

Center
for
Archaeological
Studies
Boston University

NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, No. 2

Boston, Massachusetts

December, 1981

Archaeology In The City of Boston

Professor Mary Beaudry and two graduate students in the Archaeological Studies Program have been working on a project called "Archaeology in the City of Boston", funded by a grant from the Graduate School. The faculty seed-money research grant has made it possible for the Center to analyze materials recovered from four major construction projects by Massachusetts State Geologist, Clifford Kaye. The sites are the Boston Common Parking Garage; the State Service Center; Charles River Park; and Charles River Shopping Plaza.

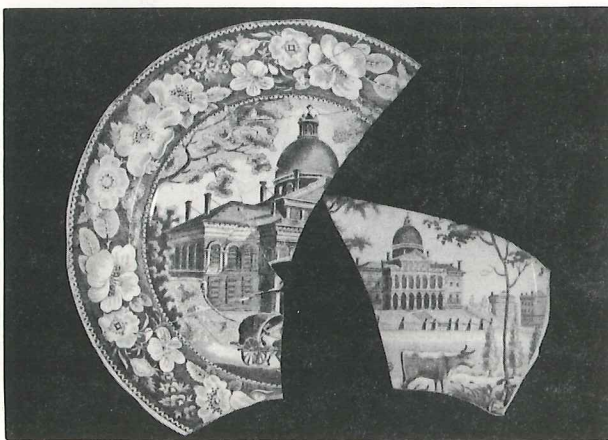


Plate fragments recovered from Round Pond, depicting the Statehouse

Ph.D. students Conrad M. Goodwin and Tamara K. Blosser have been recording, cataloguing, and analyzing the artifacts that Mr. Kaye donated to the Massachusetts Historical Commission. The Commission has placed the materials on loan to the Center for Archaeological Studies. Goodwin and Blosser have interviewed Mr. Kaye about his observations of soils and features at each of the construction sites, and Mr. Kaye has made his field notes, slides, and maps available for study. Blosser is pursuing documentary evidence pertaining to land ownership and the development of the neighborhoods and commercial districts in the vicinity of each of these sites.

One of the most fascinating aspects of this research is what it tells us about the growth and development of different areas of downtown Boston. For instance, the Boston Common Parking Garage was placed in the former location of Round Pond, which was filled in during the early 19th century. Its filling parallels the development of Beacon Hill as a residential neighborhood inhabited by well-to-do Bostonians. Trash from Beacon Hill homes was used to fill the pond so that the militia could use the area as a parade ground, and each time the made-land became soggy from compression, more refuse was thrown down and covered by a layer of cinder and trash. This fill sequence clearly is depicted in the soil layers recorded by Mr. Kaye during ex-

(Continued on page 3)

NEWSLETTER

The *Newsletter* is published six times annually for members of the Center for Archaeological Studies.

The Center, which was founded in 1980, has as its principal aim the development and coordination of interdisciplinary archaeological programs in education and research on local, national, and international levels. The Center also seeks to increase national and international awareness of the importance of understanding other cultures and of preserving the world's cultural heritage, by involving professional archaeologists, scholars in other fields, and the general public in the activities of the Center.

There are three principal components of the Center. The Archaeological Studies Program offers programs leading to the B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees. The Office of Public Archaeology coordinates the educational programs for the general public and carries our cultural resource studies required by federal and state preservation laws. The Center also maintains extensive research facilities, including analysis and teaching laboratories, reference libraries and collections, computers, and photographic and drafting studios. Faculty and staff of the Center currently are involved in research in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Virginia, Canada, Belize, Botswana, Egypt, Israel, Greece, Italy, and Yugoslavia.

MEMBERSHIP TO THE CENTER FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- * Subscription to Center *Newsletter*
- * Archaeology Lecture Series
- * Archaeology Seminars
- * Volunteer Opportunities
- * Tours of Archaeological Sites
- * Excavation and Lab Opportunities
- * Publication Discounts
- * Use of Archaeology Library
- * Annual Report of Activities

CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

	Annual Dues
Member	\$20
Student Member	\$10
Contributing Member	\$50
Institutional	\$50
Patron	\$100
Benefactor	\$500
Corporate	\$1000
Life Member	\$400
(one-time payment)	

