



Field school to be in Fall; workshop next

ASM's annual field school is returning to Anne Arundel County and the Lost Town's Swan Cove area for this year's session. But instead of being in the spring, it will be held in mid-September.

Negotiations between the Lost Towns people, the Maryland Historical Trust and ASM produced two possible periods for this year's program. Besides the September option, a May date was available. But when ASM board members went to consider the two dates, they discovered a problem with the earlier slot.

"The main reason we are going with September instead of May is that it conflicts with the Primitive Technology Workshop [at Oregon Ridge]," said ASM President Carol Ebright. That weekend usually draws crowds of enthusiasts to the Baltimore County gathering and the board chose not to put participants in the position of having to miss one of the two.

The field school will take place September 16 to 25 and will have three goals, according to Jane Cox of Lost Towns: to continue looking for the base of the pipe kiln structure, to find more details of the earth-fast building exposed last year and to test two major cellar pit features.

Meanwhile, the annual MHT Workshop in Archeology will be held this month, March 19, in Crownsville. The day-long affair opens at 9:30 (registration begins at 9) and offers a dozen programs in four time blocks. Many phases of archeology will be covered, terrestrial and underwater, prehistoric and historic, traditional and new technology. In addition, Jim Gibb will present a CAT session on ethics.

After the opening remarks, two sessions will be held. Bryan Corle will explain how the recovery of two well-preserved brick clamps in Charles County offered insight into colonial brickmaking practices. At the same time, the first of four sessions on underwater archeology will be taking place, this one on volunteer involvement. The other underwater sessions will deal with stories from the Chesapeake, recreating historic Chesapeake vessels and the online Museum of Underwater Archeology.

Prehistorians will have an opportunity to see Roy Brown speak about his experiences in experimental archeology and primitive technology. The subject of his talk is Native American container technology. Burial practices are viewed in both the prehistoric and historic perspectives, with Dennis Curry talking about Maryland ossuaries and Tim Riordan explaining what 57 burials in St. Mary's City revealed about the changing burial practices of colonial Maryland.

Two sessions will be offered by Tim Goddard on total station, a high-tech electronic transit. The first will be a lecture about the benefits of using it in archeology. There will be some demonstrations. The second hour, open only to those who attended the lecture, will offer some hands-on experience.

The complete workshop program is included inside this newsletter.

Inside: CAT gets a tongue; a report on how the program is going. P3

Upcoming events

March 5: ASM board meeting, Crownsville. All are welcome.

March 19: Archeology workshop, Crownsville.

April 16: ASM Spring Symposium, Crownsville.

April 23: Third Annual Material Culture Symposium for Emerging Scholars. Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Delaware. Email: emerging.scholars@gmail.com Visit the website at <http://materialculture.udel.edu>

May 16-20: National Park Service workshop on archeological prospection techniques, Hopewell National Historical Park in Chillicothe, Ohio. \$475. Application forms at www.cr.nps.gov/mwac/ For information, contact Steven L. DeVore, 402-437-5392, ext. 141, or steve_de_vore@nps.gov

May 31 to July 8: University of Maryland/Archaeology in Annapolis field school. Wye River. See article on Page 6.

September 9-11: Annual conference, Society for the Preservation of Old Mills, Westminster. Includes Mason-Dixon tour. For information, contact Bob or Jane Sewell at 410-833-2313 or see www.spoom.org

September 16-25: ASM field school. Swan Cove, Anne Arundel County.

October 15: ASM Annual Meeting, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Cumberland. Theme: French and Indian War.

November 9-13: ESAF meeting, Williamsburg, Virginia. www.esaf-archeology.org

Volunteer opportunities

The following volunteer opportunities are open to CAT program participants and other ASM members:

Montgomery County lab and field work. Call 301-840-5848 or contact james.sorensen@mncppc-mc.org or heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org. CAT opportunity.

ASM field session collection: Volunteers are needed to work on up-grading collections associated with previous field sessions. The lab in Crownsville is open Tuesdays from 9:30 until 4. For additional information contact Louise Akerson akerson@comcast.net or Charlie Hall hall@dhcd.state.md.us.

The Lost Towns Project of Anne Arundel County. 410-222-7441.

Mount Calvert. Lab work and field work. 301-627-1286.

Jefferson Patterson Park invites volunteers to take part in its various activities, including archeology, historical research and artifact conservation. Contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 410-586-8501.

The Archaeological Institute of America provides an online listing of fieldwork opportunities **worldwide**, Call up www.archaeological.org/fieldwork/ to get started. Remember to add the extra A in archaeology.

