phoebe (Sayornis

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Figure 4. Northern hardwoods-hemlock-spruce forest communities. Chittenden County, Vermont.

phoebe), flycatcher, woodpecker, American woodcock (Philohela minor), warblers, vireo (Vireo spp.), hawk, ovenbird (Seiurus aurocapillus), thrush, chickadee (Parus spp.), blue jay (Cyanocitta cristata), American goldfinch (Carduelis tristis), and ruffled grouse. Amphibians and reptiles are relatively rare in the northern hardwoods-hemlock-spruce, but some, including the red-spotted newt (Notophthalamus viridescens viridescens), American toad (Bufo americanus),

gray tree frog (*Hyla versicolor*), wood frog (*Rana sylvatica*), and several species of snakes, may be found in these areas (Johnson, 1980).

The plant population within the Northern hardwoods-hemlock-spruce forest community is diverse. Many of the tree and plant species found in this forest are documented as medicinal resources used by Native Americans. Table 1 lists a sample count of recorded uses of trees and plants found in this forest community.

In general, the chemical properties that make the plants in this environment useful as medicinal resources also render them unattractive to many animals. But the forest does support small populations of herbivores, including white-tailed deer, porcupine, white-footed mouse, snowshoe hare and red squirrel, as well as songbirds and game birds. These individuals, in turn, support smaller numbers of predators such as black bear, red fox, bobcat, fisher, and scavenger and predatory birds. In the past, wolf and catamount would also have been found in small numbers. With its limited faunal population, this forest community provides peripheral food resources but is not generally considered a food resource area.

A site associated with early Native-American hunting activities, a popularly identified site type, is unlikely in this forest community due to its low faunal carrying capacity. Native Americans would have been more apt to procure various medicinal floral resources from this area. The collection of floral medicinal resources is considered culturally significant, but would have left little evidence in the archaeological record.

# Table 1. Count of Native-American Medicinal Uses of Plants and Trees in the Northern Hardwoods-Hemlock-Spruce Forest Community

Floral	Medicinal Uses <sup>a</sup>	Floral	Medicinal Uses <sup>a</sup>	
Aspen	46	Round-Lobbed Hepatica	20	
Balsam Fir	45	Horsetail	15	
Eastern Hemlock	41	Jack-in-the-Pulpit	51	
Red Maple	13	Trout Lily	6	
Red Spruce	4	Club Moss	15	
Dutchman's Breeches	1	Wild Sarsaparilla	44	
Orchid	multiple	Starflower	2	
Fern	35	Red Trillium	6	
Foamflower	11	Violet	75	
Closed Gentain	. 9	Wood Anemone	9	

<sup>8</sup>Counts taken from database compiled in ethnobotanical technical report (Moerman, 1986).

#### Pine-Hemlock-Oak

The glacial outwash deltas of rivers in the Champlain Valley support the pine-hemlock-oak forest community (Figure 5). The dominant soils that coevolve with the pine-hemlock-oak forest community are sandy, nutrient poor, acidic, deep, and moderately to excessively well-drained Spodosols.

A mature pine-hemlock-oak forest evolves toward a mixed oak and hemlock dominated forest. However, the evolution of a hardwood dominated forest is prevented by the frequent forest fires characteristic of this forest community. Oak is more susceptible to small to moderate-sized fires than pine. Following deforestation from large catastrophic fires, low-lying, shade intolerant species emerge and thrive until the forest canopy redevelops (Pyne, 1988).

The burning episodes alternate with the maturation of forest vegetation. In the first stage of growth immediately following a burn episode, colonizing shrubs, berries, grasses, herbs, and wildflowers cover the exposed forest floor. These shade-intolerant plants grow for three to seven years until the canopy thickens and blocks the light. The second stage is distinguished from the first by more developed pine and oak masts, and limited undergrowth. Both stages support a wide range of flora and fauna during specific times of the year.

The first growth stage produces small fruits and nuts in the mid to late summer. Plants attract herbivores, which in turn attract carnivores and omnivores. The secondary growth stage, with its well-developed canopy and limited undergrowth, yields ample nut and seeds in the fall. The concentration of acorns and seeds attracts mammals of all sizes.

Small to moderate-sized processing camps and kill spots are expected within this forest community. Differences in site location and frequency may reflect the use of the two different growth stages characterizing this forest.

## Bottomland Hardwoods

These forests occur in soils that form in riverbank deposits along primary mature rivers with relatively broad floodplains (Figure 6). Bottomland hardwoods forests are primarily composed of hardwoods (approximately 50%) and pine (usually less than 25%), with the remaining 25 percent mixed (McWilliams and Rosson, 1990). The composition of this community consists of swamp white (*Quercus bicolor*), burr (*Quercus macrocarpa*) and black oak, black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*). green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), hickory, black cherry, poplar (*Populus spp.*), basswood, soft (red) maple, and white walnut. Many species of greens, grains, tubers, and small fruits grow in this environment. A wide range of mammals, reptiles, and fish in the bordering waterways are found here





Figure 5. Pine-hemlock-oak forest communities. Chittenden County, Vermont.

as well. These resources are plentiful and easy to procure during the mid to late summer months.

Moderate to large processing sites and long duration encampments are anticipated in the bottomland hardwood forest community due to the high density and diversity of potential resources. Small kill spots and resource gathering sites are also likely to be present.



Figure 6. Bottomland hardwoods forest communities. Chittenden County, Vermont.

# Spruce-Alpine

This forest community inhabits soils that form in the upper Green Mountains foothills (Figure 7). This forest type is characterized by low diversity and density of floral and faunal resources, with small mammals (e.g., vole-sized) predominant. Due to the low diversity and density of the biomass, early Native-American habitation sites are not anticipated. Herb gathering and special use sites, such as sacred sites. are likely, but may not be archaeologically evident.



Figure 7. Spruce-alpine forest communities. Chittenden County, Vermont.

# **Freshwater Marsh**

Although generally not thought of as a forest community *per se*, the freshwater marsh favors muck and peat soils (Figure 8). This forest community type occurs as an ecological niche within the other forest types previously mentioned, or at the interface between water and land environments. Migratory fowl, mammals, tubers, and small fruits are plentiful during mid to late autumn.



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Figure 8. Fresh water marsh environments. Chittenden County, Vermont.

The Lake Champlain shoreline along the western border of Vermont includes many bays and associated wetlands. These lake-associated wetlands, along with several existing and former smaller lakes and ponds in Chittenden County, produce a wider variety and greater abundance of flora and fauna than any other ecological environment.

Among the diverse organisms represented in this ecological environment, several types of species are conspicuously abundant during specific seasons of the year. These inhabitants include plants, birds, fish, mollusks and crustaceans, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles.

In wetlands environments, plants flourish during the summer and early fall seasons. The complexity of environmental conditions within the wetland results in a similarly diverse floral population. Vegetation within the wetland is chiefly determined by water depth. As a result, wetland vegetation is described by dividing the plants into three types: emergent, floating-leaf, and submergent. Emergent flora includes plants that grow with roots and often portions of the stems in wet soil or water. Examples of emergent plants found in Champlain Valley wetlands include scouring rush (Equisetum), cattail (Typha latifolia), bulrush (Scirpus validus), three-way sedge (Dulchium), burreed (Sparganium spp.), wild rice (Zizania aquatica), spikerush (Eleocharis acicularis), arrowhead (Sagittaria spp.), pickerelweed (Pontederia cordata), waterdock (Rumex orbiculatus), smartweed (Polygonum spp.), arrow arum (Peltrandra spp.), and sweet flag (Acorus calamus). Floating-leaf plants are those rooted in deeper water that tend to send up broad, floating leaves to the surface where photosynthesis takes place. Nutrients move between leaves and massive tubers via flexible and slender stems which can grow up to six feed in length. As a result, this group of plants can adapt to fluctuating water levels more easily than emergent plants. Examples of this plant type in the Champlain Valley include the water lily (Nymphaea odorata), splatterdock (Nuphar variegatum), water shield (Brasenia), duckweed (Lemna spp.), and water meal (Wolffia spp.). Submergent plants are generally rooted plants with stems and leaves and they are mostly or entirely underwater. This type of plant is characterized by fine, complex and compound leaves which maximize the available sunlight and help it to flourish in murky waters. Flora in the Champlain Valley representing this type include coontail (Ceratophylum spp.), waterweed (Elodea), pondweed (Potamogeton spp.), water-celery (Vallisineria americana), water marigold (Megalodonata), bushy pondweed (Najas spp.), water-stargrass (Heteranthera), and bladderwort (Utricularia spp.) (Countryman, 1977, 1978).

Many species of birds can be found in wetland environments. Wetlands and associated bays form essential feeding and nesting habitats for waterfowl, marsh birds, and shorebirds. Waterfowl prefer plants available only in marsh environments. Although relatively few species of birds winter in the area, great numbers pass through the valley during the spring and fall migration periods. Species including ducks (*Anas spp.*), geese (*Branta spp.*), loons (*Gavia immer*), piedbilled grebes (*Podilymbus podiceps*), American bitterns (*Botaurus lentiginosus*), herons, black terns (*Chlidonias nigra*), red-winged blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), and Virginia rails (*Rallus limicola*) depend on Lake Champlain bays and wetlands. Other now-extinct species, such as the passenger pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*), once depended on the valley as well (Spear, 1976, 1979). Wetlands are also favored by the waterfowl that stay to nest. Water levels are high in the spring, inundating adjacent hardwood and shrub areas, and provide ideal nesting environments for waterfowl.

Many species of fish occupy the bays and wetlands environments. Although relatively little is understood of fish in wetland environments, it is known that they are most concentrated in the spring (Weller, 1981). Large fish gather in the bays to spawn, while smaller species tend to spawn in the wetlands. The larger species either spawn in the bays or pass through the wetlands to spawn upstream in the larger tributaries. The younger of larger species of fish may inhabit wetland areas, but adults live in the deeper open waters. The littoral zone, comprised of the wetlands, supports many warm water fish, including yellow perch (Perca flavescens), pike (Esox spp.), chain pickerel (Esox niger), brown bullhead (Lctalurus nebulosus), sunfish (Lepomis gibbosus), creek chub (Leuciscus cephalus), black crappie (Pomoxis nigromaculatus), sauge (stizostedion canadense), muskellunge (Esox masquinongy), and sheepshead (Aplodinotus grunniens). Some of these fish, like the northern pike, walleye (Stizostedion vitreum), and brown bullhead, also frequent the colder open waters, especially as adults. The profundal zone, with the deepest and coldest waters, supports large fish including brook trout (Salvelinus fontinalis), rainbow trout (Salmo gairdnerii), brown trout (Salmo trutta), landlocked salmon (Salmo salar), lake trout (Salvelinus namaycush), smelt (Osmerus mordax), whitefish (Coregonus clupeaformis), American eel (Anquilla rostrata), walleye, and small-mouthed (Micropterus salmoides) and large-mouthed (Micropterus dolomieui) black bass. While in general, fish are most concentrated in the spring, the large fish also tend to gather in the bays during the winter months because the bay waters are relatively shallower and warmer than the open water of the lake (Johnson, 1980). Other large lake fish, including Lake Sturgeon (Acipenser fluvescens), bowfin (Arnia calva), longnosed gar (Lepisosteus osseus), and freshwater codfish (Gadus callarias), now rare, once frequented these waters.

Mollusks and crustaceans are found below the moderately deep limnetic waters in the muddy benthic zones of the wetland and bay environment, where there is sufficient oxygen as well as warmth and light to support them. Plankton, tiny drifting or swimming forms of crustaceans, are an important resource for all sizes of fish, amphibians, and birds. Larger crustaceans, including crayfish (*Cambarus bartoni*), are found closer to shore and build conspicuous mud tubes from their underwater burrows. Crayfish are notably preyed upon by mink (*Mustela vison*) and raccoon (*Procyon lotor*). Mollusks such as snails (Lymnaeidae [family]) and freshwater clams (*Sphaerium spp.*) also prefer benthic waters on the bottom of deeper wetland waters and the open lake (Weller, 1981).

Hundreds of varieties of insects breed and live in and on the warm, still waters of Champlain Valley wetlands. These organisms provide a major food source for other invertebrates, birds, fish, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles.

Muskrat (Ondatra zibethica), river otter (Lutra canadensis), beaver (Castor canadensis), and mink are mammals which live in the bay and wetland environments. Other mammals may come to the edge of the wetland area for food during



the spring and summer months. Reptiles found in Champlain Valley wetlands include eastern garter snakes (*Thamnophis sirtalis*) and several types of turtles. Amphibians, including frogs and toads are also found in the wetlands of the Champlain Valley. These species become more terrestrial as they mature (Weller, 1981).

Many archaeological sites may be associated with the freshwater marsh community, given the high density of potential resources available most of the year. Although few identifiable archaeological sites are expected within the freshwater marsh itself, dry, flat, or gently sloping land adjacent to the marsh within the ecotone of adjoining forest communities are likely to contain resource processing sites. Archaeological sites may exhibit expected characteristics from both the freshwater marsh and the adjoining forest community.

## Perpetually Juvenile Forests: Winter Deer Yards

Generally referred to as "woodlands wetlands" by foresters, the perpetually juvenile forest community is found in haploidal (churned), damp soils that are shallow to bedrock (Figure 9). This forest community may be expected to occur as an ecological niche within other forest communities. The shallow and seasonally saturated soils do not support deep root systems, and thereby inhibit mature forest growth. Vegetation in these areas consists of shrubs, grasses, and trees which rarely reach maturity due to the high seasonal water table. Tree throws are common and constantly churn the upper soil horizons (Frink et al., 1994).

In the winter, white-tailed deer seek the protection and sustenance provided by perpetually juvenile forest communities. They prefer shelter in heavy brush cover or dense stands of evergreens which provide protection from winter winds and seclusion for rest and rumination. When a hardwood forest reaches maturity, sheltering evergreens and understory browse are "choked out." A juvenile forest, with its flourishing understory, provides shelter and accessible quality food.

White-tailed deer remain within a fixed geographical area. A deer will live its entire life within a one to two square mile area of its birthplace if the area provides a sufficient quantity of food and acceptable shelter. Unlike the widely available graze resources utilized by deer in the warmer seasons, winter browse material tends to be localized within specific areas. As many as twenty-five deer may congregate in limited niches during the winter season. This behavior is known as "yarding."

