Roger W. Moeller
Research Director
for Institute

The SVAS and The Gunnery School have jointly announced the appointments of Dr. Roger W. Moeller as research director of the American Indian Archaeological Institute and as teacher in The Gunnery-Wykeham Rise Precollege Program in Archaeology.

Currently a staff member at Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, Dr. Moeller received an A.B. in anthropology from Franklin and Marshall College, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from SUNYAB. His doctoral dissertation involved an analysis of Late Woodland pits, and he has written several professional articles.

A group of students visits the recently dedicated American Indian Archaeological Institute.

Archaeology Courses To be Offered in Fall

Archaeology courses will be available for members and friends of the SVAS beginning this fall. As part of the Gunnery-Wykeham Rise Precollege Program in Archaeology, a course on method and theory in archaeology will be taught for three mornings a week at The Gunnery for a total of five 40-minute periods beginning the 2nd week in September and continuing for ten weeks.

continued on page 8

Indian Institute Dedicated on May 10

On Saturday, May 10, approximately 250 SVAS members and friends gathered in Washington to dedicate the American Indian Archaeological Institute. Just eleven months after the ground breaking ceremony, the SVAS now occupies the 3,000 square-foot, modern, research and educational facility which has become the realization of a dream.

SVAS volunteers worked day and night to make the dedication ceremony a very special one. Over 70 people worked on exhibits, the research room, the nature trail, led tours, acted as hosts and hostesses, drove busses and made and served refreshments.

The first guests arrived shortly after one o’clock by shuttle bus service over the newly improved town road and the last left at nearly 5:30. Many comments were heard as to the beauty and appropriateness of the natural setting and the way the muted earth tones of the building blended with the landscape. “The Institute looks as if it truly belongs there” was a comment heard over and over again throughout the day.

At 4:00 P.M. a brief dedication service was held in front of the building with Tate Brown, vice president and a director of the SVAS, as Master of Ceremonies. The program began with Miss Adelpha Logan, another SVAS director and a member of the Onondaga Tribe, leading the guests in prayer.

Texts of the remarks made during the afternoon and evening proceedings appear elsewhere in this issue.

After a warm greeting from Roderick M. Wyant, First Selectman of the Town of Washington, Dr. Richard W. Davis, director designate of the Institute, accepted the keys to the building from the contractor, William Deacon of Arthur D. Deacon & Son, Inc. and the architect, Les Searle of Henry T. Moecil Associates.

Mrs. Sidney A. Hessel then read a eulogy to her husband as the Sidney A. Hessel Research Room was dedicated in his honor.

continued on page 6
After Hours

Remarks made at the dinner meeting of SVAS board members and major donors, May 10, 1975.

This dedication today means so much to me, as it does to you, my SVAS friends. This is truly a day of the fulfillment of a dream.

What I would like to do for a few brief moments is to share with you what our quest has come to mean to others outside of our own immediate family. If we are to fulfill our great responsibilities, this type of enthusiastic acceptance in the educational, scientific, museum and media fields is not only necessary but essential.

In terms of media coverage we have had national exposure in print, on the radio and on television. An article and picture in the New York Times were released nationally. Our story has been in, of all things, the Weekly Reader, and American Home magazine, and we've just been asked to do a major article for the bicentennial issue of Nature Magazine. Our major discoveries have been carried by the Associated Press on several occasions and we have had a five-minute special by Rolland Smith on the CBS news that was seen by friends in such incredible places as Mobile, Alabama and Milwaukee, Wisconsin. In addition to this national exposure, 54 Connecticut newspapers, radio and television stations regularly receive our important announcements, and members of our staff have personally appeared on WINE radio (three times) and WLAD.

Educationally we also have begun to be recognized and this is terribly important if we ever are to share the important information we are uncovering in our research. We now have six universities wanting to participate with us in the immediate future. We have several dozen high and junior high schools, five of whom have had students on special leave of absence over the past few years to work with us. We even had a young lady come to us as far away as Garrison Forest School in Maryland. During the past year, the very exciting Gunnery-Wykeham Pre-college Program in Archaeology was formed as a core curriculum for serious students of archaeology and people interested in history. This curriculum is allied very closely with the Institute and is unequalled in the eastern United States on a secondary level. It was one of 19 programs in the entire United States to receive a coveted National Humanities Faculty award this past year.

