

**Boston archaeology will forever be indebted to Bill Lamb.** It was Bill's work in the 1970s that resulted in the Central Artery passing under and not over Charlestown's City Square, the historic heart of Charlestown and the site of the 1629 John Winthrop Great House.

The archaeological surveys that preceded the tunnel resulted in the recovery of hundreds of thousands of seventeenth and eighteenth century artifacts from the intact Winthrop Great House (1629-1635), Three Cranes Tavern (1635-1775), James Garrett House (1635-1655), Grace Parker Pottery (1714-1775) and many other significant archaeological sites that form the backbone of the City of Boston's archaeological assemblages.

Without Bill's voice we may never have had the opportunity to document the foundations of John Winthrop's house, Grace Parker's successful woman-owned business in Charlestown's massive mid-18th century pottery industry, five intact privies with the food and household items of the Long family's tavern in the years leading up to the American Revolution, cannonballs recovered from the charred ruins of buildings burned during the Battle of Bunker Hill, and multiple 1630s archaeological sites and artifact assemblages that represent some of the earliest and most important Boston sites that will be celebrated in future years as part of our 400th anniversary.

But Bill did not stop there. His tireless work in the preservation movement is visible throughout the neighborhood in the active Charlestown Preservation Society, historic signage and carefully-restored and maintained historic buildings, many of which are the oldest in the city.

In recent years he and the Charlestown Preservation Society successfully worked to make possible an archaeological survey of the Charlestown Training Field, also known as Winthrop Park, which I had the pleasure of running. This dig resulted in the documentation of multiple historic sites, including a fire house, gun house, historic fountain and two intact pre-1629 Massachusetts Native use areas.

I had the pleasure of speaking with Bill during multiple public talks on Charlestown archaeology. Before I knew he was *the* Bill Lamb I knew him as the tall, kind gentleman in the audience with the permanent and encouraging smile.

Bill will be greatly missed by all who knew him, but he leaves behind a blueprint for how others can contribute to community activism, historic preservation and neighborhood kindness.

***Joe Bagley is the City Archaeologist for the City of Boston.***