CENTER FACULTY AND STAFF

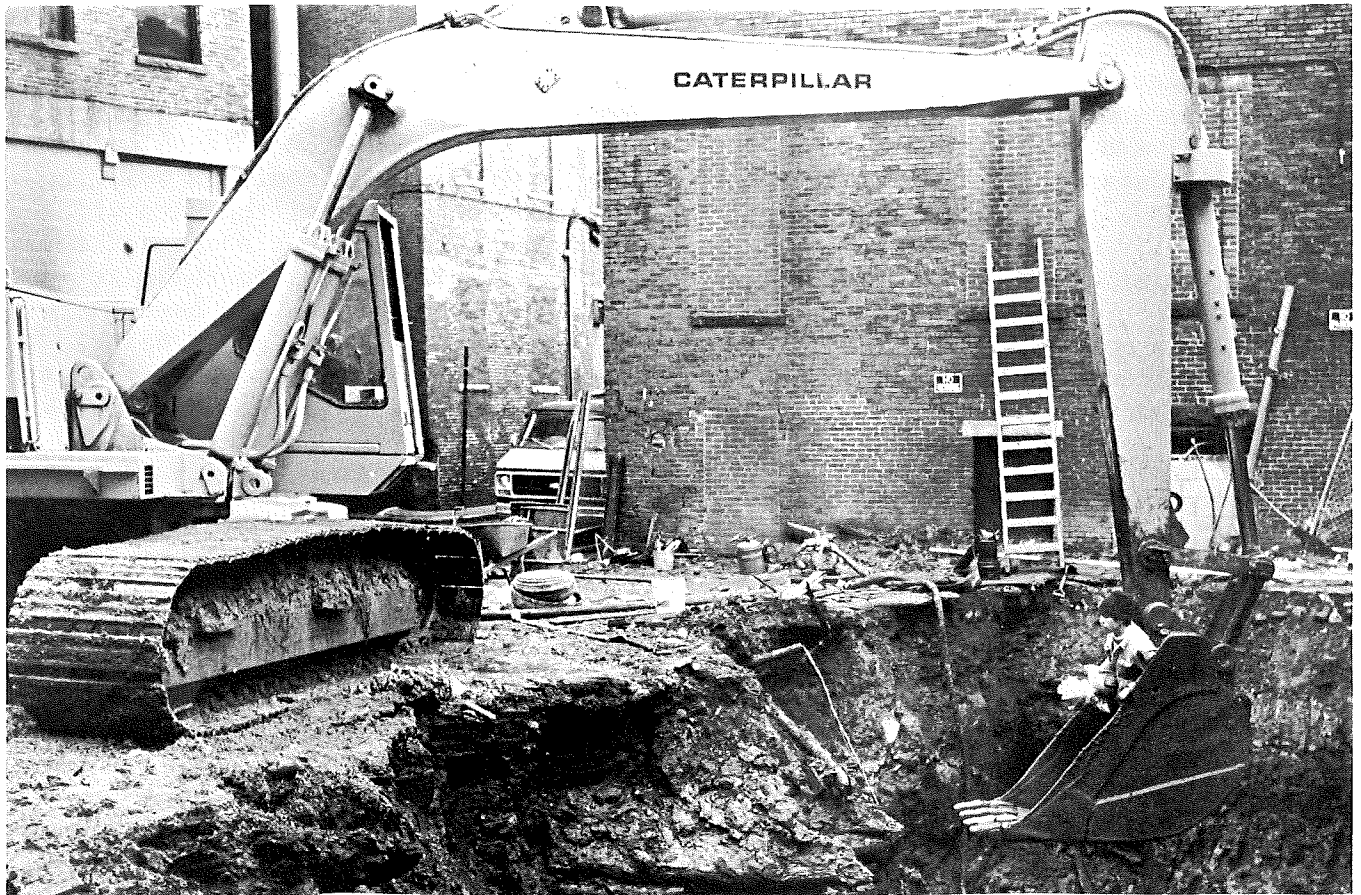
Director: James R. Wiseman.
Office of Public Archaeology: Clark M. Sykes, Director. *Laboratory Coordinator:* Gerald K. Kelso.
Faculty: Mary C. Beaudry, Ricardo Elia, Creighton Gabel, Fred Gorman, Gerald K. Kelso, Fred Kleiner, Karl M. Petruso, Edwin Wilmsen, James R. Wiseman. *Adjunct Faculty:* Howard Kee, Patricia McDowell, Keith Morgan, James Purvis, H. Neil Richardson, Clark M. Sykes. *Administrative Assistant:* Ronda Grodberg. *Secretary:* Terese Maher.

BOSTON ARCHAEOLOGY

(Continued from page 1)

cavations for construction of the garage. The artifacts from these layers reflect the lifestyle and consumption patterns of Beacon Hill residents from about 1825 to 1855, the time of the neighborhood's greatest growth. Some residents displayed their pride in being Bostonians on the very plates on which they ate: several plate fragments bear transfer-printed representations of the magnificent Statehouse designed by Bulfinch in 1795. These fragmentary scenes of the Statehouse and the Commons found their way into the ground only a short distance from the vantage point from which they had been drawn!

Another aspect of this project will begin shortly, when the Center initiates further cooperation with the Massachusetts Historical Commission for the analysis of materials recently recovered from the construction of the Bostonian Hotel. Winn Development Corporation has generously contributed funds to support detailed study of an exciting assemblage of ceramics, leather, glass, wood, and faunal remains thrown into a millpond of the historic Blackstone Canal. Dr. James Bradley and Neil DePaoli of the MHC will be working with Ph.D. student Nancy Seasholes and other students on the analysis of the assemblage, which contains materials spanning the years 1640-1740.



