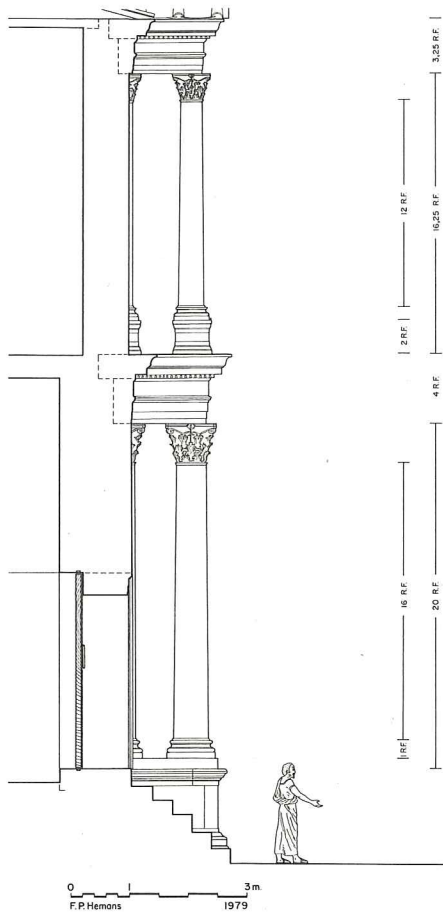


# CONTEXT



Restored section of the façade of the scene building at Stobi. See page 6.

## The Belize Archaic Archaeological Reconnaissance of 1982

by Richard S. MacNeish

The second season of the Belize Archaic Archaeological Reconnaissance (BAAR) of the R.S. Peabody Foundation, sponsored by the National Science Foundation and Earthwatch, saw the major excavations of this project. The season commenced early in January and ceased near the end of May, but the major period of excavation ran from February 1 to May 7, 1982.

Generally speaking, we had three different crews of about 10 to 16 people excavating three different sites during most of this period. In charge of the excavations were Bob and Judy Zeitlin of Brandeis University. The student chiefs were Richard Callaghan, Leslie Shaw, Tom Emerson, and Ray Scippa. Students assisting

them were Barry Rowlett, Bruno Marino, Jill Mulholland, Logan McNatt, and Sue Wurtzburg. The staff was ably assisted by 30 to 40 local workers, mainly from Sand Hill, who became skilled archaeological technicians before the season was over, and 29 Earthwatch volunteers over a six-week period.

In actual fact, the volunteers spent more of their time in our laboratory that was run by Mary Dell Lucas under Antoinette Nelken-Terner. Much of the basic cataloging was done by our three Friends of the Foundation, Peggy Wilner, Libbie Cook, and Penny Johnson, who had a wide variety of helpers from school children to R.A.F. volunteers. Also assisting them were artist Elizabeth Ross and photographer/surveyor Joel Boriak.

All these investigations were made possible by an efficient administrative staff with Mara Cantor doing the administration with

*Continued on page 11.*

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*Aerial view of the project base camp at Orange Walk Town.*

## Editorial Commentary:

# Archaeology and the American University

by James R. Wiseman

Archaeology at Boston University has recently undergone a significant change in organizational structure. In July, 1982, the Trustees of the university approved a proposal to form a Department of Archaeology within the College of Liberal Arts and the Graduate School. The proposal, initiated by the faculty of the Archaeological Studies Program, went to the Trustees after having been approved in an overwhelmingly favorable vote by the faculty of the college in November, 1981, and after receiving the endorsement of university officials.

The creation of the Department of Archaeology represents an important step for the university. The founding of a new department is, after all, an unusual and infrequent occurrence. It was, in fact, 12 years ago that the College of Liberal Arts added the department most recently formed before the Department of Archaeology. At that time (1970) the Department of Anthropology was formed by "splitting off" from the Department of Sociology.

This recent action by the university, it should be noted, fits well with the long-established reputation of Boston University for encouraging programs that transcend the boundaries of traditional academic disciplines. It is worth noting also that the faculty for the new department who were already on campus will retain the professorial titles they held earlier (whether in Anthropology, Art History, Classics, or Religion), and will add the designation of Archaeology. The Department of Archaeology plans to maintain its close ties with those departments from which most of its faculty were drawn, and with other departments and programs with which cooperative activities have

already been established (e.g., the Department of Geography and the New England and American Studies Program). At the same time the department hopes to broaden still further both its research and curricular activities by developing joint programs with still other academic units.

The Department of Archaeology replaces the interdepartmental Archaeological Studies Program that had been formed in January, 1979, and most of the faculty of the department have been active in that program. A full list of members of the department for 1982-1983, along with their current special research interests, is given below, but it is appropriate to call attention here to recent additions to the faculty. Richard S. MacNeish, Director of the Robert S. Peabody Foundation for Archaeology at Andover, and in 1981-1982 Research Professor of Archaeology at Boston University, joins the department now as Professor of Archaeology (see *Context* 2:1, Spring, 1982, p. 1). Edwin N. Wilmsen, Visiting Professor of Anthropology and Archaeology at Boston University in 1981-1982, also becomes Professor of Archaeology in September, 1982. Professors MacNeish and Wilmsen will teach one term each academic year and will conduct research during the other term. The third new faculty member is Alice Hausman, a Research Associate last year in Boston University's distinguished Center for African Studies, who will be a Visiting Assistant Professor of Archaeology during the fall term. Both she and Professor Wilmsen will continue also as Research Associates of the Center for African Studies.

The replacement of the Archaeological Studies Program with a department, however, is a change in structure and name, not in disciplinary goals and not in academic content. The academic program continues to be highly interdisciplinary, just as the research projects of its faculty and students are. The interdisciplinary aspect of the Department and Center, in fact, have even been strengthened by the recent faculty appointments, and the degrees offered by the Department are as before: the

B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. in Archaeology.

The Center for Archaeological Studies, with its emphasis on the interaction between the public and professional archaeologists, will broaden its scope of activities under the sponsorship of the Department of Archaeology. Members of the Center will have the opportunity to attend lectures by a series of distinguished archaeologists, participate in archaeological workshops and seminars, join archaeological tours, and exchange ideas with the professional staff of the Center on a variety of occasions.

