

# Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2002

NUMBER 51

CALL FOR PAPERS

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Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology  
Wilmington, Delaware, 2002 Annual Meeting  
October 17-20, 2002

The 2002 Annual Meeting of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology will be held at the Wyndham Hotel in Wilmington, Delaware. First settled by the Swedes in the early seventeenth century, Wilmington has been the site of numerous archaeological excavations during the rejuvenation of its downtown. We will have the opportunity to see some of the artifacts and to hear about these excavations during conference tours and talks. The nearby Brandywine Valley, with its beautiful scenery, magnificent gardens, museums, and antique centers, presents many opportunities for pre and post conference trips. Wilmington itself offers numerous museums and historical sites.

Papers will be presented on Saturday and Sunday. Proposed thematic sessions are:

- Material Culture - Why Artifacts
- Cross-Border (Canada and the United States) Studies
- Farmsteads Revisited
- Collections Management
- Archaeology of the Twentieth Century
- Chesapeake Archaeology
- Delaware Archaeology
- Underwater Archaeology in the Northeast
- Industrial Archaeology in the Northeast
- Special Invited Session: The View from the South - Historic Archaeology in the Southeast

General papers are also welcomed. If there are ideas for additional sessions, please contact the program chair at [meta\\_janowitz@urscorp.com](mailto:meta_janowitz@urscorp.com)

Papers should be kept to a 20-minute maximum limit. There will be a five-minute question period at the end of each paper presentation.

Friday sessions will be Workshops and Tours. The tentative schedule includes the following:

CNEHA Has a Permanent Address for Its Website:  
<http://www.smcm.edu/cneha>

## COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

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Northeast Historical Archaeology seeks manuscripts dealing with historical archaeology in the Northeast region, including field reports, artifact studies, and analytical presentations (e.g., physical anthropology, palynology, faunal analysis, etc.). We also welcome commentary and opinion pieces. To submit a manuscript or request preparation of manuscript guidelines, write to David B. Landon, Anthropology Department, University of Massachusetts Boston, 100 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125.  
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The Hagley Museum  
Colonial Delaware - Swedes, Dutch and English in  
Wilmington and New Castle  
Gardens of the Brandywine  
Forts of the Lower Delaware River and Bay  
Wilmington - Market Street and Riverwalk

Abstracts are due by June 7, 2002. The preferred format is email or other electronic means in MS Word or WordPerfect. Please send to Meta Janowitz, URS Corporation, 561 Cedar Lane, Florence, NJ 08518-2511, or fax 609 499-3516, or call 609 499-3447 or email meta\_janowitz@urscorp.com

## Update—*Northeast Historical Archaeology*

Reported by: David Landon

To start, I am happy to report that Volume 29 is, as I write, at the printer. The successful completion of Volume 29 marks an important milestone for the new editorial office. The journal and this newsletter will likely be arriving at nearly the same time, providing lots of spring reading for CNEHA members!

Our next journal issue is a double issue, Volume 30-31 for 2001-2002. This is a thematic volume entitled "The Archaeology of Nineteenth-Century Farmsteads." Many of the papers are based on conference presentations at the 1997 CNEHA meeting. Sherene Baugher and Terry H. Klein are the volume's guest editors. They have been collecting the papers and editing them for content, while Ann-Eliza Lewis has been working on the formatting and copyediting. Our new editorial assistant, Eric Proebsting, will begin the layout and computer production shortly. This volume is very much a collaborative effort, drawing on the talents of many members of the Council. As such, it promises to be a strong publication with a wide appeal. We are sincerely hoping to have this double volume completed in 2002 to bring the journal production up to date. I will provide an update on progress and a better sense of the contents in the next newsletter.

Please send in your articles for Volume 32, 2003! While we currently have several pieces in various stages of review and revision, we still need additional articles for the 2003 issue. This is the perfect opportunity to send in your manuscripts. Send in your submissions, and we'll get them moving through the review and revision process.

The journal office has received the following new and forthcoming books for review:

Arnold, Bettina, and Nancy L. Wicker, eds.

2001 *Gender and the Archaeology of Death*. Walnut Creek, CA: Altamira.

Bain, Allison

2001 *Archaeoentomological and Archaeoparasitological Reconstructions at Ilot Hunt (CeEt-110): New Perspectives in Historical Archaeology (1850-1900)*. BAR International Series 973. Oxford: Archaeopress.

Brassard, Michel, and Myriam Leclerc

2001 *Identifier la ceramique et la verre anciens au Quebec: Guide a l'usage des amateurs et des professionnels. Cahiers d'archeologie du CELAT 12*. Quebec: CELAT.

Cantwell, Anne-Marie, and Diana diZerega Wall

2001 *Unearthing Gotham: The Archaeology of New York City*. New Haven: Yale University Press.

Chouinard, Alain

2001 *Archeologie et archeometallurgie de la forge et des forgerons de l'habitation Loyola en Guyane*. Cahiers d'archeologie du CELAT 11/Serie archeometrie 2. Quebec: CELAT.

Nelson, Sarah Milledge, and Myriam Rosen-Ayalon, eds.

2001 *In Pursuit of Gender: Worldwide Archaeological Approaches*. Walnut Creek, CA: Altamira.

Starbuck, David R.

2002 *Massacre at Fort William Henry* Hanover, NH: University Press of New England.

## **New Masters Program: Historical Archaeology of the Modern World (AD 1500-2000)**

Department of Archaeology,  
University of Bristol, UK

The Department of Archaeology at the University of Bristol are delighted to invite suitably qualified applicants for a new taught Masters programme (MA) in Historical Archaeology of the Modern World for October 2002 entry. Applicants will usually have Archaeology, Anthropology, History or Geography as a first degree subject or major - and will be able to demonstrate a genuine interest in history and archaeology.

### **Background**

Over the past 30 years, academic interest in the archaeology of the 'post medieval', later historical' or 'modern' period (1500-2000 AD) has radically shifted. From a series of smaller disciplines - clay pipe studies, garden archaeology and industrial archaeology - an increasingly coherent and confident discipline, international in perspective, has developed - especially in the USA and Australia.

The legislative provisions for archaeology and heritage management around the world have defined modern archaeological remains as of equal importance with earlier material. Meanwhile the contribution of archaeological evidence to our understanding of the development of the modern world, has been recognised by other disciplines, such as economic and social history, art history, and anthropology. This course is a response to this sea change in the boundaries of archaeology.

### **Details**

Applications from individuals from a range of academic and professional backgrounds are invited, and applications from overseas students and mature students are particularly welcomed. The programme may be taken as full-time study (one year) or part-time (two years). UK and EU residents

only). This course aims to combine a broad academic content with sound and detailed practical elements. Students will gain detailed knowledge of the material remains of the modern period, and of current theoretical and professional issues in historical archaeology. The course provides a sound basis for a career in professional archaeology and heritage management/CRM anywhere in the world, or for further academic research.

The Archaeology Department at Bristol is home to a young, exciting, international and rapidly expanding graduate school in archaeology - the success of which will be built upon by this new Masters programme. Bristol makes a natural home for a taught course in the new global historical archaeology. It was in Bristol that the meeting in autumn 1963 was held which led to the formation of the Post-Medieval Ceramic Research Group - which was to grow into the Society for Post Medieval Archaeology (SPMA) three years later. Bristol's role as a key city in the development of the medieval and post-medieval Atlantic world also makes it an appropriate location.

### **Programme Directors:**

Dr Mark Horton (Reader in Archaeology, Head of Department) and Professor Mick Aston BA, FSA, MIFA (Professor of Landscape Archaeology).

One of the main strengths of this taught course is that it draws upon a wide range of specialists of national and international standing from other Universities and professional organisations, who will teach the components of each Unit. Full details of the Masters programme are online at <http://www.bris.ac.uk/Depts/Archaeology/research/histarch.html>

For further details please contact: Dan Hicks@bristol.ac.uk or Julie Shackelford (Secretary) Historical Archaeology MA, Centre for the Historic Environment, Department of Archaeology, 43 Woodland Road, Bristol BS8 1UU, UK. Tel: +44 (0) 117 954 6070, E-mail: Julie.Shackelford@bris.ac.uk

## **NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT**

Reported by: David Starbuck, Newsletter Editor

Please send news for the next issue of the CNEHA Newsletter by May 15 to the appropriate provincial or state editor. If you would like to submit an article dealing with archaeological collections management or curation, please send it to Beth Acuff, Dept. of Historical Resources, 2801 Kensington Ave., Richmond, VA 23221.

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## Robbing Hoods: The Growing Problem of Looters

by Gerard P. Scharfenberger

### Abstract

The integrity of archaeological sites can be compromised by any number of factors: development, weather, and mitigation among others. Yet, none are more senseless or preventable than the callous, selfish act of looting. For years, archaeologists have been virtually powerless to do anything about looting. Rather, they are left to wonder how skewed their data are as a result of missing artifacts and blitzed stratigraphy. The tide, however, may be turning as legislation specifically aimed at looting is being sponsored more frequently and the public becomes more aware of the significance and fragility of our cultural resources. This paper spotlights a few of the more blatant instances of looting and its consequences, along with some suggestions for combating its devastating effects in the future.

### Introduction

Looters, bottle hunters, pot hunters, relic hunters - whatever the moniker, they can easily and correctly be called "headaches" for both contract and academic archaeologists alike. They are pseudo-archaeologists who rape uninvestigated sites for personal profit with no regard for the documentation of the artifacts or features they ultimately destroy. It is a practice that transcends the narrow notion of theft from the individual; it is removing resources that are a part of our irreplaceable cultural heritage and belong to each and every one of us.

As surveillance and detection equipment becomes ever more simplified and less expensive, and therefore more accessible to the general public, the pool of would-be looters steadily increases. With a never-ending market for their goods and the omnipresent potential for financial gain, there is little to discourage these weekend warriors from plying their destructive trade. Once an artifact is removed from the archaeological context without proper documentation of provenience, it becomes a mere bauble to be dispensed with at the local flea market, or relegated to the utter purgatory of residence on the mantle next to junior's soccer trophy. Allow that same artifact to be properly contextualized and displayed in a museum setting, and it becomes an endless source of information for generations to come.

## Looters and Looted Sites

It is nearly impossible to find an archaeologist active in the field, especially those in urban areas, who has not come across looters or felt their ruinous presence. Urban archaeologist Joan Geismar, no stranger to the joys of a productive privy, relayed a particularly disconcerting instance of the ruthless ness and guile of urban relic hunters. While working on a site in Brooklyn, Dr. Geismar was approached by several bottle hunters whom she implored to stay away from the data-rich project area, which they apparently did. However, they paid a security guard a very nominal fee, entered adjoining backyards just outside the project area, and proceeded to loot three privies. Whether they excavated anything of value, either historically or monetarily, no one except the looters know for sure. One thing for certain is that potential treasure troves of information are obliterated for future archaeologists (Joan Geismar 1996, Personal Communication).

A recent article entitled 'Bottle Brigade' in *Archaeology Magazine* spot lighted a well-organized band of individuals who have anointed themselves with the misleading and undeserved title, "Urban Archaeologists." They proudly boast of how they approach unsuspecting property owners and extract their permission to excavate a privy or well. In a few hours they abscond with their loot, and like the irreversible damage done to a landscape by strip mining, leave an empty void where once stood a pocket of history. However, one must give the devil his due, as ringleader Jeff Kantoff openly admits: "We are not interested in the history of every little piece that we find and we're not interested in having somebody come down here to draw pictures of how it was found in the ground" (Belson 1996:100). The duality of purpose in this statement not only trivial izes one of the basic precepts of archaeology, but reiterates the bottle hunter's disinterest in any scientific pursuits.

In addition to his efficiency in destroying future sites for professional archaeologists, Mr. Kantoff gives no apparent indication of being allergic to media attention. An article on April 23, 1995, *The New York Times* pictured Mr. Kantoff alongside dozens of bottles taken from Brooklyn backyards. He speaks of perusing maps for the locations of pre-1860 brownstones and then "cajoling puzzled landlords into letting them dig up their backyard." To make matters worse, Mr. Kantoff has legitimized himself to the point where he is lecturing at the local historical societies. Incredibly, Cathy Wassylenko, a board member for the Society for Clinton Hill, went so far as to say, "I think they are more knowledgeable, in a lot of ways, than credentialed archaeologists." (sec. B, p 10) It is this kind of irresponsible thinking and reckless reporting that should alarm professional archaeologists the most, and it should be the prime target of intensive public education, possibly the only plausible way to put an end to looting. Numerous attempts were made to contact Ms. Wassylenko and give her the opportunity to elaborate on

or clarify her puzzling statement, but to no avail. In the process, though, it was learned that the Society for Clinton Hill is an organization that sponsors walking tours of historic homes in Brooklyn. One can only shudder at the thought of bottle hunters being sanctioned by a group with such access and proximity to verifiable historic properties. It is analogous to the fox being given a guided tour of the henhouse.

## The Potential of Undisturbed Deposits

The recording of artifacts as they are found in their relative provenience is paramount to the integrity of the data and the eventual conclusions drawn from analysis. Provenience is, very simply, vertical and horizontal location of the artifact in the order of soil levels. The levels can be either actual or arbitrary, depending on the site, with the younger levels closest to the surface, and each successive, descending level is normally older than the one above. It is the provenience analysis of the surrounding soil, related artifacts, and neighboring strata that could add immeasurably to the existing historical record. If, for instance, a medicine bottle with a begin date set at ca. 1870 is found in a context certifiably dated to ca. 1850, then an important new dating benchmark has been set and, as is the crux of scientific endeavor, our body of knowledge is correctly adjusted and thus improved. To further illustrate the potential for informational loss at the hands of bottle hunters, one need only look at the wealth of data culled from an urban cistern that has been excavated, monitored, and recorded under proper archaeological procedures.

An article in the Winter/Spring 1995 issue of *Federal Archaeology* profiled a site on Manhattan's Lower East Side. In researching a proposed lot slated for a new police headquarters, archaeologists found evidence of 19th-century buildings, necessitating further subsurface testing. Subsequent excavations uncovered vestiges of an early 19th-century building and its features, most notably a beautifully intact cistern. When the excavation was completed, archaeologists had recovered an immense cache of artifacts, including coins, bottles, ceramics, buttons, and marbles. Most relevant to our subject is the overall picture gleaned from this undisturbed site. Using the dates of ceramic patterns as well as coins, investigators were able to verify the date of the cistern, its period of use, and the time of abandonment as large-scale public water systems were introduced. This is a shining example of prototypical archaeology at its best. Not only were scores of artifacts properly recovered, but their environment recorded as well. Future archaeologists now have new additions to their research arsenal, and city museum goers have fresh and unique visual evidence of their rich, cultural past.

## Looting in Rural Areas

Looting, however, is not a phenomenon that is limited to

urban sites. A case in point is the Monmouth Battlefield in Freehold, New Jersey. I can personally attest to the viciousness of looters at this site and to the gaps they create in what are already fragmented historical records. The Battle of Monmouth was the longest, largest, and arguably the most pivotal battle of the Revolutionary War. Yet, astonishingly, there has not been one cannonball found and only a smattering of musket balls discovered where an enormous exchange of artillery occurred (Sivilich 1994). Years of pre-Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) looting and post-ARPA illegal activity have gutted a once artifact-laden landscape. Were it not for period maps, diaries, and eyewitness accounts, the record of this most critical moment in our nation's history could have been radically and erroneously changed. Nevertheless, the accuracy of these records is very suspect in its own right, and subject to the interpretative latitude of modern historians and tenuous record keeping of the times. Unlike concrete archaeological evidence that, when available, can often confirm or negate conclusions drawn from historical hearsay, we must be content with the crumbs of physical evidence left to us and try to corroborate (or correct) the written record.

While this is an instance where the written record sufficed somewhat for the lack of a viable archaeological record, one can only surmise the sites that have been, and will be lost, once the buried resources are removed without documentation. How much precious data and how many heretofore unanswered questions will remain due to the greed and selfishness of relic hunters? The prospect is frightening and should be of paramount concern to all those who study and practice a discipline so vital to our cultural heritage.

A textbook example of the cunning brashness of looters can best be exemplified by a recent incident in Sandy Hook, N.J., part of the Gateway National Recreation Area. As a component of a large historical district, it boasts a military presence which pre-dates the American Revolution and evidence of seasonal prehistoric aboriginal settlements. Sandy Hook has numerous historic structures and documented archaeological sites dating from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. One significant archaeological site is an early 19th century tavern which, according to historians, catered to a clientele made up of crews from the pilot boats that guided shipping in and out of New York Harbor. After 1817 the property was purchased by the army who may have used the building as an office or residence for military personnel, but did lease it in later years until it burned to the ground in May 1855.

For 125 years the site lay little remembered, until in 1980 a Park Service archaeologist and an historian working together pinpointed its location. In 1987 five test units revealed over 10,000 artifacts, mostly representative of the period ca. 1800-1850, along with a smattering of prehistoric lithic debitage and pottery sherds. The historic artifact types ran the gamut from faunal remains, ceramics, and architectural hardware, to military artifacts and hand-crafted items.

The site proved to have great structural and stratigraphic integrity, a tremendous artifact assemblage and excellent preservation of organic remains, yet it would ultimately fall victim to a common dilemma facing archaeology today, namely a lack of funds needed to conduct the necessary excavation, to fully record information, properly collect artifacts and analyze the data. For nearly fifteen years the site lay dormant, its location kept secret, until one spring weekend an illegal pot hunter, armed with a metal detector and a shovel, raided the site, removing layers of valuable strata along with untold artifacts and, in effect, destroying forever portions of a once pristine historical site (Dana Linck 1997, Personal communication).

This site is a microcosm of the problems facing archaeology today. Under funded agencies simply cannot tend to all known sites, nor explore potential ones. Thus, sites brimming with archaeological promise lie vulnerable to the eager pot hunter, who is all too aware of the unimpeded ease with which he can loot, often with total immunity from reprimand. Yet, as we will see, it is this seemingly futile pairing of circumstances that may well hold a solution to both.

### Possible Solutions

The ARPA, while offering protection to sites on federal lands, gives no protection to resources on privately owned properties. The landlord has the final say over who may be allowed onto his property and what will become of anything found on the property. It is here that archaeologists face their biggest challenge if the wanton destruction by relic hunters is to be ended or at least curtailed. The question is simply, what can be done? Without the benefit of a legislative club to wield, the task becomes difficult, but not impossible. There are several strategies that can be implemented to counteract the looting menace.

One important step would be to standardize the identity of who may represent themselves as archaeologists. Minimum academic requirements, employment in a reputable contract firm, or association with an academic institution could be all, or in part, the criteria for acceptance. Just as it is illegal to practice medicine without a license or gain entry to a home posing as a police official, so too should it be considered fraudulent to excavate and remove artifacts under the falsely represented pretense of archaeology.

Second, exert relentless pressure on our elected officials to sponsor legislation designed to combat the looting of archaeological sites. Several states, most notably Florida, have recently passed legislation that provides for stiff fines and jail sentences for anyone, even first offenders, convicted of looting sites on state property. Currently, an anti-looting bill (S1324) co-written by the author and Senator Joseph Kyriillos (R-New Jersey) is now working its way through the New Jersey Legislature. Only severe penalties meted out with unwavering regularity will discourage people from looting. At least in New Jersey as it stands now, penalties are

exceedingly weak. Recently, two looters caught metal-detecting in the Monmouth Battlefield State Park were served with a punishment consisting of a \$150.00 fine and the confiscation of their metal-detectors for thirty days - hardly a deterrent to the hardcore, profit-driven looter.

A third approach would be to alert organizations such as local historical societies, landmark commissions, and civic groups, which are on the periphery of archaeological intrigue and have a vested interest in aiding and abetting our preservation efforts. They act as direct conduits to citizens who not only have a foregone passion for history, but are often the very persons of means who would be the property-owner targets of bottle hunters. Also, the lack of funds for archaeological research, coupled with the desire to involve the public in preserving their heritage, has opened up scores of opportunities for volunteers to participate in the archaeological process, even those with little or no experience. This would not only swell the ranks of sorely needed volunteers, but also satisfy the lust to explore in those pot-hunters whose motives are not profit driven.

The fourth, and probably the most effective approach, would be the direct education of the public by archaeologists, preferably beginning at the high school level. People must be made aware that pot-hunters do exist and that they are contrary to everything for which true archaeologists stand. Every lecture, exhibit, and article should have the protection and preservation of potential sites as a cornerstone of its informative body. It should be the archaeologist's mantra, just as eating right and exercise are fixtures to those espousing physical fitness. We must correct the prima facie attitude pervading the public's perception that bottle hunters are harmless and even commendable. Venues such as the PANYC Public Program and other similar gatherings would be the precise forums for indoctrinating the general public in a cause beneficial to all. Our greatest ally in this war will be a well-informed public who can help end the destruction of knowledge that should belong to and be available to everyone. The meticulous care that the professional archaeologist takes to record his data could be applied to imparting the empirical sense of urgency in preserving the invaluable data source. Attempts should be made to offer easy access to those history-minded citizens who own, or inadvertently stumble, across a historic site, appealing to the sense of cultural heritage inherent to all of us. This will not only enlighten the private landowners, but also discourage the recreational, novice pot-hunter, whose innocent desire to own a tangible piece of history, juxtaposed with the naivete of proveniencial procedure, does in no way lessen the blow dealt the archaeological record. We must counteract the media romanticization of the very people who are robbing us of our rightful cultural heritage. There is no gray area in this issue and there is no room for compromise; it is a moral crime of such enormous proportions as to defy any appropriate penalization. The context and meaning of an archaeological site once disturbed is lost forever. We must be res-

olute in our conviction to end this practice, for timidity on our part will make our sin of omission infinitely more destructive than the looter's sin of commission.