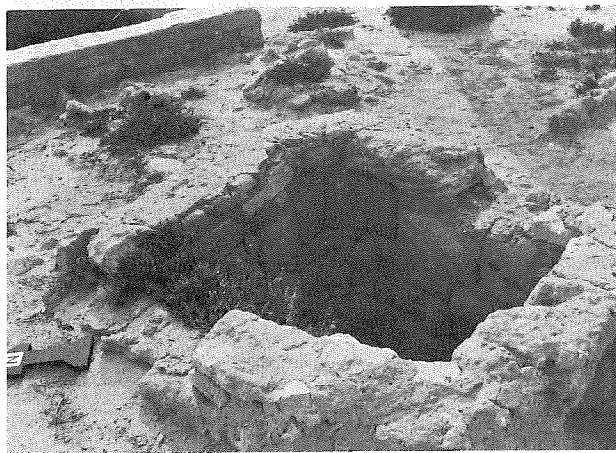
Archaeologist Neil DePaoli rides backhoe bucket into Bostonian Hotel construction site to salvage early colonial artifacts

MAREA: EXCAVATION OF AN ANCIENT PORT IN LOWER EGYPT

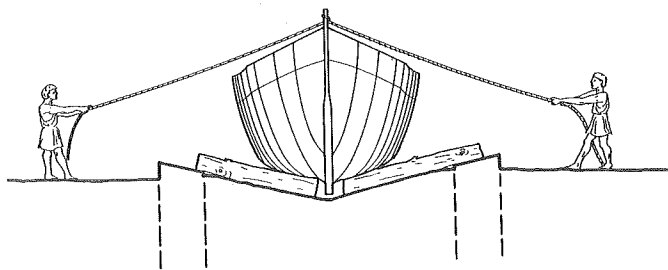
Every summer since 1979, the Archaeological Studies Program has conducted a summer field school at the site of Marea, about 45 kilometers southwest of Alexandria, Egypt. The field school is directed by Professors Karl Petruso and Creighton Gabel. The director of the Marea Project is Professor Fawzi el Fakharani of the Department of Classical Civilization of the University of Alexandria. Some 70 undergraduate and graduate students from Boston University and other institutions have participated in the project over the past three sessions.

Marea is located on the south shore of Lake Maryut, one of the largest lakes in Egypt. The region in which the site is located has a gravelly soil, rare in Egypt, and is particularly well suited to the growing of grapes. Ancient Roman and Greek authors extolled the quality of the Mareotic white wines, and it seems to have enjoyed wide renown about the eastern Mediterranean. Indeed, today rock-cut and plaster-lined basins for the production of wine are commonly seen in the region.

We have concentrated our efforts on a magnificent and well-preserved complex of Byzantine harbor facilities



Mareotis Survey: Roman or Byzantine well structure



0 5 m.
1980

Reconstructed use of the Marea dry dock facility

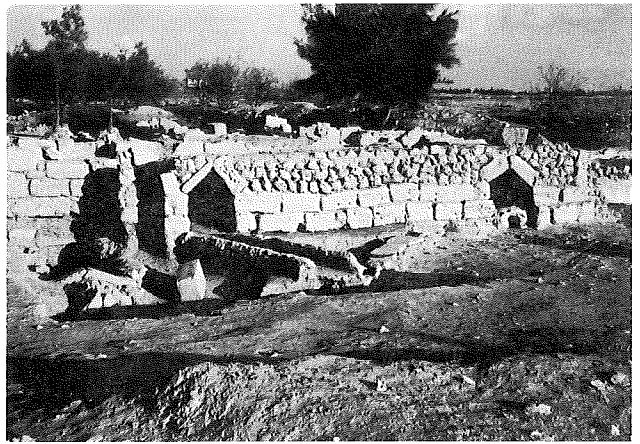
which stretch for approximately 1 km. along the lakeshore. Most prominent among the extant remains are three long jetties, two of which are about 120 meters in length (one of these is pictured in the photo above). The western arm of the lake is now almost completely dessicated; hence the good preservation of the jetties, which are made of ashlar limestone blocks. Round structures, probably beacons, were at the distal ends of the jetties.

In 1980, we excavated a building in the western part of the site which, because of its peculiar shape and the fact that it reached into the lake in antiquity, appears to have been a dry-dock for construction and/or maintenance of boats. While similar slipways are known from classical Mediterranean coastal sites, no good parallels to our building are known for the Byzantine period.

In 1981 we excavated a prominent and well-built structure on the lakeshore just west of the bath complex (see site plan on opposite page). It had an arcuated facade and stood at least two stories high. We were able to define the limits of this large building, and we learned something of its interior arrangement. Few artifacts were found within it, and we were unable to determine its function. Also excavated was an underground rock-cut cavity southeast of the shop arcade, which contained several burials. This

