



# Council for Northeast Historical Archæology NEWSLETTER

October 2005

NUMBER 62

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<http://www.smcm.edu/cneha>

*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)

## New CNEHA Bibliography

This is the final call for entries!!!

The CNEHA Board is undertaking a comprehensive bibliography of publications pertaining to Northeast Historical Archaeology, and the new bibliography will appear in 2006, coinciding with the 40th anniversary of the founding of CNEHA. It will include all publications since 1986, the year of our last comprehensive bibliography (covering all years up to that date).

If you would like your own publications, those of your colleagues, friends, university, etc. included in this comprehensive listing, please send entries in now! If you do not respond, then there is no guarantee that your publications will be included. See *Northeast Historical Archaeology*, Volume 15 (1986), as a guide to the information you should include in your entries.

Please submit entries (or questions) to David Starbuck at [dstarbuck@Frontiernet.net](mailto:dstarbuck@Frontiernet.net) or mail your disk to David Starbuck, P.O. Box 492, Chestertown, NY 12817. All entries need to be in Microsoft Word to guarantee readability. The deadline for submitting entries for the bibliography is January 1, 2006.

## OPINION PIECE

### Viking America: Historical Archaeology

by Michael Cohn  
Timeline Associates

The existence of a Norse settlement in Newfoundland is now generally accepted by archaeologists and historians. Since the 1960s, scattered finds of Norse artifacts from northern Maine to Hudson Bay, as well as the excavation of butternut husks in context at L'Anse aux Meadows, make it almost certain that Norse ships probably based at Greenland explored America widely, both in space and time. Ramah chert from Labrador has been found in Greenland. Since the Greenland colony lasted into the 15th century, it can be assumed that the American mainland was utilized for furs, falcons and timber beyond the thirty years or so that the houses in Newfoundland lasted.

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During the same period of time, Basque, English and Norse fishermen hunted whales and cod in the Western Atlantic. The possibility that they landed on the American continent to dry fish, obtain firewood and fresh water must be given serious consideration.

All of this places historical archaeologists in a quandary. The concept that the year 1500 CE divides prehistoric from historic eras seems no longer sustainable. Euro-American contact on both a casual cultural and biological basis has to be assumed from at least 950 CE on, and the early official explorers are likely to have had more than an inkling where they were headed.

### **UPDATE--*Northeast Historical Archaeology***

Reported by: David B. Landon

After a busy summer of fieldwork, the journal office is up and running at full speed once again. We currently have two major projects underway, a special publication on palisades by Marshall Becker, and Volume 34 (2005), a thematic issue on Dutch Archaeology, edited by Paul Huey. It looks like Volume 34 should be out before the end of the year, so the journal will officially be caught up, with the issue published in the correct calendar year.

We are currently working on the review and revision process for articles that will make up the 2006 issue, so if you are planning a submission to the journal, now is the time!

The long-awaited Dutch thematic issue promises to be an interesting and important publication. A preview of the contents is included below.

**PAUL R. HUEY**

Introduction

**MICHIEL H. BARTELS**

The Van Lidth de Jeude Family and Their Waste; Material Culture Remains from a Wealthy Family in 18th-century Tiel, the Netherlands

**RICHARD SCHAEFER AND META FAYDEN  
JANOWITZ**

The Castello Plan – Evidence of Horticulture in New Netherland or Cartographer's Whimsy?

**JAN M. BAART**

Cloth Seals at Iroquois Sites

**GERALD A. DE WEERDT**

A Preliminary Assessment and Identification of the Shipwreck Remains Uncovered in 1916 at the World Trade Center Site in New York City

**PAUL R. HUEY**

The Archaeology of 17th-Century New Netherland Since 1985: An Update

**PAUL R. HUEY**

An Annotated Bibliography of Selected Sources on the Archaeology of Old World Dutch Material Culture in the 16th, 17th, and 18th Centuries



*The Van Lidth de Jeude family painted by W. Kessel in 1724, from Bartel's article forthcoming in Volume 34.*

### **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.

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#### CALL FOR PAPERS

### From the Halve Maen to KLM: 400 Years of Dutch-American Exchange

The American Association for Netherlandic Studies (AANS) and the New Netherland Institute (NNI) are sponsoring a joint conference, "From the Halve Maen to KLM: 400 Years of Dutch-American Exchange." The Conference will take place June 8-10, 2006, in concurrence with "The Legacy of New Netherland" exhibit. The Conference and the Exhibit will be held in Albany, NY, in the former Delaware & Hudson building, a stunning example of Flemish Gothic architecture modeled after the 13th century Cloth Hall at Ypres, Belgium.

This joint conference, which will replace the 2006 Rensselaerswijck Conference, will bring together historians, researchers, anthropologists, architectural historians, museum curators, archaeologists, professors of literature and linguistics, art historians, and others to discuss the influence of the Dutch on American culture and life.

Proposals for papers relating to all aspects of Dutch and Flemish society, history, and culture and proposals for complete sessions around a central theme are welcome. Given the location and historical context of the conference, the organizers are especially interested in proposals in the following areas: the reception of Dutch culture in America, the reception of American culture in the Netherlands, and more specifically the reception of 17th century Dutch culture in 19th century literature, historiography, and art.

Topics of interest might include the exploitation of modern Dutch values in American culture (cleanliness, godliness, commercialism), visual and literary representations of Rembrandt and Vermeer (famous Dutch artists in literature and film), the limits of tolerance (culture clashes in the early American territories), taverns and churches, the role of women in New Netherland, and the Dutch role in the American Revolution. A call for papers will appear in the Fall AANS Newsletter and on their web site at <http://polyglot.lss.wisc.edu/aans/> and on the New Netherland Institute web site at [www.nnp.org](http://www.nnp.org). The AANS is a university-level organization that promotes the study of the language, literature, history, art history and general culture of the Low Countries (Belgium, The Netherlands, and Luxemburg).

### A "Frozen Charlott" Doll from Frederic Church's "Cozy Cottage" at Olana

by Paul R. Huey

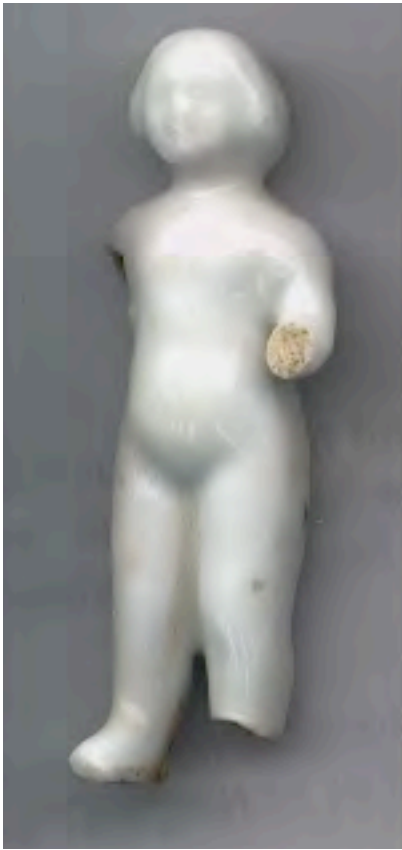
Scientist (Archeology)

Bureau of Historic Sites

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation

During the summer of 2004, archaeological excavations at Olana State Historic Site near Hudson, New York, by the Archeology Unit of the Bureau of Historic Sites occurred at Frederic Church's "Cosy Cottage" to test for archaeological deposits prior to restoration work on that structure (Feister 2004; Huey 2005). Frederic E. Church, the well-known landscape artist of the 19th century, built Cosy Cottage in 1860 as a residence for himself and his bride until his new mansion, Olana, was sufficiently completed on the hill above Cosy Cottage in 1872 (Stevenson 1972: 6, 35).

Among the artifacts recovered is part of a small white porcelain doll, commonly called a "Frozen Charlotte" doll. These dolls were made in Germany and England from about 1840 to the early 20th century. At the time such dolls were being imported to the United States, they were named perhaps from a popular melodrama of the 1860s or from the bal-



*"Frozen Charlotte"  
doll (A.OL.2004.678)  
excavated at Cosy  
Cottage, Olana, on  
August 11, 2004. It  
is exactly 5 centime -  
ters, or nearly 2  
inches, in height.*

lad "Fair Charlotte" that told of a thinly-clad young girl frozen "cold as stone" during a long winter sleigh ride on her way to a ball.

The discovery of this artifact immediately prompted questions as to the identity of the child at Cosy Cottage who might once have played with this doll. The doll evoked thoughts of the infant Church children born at Cosy Cottage but who died very young. One wondered if this doll might have been owned by Isabel Church, who was born in 1871. But by the time she might have had such a doll, the Churches were living in the new Olana house, and Cosy Cottage was being used for guests.