The perpetually juvenile forest fulfills the criteria for the winter deer yard environment. Archaeological Consulting Team has defined 256 potential deer yards that would have been present in Chittenden County prior to European settlement (Frink et al., 1994).

Archaeological sites are anticipated at or near the periphery rather than within the perpetually juvenile forest environment. Early Native Americans would have field dressed the kill at the periphery to prevent the herd's abandonment of the RESTRUCTURING PAST ENVIRONMENTS / 327



Figure 9. Reconstructed potential winter deer yards in Chittenden County, Vermont.

yard. Generally, an expected artifact assemblage at a winter deer procurement spot would include one or more broken projectile points, one or more scrapers or utilized flakes, and fewer than fifty retouch flakes. Occasionally, moderate-sized residential camps may be found. During winters of high snowfall, the threat of a nearby predator (humans) is tolerated by the herd due to the expenditure of energy required to move through deep snows (Frink et al., 1994).

# CURRENT SITE INVENTORY DATA WITHIN THE FOREST CONTEXT

The quantity and seasonal availability of potential resources vary according to each defined community. The density and diversity of the biomass in the bottomland hardwoods and freshwater marsh communities are dramatically different from the alpine spruce and northern hardwoods-hemlock-spruce communities. Site characteristics, size, and frequency are expected to reflect the biomass density and diversity.

Specific ecological environments in Chittenden County are conspicuous in their seasonal high biomass and would have afforded early Native Americans with a wide range and large quantity of exploitable resources. These ecological environments include:

- 1. Northern hardwoods-white pine, oak dominant.
- 2. Northern hardwoods-white pine, maple, ash, and beech dominant.
- 3. Northern hardwoods-white pine, oak, ash, and hickory dominant.
- 4. Pine-hemlock-oak forests on sandy glacial outwash deltas of major rivers.
- 5. Bottomland hardwoods forests bordering major rivers and streams.
- 6. Freshwater marshes in deltas and lower reaches of rivers, numerous shallow bays of Lake Champlain, and shallow fringes of existing and no longer extant ponds and marshes.
- 7. Potential winter deer yards throughout the county.

While the northern hardwoods-hemlock-spruce and spruce-alpine forest communities produced resources that early Native Americans may have used, archaeological evidence reflecting this use is expected to be minimal.

The locational data for known Native-American archaeological sites in Chittenden County strongly supports the proposed settlement and procurement hypotheses. To date, a total of 438 Native-American sites have been identified and recorded in the *Vermont Archeological Inventory* for Chittenden County. Of these, 217 have one or more temporally defined cultural components. Counting each recognized cultural component as an independent occupation results in a sample population of 843 Native-American occupations. Table 2 shows the correlation between Native-American occupations and the nine forest communities previously defined.

The existing database of identified Native-American archaeological sites in Chittenden County generally supports the proposed hypotheses presented under the forest environment model. The large number of identified sites associated with the freshwater marshes reflects the probable combined exploitation of the marsh and adjacent forest communities. These bordering forest communities include the three northern hardwoods-white pine, bottomland hardwoods, and the pinehemlock-oak forest communities. The relatively large number of sites recorded for the pine-hemlock-oak forest community likely reflects the abnormally large



Ecological Environment	Count	Percent	
Northern Hardwoods-White Pine, Oak Dominant	52	6.2	
Northern Hardwoods-White Pine, Maple, Ash, and Beech	40	4.8	
Northern Hardwoods-White Pine, Oak, Ash, and Hickory	24	2.9	
Northern Hardwoods-Hemlock-Spruce	18	2.1	
Pine-Hemlock-Oak	93	11.0	
Bottomland Hardwoods	125	14.8	
Spruce-Alpine	0	0.0	
Freshwater Marshes	365	43.3	
Perpetually Juvenile: Winter Deer Yards	126	14.9	
TOTAL	843	100.0	

Table 2. Native-American Site Components Within Defined Forest Communities for Chittenden County, Vermont

number of environmental review studies conducted in these areas. The deep, welldrained characteristics of these soils are ideal for septic systems and associated developments. Conversely, the low number of sites recorded in the northern hardwoods-hemlock-spruce, and the spruce-alpine forest communities may reflect the lack of environmental review studies conducted in these areas.

## **TESTING THE HYPOTHESIS**

It is argued above that the defined forests communities have been stable over the past 9,000 years or more. However, the forests should not be perceived as static environments. Individual communities constantly change and undergo cyclical evolution from a juvenile to a mature state. As a forest matures, the buildup of litter and dead wood reaches critical mass, and, when given the appropriate temperature and moisture conditions, will support combustion resulting in a major forest fire. These episodes of forest fire destroy mature growth and set the stage for the rejuvenation cycle. Each forest community has its own unique cycle, which can be measured by the periodicity of these major forest fire events. The pine-hemlock-oak forest community has a periodicity of less than 100 years, while the northern hardwoods-white pine (maple, ash, and beech dominant) forest community may have a cycle of over 400 years (Chandler et al., 1983). The freshwater marshes do not experience these episodes of major fire activity.

Small fires may occur at any time and at varying frequencies. These fires, categorized as surface fires, tend to be limited in size and duration due to lack of available fuel, and do not lead to total rejuvenation of the forest. Individual trees, though scarred, will often survive these small fires. The major events of forest fire, fueled by excessive litter and dead wood, result in near total destruction of the

forest community, and often burn individual trees down into the root system (ground fires). Root burns, the natural features which are the remains of periodic events of major forest fire, are commonly encountered during archaeological studies.

Corroborating evidence in support of the hypothesized forest community may be obtained by carbon dating the root burn features. Given a sufficiently large sample of root burns, the periodicity of major forest fire events may be established. Further corroborating evidence for the hypothesized forest community may be gained through the analysis of macro samples of charcoal recovered from a root burn to identify the species of tree to which it once belonged. The two examples of major forest fire periodicity charts shown below are based on root burn dating from Phase I archaeological studies. The OCR carbon dating procedure (Frink, 1992, 1994) was used to obtain an age estimate for the root burn carbon.

The Lang Farm project area in Essex, Vermont, is within the hypothesized pine-hemlock-oak forest community (Figure 10). Forty-eight root burn samples were collected from five acres sampled at eight-meter intervals. Seventeen major forest fire episodes were calculated at an average interval of eighty-one years. Four tree species were identified from eight macro samples of root burn charcoal samples. The identified species include birch (#1231), white pine (#1174, 1176, 1227, 1228, 1229), hemlock (#1199), and hard pine (probably pitch) (#1223). Seven resource procurement and/or small resource processing sites were identified during this study (Callum et al., 1994).

The Saxon Oaks project area in Jericho, Vermont, is within the northern hardwoods-white pine (oak dominant) forest community (Figure 11). Thirty-five root burn samples were collected from a two and a half acre study area sampled at eight-meter intervals. Fourteen major forest fire episodes were calculated at an average interval of 120 years. The five recovered macro charcoal samples include three identified tree species. Examples of white pine (#1279, 1280), red oak (#1281), and beech (#1284, 1285) were all identified. One moderate-sized resource processing site was identified during this study (Duncan, 1995).

Although the sampled areas and numbers of identified species are small, the forest communities can be distinguished. Hard pine, hemlock, and birch are common in the pine-hemlock-oak forest community, while hard pine, in particular, is rare in the northern hardwoods-white pine (oak dominant) forest community. Conversely, red oak and beech are commonly found in the northern hardwoods-white pine (oak dominant) forest community, while beech is particularly much less common in the pine-hemlock-oak forest community.

White pine is a shade intolerant, colonizing species common to most forest communities (except freshwater marsh and spruce-alpine communities). The low density and high pitch content of white pine will sustain burning deep into its roots even during less severe crown and surface fires. The relatively high incidence of white pine in our sample has likely biased the calculated frequency of major forest



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Figure 10. OCRDATE age estimates of rootburns from the pine-hemlock-oak forest.

fires to shorter than expected intervals. Despite this probable bias, a clear distinction between the calculated major forest fire frequencies of the two forests communities is evident.

Preliminary information from the Phase I archaeological studies suggests that the identified sites are consistent with site types predicted by the environmental model. The seven small procurement spots and/or resource processing



Figure 11. OCRDATE age estimates of rootburns from the northern hardwoods-white pine forest (oak dominant).

sites identified at the Lang Farm project area reflect the expected norm in the pine-hemlock-oak forest community, while the moderate-sized resource processing site in the Saxon Oaks project area is anticipated in the northern hardwoodswhite pine (oak dominant) forest community. Phase II archaeological studies in these project areas will gather data regarding the specific resources utilized at these sites and the seasons of occupation.

# DISCUSSION

The information obtained from the environmental model is not intended to substitute for thorough archaeological studies. This model should not be used to conclude the type and seasonality of an under-evaluated site. Rather, the reconstructed context of the site will help archaeologists to formulate hypotheses to be addressed.

Each environmental context, with its specific exploitable resources, provides hypothetical explanations for archaeological site function, seasonality, and an individual site's relationship with other sites from the same time period. These hypotheses may be used to design research at intensive Phase II and III site excavations, and to develop anthropological syntheses concerning early Native-American culture. Evident changes in the breadth of dietary composition through time may be used to argue increases in population or environmental stress. Appreciable changes in dietary remains may indicate major changes in procurement strategies.

Application of this model does not need to be limited to Phase II and III level archaeological studies. Analyses of the size and breadth of environmental communities within the forest mosaic may be used as the basis for stratified Phase I level studies to predict site presence and size, as well as probable season of occupation.

My colleague, Charity Baker, presents an example of how this model was applied to a recent Phase I level study (Baker, this volume). While the project area's archaeological sensitivity was determined based on its proximity to water, use of this environmental model provides a foundation for expected results and contextual hypotheses concerning the recovered cultural material based on the area's context at the ecotone between two complex environmental communities.

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Direct reprint requests to:

Douglas S. Frink P.O. Box 145 Essex Junction, VT 05453-0145







# Forthcoming (2002-2003): Proceedings of the New York Natural History Conference VI, Current Topics in Northeast Geoarchaeology: Glaciated Landscapes

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# BEHAVIORAL CONTINUITY ON A CHANGING LANDSCAPE

Douglas Frink and Allen Hathaway Archaeology Consulting Team, Inc. 57 River Road, Suite 1020 Essex, VT 05452

# ABSTRACT

For the past 20 years, the dominant locational model for early sites in the Champlain Basin has focused on the margins of the Champlain Sea. This model is based on several assumptions:

- 1) post glacial weather patterns underwent a slowly moderating evolution between 14,000 to 9000 ybp (15,000 to 10,000 cal. ybp.)
- 2) the margins of the Champlain Sea provided open terrain for hunting large ungulates, and proximity to estuarine resources.
- 3) the Champlain Sea constituted the dominant geomorphologic feature during earliest human colonization.

Recent research on paleoclimates, colonization of the western hemisphere, and geomorphology of the Champlain Basin challenge these assumptions, and suggest an alternative model demonstrating continuity between early and later site locations.



# INTRODUCTION

In 1980, Stephen Loring, then at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, introduced a hypothesis to explain the settlement and procurement patterns expressed by Paleo Indian Period archaeological sites in Vermont. Loring (1980:15) observed that, "All of the known Paleo Indian components in the Champlain Valley and many of the fluted point find-spots are associated with Champlain Sea landforms. The circumstantial evidence of association allows for the possibility that Paleo Indians might have adapted to a maritime-based economy for at least a part of their seasonal round."

Figure 1, displaying Loring's data and the reconstructed limits of the Champlain Sea marine maximum, circa 12,000 BP (radiocarbon years, 14,000 ybp, calendrical<sup>1</sup>), reveals that forty-two percent of the sites (11 of 26) in the sample lack specific provenience. The recorded site proveniences varied, with site locations referenced to an individual landowner, or a town, or a county. Of the 15 sites with specific geographic provenience, only one-third (5 of 15) are physically associated (within 200 meters), but not necessarily temporally associated, with the reconstructed Champlain Sea Marine Limit (Figure 1).

Although never formally tested, Loring's (1980) hypothesis and its premises have been adopted by the State of Vermont as the dominate model for early Native American archaeological site sensitivity. The underlying assumptions of this model are:

- 1) That post glacial weather patterns underwent a slowly moderating evolution between 14,000 to 9,000 ybp radiocarbon years (16,000 to 11,000 ybp, calendrical);
- 2) That the margins of the Champlain Sea provided open terrain for hunting large ungulates, and proximity to estuarine resources; and

3) That the Champlain Sea constituted the dominant geomorphological feature attractive to earliest human colonization.

Additional Paleo Indian Period sites have been located in the Champlain Valley as a result of Cultural Resource Management (CRM) archaeological surveys conducted over the past two decades. However, many of these newly identified sites are located outside areas predicted by the Loring model. These results have lead some researchers to conclude that additional variables need to be considered in site location models for this time period. This local situation is mirrored in a hemispheric context where environmental, geomorphological, and archaeological studies are challenging the validity of many former premises, and are leading to a reformulation of archaeological site locational models for this time period.

Recent research of Late Pleistocene and Early Holocene climates, and the implications for early Native American settlement of the Champlain Valley in Vermont are presented below. Through the use of computer modeling, we demonstrate that a wide variety of landforms and resources existed in the past that are not obvious today.



Figure 1: Reproduction of Loring's 1980 map of Paleo Indian Period sites in the Champlain Valley. Circles around the object mean the location is approximate.

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New site location data for the Champlain Valley displays the relationship between site locations and landforms available to early Native Americans, and the environmental niches they might provide. A new predictive model for early site locations is proposed that demonstrates a continuity of settlement and procurement strategies between early and later Native American people in Vermont.

# Post Glacial, Late Pleistocene environment in Vermont: Perceptions past and present

The Draft Prehistoric Theme for the Vermont State Historic Preservation Plan (Thomas 1990), introduces Native American prehistory with the following environmental reconstruction: "Based on some radiocarbon dated sites from elsewhere in northern New England, it seems that our earliest people -- called Paleoindians --began to move into Vermont by about 9,000 BC [radiocarbon years], at the end of the last Ice Age. The environment was similar to what we see in today's Arctic regions: a barren tundra which gradually gave way to a park tundra of spruce, fir and birch that sustained mastodons, woolly mammoths and large herds of caribou" (Thomas 1990:8). This vision of the Late Pleistocene environment is supported by fossil pollen assemblages identified in cores recovered from ponds and bogs throughout the region.