CAT Corner

Jim Gibb will present a required session on ethics at the Crownsville Workshop March 19.

For information and updating on other CAT activities, CAT participants should look at the ASM website or contact their mentor or program director Chris Davenport at 301-845-8092 or dig4funds@aol.com.

Special fieldwork opportunity: Richard Ervin of SHA is working on the Broad Creek Cemetery, a 17th through 19th Century cemetery on Kent Island. On occasion and on very short notice, it is necessary for him to conduct emergency excavations in preparation for new interments. Contact him at 410-545-2878 (days), 410-643-7128 (evenings) or by email at rervin@sha.state.md.us

Tracking the CAT program

Editor's note: New members of ASM may have heard of the CAT program but know little about it. Roy Brown of Western Maryland, one of the program's first graduates, already was an experienced volunteer when he enrolled, but that isn't a requirement. We asked Roy to write about the program and his experiences in it.

By Roy Brown

When ASM started the Certification for Archeological Technician (CAT) program in March 2001, I signed on with the expectation of enhancing existing skills, acquiring new ones and participating in a more structured and disciplined approach to this avocation that I've come to love.

As with many new endeavors the CAT program was slow to get started. There was much to be done in the three year allotted time to complete the course. To give a wide view of archeology, the program emphasizes both practical and theoretical and requires reading, lectures and hands-on experience. Both prehistoric and historic archeology are covered and each candidate has a professional as a personal mentor.

CAT candidates from the Western Maryland and Monocacy chapters organized a series of workshops held at the Frederick County Library. Other lectures took place elsewhere in the state. Creamware, pearlware, primary, secondary, tertiary flakes, Z & S twist, punctate, castellation, epiphysis, osteoblast, taphonomy are just a few of the terms and ideas presented to us by a diverse group of professional archeologists. These Saturday workshops were perhaps the most stimulating and productive segments of the CAT program.

Since Bob Wall has functioned as my mentor in archeology since 1987, he agreed to be my CAT mentor. We in western Maryland are very fortunate to be able to assist Bob with his investigation of the Barton Village, a rich multi-component site. There we had the opportunity to easily fulfill the requirements in prehistoric excavation and laboratory procedures. We learned just how important it is to be accurate. A small mistake in measuring while laying out a grid of squares can expand greatly as the grid marches out across a field,

One of the requirements is that each candidate register a historic site. I remembered an abandoned family cemetery I had encountered while birding in the Warrior Mountain Wildlife Management Area. Once I confirmed with the Office of Archeology that it wasn't a registered site, I began researching the property and the people buried there. I spent hours examining land records at the county courthouse, census books and family histories in the college library, acquiring Civil War records from the National Archives and interviewing a distant relative. I was amazed at the wealth of information I gathered concerning those lonely headstones.

The program provided a number of surprises. A required workshop on law and ethics promised to be a real snoozer. To the contrary it was four hours of interesting, enlightening discussion on hypothetical situations and how we would deal with them.

From the long reading list came a little gem of a book by James Deetz, "In Small Things Forgotten," a very inviting read on colonial archeology in New England.

We read several papers that examined Pleistocene environments through the technique of palynology. Buried in the muck of ancient bogs, fossilized pollen, grains and spores reveal the ecology of the past. This led to an afternoon presentation by Dr. Roger Brown at the Appalachian Environmental Laboratory in Frostburg on the effects on pre-contact forest by Native Americans in upstate New York. We later toured his lab where he showed us the procedure in gathering, extracting and documenting these minute witnesses of long ago.

Jim Gibb, the former director of CAT, provided the western Maryland members with a collection of historic artifacts and trained us on how to properly process them for our lab requirements. Bob Wall, my mentor, has provided countless hours of training, guidance and field opportunities over the past 17 years. The dedication exhibited by the professionals towards their specialties and the CAT program was impressive and I am most grateful to them.

At the 2004 Spring Symposium I received certification in the CAT program. The three-year journey was a very rewarding experience. I read books and papers and participated in activities that I wouldn't have otherwise. I developed a new respect and appreciation for historic archeology and my concepts of prehistory have been greatly enhanced.

ASM members who wish to have a more fulfilling archeological experience and explore new avenues of study should definitely check out the track of the CAT.

For more information, contact CAT director Chris Davenport at dig4fufnds@aol.com or 301-845-8092.