So who was living in the cottage after the Church family moved out, except for guests? The 1880 census lists Church's next-door neighbors as including two families that included little girls who could have played with dolls, but further research has indicated that neither family likely lived in Cosy Cottage. A graduate thesis on the history and restoration of Cosy Cottage mentions that in 1875 the cottage was rented to "Dr. William Sabine" and his wife "for at least that summer and possibly also for the summer of the following year" (Stevenson 1972: 35). There was no "Dr. William Sabine," however, and this error originated with a reference to a visit by Mrs. William Sabine to the cottage in 1875. There are at least 22 letters in the Olana collection from a Dr. Sabine to Frederic E. Church from 1872 through March 1878, and a re-examination of these and an earlier document dated 1862 shows that he was actually Dr. Gustavus Adolph

Sabine with an office at 46 West 23rd Street in New York City (Sabine 1862).

This Dr. Sabine was a close friend but not Frederic E. Church's regular doctor. He was born in England in 1809 and entered the Middlesex Hospital in London in 1828, receiving his degree from the Royal College of Surgeons in 1832. In 1833 he was appointed surgeon in the East India service. He came to the United States in 1836, and a year later he married Julia Hannah Tufnell, a daughter of Capt. William Bewley Tufnell of the British Navy. Julia's home in England was near Great Waltham, Essex. The 1870 U.S. census lists members of Julia and Gustavus Sabine's household including a son, Thomas T. Sabine, who was also a physician, and their three daughters, Fannie, Julia, and Mary, who were between the ages of 21 and 27. The oldest son, William, who became a minister, was apparently away from home in 1870. Frederic Church encouraged Dr. Gustavus A. Sabine to build a house on land just north of the Olana farm, but in March 1872, Dr. Sabine wrote to Church that "I find my family all so terrible opposed to my building on my farm that for the present I shall not think of it: and I fear it will result in my disposing of the farm to some more fortunate individual whose family appreciates the beautiful and grand scenery of the Catskills. ... I am convinced that my family never will leave the bricks and mortar either before or after my death but will prefer a city life to the enjoyments of the country. I shall therefore I presume have to die in the harness as a city practitioner and then my family will be able to suit themselves on a city abode" (Sabine 1872). Construction of Dr. Sabine's new house nevertheless was started once the main house at Olana was completed in 1874. Apparently the Sabines stayed at Cosy Cottage in 1875 while waiting for their house to be completed, since an article in *The Recorder*, a Catskill newspaper, for August 28, 1874, notes "H.C. Runkel, Superintendent of the carpenter work of Church's mansion near Catskill Station, has received the contract for building a large frame house on the farm of Dr. Sabine, adjoining Church's farm. Mr. Runkel will be assisted by Messers L.S. & Wm. Smith of this village." In November 1874 Dr. Sabine wrote to Church that he had "communicated to my son your kind offer to let him the cottage for the summer" (Sabine 1874). In January 1875, Dr. Sabine wrote "I am going to come up to the farm with Mrs. William Sabine; she is very anxious to take a look at your cottage so that we shall probably come up when you are back from the city" (Sabine 1875). Mrs. William Sabine was, of course, Dr. Sabine's daughter-in-law. After Dr. Sabine finished the new house, his wife and daughters refused to live in the country. Rev. William T. Sabine, D.D., had married Maria Theresa Schieffelin in 1868. He was the rector of the First Reformed Episcopal Church on Madison Avenue in New York City from 1874 to 1907, and it was he who in 1870 first referred to a little church on East 29th Street as "a little church around the corner," a name that it still carries. Their daughters included Edith, born in 1869, Elisabeth, born in 1871, Alice,

born in 1876, and Julia, born 1879, so any one of them could have had the toy doll that was found at Cosy Cottage. Thus, the “Frozen Charlotte” doll found at Cosy Cottage was perhaps lost by 6-year-old Edith Sabine when the Rev. William Sabine family was there in 1875.

“Frozen Charlotte” dolls also have been found at other sites in New York State. Two examples very similar to the Cosy Cottage specimen but of slightly better detail and quality were excavated in 2002 from a wood-lined privy at 87 College Avenue in Troy, New York, as part of the data retrieval in advance of expansion by RPI. The privy was at the rear of a house owned in the 1870s by John Hart, an Irish-born laborer. Hart’s youngest daughter in 1875 was 11 years old, but the other families who shared the house with the Harts also had young daughters. College Avenue was a neighborhood that included clerks, collar shop workers, moulders, machinists, and laborers (Miller 2004: 4.49-4.51, 9.22-9.24). In 1980, excavations in Fort Niagara State Historic Site, a 19th-century military post north of Niagara Falls, also uncovered a “Frozen Charlotte” doll. This doll, however, has molded clothing and a bonnet in the style of fashion inspired by the 1880s drawings by Kate Greenaway, a popular British children’s book illustrator. On the back of this doll is marked “Germany,” indicating it was made after 1891. It was left probably by one of the children of the U.S. Army families living nearby during the Spanish American War and in the early 1900s (Zimmerman 1984: 75).

This article could not have been compiled and written without the research material and notes gathered by Linda MacLean, Olana Site Manager, and by Ida Brier, the Olana librarian/archivist. The support of Evelyn Trebilcock of Olana and of Anne Cassidy of the Bureau of Historic Sites is also greatly appreciated.

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## CURRENT RESEARCH

### Maine

Reported by: Leon Cranmer

#### Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village

A crew from the Maine Historic Preservation Commission under the direction of Leon Cranmer has completed an archaeological survey at the Sabbathday Lake Shaker Village in New Gloucester, Maine. The goal of the survey was to identify, test, and record Shaker mills and other associated sites located outside the village proper. Four mill sites were identified. The first mill built by the Shakers was an undershot wheel sawmill built in 1796. This mill was moved upstream and rebuilt as a saw and grist mill, also with an undershot wheel, in 1809. In 1816 the Shaker Bog, a 40-45 acre reservoir, was created to feed a large mill pond and holding pond for a new mill, Deacon James’s saw and gristmill. In 1853 the Great mill was built. This four-story mill initially served five functions: shingle, grist, and carding mills, machine shop, and cooper shop. The 30-foot overshot wheel, second-largest in the country at that time, was fed from the holding pond via a 164-foot-long sluice that was eventually lined with granite. In 1877 Deacon James’s sawmill was moved to the Great Mill. The Great Mill was in operation until 1942.

Besides work on the mills, the survey also identified a blacksmith shop, probably associated with the cooper’s shop at the

Great mill, and a boarding house and stables for hired men at the mill. There is little information on the blacksmith shop, but the boarding house and stables were built in 1877 and taken down in 1955. The possible location of a second boarding house has yet to be tested. When no longer wanted, buildings on Shaker property were either moved and reused elsewhere or dismantled and hauled away. They were never left to deteriorate for fear of fire. This, together with the fact that the Sabbathday Lake Shakers left very little trash lying around, sometimes presents a problem for the archaeologist.

## **New York**

Reported by: Lois Feister

### **Archaeology by Public Archaeology Facility**

Dr. Nina Versaggi, director of the Public Archaeology Facility at the State University of New York at Binghamton, and her teams located the stone foundations of 19th-century homes and artifacts deposited by the people who lived there under a parking lot near the Broome County Airport. Finds included ceramics and traces of a privy. Also found were postholes of a longhouse structure and prehistoric artifacts. (Press & Sun Bulletin, Binghamton, NY 6/05)

### **New York State Encyclopedia Published**

The work of scholars across the State of New York, the New York State Encyclopedia has been published by Syracuse University Press after years of preparation. The Encyclopedia provides histories of most towns in the state, and archaeological, industrial, and cultural history related to state settlement and development. The resulting volume weighs more than 10 pounds but should be added to all libraries. Consult the Syracuse University Press web site for more information.

### **Historic Wooden Water Pipes Uncovered**

A backhoe operated by a Parks Department contractor struck what appeared to be a tree trunk lying on its side four feet below ground. Archaeologist Joan Geismar identified the fragment as a 10-foot long hollow log and found others still buried in the soil. She recognized these as water pipes, among New York City's earliest. The wooden water pipes had been lying in the ground beneath the Coenties Slip for over 200 years. The pipes are undergoing conservation and will be displayed to the public once they are stabilized. (Gerald Koepfel in Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct Newsletter, summer 2005)

### **Assessment of the Hudson River before Dredging**

Dredging operations in the upper Hudson are planned for the removal of PCBs. The federal government has General Electric, the company responsible for this type of pollution in the river, performing an archaeological resources assessment before dredging begins. Daniel F. Cassidy of URS Corporation of Burlington, NJ, and colleagues are patrolling

the waterway doing reconnaissance where experts like Dr. David Starbuck and other members of the Fort Edward Cultural Resources Advisory Board think historic objects and structures are submerged. Using a GPS device, Cassidy is laying the ground work for a large crew of archaeologists to begin investigation. He has found already a partially submerged wooden boat at the south end of Rogers Island, probably an old canal boat. (Schenectady Gazette July 2005)

### **Charlton Schedules Archaeological Excavations**

The Town of Charlton, located in Saratoga County, NY, has hired Landmark Archaeology of Altamont, New York, to conduct an archaeological Phase II survey of the remains of a cheese factory at the site of the planned new town hall. The site is located in a historic district and is based on Phase I findings of nails, ceramics, glass, and brick fragments left behind when the cheese factory, built in 1866, was demolished.

