

Castle Chronicle



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Recent Archaeology at Cocumscussoc

The most recent archaeological investigations to take place at Smith's Castle have just concluded. They were conducted by Soil Sight, LLC of Providence and Gray & Pape, Inc. Cultural Resource Consultants of Providence and Cincinnati. The archaeology was undertaken to support the cultural landscape study of the site currently in development by Lucinda Brockway of Past Designs, Kennebunk, Maine.

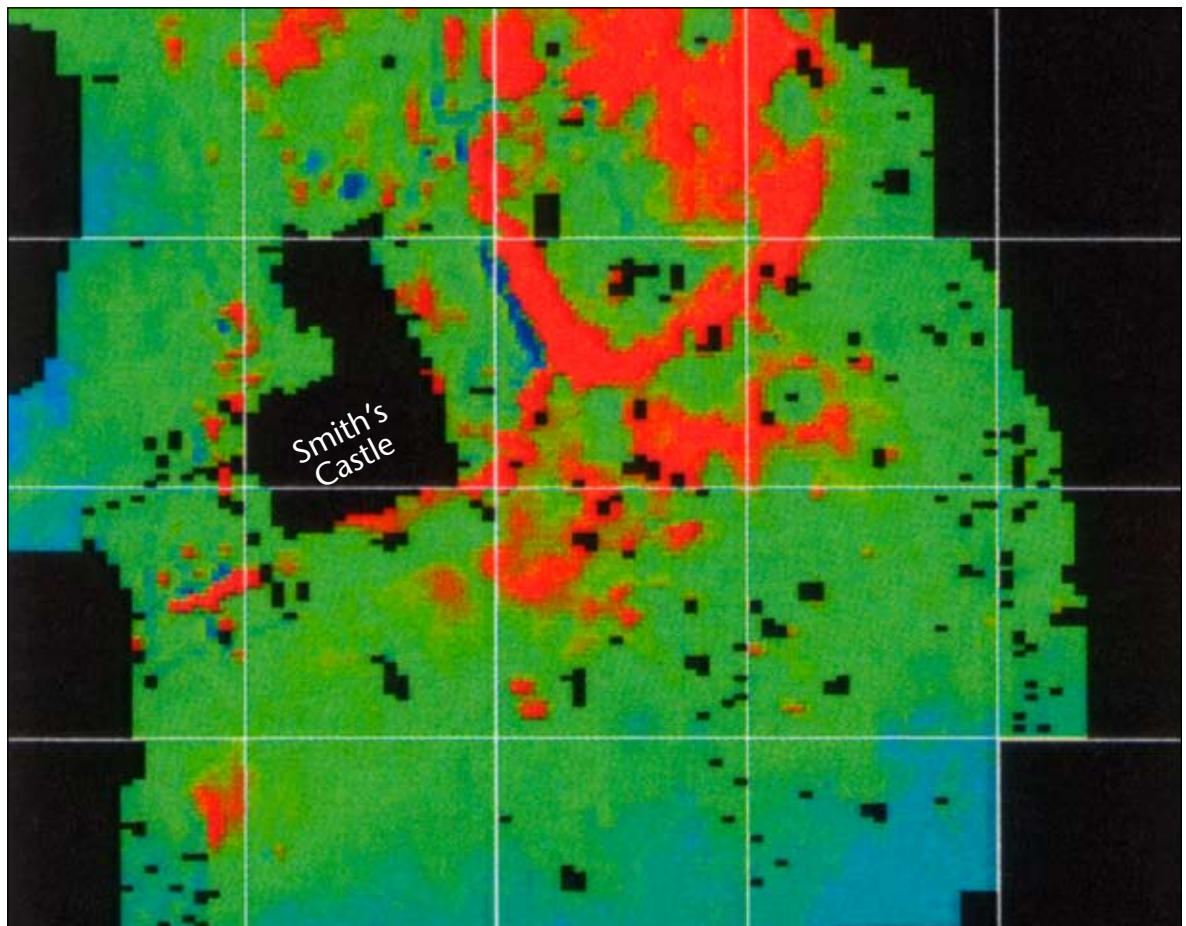
Archaeology began last fall with what was perhaps the most extensive geophysical remote sensing (GRS) survey ever conducted in New England. Broad areas of the Smith's Castle site were examined in a search for underground historic landscape modifications and archaeological deposits. GRS equipment locates such features by detecting contrasts between the features and the natural background of the surrounding soil.

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Electrical resistance
survey results in the area
around Smith's Castle.
From *Electrical Resis-
tance and Ground
Penetrating Radar
Investigations at
Cocumscussoc*.



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Castle Chronicle is published quarterly by the Cocumscussoc Association at Smith's Castle
55 Richard Smith Dr.
Wickford, RI 02852
E-mail: smithscastle@earthlink.net
Web site: www.smithscastle.org

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The views expressed by contributors to *Castle Chronicle* are not necessarily those of the Cocumscussoc Association.



Note from the President

This issue of the *Chronicle* focuses on recent archaeological investigations conducted in support of the Smith's Castle cultural landscape study being funded by the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT). If you haven't yet read the article, I hope I am not giving away the ending by telling you that the excavations, like previous rounds, have not unearthed the site of the 17th century trading post or remains of soldiers killed in the Great Swamp attack. While we history buffs are disappointed, this is good news for the transportation project, as it means Smith's Castle can proceed in designing and constructing the planned transportation improvements.

While the archaeology yielded no "big stories," it did continue to uncover remnants of daily life at Cocumscussoc during its long history. These discarded fragments of bottles, nails, window glass, pipe stems, ceramics, dishes, and bones from meals eaten long ago will, along with items uncovered in earlier digs, help us to continue adding detail to the stories of the people who lived and labored at Smith's Castle.

Last year, the *Chronicle* published several articles by Brown University students in Dr. Patricia Rubertone's material culture class. Dr. Rubertone taught this course again this year, and, using these small archaeological clues, her students are continuing to develop coherent and compelling stories about Smith's Castle's past. What do ceramic and earthenware sherds say about food storage practices in the 17th and 18th centuries? What do glass and lead fragments tell us about windows in the Richard Smith Jr. house? What do fragments of pipe stems and bowls tell us about the people who used them? These subjects and more were treated in papers by Dr. Rubertone's students. The recent excavations at our site will add to the artifacts already uncovered and give us a more complete picture of daily life at Cocumscussoc.

In nearby Medford Massachusetts, the Isaac Royall House and Slave Quarters—like Smith's Castle a slave-holding farm in the 18th century and a National Landmark historic site today—underwent archaeological investigations in 2000 and 2001 much like those recently completed at Smith's Castle. There, the lead archaeologist, Alexandra A. Chan, employed the archaeology findings (along with extensive genealogical research) to produce the recently published *Slavery in the Age of Reason* (see review by Dr. Joyce Clements on page 4).

In the next stage of the RIDOT project, consultant Lucinda Brockway will combine the findings of the many archaeological excavations with known landscape features, period documents, and maps to

develop a cultural landscape report. This report will place everything into context and present a thorough history of the Smith Castle landscape. It is a major step forward in improving our interpretation of this National Landmark site.

In the meantime, we are using historic documents and archaeology to improve our interpretation of the interior of the house. Following a recent streamlining of our collections (see page 3), volunteers will be working in the off-season to reinterpret and restage several of our rooms for next year.

Most affected will be the 17th century rooms, which previously included furnishings that dated from as late as the 1870s! The probate inventory of the estate of Richard Smith Jr. in 1692 will guide us in selecting items that are appropriate to the historic architecture of the rooms and are informative about the life and household of Richard Smith Jr. (A plat of Boston, "colours," and a seabed in his Hall tell us much about his political allegiance and his occupation.)

The 18th century rooms will be less affected, but will be fine tuned for greater accuracy. In them we will present an accumulation of Rhode Island furnishings from circa 1750 to 1810—about the time Wilkins Updike sold the house. The textile exhibit in the north chamber will be improved, and the corner bedroom—formerly a hodgepodge of uninformative mid-19th century furnishings—will be shown as a late-18th century sickroom. (You'll praise your 21st century doctor after you see this display!) Finally, the dairy exhibit in the pantry will be expanded to better present this vital aspect of Cocumscussoc history over four centuries. ■


—Neil Dunay, President



The *Chronicle* has learned of the death of Marjorie Joy Vogel, noted Rhode Island artist. Known for her fine architectural renderings, Ms. Vogel created the drawing of Smith's Castle that has come to be the most recognizable image of our site (see bannerhead, page 1). On behalf of the membership we extend sincere sympathy to her family and friends.