Pollen core profiles, however, have been shown to bias critical environmental reconstructions. First, differing plant populations do not produce pollen in equal quantities, nor do they distribute pollen in the same manner. Evergreens generally produce greater amounts of pollen than deciduous trees, and trees, in general, produce more pollen than do grasses and sedges. While many species distribute pollen by wind, some do not (e.g., chestnut, *Castaneadentata* spp and maple, *Acer* spp.). Second, preservation of pollen varies among species within littoral environments. Pine (*Pinus* spp.) pollen is more likely to survive in a bog environment than is the pollen of many deciduous species. Third, plant species growing in and near the littoral environment are likely over-represented in a pollen profile obtained from a pond or subsequent bog in comparison to those plant species better adapted to drier environments (Nicholas 1987). Finally, pollen specimens that represent a minority component in the profile, are commonly considered outliers or contaminants, and researchers frequently discount their presence in reported pollen profiles (McWeeney 1995).

As early as 1980, Roger Moeller demonstrated this incongruency between environmental reconstructions based on pollen core profiles and carbonized wood specimens recovered from the archaeological context. Pollen profiles suggest that the forest environment in southern New England around 10,000 radiocarbon years ago, the age of the Templeton Paleo Indian Period site (6LF21), would be characterized as a forest tundra gradually evolving to spruce woodlands. The species of plants, red oak (*Quercus* spp., Erthrobalanus sub genus), and possibly eastern red cedar (*Juniperous virginiana*), described and radiocarbon dated from carbonized wood found within the site suggests a considerably more temperate environment (Moeller 1980). These tree species are commonly found in the Northern Hardwoods forest community that •

dominates the region today. Referencing a work by Eisenberg (1978), Moeller states that, "Pollen profiles dating to the time of Paleo-Indian have occasionally shown the presence of oak, but it was dismissed as a mere contaminant from the downward movement of pollen from subsequent layers, or from a statistical aberration reflecting the decline in other types of pollen and not a true increase in the amount of oak" (Moeller 1980:37).

McWeeney (1995) uses macro-fossil evidence of plant species (leaves, seeds, and wood or charcoal fragments) present in area bogs and alluvial fans for reconstructing paleo environments of southern New England at the time of the earliest Native American settlements. Her findings demonstrate a similar incongruency between the pollen profile-generated environmental reconstructions and the reconstructions based on macro-fossils. These results suggest that the Early Holocene Period can be characterized as having temperate climate similar to that experienced today. Nicholas (1988) proposes a glacial lake mosaic model to interpret early site locations in New England. This model uses detailed, large scale paleoecological reconstructions that consider the physiographic features of northeastern North America (Gaudreau 1988). The glacial lake mosaic model suggests that climatic extremes are moderated near relict postglacial lakes, and vegetational patterns reflect these milder climates. These conditions would have attracted early settlers to the region.

These regional studies have been substantiated on a more global scale by recent ice core data obtained from ice sheets in Greenland (Alley et al. 1993; Mayewski et al. 1993), Patagonia (Rabassa et al. 1996; McCulloch and Bentley 1997), and East Antarctica (Chappellaz et al. 1990), and from studies of littoral sediments (Allen et al. 1999; Taylor et al. 1993). Correlation of the data from these diverse sources suggest that the climate worldwide changed abruptly, in as little as 50 years (Alley et al. 1993), at the end of the Younger Dryas (circa 11,600 calendrical ybp), and not gradually as previously assumed. Recent studies of ice cores from Upper Fremont Glacier, Wyoming, reveal a similarly abrupt (10 years) warming following the "Little Ice Age" (circa 1,400 to 1,800 AD or 550 to 150 calendrical ybp) (Schuster et al. 2000). In New England, this climate change would have initiated a consequent change in vegetation communities from the spruce parkland community envisioned in earlier models to a Northern Hardwoods - Mixed Pine forest similar to that present today. Based on rates of plant community changes documented for southern Europe at this time (Allen et al. 1999), this change in forest vegetation would have taken a few hundred years at most. Thus, by 11,000 calendrical ybp, a Northern Hardwoods - White Pine forest community would likely have been established over most of New England, including the Champlain Valley.

# Paleo Indian Period Sites in the Champlain Valley

The Vermont Archeological Inventory (VAI) contains reports of numerous Paleo Indian Period sites within the Champlain Valley region. However, many of these lack meaningful locational, and on occasion, diagnostic data sufficient for analysis. Specific





locational information is available for 29 sites that constitute the archaeological database used in this study. These sites have been defined by identified artifact assemblages and recovered isolated projectile points. Reported, but unconfirmed, collectors' sites, and collections lacking site-specific proveniences have not been included in this study. These early Native American sites have been assigned to the Paleo Indian Period based on artifact styles (fluted projectile points, spurred scrapers) except for VT-CH-679, which yielded an OCR date of 10,182 +/- 305 calendrical ybp (Frink et al. 1996 [ACT #1710]). Fluted projectile points basal fragments and debitage were recovered during excavations of this site prior to commercial development.

Although the limited data does not define when people first settled in Vermont's Champlain Valley, archaeologists have commonly assumed linear migration from south to north and hypothesized age ranges based on data from sites to the south within the Northeast (Haviland and Powers 1981; Loring 1980; Thomas 1990). Using data from the Shawnee-Minisink site in Pennsylvania (McNett 1977), the Templeton site in Connecticut (Moeller 1980), the Lake Winnipesaukee site in New Hampshire (Haviland and Power 1981), the Whipple site in New Hampshire (Curran 1984), the Vail site in Maine (Gamly 1982), the Michaud site in Maine (Spiess and Wilson 1987), and the Debert site in Nova Scotia Province, Canada (MacDonald 1985), we have compared site ages to latitude to determine the feasibility of this hypothesis (Table 1, Figure 2). Although the sample size may be arguably too small for statistical purposes, no relationship between the latitude and age of a site is apparent.

Anderson and Gillam (2000) proposed a model for the colonization of North America based on least-cost solution pathways. They suggested that flat terrain, found predominately along the coastal margins in the Northeast, would have provided primary paths for initial settlement. These paths may have been more important to early settlers than riverine corridors, particularly those in the high relief interiors of upstate New York, New Hampshire, and Vermont. Thus, the interior of the Northeast may have been settled significantly later than the flat coastal areas. Furthermore, this model suggests that the Champlain Valley was likely colonized from the north by people following the flat terrain along the Atlantic coast and the Saint Lawrence Valley, rather than migrating north through the interior as traditionally proposed. The geographic trends suggested by the data in Figure 2 reflect Anderson and Gillam's hypothesized settlement pattern. Sites along the coastal regions (above the trendline for dates by latitude) are older than those of the interior regions (below the trendline for dates by latitude) of New Hampshire and the Champlain Valley of Vermont. While there is not enough data to be mathematically rigorous, it suggests that settlement of the Champlain Valley by Native Americans postdates settlement of more coastal areas of the Northeast.

Viewed from this perspective, the temporal data from throughout the Northeast strongly suggests that early Native American settlement of interior regions, including the Champlain Valley, did not occur until several hundred years after the climatic change at the end of the Younger Dryas (circa 11,600 calendrical ybp). When early Native Americans settled in the Champlain Valley, the weather patterns, seasonality, forest

State PA	Site Shawnee- Minisink	wnee- (V	Sample No. (W 2994) a	<sup>14</sup> C Date 10,590	Range +/- 300	Cal BC		Cal BP <sup>†</sup>		Prob	Reference
						10,993	10,147	12,943	12,097	0.966	(McNett 1977)
PA	Shawnee- Minisink		(W 2994) b	10,750	+/- 600	11,263	9,747	13,213	11,697	0.939	(McNett 1977)
CT	Templeton		(W 3931)	10,190	+/- 300	10,385	9,388	12,335	11,338	0.966	(Moeller 1980 pg 31)
NH	Lake Winni- pesaukee		NA-1	9,615	+/- 210	9,247	8,736	11,197	10,686		(Referenced in Haviland and Power1981 - pg 27)
NH	Whipple	Weighted mean on two samples	NA-2	8,730	+/- 400	8,315	7,447	10,265	9,397	0.918	(Curran 1984)
ME	Vail	Feature #1	(Beta 1833)	11,120	+/- 180	11,256	10,971	13,206	12,921	0.815	(Gamly 1982 pg 60)
ME	Vail	Feature #1	(SI-4617)	10,300	+/- 90	10,392	9,972	12,342	11,922	0.844	(Gamly 1982 pg 60)
ME	Michaud	Feature 7	(Beta 13833)	9,010	+/- 210	8,455	7,915	10,405	9,865	0.934	(Spiess and Wilson 1987 pg 83-)
ME	Michaud	Feature 7a	(Beta 15660)	10,200	+/- 620	10,907	9,209	12,857	11,159		(Spiess and Wilson 1987 pg 83-)
NS, Ca.	Debert	Average (11=n) site date	NA-3	10,604	+/- 45	10,906	10,770	12,856	12,720		(MacDonald 1985 pg 53).

Table 1: Site and date data used in Figure 2.

<sup>†</sup>Calibrated using Calib 4.1.2




Figure 2: Plot of Paleo Indian Period site dates vs. latitude



environments and associated floral and faunal resources would have approximated those that existed throughout the Holocene Period. Thus, climatic conditions and the consequent forest environment during the early settlement of the Champlain Valley would not have differed significantly from the conditions encountered by later Native American cultures.

# Late Pleistocene and Early Holocene Landforms

During the Late Pleistocene, much of North America was covered by continental glaciers. Although climatic conditions during early Native American settlement of the Champlain Valley may have approximated those that existed throughout the Holocene Period, the landscape was vastly different. Post glacial lakes, the incursion and eventual subsidence of the Champlain Sea, and the early stages of the present freshwater Lake Champlain created unique landscapes that existed only during the Late Pleistocene and Early Holocene periods. Geomorphic and pedomorphic analyses may be applied reconstruct the landscape that were encountered by early Native American settlers. Despite landscape transformations, continuities are demonstrated in Native American settlement and procurement strategies by tracing Native American site locations on the reconstructed Late Pleistocene and Early Holocene and Early Holocene and Early Holocene and Early Holocene.

The effects of the final glacial meltback in the Northeast on the developing Champlain Valley landscape may be examined using existing maps and databases. The hillshading base map and the USGS digital elevation models (DEM) used in this study were obtained from the Vermont Geographic Information System (VGIS 1998a, 1998b). Data on isostatic rebound tilting of the landform during the glacial meltback was derived from shoreline feature data given in Chapman (1937), Cronin (1977), Stewart and MacClintock (1969), and Wagner (1972). Early human site location data was obtained from the Vermont Archeological Inventory (1969 to present) and from Loring (1980). The data is georeferenced in the Vermont State Plane Coordinate System 4400 NAD83.

Spreadsheet, graphic, and GIS applications were used to work with the data.<sup>2</sup> The elevation and approximate northing of the shoreline features for each geologic stage was entered into an Excel worksheet, the data was plotted as an X, Y scatterplot, and a linear regression equation was calculated for each data set. The USGS DEM data was downloaded in ASCII X, Y, Z (easting, northing, elevation) format. The GlacialShapeFile program was used to "regress" the given DEM elevations to the isostatic tilt derived from the Excel worksheet, to identify submerged areas for each geologic stage, and trace the outlines of those areas in an Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) compatible shapefile format. Arcview was used to PhotoPaint for conversion to graphics format files.

# RESULTS

Prior to 20,000 years ago, up to three-kilometer thick glacial ice covered New England. During the next 4,000 to 5,000 years, this glacial mass stagnated and

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underwent a stochastic process of melting punctuated by relatively brief periods of glacial readvancement (e.g., the Shelburne stade). Melting at the glacier's surface first exposed the ridges and mountain peaks, with the valleys remaining below the ice. As melting continued and the valley ice began to retreat, ice- and till-impounded ephemeral lakes of meltwater formed.

By about 15,700 calendrical years ago (Chapman 1937), a sequence of glacial lake stages collectively known as Glacial Lake Vermont, began to form within the Champlain Valley. Each lake stage is defined by relict beach terraces at successively lower elevations that formed during periods of equilibrium in the glacial ice regime as the overall glacial ice mass retreated northwards. At least three separate stages of this lake have been defined: Quaker Springs, Coveville, and Fort Anne (Figure 3). Although no studies have been undertaken to determine empirical ages for these stages<sup>3</sup>, Glacial Lake Vermont existed from circa 15,700 until about 14,000 calendrical years ago when the impounding ice retreated north of the Saint Lawrence Valley and the meltwater drained (McDonald 1968; Wagner 1972).

Meltwater from thousands of other glacial lakes flowed into the oceans, which resulted in the steady rise of sea levels relative to the land. By about 14,000 calendrical years ago, the rising sea levels filled the Saint Lawrence, Great Lakes, and Champlain basins to form a large estuary known as the Champlain Sea. Four phases of the Champlain Sea have been defined based on identified relict beach terraces: Champlain Sea Maximum, Pre-Port Kent, Port Kent, and Burlington phases (Figure 4). Radiocarbon analysis of shell deposits associated with the Port Kent phase (Wagner 1972) has yielded an age of 11,300 radiocarbon ybp, or 13,200 calendrical years ago. sediment studies (Chase 1972) suggest that the Champlain Sea ended about 10,200 radiocarbon years, or 12,000 calendrical years ago.

The Champlain Sea phases were located at successively lower elevations relative to the land. Although sea levels rose with glacial meltwater, isostatic rebound of the land (no longer compressed under the weight of nearly three kilometers of ice) elevated the Champlain Valley relative to eustatic sea levels. By about 12,000 calendrical years ago, isostatic rebound separated the Saint Lawrence, Great Lakes, and Champlain basins from the ocean, and these systems returned to freshwater regimes. Isostatic rebound, continuing to the present day, has slowly raised the outlet of freshwater Lake Champlain, with a consequent rise of lake levels relative to the land (Figure 5).

A mosaic of changing environments emerged from the inundated conditions associated with evolving glacial lakes, saltwater estuaries, and freshwater lakes. Meltwater from glacial ice impounding adjacent valleys carried gravels, sands, silts, and clay sediments which settled in lake basins and mantled bedrock and tills. Rivers eroded unconsolidated glacial outwash, ice contact features, such as kames and eskers, and former glacial lakes sediments. The rivers transported continuous loads of these eroded sands, silts, and clays to the saltwater estuary and later freshwater bays.

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Figure 3: Three defined stages of Lake Vermont.



Figure 4: Four defined stages of the Champlain Sea.