These organizational changes affecting the status of archaeology at Boston University, moreover, are of more than institutional or regional importance. We believe that the forming of this Department of Archaeology holds considerable significance for the discipline of archaeology, since the department is the first in the United States with a curriculum that is founded on a holistic concept of archaeology. That concept is embodied in the academic program, which includes studies both in the Old and New World, and in prehistoric and historical time periods, that involve both humanistic and scientific approaches and aims. These areas of intellectual endeavor have traditionally been fragmented in the United States, so that archaeologists on some campuses might find themselves scattered among five or six departments: e.g., Anthropology, Art History, Classics, Geography, Geology, Religion, and others.

All this is not to say that other departments of archaeology do not exist. On the contrary, there are several. But all those departments have (so far) explicitly restricted their geographical and chronological concerns, so that archaeologists with specialties in other parts of the world, or time periods, or with other disciplinary ties, are often based in other departments on the same campus.

The growing number of interdepartmental programs in archaeology and the *de facto* independence of some archaeological programs within more traditionally defined departments at other universities are clear signs that archaeology is

now beginning to receive academic recognition as the discipline it has for years shown itself in practice to be. Such a time lag, of course, is not unusual in the academic world. It is customary, and understandable, in most disciplines for academic curricula to reflect only later the methodological and theoretical evolution of professional practice.

At Boston University we believe that the time for formal academic recognition of archaeology as a discipline is now. That view is one that we share with many, perhaps most, archaeologists throughout the world. Many of those archaeologists, indeed, would argue that even "now" is late. In any case, this is a time of great excitement in the evolving discipline of archaeology. And we invite you to join us in the excitement and in the intellectual challenges that archaeology offers.

*James R. Wiseman is Director of the Center for Archaeological Studies and Chairman of the Department of Archaeology at Boston University.*

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## Faculty of the Department of Archaeology

**Mary C. Beaudry**, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Archaeology. Ph.D., Brown University. *New World Historical Archaeology, Industrial Archaeology, Material Culture Studies*

**Creighton Gabel**, Professor of Anthropology and Archaeology. Ph.D., University of Edinburgh. *Early Agricultural Hunting and Gathering Societies, European and African Prehistory*

**Alice Hausman**, Visiting Assistant Professor of Archaeology. Ph.D., State University of New York at Binghamton. *Human Osteology, Southern Africa*

**Howard Kee**, Chairman, Division of Religious Studies; Adjunct Professor of Archaeology, William Goodwin Aurelio Professor of the Appreciation of the Bible, Department of Religion. Th.M., Dallas Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Yale University. *Hellenistic and Early Roman Archaeology, Architecture*

**Gerald K. Kelso**, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Archaeology. Ph.D., University of Arizona. *Human Paleoeology, Palynology, North American Prehistoric Archaeology*

**Fred S. Kleiner**, Chairman, Depart-

## A Developing Facility at the Center: the Library

The Archaeology Library of the Center is located near the administrative offices of the Center on the 5th floor of 232 Bay State Road. The library is being developed to serve 1) as a basic archaeological reference library for members, staff, and associates of the Center; 2) as a reserved reading room for students in advanced courses offered by the Department of Archaeology and for students in special seminars sponsored by the Center; and 3) as a special research facility for archaeological projects sponsored by the Center, including the Office of Public Archaeology and the Department of Archaeology.

The library includes books and periodicals; photocopies of articles that are important for aims 2) and 3) in the preceding paragraph; and microforms both of publications and archival material. There is also a special section that contains publications of the faculty of the Department and of the archaeologists on the staff of the Center.

Special library hours for members of the Center from September 9 to December 13, 1982, will be 5-7 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays,

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ment of Art History; Associate Professor of Archaeology and Art History. Ph.D., Columbia University. *Greek, Roman, and Etruscan Art*

**Richard S. MacNeish**, Professor of Archaeology. Ph.D., University of Chicago; LL.D., Simon Fraser University. *Origins of New World Agriculture, Early Man in the New World, Systems Theory*

**Keith Morgan**, Director, Program in Preservation Studies; Adjunct Assistant Professor of Archaeology; Assistant Professor in Preservation Studies. Ph.D., Brown University. *American Architecture (1870-present), Historic Preservation*

**Karl M. Petruso**, Assistant Professor of Archaeology and Classics. Ph.D., Indiana University. *Classical Archaeology, Aegean and Anatolian Prehistory*

**James Purvis**, Adjunct Professor of Archaeology, Professor of Religion.

and Wednesdays. Members may also use the library at other times, but should first check by telephone with the main office of the Center.

## The Library Fund

The Archaeology Library is only a year and a half old, and although it has already grown into a useful facility even in its infancy, it is still in need of considerable "nourishment." The Center, therefore, has established a special Library Fund and invites contributions from the membership. Gifts of books are also invited, but potential donors should first discuss the needs of the library with the Director of the Center to avoid duplication. Contributions, whether in dollars or in books, are tax-deductible, and donors will be acknowledged in bookplates.

Checks should be made out to the *Center for Archaeological Studies* and marked "Library Fund"; they may be sent to:

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

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Th.D., Harvard University. *Near Eastern Archaeology, Archaeology of Israel*

**Edwin Wilmsen**, Professor of Archaeology. Ph.D., University of Arizona. *Southern African Ethnohistory, Ecology of Desert Peoples, Social Organizations of Small Groups*

**James R. Wiseman**, Director of the Center for Archaeological Studies; Chairman, Department of Archaeology; Professor of Archaeology, Art History, and Classics. Ph.D., University of Chicago. *Classical Archaeology, Aegean Prehistory, Comparative Archaeology*

# The Massachusetts Historical Commission

by Frederick Hemans

*This article is the first in a series on the state and private agencies and institutions in Massachusetts that are concerned with archaeology. It is appropriate that the Massachusetts Historical Commission should be the first in this series because it is the primary government agency that oversees archaeological work and is a clearing-house for information on archaeology and historic preservation in our state. Special thanks are due to Valerie Talmage, the State Archaeologist; Margaret Twomey, Public Information Officer; and James Bradley, Historical Archaeologist, all on the staff of the Commission, for their cooperation in the preparation of this piece. In forthcoming issues of Context we plan to discuss the role of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society and the National Park Service in preserving our archaeological resources.*

There are so many activities and responsibilities at the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) that it would be difficult to mention all of them here. It is the archaeological work of the Commission that we shall focus on, and the impact that this office is having in the preservation and documentation of our archaeological resources. We are fortunate indeed to have one of the most active state commissions in the nation. Massachusetts established the MHC in 1963, some three years before the federal government formally recognized the need for historic preservation by passing the National Historic Preservation Act. This state law provided for the establishment of the MHC and the office of State Archaeologist as part of the State Secretary's office, recognizing that the preservation of historic and archaeological resources is a public goal and responsibility. When federal legislation required the appointment of a State Historic Preservation Officer to coordinate federal, state, and local preservation efforts in 1966, this office was incorporated into the already existing MHC.