Skinner Discovery Auction

Cash from the Castle's 'Attic'

Skinner, Inc. of Bolton, Mass., held its Discovery Auction on Monday and Tuesday, August 13–14, 2007. Twenty lots of Smith's Castle items were sold, representing items de-accessioned from the Castle's collections because they were out of period of interpretation or were redundant. Of the lots sold, 19 were estimated to bring in between \$4,950 and \$7,475; these lots actually earned \$5,670 (hammer price). Another lot that did not have an advance estimate sold for \$175, bringing the total for the 20 lots to \$5,845. When received, the net proceeds from the sale will be set aside to be used for direct conservation of objects or for new period-appropriate furnishings.

Several items not sold in this auction will be sold in another Skinner Discovery auction in September or October. Another six items are slated for Skinner's premier Americana Auction in Boston on Sunday, November 4, and one item is expected to be sold at Skinner's European Furniture and Decorative Arts Auction in Boston on Saturday, October 6. ■



Stencil-decorated Black Windsor Rocking Mammy's Bench.

Estimate \$300–\$500
Hammer price \$375

This Victorian mammy rocker is an example of the rethinking taking place regarding the Smith's Castle collections. It is a 19th century piece that

long stood in a 17th century bedroom. For decades, our interpretive intent was to mold a disparate collection of donated items into a coherent story about the multigenerational occupancy of Smith's Castle. Castle rooms were staged with furniture dating from periods spanning several centuries. Pieces were selected more for their country charm than their period accuracy. With the million-dollar restoration of the Castle in the 1990s that returned rooms to their original configurations and first-layer paint schemes, the tension between architecture and out-of-period furnishings became dramatic. Gradually, we have been moving towards a more accurate interpretation of rooms, relating furniture both to the architecture and to the historic figures that lived in the house.

Skinner Discovery Sale 2373: "The August Auction" (August 13–14, 2007)

Lot #	Smith's Castle Items Sold	Estimate		Hammer Price
		Low	High	
308	Glass whale oil lamps (6)	150	200	375
309	Tin and glass lanterns (3)	200	250	300
309A	Two sticking tommies and two apple corers	100	150	225
309B	Transfer bowl and pitcher (brown) and jug (blue) and china doll	n.a	n.a	175
309C	Shot flask, two covered baskets, dome-top trunk, two sconces, and pewter chamber	100	150	100
309D	Wooden box containing two early spectacles, two silhouettes, two beaded bags, and a small group of needlework and laces	300	500	275
607	Country pine wing chair with storage drawer	200	300	900
629	Grained and stencil-decorated chamber armchair [Note: cradle shown with chair in Skinner photo not sold]	50	75	100
706	Yellow-painted country wooden corner cupboard	400	600	225
729	Assorted windsor chairs (4)	400	600	250
829	Red-painted stepback cupboard	300	500	300
893	Red-painted beadboard two-drawer wardrobe cabinet over two long drawers	300	500	150
972	Maple turned-post bed, with rails	200	250	100
979	Federal inlaid mahogany and mahogany veneer swellfront chamber stand	300	500	500
1028	Yellow pine slant-lid desk with fitted interior	800	1,200	450
1030	Black-painted stencil-decorated windsor rocking mammy's bench	300	500	375
1079	Children's chairs (6)	50	100	225
1132	The McCaskey System oak and cast metal cash box, Alliance, Ohio.	100	150	70
1133	Hooked rugs (7) and a framed needlepoint floral panel, C.V. Wyman, Barrington R.I.	400	600	350
1170	Giltwood split-baluster divided mirror	300	350	400
TOTAL		4,950	7,475	5,845

Recommended Reading

Slavery in the Age of Reason: Archaeology at a New England Farm

By Alexandra A. Chan

The University of Tennessee Press, September 2007

Hardcover, 304 pages

Slavery in the Age of Reason focuses on the lives of domestic slaves in 18th century Massachusetts, and explores differences in slave holding in New England, the American South, and the Caribbean. It is a world not unlike Smith's Castle, where slaves owned by Daniel Updike tilled the fields, made tools, and butchered meat, and it offers a model that might one day be used to interpret slavery at Smith's Castle.

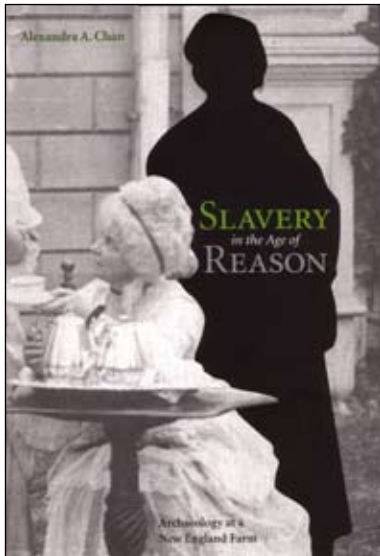
Alexandra Chan employs historical texts to recreate patterns of New England slave ownership, slave service records, genealogy and kinship structures, and uses archaeology to study the material manifestations of enslavement. Chan's research world is Royallville, an 18th-century estate owned by the Isaac Royall family of Medford, Massachusetts. There, intact slave quarters provided the architectural and archaeological correlates of slavery as a social institution.

Drawing from three seasons of field work and informed by extensive documentary research, the author searches for agency among the slaves, probing their use of material culture to create and express an African American identity. In order to contextualize the cultural construction of this particular African American identity, Chan distills moments when racial boundaries between African and European Americans became manifest and offers a richly textured interpretation of 18th century African American slavery, "from the inside out."

Chan provides a helpful overview of Massachusetts slavery which she sees as a "society with slaves rather than a slave society." She points out that New England's rocky soils precluded plantations comparable to those of the American South or the Caribbean, yet the economic value of slave labor rendered it a respectable activity for New England's burgeoning capitalist

class. Chan's history of slave holding as a social and economic institution defines the context in which the Royall estate was embedded, and a subsequent discussion of assimilation and resistance provides a key for decoding archaeological, architectural, and landscape features found at the site.

The archaeological investigations were informed by geophysical surveys that pointed to walkways, landscaping, a cobbled courtyard, a dry well, a well, and a small outbuilding. From these features Chan collected over 65,000 artifacts, including ceramics, glass, metal, toys, shell, and bone. Conceptualizing these artifacts as tools used to create social and cultural identity, Chan carefully distinguished the assemblages of slave holder and slave. The slave holder assemblage, collected from the mansion house contexts, included a preponderance of expensive porcelain used for genteel entertaining and hospitality, and the glassware included vessels used for serving and consuming "exotic" beverages including expensive chocolate and coffee, that are itemized in Royall family inventories. From a stone-lined outbuilding, a small trash pit, and sheet refuse scattered in the yard space adjacent to the slave quarters Chan collected the slave's assemblage. Here she identified artifacts associated with work, leisure, childhood, craftsmanship, adornment, folk religion, and health care, that she probes for meaning into slavery (2007:129). In a plain, handmade, stone bead, for example, she sees pride in appearance, affirmation of humanity, notions of identity and kinship ties (2007:142). A reworked and unusable arrowhead pendant evoked African spiritual beliefs in thunderbolts from God and amulets for good fortune. An ancient Native American pestle spoke of sacred rituals and enfolded "a powerful indwelling spirit" (2007:159). A worn and rugged teacup represented folk medicine, and provided evidence of ritual self-help. Together, Chan reads these items as representations of agency in the enslavement experience, and argues that material culture was a consciously crafted tool used to fashion a particular African identity in a specific historical and temporal context.

