

Newsletter of the

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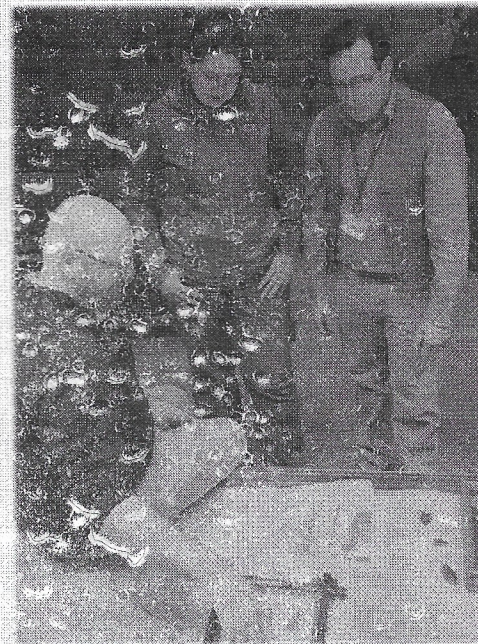
March 2017

Richard Cook Memorial Fund

by Michael Gall

In the October 2016 Newsletter, the ASNJ was saddened to report on the loss of long-time member, Richard Cairns Cook, 91, of Stuart Florida. Mr. Cook initiated his membership in the ASNJ as a student in 1938 shortly after the society's founding. During his earlier years with the society, Mr. Cook worked with New Jersey State Archaeologist Dr. Dorothy Cross at the Abbott Farm, now the well-known National Historic Landmark, and one of New Jersey's most important archaeological sites. Mr. Cook made important contributions to New Jersey archaeology as an avocational archaeologist and through his participation in the society, including writing and editing scholarly articles. In 1960, Richard authored a scholarly article featured in Bulletin 17 (1960) titled The Cape May Point Site, in which he detailed his excavations and documentation of recovered prehistoric Native American cultural material from the Cape May County site. In 1966, Mr. Cook documented surface artifact collections at the Stuart Site in Florida in Bulletin 23 (1966) in an article titled, The Stuart Site, Florida. Mr. Cook later detailed prehistoric ceramic and historic period assemblages found at the Cape May Point site in his 1969 articles titled, The Cape May Point Site: Ceramic Material, and The Cape May Point Site: European Trade Industry, which appeared in Bulletin 24. In 1970, Richard Cook served as the assistant editor of the Bulletin. Mr. Cook also contributed to a paper presented by the late Dr. Herbert Kraft detailing Clovis-type projectile points in New Jersey. His collection of prehistoric Native American cultural material has been donated to The Nature Center of Cape May, which is part of the New Jersey Audubon Society, where the public can enjoy the collection. Other repositories that have received historical and natural history items include the Greater Cape May Historical Society, the Cape May Point State Park, and, in Florida, the Elliott Museum, House of Refuge, and the Lawrence E. Will Museum of the Glades.

In honor of Richard Cook's love of and contributions to New Jersey archaeology and long membership in and support of the Society, Mr. Cook's daughters, Pamela Cook and Dr. Carolyn Gotay, have established the Richard Cook Memorial Fund in his memory. Through the exceptionally gracious generosity of donations to the fund made by Pamela Cook, Paul Gietzel, Carolyn Gotay, Ph.D., Mark Gotay, Ph.D., Victoria Silverman, Mark Dinday, Katherine Bella, and Lynne Heinrich, the Richard Cook Memorial Fund currently contains \$3,226.70. All contributions to the Richard Cook Memorial Fund will be allocated to the publication of the Bulletin of the ASNJ over the next four years. The ASNJ greatly appreciates the thoughtful generosity of Richard Cook's heirs and friends and is honored to produce the society's Bulletin in his memory. The fund will cheerfully accept additional donations from Richard's friends and admirers, along with supporters of our bulletin publication.



Gregory Lattanzi, Jennifer Rankin, and James Moss examining artifact recently donated to the New Jersey State Museum at the January 2017 ASNJ meeting in Trenton.