### Acknowledgements

The author would like to acknowledge the following: Dr. Joan Geismar for taking time during a hectic period to provide me with outstanding background material; Daniel M. Sivilich for his excellent essay and thoughts on this critical issue; Valerie Moore for her editing suggestions; John Killeen for his patience, encouragement and input as an embryonic idea evolved into what is hopefully an insightful paper addressing a severe crisis facing archaeology today; and Dana Linck for relating his "war stories" and for doing a superb job of keeping one step ahead of the looters.

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Gerard P. Scharfenberger is a Small Finds/Architectural Material Specialist with Louis Berger and Associates in East Orange, New Jersey, and a commissioner on the Middletown Township Landmarks Commission. Author's address 833 Kings Court, Middletown, New Jersey 07748.

## CURRENT RESEARCH

### New York State

Reported by: Lois Feister

#### Excavations at the Mabee Farm

Volunteers under the direction of Ron Kingsley and Louise Basa, Schenectady Community College professors, continued work at the Mabee Farm in Rotterdam, New York. Dating back to the 1670s, the Mabee Farm is under development as a historic site by the Schenectady Historical Society. The current survey is being done to determine which areas contain features of significance before construction takes place.

#### Lake George Shipwreck has Record Visitation

Visitation at one of Lake George's three shipwreck preserves set an all-time record in 2001. The site, "The FORWARD Underwater Classroom," open from Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day weekend, had a total of 212 divers who voluntarily signed in at a station located on the lake bottom. That was 56 divers more than in 2000 and 18 more than the previous high in 1998. "The FORWARD Underwater Classroom" has two shipwrecks, a 1906 launch and a small cabin cruiser. Divers swim along a 500-foot trail that includes two shipwrecks and several stations with educational signage. The increase in visitation probably is due to the State reprinting the park's informational brochure, available from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

#### Fort Montgomery Opened to the Public

Fort Montgomery, built by the Americans in 1776 and captured by the British in 1777, has been an undeveloped part of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation's historic site system until recently. After extensive clearing of the wooded site, work on the extensive collection of archaeological artifacts excavated from the site in the late 1960s and early 1970s has continued, while interpretive signs, trails, and viewing platforms were built during the summer of 2001. On October 6, 2001, public ceremonies were held at the site accompanied by a temporary display of archaeological artifacts organized by Bureau of Historic Sites archaeologists Lois Feister, Joe McEvoy, and Chuck Florence. CNEHA member Ed Lenik, who helped excavate the site with Jack Mead, was a tour leader for those interested in viewing the archaeological features. During the winter of 2001-2002, work on the artifacts continued, and analysis

of the material was begun by Chuck Fisher from the New York State Museum and his staff. This information will provide input for more interpretive initiatives at the site for 2002, prior to the 225th anniversary of the battle on October 6, 2002.

#### RPI Research Center to Focus on Subsurface Sensing

The National Science Foundation has established a new engineering research center to develop technologies that will improve the ability to detect objects underground, underwater, or embedded in living tissue. Known as the Center for Subsurface Sensing and Imaging Systems, it includes Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute of Troy, New York, the University of Puerto Rico, and Northeastern University in Boston, the headquarters for the program. The research is expected to provide advances in medical imaging, detecting underground pollution, and monitoring the structural integrity of bridges, roads, and buildings, and to provide new technologies for marine biologists and archaeologists.

#### Historic Indian Remains Reburied

Harvard University's Peabody Museum returned more than 100 skeletal remains excavated in 1903 from a Seneca Indian Nation burial site near Buffalo. The bones were reburied by tribal leaders the day after they were returned. In all, 197 remains and nearly 3000 tools, pottery sherds, beads, pipes, and other objects taken from Iroquois Confederacy graves were returned by the museum. About half of the funeral objects and 122 remains were excavated from a single site at the Seneca reservation about 40 miles southwest of Buffalo.

#### Ganondagan to Build New Trails

The federal government will spend \$100,000 to restore a pedestrian trail that linked the Seneca village of Ganondagan to a palisaded fort on a neighboring hill three centuries ago. The grant is part of the National Recreational Trail Program. The trail will allow visitors to the State Historic Site to walk from the site of the Seneca village burned in 1687 by the French to the site of a Seneca Fort. Reestablishing the link between the two was not possible until the state purchased land that lay between the two sites in 1998. Archaeological testing by Bureau of Historic Sites archaeologists will begin this spring prior to construction of the new trail. Special care also will be taken not to destroy the environment, site manager Pete Jemison said, as part of the purpose of the new work is for visitors to enjoy the beauty of the site.

## New Jersey

Reported by: Lynn Rakos

### Bloomery Forge, Morris County

[Submitted by Ed Rutsch]

A survey was conducted by Pat Condell and Ed Rutsch for the New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry at the site of a proposed interpretive facility at High Point State Park. A second survey investigated several alternative sites of a proposed Fisherman's Access Road, Boat Launch, and Parking Lot at Split Rock Pond in the Newark Reservoir Watershed in Morris County, N.J. Split Rock was the locale of a long-lived (1775 to 1885) Bloomery Forge operated by the Cobb family. The Forge in its last phase adapted a number of technological advances usually associated with post-Civil War coal-fired blast furnaces. They include a hot blast furnace and a "Wilson Deoxidizer." The Forge represents the last version of the ancient bloomeries established in the Crucible steel works in the Adirondack Mountains of New York. Condell and Rutsch would appreciate hearing from anyone who has information on the "Wilson Deoxidizer." Please contact them at edrutsch@ptd.net or 40 Shale Road, Sussex N.J. 07461.

### Morris Canal Historic Site, Warren County

[Submitted by Ed Rutsch]

Pat Condell and Ed Rutsch are working with the preservation team of Githens Associates, in the development of a preservation and interpretive plan for the site of Incline Plane 9 West, part of the Morris Canal Historic Site in Warren County, N.J. The work is supported by the Warren County Parks Department, which plans to create a county-wide greenway trail along the Canal's historic right-of-way.

### Atsion Ironmaster's Mansion, Wharton State Park, Burlington County

[Submitted by Ed Rutsch]

A research team led by Budd Wilson, Ed Rutsch and Pat Condell tested around and in the Atsion Ironmaster's Mansion revealing that the building had been erected in 1826 on the site of an earlier Ironmaster's home. The earlier dwelling was built ca. 1765, when bog iron was first smelted at Atsion in the Pine Barrens Region of Southern New Jersey. This work was performed for Githens Associates of Montclair, N.J., under contract with the Division of New Jersey State Parks and Forestry.

## Trenton, Mercer County

[Submitted by Hunter Research Inc.]

The Potteries of Trenton Society (POTS) has completed its reprint of the booklet *From Teacups to Toilets: A Century of Industrial Pottery in Trenton, Circa 1850 to 1940*. POTS received a publications grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State, to fund the reprint. The Trenton Convention & Visitors Bureau provided additional funds to increase the size of the print run.

Originally published as a teachers' guide in 1998, *Teacups to Toilets* was produced for the New Jersey Department of Transportation by Hunter Research and Wilson Creative Marketing. The booklet was created as part of the cultural resources mitigation plan for the U.S. Route 1/New York Avenue southbound exit ramp in Trenton, N.J., which passes through the property of the Enterprise Pottery, the first pottery in the United States built exclusively for the manufacture of sanitary porcelain (bathtubs, sinks, toilets, etc.). The booklet interprets the history of the pottery industry in Trenton through text, photographs, maps, charts, a time line and glossary.

Copies of the booklet are available free of charge from the Potteries of Trenton Society. To receive your free copy, write to Patricia Madrigal, POTS, Hunter Research, 120 W. State Street, Trenton, N.J. 08608 or email madrigal@hunter-research.com

## Delaware

Reported by: Lu Ann De Cunzio

### Survey of the Proposed Iron Hill Bikeway, New Castle County

[Submitted by Chris Espenshade, Skelly and Loy, Inc.]

Skelly and Loy, Inc., is currently completing the reporting of the Phase I survey of a proposed bicycle path on the eastern and northern slopes of Iron Hill. The work was conducted for the Delaware Department of Transportation. Iron Hill is the highest point in the state and is known for its prehistoric jasper quarries and early iron pits. In addition, there was a possibility that military activity occurred in the project area during the Revolutionary War Battle of Cooch's Bridge. The project included archival research, interviews with local relic-hunters, and field survey of the 2.4 km long by 3.2 meter wide corridor. No jasper outcrops or near-quarry sites were discovered, and the area of possible military action had been destroyed by previous highway construction. The traces of the early iron industry were limited to two roads crossing the project area and an early 1700s ore pit approximately 20 meters outside the project limits. The report will be completed this spring.

## Pennsylvania

Reported by: Rebecca Yamin

### Investigations of the Blacksmith Locus, Defibaugh Wagon Shop, Bedford County [Submitted by Chris Espenshade, Skelly and Loy, Inc.]

Skelly and Loy, Inc., recently completed the analysis and reporting on Phase III investigations of the blacksmith locus of the Defibaugh Wagon Shop. The work was conducted for Engineering District 9-0 of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. The study included extensive background research, field excavation, and laboratory analysis. The construction date of the blacksmith shop is unknown, but the wagon shop and blacksmith shop were certainly fully operational in the 1830s. The blacksmith and wagon shops were operated by the Defibaugh family through the mid-1850s, during which time the William Defibaugh gun shop was also located nearby. The Shearer family apparently took over the operations from the Defibaughs, and the Shearers continued to operate the blacksmith shop into the 1930s. A total of 36.7 m<sup>2</sup> (395 ft<sup>2</sup>) was hand excavated, representing one-hundred percent of the undisturbed portion of the former blacksmith shop. The archival record and archaeological remains indicate that the blacksmith shop started life as a general service smithy. Beginning in the 1830s, much of the labor at the shop went to supplying iron pieces for the adjacent wagon shop. The importance of wagon-making apparently declined in the late nineteenth century. By the twentieth century, wagons were only occasionally made at the site, and repairs were the major activities of the blacksmith shop.

## Maryland

Reported by: Silas Hurry

### St. Mary's City

Historic St. Mary's City (HSMC) announces its 2002 field school in historical archaeology. HSMC is a state-supported, outdoor museum located at the site of Maryland's first capital. The site under investigation may have been used by William Nuthead, the first printer of Maryland during the 1680s. Last season revealed the presence of a chimney and part of a tile floor. This summer's goal is to fully define the 17th-century structure. For the student, the program is an intensive, 10-week experience in Colonial archaeology. The first week includes lectures on history, archaeological methods and material culture studies. Students learn artifact identification by working with one of the best archaeological collections of Colonial material in the country. During the fol-

lowing weeks, students participate in the excavation, recording and analysis of sites in an internationally famous archaeological district. Guest scholars speak on the history and architecture of the Chesapeake region. Field trips to nearby archaeological sites in Maryland and Virginia are planned. Students also have the rare opportunity to learn about and help sail the *MARYLAND DOVE*, a replica of a 17th-century, square-rigged tobacco ship.

This course is designed for students in American Studies, Anthropology, Archaeology, History and Museum Studies. The ability to engage in active physical labor is essential. A total of eight (8) credit hours are offered through St. Mary's College of Maryland, a state honors college dedicated to the Liberal Arts. The program costs \$880 which covers tuition and fees. There is a \$60 fee to cover the cost of the major field trips. Housing is available at a reduced cost through the museum. Transportation, food and entertainment are the responsibility of the student. HSMC is located two hours south of Washington, D.C., in Southern Maryland.

To apply send a letter stating your interest in the course, prior classes, experience, special skills, and the phone numbers of two academic references. Please include a phone number and address both at school and where you can be reached after the semester is over. Housing is limited so apply early. For specific questions about the course, email: [trioridan@smcm.edu](mailto:trioridan@smcm.edu) or call (240) 895-4975. Send letters to: Archaeology Program, Department of Research, HSMC, P.O. Box 39, St Mary's City, Maryland 20686. Application Deadline: May 6, 2002.

### Annapolis

The University of Maryland Summer Field School in Urban Archaeology conducted test excavations at two home lots in the Eastport neighborhood of Annapolis, Maryland, last summer, and will return to these sites and a third one in June and July of 2002. This neighborhood is situated across Spa Creek from the historic district, on a peninsula that was plantation land through much of the eighteenth and early nineteenth century. However, the investigation focuses on the present community that was settled at the end of the nineteenth century. The Mutual Building Association of Annapolis purchased a little over a hundred acres on the peninsula in 1868, laid out 256 lots on a grid of streets and bridged Spa Creek, and began to mortgage home lots for small weekly or monthly payments, perhaps in order to attract and settle a labor force, which would come from both free or emancipated African Americans and from whites around the region. This was the first such building and loan association to form in Anne Arundel County, and similar

arrangements created other neighborhoods around the city.

In the 1880s the Annapolis Glass Company formed and built a glasshouse in Eastport in an attempt to bring industry to the city, but the success of the factory was marginal. Instead, fishing and boat building would become very important to the community and to the city. In particular, sporting boats would be attracted after World War II and introduced to the city through Eastport boatyards and marinas, becoming one focus of the contemporary economy of Annapolis. While much of the waterfront in Eastport is either paved or developed, the interior of the peninsula has remarkable integrity, in terms of architecture and archaeological preservation. Sites have demonstrated intact deposits of trash and debris corresponding to the 1900s through to the present. The research in the Eastport neighborhood has focused on the history and significance of work in Eastport (in boatyards, shucking and packing houses, on work boats and regional truck farms), on the importance of race in the social and working life of the community, and on the place of both of these in the wider history of the city.

### **Virginia**

Submitted by: Barbara Heath

#### **Study of Historic Pottery-Making in Washington County**

[Submitted by Chris Espenshade, Skelly and Loy, Inc.]

Skelly and Loy, Inc., is completing a study of the earthenware and stoneware traditions of Washington County, in southwestern Virginia. The project is being conducted under a Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Historic Resources costshare grant, and project partners include Washington County, the Washington County Preservation Foundation, and the William King Regional Arts Center. The four goals of the project are: 1) to create a historic context for pottery traditions, building on previous research by Klell Napps, Roddy Moore, and Marcus King; 2) to identify potential shop locations; 3) to archaeologically survey suspected shop locations; and 4) to utilize the recovered artifacts to characterize the products of each shop. Chris Espenshade, the Principal Investigator, notes that the ceramic history of the area is complex and interesting. There was a blending of Germanic/Moravian and Scots-Irish earthenware traditions beginning in the late eighteenth century, and the slow influx of the northeastern salt-glazed stoneware tradition beginning in the middle nineteenth century. The field work was successful in locating and sampling eight shop locations, six of which have intact kiln remains. In addition, Clay Bottoms was documented as the source of clay for sev-

eral of the shops. The draft report will be completed by April 2002, and a synopsis paper will be presented at the 2002 MAAC meetings.

#### **Alexandria Archaeology**

[Submitted by Steven Shephard, Alexandria Archaeology]

The new Alexandria Archaeology Museum website, [www.AlexandriaArchaeology.org](http://www.AlexandriaArchaeology.org), was launched in November. In addition to an attractive new look and feel, the site is now easy to navigate, with pull-down menus leading to all parts of the site, and easy access from the navigation bars to other pages on the Historic Alexandria and City of Alexandria websites. This was part of a larger project encompassing the entire Historic Alexandria website ([www.HistoricAlexandria.org](http://www.HistoricAlexandria.org)).

The Archaeology website includes several hundred individual pages. Web visitors can find information about the Museum and its programs and exhibits (past and present), archaeological sites and finds, local preservation laws, Alexandria history and resources for conducting research, and links to related groups, including CNEHA.

The original site was launched in January 1998. In the last four years, a tremendous amount of progress has been made in the technology of website development. New technology allows better navigation, better integration of database information, and better automation of functions so that information on the site can be updated more easily. Museum visitors will soon have access to the Alexandria Archaeology website and to some PowerPoint slide shows through a kiosk.

We hope you will enjoy browsing the new website. Please use the "Contact Us" link to "Website Questions" to provide us with your comments, questions and suggestions for the site.

#### **Mount Vernon**

[Submitted by Esther White, Mount Vernon Ladies Association]

**Distillery:** Excavations continued during the summer of 2001 at the site of George Washington's 1797 distillery. This was the third season of a multi-year research project to uncover the foundation of the 75 x 30-foot stone structure where five stills converted corn and rye into whiskey. The Distilled Spirits Council of the United States (DISCUS) has generously pledged 1.2 million dollars to fund the excavation, research, and reconstruction of Mount Vernon's Distillery.

Approximately one-half of the structure's unmortared cobblestone foundation was uncovered during the first three sea-

sons. These massive stones (many are more than two feet in diameter) were boated to the site from the Falls of the Potomac, west of Washington, DC. The superstructure of the building was sandstone, quarried locally at Mount Vernon. Excavations revealed two sections of the foundation where an intact mortar bed, with fragments of this sandstonewall, survived. This represents the point where the wider, dry-laid footing transitioned to dressed and mortared walls. This mortar bed is exactly 24 inches wide, indicating the width of the distillery's walls.

Excavations also uncovered more of the extensive system of buried wooden troughs, and earthen and brick drains, that channeled water into, through, and out of the building. Earthen and brick drains ran along the interior of the foundation, and a wooden trough along the exterior of the building carried water away from the structure. The use of space within the distillery should be understood through revealing and mapping this drainage system. Washington's probate inventory recorded five stills, five worm tubs and a boiler in the distillery, yet there is no documentary information about how the interior was arranged.

The archaeological investigation of the distillery is being complemented by historical research into the voluminous documentary records that detail many aspects of Washington's business. Two account ledgers record the types of whiskey sold as well as the customer and amount paid. Mount Vernon's Weekly Farm Reports provide a detailed description of activities at the site, as well as amounts of grain ground and transferred to the stills. Correspondence between Washington and Mount Vernon's plantation manager and distiller, James Anderson, also survives, providing insight into the creation and operation of the distillery.

This summer's excavations will uncover the remainder of the building's foot print and interior spaces. The excavation is open to the public Tuesday through Saturday. The distillery is located 3 miles west of Mount Vernon, and is adjacent to a large gristmill which was recently renovated by Mount Vernon's Restoration Department. The gristmill will operate daily from 10:00 to 5:00 from April through October.

### **South Lane Restoration**

As the culmination of numerous archaeological excavations carried out over the last decade, the Mount Vernon historic exhibition area referred to as the "South Lane" is undergoing a major restoration. The goal of the project is to restore the lane to its appearance in 1799, the year of George Washington's death and the point in time when the organization attempts to interpret the plantation. The combination of archaeological and documentary data indicates that a structure, the "dung repository," was located at one end of the

lane, and that unusual building was reconstructed in 2001. Other elements that will be affected include the brick screening wall and the nearby well house, both of which were determined to represent post-1799 features. A nearby fruit garden and nursery was recreated several years ago, based primarily on the evidence of archaeological investigations. As such, this corner of the Mount Vernon estate has undergone significant changes in the name of increasing authenticity, with archaeological research providing the primary source of data.

The focal point of the project, a reconstruction of George Washington's 1787 Stercorary, or Repository for Dung, is believed to be the earliest building for composting waste in the United States. Excavations conducted at the Stercorary between 1993-1995 revealed a 31 x 12-foot cobblestone floor, set two feet lower than the 18th-century ground surface. This floor served as the pit where manure from the adjacent stable, soapsuds, leaves, and other organic materials were composted before being spread on the gardens and nearby orchard.

Remnants of two brick gable walls and seven postholes were also revealed during the excavation, suggesting the building combined both brick and earthfast building technology. The plan of the structure incorporated three brick foundations which supported wooden sills. The fourth wall was earthfast, with seven posts set to maintain the roof framing. This open-sided, covered design allowed air to circulate, yet the manure was shielded from the elements. The reconstruction, built by restoration craftsmen Gus Kiorpes and Raymond Cannetti, has incorporated the original surviving masonry within modern brick walls and utilizes the 18th-century cobblestone floor.

An early 20th-century brick wall along the South Lane was recently removed as part of this project. A reconstruction of a post and plank fence separating the South Lane and South Grove will replace this wall. Archaeological evidence for the fences, which ran adjacent to the north and south lanes, has been discovered in numerous excavations through the years. Mount Vernon's archaeologists are currently conducting additional excavations to finalize the spacing of the postholes.

Behind the kitchen, a late-19th-century well house was removed. Archaeological and historical research suggests that the area surrounding the well was much less formal during Washington's time. A scattering of kitchen trash, and a random paving of brick bats and compass bricks, was discovered around the well during excavations conducted in 1992. Documentary sources suggest a pump might have been installed at this well by 1799. Currently, the Restoration Department is designing a pumping system to be installed above this well.