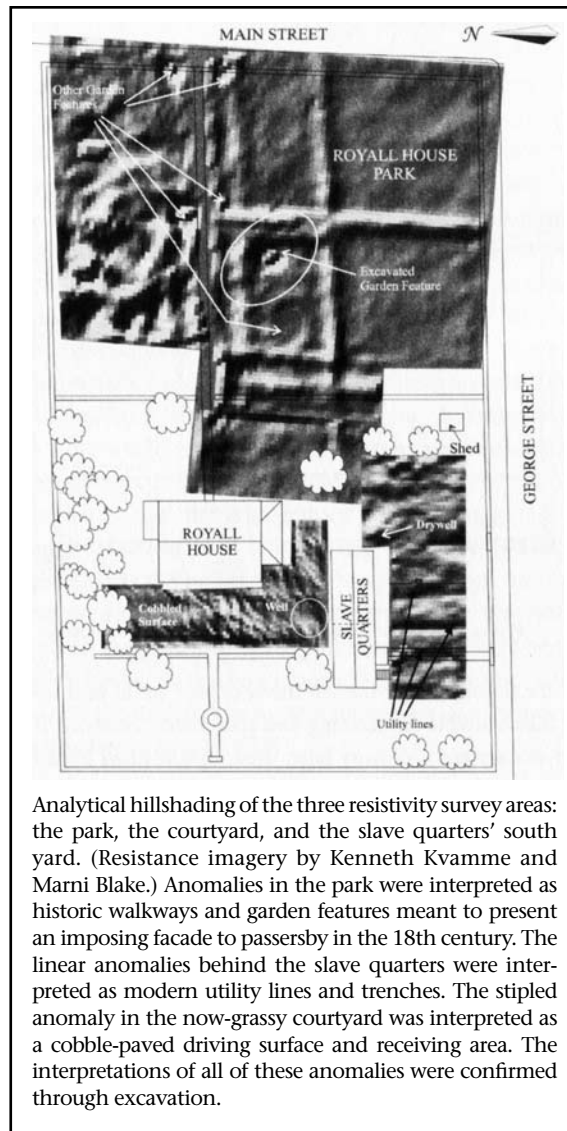


From the documentary records, Chan finds evidence of skewed sex ratios, with far greater numbers of African American men than women at the Royall estate, unlike the more balanced ratios of the American south and the Caribbean. New England slave owners had far fewer slaves than plantation owners to the south, and the work of slavery in New England also distinguished it from southern plantation labor. By and large New England slaves worked as skilled laborers and craftsmen, in distinction to their labor as agricultural workers in the Caribbean and American South. Chan thus concludes that there is no such thing as a pan African American identity or experience, and geographic location is only one of several factors that contribute to the cultural identity and the personal experience of slavery.

Chan's interpretation of the history and material culture of Royallville offers a "post-modern perspective" on the archaeological interpretation of slavery, which proposes there are multiple possibilities for interpreting the past. This perspective makes Chan aware that she is not "uncovering" "the past," but actively creating "an interpretation" of "a past," forged by her personal biography. In her assessment of master and slave, for example, Chan writes as both a scientist and a humanist. As a scientist she offers statistical and technical analyses of texts and artifacts, creating and ascribing meaning to the differences in the number of slaves present in Massachusetts and the composition of their families, as well as the significance of vessel proportions and various cuts of meat. Using an extensive range of documents, she introduces Isaac Royall, Senior, an educated, orderly, and reasonable man who purchases human beings for profit. Writing as a humanist, she frames the story of Belinda, an elderly woman slave who petitioned the Massachusetts General Court for compensation for 50 years in slavery. The anguish and anger are palpable in Belinda's petition, and Chan presents her story as "dramatic, tragic, and consummately human" (2007:1).

Then writing a fictional vignette, Chan imagines a morning with the slave boy, Jemmy, whose life is enriched by a set of marbles and a friend to play with. Writing in that voice, Chan places people at the center of historical and archaeological interpretation, allowing us to retrace the meaning of enslavement, as she hopes we would, from the inside out. In these presentations, Chan opens up the world of New England slavery, where contemporary sensibilities have little space, but the experience of being human links the reader to the slave and the slave holder. In the end it is this humanist voice that best explains human bondage in an age where reason dominated. ■

—Joyce Clements



Analytical hillshading of the three resistivity survey areas: the park, the courtyard, and the slave quarters' south yard. (Resistance imagery by Kenneth Kvamme and Marni Blake.) Anomalies in the park were interpreted as historic walkways and garden features meant to present an imposing facade to passersby in the 18th century. The linear anomalies behind the slave quarters were interpreted as modern utility lines and trenches. The stippled anomaly in the now-grassy courtyard was interpreted as a cobble-paved driving surface and receiving area. The interpretations of all of these anomalies were confirmed through excavation.

Joyce M. Clements, PhD, is an archaeologist with the Northeast and Caribbean Office of Gray and Pape, Inc. Cultural Resources Consultants of Providence, Rhode Island. She served as principal investigator for the ground truthing phase of the current archaeology field work at Cocuscussoc.

Alexander Chan's *Slavery in the Age of Reason* is available from Amazon.com, which can be easily accessed through the Smith's Castle Web site (www.smithscastle.org). When you purchase books and other merchandise from Amazon, Smith's Castle receives a percentage of the purchase price (see page 19).

Archaeology conducted at the Isaac Royall House and Slave Quarters in 2000–2001 was very much like that recently completed at Smith's Castle. From Alexandra A. Chan, *Slavery in the Age of Reason*. Figure 10, p. 29.

Upcoming Events

Artist Susan Dwyer to Exhibit at Castle



Abigail and Wilkins Updike. Oil on canvas, 16" x 20".



Spring Fever. Oil on canvas, 12" x 22".

When East Greenwich artist Susan Dwyer first visited Smith's Castle, little did she know it would start a life-long love affair with the c1678 house. "I was about nine and my parents brought me to the annual Christmas at the Castle event," Ms. Dwyer said. "I was hooked. It still is one of my favorite houses!"

As an adult, Ms. Dwyer followed her passion as an artist and now specializes in painting colonial-themed portraits and landscapes, including oil-on-canvas, watercolors, and murals. She is now giving back to the local landmark that inspires her.

At Smith's Castle from October 6th through 13th, Ms. Dwyer will unveil a series of new paintings featuring Smith's Castle. This will be an exhibition and sale of original paintings focusing on the history of the 17th century house and its generations of inhabitants. Select prints will also be available for sale. Forty percent of proceeds from the sale will benefit the Cocumscussoc Association.

"My work blends my life-long loves of early American history and painting," Ms. Dwyer explains. "My goal is to bring the essence of Colonial America to

life. I portray historical figures as well as the colonial 'everyman.' The early American home and hearth are favorite subjects and can be found frequently in my work."

Some of Ms. Dwyer's new works are primitive landscapes, showing Smith's Castle sitting on the banks of Mill Cove, with imagined outbuildings, orchards, and wharves, and visitors from Newport arriving for an Updike family social gatherings. Other works focus on individual inhabitants of Smith's Castle. One is an imagined portrait of newlyweds Wilkins and Abigail Updike sitting in the bright pink Great Room about 1809. Another shows an Updike woman by the large kitchen fireplace making the family's famous cheese, which was a lucrative export from South County farms in the 18th century. In all, the exhibition will include about 40 original works with a colonial theme.

"We are delighted to have an artist of Susan's caliber show so much enthusiasm for Smith's Castle," said Neil Dunay, Smith's Castle president. "Her works have an amazing level of authentic period detail, and they really bring colonial times to life."

An opening reception for Smith's Castle members will be held on Saturday, October 6, 2007, from 4:to 6 p.m. Non members are welcome, but must make advance reservations through the Castle at 401-294-3521. The exhibition and sale will continue on Sunday, October 7, and Friday, October 12, from noon to 4 p.m. during the Castle's regular tour hours (\$5 tour admission). The exhibition will also be featured on Saturday, October 13, from noon to 4 p.m. for the Castle's annual Colonial Harvest Festival (\$3 admission). ■

Susan Dwyer paints Early American portraits and murals by commission. She has been featured in the *Early American Life Directory of Traditional Crafts* for two years. She graduated from the Hartford Art School, and also studied at RISD, Paire College of Art, and Yale University.

To view more of Dwyer's work visit her website at www.susandwyerartworks.com

Saturday, October 13

Colonial Harvest Festival



Mark your calendars. Saturday October 13 noon to 4 p.m. is the date and time for this year's Colonial Harvest Festival (rain date, Sunday October 14).

Cooking wench, Dianne McGowan, tends the victuals and Mary Nunes discusses gardening with visitors at the 2006 edition of the Colonial Harvest Festival.