### **Test Excavations in Hounsfield, Jefferson County**

Dr. Laurie Rush and her crew found a midden and foundations of an early 19th-century house in Jefferson County. Finds included green-glazed redware, creamware, window glass, wrought nails, and brick. The Mean Ceramic Date of 1789 to 1807 was established, based on the finds. Faunal analysis identified cow, deer, and pig, an assemblage typical of rural subsistence in the North County, a mix of domestic and wild. A high percentage of foot and cranial elements indicates butchery waste.

### **Belknap-Montgomery Site, Orange County**

Construction associated with Stewart International Airport near Newburgh, NY, will impact an historic farmstead occupied from the mid-18th-century to the mid-20th. Excavations by Louis Berger & Associates focused on the main house, its yards, barn area, and assorted outbuildings. Features identified included a cistern, well, privy, sheds, root cellar or smokehouse. The analysis revealed domestic spaces and work spaces on the farm and showed that this spatial organization was established early. An evolving residential arena took place around the house, demonstrated by datable artifact deposits that mirror the occupants' changing perceptions of the landscape and the place of the household within it.

### **Excavations at the Kent-Hayt Site, Putnam County**

The New York State Museum conducted Phase III work at the Kent-Hayt house. The first house on the site was built after 1774 but before 1778, based on the archaeological findings. After the American Revolution, the Hayt brothers established a tannery that produced Moroccan leather for book binding and furniture. Excavations and analysis resulted in multiple artifact finds and information about the growth and changes at the house.

## Maryland

Reported by: Silas D. Hurry

### St. Mary's City

Historic St. Mary's City, in conjunction with St. Mary's College of Maryland, has successfully completed its thirty-fourth annual Field School in Historical Archaeology. This year's project involved the re-examination of specific aspects of the Van Sweringen site which was originally explored between 1974 and 1981. This year's field school, the largest in HSMC history, recovered a range of information concerning the site and land use in the area. Yardscape features and architectural remains were investigated, and additional excavations were undertaken in a ca. 1740 filled cellar. Notable artifacts include additional fragments of a distinctive Turkish pottery first identified in the 1970s and a white clay pipe made in Chester, UK, and decorated with impressed Cupids on the stem. This Chester pipe is dated to ca. 1700–1720. This work is being undertaken in advance of N.E.H. funded exhibit development. Artifact processing and analysis will be ongoing over the winter.

In late September and early October, Historic St. Mary's City has served as host to the visit of Mr. Hassoum Ceesay, Curator of the National Museums of the Gambia. Mr. Ceesay is spending three weeks in the US visiting museums and learning about curatorial techniques and museum practices here. HSMC has hosted numerous students from the Gambia over the past several years who have spent the summer attending our archaeological field school. Mr. Ceesay's visit includes presentations at St. Mary's College of Maryland, visits to the Smithsonian museums in Washington D.C. and travels to Georgia and Wake Forest University. While in Maryland, Mr. Ceesay was introduced to a number of museums and archaeological programs of varying scale, ranging from the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory through the Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission's projects in Prince Georges County.

Historic St. Mary's City is pleased to announce a new feature on their web site. Called "Art-n-facts", this is a recast-

ing of several short pieces describing and discussing artifacts in the HSMC collection. These short essays originally appeared in the Newsletter of the Historic St. Mary's City Foundation but have been recast with color illustrations for the web version. They are available for browsing at <http://www.stmaryscity.org/Art n Facts/Gallery.html>

### St. Mary's College of Maryland

The Department of Anthropology (currently Anthropology and Sociology), St. Mary's College of Maryland, seeks an archaeologist to begin in Fall 2006 for a tenure-track assistant or associate professor position with expertise in culture contact and change, globalization, anthropological theory and methods, and the creative use of electronic technologies to store, access and disseminate information. We are seeking a colleague to teach courses in these areas in addition to a four-field introduction to anthropology, and at least one sub-field course. We envision the successful applicant will play a pivotal role in the further development of curriculum, facilities, and research opportunities for students. We seek a colleague who can contribute to the Maryland Heritage Project, a collaborative initiative with Historic St. Mary's City, which will focus on the comparative study of the Atlantic World—Africa, Europe, and the Americas on the periphery of the Atlantic from the 16th through 19th centuries. Candidates must have a Ph.D. and a strong interest in the analysis of material culture and historical documents to provide insight into the Atlantic World as a site of cross-cultural interaction and foundation for contemporary globalization and the modern world.

St. Mary's College of Maryland at Historic St. Mary's City, a public Carnegie Baccalaureate Liberal Arts institution, located 70 miles southeast of Washington, D.C., is Maryland's designated honors college ([www.smcm.edu](http://www.smcm.edu)). With highly selective admissions policies, academically talented students, and rigorous curriculum, we offer small college experiences similar to those found at exceptional private colleges. The College has a strategic partnership with Historic St. Mary's City, a museum of history and archaeology on the site of Maryland's first capital, and one of the most significant colonial archaeological sites in North America. St. Mary's faculty benefit from a comprehensive program of support for scholarship, research, travel, curriculum development, and sabbaticals for pre-tenure and tenured faculty. The quality of life is enhanced by the recreational opportunities of the Chesapeake region and proximity to Washington, D.C. and Baltimore.

To apply, please submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, evidence of teaching effectiveness, and three letters of recommendation to Louis Hicks, Chair, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, St. Mary's College of Maryland, Kent Hall, 18952 E. Fisher Road, St. Mary's City, Maryland, 20686-3001. Review of applications will begin November 15 and continue until the position is filled. The Department will be interviewing at AAA in December. SMCM is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.



*Pipe stem from the Van Sweringen site, St. Mary's City. The specimen was made in Chester, UK between 1700 and 1720. The decoration depicts Cupid.*

## **Montgomery County**

The Montgomery County archaeologists of the Maryland-National Capitol Park and Planning Commission held a public dig day at Dowden's Ordinary, commemorating General Braddock's second encampment April 15-16 1755, in honor of the 250th anniversary of the French and Indian War. Excavations continue there to help interpret the site which will become a local park. This summer, an adult field school began excavations at Blockhouse Point, a Civil War camp which helped guard a near-by Potomac ford and the adjacent Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. We will be looking for evidence of its burning by Confederate Col. John S. Mosey during General Jubal Early's 1864 feint against Washington D.C.

## **Mount Calvert Historical and Archaeological Park**

On Friday, May 20, 2005, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) of Prince George's County, Maryland, celebrated the dedication and opening of Mount Calvert Historical and Archaeological Park. This 76-acre park is located on the shores of the Patuxent River approximately twenty miles east of Washington, D.C. Mount Calvert is one of the most significant historical and archaeological sites in Prince George's County. It was a major center for prehistoric occupation, colonial settlement and expansion, and the development of plantation agriculture in Maryland. Charles Town at Mount Calvert was the first County seat of Prince George's County from 1696 until 1721.

The results of ongoing excavations of the M-NCPPC archaeology program at Mount Calvert are presented in an exhibit, "A Confluence of Three Cultures," located in the extant Federal Period plantation house. The exhibit uses artifacts, graphics and text to interpret the archaeology of Mount Calvert's role in prehistory, the development of port towns in the Chesapeake region, and a nineteenth century plantation. Since 1997, three Non-Capital Grants from the Maryland Historical Trust have helped to support Phase I and II excavations, historical research, and artifact processing and analysis.

Mount Calvert Historical and Archaeological Park also features ten interpretive wayside panels that provide an interpretation of the broad range of historical and archaeological resources at Mount Calvert. The research, design, and fabrication of the panels was accomplished via funding from a \$17,000.00 grant from the National Park Service's Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network. Excavations are open to the public and volunteers on Saturdays. Exhibit hours are Saturdays 10am - 4pm and Sunday's from 12pm - 5pm.

## **Prince Georges County: Piscataway**

The Cultural Resources group from the National Capital area office of URS Corporation has conducted numerous archaeological investigations into Maryland's historical past. In particular, seven separate projects have been undertaken in

the last year within the area of historic Piscataway Village, in southern Prince George's County, comprising many individual archaeological sites. Piscataway Creek is a tributary of the Potomac River. The Piscataway Indians had a large Contact Period village there, and all sites have multi-component prehistoric and historic occupations, though in all cases the historic component was primary. A large volume of historical documents have been found to accompany the archaeological finds, making this a particularly interesting region of the state to research. Ebenezer Cooke's infamous tale *The Sot Weed Factor*, published in London in 1707, begins when his boat docks in the cove at "Piscato-way." Piscataway became a village of gentlemen and large tobacco plantations in the eighteenth century and was the site of Glasgow merchant John Glassford's Piscataway store from 1753 to 1844. Phase III excavations at four sites - 18PR476, 18PR478, 18PR482, and 18PR496 - have yielded the most information. Archaeological remains at 18PR482 relate to a number of Parker occupations in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. By 1800 the estate known as Sang Whare had passed to Walter Smith Parker, who died in 1818. Parker heirs owned the property until at least 1878. The site contains the remains of at least two, and possibly three, separate dwellings. In total, 7,146 historic artifacts were recovered from the site, and 18 historic features were identified. A midden from the eighteenth to early nineteenth century was stratified with mixed artifacts in the upper three layers and solely eighteenth century artifacts in the lower two layers.