## Shirley Plantation

{Submitted by Taft Kiser, Artifact Consultants LLC, Richmond}

After a 20-year hiatus, the Hill Carter family, owners of Shirley Plantation since at least 1656, has contracted for further exploration of their archaeological resources. In 1607, Captain John Smith recorded a Weyanoke village on the tract located on the James River just above its confluence with the Appomattox. In 1612 or 1613, Sir Thomas Dale claimed the land for the Baron De la Warre, Sir Thomas West, and by 1625 it was the fourth largest settlement in Virginia. Edward Hill was in the area by 1638, and clearly on the property in 1656. Today, Shirley Plantation is the oldest family-owned business in the United States.

Beginning in April 2001, test excavations by Artifact Consultants LLC discovered ca. 1730s road-building had buried sections of colonial surface along the shoreline. About 3,500 square feet of this surface was hand-stripped and water-screened, resulting in the recovery of about 40,000 Native American artifacts and about 5,000 historic artifacts. A number of Middle Woodland features were found, as well as the chimney of a colonial house possibly dating as early as 1615. The remaining approximately 12,000 square feet of buried colonial surface has been protected from accidental disturbance, and reserved for future work. The Council of Virginia Archaeologists voted the 2001 Sherman Preservation Award to Charles Hill Carter III for his generous support of this testing.

The existing ca. 1730s complex of eight brick buildings was constructed by Elizabeth Hill and her husband John Carter, son of Robert "King" Carter, said to have been the richest Englishman in North America. The buildings stand above the flood plain on a low ridge, and recent work has focused on this landform. The ridge is now believed to be the center of the 1613 plantation, as well as the site of Edward Hill's 1650s complex. Testing found early 17th-century material, as well as a deposit of wall plaster and robbed brick in early 18th-century context. The oversize bricks match those in the existing buildings, implying Elizabeth and John Carter razed her inheritance, the Hill compound, and recycled the materials into a more modern Queen Anne-style complex. Further testing determined a drainage once ran along the foot of the ridge. This drainage has been obscured under as much as ten feet of fill, but appears to have been the plantation garbage dump in the 17th and 18th centuries.

A report on the 2001 work is in progress, and Charles Hill Carter III has funded research through December 2002.

## Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest

{Submitted by Barbara Heath, Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest}

Staff in the Department of Archaeology and Landscapes at Thomas Jefferson's Bedford County plantation, Poplar Forest, under the overall direction of Barbara Heath, are involved in several projects:

**Site Survey:** In 1999, consulting landscape architects from Landscapes identified two areas of the Poplar Forest property as potential sites for future infrastructure expansion. A team of archaeologists headed by Scott Grammer is in the final stages of surveying the first area using a strategy of 2 ft. test units on 25 ft. centers supplemented by metal detector sweeps along transects. To date, three late 19th-century sites have been discovered, and the presence of two Archaic period sites has been confirmed. Structures and landscape features associated with the main building complex of Camp Ruthers, a former YWCA camp in operation from the 1920s through the 1970s, have been recorded. Features dating from the late 19th or early 20th-centuries include a dam, the remains of a pond and an associated structure, and spring houses. Confirmed Ruthers-period features include a softball field, swimming pools, and tennis courts in addition to cabins and landscape features associated with the main log structure. Summer staff member Whitney Thomey has recently completed a senior thesis in Anthropology at William and Mary on the history of the camp and the rise of summer camps in the 20th century.

Staff continued limited metal detector survey and subsurface testing of an area believed to be associated with Jefferson's 18th-century Wingo's quarter in the spring and fall of 2001. The single test unit opened this year contained a collection of late 18th or early 19th-century artifacts including wrought and early cut nails, bone, green bottle glass, and creamware. Limited work at the site will resume as time permits.

**The Southeast Core:** Beginning in the late spring of 2001, staff archaeologists under the direction of Randy Lichtenberger tested a large terrace southeast of Jefferson's house at Poplar Forest looking for evidence of early 19th-century outbuildings, landscape features and roads, as well as features associated with subsequent owners of the property. Testing across the terrace revealed well-preserved, deeply buried strata associated with the Jefferson period, and a number of 19th and early 20th century features. Most prominent of these was an area of concentrated stone rubble, believed to be the remains of a chimney collapse. Located approximately 60 ft. south of a mid-19th-century brick slave quarter/tenant house, this feature may represent the remains

of more ephemeral housing that predated the surviving house's construction. Sealing the stone feature was a dense deposit of domestic artifacts dating to the 1840s and 1850s, suggesting the destruction of the feature by the late 1850s. Among the artifacts recovered was a tiny fist charm, similar to five recovered in antebellum slave quarter contexts in Tennessee and one from the Carroll house in Annapolis.

**The pumphouse:** Archaeologists under the direction of Randy Lichtenberger completed mitigation of the site of an underground pumphouse and a field of geothermal wells, installed to provide heating and cooling to the main house. The site was chosen after preliminary testing uncovered only a light artifact scatter and few features. Subsequent block excavations revealed 11 planting holes, spaced on 20 ft. centers, that most likely relate to an early 20th-century orchard that appears in photographs from the period. A report on the pumphouse excavations is available from the department.

**The South Lawn:** From 1998-2000, staff excavated the banks of a sunken lawn south of the main house, successfully locating evidence of Jefferson-era plantings and an associated drainage system. Laboratory supervisor Heather Olson is completing a report on the early 19th-century artifacts found in association with those excavations. A report on the pollen data from these and other landscape excavations is in preparation.

**Field Schools:** During the summer of 2001, staff hosted a five-week field school for adults and a one-week seminar for teachers, and participated in a week-long day camp for rising 4th and 5th graders. Information about 2002 field school programs is available on the Poplar Forest web site ([www.poplarforest.org](http://www.poplarforest.org)) or can be requested by phoning Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest at 434-525-1806.

### **New London**

[Submitted by Randy Lichtenberger, Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest]

Archaeologists Randy Lichtenberger and Michael Jennings of The Corporation for Jefferson's Poplar Forest conducted archival research and a preliminary archaeological survey in New London, Virginia. The survey marks the first attempt to locate and assess sites in the former colonial town. Founded in 1757, New London was erected along what would become the Lynchburg - Salem Turnpike. The turnpike and its predecessor were the main route westward from the tidewater of Virginia to the frontier of western Virginia, Tennessee, and Kentucky. New London was also the regional supply center for plantations such as Poplar Forest, which was located only three miles to the north. In 1781 a French traveler, the Marquise de Chastellux, noted

New London contained some 70 to 80 houses. Many of New London's residents were Scottish merchants who supplied settlers migrating westward. In addition, the town played an important role in the American Revolution. Today, little evidence of the town's early history remains, other than the Virginia Highway marker erected on the location of the colonial courthouse. Rapid development threatens to engulf the original town area, and no archaeological survey has taken place within its boundaries.

The preliminary survey encompassed portions of three original town lots and the site of a Revolutionary War-era arsenal. As of January 2002, the survey has resulted in the discovery of a probable late eighteenth-century site in the vicinity of the former military outpost. A pit feature filled with up to four feet of hand-made brick was found beneath the raised foundation of a ca. 1900 post office/general store. Beneath the pit, excavators noted a thick layer of compacted sandy loam containing white salt-glazed stoneware, delftware, creamware, pearlware, and English brown stoneware. The survey will continue as time permits throughout 2002.

### **Council of Virginia Archaeologists**

[Submitted by Barbara Heath, Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest]

The Council of Virginia Archaeologists (COVA), the organization representing Virginia's professional archaeological community, presents two awards each year to highlight pro bono preservation work in the Commonwealth. The Hoffman Award, in memory of Michael Hoffman, Professor of Archaeology at the University of Virginia, recognizes the work of organizations. The Sherman Award, in memory of Virginia Sherman, Westmoreland County Historic Preservation Officer, highlights the work of individuals outside the archaeological community who have made important contributions to preservation in Virginia. In 2001, COVA presented the Hoffman Award to the Stockner Excavation Company of Carroll County, for allowing archaeological salvage work to be undertaken during the construction of a parking area behind the Carroll County Courthouse, and for donating time and equipment to help in the salvage operations. The Sherman Award winner, Charles Hill Carter III, was honored for instigating and supporting excavations at Shirley Plantation (see report above). Congratulations to both winners.

## West Virginia

Reported by: William D. Updike

### Historic Component of the Burning Springs Branch Site

[Submitted by William D. Updike, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.]

Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. is conducting excavations of the Burning Springs Branch Site as part of the Marmet Lock Replacement Project for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District. The site is located approximately 12 miles above Charleston on the Kanawha River. The historic component of the site represented the home of Colonel John Reynolds, a Kanawha Valley pioneer, legislator, and salt manufacturer. John Reynolds moved to this location in the 1810s, and constructed what was later described as a "white frame mansion." After John Reynolds' death in 1832, his widow and her sons and their families continued to occupy the house until 1849. After 1849, the story becomes murky, as the property was held in trust by a number of absentee landowners. In the late 1870s-early 1880s the site was occupied by Allen Belcher, a hotel owner, until his murder in the nearby town of Malden. After the mid-1880s, it is unclear who lived at the site. Archaeologically, the site consisted of a 40-by-32 foot sandstone house foundation with an interior root cellar, a second, exterior, root cellar, an external baking oven, a well or cistern, two privies, a barn, a chimney base suggesting the location of a smaller, perhaps earlier, house, and a salt furnace. Analysis of the materials recovered from the site will be conducted this winter.

### Excavations of the Flowing Springs Mill

[Submitted by William D. Updike, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.]

Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. recently completed excavations at the Flowing Springs Mill, near Charles Town, West Virginia, for the West Virginia Division of Highways. The Flowing Springs Mill was established in the 1780s by Robert Rutherford, an early settler and veteran of the French and Indian War. Wheat agriculture was very important to the Shenandoah Valley throughout most of the 19th century, and many mills were constructed to produce flour for export to cities such as Baltimore, Alexandria, and Richmond. Robert Rutherford was also a subscriber to Oliver Evans' *The Young Millwright and Millers Guide*, the most influential book on mill construction and automation well into the 19th century.

The mill passed through several owners until the 1830s when it was owned by the Snyder family. The Snyders milled wheat, corn, and rye, and operated a saw mill. Immediately after the Civil War, the mill was sold to the Yates family, who owned the adjoining property. The Yates expanded the mill in the 1870s, enlarging the storage capacity, and continuing to grind wheat, corn, and rye. In 1872, Yates converted the mill to steam power to be more competitive. Ultimately, western states supplanted the wheat growing areas of the east, and larger capacity roller mills replaced mills like that at Flowing Springs. Archaeological remains at the Flowing Springs mill consisted of a 40-by-32 foot mill building, an 11-foot-wide wheel pit, and a 20-foot-long brick steam engine boiler base. Artifacts recovered from the excavations represented both French Buhr and quartzite millstones, a section of a bevel gear, parts of drive shafts and pulleys from hoisting and flour bolting machines.

### Study of Hook Tavern, Capon Bridge

[Submitted By Chris Espenshade, Skelly and Loy, Inc.]

Skelly and Loy, Inc., is completing the analysis and reporting of investigations of a portion of the Hook Tavern site for the West Virginia Division of Highways. Hook Tavern was established in the early 1840s and served travelers on the Northwest Turnpike. A portion of the site that formerly contained outbuildings, including a purported slave quarter, was threatened by new road construction. The archaeological research demonstrated extreme disturbance in the study area, and the field crew was provided a first-person account of the razing of the buildings. Despite the disappointing field results, the archival research provided an interesting portrait of Samuel Hook. Hook was both a farmer and a tavern-keeper, but his tavern provided the income to make him among the most successful residents of the county. He had five slaves in 1850, and 10 slaves in 1860. The age and gender profiles of the slaves and the types of agricultural production suggest that the slaves were used for tavern and house hold tasks, and possibly limited barnyard activities. Overall, the study provides an interesting contrast to the eastern and Piedmont Virginia mono-crop plantations that relied heavily on large slave forces. The report will be completed in spring 2002.

## Newfoundland and Labrador

Reported by: Rob Ferguson

### "Hoffnungsthal," Makkovik, Labrador

[Submitted by Henry Cary, Archaeology Unit,  
Memorial University of Newfoundland]

Between June 26 and August 24, 2001, Henry Cary, Archaeology Unit, Memorial University of Newfoundland, and four field assistants carried out archaeological excavations at the site of "Hoffnungsthal," Labrador's first Moravian mission. Built in the summer of 1752 deep in a bay near the present day community of Makkovik, the mission station consisted of a small 22x16-foot house accompanied by two smaller outbuildings. In addition to preaching Christianity to the Inuit, the missionaries hoped to set up a large Moravian colony in the area. However, the untimely death of the expedition leader, Johann Christian Erhardt, in September 1752, forced the Moravians to abandon their first mission only weeks after it was completed.

The goal of the 2001 excavations was to learn more about the appearance and construction of the mission house itself. One of the first features uncovered was the foundation, which was made from large, locally-acquired stones held together with clay. Dividing the interior of the house in half was another stone foundation, likely used to give support for internal partitions. These internal sills led up to a large C-shaped hearth in the center of the house which, when exposed, still stood to a height of roughly 50 centimeters. Like the foundation, the hearth and sills were made from angular stones bonded with clay. Running across the short axis of the house interior were four wooden sills that likely supported the floor boards. Inside one corner of the foundations was an unusual brick-lined post hole. This hole may have anchored a ceiling support beam, but also could have held a post with a pulley system for lifting supplies into the loft. Leading up to the house on the outside of the foundations was a set of stairs made from large flat stones. On one side of the steps, irregular-shaped stones were laid down to form a ramp that was either constructed to support the stairs, or for rolling supply barrels up to the doorway.

Hundreds of artifacts were recovered from both inside and outside the house foundations. Window glass, tobacco pipe fragments, and iron nails were the most common items found, but other interesting finds included musket balls, a lead weight, and a wooden fork handle. Some of the artifacts found give further proof that the house foundations were those of the original Hoffnungsthal mission. For instance, one of the missionaries' diaries mentions that the window sills were painted red, and some of the window glass frag-

ments showed traces of red paint. Perhaps the best find was a clay tobacco pipe that was nearly complete, missing only the mouthpiece.

The Hoffnungsthal project was supported by Memorial University's Institute for Social and Economic Research and J.R. Smallwood Foundation; the Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (Government of Newfoundland and Labrador); the Northern Scientific Training Program (Department of Northern and Indian Affairs, Government of Canada); and the Newfoundland Archaeological Heritage Outreach Program, which is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

### Hopedale, Labrador

[Submitted by Rob Ferguson, Cultural Resource  
Management, Parks Canada]

Parks Canada undertook a brief surveillance of an 1817 storehouse at the Moravian mission site of Hopedale, August 16-20, 2001. The purpose was to locate cultural remains relating to a brew house and bakery within the building, indicated in recent research by Dr. Hans Rollman, Memorial University of Newfoundland. Dr. Rollman has had access to a rich archive of Moravian documents which had been, for many years, inaccessible in East Germany. The mission at Hopedale was founded in 1782.

Rob Ferguson, David Igloliorte and two young students, Jarvis Abel and Patrick Winter, excavated 5 test pits within the structure. A concentration of stones was found in the center of one room, but much of the original brick construction must have been removed when the brew house and bakery were moved to another building around 1853. Tobacco pipe fragments were the most common artifact recovered, as well as wrought and cut iron nails, and a bone-handled knife. Cultural deposits reach a thickness of up to 50 cm in places, where bedrock allows. Analysis of the artifacts will be completed at the Parks Canada lab in Halifax.

The community of Hopedale is currently working on a restoration of the complex of buildings in the mission grounds, which includes the active community church from the 1860s. A museum of Moravian and Inuit artifacts is located in an Annex building. Within the town itself are the mission's boat house, and a powder storage shed, now used as a dog house. On the hills above Hopedale are the evocative concrete remains of Canadian and American bases from an old Dew Line (Distant Early Warning) station.

## Renews, Newfoundland

[Submitted by Steve Mills, Coordinator, Newfoundland Archaeological Heritage Outreach Program, Archaeology Unit, Memorial University of Newfoundland]

Steve Mills (Memorial University of Newfoundland) conducted a two-week archaeological survey in Renews, Newfoundland, during July 2001. Renews is located on the east coast of the Avalon Peninsula, 100 kilometers south of St. John's. The project was sponsored by the Newfoundland Archaeological Heritage Outreach Program with assistance from the Renews Heritage and Resource Development Committee. One-half of the survey was spent conducting a controlled test program at The Goodridge Site, a meadow near the community wharf. Archival documents indicate that this was the preferred area used by the English fishing admirals in the 17th century. Archaeological investigations of 18th-century gun batteries in Renews in 1993 and 1994 uncovered a 17th-century English West Country planter's house.

The Goodridge Site (CfAf-19) proved to be very rich in archaeological features and intact cultural deposits dating between the 17th and 19th centuries. A single test trench in one area produced close to 400 artifacts, mainly from the 18th century. Bricks, window glass and nails were among those finds, indicating that a building had been located nearby. Many of the ceramic and glass artifacts are associated with alcohol and tobacco consumption, suggesting that this building may have been a tavern or tippling house. An intact buried sod layer at the bottom of this test trench produced late 17th-century artifacts, including fragments of clay pipes and Spanish ceramics as well as a wine bottle base. Another test pit produced over 1 meter of cultural deposits dating back to the early 18th century. In the same meadow several test pits uncovered remarkably well preserved wooden posts, branches and spruce needles believed to represent the platforms (flakes) used to dry salt fish. Artifacts from that area date from the late 18th century to early 19th century.

The second half of the survey was spent investigating cellar pits and stone wall features in the fields (collectively called Ag Dinn's Cove, CfAf-18) along the shore to the east of the community. Artifacts and structural features uncovered during that part of the survey suggest that these cellar pits and stone walls are associated with the late-18th to 19th-century habitation of Renews. Additional testing in various parts of the harbor turned up more evidence of 18th and 19th century house features and cultural deposits at the Cow Meadow Site (CfAf-20) and the Renews Point Site (CfAf-21).

Overall, the 2001 survey was a total success as four new

sites were identified. Plans are underway to return to Renews in 2002 to further investigate several of the areas where structural features were found, particularly at the Goodridge Site. That site as well as the archaeological features at Ag Dinn's Cove could prove to have great potential for interpretation and development as tourist attractions.

## Nova Scotia

Reported by: Rob Ferguson

### Canso

[Submitted by Rob Ferguson, Cultural Resource Management, Parks Canada]

During the winter of 2000/01, Parks Canada sought clarification from the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada as to the actual national significance of Grassy Island National Historic Sites. Based on a presentation from researchers and administrators with the Cape Breton Field Unit and the Atlantic Service Centre in Halifax, the Board iterated that the significance lay in the early European fishery at Canso prior to 1745, and supported the recommendation to broaden the area of recognition to include all of the Canso Islands. In support of that, a 3-day survey was undertaken by Rob Ferguson in September 2001. Information from maps dating between 1687 and 1742 was compiled, and an investigation of fishing rooms throughout the harbor was made by surface surveillance and by test excavation. Most of the area lies under a dense thicket of bayberry and alder bushes, which greatly restricted both visual and excavation investigations. However, a number of sites were verified around the harbor. The most significant of these is a site of the early French fishery, identified in Nicolas Denys' 1672 history of Acadia as the Admiral's harbor, the premier anchorage. It was also the fishing station of one of the last French residents of Canso, Claude Petitpas, who left when New Englanders asserted their claim to the harbor by force in 1718. Early tobacco pipes, ceramic sherds of Normandy stone ware, unslipped Saintonge, and a grit-tempered coarse earthenware, and glass and iron fragments, within a small, 35-cm<sup>2</sup> test pit, indicate that the area contains a rich cultural deposit of a commercial fishery which extends back into the late 1500s.

Results of the survey were presented to the Board in November 2001. A decision on the new designation will be forthcoming in 2002.

## **Halifax Parkade**

[Submitted by Stephen Davis, Davis Archaeological Consultants Ltd.]

During the months of April and early May 2001, Davis Archaeological Consultants Limited conducted an assessment of archaeological resources within the development area for a new downtown Halifax Parkade. The archaeological crew performed monitoring of fill removal as well as salvage of subsurface cultural resources. The work was conducted under a Heritage Research Permit issued by the Nova Scotia Museum.

The features excavated represent typical structures found in backyards during the 19th century. These include middens, privies and a possible well. Over two thousand artifacts were recovered, most of which were ceramic tablewares and glass bottles. As there was no Municipal garbage collection in the early days of Halifax, household items were often disposed of in backyard trash pits (middens) or were thrown in a well or privy. Many of the artifacts recovered date to the period ca. 1830-1870, although some earlier material was found.