Conservancy opens Frederick office

The Archaeological Conservancy has opened its Eastern regional office in Frederick and has named Andy Stout as the regional director. Stout, a former contract archeologist who has lived in Frederick for eight years, is a member of ASM and the Monocacy Chapter.

The Conservancy, a 25-year-old national preservation group based in Albuquerque, is America's only national nonprofit organization dedicated to acquiring and protecting the country's most important archeological sites. The nearly 300 sites already obtained range in age from the earliest habitation sites to a 19th Century frontier army post. In Maryland, the Conservancy has purchased the Barton Site and Maddox Island.

"Although the Conservancy often acquires sites after threats are identified, please don't wait until that important site is threatened to get in touch with the Conservancy," Stout says. "If you know of a site that should be considered for acquisition by The Archaeological Conservancy please contact us today." He offers these guidelines for figuring out if the Conservancy would be interested in a site:

- 1) May be historic or prehistoric period sites;
- 2) May be any size;
- 3) Must be eligible for National Register of Historic Places inclusion;
- 4) Must have significant research potential;
- 5) May or may not be threatened;
- 6) Will usually be privately held, especially sites adjacent to public land such as parks. Some Conservancy sites have been incorporated into public parks or parks programming;
- 7) May or may not have local management groups/stewards, although local support and potential management make sites better candidates for acquisition;
- 8) May sometimes be acquired by the Conservancy as an interim protective measure until local agents complete financial arrangements for acquisition;
- 9) May in some instances remain in agricultural use (or other), provided that use does not conflict with site preservation;
- 10) May in some instances (although rarely) include buildings on the site;
- 11) Will in some cases accept donation of archeological easements.

Stout can be reached at (301)-682-6359 or wac5pio@aol.com The Conservancy Website is: www.americanarchaeology.com/aaabout.html

Archeology Month calendar won't be in mail

To reach a wider audience and alert more people to archeological happenings in Maryland, the annual Archeology Month calendar is going digital in 2005. In past years, the event was publicized by sending printed copies of the calendar to ASM members and other interested persons. This year the Maryland Historical Trust instead will post the calendar on the ASM website, www.marylandarcheology.org

"Not only will the event information be available to more people than could be reached by mail," said state chief terrestrial archeology Charlie Hall, "but the number of events will also be greater because the deadline for submission of event information can be some much more flexible."

The website offers two ways to search for events: by location (click on a map of Maryland, then click on the county of interest and get a list of events planned for that county) or by date (click on a calendar, then on the day of interest and get a list of events planned for that day).

Because of the new setup, there still is time to have events included on the calendar. Contact Carolyn Hoffman, Archeology Month Coordinator, by at choffman@pgcc.edu or by phone at 301-322-0531.

Some material still will go out by regular mail. ASM members will receive a copy of this year's poster (featuring a clay figurine of a British monarch found in St. Mary's County), a sampler calendar of selected events and a bumper sticker with the ASM website address.

Highway plan may threaten Braddock

As the 250th anniversary of the French and Indian War passes almost unnoticed, a portion of one of the most prominent reminders of that war is in danger. A proposed state highway project in Garrett County imperils a key segment of the Braddock Trail, the route that British Gen. Edward Braddock and a young George Washington used in their failed attempt to take Fort Duquesne (today's Pittsburgh) from the French. Before the war, the trail was blazed for the Ohio Company by Thomas Cresap, Christopher Gist and Delaware Indian Nemacolin.