Throughout the eighteenth and early nineteenth century, sites 18PR476 and 18PR478 were part of the Edelen family's tobacco plantation. The sites were historically part of Little Ease, patented in 1673 by Richard Fowke, and Thomas His Chance, patented in 1669 by William Thomas. Ownership of the parcels changed several times throughout the period until purchased by Richard Edelen in 1699 and then transferred through the family line until the late nineteenth century. James Edelen (1710-1768) and his family were likely the first to dwell on the plantation. Their residence is at site 18PR478, which is the remains of a dwelling house from the mid eighteenth to early nineteenth centuries, eventually known as Edelen's Mount. James' sons Edward Edelen (1747-1811), and then Joseph (1757-1833), eventually owned the lands that include sites 18PR476 and 18PR478. The dwelling within 18PR478 is represented archaeologically by two cellars with architectural and domestic artifacts. A total of 14,484 historic artifacts and 156 features, mostly postholes, were identified at site 18PR478.

The ledger books of yearly purchases from Glassford's Piscataway store show James Edelen making large purchases in the 1760s, soon after the store was established. The purchases mostly consisted of consumable products like cloth (silk, satin, chintz, Buckram, cotton, wool), but also boys' fine shoes, jacket buttons, a necklace, blankets, gun screw, cinnamon, nutmeg, one box of Anderson's Pills (an early patent medicine), and bottled drinks including wine,

Madeira, claret, rum, and India Passion. These were paid for predominantly with tobacco notes deposited at Piscataway, Broad Creek, and Port Tobacco. In 1772 son Edward is recorded as having bought numerous kitchen furnishings, including one dozen cream plates, one dozen knives and forks, one cream tea pot, one chaffing dish, two frying pans, a half dozen table spoons, and other materials. These are likely some of the very same objects recovered in the archaeological excavations. By the parish census of 1776, James' wife Salome Edelen was listed as head of household with most of the children at home, and 24 slaves. The eldest son Edward, who was then 29, was apparently making a good business of horse breeding and racing.

Archaeological remains at 18PR476 may represent a subordinate or outlying domestic site (e.g., overseer house) associated with Edelen's Mount Plantation. The artifacts suggest the site was occupied primarily from the late eighteenth through early nineteenth centuries. A moderate quantity of artifacts and paucity of features indicate the site was not intensely occupied.

Changes appear to have taken place on the Edelen estate in 1795 or soon thereafter. The store records for the year 1795 show Edward buying thousands of pieces of hardware and a few tools, presumably for construction. The purchases included several thousand nails and brads, as well as hinges and chamber door locks. The ledger entry includes tools (cooper's adze, chisel, several gimlets, and dove tail), a payment for lime, a few furnishings (one iron pot, dozen table spoons), and a few bottles of snuff as well. In 1797 Edward Edelen patented Edelen's Mount, an 873.5-acre tract. This resurvey and renaming of the estate may reflect the construction of a new house, as suggested by the preceding hardware purchases at Glassford's store, and the fact that Edward was then the sole owner.

Edward's brother Joseph and his family presumably built a structure where the Edelen House now stands and called that house Mount Airy (an extant Maryland Register historical structure). In the 1798 Federal Direct Tax, Edward is listed as having one wooden dwelling house 16 by 30 feet with one kitchen 14 by 12 feet, all on one acre and appraised at 160 dollars. Joseph had a wooden dwelling house two stories high, 28 by 16 feet, with 16 windows and 136 square feet, with one kitchen 20 by 16 feet, all on one acre and valued at 250 dollars. The archaeological evidence associated with the Edelen House (from site 18PR498) did not support intensive use prior to the early nineteenth century.

Other research in the Piscataway area has included surveys at Bevard Farm, Renard Lakes, Indian Ridge, and several other parcels. All have yielded evidence of nineteenth century tobacco farms. Some have experienced extensive disturbance over time.

In northern Prince George's County, a Phase I archaeological survey at Smith Farm identified eleven historic sites and one multicomponent site, and included an architectural assessment of standing structures.

The site of Pleasant Prospect (18PR705) is an historic house site dating to the mid to late eighteenth century. Six historic features were identified within the site, including a brick house foundation, a cellar, a second possible cellar or structure base, and three pit features representing outbuildings and/or refuse deposits. In total, 2,040 historic artifacts were recovered during the Phase I and Phase II investigations of 18PR705. Artifacts date from the early eighteenth through the mid-nineteenth century, although the majority of the diagnostics are from the mid- to late eighteenth century. Based on artifact dates, 18PR705 may have been built by Thomas Sprigg, Jr. prior to the sale of the property in 1788 to Isaac Duckett. Historic records indicate the Duckett family was accompanied by enslaved individuals as well as possible indentured servants, and site 18PR705 may include both the main house and slave or servant quarters. This is supported by evidence for several buildings, but to date no evidence of slaves can be seen in the material culture. Phase III excavations at the site should commence within several weeks.

### **Annapolis**

Archaeology in Annapolis continues its commitment to understanding African American heritage in the Chesapeake and to working with community members and interested scholars to define needs and meanings for archaeological work. Extending a long partnership with the Banneker-Douglass Museum, the State of Maryland's Center for African American History and Culture is housed in the historic Mt. Moriah A. M. E. Church in Annapolis. Archaeology in Annapolis has collaborated on the museum's first temporary exhibit for the recently completed new wing. This exhibit will focus on the archaeology of the block surrounding the museum, which was mostly African American residences and, in places, African-American property.

The museum's core is an African American Methodist Episcopal Church building that was saved from demolition by the Historic Annapolis Foundation, historically the city's most prominent preservation advocacy group. During archaeological research on the surrounding block, the museum's staff played a leading role in defining research questions for the members of Archaeology in Annapolis, beginning in 1990. The materials to be exhibited will explore life in the Courthouse block of Annapolis between the 1880s and the 1950s. The archaeology is from middle class homes owned by African-American Annapolitans, as well as including a commentary on the life in the tenements hidden from sight by this middle class housing. The archaeology clearly shows two wealth classes in the African American community between the 1830s and the 1970s, when the block was destroyed. This exhibit focuses on the time after Emancipation, where economic success was a focus of many African-American Annapolitans. The artifacts in this exhibit illustrate the choices African Americans made in this period of high hopes.

Material exhibited comes from dissertations written by Paul Mullins (Ph.D. UMASS Amherst), Mark Warner (Ph.D. University of Virginia), and Eric Larsen (Ph.D. SUNY Buffalo). This will be the third Banneker-Douglass exhibit of African-American archaeology from Archaeology in Annapolis. The exhibit will open in the early fall 2005. The exhibit was organized by Dr. Elizabeth Stewart, Curator at the Banneker-Douglass Museum. Assistance with the archaeological collections came from Amelia Chisholm, MAA, from the Department of Anthropology, University of Maryland, College Park, and undergraduate Kelsey Hudock. Since 1990 our project has investigated seven archaeological sites within the city of Annapolis that revealed the origins and dimensions of African American life in the city over the past three hundred years. These discoveries have become nationally famous because they demonstrate the existence and extent of West African spiritual practices, sometimes called "conjure" or "root work," in this area of the American South. The archaeological data recovered by Archaeology in Annapolis regarding the distinctive spirituality of some African Americans in Annapolis are a unique and important source of information on these practices. This summer University of California, Berkeley student Alexandra Jones began work on a dissertation in Anthropology premised in the Annapolis data, and we actively support her efforts and will continue to do so for the next several years.

In addition to these efforts, Archaeology in Annapolis continues excavations in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century plantation contexts on the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake. This program includes further research at the former plantation of William Paca called Wye Hall, where Mark Leone, Jessica Neuwirth and James Harmon have conducted excavations since 2000. In our sixth year of excavation, University of Texas Austin doctoral candidate Jennifer Babiarez recovered extensive data at a domestic site that might have served as a quarter for the Pacas' enslaved labor force. These included a brick-paved surface, a complex of post holes and brick piers for wooden buildings, and a well-preserved, earthen floor from the interior of a dwelling structure, all dating to the early nineteenth century. Because Paca family records were destroyed in the later nineteenth century, Babiarez' research at Wye Hall provides an excellent opportunity to reexamine the way in which plantation archaeology relies upon documentary materials.