Recent Archaeology (from page 1)

Figure 1.
Site RI 375
Unit AA
N1063.5 E1009
West Wall Profile

Agricultural features (field systems, drainage and irrigation channels, animal enclosures), circulation systems (trackways, roadways, pathways), property delineations (walls, fences), and construction activities (filling, grading) are examples of features that can be detected. Until the exact nature of the areas located by the GRS equipment can be determined archaeologists refer to them as “anomalies.”

Two kinds of GRS technology were employed at Smith’s Castle: ground penetrating radar (GPR) and electrical resistivity (ER). Soil type (sand, gravel, loam, etc.) dictated which technique was used where. At Smith’s Castle most areas were examined using ER. Paved areas and areas with very dry soil (the field along Post Road, for example) were surveyed with GPR. Soil Sight’s ER survey produced 42 anomalous readings that were identified alphabetically from A to Z and AA to AO. The GPR survey produced an additional 7 anomalies, identified alphabetically as H, J, N, AH, AP, AQ, and AR (see Table 1, p. 9).

After Soil Sight had located the anomalies, archaeologists from Gray & Pape began the “ground truthing” phase of the project. Ground truthing employs traditional archaeological excavation techniques—shovel test pits (STPs) and excavation units (EUs), for example—to uncover the anomalies and determine if they are an actual cultural feature. GRS and traditional archaeological methodology, therefore, are complimentary techniques for locating and understanding large-scale cultural landscape modifications at historic sites such as Smith’s Castle.

Gray and Pape archaeologists conducted their field investigations in June and July 2007, excavating a total of sixteen STPs, nine 1 m x 1 m EUs, and two 1 m x 1.5 m trenches. The following discussion of Anomalies AA and Z is representative of the methods, analyses, and documentation employed by Gray & Pape in its ground truthing excavations.

Anomalies AA and Z

Anomalies AA and Z are located adjacent to the wheelchair ramp at the entrance to the Castle meeting room. Dan Lynch of Soil Sight described AA and Z as small, circular, low resistance anomalies that could be natural deposits, such as large, decayed trees, but might also be cultural features, such as trash pits or privies. Based on their proximal association to the rear of the main house, Lynch suggested that the anomalies were more likely to be archaeological deposits than natural features, and subsurface investigations support his opinion. Gray & Pape archaeologists excavated one EU at Anomaly AA and one trench at Anomaly Z. EU AA produced seven

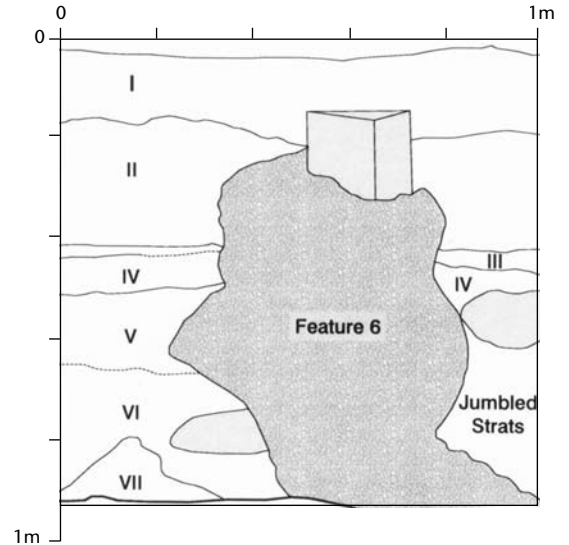


Photo 1. Profile
of West Wall of
Excavation Unit AA
(N1110.5 E1019)
from 0 to 100 cm
below datum (b.d.).
Note cement frag-
ment in the wall
and compare to
Photo 3.



strata, three of which were fill deposits with a low artifact density comprised of both EuroAmerican and Native American artifacts (Fig. 1; Photo 1). Stratum 1 consisted of 10YR 4/1* silty sand and extended from 0 to 29 cm below datum (b.d.). It contained coal slag, brick, tar paper, post-1805 nails, a steel bottle opener, shell fragments, glass bottle base and body sherds, cable wire, concrete fragments, asphalt shingle pieces, coal, and a quartzite flake. Within this stratum, archaeologists exposed a triangular-shaped slab of concrete (Feature 6). The concrete slab also was exposed in the

—continued on page 10

*Notation refers to the *Munsell Soil Color Charts*, a color matching system that enables archaeologists to accurately communicate soil color.

**Table 1. Geophysical Anomalies
Identified during electrical resistance and ground penetrating radar surveys (Lynch 2007)**

Anomaly	Anomaly Description
Electrical Resistance Anomalies Interpreted as Potential Landscape Features	
A	20th century garden
B	Pathway leading from front of Castle to the garden (Anomaly A)
C	D-shaped feature, possible driveway for auto turnaround east of Castle
D	artificial landscaping terrace south of Castle
E	gravel walkway from parking area to wheelchair ramp at back of Castle
F	small driveway entrance leading to auto turn around (Anomaly C)
G	possible old road bed leading to former bridge across Cocumscussoc Brook
H	modern septic field
I	landfill on north side of Annex
J	drainage or utility feature along north side of Richard Smith Drive
K	potential old pathway or road
L	potential old agricultural field
M	large area of fill with potential buried surface (AP and additional features (AQ and AR, below)
N	potential Seaview Railroad bed
O	potential old pathway or road or modern utility line
AP	potential activity area dating to dairy farm use
Electrical Resistance Anomalies as Potential Archaeological Features	
P	shallow bedrock or stone feature in wet area probably associated with earlier archaeological backfilling
Q	high resistance anomaly, possibly Brown University STP or trench
R	shallow bedrock or stone feature in wet area probably associated with earlier archaeological backfilling
S	potential stone and brick drainage feature identified by Rubertone and Fitts, Rubertone and Taylor
T	probably area of large boulders or shallow bedrock
U	potential pathway heading towards Cocumscussoc Brook
V	potential fill on northwestern corner of the Castle
W	potential remains of structural element once attached to northeastern edge of Castle
X	associated with drainage feature or lack of drainage in this area possible tree fall or cultural feature
Y	high resistance circular anomaly, possibly tree fall or cultural feature
Z	circular anomaly off back door of the Castle; potential trash pit or privy
AA	circular anomaly off back door of the Castle; potential trash pit or privy
AB	potential concrete foundation for an old garage
AC	potential concrete foundation for an old garage
AD	probably fill sloping away from the Annex
AE	graded or filled area to the west of the Annex
AF	possibly pocket of sand or gravel north of Annex
AG	Possible bedrock or cultural feature
AH	possible bedrock or potential large cultural feature
AI	possible compacted dirt floor for the 18th century barn
AJ	possible natural anomaly reflecting topography in this area
AK	cultural deposits, probably sand and gravel fill associated with road or railroad
AL	cultural deposits, probably sand and gravel fill associated with road or railroad
AM	possible drainage feature or buried concrete structure associated with dairy farm
AN	possible drainage feature or buried concrete structure associated with dairy farm
AO	poorly drained section of terrace near dairy farm
Ground Penetrating Radar Anomalies Interpreted as Landscape or Archaeological Features	
H	modern septic field
J	drainage or utility trench on east side of Richard Smith Drive
N	old Seaview Railroad bed
AH	possible bedrock outcrop but potential as foundation or other large cultural feature
AP	buried surface or interface between soil layers
AQ	rectangular-shaped anomaly that appears cultural
AR	aligned with AP and AQ and perhaps deeper extension of AP

Recent Archaeology (from page 9)