As the levels of the glacial lakes and saltwater estuary dropped with the retreating ice, the newly exposed sediment deposits evolved into a mosaic of soils that coevolved with microbial and vegetative communities.

These emergent landscapes did not present a flat and uniform surface. Small differences in initial topographic conditions created divergence in soil seriation (Philips 1999). The newly emergent landscape, best described as undulating, followed the topography of underlying bedrock and glacial till deposits. Numerous small lakes and ponds would have remained separated by elevation from the major lakes and estuaries within this undulating landscape, and surrounding soils would have supported vegetative communities appropriate to the climatic regime of the time period and topographic position.

Some of these lakes and ponds probably lasted only a few decades, while others, although greatly reduced in size, remain today. As drainage systems evolved on the emergent landscapes, most of the residual ponds and lakes drained or underwent eutrification due to vegetation and eroding deposits from upstream. These residual ponds and lakes evolved into marshes, woodland wetlands, and eventually into moderately to poorly drained forest lands.

The USDA Soil Taxonomic System is based on the recognition that individual soil series are the result of the five interdependent factors of parent material, climate, relief, biota, and time (Jenny 1941, 1961). The coevolution of soils and biological communities is fundamental to the soil classification system, resulting in a direct correlation between soils of similar historic or processual genesis and forest communities. This correlation allows for the reconstruction of pre-European contact forest communities based on defined soil series (Frink 1996). Variability in the defined soil series has been shown to be extremely sensitive to initial conditions (Phillips 1995). The evolution of soils with similar textures and mineralogy (parent material) will vary with initial conditions (e.g., beginning as emergent dryland soils vs. evolving from lakes and ponds through marsh and woodland wetlands before becoming emergent dryland soils), and result in distinct soil series. This inherent genetic thread in the defined soil taxonomic units may be used to locate former residual lakes and ponds and former forest communities. As shown in Figure 6, a large portion (11 percent) of the emergent landscape would have remained as post glacial lakes and ponds when Native Americans first arrived in Vermont's Champlain Valley.

# Paleo Indian Period Site Locations and Champlain Sea Margins

Figure 4 includes Paleo Indian Period site locations in comparison with each of the four Champlain Sea phases. Most (21 of 29 -- 72 percent) locations were submerged at the time of the Champlain Sea Maximum (ca. 13,800 calendrical ybp). The majority of the locations remained submerged during the Pre-Port Kent Phase ca. 13,500 calendrical ybp (17 of 29 -- 59%), and the Port Kent Phase ca. 13,200 calendrical ybp (16 of 29 -- 55%). However, during the Burlington Phase (ca. 12,500 calendrical ybp), all known Paleo Indian Period sites were above sea level.

While the data does not appear to support the hypothesis that Paleo Indian Period sites are associated with the Champlain Sea Maximum, a significant percentage of these sites (24.1 percent) is within 61 meters of the shoreline landforms associated with the four Champlain Sea phases. However, given that the sites would have postdated the demise of the Champlain Sea (post 12,500 calendrical ybp), this correlation probably suggests that Native Americans selected sites based on the landforms and the associated soils and vegetative communities that evolved on them, rather than potential resources in the saltwater estuary.

# <u>The Landscape at the Time of First Settlement - Freshwater Lakes, Ponds, and the Champlain Sea.</u>

As argued above, temporal data throughout the Northeast suggests that early Native American settlement in the region, including the Champlain Valley, may not have occurred until after the climatic change at the end of the Younger Dryas (11,600 calendrical ybp). When early Native Americans arrived in the Champlain Valley, the weather patterns, seasonality, and forest environments with their associated floral and faunal resources would have approximated those that existed throughout the Holocene Period. We have also introduced data on the unique landscape characteristics of emergent landforms, and shown that nearly 11 percent of the emergent lands would have consisted of freshwater lakes and ponds in various stages of evolution toward marshes and woodland wetlands. Over 40 percent of the Paleo Indian Period site locations are located along the boundaries of residual fresh water lakes and ponds on this reconstructed emergent landform (Figure 6).

### Continuity In Native American Site Settlement and Procurement Patterns.

Frink (1996) presents site distribution data for known Native American sites in Chittenden County, Vermont, within reconstructed forest environments. This data indicates that Native Americans distinctly preferred certain environmental communities in their selection of site locations. Frink hypothesized that these environmental communities were selected due to their conspicuous seasonal high biomass, which afforded Native Americans with a wide range and large quantity of exploitable resources. A distinct preference (43 percent of known sites) was shown for locations adjacent to freshwater marshes associated with lakes and ponds. Given that the sites themselves were not located in the marshes, the adjacent forest communities occupying the dry land areas were also counted (Table 2). When Paleo Indian Period sites in Vermont's Champlain Valley are plotted against similarly reconstructed environmental communities, a similar site preference emerges (Table 3).

Discounting the Bottomland Hardwoods and the Perpetually Juvenile forest communities, a preference for site location relative to forest communities during the Paleo Indian Period is qualitatively the same as for all Native American sites throughout the Holocene. Table 3 indicates a distinct preference for locations adjacent to











Table 2: Native American Site Components Associate with Defined
Forest Communities for Chittenden County, Vermont

ECOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT	COUNT	%
Northern Hardwoods-White Pine, Oak Dominant	52	6.2
Northern Hardwoods-White Pine, Maple, Ash, and Beech	40	4.8
Northern Hardwoods-White Pine, Oak, Ash, and Hickory	24	2.9
Northern Hardwoods-Hemlock-Spruce	18	2.1
Pine-Hemlock-Oak	93	11.0
Bottomland Hardwoods	125	14.8
Spruce-Alpine	0	0.0
Freshwater Marshes	365	43.3
Perpetually Juvenile: Winter Deer Yards	126	14.9
TOTAL	843	100.0

(Frink 1996)

# Table 3: Paleo Indian Period Site Components Associated with Defined Forest Communities for the Champlain Valley of Vermont

ECOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT	COUNT	%
Northern Hardwoods-White Pine, Oak Dominant	8	17.0
Northern Hardwoods-White Pine, Maple, Ash, and Beech	2	4.3
Northern Hardwoods-White Pine, Oak, Ash, and Hickory	6	12.8
Northern Hardwoods-Hemlock-Spruce	0	0.0
Pine-Hemlock-Oak	11	3.4
Bottomland Hardwoods <sup>†</sup>	0 †	.0†
Spruce-Alpine	0	0.0
Freshwater Marshes	20	42.6
Perpetually Juvenile: Winter Deer Yards <sup>‡</sup>	0 ‡	0 <sup>‡</sup>
TOTAL	47	100.1

<sup>†</sup> The dynamic geomorphic nature of the river systems where Bottomland Hardwoods forest communities are located has likely affected this data. Sites dating back to the Paleo Indian Period have likely been eroded away by the meandering rivers as they downcut through the glacial lake and Champlain Sea deposits, or have buried sites of this time period under several meters of alluvium where the rivers have been aggrading

<sup>‡</sup> The forest community identified as Perpetually Juvenile are evolved from the post glacial ponds and lakes. While some of the identified post glacial ponds and lakes may have already undergone the transformation to perpetually juvenile forest communities, there has been insufficient studies to determine which if any had.



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freshwater marshes, followed by the Pine Hemlock Oak and the Northern Hardwoods -White Pine with Oak dominant forest communities. Site locations in the Northern Hardwoods - White pine, Oak Ash Hickory dominant, and the Maple, Beach, Ash dominant communities are also represented, although to a lesser extent. Variability in the quantitative values between these two studies is likely due to the small number of known Paleo Indian Period sites, and the larger geographic sample area of the Champlain Valley versus Chittenden County (Figure 7).

# CONCLUSION

As archaeological site information is generally incomplete due to post depositional changes, conclusions drawn from the data must remain hypotheses. As hypotheses, they must be constantly tested against new data both from within archaeology and from other disciplines. This paper tests one such hypothesis that describes site locational strategies for the Paleo Indian Period in the Champlain Valley of Vermont. Environmental conditions during this early settlement period were not as severe as once thought, and early Native American settlement appears to postdate the Champlain Sea. Early Native Americans arrived to a post emergent landscape dominated by a mosaic of freshwater marshes and maturing forest environments. Their site choices paralleled those exhibited by later Native Americans.

The settlement model that associates Paleo Indian Period sites with Champlain Sea shorelines fails to explain newly discovered sites not located on shoreline features. This incongruity has been explained by suggesting that the settlement and procurement patterns of behavior for early Native American settlers may have differed significantly from those of later populations. The time specific geomorphology and environmental data presented in this paper demonstrate a continuity in settlement and procurement behaviors throughout the Holocene Period. Thus, predictive models for Paleo Indian Period sites in the Champlain Valley should be based on time-specific landscape characteristics and not upon a static reconstructed marine limit or the present environment.



# Percent of Sites by Forest Community



Figure 7: Comparison by association with reconstructed forest communities of Paleo Indian Period sites in the Champlain Valley with all known sites in Chittenden County, Vermont.

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# NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Dates are reported in the literature in many differrent formats. To assist the readers, all date are given with both their explicit format and a common format of calendrical years befor present (YBP) defined as 1950 AD.

<sup>2</sup> The following programs were used to work with the data:

- ArcView copyright Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI)
- CorpsCon copyright US Army Corps of Engineers
- Microsoft Excel copyright Microsoft Corp.
- Corel PhotoPaint copyright Corel Corp.
- GlacialShapeFile copyright Archaeology Consulting Team, Inc. (ACT)

<sup>3</sup> An OCR date of 13,735 +/- 412 YBP calendrical (ACT #3598) measuring the post emergent pedogenics of soil deposits from the Fort Ann stage were obtained from behind Pinewood Manor, Essex Junction (Frink and Hathaway, 1999).



State of Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation National Life, Drawer 20 Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

# NOTICE

The monthly meeting of the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will be held on Thursday, September 20, 2001 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., in the VHFA Board Room, located at 164 St. Paul Street, Burlington, Vermont.

## AGENDA

I.	Schedule/confirm future meeting dates	10:00
II.	Minutes	10:15
III.	SR/NR Workshop	10:30
	Lunch	12:30
IV.	Archeology Report	1:00
V.	22 VSA 14 Review A. Enosburg Falls Middle School, Enosburg	1:15
VI.	<ul> <li>National Register Final Review and Approval</li> <li>A. Chaffee-Moloney House, Rutland</li> <li>B. Ezekiel Emerson Farm, Rochester</li> <li>C. Remington-Williamson Farm, Huntington</li> <li>D. Scott Farm Historic District, Dummerston</li> <li>E. MPDF Historic &amp; Architectural Resources of Burlington, VT</li> <li>F. Saltus Grocery Store, Burlington</li> <li>G. Cora B. Whitney School, Bennington</li> </ul>	1:30
VII.	SHPO Report	3:00
VIII.	Other Business	3:15



State of Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation National Life, Drawer 20 Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

#### Minutes

September 20, 2001

Members Present:	Peter Mallary, Chair Glenn Andres, Vice-Chair Beth Boepple, Citizen Member James Petersen, Archeologist George Turner, Architect David Donath, Historian
Members Absent:	Ann Lawless, Citizen Member
Staff Present:	Nancy Boone, State Architectural Historian Shari Duncan, Administrative Assistant Sue Jamele, NR/SR Specialist

The meeting was called to order at 10:25 by Chair Peter Mallary.

### I. Schedule

Meetings are scheduled for October 29 in Middlebury, November 27 in Burlington and December 17 in Montpelier.

#### II. Minutes

Minutes will be reviewed at a future meeting.

#### III. SR/NR Workshop

Nancy explained that this mini workshop given by herself and Sue was the same workshop given to consultants in May of this year. The workshop came about with the change in criteria when determining State Register nominations. This particular workshop will feature buildings and archeology will be featured at a future meeting. Sue gave an overview of what tools the Division uses in making determinations. There are three levels of significance; national, state and local. Sue stated that the goal is to identify important contexts. The Division has identified the following to be important; vernacular buildings, worker housing, affordable housing, farmhouses with little or no land or outbuildings. Sue said that the preservation community needed to get creative in developing the contexts of historic resources. Sue explained to the Council that Division Staff had taken a trip looking at different resources and most of the buildings they looked at were borderline projects. Staff discussed how the buildings would or would not make the cut. Sue gave a slideshow of the properties they visited and gave the Council a chance to review on whether or not the Council would approve those properties. Nancy noted that folks are not miles apart, the Council came up with the same results as staff had.

#### VI. National Register Final Review and Approval

A. Chaffee-Maloney Houses, Rutland – The Council had previously received a copy of the nomination for review. Sue summarized the significance of the property (attached). This is an affordable housing project and eligible under criteria A, B and C. George made a motion to accept the nomination under criteria A, B and C, and David seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Ezekial Emerson Farm, Rochester – The Council reviewed this property a number of months ago and asked for more information. The Council had questions about the text matching the photos. The dimensions didn't seem to fit. The Council questioned whether it was the same building. Sue stated that the consultant didn't want to put any more work into this project. The consultant assured Sue that the rafters were the same and it was the same building. He also stated that the documentation was as good as any nomination. The Council does not believe that the said original house is the same as the renovated house. Sue stated to the Council that she could attach the minutes to the nomination to reflect the opinion of the Council. Dave said the historic photograph does not appear to be the same structure as the 1899 house. The Council is okay with the 1899 house with the previous history. There are concerns about the historic aspect before the 1899 photos. The Council moved to nominate under criteria A & C. The vote was unanimous.

C. Cora Whitney School, Bennington – The Council had previously received a copy of the nomination for review. Sue summarized the significance of the property (attached). The CLG sent an approval letter. Glenn moved to accept the nomination under criteria A and C, Beth seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Scott Farm Historic District, Dummerston – The Council had previously received a copy of the nomination for review. Sue summarized the significance of the property (attached). David moved to accept the nomination under criteria A and C, Glenn seconded. The vote was unanimous.

E. MPDF Historic & Architectural Resources, Burlington – The Council had previously received a copy of the nomination for review. Sue summarized the significance of the property (attached). The CLG sent an approval letter. There were no other comments. Glenn made a motion to accept the nomination under criteria A and C, Beth seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Saltus Grocery Store, Burlington – The Council had previously received a copy of the nomination for review. Sue summarized the significance of the property (attached). The CLG sent an approval letter. There were no other comments. Glenn moved to accept the nomination, Dave seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### V. 22 VSA14 Review

A. Enosburg Falls Middle School, Enosburg – The Council had previously received information on the project including photos and blueprints. John Hemmelgarn, an architect from Black River Design presented the project to the Council. He stated that after several years of studying this project the Committee came up with the proposal that is being presented today. The proposal here today includes the demolition of three buildings in order to make room for an expansion at the school. The Council determined the buildings to be historic. Dave made a motion to find the buildings eligible under criteria A and C and that demolition would be adverse. The Council feels the adverse effect can be mitigated with documentation. The documentation should be preserved at the school. Beth seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Peter suggested that the documentation could be the project of the students.