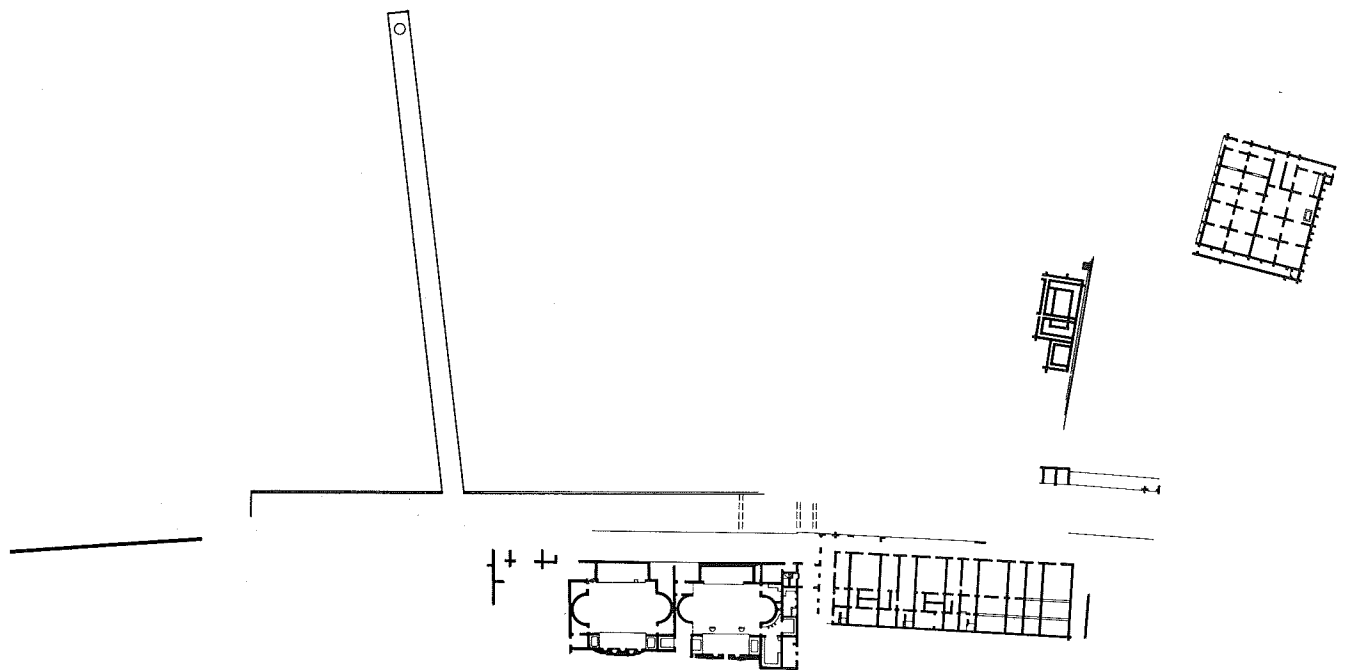
cavity was near a small apsidal church which was remodled at some time after the Arab invasion in 641 A.C.

Our investigations in the harbor area have determined with a fair degree of certainty that this harbor was a one-period site; the pottery dates from the 5th to the early 7th centuries after Christ. We know from historical testimonia, however, that there was a Marea which flourished hereabouts in the classical period. Reconnaissance to the west of our harbor has turned up a small amount of mainland Greek pottery of the 5th-4th centuries B.C., a stamped amphora handle manufactured at Knidos in western Anatolia dating perhaps to the 1st century B.C., and Roman red wares of the 3rd-4th centuries A.C. Most interesting, though, is another complex of harbor facilities, previously unreported, some 3 km. west of our harbor. In plan and masonry they are significantly different from, and apparently more ancient than, our Byzantine buildings. These tantalizing finds suggest that pre-Byzantine Marea is to be sought to



Facade of Byzantine villa at Marea

the west. Perhaps oscillations in the level of the lake-- on which the economy of Marea was always dependent-- might have occasioned a shift in settlement along the lakeshore. Only further systematic reconnaissance will enable us to answer this question.



Archaeological site plan of Marea: jetty appears at upper left, bath complex and shops at center, and mill structure at upper right

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL TO BE OFFERED AT TYNGSBOROUGH

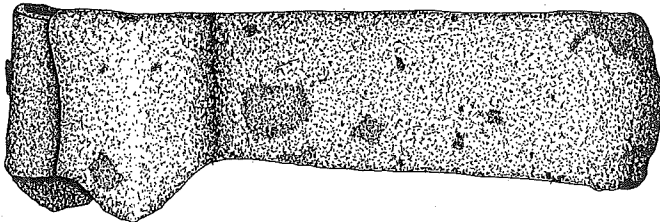
The Center for Archaeological Studies announces plans for an archaeological field school to be held in Tyngsborough, Massachusetts.

In the third quarter of the 17th century, Jonathon Tyng, son of prominent Boston merchant Edward Tyng, established good relations with the Indians; after King Phillip's War, Tyng became the Indian agent for the Massachusetts Colony and befriended the leader of the Pennacooks, Wannalancet. After Jonathon's death in 1724, the property passed down within the Tyng family until the late 19th century. The house known as the Tyng mansion, a much-altered 18th-century structure, burned in 1978. Excavations at the site have produced evidence of the 17th-century trading post, a timber-framed building, as well as trade goods and Indian artifacts. The excellent stratification at the site clearly reveals post holes as well as details of the various building periods of the 19th-century Tyng 'mansion' house.

The field course will be taught by Professor Mary C. Beaudry, assisted by a Boston University teaching fellow, and Mr. Stephen Mrozoski, Research Associate with the Robert S. Peabody Foundation for Archaeology, will supervise the field work.

Dates for the field school are June 7- July 16, 1982.

For further information, contact Professor Beaudry at the Center for Archaeological Studies.