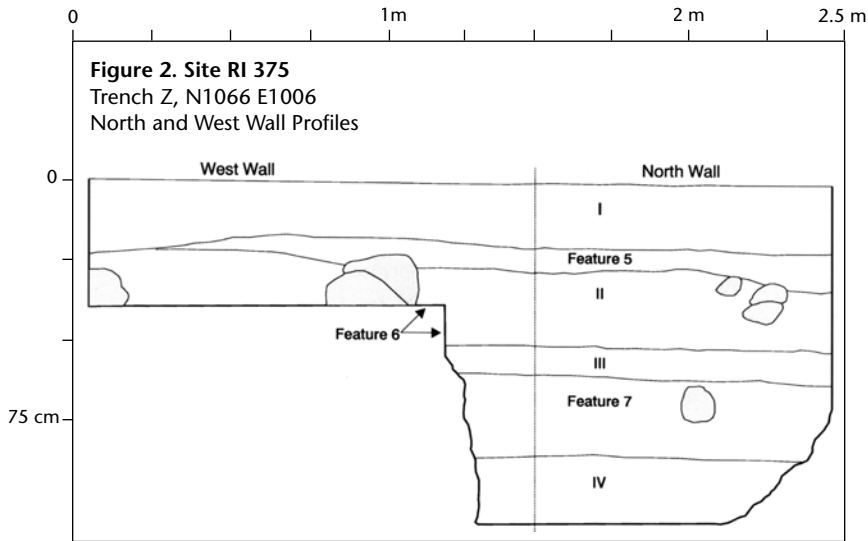


Photo 2. Profile of West Wall of Excavation Unit AA (N110.5 E1019) from 0 to 100 cm below datum (b.d.). Note cement fragment in the wall and compare to Photo 4.

adjacent trench at Anomaly Z and is discussed more fully below. Stratum II extended from 29 to 50 cm b.d. and was comprised of 2.5Y 5/6 light olive brown coarse sandy fill. Artifacts found within the fill included cut and wire nails (post-1885), as well as coal slag. Stratum III, consisting of 5Y 5/2 olive fine sand and extending only from 50 to 52 cm b.d., was identified as a thin smear of fill that produced one fragment of porcelain, non-diagnostic nails, and some coal slag. Beneath this fill, archaeologists identified Stratum IV, classified as 7.5YR 3/2, dark brown silty sand with rocks, possibly a remnant buried A horizon. The stratum contained coal slag, non-diagnostic nails, a colorless glass sherd, redware (1607–present), pearlware (1783–1835), and creamware (1762–1820), and extended from 52 to 60 cm b.d. Archaeologists noted a concentration of cobbles and limestone fragments throughout most of the unit. In the northeast corner, they identified very friable, white plaster. In the center of the stratum, they recorded an area of larger stones with saprolithic (decaying and friable) gneiss. Stratum V was a 10YR 6/6 brownish yellow loose sandy silt with large cobbles and pebbles, and appeared to be a mixture of A and B soil horizons extending from 60 to 74 cm b.d. and containing redware and blue transfer printed pearlware ceramic (1783–1830). Beneath Stratum V, archaeologists encountered Stratum VI, a mottled layer comprised of 10YR 4/6 dark yellowish brown sandy silt with 7.5YR 3/2 dark brown sandy silt and cobbles and pebbles from 78 to 100 cm b.d. and culturally sterile. Strata VII was comprised of 5Y 4/3 dark olive fine sand, and is an intact C or glacial horizon, extending from 92 cm to 100 cm b.d. in the northeastern corner of the unit.

Anomaly Z

Archaeologists examined Anomaly Z with one EU extended by 50 cm x 50 cm to better expose Feature 5, discovered at 35 cm b.d. Anomaly Z presented four strata and contained Features 5, 6, and 7 (Fig. 2). Bagged and catalogued according to provenience in the EU or the STP, the artifacts are discussed by stratum and feature in the following analysis. Stratum I was classified as 2.5Y 5/6 light olive brown, loose silty sandy loamy fill with lithic debitage, brick, glass, plastic, coal, clinker, and asphalt, and extending from 0 to 35 cm b.d. Below Stratum I, archaeologists exposed Feature 5, a soil stain comprised of 2.5Y 4/4 olive brown silty sandy loam with some cobbles. Feature 5 contained a mixed assortment of contemporary and historical materials, including coal slag, kaolin pipe bowl and stem fragments (one dating from 1720 to 1750), ironstone (1762–1820) and creamware (1762–1820) ceramics, as well as indeterminate glass sherds, brick fragments, unidentifiable lead, some bone and tooth fragments, mortar, shell, and both cut (post 1805) and wire nails (post 1885). Feature 5 extended from 35 to 48 cm b.d. and appeared to slope toward the north and taper into the stratum below on the southern half of the unit, where Stratum II was visible around 49 cm b.d. The feature's shape suggested a small pit filled with refuse. Although diverse, the artifact density was modest and suggested that Feature 5 might have been deposited during landscaping, construction, or repair at the rear of the Castle. The presence of the wire nails suggests that the fill originated no earlier than 1885 perhaps during the Anna Babbitt or Alice Fox occupations, but perhaps

as late as the Cocumscussoc Association's renovations from about 1949 to 1955. Beneath Feature 5, Stratum II extended from 49 cm to 68 cm b.d. The stratum contained some large rocks, and was classified as 2.5Y 5/3 light olive brown loose sand with some cobbles and gravel. Artifacts included coal slag, whiteware (1820 to present) lithic debitage, wire nails (post 1885), indeterminate glass sherds, brick fragments, and a possible quartz biface: a true composite cultural assemblage! The presence of coal slag in considerable quantity (~ 400 grams) in Stratum II raised the possibility that residents discarded fireplace refuse here, next to a small addition at the rear of the house. Alternately, the cinders may represent a former cinder pathway. Archaeologists noted a pocket of grey silty sand (2.5Y 5/1) in the northeast corner of the unit, which was similar to Stratum III in Unit AA.

At 53 cm b.d. archaeologists exposed Feature 6, the concrete slab earlier exposed in the adjacent Unit AA, at the same depth and assumed to be the same feature. Archaeologists exposed Stratum III at 68 cm b.d. and classified the stratum as a 2.5Y 3/2 very dark grayish brown silty sand. Near the bottom of the stratum, archaeologists noted additional bone and shell, and designated the deposit Feature 7, which extended from 68 cm to 80 cm b.d. in the northeastern corner of the unit. Feature 7 contained large amounts of shell and mammal bones, as well as animal teeth and bird bones. Also present in the feature were kaolin pipe bowls and stem fragments, wrought and cut nails, stoneware, redware and whiteware ceramics, fragments of Dutch bricks, and a quartz flake. Although they were unable to expose the entire feature because of the limitations of the trench, as archaeologists excavated through Feature 7 and down to 105 cm b.d., they noted that artifact density decreased, particularly the quantity of bone and shell.

The presence of considerable quantities of brick fragments seems greater in Feature 7 than in other parts of the site and is consistent with construction or repair to chimneys for some of the small additions, adjacent to the EU. The yellow or Dutch bricks are smaller than English red bricks, and are often used for landscaping features (Noel Hume 1985: 83) and indeed Rubertone and Fitts (1990) discovered several bricks in a herringbone pattern during their investigations. Perhaps the brick found in Feature 7 represents fragments of earlier landscaping features in this vicinity.

The quantity of bone and shell are consistent with a kitchen midden, and the coal slag also connotes a possible connection to kitchen refuse. The *terminus*



post quem (TPQ), or date after which the layer was deposited, for this unit is 1820, based on the presence of the whiteware sherd. Below 105 cm b.d. archaeologists noted that the feature graded into culturally sterile Stratum IV, 2.5Y 4/3 olive brown silty sand with cobbles and stones, and extending from 105 cm b.d. to the bottom of excavations at 120 cm b.d. The archaeological Features 6 and 7 exposed during excavation of geophysical Anomalies at AA and Z suggest that there was considerable activity to the rear of the house.

Feature 6, the large concrete slab, was visible in both EU AA and Trench Z (Photo 3), and its size and position suggest that it might represent the remains of the floor of a structure formerly located here. Early images of the rear of the dwelling (Photos 4–8, p. 12) depict a series of small additions as well as the larger Annex (formerly a guesthouse) in this general vicinity. The Annex, and its addition, and a small screened porch visible in Photo 5 were moved after the Cocumscussoc Association's purchase in 1949, and it is possible that Feature 6 might be a remnant floor from one of these structures. Yet the precise location and orientation of these buildings does not appear to conform to the concrete slab, which is off-center to the extant dwelling house and also appears off-center to the original location of Annex and its addition. Photo 5 also reveals an even surfaced road that slopes modestly from northwest to southeast across the image. The even-surface of the road suggests that it had been mechanically graded not long before the image was taken in December 1949, following the Cocumscussoc Association's purchase of the property. It is reasonable to assume that the Association cleared the ground around the dwelling in order to facilitate

Photo 3. The relationship between Excavation Unit AA and Trench Z with Feature 6 exposed in both units and tape measure positioned where the edge of the feature runs beneath the ground surface.

