

Key to Map Shelter Island Native American Sites

- (A) "Indian graves were found on the Loper site on the west side of Coecles Harbor, on the Lily Pond site, sites near Fresh Pond, along the bluff facing Gardiner's Bay, Nichol's Point, and several other locations on the Island. They are more certain to be found on or near village sites."

Roy Latham, 1974

- (B) "There were many villages and camp sites on Shelter Island. One of the main village sites was on the Smith Site on the F. M. Smith estate near South Ferry. Mr. Smith, of the 20-mule team tradition, constructed his house there (1920s addition). At that time he uncovered 28 Indian graves. Mr. Smith was to place the graves' contents in a California Museum to which he was connected. Apparently the material from the graves was lost."

Roy Latham, Orient

- (B) "I excavated the Smith site in 1940 and found five additional graves. My work there was from 1938 to 1941. An older culture called the Bare Island, much older than the Sebonac, was found in the old floor under the Smith site. In the surface I also found records of the very old Orient Focus fishtail-type arrow point dating to 3,000 years old or 1,000 B. C. in time. These old cultures cremated most of their dead, so little is found in the graves except bits of bone, but their graves were rich with goods - tools. The Sebonac gave little in goods to the graves."

Roy Latham, 1974

- (C) "The south part of the island called the hot house near the sea shore between fresh and salt water for what purpose tradishon has only the name but no doubt for medical purposes. Near this place is a large burying ground."

Lodowick Havens Journal 1840-1854

- (D) "They used to fight hafhamoncies indians upon the south part of the island. The indian name is Mentice. Upon this point their settlement must be verry great by oyster shells."

Lodowick Havens, ca. 1850

- (E) "I can point to many habitations to the right hand as you go to the ferry. Near the creek is the Cellar whare stood and indian hut. I remember of an old indian that lived thare who had a large family."