Early 18th century morticing axe

CENTER CONSIDERING ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOUR OF MEDITERRANEAN

The Center is considering sponsoring a two-week tour of major archaeological sites in the eastern Mediterranean during early autumn, 1982. The tour, which would be led by Center faculty and staff, would cover many of the most important sites and museums of the Bronze Age, Classical Greek, and Roman civilizations, including parts of mainland Greece, the Aegean Islands, and Turkey. Travel arrangements and accommodations would be organized by the Center for Archaeological Studies.

Persons who might be interested in the tour should write to the Center to be certain of being kept informed as plans for the tour are developed.

CENTER WISH LIST

If the Center had additional funds available, we would improve our facilities by purchasing the following items.

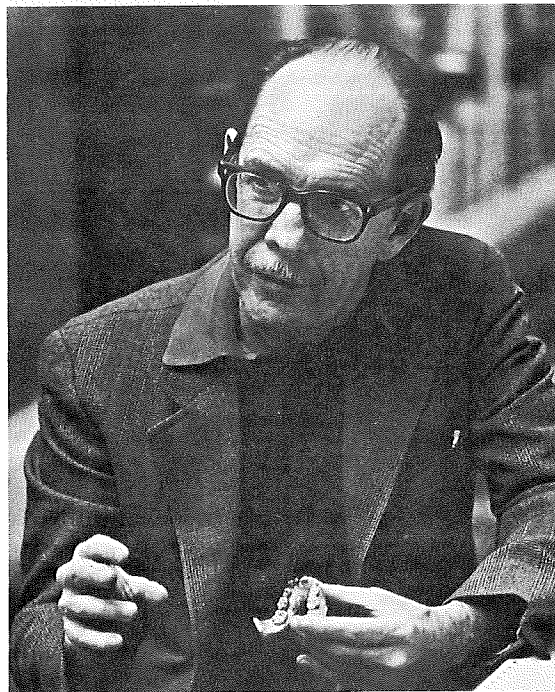
- * More books for the Archaeology Library (\$10 - \$75 each)
- * Sets of color slides of ancient sites and artifacts (\$80 - \$150/set)
- * Additional laboratory tables and chairs (\$60 - \$175 each)
- * Storage cabinets for artifacts (\$250 each)

Contributions to the Center, which are tax deductible, may be designated for one or more of the areas listed above, or for the academic program, or for the general use of the Center. Checks should be sent to the Director of the Center.

DR. RICHARD S. MacNEISH LECTURES ON MAYA ORIGINS

Prominent archaeologists often visit the Center for Archaeological Studies. In November, Dr. Richard MacNeish, Director of the R. S. Peabody Foundation for Archeology in Andover, Massachusetts, spoke to Center members about his recent research in Belize.

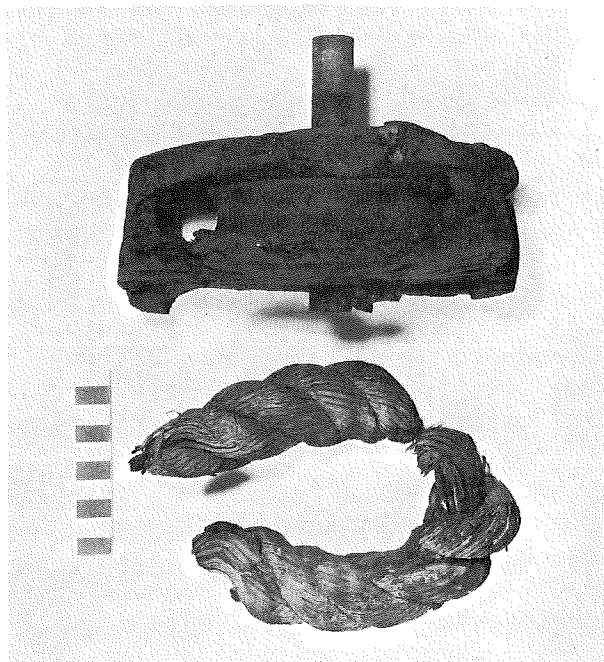
Where the Maya came from, when they arrived, and what was the base on which the Maya civilization was built have been speculated about for over four centuries. During the last two years, Dr. MacNeish has been investigating the above problems. Preliminary soundings and surveys have yielded a long preceramic sequence -- roughly from 9,000 to 2,000 B.C. Even now the results show a startling new cultural development leading to the first Mayan agricultural villages.



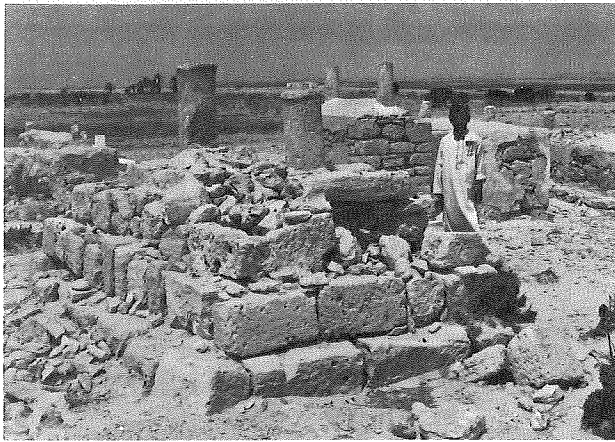
Dr. MacNeish's lecture was one in a monthly series for members of the Center for Archaeological Studies. For information about future speakers, please see page 10 and the Calendar on the back cover.