This year Archaeology in Annapolis also initiated research at another former plantation on the Eastern Shore. Wye House, outside of Easton, Maryland is a large, privately-owned property that was a plantation during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, which was the home of the Lloyd family, and many enslaved laborers. This plantation is where Frederick Douglass was enslaved during part of his childhood. His book *My Bondage, My Freedom* contains very clear descriptions of this environment that was and remains Lloyd family property. This site has great integrity both architecturally and archaeologically, with many stand-

ing eighteenth- and nineteenth-century structures and intact archaeological deposits from both prehistoric and historic contexts. The context of slavery at Wye House has never been examined. Current members of the Lloyd family have invited Archaeology in Annapolis to explore the slave quarters and associated industries on their property. Test excavations were carried out during the summer of 2005 by University of Texas Austin doctoral candidate Lisa Kraus, and these verified the location of several work areas and the existence of very rich archaeological deposits from Frederick Douglass' time. This information will allow us to develop a multi-year plan to investigate the heritage of African Americans in bondage at this site thoroughly, as well as placing the Lloyd plantation within the context of Maryland history.

### **Baltimore**

Archaeologists with the Center for Heritage Resource Studies (CHRS) at the University of Maryland conducted limited archaeological testing on three sites in the central Baltimore neighborhood of Hampden. Hampden is a cotton mill town dating to the 1820s that was incorporated into the city in 1889. The project involves participatory archaeological research that incorporates community input into each phase of research, beginning with the research design. CHRS archaeologists Dave Gadsby and Bob Chidester began in 2004 by planning a series of public history workshops, in which community residents were asked to discuss issues of heritage that were important to them. Based on the results of those workshops, Chidester and Gadsby developed a general research design and began excavations in late June of 2005. With the aid of four student workers, funded by Baltimore City's Youthworks program and the Hampden Community council, as well as a graduate student intern from the University of Maryland, CHRS researchers began archaeological testing in three yard spaces dating from the 1840s through the 1890s. These excavations were geared primarily at determining the nature and extent of archaeological deposits in Hampden, which generally constitute fairly intensive middens, and as building foundations.

Future research will focus on expanding our knowledge of the growth and development of social systems in Hampden, particularly with regard to subjects identified by community members during the public history workshops: labor and paternalism, gender, and racial inequality. CHRS researchers see this research as an opportunity to expand an existing public discourse about heritage in a rapidly gentrifying neighborhood, and have thus directed many of their resources toward attracting public audiences to the project. For additional information, or to access oral histories from Hampden, please visit our web page at: [www.heritage.umd.edu](http://www.heritage.umd.edu) and click on "Hampden" in the "Local-Regional Heritage section."

## St. Leonard

In July 2005, Dr. Julia King and Edward Chaney finished a third season of excavations at 18CV91, the early 18th century home of the Smith family. The work was done as part of the Public Archaeology Program at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. This year's efforts were focused on the site of a quarter for enslaved Africans, and on exposing the brick foundation of the nearby Smith house. The most notable finding was the recovery of two cowry shells from the plow-zone soils overlying the Smith house foundation. The two shells were found about 15 feet apart. One is fairly typical, with part of the dorsal surface removed to produce an attachment hole. However, the other shell is quite unusual (see photo). It is complete, but the aperture has been filled with molten lead. A small copper-alloy eyelet was then embedded in the lead, creating an object with a button-like appearance. Preliminary research has uncovered no similar examples of this type of cowry shell modification. If anyone has seen a shell like this, please contact Ed Chaney at [echaney@mdp.state.md.us](mailto:echaney@mdp.state.md.us).



*Cowry shell with lead-embedded loop ring from the Smith-St. Leonards site at Patterson Park and Museum.*

## Virginia

Reported by: Barbara Heath

### Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest

[Submitted by Barbara Heath]

Poplar Forest archaeologists continue investigations of an important plantation-related site in the southeast quadrant of Jefferson's curtilage, an enclosed area of 61 acres surrounding the retreat house. Research suggests that this area, known as "Site B," may contain at least two Jefferson-era structures. They likely are associated with the working and domestic lives of Poplar Forest's enslaved laborers during the period when Jefferson used the property as his personal retreat (1806-1826). Under the direction of Barbara Heath, Randy Lichtenberger, and Keith Adams, participants in the annual summer field school and in the program "Digging, Learning, Teaching" for educators assisted in the project.

To date, archaeologists have excavated a total of 38 contiguous 5ft. x 5ft. units, forming a block excavation, and 11 discontinuous 5ft. x 5ft. units at Site B. These excavations

have revealed several substantial layers and features at the base of plow zone that include a large filled depression, a sinuous stone-filled trench, and several apparently related brick and stone features that may be associated with structures at the site. It is currently hypothesized that at least two structures stood at Site B, spaced approximately 20ft. apart. Ongoing excavations will attempt to determine their dimensions, use, and lifespan.

The artifact assemblage suggests close ties among Site B, the Quarter Site (a c. 1790-1812 slave quarter), and the Wing of Offices, Jefferson's service rooms attached to the east side of the octagonal retreat house. Numerous fragments of locally made coarse earthenware pots and dishes from Site B match vessels found at the Quarter Site and are of types that were no longer in use by the early 1820s. Similarly, a worked stone blank, left over from the manufacturing process, was discarded by a craftsman who was fashioning pipes or other stone objects from locally-available micaceous schist. This artifact matches an assemblage of stone wasters and tobacco pipes found at the Quarter, as well as a finished pipe from the Wing of Offices.

Several ceramic types and patterns found at Site B also match Jefferson-era vessels used at the Wing. Beyond patterns that are common to the early 19th century, matches of relatively rare pieces have also begun to emerge, including small amounts of canaryware, a single fragment of a dry-bodied red stoneware teapot, fragments of a pearlware bowl with a distinctive slipped decoration, and fragments of a molded creamware basket. These clues not only tie the two sites together in time, but also go further to suggest that in some cases, matching sets of ceramics may have been used and discarded at both places.

Prior testing indicates that significant quantities of artifacts extend south of the current excavation boundaries. The site may also extend to the northwest in an area that has not yet been tested. Documented structures, including a spinning house, dairy, cooperage (barrel-making shop), stables, a pre-1816 kitchen, and numerous slave cabins, have not yet been located, and some may fall within this area. It now seems likely that archaeologists have uncovered a portion of a larger complex of Jefferson-era buildings and workspaces that marked this place as a major center of activity during his retirement years. As such, Site B has the potential to provide important new information about plantation industry and Jefferson's strategies for promoting self-sufficiency, about the changing domestic and working conditions of enslaved men and women as the property transitioned from an outlying farm to a villa retreat, and about Jefferson's final resolution of the ongoing tension between elements of utility and those of beauty in his domestic landscapes.

Poplar Forest staff members are also conducting work at Historic Sandusky—a Lynchburg house museum associated with the 1864 Battle of Lynchburg—in preparation for that organization's renovation and expansion of an existing structure to serve as their Visitor's Center.

## Mount Vernon Archaeology

[Submitted by Esther White]

Mount Vernon's archaeologists completed work at two long-term research excavations during 2005, George Washington's Distillery and the restoration of Mount Vernon's South Lane. This summer's work was under the direction of Esther White, Eleanor Breen and Jennifer Ebbert. Jeremy Floyd, Ryan Kennedy, and James Goodwin assisted in the excavations.

**Distillery:** Excavation of George Washington's Distillery began in 1999 and subsequently uncovered the foundations of the large 75 x 30-foot stone building. Washington's probate inventory recorded five copper pot stills, five worm tubs and a boiler converting corn and rye into whiskey located inside the structure, yet there is no documentary information about how the interior was arranged.

Excavations revealed an extensive system of buried wooden troughs, earthen and brick drains, which 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. Earthen drains also carried water away from the stills after it cooled the vaporized distillate. Mapping and excavation of this drainage system aided in the understanding of how the distillery was arranged, specifically where the stills, and their associated worm tubs, which served as cooling vessels, were located.

Four furnaces, constructed with brick and sandstone, were found within and directly to the west of the building. The combination of these features combined with the route of the drains provided additional support for the placement of the stills and boiler. Three of the four had multiple layers of intact masonry, providing important evidence about their construction and use.

It is thought the grain was cooked, or mashed, and fermented along the west wall of the building. A paving of cobble, sandstone, and brick rubble was uncovered in this area. This rubble surface was the foundation for a wooden floor housing the mash tubs, made from large hogsheads. Period distilling manuals suggest fermentation is aided by a solid floor where the yeast is not disturbed by vibrations. The northern 15 feet of the building was separated from the main room of the structure by a stone partition wall. This area was further divided into two rooms by a post-in-ground partition and is interpreted as a storage area and office space for carrying out the business dealings of the enterprise. A plethora of domestic artifacts found within this portion of the site suggests that the finished loft chambers housing two hired white distillers, mentioned in the documentary record, were located at this end of the building.