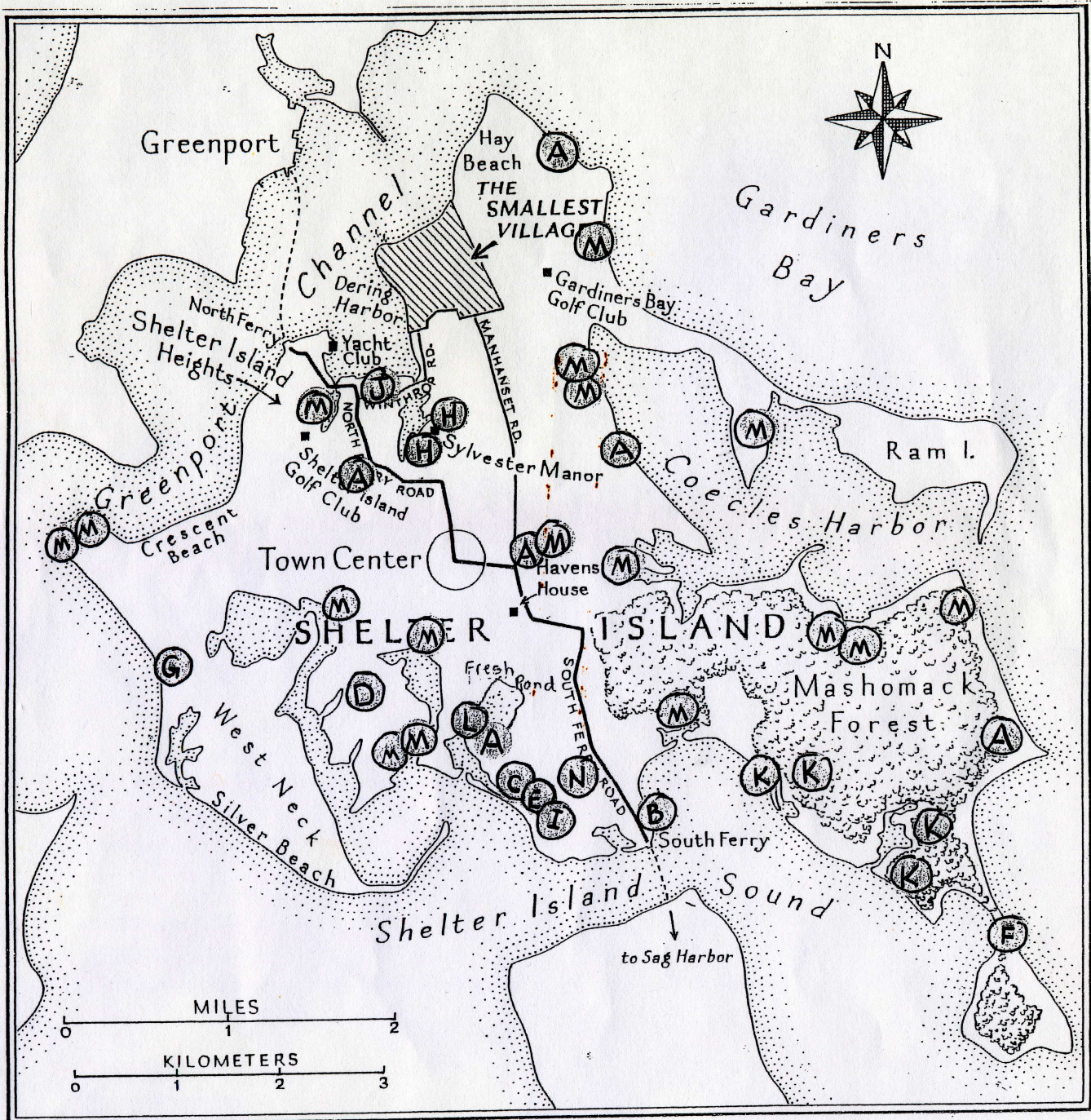
Lodowick Havens Journal 1840-1854

- (F) "Thare is one large burying place on sachems neck in what is called Thicket. Some of their names I remember very well. Peter indian with both feet frose off. Mol Daniel old and she drowned her child in the mill pond. Sam Gonnac, Geffery Keziah, his wife and two children, Old Jack and his wife, Jubin and his children, Joe Poteg, Old Sip, Sarah and Betty Toby with children, Bet Stephen, Govenor Will and his wife, Cuffy Cuff and Sarah his wife and two children, Old Stephen."

Lodowick Havens, b. January 17, 1774

- Ⓒ In November 1985, archaeologist John C. Witek discovered a cache of twenty Susquehanna Tradition basalt blades on low-lying land bordering tidal wetlands on the southwestern shore of Shelter Island.
"The cache blades were recovered from a subsoil of sandy clay and were heavily encrusted with a tough, non-soluble tan patina."
John C. Witek, 1988
- Ⓓ Archaeological evidence of a large Late Prehistoric/Historic Period Native American settlement on the Northern Peninsula (Sylvester Manor) suggests continuous occupation between A D 1200 and the time of European contact (circa 1640). A hard-packed occupation area where Native Americans worked for the Sylvesters and probably had daily contact with them and with the Africans, has been discovered within 100 yards of the midden site in front of the 1735 manor house.
Mac Griswold, Director, Archival Research, Sylvester Manor Project
- Ⓕ When the first meeting house was built in 1743, there still lived a large number of Indians on the island. "The huts and wigwams formed quite a village on Sachem's Neck. In 1790, more than half of these were destroyed by fire, which broke out in one of them one morning, and spread to the rest, as they were pitched so near together. **Reverend Jacob Mallman 1899**
- Ⓖ Tradition has it that Turkem's Neck, the peninsula on the south side of Shelter Island where the Hot House, Cellar, and Indian canal are located, was named after Turkeyman, a Manhanset Indian medicine man.
Turkeyman is referred to in **Giles Sylvester's account book of 1680.**
- Ⓙ ...the long ridge looking across the mouth of Dering water toward Greenport was the site of the stockade village of Youghco, the Chief of the Manhansetts, at the time of Capt. Sylvester's purchase, and the neighboring landlocked cove the sheltered yard of his fleet of war canoes and fishing craft. The depth to which the trail leading to the spring was worn, points to the occupation of the village site for centuries.
Eben N. Horsford, ca. 1880
- Ⓚ Archaeologist **Kent Lightfoot** and his survey team detected 18 prehistoric sites on 23 hectares of Mashomack land during the summer of **1983**. Four lithic workshops demonstrated various stages of tool manufacture and contained flakes, hammer stones, and several broken projectile points of milky quartz.
- Ⓛ "There are two Indian canals still in good condition, one across West Neck and another from Tuthill's Creek to Fresh Pond, where the Red men kept their canoes."
Amie Tuthill Wallace, 1924
- Ⓜ "I think these marks represent locations shown us by Wm. Sanwald where he says there were Indian settlements on Shelter Island, and where he has found kitchen buildup, etc.
HOL 2/27/81 (Helen Otis Lamont)
- Ⓝ Native American burial ground on Osprey Road upon which a barn was purposefully built in **2003** after the discovery of the cemetery.