#### IV. Archeology Report - read by Jim Petersen

Vermont Archeology Week (VAW) is currently underway across the state, with dozens of events scheduled across the state. Talks and presentations will range from the earliest Vermonters, the Paleoindians (CA 9000-7000 B.C.) and later Native Americans in Alburg and Swanton, for example to events related to historic Euroamericans in Vermont's rich domestic, maritime, industrial and military history and related archeology will be emphasized among other issues. Events include talks, walking tours, an artifact "show and tell", an openhouse at the consulting Archeology Program at UVM and the annual spear thrower contest at Chimney Point State Historic Site in Addison. From Brattleboro to Burlington, this year's VAW promises to be one of the most successful yet!

Other archeology issues are more sobering. For example, a large and rich prehistoric archeological site complex at the McNeil Electric Generating Plant in Burlington is apparently endangered by a proposed "ecopark". Ironically, one of the first Vermont sites discovered in the context of consulting archeology studies may be threatened by this "environment friendly" development, and it is possible that it will slip through regulatory system with no further study – this matter is currently being explored.

Likewise, a consulting study done in advance of school construction in Enosburg Falls has produced low density but potentially significant prehistoric remains. The Native American remains include stone materials from Maine and Pennsylvania, which demonstrate long distance prehistoric trade. Yet because of the low density of these remains and the fact that it is a school project, it is difficult to come to a final recommendation in this case. The balancing act inherent in consulting/compliance archeology goes on in other words.

#### VIII. Other Business

Nancy passed out the Upper Story Task Force Plan. There was some discussion on the agenda of the Task Force and what they hope to accomplish. Nancy will report back to the Council in December on what the Task Force plans to propose to Legislature in January.

The Council asked Shari to make up a new contact sheet for the members of the Council to include cell phone numbers.

Peter told the Council that he had been in contact with Tom Torti the Commissioner of Buildings and General Services. Tom asked Peter to sit on the committee for the State House Expansion Project. Peter has agreed to sit on the committee with input from the Council and help from Glenn. Beth stated that the Council needed to take a much more active role in the project. Nancy said that it was not out of order for the Council to weigh in about the process. The Council can send comments to the committee or to the Governor's office.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.



#### BLACK RIVER DESIGN ARCHITECTS PLC

# Summary Report to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation September 10 2001

Re: Austin Building Demolition, Enosburg Falls Middle High School, Enosburg, Vermont

# Project Background

The Prudential Committee (representing the local School District) in Enosburg Falls has been investigating options for several years for expanding and upgrading their Middle and High School facilities. After numerous studies and years of work, the Committee determined that the most developmentally responsible, electorally palatable and economically prudent solution was to expand the facility at the current site. They have pursued an aggressive land acquisition campaign to make the project feasible. They have acquired two adjacent parcels from the Town and one adjacent parcel from a private landowner. They have also reached tentative agreement with a neighboring landowner to purchase 9 acress across the street from the school. They plan to develop this parcel as replacement ballfields, which will allow expansion of the building on what is currently the High School ball diamond and soccer field.

The proposed project affects several properties of interest to the Division for Historic Preservation. The Division's interests and an expanded summary of the specific building proposal is included in the attached preliminary review letter dated August 20, 2001 submitted by State Historic Preservation Officer Emily Wadhams to the Architect and the Department of Education as part of that department's Preliminary Review process. The project's public benefit is clearly the alleviation of severe overcrowding and the improvement of severely deficient existing facilities to benefit the public education of school age citizens in Enosburg and surrounding communities.

The project site is located in the village of Enosburg Falls in Franklin County, Vermont. The school lot spans the width of the block between School Street, where it faces the Town Green and Dickenson Avenue. It is located in the first block off of Main Street, with the backs of the Main Street businesses abutting the school grounds. The Elementary School sits adjacent on the far side of the ballfields. The remaining abutters are residential properties and the Post Office. A locator map from the Vermont Atlas and Gazetteer as well as a proposed site plan is included for the Council's reference. Additional plans and documentation (including labeled photographs) have been submitted previously to Environmental Review Coordinator Judith Ehrlich. Some of those photographs have been resubmitted as part of this report.



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# Project Proposal

The proposed project to be reviewed by the Advisory Council is the demolition of the Austin Building (Building B in Ms. Wadhams preliminary review letter). This building was built around 1950 to provide some additional space for the school. A metal warehouse type shed was added in the last 20 - 30 years. The Austin Building is in poor condition and serves few of the current needs of the school district. One of the two classrooms is appropriately sized for high school instruction but the other is very small and must be traversed to reach the wood shop housed in the metal shed beyond. The single glazed windows are large, in need of repair, and unnecessarily burden the sub-par heating system. The small basement houses the boiler room, which lacks Code mandated fire-ratings and egress and is partially flooded much of the year. As a stand-alone school building (in the case of a "renovation only" project), the Austin Building requires a new boiler / heating system, anew roof, upgraded electrical, lighting, computer network, and fire alarm systems and thermal efficiency improvements. New flooring, ceilings, and paint would also be recommended. This is a very expensive proposition for 1 ½ classrooms accessible only via an exterior walkway. Given the small area of the building, the cost per square foot for these renovations would exceed the cost of equivalent square footage in the new addition.

The prospects for retaining this building become even worse for an "addition / renovation" project such as is currently being proposed. Education Department requirements specify a safe, separate loading and unloading zone for buses. The proposed building will need space for up to 11 buses to wait for loading students at afternoon dismissal times. Since there is no opportunity to stack this many buses in front of the building at the loop off of School Street and little desire to modify this historic arrangement in front of the original portion of the building, and the School District was unable to procure the land necessary for the buses to traverse the site from School Street to Dickenson Ave. (or vice-versa), it is necessary to construct the bus lane at the new main entrance off of Dickenson Avenue. The constricted site also necessitates maximizing parking in this area.. The Austin Building sits right at the most logical point of connection between the existing building and any addition.

The School District is not eager to demolish this structure. They do feel, however, that it is more important to maintain and preserve the original 1908 High School building than the Austin Building. They Committee also puts a high priority to maintaining the village location of the School. It has been an anchor of the community for nearly a century and they want to keep it that way for another century. In order to realize these objectives, they must modernize and expand the overall facility to meet the needs of their growing school population. The Austin Building quite literally stands in the way of allowing this to happen.

The District proposes to photographically document the Austin Building prior to its demolition.

#### STATE OF VERMONT



# AGENCY OF COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

August 20, 2001

AUG 29 Zool

John Hemmelgarn Guilmo Lombardi Black River Design 73 Main Street Montpelier, Vermont 05602

#### Re: Proposed Alterations to the Enosburg Falls Middle High School, Enosburg Falls, Vermont. DED.

Dear Mr. Hemmelgarn and Mr. Lombardi:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above project having Department of Education involvement (DHP #FR01-037). We have received a set of project drawings dated June 27, 2001, two project locator maps, photographs of the existing exterior conditions, preliminary project information and statistics and an artist's rendering of the completed project, as currently proposed. The project was discussed in person during a meeting with both of you and Judith W. Ehrlich, Environmental Review Coordinator for the Division for Historic Preservation (DHP) on August 6, 2001.

The Division for Historic Preservation has reviewed this proposed undertaking for the purposes of 22 V.S.A. 14, The Vermont Historic Preservation Act, on behalf of the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Project review consists of identifying the project's potential impacts to historic buildings and structures, historic districts, historic landscapes and settings, and to known or potential archeological resources.

Our office has reviewed the submitted materials. The Enosburg Falls Middle High School, known historically as the Enosburg Falls High School, was listed on the State Register of Historic Places in 1984. The 2  $\frac{1}{2}$ -story, hipped roof, Renaissance Revival, brick structure was constructed 1908. In c. 1935, a two story, brick auditorium addition was added to the west elevation and, in c. 1980, a 2  $\frac{1}{2}$ -story glass-and-metal sheathed classroom was added to the east elevation. As stated in the 1984 survey, the building's original integrity remains despite the additions.

The current project consists of building a 63,476 square foot addition to the existing 51,730 s.f. building and renovating the existing original School structure and both previous additions. Construction of the large addition will require the removal of three structures, none of which appear to have been previously evaluated for inclusion in the State Register of Historic Places. DHP's opinion regarding the eligibility of these structures is as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Divisions for:

- Community Development
- \* Historic Preservation
- \* Housing
- \* Planning

National Life Office Building Drawer 20 Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

Telephone: 802-828-3211 800-622-4553 Fax:

802-828-2928

Historic Preservation Fax: 802-828-3206 Building A, c.1950's Ranch-style Residence: This building does not appear eligible for listing in the State Register as it does not possess any significant design qualities.

Building B, c. late 1940's brick and wood Garage: This building appears eligible for listing on the State Register as an example of a small-scale industrial structure.

Building C, undated pre-fabricated metal Warehouse: This building does not appear eligible for listing in the State Register as it does not possess any significant design qualities.

Because Building B is eligible for listing and we consider its removal to be an adverse effect. We request that you advise us of the alternatives to demolition that you explored prior to deciding that demolition would be required for this project. If we concur with your assessment of the project's requirements and that there are no alternatives to demolition, we will then discuss with you possible measures to be used to mitigate the loss of the historic structure. According to our Division's rules, any State Agency project which involves an adverse effect determination needs to be presented to the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for their review. I have enclosed information regarding the type of information the Advisory Council will need. The next Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2001 and will be in Burlington. The exact location in Burlington is not yet determined, however.

The proposed new addition will more than double the square footage of the Enosburg Falls Middle High School. While this addition will significantly alter the overall feeling of the school, it is our opinion that the project, taken as a whole, will not negatively effect the existing historic School as the plans for the new addition adhere to the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Rehabilitation*. The proposed new addition will be constructed to the east of the 1980's addition. Because of this location, the new addition will be constructed some distance away from the original structure and therefore will not significantly alter the current appearance of the historic building. At this time, therefore, it appears that the proposed project will have no adverse effect to historic resources provided the following conditions are met. Our final determination of effect can only be offered once our reviews of both architectural and archaeological issues are complete, however.

1. The existing original windows will not be removed. Strategies for the thermalretrofit of the historic windows should be explored instead of replacement with new windows.

2. Replacement tiles for missing slate roof tiles will match the existing as best as possible.

3. Repointing of deteriorated mortar should be undertaken according to the National Park Service's Preservation Brief #2, *Repointing Mortar Joints in Historic Brick Buildings*. New mortar should match the existing mortar in color, content and rake.

4. Replacement bricks should match the existing as closely as possible. If possible, the match should be made using clean examples of the existing bricks.

5. Existing historic interior features should be kept to the extent possible. Photographs of the existing interior conditions and details regarding any proposed alterations to the existing interior conditions should be forwarded to our office for review.

6. DHP should have the opportunity to review and approve the final project plans. We will review interim plans, too, if requested.

7. Scott Dillon, DHP Survey Archaeologist, is interested in reviewing the project area for the project's potential effects to any sensitive archaeological sites. He will need to visit the site and review the current conditions.

At this time, we also believe it would be useful for Ms. Ehrlich to make a site visit and tour the existing conditions of the historic school and examine the three buildings proposed for demolition.

We look forward to receiving the additional information. If you have any questions or need clarification regarding any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact Judith W. Ehrlich, Environmental Review Coordinator, at (802) 828-3049.

Sincerely, VERMONT DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

muly Wadh

Emily Wadhams State Historic Preservation Officer

Cc:

Cathy Hilgendorf, Department of Education Mary Scherrer, Franklin Northeast Supervisory Union





# Enosburg Falls Middle High School - Austin Building

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation - Photo Submission



Austin Building Northwest Facade



Austin Building Southeast Facade



# Enosburg Falls Middle High School - Austin Building

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation - Photo Submission



Austin Building Northeast Facade



Austin Building View from East



10 XISTING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2 84 PARKING. BLACK RIVER DESIGN Ed Dopt. Preliminary Review PROPOSED SITE PLAN SCALE |"=60" DATE 1/24/01 EXISTING. DRAWN BY CHECKED BY BRI DONOT DISCORD



State of Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation National Life, Drawer 20 Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

### NOTICE

The monthly meeting of the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will be held on Monday, October 29, 2001 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room at The Vermont Community Foundation, 3 Court Street, Middlebury, VT.

#### AGENDA

I.	Schedule/confirm future meeting dates	9:30
II.	Minutes	9:45
III.	SR/NR Workshop – Archeological Resources	10:00
IV.	State Register Designation Process – Archeological Resources	10:45
V.	Lunch	12:00
VI.	SR Review – Act 250 A. VT-CH-885, Colchester	1:00
VI.	National Register – Final Review A. Lampson School, New Haven B. North Street Historic District, Burlington	1:30
VII.	Archeology Report	2:00
VIII.	SHPO Report	2:15
IX.	Other Business	3:00



State of Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation National Life, Drawer 20 Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

#### MINUTES

October 29, 2001

Members Present:

Peter Mallary, Chair, Citizen Member Ann Lawless, Citizen Member James Petersen, Archeologist Dave Donath, Historian George Turner, Architect Glenn Andres, Vice-Chair (arrived late)

Staff Present:

Emily Wadhams, SHPO Nancy Boone, Architectural Historian Giovanna Peebles, State Archeologist Scott Dillon, Survey Archeologist Judith Ehrlich, Environmental Review Coordinator Shari Duncan, Administrative Assistant

#### III. SR/NR Workshop – Archeological Resources

Giovanna presented a slide show depicting areas in Vermont that contained or were likely to contain archeological resources. There was much discussion on evaluating the resources using the National Register criteria.

#### IV. State Register Designation Process – Archeological Resources

Judith explained to the Council that the Division will be increasing the number of Act 250 project being brought before them. More will be coming in order to determine historic significance. Peter asked for an approximate number of projects that the Council would review. Scott estimated that 20 per year fall under Act 250 but not all are controversial. Giovanna added that there are many benefits to bringing archeological sites resulting from Act 250 projects before the Council. Sites that are determined



significant by the Council, or are actually listed on the State Register, strengthen the Division's ability to protect a site under Act 250.