With the completion of the excavation, construction of the distillery began in June. Part of the original foundation is incorporated into the reconstruction and the mashing floor is being preserved below the new wooden floor. The walls and roof of the building should be in place before the end of

November. While the construction is going quickly, Washington's masons erected the original distillery walls in a remarkably short period – over 60 days between late October and early December, 1797 – a pace the modern masons cannot even hope to match. The completed reconstruction is scheduled to open to the public in October 2006 as a fully operating distillery. Mount Vernon Archaeology's webpage, [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org), posts pictures each week documenting the construction progress.

**South Lane Restoration:** As the culmination of numerous archaeological excavations carried out over more than a decade, renovation of the Mount Vernon historic exhibition area referred to as the "South Lane" was completed this summer. The goal of the project was 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. A nearby fruit garden and nursery were recreated several years ago, based primarily on the evidence of archaeological investigations. In 2002 the Victorian-era well house behind the kitchen was removed and a pump placed above the brick well.

The final project completing the restoration of the Lane was the reconstruction of a post and plank fence probably built during the mid-1770s. The fence's postholes were initially seen during excavations in 1992 in the kitchen yard, although a regular pattern was not discerned during that limited excavation. In 2001, an early 20th-century brick wall along the South Lane was removed, and archaeological excavations confirmed the posthole pattern for the 18th-century fence line. During 2001 and 2002 the path of the fence bounding the brick kitchen yard was completely excavated. Two 18th-century brick drains, an earlier drainage ditch, a small pit feature, and the postholes for the fence were recorded. The postholes were found directly underneath the foundation of the later brick wall, and in this area the masonry was completely lifted from the ground to facilitate excavation.

Archaeological testing along the route of the fence bounding the lane, from the kitchen yard to the dung repository, revealed that culturally sensitive soils were not present south of the kitchen yard. The decision was therefore made to mitigate each individual modern posthole during the reconstruction, rather than completely excavate the area. During the summer of 2005, working with the restoration carpenter, archaeologists excavated soils as the brick wall foundation was punched through to set the modern posts. Washington-era postholes were encountered in many of the modern holes, and these instances confirmed the six-foot spacing of the 18th-century fence posts. This methodology worked very well and allowed for data recovery without completely removing all evidence of the c. 1910 brick wall.

## Colonial Williamsburg

[Submitted by Meredith Poole]

Colonial Williamsburg's Department of Archaeological Research undertook three excavation projects during the summer of 2005, with assistance from William and Mary field school students. Close to campus, the yard of the Wren Building was the subject of a garden archaeology project aimed at documenting and assessing the condition of colonial-era landscape features. The Wren building's formal garden was depicted on the Bodleian plate, a 1740s copperplate engraving, and the Desandrouins Map, which dates to the Revolutionary War. Non-invasive techniques, including geophysical testing, and GIS layering of historic maps, preceded the excavation, and informed the placement of twelve 2 x 2 meter excavation units. The five-week field project, directed by archaeobotanist Steve Archer, focused on excavating, recording, and collecting soil samples within those areas. Preliminary results may bode well for preservation of the garden's structure. Approximately 60 cm of fill seal a possible colonial layer that yielded, among other things, a wine bottle seal belonging to Governor Francis Nicholson. A series of tree holes and linear ditches were found to cut subsoil, and are currently being compared to, and aligned with, the Wren yard's 18th century documented layout. Phytolith analysis is also underway. During the fall semester, a class recently established through William and Mary, and taught by Archer, will engage both former field school students and new students in directed research and analysis of excavated Wren yard materials. Among the projects proposed by Archer's students are additional field work, public interpretation via a website, mapping of chemical distributions, documentary research, and phytolith analysis of traditional garden plants. Results of their work will be presented on December 5th at the Wren building in a public session.

In the Historic Area, an early summer session of the field school continued investigation of the Peyton Randolph lot, Colonial Williamsburg's most fully and accurately reconstructed property. Since 1982, five projects have taken archaeologists deeper onto that lot, with the goal of understanding how space was structured from the kitchen/domestic areas nearest the house, through a transitional "agricultural" support area, to gardens and fields for livestock. The 2005 excavation, under the direction of William and Mary PhD candidate Katie Sikes, addressed the most remote portions of the Peyton Randolph property, where gardens and fields were likely to have been located. Field school students opened twenty-three 2 x 2 meter units in their search for fence lines, walkways, and temporary, specialized buildings that might define such spatial structure. As this three-year project unfolds, evidence of spatial divisions will be used to inform not only the reconstruction of the landscape, but also our understanding of the dynamic between the Randolphs and the enslaved Africans who likely occupied and tended this portion of the property.

The final project undertaken during the 2005 summer



season was Phase I testing of a 440-acre parcel owned by Colonial Williamsburg, but lying outside the Historic Area. This project was carried out by Colonial Williamsburg with assistance from students in the graduate training program at William and Mary. Still ongoing, this Phase I survey has resulted in the identification of 19 sites and 4 roads, ranging in date from prehistoric to the early 20th century. Among the most interesting of these sites, from the perspective of Colonial Williamsburg's research, are two 18th century plantations that provisioned the urban households of some of Williamsburg's more prominent citizens. This testing project is part of a larger effort to better understand the relationship between Williamsburg and the surrounding lands that supported it.

Finally, in the lab, analysis of the Quarterpath Road quarter and tenant site excavated last summer under the direction of William and Mary doctoral student Jason Boroughs intensified. Grace Turner, also a doctoral student at the College, working in collaboration with Ywone Edwards-Ingram, the Department's coordinator of African-American archaeology, devoted several weeks to the study of a variety of domestic artifacts, including glass containers (notably medicinal bottles), ceramics, coins, and buttons from the Quarterpath site. This assemblage provides an excellent opportunity to document the continuity of material life among representatives of Williamsburg's poorest households during the antebellum and reconstruction periods. Preliminary results of this work will be presented at the CNEHA meeting in Trenton.

## Quebec

Reported by: Monique Elie

### Archaeological Activities Related to Urban Projects in 2004

[Submitted by Serge Rouleau]

Three construction projects on different streets in the Old District of Quebec City have led to the following archaeological discoveries:

On Sault-au-Matelot street, some house foundations

have revealed the original layout of the street prior to its enlargement in 1685, three years after a major fire destroyed most of the lower town. Of interest, one of these foundations was a vaulted structure that could be related to a house cellar or a latrine. Other features discovered included various elements related to the extension of the street during the eighteenth century.

On Saint-Jean street, numerous foundations of houses fronting the south limit of the street prior to its enlargement in 1890 were uncovered. But the most interesting discoveries were related to the first permanent military gate of the city built in 1693. After the attack on the city in 1690 by Sir William Phipps, the colonial officials decided to protect the west side of Québec with a permanent fortification. The project was led by the Chevalier Boisberthelot de Beaucour in 1693. Copied on Vauban's former style of fortification, the de Beaucour line included bastions, redoubts and one cavalier. The main earthen rampart was capped with a wooden stockade and included two masonry gates. In 1979 one structure associated with the Saint-Jean Gate of 1693 was found during major construction works. The objective of the 2004 project was to locate this structure and other potential remains. At least three other foundations related to the Saint-Jean Gate were uncovered. Moreover, a massive structure of masonry located on the south side of the street was associated with a wall holding the terreplein and the talus of the rampart built by Beaucour. This foundation was more than 9 meters long and was the southern limit for a sandstone pavement. It is believed the pavement was erected a few years after the construction of the gate. The 2004 discoveries indicated a permanent gate that dominated the urban landscape for many years. For the gate, Beaucour planned to add a pont-levis, an orgue – a particular kind of portcullis – to obstruct the passageway and a guardhouse located on the city's side.

On rue D'Auteuil, structures from the 17th century fortifications were expected. The results showed that the area covered by the south portion of the street was submitted to major excavations during the French regime. The construction of the city's fortification in 1745 by engineer Chaussegros de Léry could explain the collection of landfill in this area, considering the amount needed for the rampart. Various interesting domestic deposits dating from 1750 to 1780 were also collected during the project.

## Ontario

Reported by Suzanne Plousois

### **Virtual Museum of Canada Supports the Preservation and Promotion of The Little Bonnechere River's History**

[Submitted by Betty Biesenthal, Director, Friends of Bonnechere Provincial Parks and Ellen Blaubergs, Consulting Archaeologist]

The Virtual Museum of Canada Investment Program recently accepted a proposal by the Friends of Bonnechere Parks

for the production of an online portal celebrating the natural and cultural heritage of the Little Bonnechere River in the Ottawa Valley. Entitled Land of the Spirits, this interactive portal will feature the story of discovery and settlement along the Bonnechere River over several centuries by animating the forest, river and people in and around Basin Depot, the most important logging depot on the River and Old Bonnechere Road. The goal is to illustrate how the Ottawa Valley's history is integral to the story of Canada's discovery and settlement.