The MHC has among its duties:

the compilation of a statewide inventory of historic, architectural, and archaeological resources; nomination of eligible properties to the National Register of Historic Places; and the protection of these sites through the use of state and federal review programs. The Commission has 12 members who are appointed for three-year terms; five of these members are state officials, or appointed by the governor, and the remaining seven are selected from those nominated by various societies and leagues who have long been committed to local preservation, such as the Massachusetts Archaeological Society and the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities. The professional staff is funded through state appropriations and grants from the federal Department of Interior. An important and laudable step was taken this past year when the state legislature decided to fund the position of State Archaeologist, which was formerly funded by federal grants.

Valerie Talmage is the current State Archaeologist and as such has the ultimate responsibility for archaeological work conducted in Massachusetts. Her duties include the compilation of the statewide archaeological survey, issuing permits for field investigations conducted on state, city, or town properties or with public funds, and reviewing the reports that result from these investigations to ensure that work is completed in a competent manner. Each of these responsibilities require the sensitivity and knowledge of a trained professional who understands the long-range preservation needs in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

There has been significant progress made on a statewide archaeological survey over the past few years with the inauguration of a five-year program to create a data base on both above- and below-ground resources. This work has been funded by a grant in 1979 from the Heritage Conservation Recreation Service, now part of the National Park Service, Department of Interior. This survey aims to provide information that will guide future historic preservation

and archaeological work by defining areas that have importance not just for their aesthetic or historical associations, but also those that have significance for understanding the developmental process and context of our history, such as vernacular buildings, industrial sites, and areas of prehistoric activity.

The prehistoric survey was made primarily from published reports, and from work carried out by institutions such as the Peabody Foundation at Andover, the Peabody Museum at Harvard, and data compiled by the Massachusetts Archaeological Society since its inception in 1939. This survey is now on a computer file at the MHC. Valerie Talmage and area archaeologists are at present devising a policy for the dissemination of the material because the availability of this information creates problems as well as benefits for preserving the integrity of these sites. If the information on the location of these sites were to become available to unscrupulous parties many of these sites could be destroyed by unauthorized digging (i.e., plundering) of "pot hunters". At the same time Valerie recognizes the potential benefit of this information when placed in the hands of responsible amateur and professional groups and is wrestling with this problem to provide a fair and responsible solution. The other, less fragile, resources are being published by the MHC in booklet form. In January of this year the *Historic and Archaeological Resources of the Boston Area* was published, under the direction of James Bradley. This report summarizes the developmental history of the 28 towns and cities in the Boston area. Sections are included on settlement and land use, architectural development, and economic and industrial development. Survey work has now been completed in much of eastern Massachusetts and additional reports will be forthcoming in the next few months.

Whenever possible the MHC encourages the participation of private developers in preserving the archaeological context. The commission has found most devel-



opers ready and willing to aid in the recovery of archaeological material when they are presented with evidence of its presence on their sites. A recent example of such cooperation is the recovery of important data on a wharf beneath the site of the Bostonian Hotel, currently under construction. James Bradley noticed material in the excavation of the hotel foundations and presented a plan to the Winn Development Company for their recovery. With the cooperation of the developers, and a grant from them of \$5,000 to allow the work to take place, a great deal of valuable information was recovered from the site dating back to the earliest years of the city. This material is being analyzed and stored here at the Center for Archaeological Studies (see vol. 1, no. 2 of *Context*). Soon development will take place across from the Bostonian Hotel in an area that held a city wharf until Atlantic Avenue was constructed in the 1870s, and the MHC has made plans to ensure that this area too will receive the attention it deserves.

Many of our archaeological resources are, of course, still in danger, not only from uninterested parties but from people who simply are unaware of the presence of these early remains. The most important resource that the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the archaeological community have for preserving these sites is you. Your participation in a local preservation society such as the chapter of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society in your community is crucial to the discovery and preservation of our history. Professional archaeologists are by no means aware of all the sites in Massachusetts; more sites are discovered by trained members of the community than by professionals. If there is a local preservation society in your town, you should consider becoming involved. If there is not one, stop by the MHC at 294 Washington St. to ask for more information on how you can help form a local chapter.



Valerie Talmage and Jim Bradley examining artifacts at the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

## New Appointments

New faculty appointments in the Department of Archaeology are noted in the *Editorial Commentary*. They are, as are all the other faculty in the Department, Fellows of the Center. Other new appointments are as follows.

The new Administrative Assistant of the Center and the Department is Alice Rank, formerly Administrative Assistant in the Center for Applied Social Science Research. Alice received a B.A. in Classics from the University of Minnesota and has also studied in Athens, Greece. The secretarial staff now includes Lillian Zabarsky, primarily for the Center's Office of Public Archaeology, and Debra Carr, the departmental secretary.

Teaching Fellows in the Department of Archaeology in 1982-1983 will be Tamara Blosser (fall term), Patricia Crawford, Frederick Hermans, and J. Cooper Wamsley (fall term). *Journal of Field Archaeology* Fellows will be Debra Hudak (fall) and Ms. Blosser (spring).

Staff archaeologists of the Office of Public Archaeology during the summer and fall include Gray Graffam (M.A., American Folk Culture, Cooperstown Graduate Program, New York) and two students in the Ph.D. program in archaeology at Boston University: Douglas George and J. Cooper Wamsley.

## Have Time on Your Hands?

Volunteers are needed at the Center for the following activities: assisting in the Archaeology Library; cataloging and filing archaeological slides and photographs; assisting with receptions that follow lectures and colloquia; and the processing and analysis of colonial artifacts from Virginia.

