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Book Review of "Site du Palais de l'Intendant Chantier-Ecol de l'an 2000" by Marie-Michelle Dionne, Desiree-Emmanuelle Duchaine and Richard Lapointe

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insight in the development of Gotham. Although the sources consulted are vast, they do not include a complete list of the reports produced in compliance with the NHPA or CEQR. It is unrealistic to expect that a single volume would be able to accommodate all of these sources of data, however, readers should be aware there has been a variety of other archaeological and historical research that can supplement and build on the story that *Unearthing Gotham* has presented.

Unearthing Gotham is successful as both a textbook for historical archaeology or a "good read" about the history of New York City from a unique data set. The approach taken by Cantwell and Wall provides an excellent baseline for the story of the City through its material cultural and archaeological record. A story that can be built upon with each new site that is uncovered, as long as we document them before they are lost.

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SITE DU PALAIS DE L'INTENDANT CHANTIER-ÉCOLE DE L'AN 2000, by Marie-Michelle Dionne, Désirée-Emmanuelle Duchaine, and Richard Lapointe (Ville de Québec, Gouvernement du Québec, Ministère de la Culture et des Communications, 2001), *Cahiers d'archéologie du Celat*, No. 9.

Reviewed by Pauline Desjardins.

This volume is part of a series dealing principally with research conducted in historical archaeology at the Université Laval in Quebec City, Canada, under the supervision of Profs. Marcel Moussette, Reginald Auger, and their colleagues. The historical archaeology program at Laval was the first one established in Canada and the only one for a long time, even though a new one started in 2000 at Sir Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario. Archaeology is a field which requires a lot of technical skills, but those skills cannot be effective without a strong theoretical framework. Theory and practice do not link easily; the process can be facilitated if it can be learned and applied within an academic curriculum. This is the function of the archaeology field school, and this volume deals with three field season reports written by master's degree students who were in charge of excavation in the context of Université Laval's 2000 archaeology field school.

Archaeology depends largely on the understanding and support of the public. This is the principal goal that the CELAT (Centre interuniversitaire d'Études sur les Lettres, Arts et Traditions) in collaboration with the Department of Urbanism of Quebec City, the Ministry of Culture and Communications of Quebec, and Laval University was pursuing in 1998 when they created this series of the "Cahiers d'archéologie du CELAT" of which "Site du Palais de l'intendant Chantier-École de l'an 2000" is the 9th issue. This series replaced the former "Rapports et Mémoires de recherche du CELAT." The CELAT is a consortium of scholars from the Université Laval at Quebec, the University of Quebec at Montreal, and the University of Quebec at Chicoutimi. These scholars come from many disciplines including history, ethnohistory, and archaeology.

The objective of the CELAT series is to rapidly publish the results of research carried out by CELAT members as well as the theses and dissertations of their students in order to stimulate new research or provide comparative matter for others. Most of the 13 volumes of this series were M.A. theses or scholarly research reports on archaeological subjects in Quebec City, but not exclusively (www.fl.ulaval.ca/celat). Five were the products of successive field school seasons on the Hunt Block on the waterfront of the Lower City of Old Quebec. There is an excellent review of those volumes by Faulkner (2001: 118–125).

The present volume revisits the first site excavated by the Université Laval field school, the site of the Palace of the Intendant in Québec. The term Intendant applies here to the French Crown's representative in charge of the administration of the Colony. The Intendant's responsibilities required the construction of a monumental building that could be used as an administrative center and also as a warehouse for supplies coming from France to sustain the new colony. This site was the object of 9 field seasons between 1982 and 1990. Most of the field season reports were the subject of M.A. theses and published in the former series, *Rapports et Mémoires de recherches du Celat*. A synthesis of those reports was published by Moussette (1994).

