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Award for Excellence in Service

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COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE

MARY C. BEAUDRY

In 2001 CNEHA awarded Mary Beaudry its award for excellence in service to the council. Although Mary first joined in the mid 1970s, CNEHA did not grab her for good until 1980. Since that time she has been among the hardest workers for the council. Her contributions include sharing her scholarship with her CNEHA colleagues through conference papers and publications, serving on the Executive Board, editing CNEHA's journal *Northeast Historical Archaeology*, and encouraging the next generation of archaeologists to commit to similar professional service to CNEHA.

Mary has presented a baker's dozen of papers at conferences—the first in 1981 titled “Filling in Round Pond: Refuse Disposal in Post-Revolutionary Boston.” Her most recent was in 2004 at the Ontario meeting, “Historical Archaeology, Microhistory, and Archaeological Biography.” In between the topics ranged from needlework to tenant farms and households, to landscape studies. And ranged geographically from Boston, to Scotland, and back again to the east coast. In 2003 the Executive Board asked Mary to present a special public lecture as the grand finale to the Lowell conference. Titled “Unearthing Lost Lives: Archaeology of a Lowell Boardinghouse Keeper,” Mary showed how her academic research appeals to a broad public audience. Her work has always exemplified one of CNEHA's most important commitments, which is to keep archaeology accessible to avocational archaeologists and the general public as well as to the academic community.

Mary served on CNEHA's Executive Board for 17 years providing insight to many long discussions of the future of CNEHA, and she represented CNEHA's journal to the Board acting as a strong advocate of one of CNEHA's most important services—its publications program.

Mary's greatest contribution perhaps is to the council's journal *Northeast Historical Archaeology*. After serving three years (1983–1985) on the Editorial Board, Mary assumed the position of Editor in 1986. She held the position until 2001. During those 16 years she shepherded 16 issues of the NHA through a rigorous editorial process. She coaxed and cajoled authors to submit articles and revisions—constantly up to the challenge of making sure there were high quality articles to fill the journal's pages. Mary also oversaw the journal's transformation into a larger and increasingly professional addition to archaeological libraries. She brought color to the journal for the first time—a lasting addition to the books. She worked hard to recruit authors that represent the diversity of our membership as well as the diversity of our research interests. During her tenure, Mary also started the monograph series, an occasional publication with broad appeal that not only benefits members, but which appeals beyond CNEHA's traditional geographic membership.

Mary has mentored many archaeologists during her tenure as a professor of archaeology at Boston University. One of Mary's less tangible contributions to CNEHA is the number of students she has recruited to be active members of the council. Mary continues to encourage her students to present their work to CNEHA's members at the annual conference, and in the journal and newsletter. Moreover, Mary instills in her students through example the importance of professional service to organizations such as CNEHA. Her commitment and service to CNEHA has inspired many archaeologists who will continue the tradition.