ARTIFACTS from H.M.S. ORPHEUS

The Rhode Island Historic Preservation Commission recently has lent the collection of materials recovered from excavations at the underwater site of the British frigate *H.M.S. Orpheus*, to the Center's Research Laboratory for study. Mr. Robert Cembrola, a graduate student in the Archaeological Studies Program, will be analyzing the well-preserved organic and metal remains as well as ceramics from the wreck. The *Orpheus* was scuttled by the British in 1778 to prevent its capture by the French off Portsmouth, Rhode Island. Cembrola, who was one of the divers at the wreck, explained that the burning of the ship and the mud at the bottom of the Narragansett Bay were both factors contributing to the excellent preservation of the remains.



Wooden pulley and line fragments excavated from the H.M.S. Orpheus



*Moslem cemetery west of Marea;
Note Byzantine columns and blocks.*

CMRAE SUMMER INSTITUTE

The Center for Materials Research in Archaeology and Ethnology (CMRAE) announces the opening of its Summer Institute, designed to offer to a national audience courses on materials analysis of archaeological and ethnographic collections. The first course, a one month intensive investigation of ancient metallurgy, will be held June 4-30th, 1982, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and directed by Dr. Heather Lechtman, Professor of Archaeology and Ancient Technology, M.I.T., and Director of CMRAE. The purpose of the course is to develop the analytical skills that enable students to reconstruct and interpret technological systems used in ancient and non-industrial societies to produce items of metal. The course will be valuable to students of anthropology, archaeology, art history, conservation of cultural materials and other related disciplines.

For further information and application forms, write to: Professor Suzanne De Atley, Director, CMRAE Summer Institute, M.I.T., Room 8-138, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 02139.

NEW MEMBERS

The Center wishes to acknowledge the kind support of the persons listed below, and to welcome them as new members.