The above information is extracted from the Nova Scotia Museum website. For more information on the parkade excavations, including artifact images, visit the following web sites: [museum.gov.ns.ca/arch/whappen.htm](http://museum.gov.ns.ca/arch/whappen.htm) [www.stmarys.ca/academic/arts/anthropology/sdavis/NSfieldwork2001.html](http://www.stmarys.ca/academic/arts/anthropology/sdavis/NSfieldwork2001.html)

## **Fortress of Louisbourg**

[Submitted by Charles Burke, Cultural Resource Management, Parks Canada]

In 2001, the Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site of Canada completed a six-year archaeology project designed to record cultural resources in the installation corridors for new underground services. Besides requiring extensive archaeological research, mitigation, and salvage, the project afforded an opportunity to reevaluate past excavation, identify undisturbed areas, and for streets, to undertake a systematic approach to the recovery of cultural remains. Early in the project, we established a requirement for digital recording. This entailed the development of a geographic information system (GIS) with the aid of total station or global positioning (GPS) survey, and the creation of a digital archaeological data archive.

Although more than a quarter of the original French townsite is excavated, serious information gaps remain. Throughout the 1960s and '70s archaeology focused on the recovery of structural data for the reconstruction program,

and yards and streets were frequently unexcavated or often, excavated without a research design. In addition, many unexcavated baulks, often without accurate locational data, remain on site. On a more practical level, the incredible wealth of townsite excavation records does not include intrusive activities required to develop the modern town. Water mains, storm sewers, electrical and telephone corridors, alarm systems, roadways - generally these activities occurred without archaeological recording.

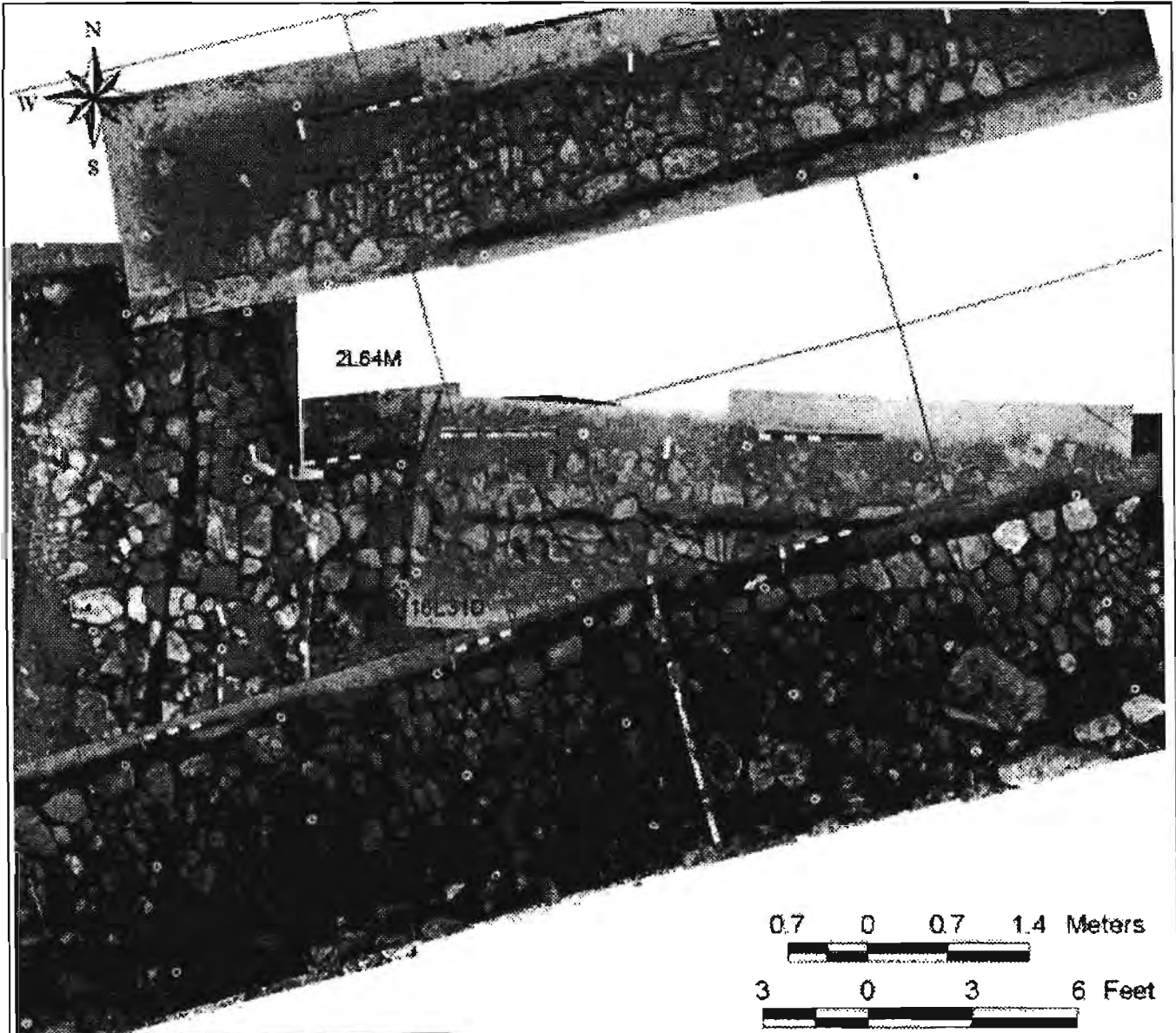
Over the past six years, archaeology has provided significant new information (and 150,000 artifacts) about the 18th-century town and its suburbs. In particular, three seasons devoted to the excavation of Louisbourg's principal streets provide an opportunity to analyze street features like pavé and drainage systems in a broader context than ever before. Most important, the use of digital technology and GIS allows us to create seamless and accurate mosaics of archaeological features excavated and removed over several years.

In 2001, we focused on two of Louisbourg's main streets, excavating both original pavé and stone lined drainage systems built in the first quarter of the 18th century. Under the direction of Charles A. Burke and Nicole E. Brandon, the project conducted tests to correlate electromagnetic anomalies with below grade features as well. In total, 120 linear meters of 2m wide cobble pavé was excavated.

Pavé is a French term defining a laid cobblestone road or walkway generally found beside buildings. Although creating a solid walking surface on eighteenth century gravel streets had advantages, the original builders primarily installed pavé to drain building runoff and rain away from foundations. In Louisbourg, a complex and integrated street and building drainage system developed during the French occupation. Since Town administrators required owners to maintain the area between their property and the street center, pavé and drainage systems evolved into a temporal patchwork. The original occupants regularly pulled up street pavé to clean or rebuild drains, to install new drains from recently built structures, or to repair building foundations.

Louisbourg's pavé consists of a single layer of cobble fieldstone placed tightly into a prepared surface graded away from the building toward the street center. Small beach cobble pavé was used less frequently. The pavé is always bounded on the street side by a row of larger border stones protecting the interior pavé from damage.

The drains excavated in 2001 are typical examples of their type at Louisbourg. A mortared sandstone-capped drain collects water from two buildings, directing it 20m through the street to an intersection with a rubble and boulder-capped drain that channels the water under the street, through a building, and across a town block to the harbor. The drains



*Composite image of Rue Royale pavé and below-street drainage system.*

are set in trenches cut into the glacial till with boulder and dressed stones forming the walls. The drain channel width varies between 17-22cm, and sterile redeposited soils covered each drain.

The report is currently in progress. For additional information please contact [charles\\_burke@pch.gc.ca](mailto:charles_burke@pch.gc.ca)

### **Prince Edward Island**

Reported by: Rob Ferguson

### **Greenwich**

[Submitted by Rob Ferguson, Cultural Resource Management, Parks Canada]

Parks Canada continued a resource inventory of the new Greenwich Adjunct to Prince Edward Island National Park. The Adjunct contains part of the community of Saint-Pierre-du-nord, which existed around St. Peters Bay from 1720 until 1758, when the population was deported by the British. In a 2-week period in June 2001, Rob Ferguson, with Scott Buchanan and Helen Evans, conducted an EM-38 survey, recording electrical conductivity and magnetic susceptibility over an area greater than 16,000 m<sup>2</sup>. The survey highlights one French farm site, including a cellar which had been located by test excavation in the 2001 season. The mapped results, developed by Duncan McNeill of Geonics Limited, present sufficient detail to indicate possibly two cellars and fenced limits to the farmyard.

Application for Membership  
The Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology

Name/Nom: \_\_\_\_\_

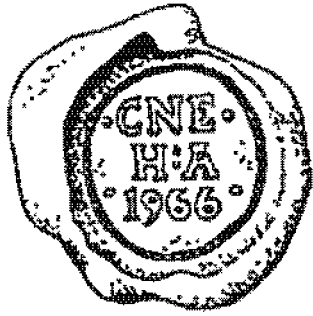
Address/Adresse: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:	Rates	US \$	CDN \$
Sara Mascia	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual/ordinaire	30.00	35.00
Treasurer, CNEHA	<input type="checkbox"/> Student/etudiant	20.00	23.00
16 Colby Lane	<input type="checkbox"/> Joint*/conjoint*	35.00	40.00
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510	<input type="checkbox"/> Fellow**/Associe**	45.00	50.00
	<input type="checkbox"/> Life/a vie	500.00	575.00
	<input type="checkbox"/> Business/entreprise	50.00	60.00
or poster a l'adresse ci-dessous:	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organization/ organisme sans but lucratif	40.00	45.00
Joseph Last			
PO Box 1961			
Cornwall, Ontario			
Canada K6H6N7			

\*For two people at the same mailing address. / Pour deux personnes de la meme adresse postale. Elles ne reçoivent qu'un exemplaire des publications.

\*\* For those who feel a primary commitment to Northeast Historical Archaeology and wish to support the Council's activities at a higher voluntary membership rate. / Pour ceux qui s'intéressent à l'archéologie historique du Nord-est américain et qui veulent aider à soutenir l'action du Conseil en versant une cotisation plus élevée.



# Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2002

NUMBER 52

## The Five Points Collection and September 11th

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The Five Points analysis was conducted in two large rooms in the second basement of 6 World Trade Center. The facilities were luxurious in terms of space and we were grateful to the General Services Administration for supplying us with so much room to work. The collection was stored in boxes on shelves in one of the rooms and the other was subdivided into areas for washing, layout, conservation, and individual cubicles. After the Five Points project was completed, the African Burial Ground staff took over the workspace, but the Five Points collection remained in storage, awaiting transfer to a permanent repository. Unfortunately, the storage room was destroyed by the collapse of Tower 1 on September 11th. While some boxes containing burial ground related material were recovered from the front workroom, nothing was left of the storage room.

As is recommended archaeological practice, a set of records and many photographs were kept elsewhere. A detailed report including an abbreviated artifact inventory has just been distributed and a comprehensive inventory will eventually be available in Access. But the bulk of the collection is gone, all but 18 artifacts. The 18 artifacts, including a teacup decorated with the printed image of Father Theobald Mathew, had been loaned to the Archdiocese of New York for an exhibit. They returned the artifacts last summer and instead of sending them back to the Trade Center I requested they be sent to Diane Dallal at the South Street Seaport Museum "for safekeeping." They are presently on display at New York Unearthed in Manhattan.

Rebecca Yamin  
Philadelphia

CNEHA Has a Permanent Address for Its Website:  
<http://www.smcm.edu/cneha>

### COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

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Northeast Historical Archaeology seeks manuscripts dealing with historical archaeology in the Northeast region, including field reports, artifact studies, and analytical presentations (e.g., physical anthropology, palynology, faunal analysis, etc.). We also welcome commentary and opinion pieces. To submit a manuscript or request preparation of manuscript guidelines, write to David B. Landon, Anthropology Department, University of Massachusetts Boston, 100 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125.  
[david.landon@umb.edu](mailto:david.landon@umb.edu)

UPDATE--*Northeast Historical Archaeology*  
Reported by: David Landon

The editorial office continues to be busy this year. We are currently working on the next publication, a double issue of Volume 30-31 for 2001-2002. As I reported previously, this is a thematic volume entitled "The Archaeology of

## OFFICERS OF CNEHA

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The Archaeology of Agriculture and Rural Life in Northern Delaware, 1800-1940, by Lu Ann De Cunzo

How the Past Became a Place: An Example from 19th-Century Maryland, by Julia A. King

What was it? Archaeological Evidence of Agricultural Drainage Systems in the 19th Century, by Sherene Baugher

Burning Down the House: The Archaeological Manifestations of Fire on Historic Domestic Sites, by Dena Doroszenko

Trying to Think Progressively about 19th-Century Farms, by Mary C. Beaudry

A System for Ranking the Research Potential of 19th- and 20th-Century Farmstead Sites, by George L. Miller and Terry H. Klein

Recovering Information Worth Knowing: Developing More Discriminating Approaches for Selecting 19th-Century Rural Domestic Sites and Farmsteads, by Karen D. McCann and Robert L. Ewing

Living on the Edge: Consumption and Class at the Keith Site, by Maria O'Donovan and Lou Ann Wurst

Research Questions for the Archaeology of Rural Places: Experiences from the Middle Atlantic, by Wade Catts

Rethinking the Mengkon-Mixing Bowl: Salvage Archaeology at the Johannes Luyster House, A Dutch-American Farm, by Gerald P. Scharfenberger and Richard F. Veit

Nineteenth-Century Farmsteads." As you can see from the list of contents below, this publication includes a wide range of interesting articles. Collectively, these chapters offer perspectives that will significantly advance our understanding and appreciation of 19th and early 20th century farmsteads. Completing this issue in 2002 is currently the major goal of the editorial office.

Current Table of Contents, Volume 30-31:

Introduction to the Archaeology of 19th-Century Farmsteads in the Northeastern United States and the Eastern Canadian Provinces, by Terry H. Klein and Sherene Baugher

The Archaeology of 19th-Century Farmsteads: The Results of a Workshop Held at the 1997 Annual Meeting of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology, by Terry H. Klein, George L. Miller, Mark Shaffer, Wade Catts, Mary Beaudry, Lu Ann De Cunzo and Dena Doroszenko

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT

Reported by: David Starbuck, Newsletter Editor

Please send news for the next issue of the CNEHA Newsletter by Sept. 15 to the appropriate provincial or state editor. If you would like to submit an article dealing with archaeological collections management or curation, please send it to Beth Acuff, Dept. of Historical Resources, 2801 Kensington Ave., Richmond, VA 23221.

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ATLANTIC CANADA: Rob Ferguson, Parks Canada, Upper Water Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 1S9. rob\_ferguson@pch.gc.ca

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bara@poplarforest.org

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Suite #3, Hurricane, WVA 25526. wupdike@crai-ky.com

## CNEHA Annual Business Meeting

October 21, 2001  
Brock Plaza Hotel  
Niagara Falls, Ontario

Meeting called to order by Chair Sberene Baugher at 8:31  
am.

### 1. Approval of last year's ABM minutes

Motion to approve: David Starbuck  
Seconded: Paul Huey  
Carried

### 2. Treasurer's Report: Sara Mascia

Income is \$7,195.09. Expenditures total \$12,812.58. As  
of Sept. 11, 2001 the US bank balance is \$7,156.66.  
Canadian. \$1,236.46 income. Expenditures include a con-  
ference advance of \$1,750.00. As of Oct. 1, 2001, the bal-  
ance of the Canadian account is \$1,164.16. The balance of  
the business CD account is \$10,212.21 US.

Fees have remained the same for the postage, printing and  
maintaining the journal office. The Board has decided to  
raise membership fees by 10 dollars in order to maintain the  
high quality of service to our members. It was a difficult  
decision by the Board to increase dues. No comments from  
members present.

Motion to accept Treasurer's report.  
Moved by: Mary Beaudry  
Seconded: Lu Ann De Cunzo  
Carried

### 3. Newsletter Report: David Starbuck

Number 50 at printer, should be mailed out in the next 2  
weeks. West Virginia editor added. Please submit news to  
area editors. Highlighted Silas Hurry and Lois Feister who  
have submitted news every edition.

### 4. Journal Editors reports: Mary Beaudry & David Landon

Journal transition has been smooth. Collated sufficient  
number of articles, which will be v.29 and will become  
David Landon's responsibility now. Mary Beaudry transfer-  
ring 9 boxes of archival material to Dena Doroszenko.  
Thanked all the assistant editors over the years.

David Landon: Transition was more chaotic for him--  
learning stage and working on the 1999 journal. May have  
2 volumes out in this coming year. Double issue on  
Farmsteads as well, which will mean 3 volumes in very short  
order. Tribute to Mary Beaudry for her 17 years on the  
Board.

## 5. Membership Report: Wade Catts

Individual: as of Oct. 15, 2001: 360

43 Institutions

We need more members therefore; membership drive will start next year.

## 6. Elections report:

Sherene Baugher noted that Terry Klein has resigned from the Board, Ann-Eliza Lewis reported on his behalf. New Board members introduced: Lu Ann DeCunzo, Paul Huey, Rebecca Yamin, Ed Morin, and Richard Veit. Two positions vacated and appointment of 2 new people for a 2-year term: 1 Canadian: Suzanne Plousos (replacing David Starbuck who remains on the Board as Newsletter Editor) and 1 American: Karen Metheny (replacing Terry Klein).

## 7. 2001 Conference: Niagara Falls, Ontario, 2001: Dena Doroszenko

A highly successful conference. A total of 150 attendees. The tours and workshops were well attended. A profit for CNEHA is projected. During this conference, as was requested at last year's Annual Business Meeting, a 5-minute question period after each talk was scheduled. Members present approved result of this new introduction to the conference schedule becoming part of the CNEHA conference procedures.

## 8. Oct. 17-20, 2002, Wilmington, Delaware: Wade Catts

Brandywine River Valley. Scenic and historic area. Winterthur Museum, Longwood gardens, Newcastle, City of Wilmington rejuvenated riverfront and Market Street. Wyndham Hotel. Significant consulting firm support for this meeting.

## 9. 2003 Conference Venue: Location to be determined within commuter distance of Boston.

## 10. Resolution of Thanks to Outgoing Board Members: Ed Morin

Whereas, the term of office of a certain valued member has expired and the resignation of a second valued member has been reluctantly accepted by the Executive Board of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology, the Council acknowledges their contributions to the organization and expresses its heartfelt thanks to, Mary Beaudry, who has dedicated the past 16 years as Journal Editor to ensure the highest standards of quality, professionalism and integrity of this publication and to her selfless efforts as a Board Member, and to, Terry Klein, for all his guidance and efforts in service to the Council as both a past Chair and Board Member. Therefore, be it resolved that the Council expresses its unreserved appreciation for the leadership, dedication

and efforts of these board members.

Moved by: Ed Morin

Seconded: Sara Mascia

## 11. Resolution of Thanks to Conference Organizers: Richard Veit

Whereas the 2001 CNEHA conference has been a resounding success and Whereas, Niagara Falls has proven to be a splendid venue for such a conference; Whereas, we have all enjoyed learning much about the city and region's archaeology; Whereas Fort George proved to be a superb venue for a reception; Whereas the entire conference has been conducive to the dissemination of knowledge and an exchange of ideas;

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology wishes to express its appreciation and gratitude for all the hard work, long hours and excellent efforts of the conference organizers: Dena Doroszenko and Joe Last, Conference Co-Chairs, for a job well done! Eva MacDonald for the excellent local arrangements. Ellen Blaubergs for a superb bookroom. For the support provided by Parks Canada Agency, Ontario Service Center; Archaeological Services Inc.; Mayer Heritage Associates; Historic Horizon Inc., Jon Jouppien Heritage Consultant; and Heritage Quest. We are also grateful for the assistance of Suzanne Plousos; Ron Dale, Dave Webb and the Fort George Staff; Phil Dunning; Charles Bradley; Dennis Carter-Edwards; Jon Jouppien; Bev Garner; Ron Williamson; Marie-Lorraine Pipes; Archaeo-Expeditions; Doug Mackey and Cynthia Blakemore; Maja Bannerman; Doug Willett and the Niagara Pumphouse Visual Arts Center; Adele Kon and the City of Niagara Falls; Erika Alexander and the Friends of Fort George; Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce; Niagara Falls Tourist Bureau; and the Brock Plaza Hotel. Finally, thanks again to Dena and Joe for a job well done and a memorable conference!

Moved by: Richard Veit

Seconded: Ann-Eliza Lewis

Carried

## 12. Other Old Business: none

## NEW BUSINESS:

### 1. Student Award Papers: Karen Metheny

Sixth paper competition 4 papers presented during the conference: Christa Beranek (Boston University), Henry Cary (Memorial University), Claire Freisenhausen (University of Toronto), and Tina Visalli (SUNY Brockport). Jury: Karen Hartgen, Rita Griffin Short, David Starbuck, David Landon, and Lu Ann De Cunzo.

Hon. mention to Henry Cary

First prize: Christa Beranek, Boston University

Henry and Christa will receive certificates, and 1 year's membership in CNEHA. Christa's paper will be published in NEHA.