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Photo 4.

Dwelling house additions c. 1948, view to the south. Note trumpet vine visible through the porte cochere.

access to the structure and evaluate its integrity. That being the case, it is possible that road grading machinery nudged the concrete slab out of its original position.

Because Feature 6 is manufactured from Portland cement, it dates after 1842 and before 1949, by which time the Annex, its addition, and the porch, had been removed. Therefore, the building was probably associated with the Anna Babbitt occupation, or that of the Foxes, both of whom were known to have conducted building programs at the site. Based on existing information it is impossible to securely identify the feature. Further excavation in adjacent areas is necessary to reveal its full size and complete orientation of the cement slab, thereby providing additional information on its origins and functions.

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Photo 4

Photo 5.

Dwelling house and additions, December 1949, view to the southeast.



Photo 5

Photo 6.

Original entrance road, Annex and additions, April 1956, view to the south.



Photo 6

Photo 7.

Annex at Cocumscussoc showing brush and grass burning, May 1959, view to the south.



Photo 7

Photo 8.

Annex at Cocumscussoc showing repair, June 1959, view to the southeast.



Photo 8

The Artifact Assemblage

Native American Sub-Assemblage

As in earlier archaeology, the current research produced a number of Native American artifacts during the subsurface investigations of geophysical anomalies. These include a small fragment of ceramic, lithic debitage, angular shatter, a broken biface, and a shell fragment. None of the artifacts was excavated from an intact feature, but rather all were found in disturbed contexts or fill deposits. The Native American ceramic, for example, was found at the interface of Strata III and IV, in a buried A horizon that dated no earlier than the late 19th century, based on the presence of a mid-19th century aluminum angle iron found in the same deposit. If landscaping and grading fill deposits all originated on site, then these artifacts confirm Native American presence in this area, which is assumed on the basis of access to natural resources during pre-Colonial times, and the presence of trading posts after about 1637. The absence of Native American archaeological features, however, prevents detailed information about the kinds of Native American sites that once existed within this landscape. Unfortunately, the small assemblage from insecure contexts identified during the current investigation does not add significant information to the site history or changes to the landscape over time.

Historic Sub-Assemblage

Glass. The glass sub-assemblage derived primary from Anomalies AA, Z, S@B and B@A, all of which were excavated close to the dwelling house, where architectural and lighting debris would be expected to accumulate during renovation activities. Glass artifacts include small sherds from bottle and container glass as well as fragments of flat window glass, and glass lighting. Most of these sherds are non-diagnostic although a few glass lamp sherds date after the mid-19th century, and the introduction of kerosene lighting (Mace 1991: 34). Archaeologists excavated one tumbler base sherd and 1 stemmed vessel base sherd, but the majority of the glass is either non-diagnostic or architectural rather than domestic. Small, flat, colorless and aqua sherds represent broken windowpanes, for example, but there were somewhat fewer window glass sherds than might be anticipated on a site where several renovation and repair programs were initiated. Two diagnostic bottle sherds date to the 19th century, but in general there is surprisingly little evidence of alcohol use, contrary to expectations for military sites and trading posts.

Ceramics. Similar to previous excavations at Smith's Castle, the current investigation produced numerous ceramic sherds of various types and ages. Many of the sherds are simple redwares, a utilitarian kind of ceramic used for preparing, storing, and serving food from colonial times into the 19th century and manufactured even today for its rustic appeal. The redware sub-assemblage from the current investigation consisted primarily of hollow body sherds typical of food storage vessels. Archaeologists also retrieved several stoneware sherds, including American stoneware (1705–1930), Nottingham stoneware (1683–1810), and wheel-thrown, cobalt blue stoneware (1705–1930). Like redware forms, the stoneware sub-assemblage represents utilitarian forms used for food preparation and storage, as well as for beverage service. The current sample conforms to those functions, although it is present in a smaller quantity than might be anticipated, particularly stoneware tankards that would be expected at a military barracks and trading post, for beverage service. During the current investigations, archaeologists also collected a small sample of earthenwares, primarily creamware (1762–1820) and pearlware (1820–1890) vessels, many of which were plain body sherds. Exceptions include a few blue transfer printed pearlware pieces dating between 1783 and 1830. Archaeologists also retrieved a small quantity of plain, whiteware vessel sherds dating from 1820 to 1900 or beyond, as well as an extremely modest sample of ironstone (1842–1930), and yellowware (1830–1940). The earliest ceramic type found during the current study is tin-glazed earthenware (sometimes called tin enameled or delftware), produced between 1600 and 1750. Found here in modest quantities, tin-glazed earthenware often dominates assemblages from New England's earliest sites, and it represents an alternative to utilitarian redware and stoneware used for formal dining by those who could afford it. Similarly, the current investigation produced only tiny quantities of porcelain, which contrasts with the relatively large number of pieces excavated by earlier researchers (Rubertone and Fitts 1990; Rubertone and Taylor 1992; Frank 2006). However, the number of porcelain sherds and indeed the quantity of ceramics in general might be a factor of test excavation locations, a point addressed in our summary and conclusion below.

Smoking Materials. Archaeologists found several pipe stem and pipe bowl fragments during these investigations. This smoking material is wholly anticipated

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at a trading post, where socialization and relaxation were part of the economic exchange process, and is also expected at a military site, such as Smith's Castle during King Philip's War. Pipe-smoking materials are also ubiquitous at New England farm sites from colonial time until the late 19th century and both women and men were known to enjoy pipes and tobacco. The kaolin smoking materials found at Cocumscussoc can be dated only in a very general way by pipe-stem bore diameter, which provides a date range, rather than absolute dates. None of the pipe bowls or stems exhibited maker's marks or seals that associate them with a particular pipe manufacturer, although three found in EU S@B are molded types, with a bore diameter of 9/64th inch and produced from 1590 to 1620. These early pipe-stem fragments were collected from Feature 8 and Stratum III in EU S@B in front of the dwelling house, suggesting that Feature 8 and the fill stratum above the historical drain may have derived from sheet refuse scattered around the dwelling house, including refuse from its earliest occupations.

Gun Flints. Archaeologists found four gun flints/gun spalls during the current investigations. Three of the gun flints/gun spalls came from Unit S@B, all from Stratum III, the fill overlying the drainage feature, first identified by Rubertone and Fitts (1990). Each of these three artifacts is English; two were struck from black flint, one from gray. Two of the artifacts are core fragments, and the third is a gun spall, which is more angular in shape with less preparation (Noel Hume 1985: 219–222). The fourth flint is French, which is identifiable on the basis of its honey brown color, and found in the A horizon topsoil stratum at STP N1048.5 E1044. Most gunflints found on early sites originated in France, because the French types were superior to English forms. After the Revolutionary War, however, English gunflints became popular and available in the New World, and usually date after that time (Noel Hume 1985: 220). It is tempting to assume that the gun flints found in this assemblage are associated with hunters who visited the trading post, or with soldiers stationed here during King Philip's War, but, like the kaolin pipe stem fragments, their provenience suggests that they may have entered the archaeological record as redeposited surface refuse from anywhere on the site.

Metal. The metal sub-assemblage from the current investigation is comprised primarily of nails, the majority of which are "cut" nails, commonly available after 1805, although cut nails were produced in New England as early as 1775 (Crown Nail Company 2007). Archaeologists also retrieved some hand-wrought nails (post 1607), as well as wire nails manufactured after 1885. The predominance of machine manufactured nails after 1805 suggests that many of the nails entered the archaeological record as debris associated with repair and rebuilding programs initiated no earlier than the 19th century. Too late for the structure erected at the conclusion of King Philip's War, and for the fashionable updating by Daniel Updike around 1740, these materials probably represent architectural debris scattered at the ground surface during Anna Babbitt's renovations in the late 18th century, but they might also be discarded refuse from the Cocumscussoc Association's extensive renovations and repair to the earlier structure, from 1949 until about 1955. The presence of wrought nails in Feature 9 may represent materials used for carpentry work around the front entrance.