Ms. P. L. J. Augustinson

Dr. E. Badian

Ms. Laura Chin

Ms. Betty Cordray

Mr. Michael Duponte

Ms. Marie O. Eteson

Ms. Michelle Fontaine

Mr. Richard A. George

Ms. Nancy C. Heinemann

Ms. Hilary Hopkins

Mr. James J. McGurty

Ms. Janet McGurty

Mr. Thomas R. Martin

Mr. & Mrs. Harry D. Maynor

Ms. Deborah O'Donnell

Mr. William B. Osgood

Dr. John H. Rosser

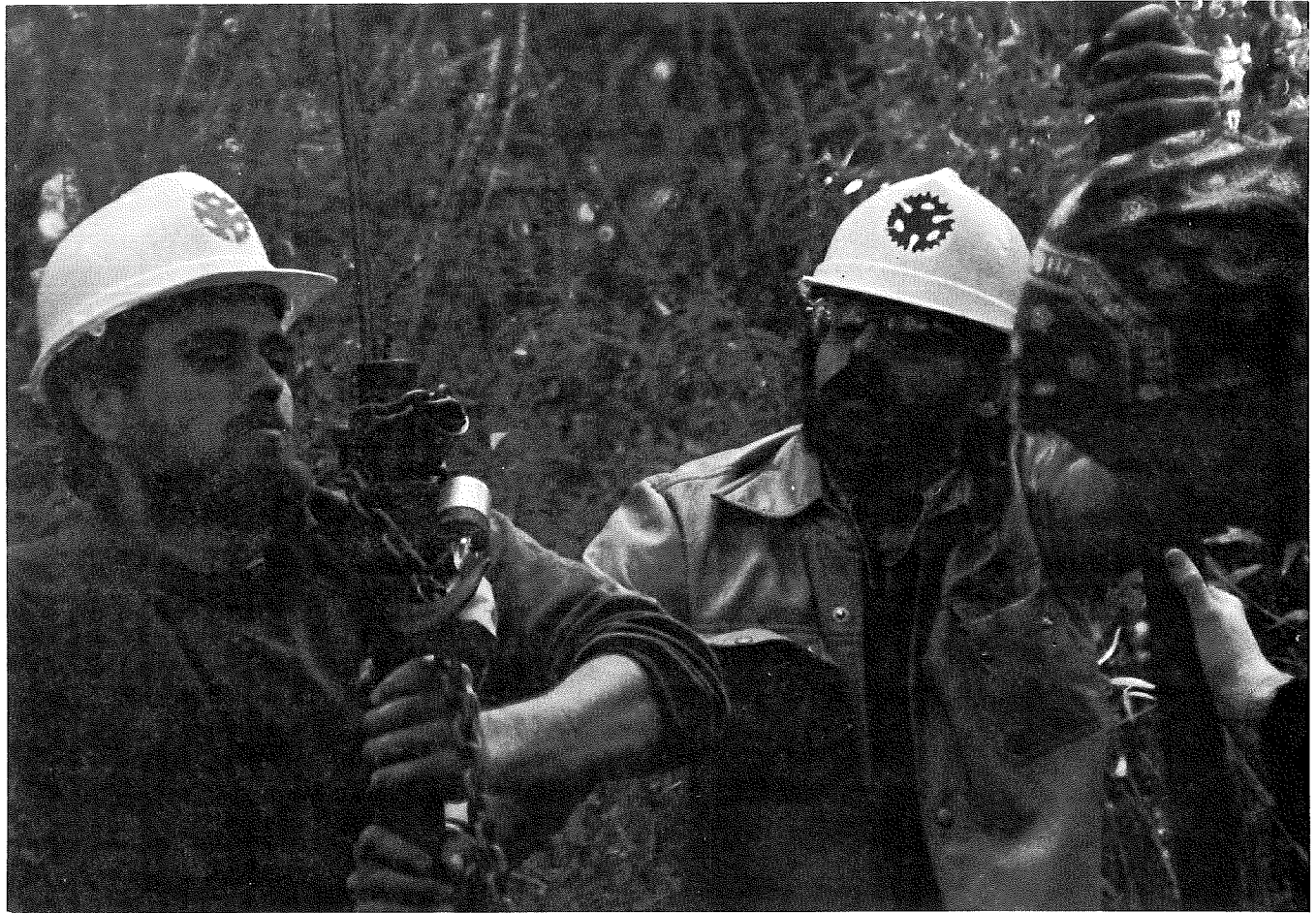
Ms. Drorah Setel

Ms. Jill Tager

Ms. Helen Shaffner

Ms. Sylvia Winton

Ms. Leova Wolf



Drs. Gerald Kelso (center) and Patricia McDowell (right) get student John Shay's assistance with pollen coring at the Shattuck Farm site.

RECONSTRUCTING ANCIENT ENVIRONMENTS OF NEW ENGLAND THROUGH POLLEN AND SOIL STUDIES

Patricia McDowell, Assistant Professor of Geography and an adjunct faculty member associated with the Center for Archaeological Studies, is conducting research on the geomorphology, soils, and past environmental settings of a site on the Merrimac River near Lawrence, Massachusetts. She is investigating the stratigraphy and development of the post-glacial river terraces which were occupied from Middle Archaic to Late Woodland times (about 6,000 B.C. to 1400 A.C.). This research is part of the Shattuck Farm Archaeological Project, directed by Dr. Barbara Luedtke of the University of Massachusetts, Boston, and sponsored by the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Boston University Archaeology students also are analyzing the pollen content of a two meter sediment core taken from a small marsh near the Shattuck Farm site. Under the supervision of Dr. Gerald K. Kelso, Assistant Professor of Archaeology at Boston University, the students currently are identifying and tabulating the various pollen types recovered. The information will be used to reconstruct the prehistoric vegetation and climate patterns, and the dietary practices of the site inhabitants.

The Shattuck Farm project director, Dr. Barbara Luedtke, will discuss preliminary results of these findings at the Center on March 15, 1982.

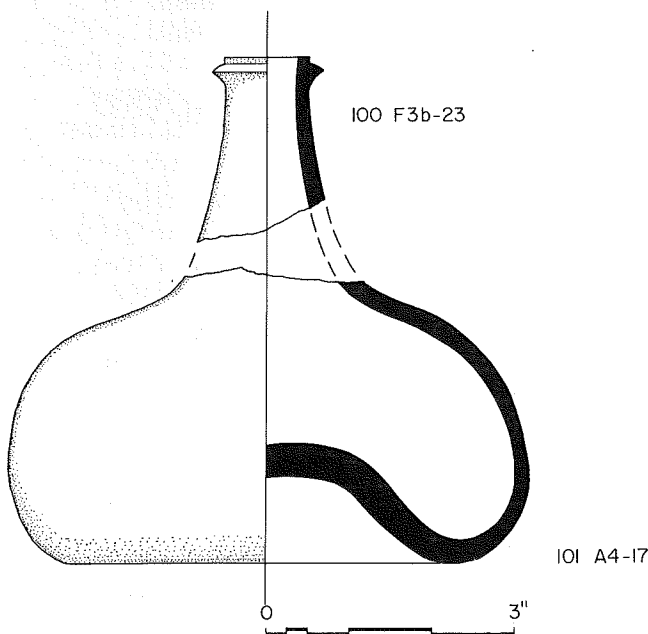
CENTER TO OFFER TWO SEMINARS IN ARCHAEOLOGY THIS SPRING

Two seminars will be conducted this spring for members of the Center for Archaeological Studies. Each seminar will consist of six sessions, most of them in the evening (with occasional Saturday meetings), during two or three consecutive weeks in Room 525C of the Center, 232 Bay State Road.

Upon completion of the seminar cycle, participants will receive a "Certificate of Training" from the Center. The seminars also carry CEU credit.

"THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF LIFE IN COLONIAL NEW ENGLAND"

The course presents the archaeological evidence for life in early New England, from the earliest settlements to the post-industrial era. Topics include early architecture, food, rural and urban settlements, the development of industry, and the artifacts of early



Profile drawing of early 18th century colonial wine bottle.

New England. At least one field trip to a New England historic site will be made.

Dates: March 6 to March 20, 1982

First session: March 6, 10 a.m.