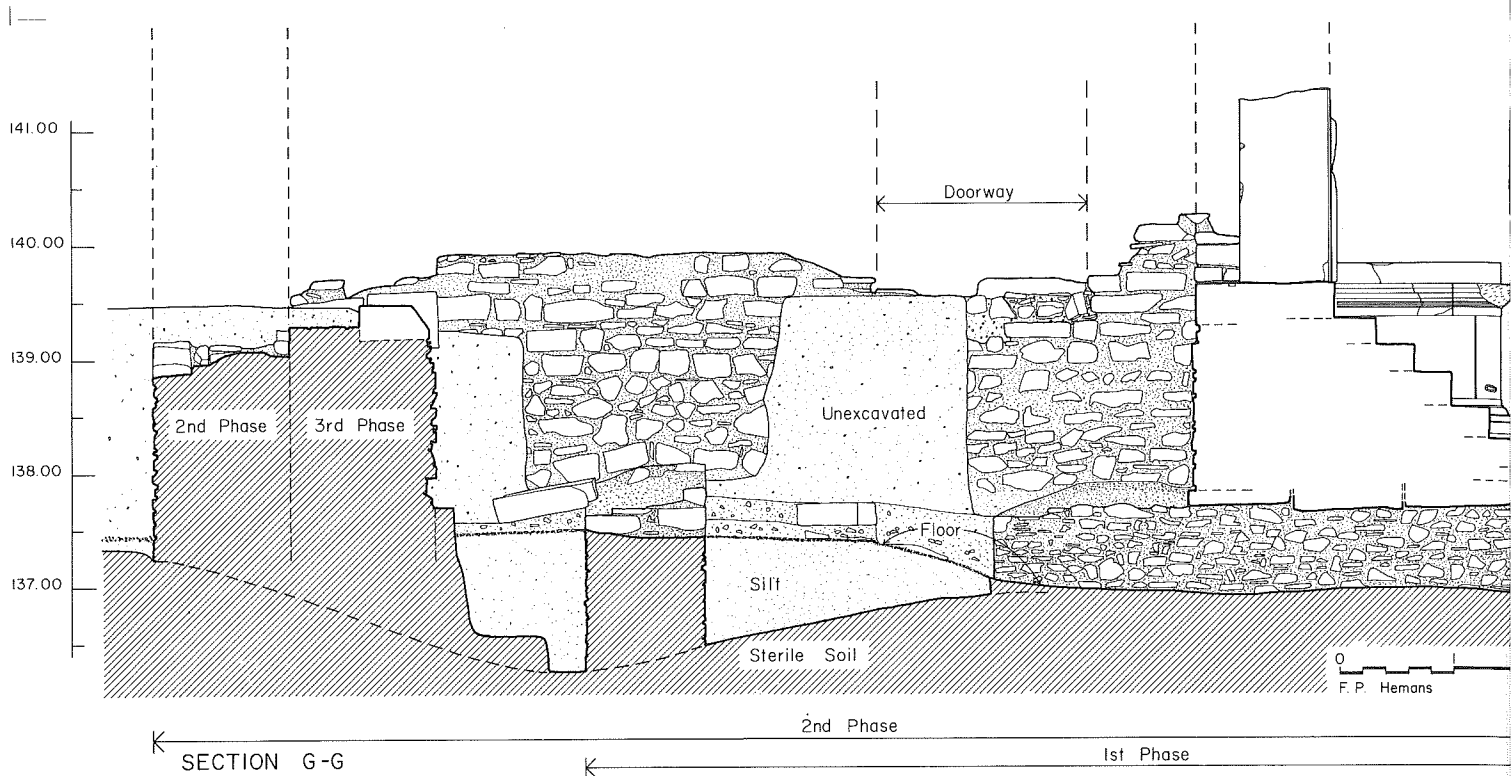
Hours can be arranged to suit the schedule of the volunteers. If you are interested, call the Director of the Center, James Wiseman, or the Administrative Assistant, Alice Rank.

### Other Volunteer Opportunities

*Tyng Mansion Project.* Many of the artifacts from the Tyng Mansion Site still need to be washed, labeled, and catalogued. Anyone interested in working on these materials should contact Professor Mary Beaudry.

*Sharon Casting Furnace.* The Sharon Historical Society has invited Professor Beaudry's Industrial Archaeology class to begin investigations of the casting furnace where the first cannon fired in the American Revolution was made. We expect to dig on weekends throughout the fall. Contact Professor Beaudry for more details.

Actual state section drawing of the scene building. Deposits and features are drawn "stone for stone".



## Reconstructing Ancient Buildings

by Frederick Hemans

*One of the most exciting aspects of archaeology is the reconstruction of ancient human environments. Archaeologists are working to understand the 'total picture' of past society whether their special interest happens to be stone tools, geology, animal husbandry, or any of the other numerous areas of research. My own interests in archaeology have concentrated on ancient architecture and I am taking this opportunity to describe an aspect of this work that I have found particularly exciting and rewarding: the reconstruction of ancient buildings.*

Since 1970, the joint American-Yugoslav excavations at Stobi have conducted research under the direction of Dr. James Wiseman, director of the Center for Archaeological Studies, and Dr. Djordje Mano-Zissi of the University of Belgrade, and since 1976 Dr. Blaga Aleksova of the University of Skopje. The results of these long labors are now being prepared for publication. Work at Stobi has been interdisciplinary with a great variety of activities falling under the umbrella of this