The Palace of the Intendant archaeological site is open to the public and is one of the important tourist attractions in the Quebec City historical district. The site is covered by a large tent that offers good protection to the remains and to visitors. The public can see the excavated area via a foot-bridge and observe the evidence of the site's stratigraphic sequence: the Jean Talon brewery (1668–1675), the Palace of the Intendant (1684–1713), the King's store and jail (1716–1769), a domestic occupation and a bakery (1760–1852), the Boswell Brewery (1852–1971), and finally an urban square and an archaeological field school (1982–1991). The archaeological remains are in the same block as the second Palace of the Intendant, which is still partly standing with its big stone vaults built in 1716. There you can see a multimedia presentation and temporary exposition on Quebec City his-

tory and archaeology. The archeological remains and the vaults of the Second Palace is known as Îlot des Palais and administrated by the Société du patrimoine urbain de Québec (www.mcc.gouv.qc.ca/pamu/champs/archeo/partenai/palais.htm).

The decision to revisit the site of the Intendant's palace is linked to the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the foundation of Quebec City by Samuel de Champlain. The city administration in collaboration with the Commission de la Capitale Nationale wish to showcase important archaeological sites during celebration activities.

The book is divided in 3 sections, each being a report of an excavated sector written by a master's degree student in charge of an undergraduate team. The decision to publish excavation reports was taken in order to teach students how to prepare a real publication. The site was the object of 9 previous field seasons, so the stratigraphic sequence in relation to the history and the evolution of Quebec City was quite well known. The objectives of the 2000 field season were to identify and evaluate the archaeological remains on the periphery of the site. The purpose of re-visiting the site was to clarify the site's context and introduce environmental perspectives, for example, to understand better how the location of the Intendant's palace influenced the development of the whole city.

Three areas were selected for test pits, with selection influenced by three objectives. One area was in the north sector of the site, chosen to test the area behind the actual Voûtes du Palais (Palace Vaults) under Des Prairies Street to find remains of the north-east wall of the Palace built between 1716 and 1719. This excavation was under the direction of Marie-Michelle Dionne, and the report forms the first part of the book. A second test pit was located in the center of the site. Its objective was to evaluate the remains of secondary buildings related to the second Palace and their expansion under Vallière Street. This report, second in the book, was written by Désirée-Emmanuelle Duchaine. Finally the last report, written by Richard Lapointe, describes the excavation of a test pit made at the location of the Maison de la potasse (Potash Shed). The objective was to find remains of that building

and also of a 17th-century creek and traces of the garden of the Intendant. Even though the three reports follow the same formula layout, each is distinctive and seems to respect the personality of each author.

Marie-Michelle Dionne's report is divided into three chapters. The first relates a brief history of the New Palace of the Intendant, constructed between 1716 and 1719. This building was destroyed in 1725, but reconstructed with minor changes. After the British conquest the palace was used as barracks for officers and soldiers. It was partly destroyed once again during the American invasion in 1775. After this, the site was used for storage. Apparently the north half of the structure had been destroyed and replaced by a wooden coal shed as mentioned on an 1823 plan. The object of the test pit was to find remains of the north part of the palace and to identify the transformation of that part of the site. The second chapter describes in detail the architectural remains of a 3 meter wide stone wall which corresponds to the east gable foundation wall of the Second Palace and all the different layers around them. Chapter three interprets the stratigraphic sequence and analyzes stratification and artifacts. There is a strong correlation between archaeological and documentary dating. The report ends with illustrations, including the stratigraphic sequence based on Harris's model, old maps, profiles, plans, and photographs.

The structure of Désirée-Emmanuelle Duchaine's report is quite similar to Dionne's. She gives a very brief history of her section of the site. Here a fortification wall and a guard house (1686-1713), buildings associated with the intendant's gardens (1716-1780), the Colonel Durnford house (first part of the 19th century), and finally, starting in the mid-19th century, industrial buildings (Bisset foundry and Boswell-Dow brewery—demolished in 1971) successively stood. She encountered a technical problem that is quite common on urban sites, more specifically inside industrial buildings: the presence of a reinforced concrete slab which required special machinery to remove in order to test the layers beneath. The first chapter describes very precisely the archaeological stratification. The second chapter contains an analysis of stratification and artifacts in an historical perspective including documentary data. Her test pit con-

firmed the presence of remains from all the occupations, including portions of the fortification wall, two wooden floors possibly associated with Colonel Durnford's and Bisset foundry's occupation of the site, and two concrete floors related to the Boswell-Dow brewery. The artifacts are very representative of the different occupations and testify as well to the first French occupation, the British occupation after 1759, and the site's use for industrial purposes in the mid-19th century. Like the previous report, this one is well illustrated with 29 figures (photographs, maps, and drawings) and a stratigraphic sequence grouping the lots in 5 phases and 16 events, which helps readers to understand the very strict archaeological description.