2. Liz Kinney approached Board members about lack of students within CNEHA membership. Offered to work with CNEHA Board to form a Student Membership Drive Committee, with Kinery. Appreciation expressed by Sherene Baugher

No Other new business

Motion to adjourn: Sara Mascia

Seconded: Karen Metheny

Carried

Adjourned at 8:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dena Doroszenko, Secretary

## CURRENT RESEARCH

### Maine

Reported by: Leon Crammer

#### Pemaquid Area

In June, 1999, historical archaeologist Neill De Paoli, along with Sheila McDonald of Maine's Bureau of Parks and Lands and several area-residents, discovered the remains of an early 18th-century well or cistern while examining the eroding banks of the Pemaquid River near the river's mouth on Maine's south-central coast. All that was visible were the worn stubs of seven barrel staves protruding from the river bank. The Bureau of Parks and Lands, in recognition of the feature's potential archaeological significance and vulnerability to additional storm damage and destruction, funded two seasons of archaeological investigations of the "Barrel Site" after receiving permission from the property owners to excavate.

The results of the 1999 and 2000 excavations have been impressive. Historical archaeologists have unearthed what appears to be a wood-lined well or cistern consisting of two complete and well preserved red oak barrels sitting on top of one another. The wet and oxygen-free environment protected the wooden barrels from bacterial and marine pests that normally destroy such objects in a relatively short period of time. Originally, the well/cistern was probably comprised of three barrels. The third and uppermost barrel may have been removed or deteriorated on site after being exposed by a local antiquarian in the late 1800s. The barrel's owner had the initials "DA" carved into the exterior of one of the barrel staves. The letters appear to be those of David Allen, a

Pemaquid merchant who purchased a house and river lot on the site of Colonial Pemaquid in 1736.

Historical archaeologists also made a series of intriguing discoveries in the pit where the barrels sat. They unearthed ten "head" staves and planks immediately outside the top of the second barrel. Apparently, the work crew constructing the well/cistern laid the staves and boards down in the mucky fill as a makeshift "floor" to make moving about easier. The men had salvaged most of the wood from one of the tops or bottoms of the barrels. The barrel pit also contained a varied array of late 17th- and early 18th-century artifacts. Finds included clay smoking pipes, German and English earthenware and stoneware plates, bowls, jugs, brass washed common pins, handwrought nails, and bricks. These colonial-era items and those recovered elsewhere on the "Barrel Site" are probably debris from a nearby dwelling and a possible shipyard dating to the late 17th and the 18th centuries. With these artifacts and a 1736 deed, DePaoli has been able to confidently date the water reservoir's construction to the second quarter of the 18th century. The 1736 Allen deed suggests David Allen may have used the well/cistern as a source of water for his family or the possible shipyard.

Conservator Molly Carlson is currently stabilizing and conserving the remains of one of the two barrels. The second barrel was left on site and reburied. Grants from the Maine Historic Preservation Commission and the Bureau of Parks and Lands have made the conservation possible. Eventually, the Bureau of Parks and Lands will have an exhibit prepared that features the barrel and its story placed in Colonial Pemaquid's museum.

This past summer, De Paoli shifted his focus three miles upriver to two lots at Pemaquid Falls. Since 1984, the New Hampshire-based archaeologist has been searching for evidence of the English farming hamlet that existed at the Falls from the 1650s to 1689. Investigations began on the site of a shipyard that may date as early as the late 1600s. Local maritime historian Nicholas Dean first reported the site in the early 1980s. Dean discovered a wooden ship's way eroding out of the banks of the Pemaquid River. Interest was further heightened when a geologist discovered a small toy or model boat dating to the late 1600s boat near the yard. This summer's work identified a shipbuilding operation dating to at least the mid-1800s. Archaeologists unearthed discards of metal and wooden hardware and structural timbers left by the workmen as they constructed and repaired boats and ships. One of these vessels included the Charles A. Sproul, a 68-ton schooner constructed by father and son Charles A. and William Sproul between ca. 1871 and 1878.

De Paoli selected the second lot (CR lot) because of its proximity to Pemaquid Falls and a complex of open fields. Fish and game were attracted to the area while the falls provided the settlers with a dependable source of power for saw and grist mills. While the archaeologists did not unearth remains of the 17th-century farming community, they did not leave the property empty-handed. Crew members recovered household and building debris from a farm house built in the 1760s and removed from the site in the early 1800s.

Debris includes a modest amount of coal and slag from what appears to be a blacksmith shop that operated in or adjacent to the dwelling. De Paoli plans on continuing to investigate both Pemaquid Falls sites in the years ahead.

### Scarborough Town Farm

Sometime between 1750 and 1773, Joseph Munson built a "double two story house" in Scarborough, Cumberland County, Maine. Over the years, his property changed hands many times and belonged to generations of farmers, a state governor, and a minister. In 1867, the town of Scarborough purchased the house and the accompanying 120 acres for use as its town farm for support of its poor.

For over 80 years, from 1867 to 1952, the farmhouse, or "Alms House," sheltered the local poor who had nowhere else to turn. Proceeds from the farm helped to defray the cost of their care. Eventually, State programs began to supplement the town's resources by providing for certain classes of the poor, including veterans, children, and the mentally ill. Beginning in the 1930s, Federally funded welfare programs were also instituted, further reducing the responsibility of the town. Its purpose largely superseded by state and federal programs, the town auctioned the property off in 1953. From 1954 to 2000, the former Alms House once again served as a private residence. In October, 2001, Crane & Morrison Archaeology completed a Phase 2 evaluation of the grounds surrounding the former Alms House. The property is currently being developed as a subdivision.

The testable area of the site was quite small, about 0.2 acre, since heavy grading had been done prior to our arrival. A total of 18 square meters was excavated in the undamaged portions of the house yard and barnyard. Nearly fourteen thousand individual artifacts were recovered, dating from all periods of the site's occupation. The most notable artifacts were those dating from the site's tenure as the Town Farm, including patent medicine bottles and tins addressing respiratory and digestive ailments. A shallow privy pit adjacent to the standing house, dating from the Town Farm period, was also found and investigated.

One of the original research goals for the project was to look for changes in the farm's layout that might have occurred during the nineteenth century as a response to the Industrial Revolution as studied by Thomas Hubka and Richard Waldbauer, or as a response to the change in use of the site from family farm to a Town Farm. We also wanted to see if changes in health, diet, and overall quality of life could be observed, particularly by examining the privy's fill.

The archaeological data to answer these questions could not be found. The former Alms House is typical of a house that was altered over time in the way Hubka described. Just as he discussed, the main section of the alms house, a Cape Cod house, originally stood alone and was added to over time. What is not known is exactly how separate free-standing buildings on the farm might have been arranged and used, for instance, before 1820. With regard to the privy, the artifacts and fill layers indicated that it had been cleaned

episodically; the final filling consisted of trash without "night soil" placed in the pit in the 1930s or 1940s when a plumbed indoor toilet was installed. Town farm sites are a type of site that could yield new information about 19th century Maine. Unfortunately, the Scarborough Alms House site, compromised by grading prior to the archaeological evaluation, could not fulfill that promise, and no further work was recommended.

### Greater Frenchman's Bay Historical Sites Survey [submitted by Pamela Crane and Peter Morrison]

In 2000, the Abbe Museum initiated an historic sites survey of the Frenchman's Bay region in eastern Maine. Frenchman's Bay is in coastal Hancock County and lies between Mount Desert Island on the west and Schoodic Peninsula on the east. The coastline of the Bay, including its islands, stretches about 210 miles. The work was funded by the U.S. Department of the Interior, through the Maine Historic Preservation Commission's Survey Grant Program. Fieldwork funded by this grant was carried out in 2000 and 2001.

This region was home to the Abenaki for thousands of years before the arrival of Europeans, and they remained an important political, cultural, and military presence during the colonial period. During the 17th century, the Frenchman's Bay area was within the French-claimed territory of Acadia, although both English and French missionaries, settlers, and traders may have lived and worked there from time to time. After the end of the French and Indian Wars in 1763, an influx of Yankee settlers brought the region firmly under English control. Their settlements were later incorporated, becoming the towns of Bar Harbor, the Cranberry Isles, Franklin, Frenchboro, Gouldsboro, Hancock, Lamoine, Mount Desert, Sorrento, Southwest Harbor, Sullivan, Trenton, and Winter Harbor.

According to William Shirley's 1795 History of Maine, "there were anciently, many French settlements on the part of the bay, which is opposite to the banks of Mount Desert, as well as on the island itself." Furthermore, second-hand sources indicate that the earliest New England settlers to arrive in the 1760s found abandoned settlements that they attributed to French colonists who preceded them. Unfortunately, we have yet to uncover a first-hand description of one of these sites, and the second-hand descriptions are inexact in their descriptions of the site locations.

In 1979, Robert Bradley of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission reviewed secondary sources and produced a list of French and English sites that might exist around Frenchman's Bay. To date, none of these sites have been verified in the field. The sites he entered include the Winskeag Settlement, (Wabanaki, ca. 1676-1725); the Hautville Settlement Site (French, ca. 1697); the De La Mothe Settlement (French, 1688); Ash's Point Fort Site (French, seventeenth century); Petit Plaisance (French and English, 1688); the St. Sauveur Mission (French, 1613); and Madam Leval's Colony (French Settlement, 1790s).

As a result of the 2000 and 2001 field seasons, 44 historical sites were identified in the field. The list of sites provides an initial indication of the variety of sites that are to be found in the region, including homesteads, farmsteads, a possible Revolutionary Era fortified trading post, tidal mills, a canal, mines, abandoned boats and ships, and landings. As far as has been confirmed, these sites date from the period of first Yankee settlement after 1760 and through the 19th century; seventeenth- and early eighteenth-century sites remain elusive. Still, the study was successful in leading to a better understanding of the colonial documents and how their descriptions may fit the present-day landscape which, it is hoped, will lead to successes in future seasons. Contacts with landowners, members of local historical societies, and other interested people has led to numerous leads that still need to be followed-up. Clearly, there is much work to be done around Frenchman's Bay in the coming years.

### **Pownal**

The excavation of a 19th century site occurred during the months of September and October of 2001 with Norm Buttrick as Director of Archaeology and Sue Clukey as Project Director obtaining grants from the Maine Humanities Council, the Pownal (Maine) Historical Society, and other sources. Members of the community as well as some 7th and 8th graders of Pownal were served by this excavation by volunteering to learn how to dig correctly and enjoy learning about history in a different way.

The question as to what type of site this was: "Tavern," "Inn," retail store or farmstead may have been answered. First of all, very few artifacts relating to the site being a "Tavern" or for that matter an "Inn" were found. The artifacts you would expect to find in large numbers would be: pipe stems and bowls, mug fragments, as well as wine bottle fragment such as was found at the Stevens Tavern (Buttrick Report 1999, MHPC), and an abundance of redware for food preparation and pearlware or hardwhite ware patterns for consumption of food were not found as well. Cyrus Jones, the owner, was refused a liquor license in the 1830s, but a reference was made in a deed transaction in 1836 as to Cyrus Jones being an Inn holder of Pownal, Maine, but there is little artifactual evidence that a retail store existed. There is the possibility that there could have been a trash pit located on the site giving more evidence that an "Inn" or retail store actually existed. Tim Dinsmore of Newcastle, Maine, worked on a retail store site (Hale), and found thousands of clay pipes and stems (most were unused) as well as hundreds of buttons and other retail goods of which nothing of the kind was found on this site (half a dozen pipe stems or bowl fragments and only a few buttons).

In conclusion to the use of the site, I would have to say that for most of its history, the house site was a 19th century farmstead rather than any of the other classifications that tradition has pinned on it. Perhaps for very brief periods a store was run out of part of the house as well as a room or two for boarders.

### **Portland**

A research survey in the Bayside Development District of the City of Portland, ME, was requested by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to determine the feasibility of conducting a Phase I archaeological survey. The survey was conducted by Norman Buttrick of Portland. A number of industrial sites were located on maps from 1837 to 1916, which included the Portland and Rochester Railroad Depot (1852-1880s), E. M. Lang's Solder and Die Works, which later became part of the Portland Stove Foundry complex (1880-1996). There were a number of other industries located in the district which included Joshua T. Emery, a stonecutter of granite, and the Clapp Wharf, as well as the interesting shanty town buildings of "Harris Island" at the bottom of Pearl Street. All this area was once part of Back Cove and thus under water until 1837 or earlier. Although the report contained much unpublished or untold information, a Phase I archaeology survey was not considered necessary because the land was highly disturbed due to the heavy industrial use of the area since the Portland and Rochester Railroad era, and the area was well documented through maps and photographs.

### **Castine**

A team of archaeologists from the University of Maine under the direction of Alaric Faulkner has begun a long-term survey and mapping project in Castine, Maine. Located in a strategic position for controlling traffic along the Penobscot River, Castine is renowned for hosting a plethora of historic fortifications dating from the 17th through the 19th centuries. After many years of studying the 17th century habitations, Faulkner's team has begun work on defensive works related to the American Revolution and the War of 1812. The project, started in August of 2001, focuses on Witherle Woods, a large track of land on the Castine peninsula that has hitherto been little studied because of its dense forest cover. To date, evidence for at least seven different sites, largely British and American batteries, blockhouses and their appurtenances, have come to light.

## **New York State**

Reported by: Lois Feister

### **Albany Almshouse Excavations**

Prior to construction of a multi-million dollar biomedical research facility, the New York State Museum archaeology crews are excavating the site of an Albany Almshouse dating to the late 19th century. As many as 1500 bodies could be buried there. More than 200 bodies have been discovered so far. Archaeologists have discovered most lying within disintegrated wooden coffins. The archaeologists will examine the remains in search of insights into the health and living

conditions of Albany in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The study is taking place in temporary labs on-site; the excavations, which began in February, are conducted under heated tents. Following examination of the bones, they are being sent to a local funeral home for new coffins for reburial at Albany Rural Cemetery. Although matching the lists of inmates at the Almshouse with individual skeletons probably is not feasible, Chuck Fisher, New York State Museum archaeologist in charge, says, "I think that we'll give these people an identity that they never had, telling about how they lived their lives and what obstacles they overcame. We have lots of identities." (Source: *Albany Times Union*)

#### **Artifacts from the Battle of Valcour Island to go on Exhibit**

Divers surveying the murky bottom of Lake Champlain over the past few years off Valcour Island removed several artifacts. Valcour Island was the location of an important Revolutionary War naval battle in October 1776 when Benedict Arnold's American fleet took on a larger and more powerful British flotilla. The Americans fled that night after a daylong battle, but the time and energy spent in the battle resulted in the British having to retreat to Canada. Using records from the battle, divers located the line of defense the American ships set up between Valcour and the New York shoreline. Included in the finds were an exploded American cannon, a bayonet, and a wooden cartridge box that still has its owner's initials. All artifacts are being treated at the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum in Basin Harbor, Vermont. They will go on exhibit there by the end of the summer and then, probably by October in time for the anniversary of the battle, at the Clinton County Museum in Plattsburgh. (Source: *Plattsburgh Press-Republican*)

#### **Archaeology at the Clintonville Bloomery Forge Site**

Gordon Pollard, Professor and Chair of Anthropology at SUNY Plattsburgh, New York, directed a fourth successful season of field work at the Clintonville Bloomery Forge Site in the Ausable River Valley on the east side of the Adirondacks. The excavations revealed new details of the large forge building and associated bellows structures that operated from 1830 to 1890. The 2001 tests confirmed and defined two exterior stone walls for the western bellows house, plus a lower stone ledge that may have framed the waterwheel pit to drive the bellows machinery and an archway through the south wall that served as an exit for the discharge from the waterwheel. Other tests revealed the work area floor adjacent to the stone blacksmith forge below which, unexpectedly, was found the foundation of an early bloomery forge for making iron. The earlier forge had been dismantled down to its lowest courses of brickwork prior to converting this section of the building into the blacksmith's area. Finally, two-thirds of the lower portion of another bloomery forge was found, also made of brick. The heavy cast iron plates that had framed and formed the firebox had

been removed and left staked at the front of the forge. Another rare discovery was two sections of cast iron pipe that had served as conduits for the air-blast tuyere through the outside of the forge. Excavations will continue in 2002. (Source: *Society for Historical Archaeology Newsletter*, Winter 2001)

#### **Zebra Mussel Study Reveals New Information**

A team from the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum has been studying the invasion of zebra mussels in Lake Champlain waters. In addition to collecting water and zebra mussels on six shipwrecks, they recovered a cast iron window grate from a mid 19th century canal boat first located in the 1980s. Then, although the grate was rusty, it was quite visible. Now, the divers had trouble relocating the grate because of the zebra mussels covering all the surfaces of the shipwreck. Upon recovery, the team immediately performed a series of tests that indicate that a sulfur-reducing bacteria was present between the zebras and the grate. This lends support to the theory that the zebra mussels are radically affecting iron. The divers also noticed a large number of fish in the proximity of an area of crushed zebra mussel shells. They put the area under remote surveillance and recorded fish eating zebra mussels and spitting out their shells. In addition, several fish were caught and examined. This confirmed they were eating zebra mussels. The team is not suggesting that fish predation is a means of controlling zebra mussels, but these observations are helping to understand better the dynamics these invaders are bringing to the lake's ecosystem. (Source: *LCMM News*)

#### **Grant Received to Restore Seneca Trail**

The federal government has rewarded a \$100,000 grant to restore a pedestrian trail that once linked the 17th century Seneca Indian village of Ganondagan to a palisaded fort on a neighboring hill. The grant was the largest among four announced recently as part of the National Recreational Trail Program. The grant will pay for more than two miles' worth of hiking and equestrian trails at the Ganondagan State Historic Site in Victor, New York. The village and fort was burned in 1687 when French troops and rival warriors led by the Marquis DeDenonville attacked it. Archaeologists from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation's Archeology Unit stationed at Peebles Island will test the location of the route of the trail prior to construction. (Source: *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*)

#### **Slave Settlement Found Near Hyde Park, New York**

Local historians and archaeologists are working to bring the story of a settlement of freed and fugitive slaves to life. The settlement of as many as 60 families hidden in woods near Hyde Park was called New Guinea. The residents most-

ly were brought to the area originally as slaves by wealthy families. The settlement is believed to date back to at least 1799, when the state legislature passed a law providing for the gradual freeing of slaves by 1827. By the mid-19th century, most of the blacks in Hyde Park had moved to the settlement. Today, the site is owned by the Town of Hyde Park and managed by the Hyde Park Recreation Department. Foundations of stone houses sit amid rock outcroppings and trees. The local Historical Society contacted Christopher Lindner, archaeologist-in-residence at Bard College, and together they launched a project that includes a field school for the summer of 2002 and eventually a special curriculum for local students. Documentary research into deeds, tax rolls, church records, and newspapers is underway. Five cellar holes have been found along with a scattering of cultural materials, such as glassware, pottery, and the rusted wheel of a child's toy cart. Plans are to test the site and to preserve and interpret most of it for the future. (Source: *Poughkeepsie Journal*)

## Maryland

Reported by: Silas Hurry

### St. Mary's City

Surveys completed: As part of museum and campus development, Historic St. Mary's City has recently undertaken two survey and testing projects in the National Historic Landmark. A Phase I and Phase II examination on an 8-acre parcel of land in St. Mary's City uncovered evidence of an early 17th century domestic site, likely the house built by a carpenter named Philip West in 1637. This is a particularly important site since West represents a social and economic class of whom very little is known from 17th century Maryland. Another portion of the field shows evidence of an intact Early Woodland site, with a good quantity of Accokeek pottery sherds found in plowed and unplowed contexts. An interesting 19th century feature survives in the eastern corner of the study area. In 1880 the roadbed for a railroad line was built through Southern Maryland with a spur planned for St. Mary's City. The railroad was never completed and the company went bankrupt. Portions of the graded bed are still preserved in St. Mary's City. Another survey was completed at St. Mary's on a tract of land known as the Triangle. Several Native American sites were found, as well as at least two colonial period sites. An 18th-century cellar was discovered, and it is likely part of the ca. 1754 Hicks Mackall plantation that once stood in the vicinity of the survey. This discovery may be part of the only surviving architectural remnant of this plantation.

Museum Development: Historic St. Mary's City has recently completed the installation of a new exhibit which investigates the archaeology and architecture of the Roman Catholic brick chapel of 1667. The exhibit includes illustra-

tion of the excavations, artifacts recovered, and plans for reconstruction. The installation of this exhibit is part of a larger museum reorganization which moved the museum's gift shop to a new location on the property and thereby created more exhibit space within the Visitor Center.

### Cambridge

A team made up of the Summer 2001 Archaeology Field School at Washington College, Chestertown, Maryland, began a preliminary archaeological investigation at the purported birthplace of Harriet Tubman on a working farm located in Bucktown, six miles south of Cambridge, Maryland, on Greenbriar Road, near the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge. The work is a collaborative effort between Washington College and the Maryland Historical Trust. The investigation was initiated at the urging of Richard Hughes, Director of Archaeology at the Trust, and is supported financially largely through grants from the Trust.

The ultimate goal of the project is to locate and identify the habitation and work sites of the residents of the farm, as well as any outbuildings on the property, with an eye towards future consideration of the property as a possible tourist site.

The tasks of the investigation were to conduct background research, surveys, and excavation of Blackwater Farms, Inc. to verify it as the Brodess plantation and,

1. To locate and identify the plantation house on the Brodess plantation where Harriet Tubman was born.
2. To identify the location of the cabins for enslaved laborers on the Brodess plantation.
3. To identify the location of other living and activity areas on the plantation.