SHELTER ISLAND COLONIAL AND NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION POLICY MAP



Colonial graves not shown on map as precise location is unknown:

1751 to 1799 Ram Island: "Probably in this time came the Brown's tenant farmers who still lie buried in the South lot on the land they tilled for years."

Amy Tuthill Wallace 1924

SHELTER ISLAND COLONIAL AND NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION POLICY

1. Purpose.

The protection of human graves and funerary objects is a universal tenet. There are colonial and Native American graves and funerary objects on Shelter Island which are unmarked and/or unprotected by law and are of great spiritual, cultural and historical significance. Such sites are vulnerable to unintentional disturbance in the course of construction and other activities as well as intentional and deliberate destruction, vandalism and looting. It is the intent of this policy to encourage protection and repatriation of such colonial and Native American graves and funerary objects.

2. Definitions.

For the purposes of this policy the terms below shall have the following meaning:

A. "Burial site" means the single and separate parcel of land in which human remains and/or funerary objects are interred.

B. "Graves Committee" means the Shelter Island Native American and Colonial Graves Protection Committee established under this policy.

C. "Native American Culturally Affiliated Group" (NACAG) means the Inter-Tribal Historic Preservation Task Force, P.O. Box 1404, Southampton, NY 11969 which is hereby deemed affiliated and associated with Native American graves and funerary objects found on Shelter Island.

D. "Colonial Culturally Affiliated Group" (CCAG) means the Shelter Island Historical Society which is hereby deemed affiliated and associated with colonial graves and funerary objects found on Shelter Island.

E. "Funerary objects" means objects that are a part of the death rite or ceremony and are reasonably believed to be placed with individual human remains either at the time of death or later, such as burial markers, personal items, vessels, beads, tools, implements, ceremonial objects and other associated archeological objects.

F. "Human remains" means any part of the body of a deceased person.

G. "Lineal descendent" means a genealogical descendent established by oral or written record.

3. Graves Committee.

A. A Shelter Island Native American and Colonial Graves Protection Committee is hereby established to advise the Town Board on issues relating to discovered burial sites. This committee shall be composed of three members, including the Town Historian and two Shelter

Island residents. The terms of the committee members shall be three years, staggered so that one term expires each year.

B. The Graves Committee shall act as liaison between the landowner and the NCAG or the CCAG in resolving issues, and shall report to the Town Board on such resolution.

C. The Graves Committee shall work with the Shelter Island Historical Society to create and maintain an up-to-date registry of all burial sites which have been discovered on Shelter Island, and areas where Native American and colonial graves are likely to be discovered. The registry shall be publicly available at the Shelter Island Town Clerk's office. A copy of this policy will be distributed to each person who receives a town building or wetland permit.

4. Discovery and Reporting Requirements.

A. Any person, who in the course of any ground-disturbing activity discovers a burial site, human remains or funerary objects should cease any further disturbance of remains or objects and to report such discovery to the Shelter Island Police and the Graves Committee.

1. The police will contact the County Medical Examiner. If the County Medical Examiner determines that the human remains are more than fifty years old then the County Medical Examiner and the State Archeologist may conduct autopsy, carbon-dating, archeological and anthropological investigations as to the history identity of the human remains, burial site, funerary objects and archeological objects.

2. Landowners are encouraged to obtain a Phase I, II, and/or III archeological investigation of the burial site so that our historical heritage may be preserved.

B. If appropriate, the Shelter Island Chief of Police will notify the Graves Committee of the discovery.

C. The landowner should be aware that there may be civil or criminal liability if any bones are removed or the grave is intentionally damaged without permission of the next of kin.

5. Graves Committee Liaison Role.

The Graves Committee should endeavor to notify the lineal descendants or culturally affiliated group of the discovery and associated studies. The Graves Committee will act as a liaison between the landowner and the appropriate affiliated group. The landowner will work with the Graves Committee to decide whether the human remains, burial site, funerary objects and associated archeological objects should remain undisturbed or re-located on the site, or repatriated.

6. Reinterment

The town property designated as Wayside Picnic Park on Burns Road shall contain an area for reinterment of Indian and Colonial American remains or funerary objects if there is no other suitable place to receive them.