

Public Records Legislative Study Committee

Testimony by

Giovanna Peebles, State Archaeologist

VT Division for Historic Preservation

VT Agency of Commerce & Community Development

October 4, 2013

On

- **1 V.S.A. § 317(c)(20)—information regarding location of archaeological sites**
- **22 V.S.A. § 761—historic preservation; underwater archaeology**

Protecting Archaeological Site Locations

1 VSA § 317. Definitions; public agency; public records and documents

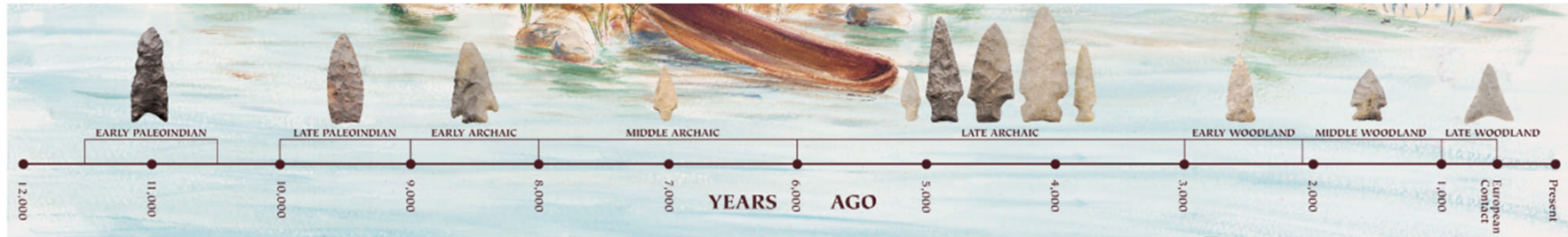
(c) The following public records are exempt from public inspection and copying:

(20) information which would reveal the location of archeological sites and underwater historic properties, except as provided in 22 V.S.A. § 762; [this is an error – should say 761, per below]

22 VSA § 761. State archeologist; survey; protection of archeological sites

(b) All information regarding the location of archeological sites and underwater historic properties shall be confidential except that the state archeologist shall provide this information to qualified individuals or organizations, public agencies and nonprofit organizations for archeological and scientific research or for preservation and planning purposes when the state archeologist determines that the preservation of these properties is not endangered. (Added 1975, No. 109, § 4; amended 1989, No. 136 (Adj. Sess.), § 2; 1995, No. 46, § 45.)

Archaeological sites are about PEOPLE and unwritten stories of the past



There are Many Types of Archeological Sites in Vermont – here’s just a few examples:

- Pre-Contact and Post-Contact Native seasonal camps, villages, cemeteries & burial sites
- African-American from early 19th century – 20th century: homesteads & farms, cemeteries
- European period:
 - 18th century military sites
 - Early homesteads
 - Abandoned hill farms & villages
 - Blast furnaces
 - Lime kilns
 - Extractive industries & related settlements: mines & quarries - copper, granite, marble, slate,
 - Shipwrecks



It's about people!

12,900 - 9,000 years ago: Paleo-Indian hunters used spears, with atlatls, to very effectively take down caribou.

6,000 – 3,000 years ago: Preparing for winter included gathering hazelnuts and butternuts, and drying fish. Baskets were a critical item in Native life.





For most of history, people didn't write and no one wrote about them. Contact period sites and early settlement archaeological sites reveal little known stories of Vermont's past.

19th century, and even early 20th century, archaeological sites supplement written records in unimaginable ways.



**Archaeological sites contain artifacts that offer clues to the past,
BUT.....**



It's the cultural deposits that contain the most clues... about diet, season, environment & climate, & patterns of people's lives



**RT 78 Swanton project - - 7,000 years of Native settlements:
Cultural deposit #101 at the Headquarters site in Swanton - - 2 clusters of fire cracked rock,
and between them, a patch of fire altered soil infused with fish bone.**

“I wish you could smell what we smell here in Swanton! This neat feature of heat altered soil and fire cracked rocks is chock full of tiny fish bones, feels very oily, and even smells of fish! Not bad for something that has been in the ground for about 4000 years.”

**Northeast Archaeology
Research Center, RT 78
Project, Swanton. July 14,
2013**



**Location Map of East Creek (Orwell)
Archaeological Sites**

Confidential Map- Removed

**One of the hundreds of “arrowhead”
collections from Vermont’s sites**



Ohio Indian Artifacts [See all results](#)

Share:

View all Indian Artifact

Indian Artifact Collection

American Indian Artifact

Indian Artifact Pipe

Ohio Indian Artifacts

Indian Artifact Pottery

Indian Artifact PA

Indian Artifact Beads

In



FINE OHIO BANNERSTONE INDIAN ARTIFACT KEN PARTAIN COA + TOM DAVIS COA G10!!

Condition --
Time left 26d 7h 24m

Sold by: indianhead83 (2995★) 99.7%

US \$1,200.00

Buy It Now

Quantity 1 available

[See details](#)



ADENA 3 1/4" OHIO ~ Indian artifacts

Top Rated Plus

16d 23h 11m left

\$200.00

Buy It Now

Free Shipping



Old~Native American~INDIAN~SKINNING STONE~Michigan Farm~Authentic~Artifact~Tool

Top Rated Plus

4h 53m left

\$41.00

7 bids



Shop by category

vermont indian artifacts

All Categories

Search

Advanced

Refine your search for vermont indian artifacts

Include description

Categories

Collectibles (2)

Cultures & Ethnicities (2)

Condition

see all

- Used (1)
- Not Specified (1)

Price

\$ to \$ >>

Format

see all

- All Listings (2)
- Auction (1)
- Buy It Now (1)

Item Location

- on eBay.com
- US Only
- North America
- Worldwide

Show only

see all

All Listings Auction Buy It Now

Sort: Best Match

View:

2 results for vermont indian artifa... [★ Save search](#)



KILLER VERMONT BREWERTON POINT Arrowhead Authentic Indian Artifact



5h left
Today 8:20PM

\$22.39
4 bids



DALTON PALEO / ARCHAIC VERMONT NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN ARTIFACT COLLECTABLE RELIC

\$125.00
or Best Offer

Protecting Archaeological Site Locations

1 VSA § 317. Definitions; public agency; public records and documents

(c) The following public records are exempt from public inspection and copying:

(20) information which would reveal the location of archeological sites and underwater historic properties, except as provided in 22 V.S.A. § 762; [this is an error – should say 761, per below]

Works well together with:

22 VSA § 761. State archeologist; survey; protection of archeological sites

(b) All information regarding the location of archeological sites and underwater historic properties shall be confidential except that the state archeologist shall provide this information to qualified individuals or organizations, public agencies and nonprofit organizations for archeological and scientific research or for preservation and planning purposes when the state archeologist determines that the preservation of these properties is not endangered. (Added 1975, No. 109, § 4; amended 1989, No. 136 (Adj. Sess.), § 2; 1995, No. 46, § 45.)