This was achieved through a combination of archival background research, oral histories, archaeological field investigations including walking surveys, remote sensing, shovel testing, and test units; laboratory analysis of recovered materials; and preparation of a technical report. Extensive archival research was done by Richard Hughes in 2000 and is ongoing. The preliminary archaeological investigation was conducted in 2001, for the Washington College Archaeological Field School from July 9 - August 17th and archaeological work continued through October, 2001. Informants included residents of the area such as historians affiliated with the Harriet Tubman Organization, John Creighton, and Dr. Kay McKelvey, and members of the descendant communities in the Bucktown area. The area excavated include up to approximately 8 acres in the east and west fields of the 168-acre Blackwater Farms, Inc.

Work on the plantation included survey, and testing including remote sensing, and the uses of shovel test pits as well as 1 x 1 meter test units. By the end of the Summer 2001 Field School, evidence was found of habitation near the probable site of the plantation house. The evidence consisted of a pit below the plow zone of burned earth, slag, and metal which could signify some sort of blacksmithing or forge activity. This evidence was encouragement enough for the team to make plans to continue to search for evidence of the planta-

tion house during the Summer 2002 Field School, which will occur June 3 - July 12, 2002.

Project Director: Dr. John Seidel 410-778-7756 john.seidel@washcoll.edu	Field Director: Bonnie Ryan 410-810-7493 bonnie.ryan@washcoll.edu
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### **Baltimore County**

The Maryland Historical Trust Press is proud to announce an important new publication on the archaeology and history of Benjamin Banneker and the African-American experience in Maryland. Benjamin Banneker, widely regarded as America's first African-American man of science, resided for most of his life on a farm in Baltimore County, Maryland. Historical records provide scant glimpses of the home where this humble farmer and self-taught astronomer lived from 1737 to 1806. Susanna Mason of Pennsylvania, who visited Banneker in 1796, described his house as a "lowly dwelling built of logs, one story in height and surrounded by an orchard." Banneker's house reportedly burned to the ground on the day of his funeral. The passage of time and forces of nature gradually erased any visible vestiges of the house and farm.

Over 175 years after his death, the combined efforts of historical and archaeological research led to the exciting discovery of Benjamin Banneker's homestead. During the 1980s, archaeological testing identified the remains of at least two dwellings on the farm -- an early structure likely built by Banneker's parents and the later dwelling that burned following his death. The excavations recovered artifacts revealing the everyday aspects of Banneker's life: buttons & buckles, a razor blade, pipestem fragments, tumblers & straight pins, farming implements and gun flints, cutlery, many pieces of the ceramic and glass vessels he used for cooking and eating, and evidence of the wild and cultivated foods he ate. Testing also uncovered traces of Banneker's scientific endeavors and personal pursuits: slate pencils, an optical lens, and a jaw harp.

The archaeological discoveries reveal tangible evidence of Banneker's homestead and yield new insights into the life and times of this important figure. While the initial archaeological testing has just begun to scratch the surface of this significant site, preserved within Baltimore County's Benjamin Banneker Historical Park and Museum, future research efforts will expand our knowledge and appreciation of Benjamin Banneker.

### **Chesapeake Region**

The Chesapeake Archaeological Studies Group has been awarded a generous grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for the project, "A Comparative Archaeological Study of Colonial Chesapeake Culture." The purpose of this project is to examine how Old and New World understandings of social and cultural difference were

transformed, giving rise to a variety of new cultural forms. Through a comparative analysis of 18 archaeological collections representing sites from Maryland and Virginia, the project will explore how the diverse ethnic and social groups that made up colonial Chesapeake society used material culture to shape their relationships with one another, and how these relationships varied through time and space.

The Chesapeake Archaeological Studies Group was formed in 1994 as an informal artifact study seminar meeting two or three times a year. The group, which maintains its informality, expanded in 1998 to include analysis and interpretation. The NEH grant for the group will be run through the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory at the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. Project staff include Gregory Brown, Al Luckenbach, David Muraca, Dennis Pogue, and Julia A. King. Collections from the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Historic St. Mary's City, the Lost Towns Project, Mary Washington College, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, and the MAC Lab will be the focus of study. For more information on the NEH project or the Chesapeake Archaeological Studies Group, contact Julie King at [kung@dhcd.state.md.us](mailto:kung@dhcd.state.md.us).

### **Statewide**

The Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory at the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum is pleased to announce the completion of the first phase of developing a series of diagnostic artifact identification web pages. With financial support from the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT) of the National Park Service, this web site provides an introduction to the types of colonial European pottery and American Indian ceramics commonly found in Maryland. Type descriptions are illustrated with images, primarily taken from the Maryland State Archaeological collections, to assist archaeologists in identification of local material culture. Please visit the web site at [www.jefpat.org/diagnostic/index.htm](http://www.jefpat.org/diagnostic/index.htm).

### **West Virginia**

Reported by: William D. Updike

**Marmet Lock and Dam Replacement Project**  
[Submitted By Alexandra Bybee, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.]

During the spring and summer of 2001 and winter of 2002, Cultural Resource Analysts' personnel conducted archaeological excavations of two historic cemeteries for the Marmet Lock and Dam replacement project in Kanawha County, West Virginia. The first cemetery excavated, the Reynolds cemetery (46Ka349), contained a total of 31 burials. Interments were made from 1832 until approximately 1900, based on dates assigned to recovered mortuary arti-

facts and the earliest inscribed grave marker. Hexagonal coffins and rectangular caskets were identified at the site, and both utilitarian hardware (cut nails, screws, tacks) and mass-produced hardware (escutcheons, thumbscrews, viewing glass windows) were recovered. Personal items consisted primarily of glass buttons, although jewelry items, such as a glass bead necklace and a child's ring, several tortoise-shell and rubber hair combs, and a full set of upper dentures were also recovered. Although skeletal preservation was poor, several dental pathologies were noted in the assemblage, including enamel hypoplasias and dental caries. A small number of individuals exhibited shovel-shaped incisors, suggesting Native American biological affinity.

The second cemetery excavated, 46Ka142, contained a total of nine burials. Artifacts and skeletal material recovered from this cemetery has not yet been analyzed, but preliminary information suggests that use of the cemetery ended by at least 1860. Both hexagonal and rectangular coffins were identified at the site, and only utilitarian hardware was recovered. Few personal items were collected, but one burial contained at least four metal buttons and another held a metal hair comb containing a preserved mass of hair. Skeletal preservation ranged from poor to fair, and dental pathologies (enamel hypoplasias and caries) were identified during an inventory of the recovered remains. One adult female burial contained fetal remains within the pelvic girdle.

## Quebec

Reported by: Monique Elie

### Excavations at Pano's Trading Post

[submitted by Christian Roy, roychristian@yahoo.com]

At the request of the Corporation Archeo 08 of Rouyn-Noranda (Abitibi), a six-week archaeological investigation was conducted in the summer of 2001 on the site of Pano's trading post, situated near the mouth of River Duparquet and Lake Abitibi. Identified in 1992 during a survey of cultural resources along the western riverside, the first investigation of this trading post erected between 1720 and 1765 focused on establishing the site surface area, its period of occupation as well as locating its main architectural features.

Described in 1774 by John Thomas, a Hudson's Bay Company servant who visited Pano's trading post during his exploration of the Lake Abitibi, the settlement consisted of three buildings surrounded by one row of stockades. The dwelling houses and the warehouse were made of cedar logs while a small patch of land served to grow cabbage plants and lettuce. At the time, two French men, a French woman and a child, and an old Indian manned the post.

More than 40 trenches and test pits (65 m<sup>2</sup>) were excavated in a cleared area of 1,700 m<sup>2</sup> during this first investigation. The results of fieldwork were quite convincing, as the vestiges of two different buildings and a refuse pit were located in the central part of the site. Quite a few postholes and other minor architectural features were also identified.

Furthermore, two ditches situated at the northern and southern end of the trading post were discovered during the investigation. These remains marked the extent of the settlement and certainly served for drainage purposes. Let us also mention that various artifacts and fire-cracked stones found north and south of the ditches could indicate where the Indians visiting the post for fur trading activities encamped during their stay.

This archaeological investigation has allowed the recovery of an important number of artifacts related to the fur trade. Thousands of glass beads and other trade ornaments were found along with various flintlock gun parts, gun flints and lead shots. Building hardware, tools, knife blades and other implements were also unearthed, while the only ceramic materials uncovered so far consist of tin-glazed earthenware and creamware. Finally, the presence of various items typical of the French Regime could further indicate that Pano's trading post was in use since the second quarter of the 18th century.

The results of this year's investigation are now being analyzed and the archaeological report should be available in the coming months. Particular attention will be paid to the architectural remains unearthed and to the spatial distribution of artifacts in order to identify activity areas. Such data will no doubt prove useful in preparing next year's full-fledged archaeological excavation of the site.

## Greenwood Publishing Group Announces:

### *A Lasting Impression Coastal, Lithic, and Ceramic Research in New England Archaeology*

edited by Jordan E. Kerber

The authors discuss various issues pertaining to Native American settlement, subsistence, and technology in New England from the first human occupation of the region around 12,000 years ago until shortly after European colonization about 400 years ago. The volume is dedicated to the late distinguished archaeologist Barbara E. Luedtke.

Your book will be shipped upon publication (estimated 11/30/02). Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery. *A Lasting Impression* edited by Jordan E. Kerber. Bergin & Garvey, 2002. ISBN 0-89789-850-8. Est. Price. \$24.95. Shipping Charges, \$4.00 for 1 copy (You will not be charged until the title is shipped). Mail order to: Greenwood Publishing Group, Inc., 88 Post Road West Westport, CT 06881.



# Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2002

NUMBER 53

UPDATE--*Northeast Historical Archaeology*

Reported by: David Landon

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CNEHA Has a Permanent Address for Its Website:  
<http://www.smcn.edu/cneha>

## COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

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Northeast Historical Archaeology seeks manuscripts dealing with historical archaeology in the Northeast region, including field reports, artifact studies, and analytical presentations (e.g., physical anthropology, palynology, faunal analysis, etc.). We also welcome commentary and opinion pieces. To submit a manuscript or request preparation of manuscript guidelines, write to David B. Landon, Anthropology Department, University of Massachusetts Boston, 100 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, MA 02125.  
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I am happy to report that a new editorial assistant, Julie McNeil, started work on the journal in September. Julie has jumped in full force, helping to continue the production of the next issue of the journal, volume 30-31 (2001-2002). As you all know, this double issue contains an interesting array of articles on the practical and theoretical issues involved in excavating, assessing, and interpreting farmstead sites. Our current hope is to have this publication ready to sell at the SHA meeting in January, a goal that clearly reflects my optimistic spirit. With the publication of this volume the journal will be back on schedule. Volume 30-31 will be followed closely by volume 32 (2003), an issue on a GIS project in upstate New York edited by James Delle and Patrick Heaton. The manuscript version of this volume has already been revised and returned to the editorial office. We have started the preliminary editorial production steps and, unless we encounter unexpected difficulties, this volume will be out in early 2003. Thus if everything goes according to plan we will produce two issues of the journal, covering three volume numbers, in the next six months. This would represent a major achievement for the editorial office and would help lock the journal into an on-time annual production schedule.

New books received for review:

Matthews, Christopher N.  
2002 *An Archaeology of History and Tradition: Moments of Danger in the Annapolis Landscape*. Contributions to Global Historical Archaeology Series. Kluwer Academic/Plenum Press, New York.

Veit, Richard  
2002 *Digging New Jersey's Past: Historical Archaeology in the Garden State*. Rutgers University Press.

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## NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT

Reported by: David Starbuck, Newsletter Editor

Please send news for the next issue of the CNEHA Newsletter by January 15 to the appropriate provincial or state editor. If you would like to submit an article dealing with archaeological collections management or curation, please send it to Beth Acuff, Dept. of Historical Resources, 2801 Kensington Ave., Richmond, VA 23221.

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## CURRENT RESEARCH

### AIA LECTURE AT OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE

Sunday, December 8, 2002, at 3 pm  
Old Sturbridge Village, Fuller Conference Center

"An Archaeologist's View of Life in New England in the Late 17th Century" by Emerson W. Baker, Associate Professor of History, Salem State College (This lecture is free and open to the public.)

Excavations at a series of sites along the seventeenth-century frontier are providing important insights into the lives of the early English settlers in New England. These sites were rapidly abandoned and destroyed in 1689 and 1690 at the outbreak of King William's War. Collectively these archaeological time capsules let us examine the range of society and economy in coastal New England during a time of significant stress and change. The focus of this slide illustrated lecture is the Humphrey and Lucy Chadbourne Site in South Berwick, ME. First occupied in 1643, this property served as a trading post, saw mill complex, farmstead, and home to one of the wealthiest families in the region. Professor Baker is the History Department Chair at Salem State and Director of the Chadbourne Archaeology Site. An informal reception to meet with the speaker will immediately follow.

We're very pleased to offer a special day of events at Old Sturbridge Village for members of any AIA Society. All members who present their AIA membership card\* on Sunday, the December 8 at Old Sturbridge Village, will receive a discount admission (\$5 off). At 11:00am, Ed Hood, Research Historian for Architecture and Material Life, and Staff Archaeologist at OSV, will deliver a brief (20 minute) slide lecture introducing the current exhibit, "The Enduring People: Native American Life in Central New England." He is the curator of the exhibit, and after the slide lecture he will continue the talk in the gallery. This exhibit features an extensive collection of 19th century Indian-made artifacts from Southern New England, of which OSV has one of the best collections in the country. Included in the exhibit is the oldest known wooden bowl from New England (ca. 4,300 yrs old), as well as a full-size replica of a mid 18th century southern New England wigwam, furnished with a mix of Native and European items. This personal talk/tour is available to AIA members, with their reduced admission to OSV. Please contact Ed Hood (508 347-3362) to register by Friday, December 6, or remember to bring your card. Please join us at Old Sturbridge Village and make a day of it!

### Maine

Reported by: Leon Cranmer

#### Fort St. George on the Kennebec

Excavations at Fort St. George in Popham Beach continued for three weeks in August-September 2002. Following up on last year, we opened up more of the area east of the storehouse and focused on three locations. At the location identified by the John Hunt map as the site of the vice admiral's house, we added to our assemblage of artifacts, but found few additional structural remains. In the central part of the fort where Hunt indicates an empty "Market Place" we indeed found absolutely no evidence of buildings or any other 1607-1608 features. At the third location, however, which is east of the stream where Hunt shows housing for the colonists, we found a number of typical Fort St. George style postholes and molds revealing the presence of at least two small structures. We hope to expand this location next year.

#### Fort Shirley, Dresden

A long-term search for Fort Shirley (1752) in Dresden, ME, came to an end in June of 2001 with the retirement of Prof. Jim Leamon from the faculty at Bates College. The search actually began in 1975 when the late Bob Bradley put in some initial test pits, and then nine years later an Upper Kennebec Archaeological Survey, led by Leamon and Lee Cranmer, continued the search. None of these early efforts was successful in locating the fort's physical remains. Since 1985, however, Leamon, later assisted by Norman Buttrick, directed students from Bates College and from several local high schools in an annual five-week spring-term dig that eventually defined Fort Shirley's entire perimeter. Complicating the task were two contradictory plans of the fort, inserts on two different maps of the Kennebec River valley drawn about the same time (1754) by the same engraver, Thomas Johnston. Archaeological evidence indicates that neither of Johnston's plans was entirely correct. Yearly reports and the final summary report are on file with the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. Artifacts, plans, notes and the final report have been deposited with the Lincoln County Historical Association.

#### Captain Robert Given Farmstead, Bristol [Submitted by Neill De Paoli]

Recently, a hay field in Pemaquid Falls (Bristol, Maine) resounded with the animated voices of fifth graders from the Bristol Consolidated School. The students and their teachers, Lyn Prentice and Linda Brown, participated in an archaeological dig on the farmstead of one of 18th-century

Bristol's leading lights, Captain Robert Given and his family. Each class spent four days on the site digging, screening soil, and keeping field notes. They spent a fifth day washing the artifacts at Colonial Pemaquid's archaeology laboratory and touring the facilities. Throughout the whole experience, the students prepared a daily journal in which they described and illustrated the goals, accomplishments, and their feelings about the program.

The dig was part of a five week hands-on program "History with Dirt on It" designed and directed by Dr. Neill De Paoli. Prior to venturing outside, the students explored historical archaeology through a series of classroom presentations, exercises, readings, videos, and discussions. "History with Dirt on It" immersed the students in local history while enhancing their intellectual skills and knowledge in areas such as historical inquiry, analyses and interpretation, map reading, and human interaction with the environment, important elements of the State of Maine's Learning Results. "History with Dirt on It" was truly a community experience. Over eighty Bristol School students, teachers, parents, and school administrators attended a post-dig assembly presented by the program participants. The Maine Humanities Council and area businesses, historical organizations, and individuals showed their support for "History with Dirt on It" by underwriting program expenses.

During the dig, the students and archaeologists unearthed portions of a stone-walled cellar to the Given home and an array of household and architectural debris. The archaeological assemblage included English pearlwares and creamwares, cream-colored earthenware, and saltglazes, Chinese export porcelain, German Westerwald, and redware. The fine-bodied ceramic plates, dishes, bowls, teapots and bowls, wine glasses, decorated tumblers, and glass flasks testified to the elite status of the dwelling's occupants. One of the most intriguing finds was a ceramic multi-shot mold. The archaeological and documentary evidence suggests the Given home was occupied from the late 1760s or early 1770s to ca. 1830. De Paoli hopes to return to the site and define the full dimensions and layout of the Given dwelling.

## **New Hampshire**

Reported by: Dennis Howe

### **John Odiorne Homestead**

[Submitted by Ellen Marlatt]

A new exhibit on the archaeological investigation of a 17th-century dwelling house has opened at the Seacoast Science Center at Odiorne State Park in Rye, NH. The John Odiorne Homestead is one of the earliest domestic archaeological sites in the state and a unique and well preserved example of frontier settlement along the New Hampshire coast. Investigated by Independent Archaeological Consulting, LLC of Portsmouth, NH, in 2000, the dwelling

is most likely a one-room timber-framed dwelling house with a lean-to and an exterior chimney. Artifacts recovered from around the collapsed stone chimney base date from about 1670 to 1700, and coincide with Odiorne's modest probate inventory that listed many "ould" or "well worn" possessions. John Odiorne, a fisherman/farmer with ties to fishing operations on the Isles of Shoals 10 miles off shore, died in debt to several Portsmouth merchants. His sons set up households elsewhere, and the archaeological remains reflect household possessions used by only one generation.

The exhibit, designed by Ellen Marlatt of IAC, features a small selection of artifacts from the excavation including tin-glazed earthenware, North Devon earthenware, Rhenish stoneware, and fragments of red and gray clay smoking pipes with large bore diameters that may have been made locally. Two shoe, pant, or knee buckles made of brass with silver plate are also present. Of particular interest is a large piece of wine bottle glass in which the two initials "I O" appear to be chiseled or gouged into the surface -- quite possibly the initials for John Odiorne, and may represent a sort of crude "bottle seal," marking the bottle for reuse.

Funding for this exhibit was generously provided by the Odiorne Family Association.

### **Church Family Burying Ground in Madbury**

[Submitted by Ellen Marlatt]

In June 2002, Independent Archaeological Consulting, LLC was called in to assist in the identification and recovery of human remains from a 19th-century family cemetery in Madbury. The remains came to the attention of authorities when a truckload of gravel dumped out a human skull fragment in Massachusetts. Archaeologists from the Massachusetts Historic Commission traced the truckload of sediments to a gravel pit in Madbury, where town officials noted the presence of "Cemetery #41."

Cemetery 41 was recorded in the 1930s as an unmarked burying ground on property across the street from the dwelling house of Mrs. Patience Church and her son-in-law, Ira Locke. At the time of its recording in the 1930s, no family name was attached to the burying ground, and by 2002, it was known to the town officials only as #41 -- unmarked and unidentified in terms of who used it. IAC's effort included the identification of the number of graves left in the gravel pit, background research to learn the identity of the interred, and the recovery of all human remains in Cemetery #41, so that gravel extraction could continue.

Work was authorized under NH RSA 227-C and conducted after consultation with Acting State Archaeologist, Dr. Richard Boisvert. The presentation will cover the legal components of the recovery; the methodology; the results of archival research that identified the family cemetery as that of the Church-Locke-Woodus extended kin group; and the results of the recovery effort that yielded five complete burials and portions of four others. Altogether, nine specimens

were recovered and turned over to the Town of Madbury for reburial in a town lot.

On October 26, 2002, Kathleen L. Wheeler, Ph.D. will present a talk entitled, "Recovering the Church Family Burying Ground in Madbury, New Hampshire" to the Fall 2002 meeting of the New Hampshire Archeological Society.