Nancy noted that currently there is no set plan for the Council to deal with emergency situations and perhaps the Council would like to have a plan in place. Emily suggested that an emergency meeting could be called. Dave stated his preference was to use computer correspondence as a way to discuss an emergency situation. The Council agreed that the easiest way to discuss something outside of a meeting was to use the emial or conference calling.

#### VII. Archeology Report as read by Jim Petersen

Vermont archaelogical field work has produced some interesting discoveries this year, including Section 106 and Act 250 consulting work and non-consulting research. However, it has been a relatively quiet year in terms of Section 106 work because of the virtual hiatus in VAOT consulting work that resulted from delayed selection of statewide Archaeological consultants this year. As reported previously, this delay is a cause for concern in terms of the efficacy of the VAOT Programmatic Agreement between the VAOT and DHP. We can look forward to a review of the Agreement to address this issue and others that have emerged since it went into effect.

In terms of Section 106 research, the Route 78 project in Alburg and Swanton has produced the third and fourth discoveries of prehistoric corn (maize) in Vermont during laboratory work. This is highly significant information and has broad implications for Vermont prehistory.

Research by a historian and an archaeologist on Lake Champlain has identified a highly significant historic colonial site on the lakeshore in Bridport. Preliminary assessment of the available artifact sample suggests a tighter timeframe, ca 1750 - 1760, and the likelihood of a French attribution. Given some degree of erosion at the Bridport site, preliminary mapping, and perhaps subsurface testing may be undertaken in 2002.

Finally, various significant sites have been identified through consulting work in contexts outside of Section 106 this year. These discoveries have again challenged archaelogists to refine significant criteria to be made sensitive to sites threatened by development where the integrity has been partially compromised and yet the artifact finds seem significant in spite of disturbance. The Enosburg site mentioned previously is one such example, as is the Colchester site that will come before the Advisory Council today. Obviously, the matter of site significance bears further consideration as soon as possible.

#### I. Meeting Schedule

Meetings were scheduled for November 27 in Burlington, it is noted that Dave Donath will not be able to make the November meeting, a meeting was scheduled for December 17 in Montpelier and January 24 in Montpelier.

#### VI. SR Review – Act 250

A. VT-CH-885, Colchester - Scott Dillon, State Survey Archeologist, gave an overview of the project, Arbor Gardens. There was a written handout distributed to the Council (attached). He stated there were two sites identified during a survey conducted by the University of Vermont's Consulting Archeology Program. Scott said that what was so surprising was the artifacts were found at 2 feet. The age is unknown at this point but at the very least are Late Archaic. It was stated that the two sites are a vital part of the project and cannot be avoided. The UVM CAP is in the process of putting together a mitigation plan perhaps to include excavating a sample area. Scott noted the Division is in support of the mitigation plan. Jim stated his opinion was that the site is significant. Emily asked if the site is eligible now, based on what has already been found, or is it likely to be eligible based on what could be found on the site. Jim stated that what has already been found indicates the site is eligible. He also noted that most likely more could be found. Giovanna said using the new guidelines can certainly help make a determination and using criterion D is solid. Emily stated that the Council needs to be definitive in why the site is significant. Jim recused himself because of his association with UVM.

George made a motion to find the site eligible under criterion D. Ann seconded. All voted in favor with one abstention.

#### VI. National Register – Final Review

A. Lampson School, New Haven – The Council had previously received a copy of this nomination. Sue summarized the project. The Council agreed this was a worthy project. Glenn moved to nominate the School under criterion A, B & C. Dave seconded the motion. The Council voted unanimously to nominate to the National Register.

B. North Street, Burlington – The Council had previously received a copy of this nomination. Sue summarized the project. She noted that this nomination was not as polished as some nominations the Council reviews but the nomination meets the requirements and gets the job done. She explained that it was a mixed use of buildings, both commercial and residential. The area represents a working class neighborhood in Burlington. The boundry was formed some time ago with North Street being the primary area. The Burlington CLG approved the nomination under local and statewide significance. The CLG letter was read to the Council along with 4 objection letters. George moved to nominate North Street under criterion A & C. Jim seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### VIII. SHPO Report

Emily reported the following to the Council:

• There are many budget cuts expected for the State of Vermont. The first round has already happened and future cuts will depend on upcoming revenues.

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- The next Historic Preservation Conference co-sponsored by the Division will be held in May in Rutland at the Paramount Theater.
- The trip to Providence was beneficial. The Tax Credit Program was very interesting and informative.
- The United States Postal Service has placed a moratorium on building new projects and they do not anticipate lifting it for at least a year.
- There is a survey retreat planned for next week to be held in Randolph.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35.




Consult. Archaeo





CONSULTING ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAM

October 17, 2001

William Nedde, III Krebs and Lansing Consulting Engineers 164 Main Street, Suite 201 Colchester, VT 05446

Post-it' Fax Note 7671	Date 10/12/01 pages 5
To Scott Dillon	From J. Crock
Co. Dept. NDHP	Co. UUMCAP
Phone #	Phone # 656 4310
Fax# 002 92010	6 Fax # 656 8037

RE: End of Field Letter for Phase II Archaeological Site Evaluation for the Proposed Arbor Gardens Apartments Development, Colchester, Chittenden County, Vermont

Dear Bill:

Between October 11th and October 16th, 2001, the University of Vermont Consulting Archaeology Program (UVM CAP) conducted a Phase II archaeological site evaluation for the proposed Arbor Gardens Apartments Development in Colchester, Chittenden County, Vermont (Figure 1). Two Native American archaeological sites, VT-CH-885 and VT-CH-886, were identified during a previous Phase I site identification survey conducted by the UVM CAP. Only one of these sites was recommended for further work following the Phase I survey. Site VT-CH-885 is located in Area 2, one of two areas proposed for wastewater disposal in the proposed Arbor Gardens Apartments development. The site is situated on an elevated point of land bounded by Allen Brook to the east and a tributary of Allen Brook to the west and south. This End of Field letter describes the methods and results of the Phase II evaluation and makes recommendations regarding further work at site VT-CH-885.

The Phase II site evaluation of VT-CH-885 began with the excavation of 58 0.5 x 0.5 m test pits placed at 5-meter intervals on a horizontal grid established across Area 2 (Figure 2). A total of five of the Phase II test pits contained prehistoric Native American artifacts. These positive test pits were located throughout Area 2 and, based on the combined horizontal distribution of the Phase II and Phase I positive test pits, the site occupies most of the 1.11 acre parcel referred to as Area 2. Further analysis of the horizontal distribution of positive test pits suggests that at least two discrete areas of prehistoric Native American activity exist and possibly four. Clusters of positive test pits initially identified two of the activity areas during the Phase I survey. Activity Area 1 is located in the central portion of the site and was identified based on the recovery of lithic flakes in test pit T2-2. Two additional activity areas were identified during the Phase II testing program based on the recovery of small amounts of lithic flakes at N365 E605 and N400

112 University Heights, Burlington, VT 05405, Telephone (802) 656-4310, Fax (802) 656-8033

E600/N395 E605. While the latter two activity areas help establish the size of the site, they were not explored further during the Phase II site evaluation.

# Activity Area 1

Activity Area 1 was identified during the Phase I site identification based on three positive test pits which contained several lithic flakes and one extremely weathered sandstone projectile point/knife. In addition to the three Phase I test pits, three Phase II test pits contained prehistoric Native American artifacts including dozens of lithic flakes representing several different varieties of lithic raw material. Nine additional test pits were placed around the positive Phase II test pits in Activity Area 1 at 2.5-meter intervals to better determine the horizontal boundaries of the activity area and broader site. This work resulted in two additional positive test pits. Based on the distribution of positive test pits, Activity Area 1 covers approximately 98 m<sup>2</sup> of the site. As part of the Phase II testing program, four 1.0 x 1.0 m test units were placed within Activity Area 1 to help better assess the vertical distribution and relative density of artifacts at the site. The four test units contained dozens of lithic flakes of both exotic and local raw material including rhyolite that likely originated in Maine, as well as locally available Cheshire Quartzite and chert. In addition to the lithic flakes, two lithic tools were recovered from test units N338 E616 and N386 E618. One tool is made of the exotic rhyolite that likely came from the Mt. Kineo formation in central Maine and the other tool is made of a local, dark gray chert from the Hathaway formation of Vermont. The latter tool, a base fragment of a projectile point, may be attributable to the Late Archaic period, ca. 4000 B.C. to 1000 B.C or perhaps earlier. A Late Archaic or earlier temporal designation is further supported by the extreme weathering exhibited by many of the artifacts and their deep context within the intact B horizon. The majority of artifacts were recovered well into the intact B horizon, though some were recovered from the lower portion of the upper agricultural plow horizon. In some cases the intact B horizon extended to a depth of 70 cm below the ground surface with Native American artifacts present throughout.

# Activity Area 2

Activity Area 2 was identified during the Phase I site identification survey based on three positive test pits containing several lithic flakes. One Phase I test unit, excavated over the initial positive test pit, also contained several lithic flakes. The Phase II test pits excavated within the previously identified Activity Area 2 did not contain any additional prehistoric Native American artifacts. Based on this information, Activity Area 2 covers approximately 12 m<sup>2</sup> of the site. Due to the relatively small size of this activity area and the amount of testing conducted within it during the Phase I survey and Phase II testing, no additional test units were excavated within Activity Area 2 during the Phase II site evaluation.

# **Concluding Summary**

The UVM CAP conducted a Phase II archaeological site evaluation of site VT-CH-885 located within one of two wastewater disposal areas proposed in the Arbor Gardens Apartments development in Colchester, Vermont.

A total of 67 0.5 x 0.5 m test pits and four  $1.0 \times 1.0$  m test units were excavated at site VT-CH-885. Site VT-CH-885 covers approximately 1.11 acres (4300 m<sup>2</sup>) and is comprised of at least two distinct prehistoric Native American activity areas as determined by the horizontal distribution of positive test pits and test units. Activity Areas 1 and 2 have been delineated by the horizontal distribution of artifacts recovered during the Phase I and Phase II testing programs. Prehistoric Native American artifacts were most concentrated within the intact B soil horizon, which extended as deep as 70 cm below the ground surface in some areas. Artifacts include lithic flakes and tools of local materials, as well as Kineo Rhyolite from Maine. One of the tool fragments, a base fragment of a projectile point made of local Hathaway chert, may be attributable to the Late Archaic period, ca. 4000 B.C. to 1000 B.C., or perhaps earlier. This temporal designation is supported further by the depth and extreme weathering exhibited by many of the lithic flakes and tools recovered.

The apparent antiquity of site VT-CH-885 coupled with its high degree of integrity and the presence of exotic lithic raw materials make the site significant within the region. Based on the results of the Phase II testing, we recommend that site VT-CH-885 is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D; Data Potential. This determination is based on the potential of the site to yield additional information related to technology, trade and exchange, settlement patterns, and other aspects of Native American life during the Late Archaic and/or earlier periods of prehistory. If this site cannot be avoided entirely, then we recommend Phase III Data Recovery be undertaken to mitigate the adverse effect of the proposed wastewater disposal area. This work should be primarily concentrated within the core of the site in Activity Area 1.

Please feel free to contact us here at the UVM Consulting Archaeology Program if you have any immediate questions about this matter.

Sincerely,

Joshua R. Toney Research Supervisor

Dr. John G. Crock Director

CC: Scott Dillon, VDHP



Figure 1. USGS map showing the location of the Arbor Gardens study area in Colchester, Chittenden County, Vermont.





Figure 2. Project map showing the location of Phase I survey and Phase II testing at site VT-CH-885 within the proposed Arbor Gardens Apartments development.

# POOR QUALITY ORIGINAL





#### State of Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation National Life, Drawer 20 Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

# NOTICE

The monthly meeting of the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will be held on Tuesday, November 27, 2001 from 9:30 a.m to 2:00 p.m. at 527 Waterman (fifth floor), University of Vermont Campus, in Burlington, Vermont.

# AGENDA

I.	Schedule/confirm meeting dates	9:30
II.	22 VSA 14 A. Dept. of Public Safety Communications Tower, Brownington	9:45
III.	New Business A. Division Programs – Environmental Review, Judith Ehrlich	10:00
IV.	State Register Review and Designation A. McNeal House, West Burke	10:15
V.	National Register Final Review A. Bellows Falls Neighborhoods	10:30
₹ M	<ul> <li>New Business Continued</li> <li>A. Division Programs – NR/SR, Sue Jamele</li> <li>B. Protocol for State Register designations between regularly Scheduled Advisory Council Meetings</li> <li>C. Process for State Register review of Vermont Historic Sites and Structures Surveys for Burlington and Windsor</li> </ul>	10:45 11:00 11:15
-AIT	Old Business A. Report on State House Expansion Project	11:30
	Lunch	12:00
-VIII:	Archeology Report	1:00
The Mark	SHPO Report	1:15
• TB	Old Business Continued B. Survey Retreat Report	1:30
T w	Minutes	1:45

# MINUTES

## November 27, 2001

Members Present:	Peter Mallary, Citizen Member, Chair Glenn Andres, Architectural Historian, Vice-Chair
	George Turner, Historic Architect
	Beth Boepple, Citizen Member
	Jim Peterson, Archeologist (left 1:30)
	Ann Lawless, Citizen Member (left 1:35)
Members Absent:	David Donath, Historian
Staff Present:	Judith Ehrlich, Environmental Review Coordinator
	Sue Jamele, n National Register Specialist
	Emily Wadhams, State Historic Preservation Officer
	Nancy Boone, State Architectural Historian

I. Schedule – Deferred to later in meeting.

## XI. Minutes

Not available. Defer to next meeting.

## II. 22 VSA 14

<u>A. Dept. of Public Safety Communications Tower, Brownington</u> – Judy introduced the Background of the project. Terry Lavalley of Dept. of Public Safety described project. Two dishes - 6', 8' diameter. Will be able to see it from Prospect Hill. DPS did balloon test, through a break in the trees. He showed photos aiming away from site. Would put monopole in trees; dishes would be visible. Need clear path between site and Jay Peak. Dishes would be painted. DPS has applied for Act 250 permit. Building would be 10' x 10'. Tower would be 50'. DPS has leased 50' x 50' property.