The SVAS has also received several honors, among them a Conservation Award from the Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut. The National Association of Independent Schools asked us to lead one of the important workshops at the 1975 national conference and, as a result of that appearance, we received the invitation to write the articles for Nature Magazine. In addition, one of our articles was published in the Social Science Journal of the National Association for Independent Schools. Thus, in the educational community we are also picking up wide exposure and respect. The naming of Dr. Richard W. Davis as our first Director has also been of incalculable benefit to us in academic circles.

In the research field we also have gained considerable recognition. We had 11 professional archaeologists who helped us to draw up the plans for the Institute, including such nationally recognized figures as Dr. Richard S. MacNeil of the Robert S. Peabody Foundation and Dr. Michael D. Coo of the Peabody Museum and Yale University. We have five states that expect to send delegations to study our Institute and method of operation with the idea of improving their own state facilities and program.

Our scientific findings have been carried in Popular Archaeology magazine and in the last several issues of the Connecticut Archaeological Society Bulletin. Our scientific monograph, The Prehistory of the Indians of Western Connecticut, Part I has been well received and is being reviewed by three state publications. In addition, the appointment of a research archaeologist, Dr. Roger Moeller, to our staff has been widely heralded by the scientific community. We have received several scientific awards and honors. Last year, we were honored to receive the Mr. and Mrs. Berne A. Russell and Mrs. Althea Marsh Russell Award for our “Outstanding Contribution to Connecticut Archaeology” and recently we received an Award of Merit at the annual meeting of the Connecticut League of Historical Societies. We were asked to deliver a major talk at the 1974 Eastern States Archaeological Federation annual meeting.

At that meeting, your president was elected Treasurer of this very large and important scientific organization. Finally, we have had important personnel from such museums as the Smithsonian, the Museum of Natural History, the Peabody Museum, and the Robert S. Peabody Museum tour our facility before it was even completed. They are very pleased with what we are doing and see immense value in it. They also feel our building and program are models of great significance to the future of the museum movement in the United States.

Not in their wildest dreams could the “stalwart seven” who first began to explore the Washington, Connecticut Indian prehistory seven years ago, ever envision the incredible meteoric rise of our quest. The fact that it has been meteoric is because of you—all the legion of SVAS donors and volunteers who were willing to place your faith with ours in a Dream. My special thanks to you this day—and God bless you all.

Edmund K. Swigart
President,
Shepaug Valley Archaeological Society

Siftings

The SVAS has received $7,500 toward the $13,000 needed by July 31 to receive a Readers Digest challenge grant of $7,000.

SVAS membership is now over 800.
Richard W. Davis
Outlines a Vision

Remarks made by Richard W. Davis, director-designate of the American Indian Archaeological Institute, at the dinner meeting of SVAS board members and major donors, May 10, 1975.

Thank you—and congratulations. Thank you for creating something that permits me to be here—not just here, now, tonight—but here as part of your dream. It is my dream, too.

Mostly I feel a great urge to lavish congratulations on you; you deserve all the praise you can get. You have realized your Vision Quest!

As one whose life as teacher and school headmaster has had to rely so heavily on dreams and visions I appreciate a good one when I see it. I appreciate, too, the difference between having a dream, and seeing to it that the dream becomes reality. That takes real conviction, real courage, real faith. You have put them all together. Like most newcomers to this extraordinary operation—I'm amazed, I'm awed, but most of all, I'm pleased.

I feel so very privileged, not only to have been entrusted with this wonderful job, coveted and sought by many, but also to be associated with people who have proven that they can achieve so much in so short a time—and in such uncertain and threatening times.

They will, I know, continue to inspire all who associate with the Institute, and it is an incomparable reassurance to its first director that Ned Swigart isn't going away, anywhere. One of the best parts of my job is that I shall be working for and with him.