### **Manchester Print Works** (Submitted by Ellen Marlatt)

As part of an ongoing archaeological study in advance of the reconstruction of the I-293 Exit 5 interchange at the Granite Street Bridge in Manchester, Independent Archaeological Consulting (IAC) of Portsmouth, NH, is conducting extensive archival research and some preliminary archaeological subsurface testing of Manchester's west side. From the late 1800s to the early 1900s, Manchester Mills and the Manchester Print Works (later part of the giant Amoskeag Manufacturing Company) built a number of mill buildings on the west side of the Merrimack River including a foundry, pattern house, cotton warehouses, and a chemical laboratory. The German-based chemical dye industry fostered improvements in dyeing techniques and encouraged the textile industry to build their own experimental laboratories. This coincides with a time when the textile industry was reaching its peak, and a cluster of German immigrants located among French Canadian and Irish mill workers in West Manchester. They lived in tenements and privately owned houses, worked in a variety of positions in the mills in addition to running private enterprises in their neighborhood.

On October 10, 2002, Kathleen Wheeler and Ellen Marlatt of IAC will present a preliminary look at the make-up of this west side neighborhood, examining who these first- and second-generation immigrants were, the tenements and conditions in which they lived, and what archaeology might be able to tell us about how they adapted to urban environment along the edge of the factory city. The talk entitled, "The Changing Faces of West Manchester: An Archaeological Study of the Manchester Print Works and Tenement Life in a German Neighborhood" will be given at the Manchester Historic Association and is part of the New Hampshire Archaeology Week statewide program.

### **Apple Industry in Newington** (Submitted by Ellen Marlatt)

As part of a Certified Local Government (CLG) Grant administered through the Newington Historic District Commission, Independent Archaeological Consulting, LLC (IAC) was contracted in 2002 to help examine and document the lucrative and extensive 19th and 20th-century apple industry in Newington, New Hampshire. This ambitious project included extensive background research done by vol-

unteers, field visits by Newington elementary school students to document several relict apple trees, input from agricultural specialists, as well as a systematic archaeological survey of three surviving orchards and in selected areas of the town.

This project excited a great amount of enthusiasm, and the amount of information gathered was almost overwhelming. Research from the year-long program clearly illustrates the strength and longevity of the orchard industry in Newington. During the fall and winter of 2001/2002, enthusiastic members of the Newington Historical Society combed tax records, land deeds and probate records, and read 19th-century diaries penned by Newington farmer Jackson Hoyt. Several long-standing residents, descendants of Newington's well-established families, gathered to interpret a 1943 aerial photograph showing active orchards, while others offered their own memories of collected oral histories from neighbors.

In an attempt to document the apple trees remaining in town and to understand how rapidly they are disappearing, IAC conducted a controlled archaeological inventory of remaining trees in three orchards planted in the 1920s. Using a hand-held Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) receiver, archaeologists recorded the UTM coordinates of each tree in order to create a map in which they could examine the current conditions of each orchard. Archaeologists also documented the condition of each tree, paying particular attention to the tree's size and health. The data were compared to the 1943 aerials and evaluated. The report will be submitted to the New Hampshire Division for Historic Resources in Concord for review.

## **Connecticut**

Reported by: Cece Saunders

### **Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey in Norwalk**

Early this summer, the Mill Hill cemetery in Norwalk, Connecticut, was the focus of a ground-penetrating radar survey conducted by State Archaeologist Nick Bellantoni and Jim Turenne of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. They were assisted by several members of the Friends of the State Archaeology Office, the Norwalk Community College Archaeology Club and the Norwalk Historical Commission. The purpose of the survey was to determine if there were unmarked burials outside the visible bounds of the cemetery (one of Norwalk's oldest) in the area where the Rogers-Ritch-Merritt house (a.k.a. the Incerto house) is to be re-erected as part of Norwalk's Mill Hill historic complex. The survey did detect what may be the locations of several fallen or moved headstones. As ground-penetrating radar only detects anomalies, subsurface field investigations will be conducted in the flagged loci to identify these features.

## Connecticut's Underwater Archaeological Preserves

Connecticut's first underwater archaeological preserves are under study: Lightship 51 off the coast of Cornfield Point and the "Aunt Polly," a yacht along the shores of the Connecticut River. The anticipated preserve designation, administered through the Connecticut Historical Commission, means that a wreck area will be officially designated as a historical site, and that while divers may visit they are prohibited by law from disturbing or removing any of the artifacts.

Lightship 51 was one of a string of U.S. Coast Guard floating lighthouses once anchored along America's coasts to prevent shipping vessels from crashing into shoals and other coastal hazards. Built in 1892, it was the first iron-hulled, self-propelled and electrically illuminated lightship. The 119-foot-long coal-fired vessel was sunk in a marine disaster in 1919 and now lies at a depth of about 190 feet, accessible only to remote cameras and highly trained deep-sea divers.

The "Aunt Polly" was the floating home of the famous actor William Gillette for more than five years. Gillette, who created the now-familiar Sherlock Holmes roll for stage and screen, kept the 144-foot-long luxurious houseboat permanently moored beneath the construction site of his "rock" castle on the Hadlyme heights. The castle is now a State Park, and remains of the yacht, which burned in 1932, are still visible at extremely low tides.

Historical Perspectives, Inc. has received a grant from the state's Department of Environmental Protection to produce educational booklets on both wreck sites. Richard Schaefer will be coordinating the research and writing of both booklets. The DEP financing is through the Long Island Sound License Plate Fund, which has also financed the recently established website -- [www.mnh.uconn.edu/underwater](http://www.mnh.uconn.edu/underwater) -- that provides information on various underwater historical sites and what action the Office of State Archaeology is doing to preserve them.

## New York City

Reported by: Nancy Brighton

### Excavations End at the Rose Hill Manor Site, Bronx [Submitted by Allan Gilbert]

The final season of excavation at Fordham University's historic house site took place this summer, 2002. The project began in 1985 and has been pursued continuously over the ensuing 17 years using undergraduates enrolled in fall fieldwork courses and volunteer interns assisting during summer campaigns. Difficulty of access to further undug parts of the site, the steadily deteriorating state of the exposed foundations despite their constant tarpaulin cover and winter insulation, and an increasing personal feeling of "enough already" prompted the cessation of the fieldwork curriculum in favor of full-time focus on analysis and publi-

cation. The site will be backfilled this fall after final sampling of building materials, and earth compactors will be employed in the process to minimize the amount of wall damage due to ground settling. When the land surface has stabilized, the buried house plan will be mapped out and marked with low-lying cobbles as part of a landscaping design that will not only return the site finally to some degree of its original bucolic elegance, but also provide a subtle commemoration of the former manor for those who wish to remember the space it occupied.

## Maryland

Reported by: Silas Hurry

### St. Mary's City

The Historic St. Mary's City field school continued excavation at the Print Shop site in the summer of 2002. This summer's excavation focused on the remains of a log slave cabin from the Brome Plantation that sits on top of evidence of a 17th-century structure. The slave quarter, based on a photograph published in 1926, was a log building with vertical board siding. The foundation of this structure, consisting of field stones and brickbats, was exposed. The dimensions of the cabin were 18 ft. by 16 ft. Also located was the heavily robbed out foundation of a massive brick chimney on the north end of the building. Although excavation has not been completed, there appears to be a small, brick-lined storage cellar on the east side of the chimney base. The chimney and the storage cellar were constructed of a mix of 17th and 19th century brick. A larger, brick-lined storage pit was discovered in front of the fireplace. This pit was constructed with brick bats of modern brick and appears to be more recent. Destruction rubble from razing the cabin, ca. 1938, lay on top of the fill of this pit.

Excavations in this area also produced important insights on the 17th-century structure located under the slave quarter. Work on the south side demonstrated that the structure was 24 ft. long. Post holes were located on either end of the wall and there was the suggestion of a central post. Evidence for this post is circumstantial because a major part of the slave quarter foundation sits on top of this area. However, trenches associated with the tile floor of the 17th-century structure, which should be straight, are at different angles on either side of the slave quarter foundation. Post holes along the east side of the structure suggest the building was 20 ft. wide. A large number of 17th-century ceramics were recovered from contexts around the structure and the majority date to the last quarter of the century. To fully understand this structure, more excavation will be needed.

### Prince George's County

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) has recently completed two out-

door exhibits that interpret archaeology. The foundation of a former slave quarter of the Northampton Plantation in Mitchellville, Maryland, has been reconstructed as a permanent outdoor exhibit at the Northampton Slave Quarters and Archaeological Park. In addition, a mid-eighteenth-century burial vault was restored at the Darnall's Chance historic house museum in Upper Marlboro.

The Northampton Slave Quarters and Archaeological Park -- The late-eighteenth-century slave quarter is the second of two slave quarters in which the foundation has been reconstructed as part of a permanent outdoor exhibit at the Northampton Slave Quarters and Archaeological Park in Mitchellville, Maryland. Both of these exhibits depict the floor plans of duplex structures with central chimneys. One is a forty-two by twenty-four foot brick structure constructed ca. 1840. The other is a twenty-two by twenty-four foot frame structure constructed on an ironstone (limonite) foundation ca. 1790.

The Northampton Slave Quarters and Archaeological Park is sited in the center of a townhouse community in the affluent Lake Arbor suburb of Washington, D.C. A permanent sign provides an interpretation of the site including 1936 H.A.B.S. photographs of the two structures, text describing the archaeology of the former Northampton Plantation (1673 to 1865), examples of artifacts recovered, and statements from the descendants of Elizabeth Hawkins, an African-American born at Northampton in 1845. Artifact analysis and historical research are continuing via a Non-Capital Grant from the Maryland Historical Trust.

Darnall's Chance Burial Vault -- In the late 1980's a large subterranean burial vault was discovered in the rear yard at Darnall's Chance, a mid-eighteenth-century house in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Scottish merchant James Wardrop constructed the house in 1742. Wardrop then married Lettice Lee in 1745. Their household and twenty-four acre estate included thirty-two enslaved Africans-house servants, craftsmen and field hands. Following Wardrop's death in 1760, Lettice married Dr. Adam Thompson (creator of the American method of smallpox inoculation) and following his death Col. Joseph Sim. Lettice died in 1776 and willed her children the property, including the family burial vault.

The burial vault at Darnall's Chance is constructed of brick and is seventeen feet long, eight feet wide, and seven feet deep. It has a very shallow vaulted ceiling and a brick sub-crypt that held an adult sized casket. The M-NCPPC archaeology program excavated the vault in the early 1990's. The vaulted ceiling had fallen in and the interior had been completely filled with dirt and rubble at an unknown time. The fill contained brick and plaster rubble, eighteenth- and early-nineteenth-century ceramics, bottle glass, animal bone, and oyster shell. The skeletal remains of nine individuals were recovered beneath the rubble. They included a middle aged male, middle aged female, an adult female, adolescent female, adolescent male, and four infants under one year. Dr. Douglas Owsley of the Smithsonian Institution conduct-

ed the skeletal analysis. A descendant of the Lee family of Maryland has provided DNA samples to compare with two of the adults from the vault. The results are pending.

The vaulted ceiling, sub-crypt, and brick stairway have been restored by Culbertson Restoration Inc. of Glen Burnie, Maryland. There will be limited public access to the vault. However, a permanent sign will provide an interpretation of the burial vault including photographs, graphics, and text describing the archaeology. In the spring of 2003 the restored vault will be dedicated and the remains of those buried there will be re-interred. An exhibit on the results of the archaeology and 18th-century burial practices inside the museum will provide a more complete interpretation.

## Annapolis

The University of Maryland Summer Field School in Urban Archaeology, under the direction of Mark Leone and Matthew Palus, has completed two seasons of excavation in the Eastport neighborhood of Annapolis, in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Students investigated two home sites in the neighborhood settled by working-class people at the end of the nineteenth century. Formerly called Horn Point, the Eastport Peninsula was the location of a Revolutionary War fortification and a series of farms including that of Benjamin Ogle, who was governor of Maryland from 1798-1801. This study has focused on the community of watermen, boat-builders, oyster-shuckers, pickers and laborers that grew up on the peninsula during the twentieth century. In 1868 investors from Annapolis and Anne Arundel County incorporated the Mutual Building Association and purchased a little over a hundred acres of farmland on the peninsula. The investors laid out 256 lots on a grid of streets and bridged Spa Creek, connecting what is now Eastport to the downtown of Annapolis. Land speculation began to calm around 1880, and the neighborhood developed with many of its own institutions, like churches, businesses and private social clubs for African American as well as European-descended people.

Traditionally Eastport is remembered as a community where working meant more than skin color. However, distinctions were realized between black and white residents, just as they were between old families and recent settlers, skilled and unskilled labor, home owners living in comfort and poor renters crowded into narrow frame dwellings. These dimensions of the community have become a part of its contemporary geography, and they figure strongly in the identity of its residents. The two sites investigated in 2001-2002 suggest this diversity. One house on Chesapeake Avenue has descended through the Churchill family from a Scottish immigrant who came to Annapolis on the *U.S.S. Gloucester*, a gunship stationed as a teaching vessel at the United States Naval Academy in 1898. The other site, located on Chester Avenue, was part of a block of lots purchased by David H. Carroll of Baltimore in 1881. Carroll halved

each lot, purchasing ten and selling twenty. They were then developed as rentals, with narrow homes that frequently housed several families. For instance, the 1910 census shows that an African American family of six, which included laundresses and domestics, two sons who were watermen and two daughters attending school, shared the house on Chester Avenue with an elderly woman and her son, both of whom were white. Many descendants of these families still reside in Eastport. In fact, much of the history of the community is contained within the last three generations.

A brick and mortar-lined well was uncovered by homeowners at an adjacent house on Chester Avenue. City archaeologist Jim Gibb had the opportunity to examine this feature, and he noted that the well was tapped by pipes leading away in four directions, providing water to a number of nearby rental properties. This underlines the importance of sharing and cooperation for families living under these conditions. However, it also raises important questions about the development and modernization of Eastport, which is connected to the infrastructure of utilities and services for Annapolis. This water-sharing arrangement was probably informal and as such would not appear on any available map, but in the twentieth century Eastport would be gradually taken into the administrative power of Annapolis, in part through the extension of utilities. Electricity was extended across the bridge at the turn of the century, and the bills for street lighting were paid by Anne Arundel County. During a sewer project in Annapolis in the 1930s Eastport was provided with sewer and water service throughout the neighborhood. Twenty years later Eastport was formally annexed into the City of Annapolis. The objective of the field school has been to understand the development of this community into the present-day suburb that it is, including the ongoing significance of race, the practical and political contexts of zoning and preservation, gentrification and the real estate market, and the local administration of history and historic sites. This multi-year project will continue in the summer of 2003, combining oral history and archival research with archaeology done in public to accomplish these goals. Matthew Palus is assembling references to archaeological evidence for public utilities in the twentieth century, and invites responses to mp843@columbia.edu.

### Anne Arundel County

Gibb Archaeological Consulting recently identified for the Maryland State Highway Administration the Henry Kinder site (18AN1208), a late 18th/early 19th-century tenancy or quarter in the midst of an emergent wetland. Shovel testing at 20 m intervals of nearly 30 acres of the Kinder tract in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, yielded white salt glazed stoneware, pearlware, bottle and window glass, brick, and daub in a slightly elevated ground surrounded by saturated soils. Three contiguous 1 x 1 m units exposed a portion of a pit filled with burned daub, undoubtedly a borrow pit filled

with debris from hearth and chimney repair of a wattle and daub structure. The unlikely setting for this site can be attributed to its status as a tenancy or quarter (the landowners lived elsewhere on the large tract) and changes in the local hydrology through cultivation and road construction. Slated for wetland restoration, the site will be preserved, the State Highway Administration abandoning plans to plant trees within the site boundary in favor of hand sowing facultative wet meadow seed mix.

### Washington County

Under contract to the Maryland State Highway Administration, Gibb Archaeological Consulting investigated the Bowles Mill site (18WA498), a 19th-century grist mill with surviving portions of the dam's timber cribbing. The State Highway Administration's staff archaeologist, Carol Ebright, identified timbers and a masonry wall on the Great Tonoloway Creek during an initial assessment of potential adverse impacts of bridge widening on Interstate-70, adjacent to the Old National Road near Hancock, Washington County, Maryland. Phase I survey and Phase II site examination clearly defined the partial footprint of the Bowles Mill, in operation from at least as early as 1830 until the early 1880s. In 1880 the mill reportedly used a 15 hp turbine beneath a 6 ft. fall, but the turbine likely was a later installation, probably replacing a breast wheel. Test excavations demonstrated that much of the stonework was cannibalized above and below grade. Eleven notched and tenoned timbers and two series of vertical planks were mapped in the streambed, along with a single vertical post. Ten samples, identified by ethnobotanist Justine Woodward McKnight, represented white oak (*Quercus* spp.) and yellow/hard pine (*Pinus* spp.). Two samples taken from vertical planks measuring eight inches wide by one inch thick proved to be from the genus *Pinus*. The timbers, measuring eight to 12 inches in diameter and ranging from 6 ft. to 24 ft. in length, were pines (3) and oak (4), one other of an indeterminate conifer. Although the timbers were displaced by a succession of floods, they retain an overall grid pattern indicative of a 30 to 35 ft. by 125 to 150 ft. footprint, undoubtedly wedge-shaped in section, reaching a height of 12 ft. on the downstream side. The height estimate is based on elevations calculated from the base of the streambed to the top of a small remnant of the earthen portion of the dam. The mill complex, deemed eligible for the National Register under Criteria (c) [the dam] and (d), will be avoided during bridge widening.

### Cumberland

Beginning in 1999 John Milner Associates, Inc. has undertaken seven investigations within the Crescent Lawn section of Canal Place in Cumberland to assist the Canal Place Preservation and Development Authority, City of

Cumberland, United States National Park Service, and Army Corps of Engineers efforts to recreate and rewater the western terminus of the C&O Canal in Cumberland. Recognized as Maryland's first Certified Heritage Area, Canal Place covers the western terminus of the Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) canal. The 6.5 acres of Crescent Lawn, now an archaeological district (18AG227), contains an archaeological landscape that provides important information on the configuration of the canal terminus and the boat yards adjacent to it. The C&O Canal runs 184 miles along the Potomac River from Washington, D.C., to its western terminus in the Appalachian Mountains at Cumberland. Cumberland was Maryland's second largest city in the second half of the nineteenth century and an important manufacturing and transportation hub geared toward the movement of coal.

Beginning almost immediately upon the canal opening to Cumberland in 1852, modifications to the canal's terminus began. Archaeological investigations recorded a four-to-ten foot thick stratigraphic sequence chronicling the construction, use, and modifications to the canal basins and prism. Originally the width of the canal was approximately 115 feet. After the canal failed in 1889 and continuing into the 1890s, land filling took place along the east-side waterfront. Initially, canal dredge sediments were placed against the east side, reducing the canal prism to ca. 75 feet by 1910. Additionally, a small canal basin was filled by the mid-1890s and the new-land occupied by German immigrants.

Boat building was a major industry; the city's seven boats yards built practically all of the boats that plied the canal. The 1880 industrial census records that 131 boats were built in Maryland that year. Cumberland's boat yards built 45 percent of these boats, twice as many as Baltimore City. One of Cumberland's boat yards was located in the study area. Initially the boat yard was owned by William Ward, a leading advocate for the construction and routing of the canal to Cumberland. Later, the boat yard was taken over by Henry Thomas Weld, a boat builder who had interests in the coal mines of nearby Frostburg, Maryland. By 1887 the boat yard was known as the Weld and Sheridan Boat Building and Repair Yard. When the canal opened in 1850, the boat yard occupied a central place along it. With the development of Shriver's Basin to the east, the terminus took on a secondary role. However, the boat-building yard remained a successful enterprise until the devastating 1889 flood. By 1892 the boat yard had failed and was converted to a foundry. During the 42 years of boat yard operation, a marine railway, a planing mill, machine shop, office, and two sheds were present. Investigations found that the boat yard ground surface, water front, and associated features were preserved beneath later occupations.

Detailed information on the construction details of the boats that plied the C&O canal boat is scant, only a 1939 architectural drawing is known. To date, investigations have discovered and recorded the remnants of 15 canal boats, the only confirmed remains of C&O canal boats known to exist.

Prior to abandonment all the boats were salvaged at the adjacent boat yards. Then the remnants (primarily the flat bottom of the boats) were either sunk in the canal or used as fill. In the 74 years the full length of the canal was operating, hundreds of boats plied the canal. The boats themselves averaged about 14.5 feet wide by 92 feet long, drew 4.5 feet of water and could carry up to 135 tons of cargo. They had a lifespan of about 25 years. Initially, the boats were privately owned but in 1902 they all became the property of the Canal Towing Company and boat design was standardized. The 15 boat remnants reflect at least eight different structural hull configurations. Analysis of the wood used in construction indicates that oak was used for structural timbers and to plank the ends of the hull, while pine was used almost exclusively for floor planks and hull side-planks.

### Maryland Underwater News

Maryland's Maritime Archeology Program (MMAP) performed three surveys in 2002. MMAP undertook Phase I underwater remote sensing survey and site testing, as part of ongoing State survey and inventory by the Office of Archeology.