Faunal. Archaeologists excavated a number of bones, shell, and animal teeth during these investigations, although much of the faunal material was unidentifiable. Diagnostic elements included an oyster shell from STP AK, Stratum I, a fragment of horn or hoof from EU AG, a pig incisor from EU S@B, Level II, and a bovine atlas, from EU S@B, Level III. Archaeologists also retrieved bivalve shell fragments from a number of EUs and STPs, including large samples from EU AA (50 samples from Stratum IV), and from Feature 7 (805 samples), the midden in Anomaly Z. Located to the rear of the dwelling house and behind the kitchen, the midden exposed in Anomaly Z appears to be an intact feature beneath the cement floor, and with a TPQ of 1820, based on whiteware sherds within the deposit. The bivalve remains suggests dietary choice of shell food by 19th century residents, but the feature requires further study and analysis before definitive conclusions can be reached. Many of the bone samples were small and fragmentary and unidentifiable, although there is evidence of cattle, as would be expected from this rural site. The large bovine atlas (cervical vertebrae) retrieved from EU S@B is notable, but the context is a fill deposit with imprecise provenience, other than its probable origin as sheet refuse deposited throughout the Smith's Castle landscape.

Conclusion

Since first investigated by the University of Rhode Island in the 1970s, archaeological investigations at Smith's Castle have produced evidence of a number of cultural features and landscape modifications. These are presented in summary form in Table 2.

The current archaeological investigations of geophysical anomalies produced evidence of nine features, six of which were authentic historical features and three of which were eliminated when the evidence suggested that they were the result of natural rather than cultural formation processes (Table 3).

When taken into consideration with cartographic and documentary evidence, the current and former archaeological studies generate material evidence to inform the cultural landscape study in progress. At the most general level, each of these archaeological investigations have revealed considerable leveling and grading, particularly in the area proposed for a parking lot, adjacent to Post Road, as well as in the area north of the Annex and south of Richard Smith Drive. Near Post Road, the upper strata have been graded, probably during construction and removal of the Seaview Railroad in the late 19th century and early 20th centuries. Beneath those upper strata, the archaeological investigations reveal natural processes at work, particularly water action that graded and sorted the sediments into well-stratified deposits beneath the cultural strata. On the basis of earlier work, and this targeted investigation of geophysical anomalies, there does not appear to be near-surface, or large subsurface cultural features in this area. There could be, however, smaller, ephemeral features that are not subject to geophysical detection but remain deeply buried beneath grading fill. The presence of a Native American ceramic at the interface of a buried A horizon and B horizon, in the same soil strata as a 19th century aluminum fragment, for example, suggests the possibility of extant Native American features in buried soil horizons. The buried A horizon exposed in AK at 130 to 135 cm b.d. suggests that ground work above this depth could safely proceed. Caution is warranted if ground preparation or parking lot features extend more than about 1m (3 ft.) below existing ground surface. As the NEAR (1990) survey noted, and the current investigation revealed, there is fairly extensive evidence of grading and filling in the lawn area between the Annex and Richard Smith Drive, which might be the location of a barn depicted in an early 19th century plan (Harris 1802). The NEAR archaeologists identified a remnant wall

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Table 2. Summary of Archaeological Features at Smith's Castle Identified from 1973 to 1992

Excavator	Feature Description	Date Range	Grid Location
Senulis (1973) & notes (1972)	brick and ash layer	17th century	Trench 2
	concrete wall for Annex	19th century	Unit 16
Viewed by Rubertone & Fitts (1990)	structural remains	unknown	Unit 10, West Unit 11, East Unit 2, Unit 20
	middens	unknown	Units 1, 19, & 20
	granite slab/capped well		Unit 16
	circular arrangement of rocks	late 18th to early 19th century	Unit 18
Office of Public Archaeology (1989)	debitage	Native American	Route 1
NEAR (1990)	oiled gravel road	early 19th century	N900 E460
	stone wall	unknown	N860 E520
Rubertone & Fitts (1990)	thick cobble layer	unknown	N590 E550
	stone feature	unknown	N490 E530
Beven (1991)	refuse pit	unknown	N539 E585
	unidentifiable anomaly	unknown	N590 E585
Brown University (1992)	drainage channel	constructed late 17th century; filled early 18th century	N524 EE600 to N574 E575
	cobble layer and soil stain	2nd half 18th century	N540 E585
	dense cobble layer	unknown	N524 E600
	brick in herringbone pattern	unknown	N534 E590
	adjacent cobble scatter	unknown	N534 E590

Table 3. Archaeological Features at Smith's Castle Identified 2007

Feature No.	Feature Location	Feature Identification
1	N1268.5 E1005.5	Root stains; determined not a feature
2	N1268.5 E1005.5	Root stains; determined not a feature
3	N1160 E1037.5 N1161 E1037.5	former cobble road visible at about Anomaly AI
4	N1110.5 E1019	Soil color change; determined not a feature
5	N1065 E1006 N1066 E1006	Small refuse pit to rear of Castle in Anomaly Z
6	N1065 E1006 N1066 E1006	Concrete slab, possible floor of former addition or the Annex, once located to the rear of the Castle in Anomaly AA
7	N1063.5 E1009	Cobble deposits/stone layer covering floor of Anomaly AA, possibly natural feature
8	N1035.5 E1015	Linear shaped fill, possibly associated with 19th century porch, at Anomaly S@B
9	N1035.5 E1015	Cobble path, architectural or landscape feature near front entrance of Castle at Anomaly S@B

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in their STP N860 E520 and speculated that it might be associated with the corn crib depicted close to the barn on the Harris plan (NEAR 1990: 3). No evidence of the buried wall feature was identified during the current investigations. Archaeological evidence of the barn has not been confirmed in this location either, and it is not possible to state with certainty whether the crudely rendered Harris plan correctly depicts its actual location. The extensive fill deposits south of Richard Smith Drive and in front of the Annex certainly suggest contemporary cultural preferences for cleared, open space and park-like vistas that frame the setting for the historical structure. In and of itself this information is important to notions of land use, and how they changed over time.

In the area to the north of Richard Smith Drive the current investigations of Anomaly AI revealed a cobble feature here interpreted as a former roadway through the farm. The cobble feature might be a remnant road that connected the Smith-Updike farm to the wharf and store adjacent to Meadow Brook to the northeast, but it might also be a remnant road that connected the much more recent Fox dairy farm to the original homestead lands. Archaeologists collected few artifacts from this feature to assist with its interpretation, and the absence of dense cultural material conforms to a utilitarian feature, such as a roadway rather than a structural feature.

To the rear of the Annex, there may be further evidence of a roadway, perhaps even repaved surface of an earlier road. Further investigation of Feature 3 at Anomaly AI, as well as behind the Annex, might provide additional insight into the way parts of the landscape were connected to each other, to natural features, such as brooks and streams, and to architectural and domestic structures. The most productive geophysical anomalies identified during the current study are those located in close proximity to the Castle. This finding conforms to the results provided by earlier researchers, particularly those of Rubertone and Fitts (1990) and Rubertone and Taylor (1992), with post-field analyses by Frank (2006), Hoover (2006), Reiser (2006), and Ryzewski (2006). The current examination of geophysical anomalies AA and Z, for example, exposed a concrete slab (Feature 6) to the rear of the dwelling house. The feature is tentatively interpreted as a floor for one of the small additions or the Annex, once located in this vicinity. Yet the location of this feature is off center to the extant building, and seems out of alignment with former buildings, based on photographs and sketches of the Annex

and outbuildings in this location. The floor may or may not be in situ, so further research could provide additional information on the feature's morphology and origins. Nonetheless, like the evidence provided by early photographs and sketches, and supported by architectural debris in fill deposits, its presence suggests the evolution of domestic outbuildings and reveals how the built environment is mirrored by subtle, subsurface evidence of land use.

The small midden exposed in Anomaly Z also reveals subtle evidence of land use to the rear of the dwelling house, where quantities of shell offer tell-tale signs of kitchen refuse deposited beyond the kitchen doorway. Perhaps a kitchen or herb garden was once located here, and the refuse midden was part of a compost pit, or maybe the midden registers only waste disposal. Certainly larger excavation units opened in this area, might provide additional material culture to compare with assemblages gathered from the formal front of the dwelling house. Such information could offer important details about how the land to the rear of the dwelling was used differently to land to the front of the house, and in other parts of the site.