That's all very well, you may say, but just what are you two going to be doing? In the first place, we won't be just two—we will be five.

In the second place you must understand that in all I tell you tonight about our plans, I am giving expression to my dreams—my own Vision Quest. I am still a boarding school headmaster, deeply immersed in those duties. In July I may discover that the scope of these dreams must be trimmed to the reality of the job to be done.

As I view the priorities it seems evident that, first and foremost, the Institute—the building itself—must become functional. The large collections of artifacts must be quickly, systematically, accurately stored and made available to authorized people. The summer dig program must move forward under the direction of Ned and his assistants, with the Institute, this year, as their base of operations. Plans and financial backing for our permanent exhibits must be vigorously pursued.

Second, our basic library, which will ultimately be both a major teaching resource and a measure of our effective potential as an educational institution, must be greatly augmented with books, articles, monographs, and bulletins from other societies. Somehow, somewhere we must find someone who can present us with a copy of the card catalogue of the Peabody Museum of Harvard.

Third, beginning at once, the publications program of the Institute will receive even greater attention and emphasis. Through publication we shall not only serve our educational purposes, but we shall also win the national recognition we must have to ensure maximum continuing support.

Fourth, the development of educational programs will occupy much of our energy from the start. There will be short-term courses, seminars, symposia, discussions, lectures and demonstrations, using the facilities of the Institute or taken out to schools and other community centers.

Overriding all will, of course, be a continuous search for the financial support which will permit us to pursue our objectives. From private and public foundations, from individual contributions, from sales at the Institute shop, and above all from an ever-expanding membership, we shall hope to free ourselves to provide the services we know will be expected of us—services that are implicit in the existence of such an educational facility.

In spite of all these divers, ambitious plans, I do recognize the limits we must place on what we shall undertake, and I realize that we must move deliberately, carefully. Like any educational institution ours must not pretend to be all things to all people. But I hope and believe we can be something to all who seek in us a resource in their search for greater understanding of North American archaeology or the history and cultures of the native people of North America.

I feel at once a sense of urgency and a continuing, timeless importance about what we are doing. Discovering, interpreting, and preserving the material evidence of past habitation cannot wait. Particularly here, in over-populated, over-constructed, over-macadamized southern New England time is running out. Our Institute will play a major role as a source for discovery, a safe repository for artifacts, and a center for programs of education.

Additionally, it will increasingly convey to all who can be reached, a responsible concern for preservation and a respect for proper scientific practice in the search for the past.

I realize that my hopes for our future may alarm some of you whose interest is archaeological and whose thoughts about program and policy have not been so expansive and wide-ranging as those I have just outlined.

But, besides the conviction that the line between history and prehistory is really no line at all, and that one cannot be interested in early man in Connecticut without having also to be interested in early man in Pennsylvania, and Ohio, and Illinois, and even in the Wind River Range of Wyoming, my dreams grow out of my fundamental beliefs about education.
The Gunnery-Wykeham Rise Precollege Program in Archaeology

Highlighted by campus visits by five eminent National Humanities Faculty scholars, the innovative Precollege Program in Archaeology offered jointly by The Gunnery and Wykeham Rise schools has successfully completed its first year.

Some 57 students, almost half of them from western Connecticut, participated in the program, with the majority involved in archaeological studies and excavation experience for the full academic year. Three seniors—The Gunnery’s Douglas Clark of Darien and Samuel Secor of Middlebury along with Wykeham Rise’s Sarah Marshall of Bronxville, New York—pursued independent study projects in which they performed in-depth research at an Indian encampment site near Washington’s Sprain Brook.

According to program director Edmund K. Swigart of The Gunnery faculty, who is also president of the SVAS and acting director of the American Indian Archaeological Institute, all of the participating students not only have gained a better understanding of their place in the long chain of human events but also have themselves contributed to the expansion of knowledge in the field.

Mr. Swigart pointed out that, until recent years, evidences of 10,000 years of previously unknown human history lay beneath the soil in the immediate Washington area. Now many of these artifacts are available for study at the Institute. Terming the Washington area a rich field laboratory for American Indian research, he said that 150 different Indian encampments have been identified at sites within eight miles of The Gunnery and Wykeham Rise and that investigations indicate that 12 separate Indian cultures existed in the area, going back to 8000 B.C.