Over the past decade the Friends of Bonnechere Parks, in partnership with the Ontario Archaeological Society Ottawa Chapter, have hosted a unique public historical archaeological program to explore hidden heritage sites along the Little Bonnechere River. As a hands-on experiential tool, archaeology is an excellent device for fostering interest, encouraging critical thinking, and stimulating dialogue. This project will extend such learning opportunities into digital media, providing unprecedented access to what some consider Canada's largest collection of farm depot artifacts, c. 1850 to 1880. This is not a view of the wealthy or privileged, but a collection of the common man. Currently housed at the Davenport Centre Heritage Hall in Bonnechere Provincial Park, the collection includes a variety of objects: ceramic tableware, smoking pipes, glass, tools, coins, animal bones and several unique to one site only. They range in age from 5,000 years ago to the present. Artifacts of interest from private collections will also be included in this project.

Presently, because of limited space and resources, only a small number of these artifacts are available for public viewing at the Davenport Centre Heritage Hall. Once Land of the Spirits is completed, online visitors and students of Ottawa Valley and Canadian history around the world will be able to conduct virtual archaeological excavations at several sites along the Bonnechere River; view an interactive timeline of the forest, river and people from 1200 A.D. to present; and tour a virtual museum housing 3D images of various artifacts and audio/video recordings. The VMC Investment Program invests in the development of online heritage content, and is open to public, not-for-profit heritage institutions. The program received sixty submissions for consideration in its most recent call for proposals. The proposals were evaluated, taking into account program criteria, desired outcomes, and VMC operating principles and content policy. A total of twelve proposals covering production of online content including virtual exhibit, interactive games, and educational resources across a wide range of disciplines and interests were approved.

The total Land of the Spirits budget of \$383,000 includes \$134,000 in in-kind resources and a \$185,500 investment from Canadian Heritage. Expertise from a variety of disciplines will be represented on the project team. Archaeologists Tom Ballantine, Ellen Blaubergs, and Roderick (Rory) MacKay have each conducted excavations along the Bonnechere drainage over the past ten years. They will all be playing integral roles in the project. Blaubergs is

creating text for 160 artifacts/artifact assemblages. Mackay's 1996 published history of the Little Bonnechere will also be incorporated, as will the memories of local individuals he interviewed in the 1970s and in the 1990s.

Land of the Spirits will throw open the virtual door to a collaborative museum featuring this unique collection. At the entrance, an interactive timeline entitled Full Circle, spanning several centuries, will feature three parallel bands illustrating a concise history of the river, forest and people of the Little Bonnechere River, and their ebb and flow relevant to Canada's natural and cultural heritage, c. 1200 A.D. to 1950. Visitors will view objects and ephemera by era, or browse by keyword or theme. Cataloguing data will provide links to similar historic communities and/or artifacts defining common settlement patterns across Canada.

In the interactive game Dig Down, Dig Back visitors will navigate a basic introduction to the principals of archaeology, and then select the depot excavation site they wish to explore from a map of the Little Bonnechere River. Each excavation will feature a multi-layered grid that can be virtually excavated; found objects will link back to the virtual museum. Land of the Spirits will be powered by a dynamic interface – a virtual warehouse – of electronic images, captivating 2D clips and 3D animations which users can hold and rotate. Historic audio and video will paint an experiential tapestry evoking sights and sound of days gone by. Leading edge technologies, Meta data, cataloguing, and search protocols to navigate this engaging online resource, will guide modern-day explorers and historians.

"CHIN is extremely excited about this new exhibit," said Namir Anani, Director General of the Canadian Heritage Information Network, the organization responsible for the VMC. "We are always seeking new ways to bring cultural content to audiences and this virtual exhibit is an excellent achievement in this regard. It is a treasure that will engage both first-time and repeat visitors' interest for countless years to come."

Work on the Land of the Spirits portal began in August; the project will be completed for launch in June 2006.

The Virtual Museum of Canada (VMC), created by the Department of Canadian Heritage, in collaboration with more than 1000 museums across the country is an important element of the Government of Canada's strategy to produce and promote Canadian cultural content online. To view the VMC collections, visit: [virtualmuseum.ca](http://virtualmuseum.ca)

The Friends of Bonnechere Parks hosted a public reception to announce the acceptance of the Friends proposal by VMC on Saturday, August 13, 2005 at the Davenport Centre in Bonnechere Provincial Park. It was held in conjunction with Bonnechere's Annual Archaeology Day featuring hands-on archaeology activities including artifact reconstruction, clay pot pinching/decorating, excavation methods, and use of a fire bow and other old technologies. Organized by the Public Archaeology Committee of the Ontario Archaeological Society's Ottawa Chapter and run entirely by

volunteer avocational and professional archaeologists from eastern Ontario, this has been a very popular event at the Park for the past ten years.

For information about the Land of the Spirits project, contact: Betty Biesenthal, Friends of Bonnechere Parks, 613-732-9273

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#### **Ontario Heritage Foundation: Summer 2005**

[Submitted by Dena Doroszenko, Ontario Heritage Foundation]

#### *Natural Heritage Stage 2 Assessments*

The Ontario Heritage Foundation is a not-for-profit agency of the Government of Ontario. Our mandate is to play a lead role in demonstrating and promoting the conservation of Ontario's heritage. The Ontario Heritage Foundation currently owns a total of 42 natural heritage properties. Of these, 32 have now undergone a Stage One archaeological assessment. Five additional properties were not assessed since they have already had some level of archaeological research done in prior years. Currently, as of the fall of 2005, 4 newly acquired properties are undergoing Stage 1 assessments.

During the month of May, Stage 2 assessments took place at 6 natural heritage properties along the Niagara Escarpment from Jordan to Milton, Ontario. Two properties resulted in no finds. One property, known as the Ellis property and consisting of 60 acres in the Twenty Mile Creek Valley right below the Village of Jordan, was preliminarily assessed resulting in 2 historic sites (1 farmstead, 1 slope midden). The fieldwork in 2005 resulted in an additional 3 historic sites (2 farmsteads, 1 industrial warehouse) and one prehistoric site (undetermined Woodland period) being located on the property.

The Farmer property in Ancaster, Ontario resulted in the discovery of a major Archaic site. At the Yaremko-Ridley property, near Milton, Ontario, an industrial complex, a marl mine, was documented.

#### *'Adventures in Archaeology' at the Spadina Museum, Toronto, Ontario*

For the fourth season, an archaeology summer day camp program was offered at the Spadina Museum in conjunction with the City of Toronto. Two one-week programs were offered in early July. The excavation area was a continuation of the investigation of the rear yard of the garage and chauffeur's residence on the property. A total of 35 children, aged 10 to 13 years old participated.



*2005 Spadina daycamp in progress.*

### **Circulating Coinage and Military Finance in the French and Indian Wars (1689-1763)**

[Submitted by Oliver D. Hoover, The American Numismatic Society]

Thanks to a grant from the American Numismatic Society, this year a new study of the coinages used in the French and British colonies of North America during the period of the French and Indian Wars will commence. Unlike many studies of colonial coinages, the main focus here will be on the evidence of circulation provided by coins found in controlled archaeological excavations. Coin finds from the many forts erected and garrisoned during the period are of special interest for discussing questions related to military payment and the use of coinage by soldiers during the several imperial conflicts for control of North America.

A major component of this project involves the development of a searchable database integrating coin finds from both Canadian and U.S. sites (especially forts, but also civilian settlements) occupied during the French and Indian Wars for use by the archaeological community and the general public. It will be hosted from the main American Numismatic Society website at [www.numismatics.org](http://www.numismatics.org). For further information on this project, or to submit data for inclusion in the database, please contact Oliver Hoover at [numlit@numismatics.org](mailto:numlit@numismatics.org).

### **Reflecting on Refractories: Buried Bricks at Butler's Barracks**

[Submitted by Joseph Last, Military Sites Project Archaeologist, Ontario Service Centre, Parks Canada]

During a routine investigation at Butler's Barrack's, Niagara-on-the-Lake, excavations revealed a curious brick formation of unknown function. Post-excavation research has provided several competing hypotheses, but none interpret the feature with complete confidence. The primary goals of the project were simple enough. Our aims were to assess the impact of a proposal to upgrade and install new playground equipment on Parks Canada land presently leased to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake. The study area lay immediately east of the Commissariat Officer's Quarters, a structure that formed part of a larger complex known as Butler's Barracks.

After the War of 1812, Butler's Barracks developed into a major logistical centre and Headquarters for Camp Niagara. The Camp included areas of the Commons, Fort George, and Fort Mississauga. As a training and dispatch centre, Butler's Barracks was occupied continually until 1857, when the last British regulars withdrew. From the 1870s to the mid 1960s, it functioned as a summer training camp for both regular and militia regiments. In 1965, Butler's Barracks saw its last military activity when NATO troops terminated their training sessions.