The most interesting part of this book is Richard Lapointe's report on the "Maison de la potasse" (Potash Shed). Lapointe's objective in the context of the field school project was electronic in situ data recording. This included weekly (ideally daily) electronic entry of the field record on a Microsoft Access database. This technique offered the potential of speeding up research and comparison during the excavation. It is very interesting that this method was tested and applied in a field school, for it has been used for many years in archaeological excavation projects. Using it in the context of a field school better prepares students for professional life. The novelty of Lapointe's approach, however, is that he tested two different cartographic data recording techniques. The first one was the CYRA system developed in California for 3D industrial survey (www.cyrax.com). The data were processed using Imalign software developed by Innovmetric (www.innovmetric.com) to develop a digital model of the site. The advantage of that system is the possibility of scanning a large site, but the cost is very high and requires a high resolution computer to visualize the data. The second system INSPECK (www.inseck.com) was developed by a Quebec firm. It digitizes the surface using a reference grid and generates a 3D model by using chromatography. It appears that this technique works very well for objects in controlled light conditions, but it was not appropriate in the variable light conditions often encountered due to weather and other factors in the field. The figure at the end of the report shows the results of the two techniques.

I regret that Dionne and Duchaine did not indicate the location of the test pit on the old map included in their sections of the book. It

would have helped the reader to better appreciate and understand the objectives and the results. Lapointe does indicate the test pit on his Figure 4, but the image should have been adjusted to clarify its location.

Disappointingly this issue of "Cahiers d'archéologie du CELAT" does not reflect the same high standards typical for many other issues of that collection. However, this issue does make good contributions to the field and has provided master's degree students experience in publication. In this way, it has helped to prepare those students for the "real world," where preparation of reports of this type will be common place. Hopefully this experience with publication will encourage them to go further.

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DIGGING NEW JERSEY'S PAST: HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE GARDEN STATE, by Richard Veit, 2002, Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, New Jersey, Foreword by Robert L. Schuyler, 220 pages, 78 figures, \$60.00 (cloth), \$22.00 (paper).

Reviewed by Sherene Baugher.

Richard Veit's book is a wonderful introduction to the historical archaeology of New Jersey. His very readable and engaging style makes the book appealing to both the professional archaeologist and the layman. In addition, this book is also a "must read" for any historical archaeologists who plan on writing a state or city archaeology book.

Veit does not try to tell the definitive story of New Jersey's historical archaeology, nor should he. His aim is to introduce the reader to the diverse and rich archaeological history of New Jersey. Veit uses chronology as a way to weave his stories in a linear fashion from the early-1600s to the early-20th century. Each chapter is devoted to a specific time period, such as the 17th century, and contains three to five case studies.

Veit chooses post-contact time period case studies from all over the state. His examples provide a diverse array of sites. From the 17th century he highlights three sites: a Dutch home formerly called the Dutch trading post, a British settler's residence, and a 17th-century Quaker Meeting house. For the 18th century he discusses an assimilated Native American home from the mid-1700s, a Dutch farmstead, a tavern, the gardens of a mansion, cemeteries, churches, and Revolutionary battlefields and encampments. For the 19th-century sites he focuses on the industrial revolution and the improvements in transportation; examples include potteries, ironworks, glass factories, canals, roadways, and pipelines. Other 19th-century sites include a utopian community and an African American community, Skunk Hollow, composed of both free Blacks and freed slaves. Veit successfully relates these stories of individual sites to larger themes in historical archaeology. The reader learns about both New Jersey history and its connection to a larger regional and national history.