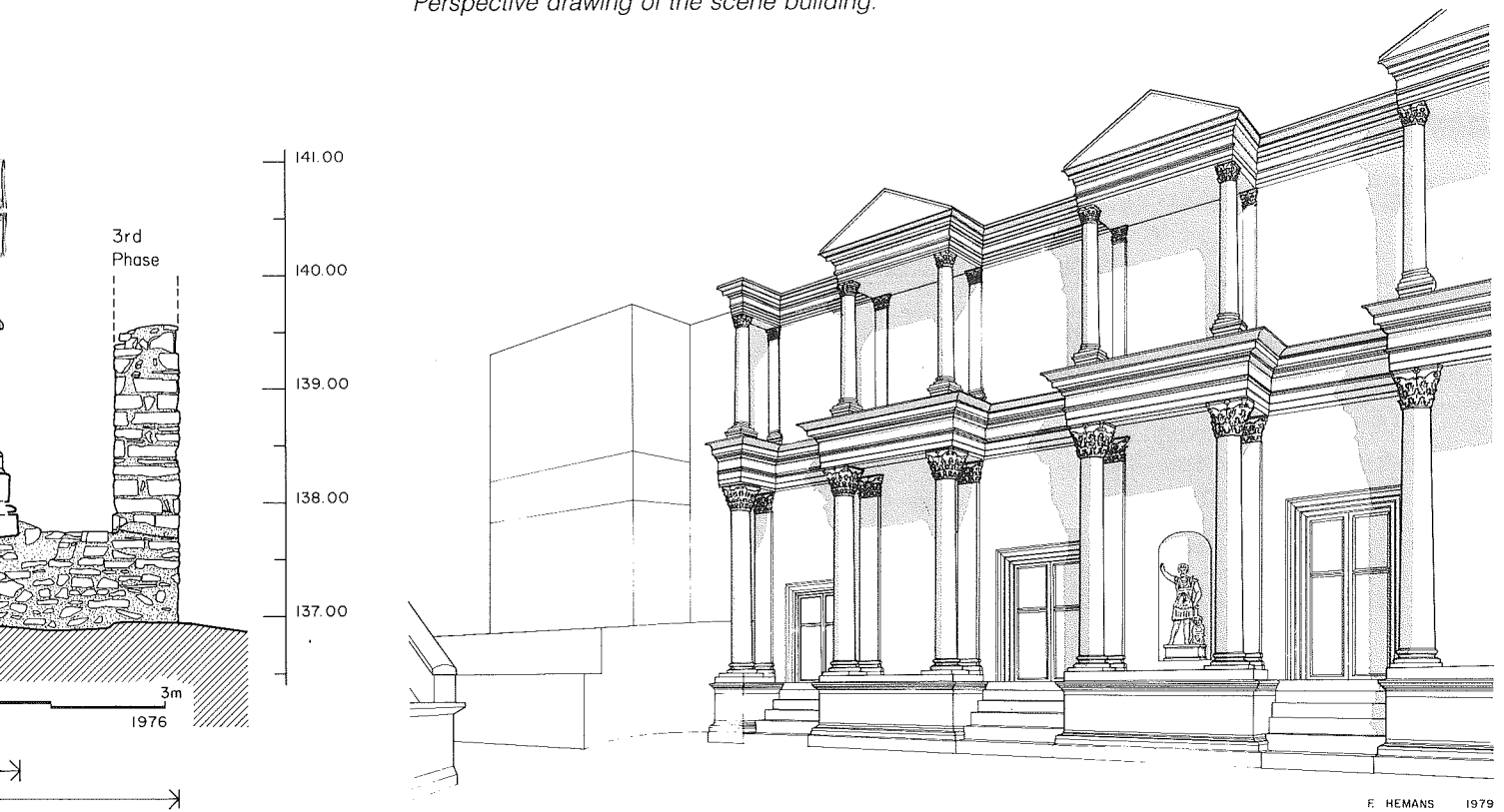
project; among them has been research on the architectural history of buildings we have excavated. One of the most spectacular of these buildings is the theater, excavated by Dr. Elizabeth Gebhard of the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle, who is now preparing the final publication of research on the building.

Excavation has shown the theater to have three principal phases. The first was an uncompleted building planned as a more or less typical "Roman-style" theater. This plan was soon abandoned in favor of a "Greek-style" theater and this second phase was completed near the middle of the 2nd century after Christ. The basic difference between a Greek- and Roman-style theater is the relationship of the scene building with the cavea (the tiered seating). The Roman theater incorporates the two and places the scene building somewhat closer to the cavea, while in the Greek theater there is space left between them, called the *parodoi*, creating a larger orchestra and more direct open access to it. These two types of plan are described in the works of the ancient writer and architect

Vitruvius, who lived during the reign of Augustus. The selection of a style of theater must be attributed to the local customs of the area, and at Stobi the inhabitants were predominantly of Greek origin. The third phase of the theater resulted from its conversion into a place used primarily for gladiatorial combat and wild animal hunts. This use required the installation of this barrier walls and it is probable that the performance of ancient drama had lost its popularity at Stobi before this occurred. Throughout the different periods of use the theater continued to be used as a place of civic assembly.

Before one can attempt to reconstruct the appearance of an ancient building a great deal of laborious recording must be made as well as historical research on the problems of the building type. On this page you will find an example of the recording that took place during excavation, illustrating the construction of the scene building and the deposits within it. Such a drawing provides a description of the deposits and the preserved parts of the building in a manner that is not possible by photography or by verbal descrip-

Perspective drawing of the scene building.



tion. The exact relationship of all the various components can only be presented in a scale drawing with all of the features accurately drawn down to the smallest stones. For a building the size of the Stobi theater, dozens of such drawings are required to record the excavations. Such drawing is considered part of the basic recording, not an optional part of archaeological recording.

In addition to the recording of the excavations all of the elements of carved stone are individually drawn and catalogued. Columns, architraves, frieze blocks, column capitals, etc., all must be drawn and photographed to provide a permanent record. These pieces are usually badly damaged by the collapse of the building and it is often necessary to restore their original condition on paper before one can attempt to restore the entire building. Also, it is not always apparent where such blocks were originally located. The building might be said to have become a huge jigsaw puzzle. Of course, here the pieces weigh hundreds of pounds. Indeed, many pieces of the puzzle are missing, having been taken away for reuse else-

where during ancient times or simply destroyed for the use of their material.

Once the recording of features *in situ* and fallen elements has been completed, work on the restoration may proceed. Similar theaters from other sites were closely examined by Elizabeth Gebhard, and the results were compared to the elements of the Stobi theater. Sections of the façade were then pieced together on paper by the architects. Each group of elements was compared to find the pieces that were physically joined by the ancient builders. This task required a comparison of the clamp cuttings and dowel holes made by the masons. When this work was completed as far as possible, preliminary sketches of the entire façade were made and were again compared to ancient testimonia and extant monuments. At this stage we were able to see the dimensions of the ancient facade in terms of the planning units used by the Roman builders. The columns of the lower façade, for example, were found to be 16 Roman feet high and in a ratio of 4:3 with the columns of the upper

story, which were 12 Roman feet. Other elements were similarly found to exhibit ratios to each other and to the total unit. The use of ratios was the method of design used by Roman architects, as described by Vituvius, who was mentioned earlier. A section drawing of the façade, on page 1, illustrates these relationships; the Roman feet are indicated on the right hand side. It should also be mentioned that the theater was planned using an orchestra diameter of exactly 100 Roman feet.