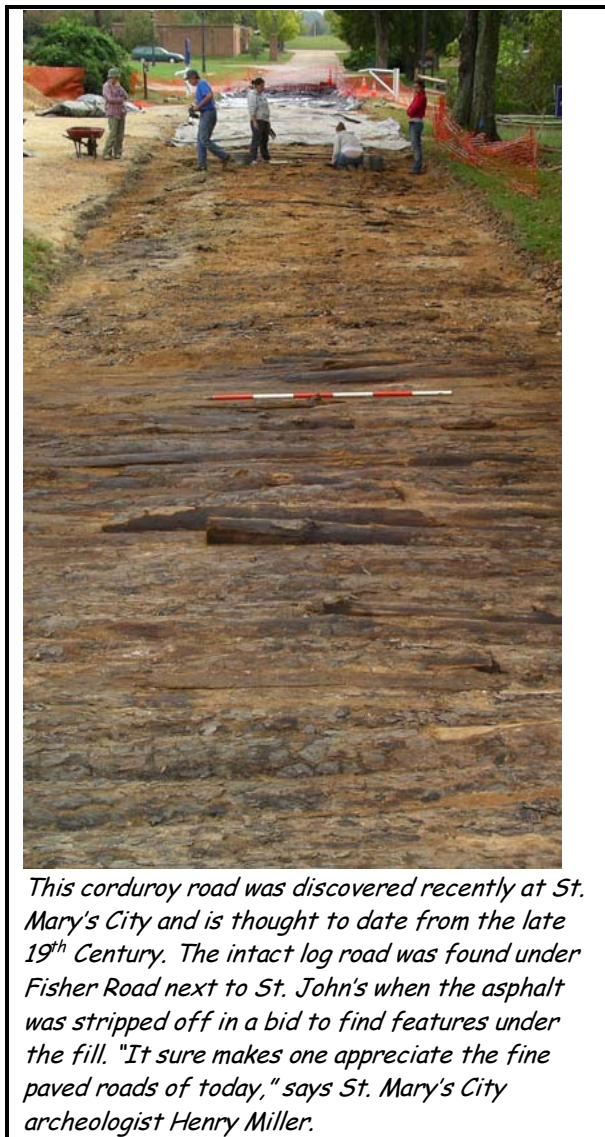
Archeologists are alarmed that one plan to widen and straighten U.S. 219 would take it through the site of a Braddock encampment area known as Little Meadows.

Probably included in this area is a log bridge used to get the soldiers through a swamp, said Western Maryland Chapter President Ed Hanna. Little Meadows was a trail stopover for settlers and travelers for over 100 years and Hanna said the area probably contains non-Braddock remains, including a graveyard from the late 1700s and traces of an inn built a few years later.

State highway planners may opt for this route since several houses are in the way of other possibilities. The Little Meadows route has been left unsettled because of its historic significance.

Backers of an alternative to the Little Meadows alignment are hoping to push for National Historic Register status to help protect the location.

In April, Bob Wall of Towson University and the Western Maryland Chapter will be at Little Meadows trying to find traces of the log road. Volunteers from elsewhere in the state can join them. Contact Hanna at wmdasm@yahoo.com



This corduroy road was discovered recently at St. Mary's City and is thought to date from the late 19th Century. The intact log road was found under Fisher Road next to St. John's when the asphalt was stripped off in a bid to find features under the fill. "It sure makes one appreciate the fine paved roads of today," says St. Mary's City archeologist Henry Miller.

Meanwhile, good news may be in the offing for another portion of the Braddock Road, in Allegany County. The city of Cumberland may purchase a section of the trail west of Fort Cumberland that is deemed to steep to be suitable for development.

ISO: Response to the question about Pleistocene fossils

In the January issue of ASM INK, Chris Davenport asked readers if they knew of any Pleistocene fossils in Maryland, other than a mastodon tooth at Mt. St. Marys. G. William Davis of the National Park Service responded that his files contain a reference to a mammoth skeleton discovery in an Associated Press story in the Hagerstown Herald Mail dated March 26, 1982. Giving the location as Upper Marlboro, the story said:

"For the first time since 1869, the skeleton of a mammoth has been found in Maryland. Dana D'Aria, a 24-year-old geology student at the University of Maryland last Sunday was out digging around for evidence that the state was once submerged beneath the Atlantic Ocean when he uncovered some bones of the beast that became extinct in 6,000 B.C. Scientists from the Smithsonian Institution joined in the digging at the undisclosed site and by Wednesday, 60 bone fragments from a single mammoth had been unearthed."

Wye River field school set for this year

The University of Maryland will hold its 24th season of excavation with Archaeology in Annapolis May 31 to July 8. The intensive, six-week program devotes eight hours daily to supervised archeological fieldwork, laboratory work, stratigraphic analysis, technical drawing, writing, interpretation and readings. This year excavations will be conducted not in Annapolis but at the former plantation and estate of William Paca at Wye River on the Eastern Shore.

Paca, an Annapolis lawyer and a signer of the Declaration of Independence, acquired this property in 1763 and made the land into a working plantation with approximately 100 slaves. Beginning in 1792 he constructed a brick dwelling called Wye Hall, as well as a formal landscape extending over many acres.

Archaeology in Annapolis began investigating Wye Hall in 2000 and later moved from the formal landscape adjacent to the house to the larger plantation. The current objectives of the project are to understand how the plantation was operated under Paca and his descendents, focusing on the everyday negotiations of identity and agency that went on among free and enslaved persons. Students will work to understand the relationship between social relations on the plantation, the organization of plantation space and the day-to-day experience of these many contrasts between slavery and freedom.