Ann questioned whether owner of property would cut trees, exposing tower. They could. Emily noted that she has received calls about possible effects on Historic District or Stone House Museum. Terry said the tower would not be visible from Stone House Museum. George asked if dish could be installed in church steeple in village. He answered no. It doesn't meet line of sight requirements. Project is main relay system for fire, police and 911. Jim said it is not likely to have impact on archeological resources. Potential concern is impact on viewshed of historic district.

George asked whether DHP thinks there's an adverse effect. Judith said yes. Terry explained other options considered. Smallest dish is 6'. Largest is 12'. If towers get shorter, dishes get larger. Is there a way to use different technology to avoid tower? He said no. Tower site is about 1 mile from Old Stone House.

George asked about getting easement to protect trees. Terry thought owners would be open to that provision in the lease. The trees are spruce and hardwoods (50/50), 65' high. Town select board approved project. Peter noted that everyone wants good coverage for safety system. Ann noted that it is often foggy or snowy in Brownington.

Glenn noted how pristine Brownington village is. Critical that there not be an impact on Old Stone House. He said that street trees screen view towards tower site. Are other modern intrusions visible from Prospect Hill? Only power lines. The tower will not be lighted.

Row of trees has 15–18' cut where tower will go. Terry says it will hide tower. Trees could be planted below the tower. Jim asked about life span of tower, and likelihood of additional things mounted on the tower in the future. Terry said that the tower does not have capacity for additional dishes. Doesn't want additional users on public safety network. Do not expect co-location. The building can only serve the two dishes. Peter asked if they had considered two smaller towers, and they had not. Terry said that there is legislative requirement to build tower.

Glen asked about planting more trees closer to Prospect Hill and to block foreground view of towers. Emily responded that she had attended a meeting where residents discussed wanting to cut trees in vicinity of observatory. Terry looked at visibility of other sites and they were lower sites and required 100'-120' height towers. They looked at barn silo option, but it was too low. Mass of tower is much greater with higher towers. Alternatives appear to him to be less desirable. DPS looked at integrating tower with observatory. Azimuth didn't work.

Ann suggested partnership where Orleans C. Historical Society would own tower site and manage site and receive rent. Jim questioned whether The Advisory Council could require such a thing.

Terry clarified that his desired lot is 150' x 150' and he does therefore control the trees. The lease is 20 years. Beth questioned whether the microwave technology will be obsolete is 20 years, and those present felt yes. Lease includes provision for removal of equipment if it is no longer used by DPS.

Peter suggested council comment letter to summarize agreement today. Terry said he could not control tree planting or land they don't own. He would be open to make best effort to plant trees on other properties.

The pristine view has been recognized and captured from Prospect Hill for over a century.

George made motion that:

There is an indirect impact under criteria 6, 10, 11, and 12 on towers criteria sheet.



# Jim Seconded.

Beth asked about neighbor opinion. Terry said that they have posted public notices and met with select board, and have not heard from anyone. Judy noted that Orleans County Historical Society had contacted them to make sure that SHPO office is involved. Jim differentiates between safety need, and telecommunications needs. Beth said that they are operating system without this tower. Terry noted that their 25-year-old analog technology is deteriorating and they must replace it with a digital system.

Peter noted that he serves on The State Police Advisory Board in his region.

Emily noted that if she has new information, she may have different recommendation on effect for ACT 250. If they go on a site visit, Ann would like to go.

Members commented that 6 and 7 of criteria do not apply. It is not a backdrop, but would be visible from the observatory. The council went through the criteria. No consensus on 6,7,8. Consensus on 10,11, 12. No consensus on 13 and 14. Modify motion to say that it has indirect impact under 10,11, and 12, and other criteria (6,7,8, and 14) may pertain. Motion passed unanimously.

Peter requested that AC send memo summarizing motion and suggested mitigation.

- Tree protection on leased site.
- Equipment removal when no longer used.
- Tree planting in gap near Prospect Hill
- Make every effort to plant trees and easement to protect for term of lease.
- Proposed alterations and additions to be reviewed by DHP.

Terry said that if tree planting is very expensive, he would have to get legislative approval. He said he would make every effort, but would not guarantee landowner cooperation. Ann suggested that an easement to permanently protect the view from the tower would be important.

George moved mitigation, Glenn seconded. Unanimous. Peter and Beth would like to visit site if Emily goes.

# III. New Business

<u>A. Division Programs – Environmental Review</u> – Judy summarized the DHP's Environmental Review system. She passed out the chart of current projects. She then described the Section 106 process. Discussion followed.

# IV. State Register Review and Designation

<u>A. McNeal House, West Burke</u> – Sue provided background and the property and its integrity, and showed photos and slides. She noted that it appears eligible for the SR

under criteria A and C. Ann added more information from a time that she had inspected the house years ago.

Ann motioned that if be placed on the SR. Jim seconded. Unanimous.

# V. National Register Final Review

A. Bellows Falls Neighborhoods – The Council had been sent copies of the nomination before the meeting. They noted that it is a very well done nomination. It was a CLGsponsored nomination. They held public meetings on public access TV. Sue noted that 7 letters had been received. Three were support letters. She read them aloud. Four were notarized objections. She read them aloud, and the council duly noted the objections.

Glenn moved NR nomination under criteria A and C. Beth seconded. Unanimous.

Glenn suggested that nominations include copies of historic maps.

# VI. New Business Continued

B. Protocol for State Register designations between regularly scheduled Advisory <u>Council meetings</u> – Nancy outlined a suggested protocol for special meetings between regular monthly AC meetings, based on advice from Department Counsel, Celia Daly. The DHP will notice the meeting to Dept. of Libraries by 4:30pm on Thursday, for a meeting the following week. The meeting will be held via telephone conference and the location where the public might participate will be included in the notice. DHP will inform owners and other known interested parties of how they can participate. This protocol will meet requirements of the Open Meeting Law.

# C. Process for State Register Review of VHSS Surveys for Burlington and Windsor

- Sue described several partial town surveys that have been done and are ready to be reviewed for State Register designation. She asked what process the Council would like to use in designating them. They were done prior to the change in State Register criteria and will be reviewed now under the National Register criteria.

Glenn volunteered to review them and report a recommendation to the Council, if the work could wait until January. The Council thanked him and accepted his offer.

# VII. Old Business

<u>A. State House Expansion Project</u> – Peter noted that since the last AC meeting there had been a technical committee meeting and a legislative committee meeting to review







and choose the best design of four proposals. They had selected the concept from Alexander Feingold. Peter showed digital photographs of the architectural drawings and an architectural model on a notebook computer.

Glenn noted the importance of trees that focus attention on the old core of the State House. He also noted that there should be no additions in the future.

Members said that in looking at preliminary plans, they were encouraged by what they saw. They noted that they look forward to a final presentation by Buildings and General Services to the Council.

# VIII. Archeology Report

Will take place next month.

# IX. SHPO Report

A. Barn Meeting held with PTV, Mad River Valley CLG, NH Barn Alliance, Preservation Institute, UVM etc..

Senator Jeffords has introduced a bill that would provide funding for 5 years for surveying, evaluating, and repairing historic barns. It is proposed for \$25 million in the agricultural bill. Eligible applicants would be SHPO's, state agriculture departments, and non-profits with barn expertise. The group discussed a barn survey, perhaps done statewide as a weekend event with volunteers. They also talked about barn repair training programs. Greg and Emily plan to meet with VT Agriculture Commissioner Leon Graves about joint application with Preservation Trust of Vermont for any of the Jeffords program money if it passes.

Ann noted that Save Our Sculpture (SOS) would be a good model for a barn survey.

# B. Upper Floors Task Force

Emily summarized preliminary findings: a 5% add on for all RITC projects; raise the designated downtown add-on to 10%; tax credit for sprinklers and elevators, etc.

C. Emily attended the NCSHPO meeting in Natchez. They discussed the negative image of SHPO offices. NCSHPO wants to change image to one of delivery system for anti-sprawl, downtown redevelopment, etc. NCSHPO has hired a marketing analyst to advise them.

# D Historic Variance Appeals Board -Emily described meeting to review and adopt rules for the Board.

# **Meeting Dates**

I.

- Dec. 17 Montpelier
- Jan. 24 Montpelier
- Feb. 21 Woodstock Tour
- March 14 (location to be determined)

# X. Old Business Continued

B. Survey Retreat Report – Emily described the meeting with Deidre McCarthy of the National Park Service about GIS, GPS, and doing digital survey. AOT enhancement money may be a funding source. Discussions focused on technology. Further meetings will address scholarship, context, format, accessibility, etc. The Council is interested in being part of future discussions. Goal is to involve as many people as possible.

# XII. New Business

George brought up concern for neglect and deterioration of park and trail sites in Vermont. State parks NR stressed importance of landscape vistas and campsites, etc. Is importance of those vistas recognized today? They are filling in. George will talk to Mary Jo Llewellyn about Green Mountain Club effort and report back to the Council. Glen wondered if we need a new CCC to help preserve these sites.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45pm.

COMMISSIONER 802-244-8718

DIRECTOR OF STATE POLICE 802-244-7345

DIRECTOR OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES 802-244-8786

TELEFAX NO. 802-244-1106



STATE OF VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY 103 SOUTH MAIN STREET WATERBURY, VERMONT 05671-2101

October 24, 2001

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES 802-244-8763

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 802-244-8721

INTERNAL AFFAIRS 802-244-5194

LEGAL COUNSEL 802-244-6941

Ms. Judy Ehrlich Vermont Division of Historical Preservation National Life Building Drawer 20 Montpelier, Vermont 05620-0501

Dear Ms. Ehrlich:

The State of Vermont, Department of Public Safety desires to construct a communications site within the town of Brownington for the purpose of relaying microwave signals between Burke Mountain and Jay Peak, Vermont. This site will be an integral part of a larger statewide microwave network that carries voice and date traffic for critical public safety programs.

The construction project consists of a small 10 foot by 10 foot stick build communications shelter mounted on a concrete foundation and a communications tower 50 feet in height. The tower will have a 6 foot and 8 foot microwave dish mounted on it below the top of the tower. The physical access to this site will follow an existing driveway to the home located on the property. The AC power will be derived from an existing power line currently serving the home on the property.

We will be improving the existing driveway by adding hard-pack crushed rock over the existing hard-pack material and replacing a damaged culvert at the entrance.

The site construction will be funded through the State of Vermont, Microwave replacement project.

I appreciate your assistance in this matter. Please contact me at 802-241-5215 if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

Terry M. LaValley Vermont Department of Public Safety Communications Program Manager





# SITE INFORMATION

# **Brownington**

For Coordinates, Elevation, and Airports Data, See SYSTEM DATA

**Site Location:** 1 mi. NE. from Brownington Village VT or 3.3 mi. NE. from Orleans VT. About <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mi. E. from Hinman Road 0.8 mi. NE. from junction Hinman and Old Stone House Roads.

**Driving Directions:** Along Interstate 91 in northern Vermont take Orleans VT Exit #26. Go E. on Route 58 through Orleans downtown about <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mi. to road fork. Bear left onto Brownington Rd. (Route 58 bears right). Go NE. 2 mi. into Brownington Village. Turn left at junction onto Lawes/Hinman Road. Go NE. (through Brownington Village) <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> mi. to Old Stone House Rd.. Continue straight (becomes Hinman Rd.) another 0.6 mi. NE. then N.. Beyond residence with old big red barn look for driveway on right (about 400' further N.). Turn in, follow trail E. then SE. <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mi. to site.

Access Conditions: Gravel road last <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> mi. along Hinman Rd.. Grassy compacted access trail last <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mi. to site. Last <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mi. passable in summer months but could be difficult during rainy weather and in winter.

Gates, Fences: Gate along Hinman Rd. usually open. No fences in the area.

Antenna Structure: New self-supported monopole or tower proposed. Tentative planned height is 30'.

Radio Equipment Space: New building proposed adjoining proposed antenna structure.

# Antenna Mounting Details (each path):

Path To Jay Peak: New dish proposed at 25'

**Path To Burke Mtn.:** New dish proposed at 65'. If 5 trees near-in and 12 trees 500-650' SE. can be cleared, then 25' antenna height possible. If only 5 near-in trees can be cleared, then 55' antenna height possible.

# Transmission Line Details and Length (each path):

**Path To Jay Peak:** Down from antenna structure then across and inside new building. Estimated total = 65'.

**Path To Burke Mtn.:** Down from antenna structure then across and inside new building. Estimated total = 105' without tree clearing, 65' with trees cleared, or 95' with 5 near-in trees (only) cleared.

**Special Considerations:** Anticipated local dissent. Structure will be mostly shielded from view amongst trees. Landowner residence just south of site, alert owner prior to site access. Minor access trail improvements advised. Trail is not plowed in winter and snowmobile could be required to reach site.



<u>Brownington</u> Excerpt From 7.5' Topographic Map



Brownington Location Map





Brownington From 200' South of Site Looking to Burke Mtn.



<u>Brownington</u> From 150' SE. of Site Looking SE. Toward Burke Mtn. Note trees (12, at center) that must be cleared for lower ACL at Brownington





Brownington Looking Southeast at Site



Brownington From Site Looking to Jay Peak



<u>Brownington</u> Looking Northeast at Site



Brownington Looking East at Site

# STATE OF VERMONT



# AGENCY OF COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

November 6, 2001

Terry M. LaValley, Communications Program Manager Vermont Department of Public Safety 103 South Main Street Waterbury, Vermont 05671-2101

Re: Proposed Microwave Relay Tower, Brownington, Vermont. DPS.

Dear Mr. LaValley:

Thank you for the tour yesterday of the proposed site for the above project (DHP #OL01-019). We have also received a letter from your office dated October 24, 2001 concerning the Brownington Relay Tower.

The Division for Historic Preservation is reviewing this proposed undertaking for the purposes of 22 V.S.A. 14, The Vermont Historic Preservation Act, on behalf of the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Project review consists of identifying the project's potential impacts to historic buildings and structures, historic districts, historic landscapes and settings, and to known or potential archeological resources.

Prospect Hill and the Observatory located at the crest of the hill are considered contributing elements to the Brownington Village Historic District, which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on May 9, 1973. As you know, our office must review the proposed project for its effects on the known historic resources and any historic resources not previously recorded. To do so requires photographs of the project site from the observatory. We expect to receive photographs as soon as the skies there are clear enough to take them.

We will need additional information from your office, also. During our tour yesterday we discussed both Act 250 permitting and Federal Communications Commission involvement for the Brownington Relay Tower. Because we review projects under both state and federal statutes, we need to clarify if this project will require that DPS apply for an Act 250 permit or if there has been any FCC involvement.