This work on the theater is now nearing completion. Other structures at Stobi are also being studied and restored and will appear as part of a seven-volume series on the results of the joint American-Yugoslav project at Stobi, to be published by Princeton University Press.

*Frederick Hemans, University Teaching Fellow in Archaeology, has been the architect for the Stobi Archaeological Project since 1974.*

# The Tyng Mansion Project: A Field School in Historical Archaeology

by Mary Beaudry

*For six weeks in the summer of 1982, the Center for Archaeological Studies and the Boston University Summer Term sponsored a field school in archaeological field techniques at the historic site of the Tyng Mansion in Tyngsborough, Massachusetts, (see Vol. 2:1, page 10). The field school was taught by Assistant Professor Mary Beaudry with the aid of Teaching Assistant Tamara Blosser, a graduate student in the Department of Archaeology at Boston University. Students enrolled in the field school came mostly from Boston University, but there were also students from other universities. The group learned excavation and survey techniques as well as laboratory procedures. The site is located on the grounds of the Wang Institute for Graduate Studies, and the Robert S. Peabody Foundation for Archaeology served as the location for lab work and artifact analysis. The 1982 field season was a continuation of work done at the site in 1980 by archaeologist Stephen Mrozowski, but was only the beginning of a long-term research project that will provide excavation opportunities for several years to come.*

For over 100 years, youngsters growing up in Tyngsborough have heard tales of the ghost—or ghosts—said to haunt the Tyng Mansion. A disastrous fire destroyed the historic house in 1979, perhaps banishing its ghosts forever. It was not the spirit of the Indian sagamore Wannalancet, however, or of John Alford Tyng's house maid, whom he reputedly murdered, that students enrolled in the Boston University field school in New World Historical Archaeology were looking for at the Tyng Mansion Site. They were seeking the ghostly traces in the soil of Col. Jonathan Tyng's 17th-century garrison house.

Tyng came from Boston in the 1670s to settle in the town known until the 19th century as Dunstable. His father Edmund and his uncle William were both prosperous Boston merchants. Jonathan built a house on his father's land,

on the western shore of the Merrimack River, in the heart of the territory of the Pennacook Indians. He was made manager of the fur trade with the Pennacooks—a position that no doubt gave him a distinct advantage over many of his competitors in this most lucrative enterprise. Tyng would probably have felt that profit from the fur trade was his due, for the Colony of Massachusetts was never able to pay him in specie for his services, although it did in 1686 award him a sizable land grant. The land included an island then known as Wicasuck Island, in the Merrimack River opposite Tyng's homestead; since the late 17th century, however, it has been called "Tyng Island".

Tyng had been the only Englishman to remain on the frontier during the bloody conflict known as King Philip's War; he fortified his house and took in a garrison of men as additional protection against attack. After the war, Tyng's services to the Colony as Indian agent included the supervision of the Wamesit Indians who had been removed to a reservation on Wicasuck Island, where they lived for about 10 years. Col. Tyng also took charge of the welfare of Wannalancet, former leader of the Pennacooks. Wannalancet died a discouraged and disillusioned pauper, dependent upon Tyng's charity. His grave has never been located, although some say that Wannalancet was buried in the cellar of Tyng's house or in the nearby Tyng family cemetery.

It was not until after Col. Jonathan Tyng's death in 1723 that the Indian troubles on the frontier subsided. By then, Eleazer Tyng had inherited a very large estate from his father. Eleazer's grandfather Edmund had been highly successful as a merchant, and his father Jonathan had prospered on his own. Eleazer thus succeeded Jonathan as a man already respected and influential in the local community. He lived until 1782, dying at the age of 92. Eleazer's daughter Sarah Tyng Winslow in 1789 donated funds for repairs to the parish meeting house, on the condition that the district be renamed "Tyngsborough" in honor

of her father. In 1802, Tyngsborough was incorporated as a town. Members of the Tyng family continued to live in the community throughout the 19th century and into the 20th. Thus the Tyng Mansion Site has seen almost 300 years of continual occupation, most of it by one large and thriving family.

The fine Georgian-style, gambrel-roofed house formerly known as the Tyng Mansion, based upon architectural evidence, was built around the second quarter of the 18th century. This building date was borne out by the archaeological work performed at the mansion in 1980 by Stephen Mrozowski. Mrozowski, a Research Associate with the Robert S. Peabody Foundation for Archaeology, had come to the Tyng Mansion Site at the request of Dr. Richard S. MacNeish, director of the foundation. Dr. MacNeish in turn had been approached by representatives of the Wang Institute for Graduate Studies, on whose property the Tyng Mansion is located. They were hopeful that the historical value of the site could be realized despite the total destruction of the Tyng Mansion.

One of the questions Mrozowski sought to answer about the mansion was whether or not it had truly been the 17th-century garrison house of Col. Jonathan Tyng. He found evidence of 18th-century construction as well as subsequent alterations to the house, but no clues to indicate that the house could have been built in the 17th century. He and his crew began to sample the soils beneath the Wang Institute's lawns south of the burned-out mansion's cellar hole. It was through these auger tests that evidence of the 17th-century Tyng home began to appear.

To learn more about the possible 17th-century home site that he had found only 30 meters from the 18th-century mansion, Mrozowski proposed the Tyng Mansion Site as a locale for the 1982 Boston University field school in historical archaeology. Because the site seemed likely to produce fascinating glimpses of early life on the Massachusetts frontier, I readily agreed to combine forces with





*The Boston University Field School. From left to right, top row: Jason Cohen, Robyn Greenberg, Michelle Heyer, Tami Blosser, Jennifer Devine, Bettylou Long, Bruce Kennedy; bottom row: Laurie Schweikhard, Steve Mrozowski, Hatsy Hornblower, Bunny Buranasiri, Mary Beaudry.*

Mrozowski in what promised to be an exciting research project.