In addition, program directors are developing opportunities to examine archeological sites adjacent to Wye Hall and within Annapolis. Students also will spend a day visiting Historic St. Mary's City and will tour sites excavated by Archaeology in Annapolis throughout the quarter-mile historic district of Annapolis.

Students are responsible for their own transportation to the field school site (approximately 120 miles round trip daily from the University of Maryland) and for living accommodations.

Enrollment is limited to 20 students at either the graduate or undergraduate level. While there are no formal prerequisites for the field school, at least one introductory course in archeology is recommended. Any student in good standing at a college or university is eligible to register. But to receive academic credit, a student must be formally admitted to the University of Maryland, College Park for this course.

For further information and for cost estimates, contact Jenn Babiarz (jbabiarz@mail.utexas.edu) or Matthew Palus (mpalus@starpower.net). Their phone number at the University of Maryland is 301-405-1429.

Chapter notes

Anne Arundel

The chapter meets on the third Wednesday of the month from 7:30-9 p.m. in the Chesapeake Room, Heritage Center, 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis. Contact Jim Gibb at 410-263-1102 or jamesggibb@comcast.net

Central

Central Chapter does not have monthly meetings, but tries to stay active with field projects. This winter it plans to explore rockshelters reported in the North Branch of the Patapsco River. The chapter will continue to survey and identify potential archeological sites for future exploration and will begin finalizing the 10-year Big Gunpowder Rockshelter Survey Project. Contact Stephen Israel at 410-945-5514 or ssisrael@abs.net

Mid-Potomac

Contact james.sorensen@mncppc-mc.org or heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org, or call 301-840-5848.

Mid Shore

The Mid Shore Group meets at 7:30 on the fourth Friday of the month at the SunTrust Bank on Goldsboro Street in Easton, from January through September. However, the April meeting is held at the Talbot County Historical Society Auditorium. Contact Bill Cep at 410-822-5027 or email ccep@crosslink.net

Monocacy

The chapter meets the Wednesday closest to the 15th of each month at the Walkersville Middle School. Contact Joy Hurst at 301-663-6706 or hurst_joy@hotmail.com. Chapter website: www.digfrederick.bravehost.com

Northern Chesapeake

Meetings are the second Thursday of the month. Contact Dan Coates at dancoates@comcast.net

March 10: John Eddings on "Early Shipping Manufacturing: Archeology at the Naval Shipyard in Washington." Havre de Grace Maritime Museum, 7 p.m.

April 23: Garrett Island Clean-up Project.

May: Annual picnic. Rock Run Mill. Details TBA.

Southern

Meetings currently being planned for 2005. Contact Kate Dinnel for information at katesilas@chesapeake.net or 410-586-8538.

April 7: James Gibb will talk about an early 18th Century site in Prince Frederick. 7 p.m. at the Prince Frederick Library, in Prince Frederick, Calvert County,

Upper Patuxent

Programs are the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Mt. Ida, near the court house in Ellicott City. Most are preceded by dinner at 6 at the Tiber River Café in Ellicott City. Contact Lee Preston at 443-745-1202 or roseannlee@earthlink.com

March 14: Kathy Fernstrom on "Highlights of Florida Prehistory."

April 11: Charlie Hall. Subject TBA.

May 9: Pot luck supper at 6:30. Meeting Myron Beckenstein on "The Popham Site."

Western Maryland

Programs are the fourth Friday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. in the LaVale Library, unless noted. Contact Ed Hanna, 301-777-1380. Chapter email: wmdasm@yahoo.com Website: www.geocities.com/wmdasm.

March 25: Al Feldstein, postcard pictorial history of the Cumberland area.

April 22: Susan Langley, underwater archeology off Assateague Island.

May 27: Bob Wall, Barton site overview and field session plans.

TBA: Barton field session.

The Archeological Society of Maryland Inc. is a statewide nonprofit organization devoted to the study and conservation of Maryland archeology.

ASM. Inc members receive the monthly newsletter ASM Ink, the biannual journal MARYLAND ARCHEOLOGY, reduced admission to ASM events and a 10% discount on items sold by the Society. Contact Membership Secretary Belinda Urquiza for membership rates. For publication sales, contact Dan Coates at ASM Publications, 716 Country Club Rd., Havre de Grace, MD 21078-2104 or 410-273-9619 or dancoates@comcast.net.

Submissions welcome. Please send to Myron Beckenstein, 6817 Pineway, University Park, MD 20782, 301-864-5289 or myronbeck@aol.com

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