

# **Ethical Standards of *The Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology***

- The attainment of knowledge should be the primary objective of all archaeological excavations.
- The archaeologist should have working knowledge of the history and material culture of the area and historical periods in which he/she is working.
- Comprehensive historical research must be an integral part of the investigation of any historic site.
- All historical site excavations should be conducted according to the accepted basic standards of the profession.
- The archaeologist in charge of excavation shall be responsible for determining the manner of excavation, the size of the work force, and the required qualifications of those employed.
- Adoption of uniform and acceptable methods of field procedures, reporting and mapping shall be encouraged. A Master Plan should be applied on all large sites, and detailed maps to which future excavations can be related should be drawn.
- Field and laboratory manuscripts should be made available to anyone who requests them for scholarly research purposes. Researchers should respect the on-going research of others.
- It is the responsibility of the organization financing or conducting the excavation to see that a comprehensive final archaeological report is completed in either manuscript or published form. The archaeologist in charge should prepare this.
- Artifacts should be properly cleaned, conserved, catalogued, and stored to prevent deterioration so that the data are easily accessible. Archaeologically retrieved faunal and vegetal matter should receive the same care.
- Collections should be maintained at appropriate institutions, which have the capability and means for the proper handling and use of archaeological material. Where possible, archaeological assemblages should be kept together and made available for purposes of scholarly study and research.