It was thus that students enrolled in the Boston University field school arrived in the second week of June to begin full-scale excavations at the Tyng Site. The plan was to examine carefully the feature that Mrozowski had been able only to test in 1980. His test pit had revealed a cellar foundation literally cut from bedrock—the granite boulders quarried out had been piled upon the bedrock and bonded together with mortar to form a massive foundation. The field-school students labored to re-excavate the test pit, in order to view its soil profiles as well as the impressive foundation. They also began opening 2-meter square units, one at a time, to try to reveal all of the cellar. Slowly, the plow zone came away as the students' blisters turned to calluses

from the hard work of shovelling, screening, and wheelbarrowing away the seemingly endless quantities of dirt.

Yet items of interest showed up daily. Early on, Teaching Assistant Tamara Blosser unearthed a lead bale seal, marked with the initials of the wholesaler who had shipped his baled goods with a seal to document their quality. This small artifact pointed to Col. Tyng's trading activities. Likewise the numerous fragments of un-smoked white clay pipes, many of them also marked with the pipe-makers' initials, indicated that someone was dealing with a far greater quantity of merchandise than one family could possibly require. By far the most plentiful artifacts recovered from the plow zone, as well as from the cellar fill, were ceramic sherds. Most were fragments of New England

domestic redwares with shiny lead glazes. There were also earthenwares from England, stonewares from England and Germany, and fine export porcelain from China. Most of the ceramics dated to the mid-18th century; this was no doubt a result of the old cellar hole being used throughout the 18th century as a receptacle for trash from the new house—the Tyng Mansion.

To date, excavations have provided more of a picture of what life would have been like during Eleazer's time as head of the Tyng family than they have of Jonathan's time. We believe that the cellar hole we are excavating belongs to a structure that burned in the early 18th century. It measured about 26½ by 21 feet and was constructed of a timber frame

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set on the massive stone foundation. The walls were fashioned from wattle-and-daub infilling between the studs of the house frame; only the chimney was made of brick. The roof may have been composed of wooden shingles. The most interesting aspect of the dwelling thus far revealed is a circular projection from its southeast corner, overlooking the river. Could this have been a bastion or watchtower erected by Col. Tyng during King Philip's War? Only further excavations can answer this question for us.

The field school accomplished a great deal of work at the site as well as in the laboratory, yet work at the presumed Col. Tyng garrison house remains far from complete. Once the cellar hole was completely visible, we divided it into quadrants; two of the quadrants have been partially excavated, while the others will remain until their soil profiles can be recorded. Thus we will obtain as much information about the sequence of events that led to the filling of the cellar and its gradual disappearance from sight as well as from memory. One week of excavation by a group enrolled in a Public Archaeology Workshop sponsored by the Office of Public Archaeology brought excavation of the southwest quadrant near completion and revealed that much of the foundation had been pushed into the cellar hole after the structure had burned. The portion of the cellar floor exposed by Mrozowski in 1980 had large, hand-hewn timbers running across the glacial sand that formed the floor of the cellar. It was in this sand level that Mrozowski found artifacts that dated to the late 17th century. We are hoping that as we continue to excavate this feature with the aid of volunteers and other students enrolled in archaeology courses at Boston University, we will begin to learn more about the poorly known early years of Tyng family occupation at the site.

*Mary C. Beaudry, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Archaeology, is the director of Boston University's field school at Tyng Mansion.*

## News from the Office of Public Archaeology

by Clark M. Sykes

Contract archaeology is booming in the United States. These studies, required for federally-assisted public works projects, are being carried out by hundreds of colleges and universities, museums, environmental consulting firms, and individual archaeologists across the country.

The staggering amount of archaeology done each year under contract results in literally thousands of individual reports. Some of these studies are published as journal articles; others as separate research or "cultural resource management" monographs. The vast majority, however, never circulate beyond the contracting agency or organization for whom the study was done. At best, communication among institutions and individuals involved in contract archaeology, or between contract outfits and "academic" archaeologists (not to mention the layman, whose tax dollars finance such work), is poor. While most archaeologists recognize that a communication problem exists, relatively little is done about it.

To be sure, there is no easy solution to the problem. Journals normally are reserved for theoretical or methodological articles, or synthetic reports of general utility or significance. Contract dollars typically are scarce for "extra" reports intended for "general distribution". Moreover, many contract projects are small-scale, with limited archaeological results; publication costs, consequently, may not be entirely justifiable to the sponsoring institution or to the contractor.

In an effort to offer a partial remedy, the Office of Public Archaeology (OPA) wishes to announce the availability of all reports produced by this office, at cost. Each issue of *Context* will contain a list of those reports completed during the preceding quarter. OPA reports contain detailed descriptions and interpreta-

tions of the proposed public works project, natural environments, overviews of regional and local prehistory and history, field investigations, and an evaluation of the effect of the proposed construction project on archaeological deposits and standing structures.

At present, the following OPA reports are available for purchase.

- OPA 1 Phase I, Step 2 (Reconnaissance) Archaeological Investigations at the Proposed Sludge Handling Site, Webster, Massachusetts. 80pp. (\$8.00).
- OPA 2 Phase I, Step 2 (Intensive) Archaeological Investigations at the Proposed Sludge Handling Site, Webster, Massachusetts. 50pp. (\$6.00).
- OPA 3 Phase I, Step 2 (Intensive) Archaeological Investigations at Three Wastewater Properties, North Dighton, Massachusetts. 72pp. (\$7.60).
- OPA 4 Phase I, Step 1 (Reconnaissance) Cultural Resource Survey of the Proposed Alternate III (Water Street) Sewage Relief Interceptor, Beverly, Massachusetts. 82pp. (\$8.10).
- OPA 5 Phase I, Step 2 (Intensive) Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Longmeadow Brook/South Interceptor Sewer, Longmeadow, Massachusetts. 132pp. (\$10.60).
- OPA 6 Phase I, Step 2 (Intensive) Cultural Resources Survey of the Proposed Temporary Bridge on the Merrimack River, Lowell, Massachusetts. 95pp. (\$8.75).

Checks should be made payable to the Center for Archaeological Studies, and sent to the attention of Clark M. Sykes, Director.