We look forward to receiving the additional information. If you have any questions or need clarification regarding any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact Judith W. Ehrlich, Environmental Review Coordinator, at (802) 828-3049.

Sincerely, VERMONT DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

6 W. Ebelich

Emily Wadhams State Historic Preservation Officer

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Divisions for:

- Community Development
   Historic
- Preservation \* Housing
- Planning

National Life Office Building Drawer 20 Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

Telephone: 802-828-3211 800-622-4553

Fax: 802-828-2928

Historic Preservation Fax: 802-828-3206

# STATE OF VERMONT



# AGENCY OF COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

# Criteria for Evaluating the Effect of Telecommunications Facilities on Historic Resources

The installation of telecommunications facilities—towers, antennae, etc.—may affect historic resources directly and indirectly. Evaluations of project impacts should be made on an individual case-by-case basis and should focus on direct and indirect impacts of a substantial nature. Projects may have an adverse effect under the following circumstances:

Direct Impact: The installation of the telecommunications facility would cause physical damage, alteration or destruction of an historic resource. For example:

1. If installation of the telecommunications facility would require the whole or partial demolition or abandonment of an historic building;

2. If installation of the tower or accessory structure would cause ground disturbance at the installation site that would impact archeological resources;

3. If construction of access roads or power lines would cause ground disturbance that would impact archeological resources along a corridor leading to the installation site;

4. If attachment of the transmitting device to an historic building would cause immediate or potential structural damage or physical of the building, cause a significant visual intrusion to the architectural character of the building, or pose a proven threat to the continued use of the building;

5. If installation of the telecommunications facility would cause physical damage or destruction of historic features of the landscape surrounding and part of an historic resource, such as stone walls, historic roadways and drives, important tree lines, orchards, etc.

Indirect Impact: The installation of he telecommunications facility would cause significant alteration and deterioration of the setting or character of an historic resource. For example:

6. If installation of the telecommunications facility would create a significant intrusion into important public views of an important historic building or group of buildings, especially when those views are identified in municipal or regional plans;

7. If installation of the telecommunications facility would create a significant intrusion into a hillside backdrop of an important historic building or group of buildings;



Page One of Two

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Divisions for:

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 Historic

PreservationHousing

\* Planning

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Telephone: 802-828-3211 800-622-4553 Fax: 802-828-2928

Historic Preservation Fax: 802-828-3206

# Criteria for Evaluating the Effect of Telecommunications Facilities on Historic Resources Page Two of Two

8. If the siting of the telecommunications facility would create a focal point that would overwhelmingly disrupt and distract from the elements of an historic landscape and the public's ability to appreciate it;

9. If installation of the telecommunications facility would create an intrusion in the setting of a National Historic Landmark (which requires additional federal review by the national Advisory Council on Historic Preservation);

10. If installation of the telecommunications facility would create a significant intrusion in a rural historic district or historic landscape with a high degree of integrity, i.e. with little incompatible modern development;

11. If installation of the telecommunications facility would significantly impair the viewshed from an historic resource if that viewshed is a significant component of the character of the historic resource and its history of use (e.g. the home of an important artist whose work portrayed the viewshed landscape);

12. If installation of the telecommunications facility would significantly interfere with the public's ability to interpret and appreciate the qualities of a historic cultural facility, including impairment of the viewshed if experiencing the view from the site is an important part of experiencing the site;

13. If installation of the telecommunications facility would introduce a structure that would be dramatically out of scale with and would visually overwhelm an important historic resource;

14. If installation of the telecommunications facility would isolate a historic resource from its historic setting, or introduce incongruous or incompatible new uses, or new visual, audible or atmospheric elements to a historic setting.

# POOR QUALITY ORIGINAL

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Hew

helpless in assisting her. satisfy Stevens, the prepared statement sandwiched between photographs of her obg when it was here and how it boked after fit was manified, and killed on her property, Stevensilisted several "requests" she wanted answered. These were accom-banied with a thread she and her family fould see that distince is done" if the seectmen decided tomake no action. That apparently inclusion consulting an attor-

Sele Dog Owner, Page A2

# reel the fees are exorbitant, and we'll high it, said Berlin Mayor Robert Dan-derson, noting the cury is paying \$267 an hour, to the Wilmington law firm repre-

senting it is a first fi He noted the city continues to supply water to Pulp and Paper of America, and hasn't been paid in months.

Objections are due by Dec. 3. Edmond Ford a Portsmouth bankruptcy lawyer, said it is common in Chapter 11 bankruptey cases for people who perform See Mill, Page A15



ORLEANS CO HIST SOCIETY2 adjacent to the synagogue where he plans to build three self-storage units. each about 20 feet by 60 feet.

For about a year the synagogue has opposed Jacobs' plans with concerns about preserving the character of the area, and about the risks to children that could result from increased traffic.

Around 10 members of the congregation attended last night's meeting of the planning commission. Steve Nichols. president of Beth El, spoke on their behalf

He said the primary concern of the synagogue was the perential impact on traffic patterns and the safety of the children. Nichols felt that synagogue services on

# Brownington

2 8027542022 adding a regular source of large venicle traffic.

Jacobs disagreed

"I have a one-page lease," he said, explaining that he would not restrict whether customers use the units for residential or commercial storage.

P.01

But he argued that personal experience. engineered studies of larger facilities and common sense led him to believe the traffie impact would be minimal. He added that none of the small units had loading docks, making them an unattractive option for commercial warehousing.

Jacobs is himself a member of the synagogue, as well as the owner of the Beth See Storage Units, Page A16

"soon be under way." The Brownington

project is estimated to be completed with-

The letter remained vague as to the spe-

cific dimensions of the site, but a review of the town land records revealed that a

50-foot tower would, in fact, be part of the

facility. Apparently, that tower needs to be

located in view of Jay Peak and Burke

Records of a lease agreement between

the state and property owners in Brown-

ington place the communications facility

Located in a national historic district

that also includes Brownington's Old

Stone House, the hill allows for a relative-

ly unobstructed, 360-degree view of sur-

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Now through Nov. 24

Wheeler Sports

246 BROAD ST . LYNDONVILLE, VT.

See Tower, Page A16

in the area that surrounds Prospect Hill.

in the calender year.

Mountain.

Tower In The Offing throughout the state. These projects will

Some Concern About Visible Infringement On Historic Area

## BY WALKER PILLOW News Correspondent

The board of selectmen responded Tuesday to a letter suggesting that a large radio tower would be constructed in town.

On Sept. 13, the town received a letter from the facilities division of the Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services. The letter was generally unspecific. stating that the Vermont Department of Public Safety, "has a site" within the town "which will soon house a communications facility."

The letter specified that the site will "contain a radio antenna and a building with electronic equipment," and that it would be "integrated into the existing communications system." as an upgrade to the department's radio equipment.

In addition, construction of similar facilities is planned at 29 other sites

# lower.

#### Continued from Page A1

rounding Orleans County and Canada.

Board member Arthur Postman was especially concerned that the 50-foot tower would disturb the view. If you haven't seen the view from Prospect Hill, said Postman, "How do you live?"

Tuesday, the selectmen drafted a letter asking for more information on the tower

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in light of a possible visible infringement on a historic area. The board also requested the schedule of the Act 250 review that regulates land use in Vermont, and the construction calender.

The board was consistent in their enthusiasm about improved police communications in the state.





State of Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation National Life, Drawer 20 Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

# NOTICE

The monthly meeting of the Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation will be held on Monday, December 17, 2001 at 9:30 a.m. at the Vermont Arts Council Building, located at 136 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont.

# AGENDA

I.	Schedule/confirm meeting dates	9:30
П.	Minutes	9:45
III.	National Register Final Review	
	A. Atherton Farmstead, Cavendish	10:00
	B. Swanton School, Swanton	10:10
IV.	National Register Preliminary Review	
	A. Park-McCullough House, North Bennington	10:20
	B. West Brattleboro Green Historic District Amendment	10:35
V.	National Register – FYI – No Action Necessary	
	A. Aldrichville Mill Village Historic Archeological District	10:50
	B. Brock Hill School, West Newbury	11:00
VI.	SHPO Report	11:15
VII.	Old Business	11:30
	A. State House Expansion – Tour State House	



Shan, to make adduss change for the council members updated list. The Athenaeum's new 911 address 1171 Main St. is

Thunk,

Am



State of Vermont Advisory Council on Historic Preservation National Life, Drawer 20 Montpelier, VT 05620-0501

# MINUTES

December 17, 2001

Members Present:

Peter Mallary, Chair David Donath, Historian George Turner, Architect Ann Lawless, Citizen Member Glenn Andres, Architectural Historian Jim Petersen, Archeologist Beth Boepple, Citizen Member

Staff Present:

Emily Wadhams, SHPO Eric Gilbertson, Deputy Nancy Boone, State Architectural Historian Shari Duncan, Administrative Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 by Chair Peter Mallary.

I. Schedule – Meetings were scheduled for January 24 in Montpelier, February 21 in Woodstock, March 14 in Montpelier and April 30 with a location to be decided upon later.

**II. Minutes** – Shari passed out the many sets of minutes and the Council decided to review only the minutes from the November meeting. The other sets of minutes will be reviewed and discussed at the next Council Meeting. David made a motion to accept the minutes with the following changes and Glenn seconded. Changes are: page 2, "she heard when visiting Bennington". Glenn noted that he was in hopes that there would be no future additions. The motion passed unanimously with the revision.

## III. National Register – Final Review

A. Atherton Farmstead, Cavendish – The Members had been sent copies of the nomination prior to the meeting. Sue summarized its significance and recommended approval. Glenn moved to accept the nomination under criteria A & C. David seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

B. Swanton School, Swanton – The members had been sent copies of the nomination prior to the meeting. Sue summarized the its significance and recommended approval. The local historical society had commented on the draft and their comments were addressed in the final draft. Good example of French Lymen Austens work in schools. Glenn moved to accept the nomination under criteria A & C. Ann seconded. The vote was unanimous.

# IV. National Register – Preliminary Review

A. Park – McCullough House, North Bennington – The request is to change the level of significance to National from State. The Park-McCullough Association wants to upgrade documentation in the nomination to reflect national significance, as part of an effort to qualify for "Save America's Treasures" grant. Sue commented that the initial feedback from the National Park Service is not supporting. Glenn said that it was a prominent New York City architect and this was an early example nationally of French Second Empire style. Glenn suggested that the documentation stress architectural significance. David suggested that an historic argument could e made based on Trevor Park's significance. The Council heartily endorsed its national significance. Sue will give feedback to the consultant, and prepare a letter for the "Save America's Treasures" Program.

C. Brown House, Jericho – The members had previously been sent a copy of the nomination. Sue summarized the significance and shared slides. The milkhouse has come down but parts have been saved. A related barn still stands. The Council felt that it appears eligible for the National Register and gave a nod.

B. West Brattleboro Historic District, West Brattleboro – The original nomination came to the Council back in May and this nomination is to add 5 buildings. In the original nomination, the building was required to front the village green in order to have the nomination manageable. The local historical society is now wanting to make the district bigger. The Town is talking about amending the original nomination. Apparently funds have been a factor in the size of the district as it is expensive to pay a consultant to do the research and write the nomination. Sue noted that they are hoping to receive a grant to pay for the amendment. Sue had concerns about the boundaries of the district. It was hard to add just 5 buildings that are located in a mix of buildings that would be contributing to the nomination. The Council felt that the district was much bigger than what is being proposed in the nomination. George inquired as to whether it was appropriate for the Council to send a letter suggesting that they make the district much larger. Dave asked what would be the cost of adding buildings to a nomination and was told that it is costly. Peter stated that the core argument is that the original district

2

around the green would require change. Sue wanted to know how to justify the piece meal adding to the district. Glenn noted that if this is a phased nomination one wouldn't end the district in the middle of the street. Emily suggested that they do the entire district at this time and not piece meal it. The Council had the opportunity to see slides of the surrounding buildings to the original nomination and Glenn suggested that the logical place for the district to end would be at the gas station. George suggested the local groups might work together in order to afford the cost of a larger district nomination. Emily thought the Council needed to stick to evaluating the significance and nothing else. Sue asked if they might go from one end beginning with the church and go to the other end. Glenn stated that is was too dangerous to be cherry picking. Dave made a motion that while the Council believed the potential of the district to be great, we would endorse the amendment but would like to see it done in a block, to include the entire district if possible, however, if it is not feasible , the Council would encourages the local historical society to nominate an increment that extends as far as the gas station. Ann seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

# V. National Register – For Information Only, No Action Necessary

A. Aldrichville Mill Village Historic Archeological District & B. Brock Hill School, West Newbury - The US Forest Services is nominating these properties on land that they own. Sue explained to the Council that no action was necessary on these nominations as the Council does not play a role in federal nominations. She felt that this nomination was very well done. Sheila Charles, archeologist prepared the nomination and did a very thorough job.

# VII. Old Business

Brownington – Nancy gave an overview of what is happening in Brownington. The Council first heard of this project at last month's meeting. Nancy had a draft of a letter she had written commenting on the tower that is going to go up. Nancy stated that the tower is going to happen and mitigation is route to take if the Council wants to be assured that the tower will not be visible from the Village. She stated that mitigation is the role of the Council. The Council reviewed the letter that Nancy had drafted and made a few minor changes. The Council asked that the letter reflect that Emily will be involved as State Historic Preservation Officer and she will conduct a site visit to evaluate the situation.

State House Expansion – The Council agreed that a letter will be sent to Tom Torti, Commissioner of Department of Buildings & General Services. Glenn will draft a letter with the Council's concerns and email it to the other members for revisions. The Council expressed what they thought should be included in the letter:

- The Council is very supportive of the expansion going behind the State House and not going west.
- The bridge is an area of concern and how it will impact the both Chambers.



- The wall that serves no purpose is an area of concern. The Council is not recommending removal of the wall, but suggest looking at the scale of it and possibly making it smaller.
- Perhaps the wall could be replaced with a lower mass.
- The wall prohibits views from the two chambers.
- The conceptual design is great, although the Council would suggest some tweaking.
- The glass wall is a contrast.
- Note in the letter that some of the Council's concerns have been addressed.
- The letter should be suggestive and not for disagreement.

Emily felt it was necessary to get the letter out this week. Glenn will draft a letter this week. Nancy suggested that the Council include in their letter a thank you to the Committee for having Peter join the group.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15.