More than half of the program participants this year were seniors, Mr. Swigart said, and so there are a number of spots open for candidates for enrollment in next year’s program. SVAS members are encouraged to recommend young people who may already have exhibited some interest in American Indian or Colonial history.

The Precollege Program in Archaeology is projected as a two- or three-year program in which students take both basic and advanced courses in archaeology as well as related electives in anthropology (social, physical, and cultural), history (Indian-white relations), English (the American Indian in film and literature), mathematics (statistics and computers), and physical sciences such as geology, botany and zoology. Required is a year of introductory archaeology, concentrating for half the year on methodology and the other half on theory, and a choice of one of a number of courses in advanced archaeology including independent study in local Indian history or any of the related electives. Students completing the program receive a special letter of commendation.

Instrumental in the program’s success during its first year was the coveted affiliation with the National Humanities Faculty. As one of only 19 projects (out of more than 100 applicants) awarded NHF grants last year, the program became the recipient of the consulting services of seven distinguished scholars in the field of archaeology—anthropology who devote a total of 20 days to intensive work with Gunnery-Wykeham Rise faculty on curriculum concept and course content. The NHF is administered under the auspices of Phi Beta Kappa, the American Council on Education and the American Council of Learned Societies and is able to select appropriate consultants from a group consisting of more than 800 scholars, writers, and artists.

Already, five NHF scholars have lent their expertise to the program. On campus during the latter part of May was Dr. David P. McAlister, professor of anthropology and music at Wesleyan University and an authority on the American Indian. After completing research on cultural values as revealed in music, he wrote two books on the music of the Indians and edited a book on Navaho mythology. Currently he is engaged in research in ethnopoetics and American Indian literature, with emphasis on the Navahos.

Dr. McAlister’s appearance followed extended visits by Dr. Michael D. Coe, professor of anthropology at
I believe that the facts and information we learn at any point in our education are less important than the process of learning. In that process, we must develop basic learning skills, we must discover the sheer joy of learning, and we must define personal goals and achieve them. These are the seeds of the motivation to go on learning—anything and everything. Even more important, they are the source of healthy self-esteem.

I am pragmatic about what is taught so long as it is true (or leads closer to truth). I will take motivation, eagerly, wherever I find it. Aren't we glad, and lucky, that there is such widespread motivation to learn about these early men, these native people, who occupied this land for thousands, perhaps tens of thousands of years before our times? I believe this motivation will endure for as long as men live on earth.

This is the continuing, timeless importance of what we are doing. The curiosity, the desire to learn, will outlast the opportunities to dig. People will come to us from everywhere. Their interests will include not only the archaeology of the Northeast, but also and inevitably every other aspect of the history and cultures of native people. They will have questions and requests for help and guidance. I hope we shall never say, "Sorry, that's not our bag," or feel complacent when we must admit on occasion, "Sorry, we have nothing that will help or interest you."

As a responsible educational facility, we have an obligation to recognize and value the legitimate intellectual motivation of those who look to us for direction, and to stimulate and gratify that motivation wherever it may lead. Our focus may be archaeology, but as we grow in strength and confidence, so will grow our resources and our ability to serve in some useful fashion a wider range of interests.

This is my hope—my dream—for our Institute.

Thank you for all you have done. Stay with us. The best is yet to be...
Mrs. Hessel Dedicates Hessel Research Room

Remarks made by Mrs. Sidney A. Hessel at the afternoon dedication ceremonies.

Most of you who knew Sid Hessel knew a quiet, essentially shy man, but nevertheless a man of convictions, who became quite vocal and persuasive when he had something to fight for. One of the causes of high priority to him was the study of Indian lore through archaeology. He was a student—not the "ivory tower" variety—but a realist, with the conviction that every hobby, and he had many, necessitated deep and serious study. He was one of the handful of you who had the vision of creating this building, to work for its becoming a reality, so that this interest could become an on-going and valid program by making available to future generations a true understanding of the local Indian civilizations.