*Clark M. Sykes is the Director of the Office of Public Archaeology.*

Continued from page 1.

assistance from Mary Dell Lucas and Pat Fitzgerald. The camp managing was done by David Basler and Sheldon Tucker. Our Earthwatch coordinator was Vivian Gotthilf. We had a host of cooks, helpers, laundresses, etc. They ran a great camp with good food and all the comforts of home. As you can see from the aerial photograph, this camp, on the south edge of Orange Walk Town in northern Belize, was of good size and in a scenic location.

Every weekday morning at about 6:30 two red-capped pick-up trucks with supercabs and/or our little red bus erupted out of this compound and headed for various sites. At Sand Hill, some 40 miles south, we excavated four stratified sites with ample remains of our first four complexes and tested three more sites. Even further afield we tested two sites at Ladiesville, both with stratigraphy, and we tested another on the Siburn River without great success. The final site was on Pro-

greso Lagoon some 25 miles to the north. It had a preceramic Melinda layer under ceramics.

As our graph shows, we now have for the first time in the Maya Lowlands a sequence of six preceramic phases or complexes. The earliest, 9000–7500 B.C., is called Lowe-ha, with fluted and fishtail points, and seems to represent early hunting microbands. These developed into the phase designated Sand Hill, 7500–6000 B.C., with Pedernales points and macroblades; each of these phases we believe represent societies of hunters who occasionally went to the coast. Closely related is the Orange Walk Phase, 6000–5000 B.C., with Trinidad points, macroblades and seed-grinding tools representing not only hunting, but also collecting, some at the sea but more inland. The collecting of roots, seeds, and plants, however, reached its climax in Belize during the millennium 5000–4000 B.C. The phase is characterized by stone bowls with their sites half coastal and half inland. This trend toward the coast continues into the Me-

linda complex, 4000–3000 B.C. Now there are some large sites (perhaps hamlets) on the coast, but we have excavated only one component of this complex. This is more than we have from the final hypothetical complex, Progreso, 3000–2000 B.C., which may have seen a move to the rivers and the development of agriculture.

Obviously, we need more research and are making plans to do it in the next couple of winters under the auspices of Boston University's Center for Archaeological Studies. While some excavations of late preceramic sites may occur, most of our efforts will be with analysis and interdisciplinary studies. Some of these will involve new techniques and methods and we will keep you up to date as this exciting research progresses.

*Richard S. MacNeish is Professor of Archaeology at Boston University and is Director of the Belize Archaic Archaeological Reconnaissance Project.*

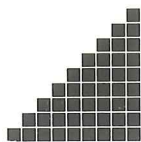
Sequential Maya Phases	MAYA			CIVILIZATION		Calendar Pyramids Pottery
2000 B. C.  PROGRESO?				 stone bowl	 melate  mano	Agriculture?
3000 B. C.  MELINDA COMPLEX				 hoes	 net sinkers	Villages?
4000 B. C.  BELIZE PHASE				 stone bowl	 grinding	
5000 B. C.  ORANGE WALK PHASE				 grinding		
6000 B. C.  SAND HILL PHASE				 grinding		
7500 B. C.  LOWE-HA PHASE						
9000 B. C.	projectile points	scrapers	cutting & drilling	wood working		

Chart showing the stone tools of the six preceramic phases of the Maya Lowlands.



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Third Class



# CALENDAR

## September 16

*Departmental Colloquium:* Edward McManus, Chief Conservator for the National Park Service.

*Walking Tour of Early Boston.*

## September 29

*Center Lecture:* John Pfeiffer, author of *The Emergence of Man*, "Palaeolithic Cave Paintings of France and Spain".

## October 2

*Walking Tour of Early Boston.*

## October 14–November 4

*Archaeology Film Festival:* Sponsored by the Office of Public Archaeology and the School of Public Communication at Boston University. Call Center office for details (353-3415).

## October 16

*Walking Tour of Early Boston.*

## October 21

*Departmental Colloquium:* Dr. George Cowgill, Professor of Anthropology at Brandeis University.

## October 27

*Center Lecture:* Dr. Stuart Struever, Director of the Center for American Archeology at Evanston, Illinois, "The Revolution in American Archaeology".

## October 30

*Walking Tour of Early Boston.*

## November 18

*Departmental Colloquium:* Dr. K.C. Chang, Chairman of Anthropology at Harvard University, "The Archaeology of China".

## December 1

*Center Lecture:* Dr. Thomas W. Jacobsen, Chairman of the Classical Archaeology Program at Indiana University, "Interdisciplinary Archaeology and Prehistoric Greece".

## February 2

*Center Lecture:* Dr. Carole L. Crumley, Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of North Carolina, "Sacred and Secular Space: a Regional Survey of Burgundy from the Iron Age to the Present".

*Walking Tours* are from 10 to noon on Saturday mornings. Each tour begins at Fanueil Hall from the statue of Samuel Adams. A charge of \$5 (\$4 for students) is payable on the day of the tour but reservations must be received by noon of the previous Friday. In the event of rain the tour will take place the following Sunday; please call to verify this between 9 and 9:30 a.m., Saturday morning.

*Departmental Colloquia* take place at 5:30 p.m. in the Archaeology Library at 232 Bay State Road (members only please).

*Center Lectures* are held at 7:30 p.m., room 522, 725 Commonwealth Avenue.

The Center for Archaeological Studies, which was founded at Boston University in 1980, has as its chief 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.

*Context* is the newsletter of the Center for Archaeological Studies and is published quarterly. Institutions and individuals may subscribe separately to *Context* at a cost of \$10 per year. Membership to the Center is open to the public; annual dues are \$20 (\$10 for students); benefits include a subscription to *Context*, invitations to attend our fall and spring lecture series and other events, and the use of our library facilities. The Center also offers special seminars for the public during the academic year and

summer field schools here in the Boston area and abroad. Other categories of membership are: Contributing Member, \$50; Institutional, \$50; Patron, \$100; Benefactor, \$500; Corporate, \$1000; and Life Member, \$400. These categories include a subscription to the *Journal of Field Archaeology*. Please make checks payable to the Center for Archaeological Studies and send to the Center office at Boston University, 232 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215. Gifts to the Center are tax-deductible.

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