

2010 ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD SCHOOL IN FORT EDWARD

Project Sponsors

Our research in Fort Edward is being sponsored by Adirondack Community College and the Rogers Island Visitors' Center, where artifacts and exhibits are on display from earlier digs in Fort Edward. Together, we will try to make this as rewarding an experience as possible!

Schedule

Orientation will begin at 9:00 a.m. on July 5 at the site of the new Visitors Center on Rogers Island, which is on Route 197 on the western edge of Fort Edward. (This orientation will be repeated for new participants on July 19 and August 2.) Unless you plan to be commuting daily from home, you will probably want to arrive in the area the previous evening.

Our work hours each day will be from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. We will begin every day with a meeting at the Visitors Center to go over priorities for the day, and then we'll walk or drive to the dig sites. We have a full-time laboratory in the Visitors Center, and credit students will be indoors under the guidance of a laboratory supervisor for either 1 or 2 days each week.

Each day will begin with a review of project goals and results, and there will be lunch-time lectures or demonstrations held at the site every day.

Course Requirements

Students who are enrolled in the field school for credit will be graded, and you will want to keep a daily log (a field notebook) describing your progress and what you've been learning.

Readings

Before you arrive, you may want to read Rangers and Redcoats on the Hudson by David Starbuck (University Press of New England, 2004), or The Great Warpath by Starbuck (University Press of New England, 1999), or Massacre at Fort William Henry by Starbuck (University Press of New England, 2002). [Or, of course, you may buy copies of these after you arrive.] Also, you would probably enjoy reading "Commerce of War" in Archaeology Magazine, July/August 2007, pp. 41-43.

Once you arrive, you will be able to choose from an excellent selection of books on local history and archaeology in the gift shop of the Rogers Island Visitors' Center (open Monday-Saturday, 10-4, and Sundays, 1-4), and also in the gift shop at the Fort House Museum in Fort Edward.

Things to Bring with You

If you will be staying locally, then you will need to bring bedding, towels and cooking utensils with you, and you may want to bring a trunk to keep clothing in. Also, you will want to bring a camera & film, sunglasses, hat, swimsuit, insect repellent and work boots.