Fee: \$130 members; \$150 non-members

Instructor: Dr. Mary C. Beaudry

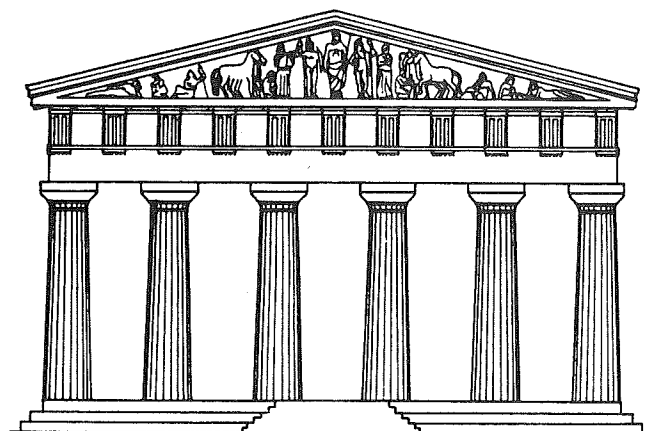
"THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF GREECE"

This seminar will cover the archaeology of Greece, Crete, and the Aegean islands from the Middle Bronze Age (ca. 2,000 B.C.) to the period of Alexander the Great (4th century B.C.). The focus will be on the magnificent (temples, sanctuaries, and major arts) and the mundane (pottery, inscriptions, coinage, burial customs). The class will examine many of the major sites, such as Knossos, Mycenae, Athens, Corinth, Delphi, and Olympia. The relationship between archaeological data and historical sources will be considered.

Dates: April 3 to April 24, 1982

First session: April 3, 10:00 a.m.

Fee: \$130 members; \$150 non-members



Facade of the Temple of Zeus at Olympia, Greece.

SPRING LECTURE SERIES IN ARCHAEOLOGY

Members and prospective members of the Center are invited to attend a monthly lecture series. All lectures will be at 7:30 p.m. in the Boston University School of Nursing Lecture Hall (Curtis Auditorium), 635 Commonwealth Avenue. Each lecture will be followed by an informal question-and-answer period, and a reception for the guest speaker and members.

JANUARY 20, 1982 (WEDNESDAY)

ARCHAEOLOGY IN EGYPT

January's speaker will be Dr. Karl Petruso, Assistant Professor of Archaeology at Boston University, who will present a slide-illustrated talk on recent excavations at the site of Marea, Egypt. The Center's research at Marea is described on pages 4-5 of this *Newsletter*.

FEBRUARY 17, 1982 (WEDNESDAY)

ARCHAEOLOGY IN CHINA

Dr. Norman Hammond, Director of the Archaeological Research Program at Rutgers University, will be the guest speaker for February. His topic will be "China: An Archaeological Perspective".

MARCH 15, 1982 (MONDAY)

ARCHAEOLOGY IN MASSACHUSETTS

Dr. Barbara Luedtke, Associate Professor of Anthropology at University of Massachusetts, Boston, will present a slide-illustrated lecture on her recent research at the Shattuck Farm site in Andover, Massachusetts. Shattuck Farm was the location of continuous human occupation from about 6,000 B.C. to around A.C. 1200.

APRIL 21, 1982 (WEDNESDAY)

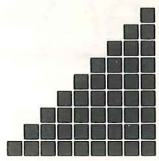
ARCHAEOLOGY IN ITALY

April's lecture will be delivered by Dr. Ross Holloway, Director of the Center for Old World Archaeology and Art, Brown University. Professor Holloway's slide-illustrated talk is entitled "The Age of Metals Comes to the Italian Peninsula".

For more information about the spring lectures, please contact the Office of Public Archaeology.



Student Doug George maps stone wall near Peterborough, New Hampshire.



Center
for
Archaeological
Studies
Boston University

CALENDAR

December 16, 1981

Dr. Clemency Coggins, Peabody Museum, Harvard University, speaks on "SELLING THE MAYA: ILLICIT ANTI-QUITIES MARKET IN MIDDLE AMERICA"

January 20, 1982

Dr. Karl Petruso, Boston University, speaks on "MAREA: AN ANCIENT PORT IN LOWER EGYPT"

February 17, 1982

Dr. Norman Hammond, Rutgers University, lectures on "CHINA: AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE"

March, 1982

Three week seminar on "THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF LIFE IN COLONIAL NEW ENGLAND", Dr. Mary Beaudry, Instructor

March 15, 1982

Dr. Barbara Luedtke, University of Massachusetts, speaks on "ARCHAEOLOGY AT SHATTUCK FARM, MASSACHUSETTS"

April, 1982

Three week seminar on "THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF GREECE", Dr. Karl Petruso, Instructor

April 21, 1982

Dr. Ross Holloway, Center for Old World Archaeology and Art, Brown University, speaks on "THE AGE OF METALS COMES TO THE ITALIAN PENINSULA"

Lectures are held at the Boston University School of Nursing, (Curtis Auditorium). Seminars will be held in classrooms at the Center for Archaeological Studies.

Center for Archaeological Studies
Boston University
232 Bay State Road
Boston, MA 02215

Non-Profit Organ.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 731
Boston, MA 02215

Address Correction
Requested