Susquehanna River -- Phase I work on the Susquehanna River, at the head of Chesapeake Bay, produced nineteen submerged anomalies from a remote sensing side scanning sonar survey directed by Stephen Bilicki. The survey team covered an area 4.9 miles long and the width of the river from Lapidum Landing to Port Deposit, down river to Concord Point at Havre de Grace, Harford County, and across the river to Perry Point at Perryville, Cecil County. The goal of this survey was to locate evidence of a War of 1812 shipwreck, any Susquehanna Arks (a vernacular watercraft), canal features, and other upper Chesapeake Bay ship wrecks.

Of the nineteen targets located, four were investigated by scuba divers. The dive team consisted of a student intern from Towson University in Baltimore and the United States Army Rescue Diving Team from nearby Aberdeen Proving Grounds. The first target investigated was determined to be a steel barge of an unknown date. Archival research indicated that steel barges were built during World War II at Port Deposit. Due to the site's position, within the main shipping channel of the river, divers were removed to avoid endangering personnel.

A second target appears to be a barge constructed of wood frames, planks and ceiling features with iron drift rods and diamond shape back plates attached. This structure has intact sides or walls and wooden bottom, in addition to being open at both ends. Its location is directly offshore of an abandoned quarry wharf of unknown date.

The third target proved to be a completely intact canal boat. This site had been previously recorded; however, it was not until the side scan sonar image appeared that its

design type could be positively identified. With a length of 93 feet by 14 feet wide and 11 feet in depth, this shipwreck is the most intact canal boat discovered to date in the state of Maryland. It has been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

The final target is a 200-foot barge. It is one of only two known vessels of this type in the Mid-Atlantic region (a second is reported to be off the coast of New Jersey). Phase II work at this site will answer construction questions. MMAP work in 1998 may have located the shipyard where this vessel was constructed.

Assateague Island -- Phase I survey was performed off of Assateague Island National Seashore in accordance with a MOA between the State of Maryland, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the National Park Service. State Underwater Archeologist Dr. Susan Langley, led this survey. Dr. Langley combined archival background research from numerous federal, local, private, and state archives with extensive remote sensing survey. The field team completed 90% of a 32-mile by 0.5-mile ocean survey. Prior to inclement weather and equipment problems, this survey had completely side scanned the entire project area (>300 linear miles) and performed half of the magnetometer survey. MMAP will return in the spring to finish the survey.

Fort Horn -- The remains of one of Annapolis's earliest defensive forts have been debated: under house or underwater. In May 2002, Stephen Bilicki led volunteers to locate the remains underwater. Prior to conducting a side scan sonar survey, the Maryland Historical Trust's Geographic Information System (GIS) personnel performed several map overlays to predict the locus of fort remains. All of these suggested that the fort walls would be offshore of present day Horn Point.

During the survey, a faint hard image appeared on sonar printouts. Divers performed underwater testing to determine if this could be the remains of the fort in May and September. The September investigations located a hard packed clay/earthen bottom under two to three inches of sand. Elsewhere on the point, hand probing can be performed to a depth of 9 to 12 inches with metal probing rods. To date, no diagnostic fort artifacts have been located. The Global Positioning System (GPS) points of suspected fort walls will be entered into the GIS computer to determine if these underwater features match any known historic features.

## Virginia

Reported by: Barbara Heath

### Alexandria

[Submitted by Ruth Reeder, Alexandria Archaeology Museum]

For the entire month of October, the Alexandria

Archaeology Museum is celebrating Virginia Archaeology Month with special events designed to teach visitors of all ages about archaeology in Alexandria. Events include an in-depth site tour of the Shuter's Hill excavation site, located on the grounds of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial; a 15-mile, three to four hour bike tour celebrating the Alexandria Heritage Trail that includes site tours of Fort Ward and the Shuter's Hill excavation; a guided walking tour of Old Town with City Archaeologist Dr. Pamela Cressey; and a family-friendly Halloween celebration--Historic Hauntings--that invites visitors to investigate so-called unexplained occurrences, peculiar tales, and persistent legends surrounding Alexandria's Market Square, Carlyle House, complete with a spooky excavation site and Gadsby's Tavern Museum. Other on-going events include the Lee Street Site exhibit featuring the history and archaeology of a waterfront block in Old Town Alexandria. Alexandria Archaeology Museum also offers Discovery Kits and Archaeology Adventure Lessons for children, and participates in the Time Travelers Passport program. For more information, contact the Alexandria Archaeology Museum at 703/838-4399 or visit [www.AlexandriaArchaeology.org](http://www.AlexandriaArchaeology.org)

### Fairfield Plantation, Gloucester County

[Submitted by David A. Brown and Thane Harpole, Fairfield Foundation, Inc. <http://fsweb.wm.edu/fairfield/>]

The Fairfield Foundation, Inc., a non-profit archaeological and historical research organization, has initiated a long-term archaeological research project focusing on the Burwell family home, called both Fairfield and Carter's Creek, in Gloucester County, Virginia. The project began with a survey of the 60-acre core of the plantation in the winter of 2000/2001. Over the last year and a half, the research has expanded to cover four areas: an early eighteenth-century slave quarter; an early eighteenth-century clay borrow pit; the northeast corner of an extensive formal garden; and the ruins of the manor house, constructed in 1694. It is hoped that the study of these distinct areas will provide archaeologists and the public with information on the development of plantation life and culture from the mid-seventeenth through the late nineteenth century.

Excavation of the plowed soils above the slave quarter has revealed the footprint of a small building consisting of two burned clay areas divided by a small root cellar or sub-floor pit. The absence of any other structural remains suggests the building was built on ground-laid sills, likely measuring at least 18' x 12'. Sampling of the root cellar revealed a wealth of material culture, including the fronts and backs of cut cowrie shells, a raccoon baculum, numerous glass beads, straight pins, and a roughly shaped, black, lead-alloy cube. The excellent preservation of faunal remains within the feature suggests that future environmental analyses will add significantly to the data already recovered.

The sample excavation of a 16' x 14' clay borrow pit, locat-

ed 100' east of the manor house, may prove equally informative about the Burwell family in the early eighteenth century. The artifacts recovered were of high quality, including wine glass fragments and painted delftware. In addition, over 250 wine bottles are estimated to have been disposed of within the three-foot-deep pit, including many that were marked with the seals of the Burwell family, as well as Robert "King" Carter. These seals included over 25 examples of six different varieties with dates of 1710, 1713, and 1715. The pit was capped with waster bricks from a nearby kiln, no doubt used to fire clay excavated from this feature.

The initial excavation of plowzone southeast of the manor house ruins exposed two sections of a substantial garden fence with roughly 10" square timbers set at 10' intervals. The holes for each post measure about four feet square and were subsequently cut by numerous repair posts. Artifacts recovered from the surface of these features suggest a mid-eighteenth-century date for the garden's construction, but future sampling of these postholes and molds will hopefully refine this date. Garden artifacts recovered from the plowzone have been limited to fragments of bell jar glass, but it is hoped that other material culture, as well as features related to planting beds and paths, will be uncovered with the future expansion of the excavations.

The centerpiece of the plantation, and the focus of this field season's excavations, is the manor house, an engaging 81' x 61' brick building constructed by 1694. This T-shaped building has been called the "transitional" building in Virginia architecture, combining design elements from the mid-seventeenth century and the Georgian architectural movement of the eighteenth century. These elements include two pairs of double and triple diamond-shaped chimney stacks similar to those on Bacon's Castle in Surry County, Virginia, built in 1665. Excavations have confirmed the dimensions and thickness of the foundation, the presence of at least five cellar rooms, a carefully prepared builder's trench, and an intact burn layer from the destruction of the building in 1897. Current excavations are focusing on understanding the chronology of this multi-phased building and the lives of the structure's inhabitants from its initial construction by wealthy politically elite landowners, to its use by black tenant farmers at the end of the nineteenth century.

### **Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest**

[Submitted by Barbara Heath and Randy Lichtenberger, Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest]

Staff in the Department of Archaeology and Landscapes at Thomas Jefferson's Bedford County plantation, Poplar Forest, under the overall direction of Dr. Barbara Heath, are involved in several projects:

**Site Survey:** Staff members have nearly completed an intensive shovel test survey of an area designated by Poplar

Forest as a potential site for future infrastructure expansion. The survey strategy consists of excavating 2 ft. test units at 25 ft. intervals supplemented by metal detector sweeps along transects.

Among the features located in the survey area are the remnants of a historic road, several field boundaries and fence-lines, and twentieth-century structures associated with a YWCA camp. A recent highlight of the survey was the discovery of a stone chimney and associated artifacts dating from ca. 1840 to ca. 1870. The domestic site may be a slave quarter, overseer's cabin, or early tenant farmer's dwelling. Excavators identified the site near the north face of a broad ridge historically called the Ridge Field. The presence of a probable structural post hole near the west side of the chimney suggests that the building had an east-west orientation. The site is located only 120 feet upslope from a small spring that appears to have been expanded through hand excavation.

Excavators recovered artifacts within a 75-foot radius of the chimney collapse. Cut nails formed the bulk of the assemblage with more than thirty originating from a single test pit near the chimney. A moderate number of window glass, bottle glass and ceramic sherds also was recovered. Undecorated whiteware and ironstone comprised most of the ceramic assemblage, although a few sherds of blue shell-edged whiteware also were found. A large sherd of amber bottle glass with embossed letters proved to be part of a bitters bottle that held "Dr. J. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters." Manufacture of bottles for this once-popular brand of bitters (approximately 25 percent alcohol by volume) started in Pittsburgh in 1853. Other diagnostic artifacts included two Prosser porcelain buttons. These plain four-hole white buttons post-date 1840. The chronologically diagnostic artifacts combined with the absence of wire nails provide the basis for the site's fairly tight occupation dates.

**The Southeast Core:** Work continued on a multicomponent site southeast of the main dwelling house. Excavations begun in this area in 2004 have yielded a variety of domestic, architectural and farm-related artifacts dating from the eighteenth through early twentieth centuries. Adjacent to a pair of mid-nineteenth century brick duplexes that served as housing for slaves, overseers and later tenants, the site contains evidence of the domestic life of plantation workers in the ante and postbellum years. Documentary evidence suggests the possibility that early nineteenth-century slave cabins associated with Jefferson's ownership of the property were located in this area. Documents also suggest that other key elements of Jefferson's landscape design, including portions of a circular road, a radial road that led across the plantation to the public road and a boundary fence were located in this area. In addition, two Jefferson-era stables may have been nearby.

Summer 2002 excavation focused on the area south and west of a possible chimney base unearthed last season.

Although no additional structural features were found, staff collected large quantities of nineteenth and twentieth-century artifacts. Many of the artifacts recovered in the area probably relate to the occupation of the ca. 1850 South Tenant House, but deep layers containing mid- and early-nineteenth-century domestic and architectural trash may have originated from earlier structures in the vicinity. Tree holes found beneath a soil layer containing Jefferson-period artifacts may represent part of the Jefferson planting scheme.

**Circular Road:** Northeast of the main house, work continues along the projected route of Jefferson's circular road, defined in an 1812 planting memorandum as "540 yards round." Staff members have recently identified five tree holes that lie along the edges of this route. These features may mark the former locations of paper mulberry trees that Jefferson instructed his overseer to plant around both sides of the circular road at 20 ft. intervals. Staff has expanded the scope of the excavation in order to follow the path of the road and to establish the location of additional roads that intersected with its northeast extent. Excavations have also produced evidence of two mid-nineteenth century cobbled road surfaces south of the route of the Jefferson era road and a late nineteenth- to early twentieth-century fence.

**Field Schools:** During the summer of 2002, staff hosted a five-week field school for adults and a one-week seminar for teachers, and participated in a week-long day camp for rising 4th and 5th graders. Information about 2003 field school programs is available on the Poplar Forest web site ([www.poplarforest.org](http://www.poplarforest.org)) or can be requested by phoning Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest at 434-525-1806.

## West Virginia

Reported by: William D. Updike

### Jenkins Plantation Museum (46Cb41)

[Submitted by: William D. Updike, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc.]

Beginning in July 2002, Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. of Hurricane, West Virginia, began remote sensing and archaeological investigations at the Jenkins Plantation Museum at Green Bottom, Cabell County, West Virginia. The research was sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and field work was directed by William D. Updike. The Jenkins Plantation Museum is comprised of the ca. 1835 home of Confederate General Albert Gallatin Jenkins. A long range plan for the museum is to reconstruct former outbuildings and activity areas.

Current research at the site involved examining a large portion of the area surrounding the house through magnetometer and gradiometer surveys. Based on the results of

these surveys, and previous excavations, approximately 200 square meters of the area were excavated. Over the course of the summer the following buildings and activity areas were defined: a 20 x 22-foot kitchen, an 8 x 10-foot stone and mortar-lined privy, a 20 x 20-foot possible office building, and a garden area. The former locations of two sidewalks, and a possible root cellar feature were also examined.

### Arbuckle's Fort (46Gb13)

[Submitted by: W. Stephen McBride, McBride Preservation Services]

In April 2002 Dr. W. Stephen McBride (McBride Preservation Services) and Dr. Kim A. McBride (University of Kentucky) continued excavations at the site of Arbuckle's Fort (1774-ca. 1782) in Greenbrier County with a Concord College archaeology class taught by Dr. Robert Maslowski (U.S.A.C.O.E.-Huntington). These excavations were funded by West Virginia Budget Digest Funds and centered on a refuse pit, a cellar, the blacksmithing area, the northern bastion and a possible outdoor cooking area. The refuse pit and cellar produced a large quantity of animal bone as well as kitchen/dining, architectural, clothing and arms artifacts. Particularly exciting finds were two small, eight-sided brass disks which may have been African-American amulets. While these are plain, a third one found in 1998 has an engraved "X."

In the northern bastion, shooting platform posts and a cellar (magazine?) were discovered. The most surprising discovery of the season was a second internal stockade trench which parallels one found in 1992. Future excavations are planned to chase this second internal stockade trench and further excavate the other new features.

## Ontario

Reported by: Suzanne Plousos

### Victoria Park, City of London

[Submitted by Dana Poulton, D.R. Poulton & Associates Inc.]

D.R. Poulton & Associates Inc. carried out excavations on a ca. 1850s British military site known as the Framed Infantry Barracks. Principal investigators, Christine Dodd and Dana Poulton, conducted the archaeological investigation on behalf of the City of London as part of the Victoria Park Restoration Master Plan. The ten-week excavation this summer marked the final stage of a four-year program.

Victoria Park was originally part of a 73-acre military reserve established by the British immediately following the Rebellion of 1837. The London garrison served as headquarters for the British Army west of Toronto. The Framed Infantry Barracks, so-called to distinguish it from a nearby log barracks, was the heart of the garrison. The Framed

Barracks complex covered a ten-acre area encompassing the entire northern two-thirds of the park. The remaining southern section of the park overlies the historic drill ground. The British garrisoned London from 1838 to 1853, when troops withdrew to England. During a period of instability occasioned by the Fenian Raids and the American Civil War, troops re-occupied the barrack from 1861 to 1869. Fire destroyed the officers' quarters in 1872 and, by the mid-1870s, the remaining structures were cleared in preparation for the development of Victoria Park.

The 2002 program included a review of areas of the hospital compound partially excavated the previous season. It also addressed the site of the northeast bastion lying within the vicinity of a proposed new formal park entrance way. Finally, the 2002 excavations explored a three-meter-wide alignment for a proposed Loop Path that would meander through much of the former barracks.

The investigations transected the barracks palisade at three points: along the west edge of the hospital compound, in the southwest bastion, and in the southeast bastion. They also revealed a segment of the picket enclosing the hospital compound. Confirmation of these alignments proved important in anchoring the layout of the historic barracks complex within the landscape plans for the modern park.

The excavations recovered artifact samples from four separate privies. The barracks complex included two officers' privies — one in the southwest bastion, the other in the southeast bastion. D.R. Poulton and Associates explored the portion of each privy that extended into the Loop Path alignment. The investigators also excavated most of an 1839 to late 1840s soldiers' privy, located in the northeast bastion. In addition, they sampled a small portion of the hospital privy.

The four-year program in Victoria Park amassed a wealth of material resources complementing the historical data on the barracks complex. Analysis of the collection is ongoing, but the key finding of the excavation is evident: archaeological remains of the Framed Infantry Barracks are extremely well preserved, making Victoria Park a tremendous resource for future public education and tourism.

### Archaeology at Fort Henry

[Submitted by Joseph H. Last and Henry C. Cary, Ontario Service Centre, Parks Canada]

This season marked the second year of Parks Canada archaeological research at Fort Henry. The entranceway ramp was the main focus, with additional excavations on the interior and exterior of the Advance Battery. Primary project goals involved: finding remnants of the original 1832 ramp retaining walls; determining if historical resources associated with their construction remain; and assessing the wall condition to determine why they are failing.

To address these research questions, we opened four test units behind both sides of the ramp walls, complementing

two pits excavated during the 2001 survey. Each pit produced important structural information spanning Fort Henry history from 1832 until present. A surprising discovery is the intact state of the 1832 construction. We encountered between two and nine extant courses of the original walls. More remain unexposed beneath the heavy rubble fill of the first glacis. These 1832 walls are massively constructed with stones averaging 50 cm (1.6 feet) in length. The walls themselves are over two meters (6.5 feet) thick.

While wall construction took a great deal of effort, investigation revealed that cutting the ramp channel was also a major undertaking. Beginning at the Advance Battery parade, the limestone bedrock was mined on a 5-degree angle until it reached the ditch floor. At this point, the Royal Engineers had removed more than two meters (6.5 feet) of bedrock and overburden. In addition, digging the area for the Redoubt, ditch, and ramp involved removing over 34,400 cubic meters of bedrock. In modern terms, the backfill would fill 317 tractor-trailers which, placed end to end, would stretch for 6.1 kilometers!

Only the upper courses of the wall were replaced during Fort Henry's reconstruction in 1936/38. Unexplainably, rather than use the uppermost course of the 1832 wall, the repairs rest upon an inferior layer of loose rubble. One can distinguish the reconstruction wall from the original by looking north down the exterior face of the ramp wall. The vertical bottommost courses constitute the 1832 construction, while the courses above, canting towards the glacis, indicate the 1936 and later portions.

Preventing the ramp corners from toppling into the ditch has been an ongoing problem. Excavation revealed at least four attempted repairs, one involving tiebacks with subsequent repairs in concrete. The primary reason for the wall failure appears to be water penetration and the resultant destructive freeze-thaw cycles that displace the lowest courses of the ramp walls.

Despite disturbance during the 1936/38 reconstruction, many of the 1832 fills remain intact, and several interesting artifacts were recovered. A gilded officer's button of the 68th Regiment (who garrisoned Fort Henry for two brief periods in the 1820s) and an 1815 Royal Artillery example were some of the military items unearthed. Also discovered were portions of blacking bottles, clay pipe fragments, shako



chinstraps, plate and bowl pieces, and a musket sling swivel. Friction tubes were common finds. They range in date from the mid-nineteenth century until present. Other intriguing items unearthed in the ditch include a plate marked as Royal Canadian Rifle Regiment (RCRR) mess-ware, and a grapeshot ball.

Investigations also exposed a compacted deposit of angular limestone spall that once served as a pavement for the entire Advance Battery parade and a third of the first fort glacis. Developed by John Loudon McAdam, a Scottish engineer and Road Trustee, the "macadamised" surface was adopted by Royal Engineers throughout the British Empire. The method broke with road building tradition by not requiring a heavily developed foundation of stone and aggregate. Instead, McAdam's system emphasized the need for superior drainage. He contended that a layer of tightly packed stone, if kept in a dry state, could bear the load of cart and carriage. Less expensive to construct and maintain, his system became the 19th century method of choice.

The longevity of macadam paving is well documented at Fort Henry where three successive surfaces were encountered. The first, associated with the 1813/14 Fort Henry, was overlain during the construction of the 1832 fort. A subsequent pavement, probably constructed in the 1860s, has all the elements of a classic macadamised design. McAdam specified that stone size should not exceed 6 ounces in weight and pass through a two-inch ring. Larger stone was considered "mischievous," allowing water penetration that undermined his system. Our investigations revealed paving

stones of uniform size, measuring 5 centimeters or less. Compressed into an underlying layer of natural clay, the surface sloped visibly to the south, providing fast and effective runoff. Documentary photos show that the macadamised parade lasted into the latter part of the 19th century when it became overgrown with grass and weeds. Later it was covered with tarmac; interestingly, a name derived from the combination of McAdam's system and tar.

The Ft. Henry well was also briefly examined in 2002. The feature is often cited as the only visible remnant of the 1812 fort. After removing the cover, we noticed several characteristics that clearly date the well to the second Fort Henry. First, making the well was a huge undertaking. It has a 3.72 m (12 feet) wide shaft and is over 16 m (57 feet) deep. Instead of being mined into limestone like most of the defensive ditch, the well cuts through a tenacious granite vein. It is unlikely that the 1813 British garrison, with the constant threat of an American invasion, would invest in this enterprise when far more pressing defensive matters required attention.

If we have learned anything from archaeology at Fort Henry, it is an appreciation of the magnitude of the work that went into its construction. Apart from the effort required to build the Redoubt and Advance Battery buildings, the requisite mining and site preparation was an enormous undertaking. It would take the will of a huge workforce and many engineers to see the project completed in a time when funding for colonial defense projects were stretched across the globe.

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