Sid was not an artist—but he saw beauty in the colors of spring, the shapes of odd plants, the movement of animals. And the appreciation of this beauty was increased by finding out what caused these phenomena. He was not musical—in fact he said he recognized the "Star Spangled Banner" because everyone rose—but he knew and loved all the bird songs. He was not a formally religious man, but he worshipped nature in general, and in particular the natural beauty of this area. He was enthusiastic about the setting of this building, the beginnings of which he saw, in the midst of the woods which he loved.

If Sid were with us today he would be overjoyed at seeing the opportunity that future students will have to slake their thirst for knowledge and share in the study of the artifacts which are gathered under this roof. He would be thrilled at the thought that the part of this building which he would have considered most vital, the research wing, was to bear his name. No one, however, would have been more surprised at the great honor that you have bestowed on him—of dedicating the research room to Sidney A. Hessel. To him you have bestowed what he would have considered true immortality.

I thank you.

Dedication Ceremonies
continued from page 1

Edmund K. Swigart, president of the SVAS, and acting director of the Institute, completed the dedication service by asking guests of Indian descent to come forward to cut the ribbon, thus opening the Institute to become a bridge between men of the past and men of today.

A small reception and dinner for the board members and major donors was held at 5:30 at The Inn on Lake Waramaug. After dinner, Mr. Swigart shared a few brief remarks on the national recognition of the SVAS by the media, educators, archaeologists and museum people.

Following Mr. Swigart, Harlan Griswold, a director of the SVAS and Chairman of the Connecticut Historical Commission gave the guests the facts of the rapid growth in membership and monetary support of the SVAS, and Dr. Davis closed the day's activities by explaining his vision of what the Institute should and would become—"a truly outstanding educational and research facility serving, stimulating, and gratifying the needs of those who come to search for knowledge of a common human heritage."

Wyant Greeting


President Swigart, honored guests and all others who helped in any way with this dream:

On behalf of the Town of Washington, I welcome all who have come here today for the dedication of this beautiful building which will house many of the Indian artifacts found in this area, as well as serve as a place for research and education.

However, I would not be able to welcome you if it were not for the vision, perseverance and hard work of Ned Swigart and many other individuals who made it possible for us to have this museum in our community.

I extend to them my most hearty congratulations and I thank them for asking me to be part of this occasion.
Griswold Recaps
Membership Growth

Remarks made by Harlan H. Griswold, chairman of the Connecticut Historical Commission, at the dinner meeting of SVAS board members and major donors, May 10, 1975.

As one who has been in the banking business for a number of years, I would like to share a few figures with you to dramatize the tremendous progress your Society has made over the past five years with your help and support.

In 1970 we had 90 donor-members; so far in 1975 we have had 750 donor-members; in 1970 our annual dues amounted to $270, in 1975 the annual dues already amount to over $14,000. The Institute balance sheet in 1970 showed zero, in 1975 the Institute has been paid for with $300,000 of which $100,000 has been set aside as endowment to maintain the Institute. The budget for the whole Society operation in 1970 was $250, the budget in 1975 is $40,000; the budget in 1976 will be $70,000. So far we have operated without a deficit, and we intend to operate that way in the future.

The challenge of the operation is what I call the challenge of the challenge of the challenge. This has been going on for four years now. The biggest challenge, as you know, was from the Kresge Foundation for $50,000 if we could raise $250,000 by December of 1973 to construct Phase I of the Institute. We met our $50,000 challenge in time. I like to think that this Institute and the work we are trying to do is going to continue as a challenge operation and that we will have other people who will challenge us to see if we will measure up to their expectations. In this regard I am pleased to announce officially that just recently we have been given a new challenge grant of $7,000 by the Reader’s Digest Association if we can raise an additional $13,000 of new money by July 31, 1975. I think this is good. I think that as more and more people decide they want to give us challenge gifts it will keep us all on our toes. The challenge is a challenge.