Perhaps one of the most important geophysical anomalies investigated during this study is Anomaly S@B located near the front entrance to the Castle. Here, subsurface investigations produced Features 8 and 9, as well as a deep fill deposit above the drain first identified by the Brown University field crew (Rubertone and Fitts 1990; Rubertone and Taylor 1992). Feature 9 may well indicate a landscape feature, such as a flower bed, or it could be a former pathway. It might be associated with the 19th century porch located at the front of the Castle. Cutting into that feature is a linear fill deposit (Feature 8) that might relate to the structural evolution of the front of the house. Beneath the feature, Stratum III contains fill deposits overlying the important drainage feature. With appropriate planning, it may be desirable to follow the drainage feature to the edge of the house foundation, and thereby determine how that features articulated with interior usage. Did the drain connect to the kitchen, at the rear of the dwelling? Did it channel water away from a downspout or gutters, or carry overflow from a cistern away from the foundation? Is it possible that the drain feature in fact channeled water into rather than away from the dwelling? Answering these questions could provide crucial insights into early water management technology at Smith's Castle and any subsurface activities in this location should be preceded by further archaeological investigations.

In sum, these investigations have provided some very interesting clues to land use and ancient landscapes at Smith's Castle. Like earlier research, this study indicates the greatest quantity of material culture (artifacts) can be collected from excavations in close proximity to the house. In terms of overall numbers of features, it is this area where the landscape seems to have undergone the greatest modification with subsurface evidence of pathways, a midden, features associated with a former porch, a stone drain, and a potential concrete slab foundation.

As the Cocumscussoc Association plans for future site usage, it should be most cautious about subsurface modifications around the dwelling house because it appears to retain archaeological features and potentially intact deposits. Nonetheless, other areas of the site are not devoid of cultural features, and the presence of former roadways and paths reveal how site occupants have moved through the landscape. From aboriginal times to the present day, the occupants of Smith's Castle have modified the land to answer cultural needs, providing everything from rudimentary dwellings to a Georgian plantation, gardens, walkways and plantings, as well as waste and water

management features. To date, the land has been silent about the location of the occupants' privies, wells, and 40 soldiers' burial site, but it might give up its secrets to future archaeologists investigating in untested portions of the land. With new technologies for subsurface investigations and new methods for material culture analysis, we might better understand how human beings leave cultural traces in the physical world. ■

The foregoing article was compiled from reports submitted to Past Designs, Inc. and the Cocumscussoc Association detailing the results of the recent archaeological investigations conducted at Smith's Castle. Portions of these reports were reproduced with the generous permission of the authors—

Gray & Pape, Inc. *Archaeological Investigations in Support of a Geophysical Survey at Smith's Castle, North Kingstown (Wickford), Washington County, Rhode Island*, August 2007.

Lynch, Daniel P. *Electrical Resistance and Ground Penetrating Radar Investigations at Cocumscussoc, Wickford, R.I.*, August 2007.

Compiled by Darrell McIntire, chair, Long Range Site Committee, Smith's Castle.

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Hearthside Cooking

Contributed by Barbara Crudale

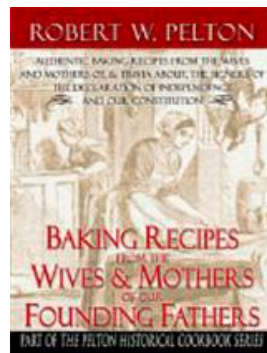
Autumn is a wonderful time to make an apple pie. Here is a recipe made by Elizabeth Adams for her husband, Samuel.

3 cups stewed apples	6 egg whites, beaten
1 cup sugar	Nutmeg to suit
6 egg yolks, beaten	4 cups milk

Line pie pan with good crust. After apples have been completely cooked, stir in sugar. Allow to cool. Then add custard-like beaten egg yolks. Season to taste with nutmeg. Gradually blend in milk and whip well. Lastly, fold in stiffly beaten egg whites. Place in hot oven (450 degrees) and bake 12 minutes. Then reduce heat to moderate (350 degrees) and bake another 20–30 minutes. (Note: To tell if pie is done, insert knife blade halfway between the middle and edge of the pie. It should come out clean.)



Barbara Crudale with her whortleberry pudding and fairy sauce (see *Chronicle* Summer 2007 for recipe).



Recipe from:
Pelton, Robert W.
Baking Recipes from the Wives and Mothers of our Founding Fathers
Infinity Publishing
Paperback, 376 pages
West Conshohocken,
Pennsylvania, 2005

Jailed for Preaching

The Autobiography of Cato Pearce, a Freed Slave from Washington County, Rhode Island

With an Historical Introduction by Christian M. McBurney

In 1842, a white abolitionist from Pawtucket, Rhode Island, printed an extraordinary pamphlet entitled *A Brief Memoir of the Life and Religious Experience of Cato Pearce, a Man of Color*. It is an autobiography of Cato Pearce, who was born in 1790 in North Kingstown, Rhode Island, as the child of slave parents.

Pearce's autobiography describes the following events:

- When he was six, his mother ran away and left him with two younger siblings.
- At age 18 he ran away, was caught in Wickford and whipped by his white master.
- After running away again, he was flogged at sea on a merchant vessel.
- He became active as an evangelical itinerant preacher, with the assistance of whites.

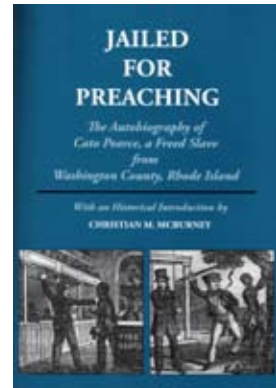
• Elisha R. Potter, Sr., one of the most powerful men in Rhode Island, had Pearce imprisoned because Potter did not want Pearce to leave work at Potter's South Kingstown farm to preach at Sunday services.

Only recently re-discovered, Pearce's autobiography is the most complete account by a Rhode Island-born African American who made the transition from slavery to freedom.

The book has two Parts:

- Part I contains an essay by Rhode Island historian Christian McBurney that summarizes Pearce's autobiography and attempts to place the events described in it in historical context.
- Part II contains an actual copy of the pamphlet of Pearce's life, the only one known to be in existence.

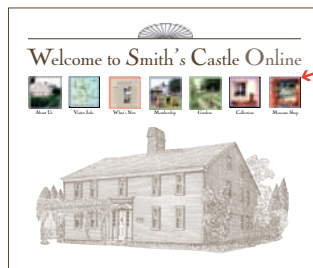
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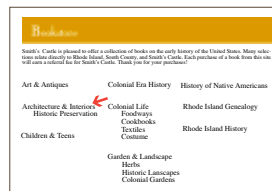
Published by the Pettaquamscutt Historical Society, Kingston, Rhode Island. ©2006 Christian M. McBurney. Softcover, 88 pp. \$14.95. Available at the Smith's Castle gift shop.

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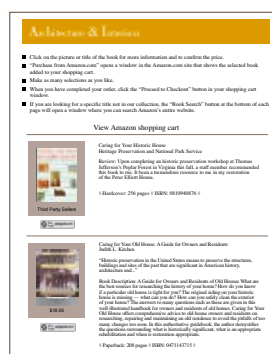


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The Cocumscussoc Association



This Fall and Winter at Smith's Castle

October

Day	Time	Event
Saturday, 6	4:00–6:00 p.m.	Artist Susan Dwyer Exhibit and sale of colonial-style portraits and landscapes
Saturday, 13	12:00–4:00 p.m.	Harvest Festival
Sunday, 14	12:00–4:00 p.m.	Harvest Festival (rain date)
Saturday, 20	10:00 a.m.	"Wilkins Updike, The Man and His Letters" Lecture by Richard Carbone

November

Day	Time	Event
Saturday, 17	2:00 p.m.	Lecture by Don Hagist (details in e-Chronicle) North Kingstown Free Library

December

Day	Time	Event
Saturday, 1	Noon–4:00 p.m.	Christmas at the Castle
Sunday, 2	Noon–4:00 p.m.	Christmas at the Castle
Saturday, 8	9:00–11:00 a.m.	Docent meeting

The Cocumscussoc Association
55 Richard Smith Drive
Wickford, RI 02852-4414

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