We have 750 members now, and we anticipate that we would like to have 2500 members by 1975-76, and in three years we would like to have 5,000 members. Our long range goal, and if you work with Ned very long you discover that long range goals are something like six months—is for 10,000 members. This would give us a solid financial base for the continuation and expansion of Institute programs. There is another reason why we need members, and that has to do with challenge gifts such as the one from Reader’s Digest. If our membership is sufficiently large, and is sufficiently varied and spread across the country, and if we have a number of people involved in the membership program, then when a challenge comes along, the odds are pretty good that at that moment we will find among this large membership somebody who is not only excited about the program, but also has the

continued on page 8

---

Summer Schedule

Dig Chairman: Edmund K. Swigart, Washington, Conn. 06793
Dates: Wednesday July 2 through Saturday August 3, 1975
Days: 8:45 to 12:30 every Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday (with the exception of Friday, July 4.)
Assembly Place: In front of the First Congregational Church on the Green in Washington, Conn. (Just off Route 47.)
Volunteers: You may attend any days at your convenience.

BE PROMPT
WEAR OLD CLOTHES
You will be furnished equipment necessary for digging, but if you have a small pail and mason’s trowel, bring them along.
You will probably enjoy your digging more if you can read ahead of time some material on excavation techniques—for example, “Amateur Archaeologists Handbook” by Maurice Robbins. Published by Thomas Y. Crowell Press. SVAS has welcomed diggers in age from six to 80. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.
SVAS members and guests at the dedication ceremonies included several of Indian descent. Adelphena Logan led the group in the prayer below.

**Onondaga Indian Prayer**

O Great Creator  
Whose voice I always listen for in the winds,  
Hear me — I am small part of you — I need wisdom.  
Let me walk in your beauty,  
Make my hands respect the things you have made,  
Keep my ears ever sharp for your voice,  
Help me to travel a Path of Wisdom, so I may understand all people.  
I seek knowledge — not to be greater than my brother,  
But to learn to share a greater understanding.  
Make me always helpful and ready to come to all  
Earthly causes with clean hands and clean thoughts. Amen.

*By Miss Adelphena (Del) Logan*

Griswold  
continued from page 7

capacity to say, "Here I am, count me in."

If you have any ideas about membership, such as furnishing names or having a tea in your house as Mrs. Griswold and I did, call Miss Judy Herrick (868-0518) our Membership Chairman, and I am sure she will make the arrangements to see that you get the job done.

I want to close by saying that it has been a real privilege for me personally to work with Ned and my other associates on the board. What I now say in my banking terms is called the future for the past, and I think that the American Indian Archaeological Institute typifies very clearly that there is in this country a growing awareness of a future for the past.

**Archaeology Courses**  
continued from page 1

Registration for this course is limited and may be made by calling Michael Eanes (868-7334) at The Gunnery.

A second course on archaeological method and museum science will begin at the American Indian Archaeological Institute in early October and run for eight weeks, two evenings a week. Registration for this course may be made by calling the Institute (868-0818).

There will be a registration fee for each course.

---

**ARTIFACTS**

*Consulting Editor: Arthur G. Sachs*

**THE SHEPAUG VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

*Officers*

Edmund K. Swigart, President; Tate Brown, Vice President; Mrs. John M. Sheehy, Secretary; Elmer T. Browne, Treasurer.

*Board of Directors*

Mrs. Albert S. Atwood; Tate Brown; Elmer T. Browne; Dr. Michael D. Coe; Mrs. Paul L. Cornell, Jr.; Mrs. J. H. Deutschmann; Mrs. Elisha Dyer, Jr.; Mrs. Andrew Gagarin; Kenyon W. Greene; Harlan H. Griswold; Rutherford P. Lilley; Miss Adelphena Logan; Mrs. Ruth J. Nalven; Leavenworth P. Sperry, Jr.; Edmund K. Swigart; Lloyd C. Young.

*MR. & MRS. EDMUND K. SWIGART Washington, CT. 06793*

PRINTED BY SHIVER MOUNTAIN PRESS

A quarterly newsletter of the Shepaug Valley Archaeological Society Washington, Ct. 06793