While mitigating the removal of the existing swing sets, we observed a dense concentration of brickbats localized about each swing leg. Initially interpreted as a localized anchoring system, additional testing revealed the brick to occupy a much larger area. In fact, the brick deposit was found to form a large rectangular pad measuring 10.55m by 35.20m (34.61 ft by 115.9 ft). Further examination revealed that the feature was uniformly composed of a single layer of brickbats. Located just beneath the present sod, the bricks were randomly placed upon a graded 'C' Horizon. Although no pattern could be discerned, the bricks were purposefully laid to create a level surface.

Although all of the buried bricks were recycled, most were exceptionally clean and lacked residue mortar. This indicates that they had gone through a formalized salvaging cycle and were not the result of a nearby demolition activity. Manufactured from highly fired refractory clay, most came from the brickworks of Mexico, Missouri. The majority were stamped: "A.P. GREEN EMPIRE DP" (the DP standing for dry pressed), "A.P. GREEN OZARK DP", and "MEX-R-CO AZTEX". Starting in 1910, A.P. Green became North America's most extensive producer of refractory brick and is still in operation today. The Mexico Refractories Company (Mex-R-Co) began in 1929 and remained in production until the mid 1950s. Eventually, Green bought out "OZARK" and "MEX-R-CO" endeavours. The investigations also unearthed a small quantity of bricks from other manufacturers. Their stamps included "P&R", "AetnA", and "STRASBURG". The AetnA bricks were manufactured in Oak Hill, Ohio, beginning in 1873 and were still in production during the

1950s (Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce n.d.). The Strasburg bricks were produced by the Columbus Firebrick Company of Strasburg, Ohio between 1940 and 1968 (Marti Latta 2005, pers. comm.)

The shape, extent, and nature of the feature made us believe that it functioned as a flooring support, quite possibly for a large tent. The inclusion of hemp fragments among the bricks adds validity to this assumption for they may be the remains of stabilizing guy ropes. Considering the date of the brick, it is possible that the brick feature is associated with NATO training activities. However, while the Army did utilize wooden floors for bell and mess tents during this period rarely were they supported on such a densely compacted and labour-consuming support system as that exposed by our investigations (Hawkins et al. 1990:36).

Past excavations at Butler's Barracks have uncovered brick floor supports, but they typically form equally spaced lines running along the narrow axis of the structure. Given the nature of the brick formation, it is reasonable to presume that they supported wooden pallets rather than floor joists. Generally, when pallets were used, they were laid directly upon grass without any preparation, although shallow perimeter-drainage trenches were often excavated. It would also appear that a solid covering, such as plywood, sheathed the floor since no artefacts found their way into the interstices between the brick. This practice was documented at Camp Niagara for messing facilities (Hawkins et al. 1990: Figure 46).



*Excavation unit 12H55F showing nature of brick deposit  
[Photo by J Last, Parks Canada, Ontario Service Centre  
(Cornwall) Photo Collection 12H10E.]*

Although the brick pad may be the result of NATO construction, there are enough uncharacteristic traits to cause some doubt. However, there are other possibilities. In 1955, the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake hosted the 8th World Scout Jamboree. Deemed a resounding success, over 10,000 scouts, representing 71 countries, participated in the eleven-day event. Most of the programme took place within the boundaries of Butler's Barracks, the Commons, and Fort George. Scouting contingents set up under canvas throughout Camp Niagara with major facilities concentrated along Queen's Parade located to the west of Fort George.

The organization for the Jamboree was a massive undertaking, employing the efforts of 600 staff and required an enormous infrastructure. Temporary facilities included an on-site Bell Telephone exchange providing 24-hour service; a Bank of Montreal special branch; a blood donor clinic able to handle 60 donors an hour; a large field hospital operated by the Army; a 10,000-seat grandstand; a 3,250 square foot stage; a flag plaza; a 90-foot signal tower; four canteens, each measuring 100 ft by 400 ft; a trading post; and ration tents, to name only a few (Boy Scouts Association 1955).

Discussions with several scouts who participated in the 1955 event confirmed that no large mess tent, of the dimensions found, was erected. Rather, smaller cooking areas were employed by each troop. They also remember the location of the stage and canteens, neither of which stood near our recently-found brick feature. However, commissary tents used to store non-perishable items (perishables were brought in daily by refrigerator cars provided by the Canadian Pacific Railway) were thought to be in the vicinity of the study area. Plausible, but again not yet confirmed.

The fact that the bricks were recycled and that most are made from high-fired refractory clay makes me believe that they could have been donated to the Jamboree by one of the local steel manufacturing plants or from a jobber's scrap yard. Having once assisted in a Jamboree, I find it very possible that an eager scouting volunteer found the means to acquire and to have the brick feature laid. For what purpose, is still unknown. The question as to whether there was enough lead-time to have the bricks shipped from Missouri, used in construction, salvaged and stored, and recycled at the Jamboree also remains unanswered. While we cannot be certain that they were used during the Jamboree, we know with some certainty that their deposition predates 1969, the year in which the Department of National Defence transferred the property to Parks Canada. As yet the date of the feature and its use are a mystery. Any information or thoughts about the brick manufacturers cited, tenting platforms, or the 1955 Jamboree would be welcomed.

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**Archaeological Assessment at Queenston Heights Park, Queenston, Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario**  
[Submitted by Robert Pearce, London Museum of Archaeology, London]

The London Museum of Archaeology completed a small but interesting project, the archaeological assessment of a tiny area (2.2 metres by 2.2 metres) where a new, 100-foot-tall communications tower was to be erected for the Niagara Regional Police Service. The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Planning Department, and the Niagara Parks Commission required the assessment because the tower was to be situated within Queenston Heights Park. The park is a scenic plateau on top of the Niagara Escarpment and commemorates the Battle of Queenston Heights during the War of 1812. It was during this battle that British General Isaac Brock was mortally shot. Brock's Monument stands at the opposite end of the Park several hundred metres east of where the communications tower was to be installed.

The archaeological assessment uncovered a dense and extremely rich, compacted layer of historic material at a depth of 40 to 55 cm below surface, but alas all of that historic material was 'recent'. The artifacts included hundreds of pieces of broken plates, cups and saucers as well as a few complete bottles and numerous broken bottles. Diagnostic items included such things as a "Carton's HP Sauce" bottle, a "Lysol" bottle, an "Olde Time Ginger Beer" bottle, and several soda pop bottles. Plates and bowls stamped "Queen Victoria Park, Niagara Falls, Ontario" had the mark "Grindley Hotel Ware" on the underside, which according to Godden's *Encyclopaedia of British Pottery and Porcelain Marks* (1964) were made by Grindley's Hotel Ware Co. Ltd., only after 1908. Other plates found in the refuse had a separate but distinctive Grindley maker's mark used after 1925. Other plates with marks "Losol Ware, Keeling & Co." were made by Keeling & Co. Ltd., Burslem, during the period 1912-1936. These marks clearly establish the time frame for the refuse.

The nature and context of these finds suggest the area where the communications tower was to be installed had served as a dumpsite for the nearby Queenston Heights Restaurant. This is interesting, but in no way significant, unless one were enthralled with garbage dated 1910-1950.

## Newfoundland

Reported by: Rob Ferguson

### Clears Cove, Fermeuse Bay (CfAf-23)

[Submitted by Peter Pope]

Peter Pope and a small crew of students from Memorial University of Newfoundland and Université de Montréal carried out test excavations this past summer (2005) at Clears Cove (CfAf-23), in Fermeuse Bay, about 100 km south of St John's, Newfoundland. On the basis of James Yonge's map of 1663 and our survey in 2002, we suspected that this was the site of a 17th-century fishing plantation, or permanent settlement. The one-month dig was designed to determine if this was, in fact, so and also to assess the site as a possible topic for graduate research. In the end, our hopes were surpassed. We excavated a 1 x 6 m test trench in a raised plateau surrounding the remains of a root cellar, where we had recovered early straw green window glass fragments in 2002. This test trench revealed a series of stone features reaching back from the late 19th century to the early 18th, including a thick beach cobble deposit dating to about 1800, which seems most likely to be a lane to access the beach from a house site further inland. In part of this test excavation we uncovered a square-timber floor frame. A complete Barnstaple-style pipe bowl in situ suggested that this feature burned about 1700, perhaps as a result of d'Iberville's attack in 1696. This floor feature overlies another squared timber floor frame. These each very likely relate to successive 17th-century planter houses, on the basis of the framing technique and associated



*Burned remains of a square-timber floor frame, in association with a Barnstaple style clay tobacco pipe of c. 1690-1710, at Clears Cove, Newfoundland (CfAf-23).*



*Remains of a spruce-fir pole and wattle structure, dating about 1600-1625, at Clears Cove, Newfoundland (CfAf-23).*

material culture, including diamond pane window glass and North Devon slip-decorated coarse earthenware. Underlying these features we found remains of a spruce-fir post and wattle construction, likely relating to the migratory fishery. We did not reach sterile soil in this excavation.

We also excavated a 1 x 2 m test a little below the house plateau, in the adjacent boggy area. Under another cobble fill of c. 1800, we found a lot of wood debris and then a thick layer of wood chips, datable from associated artifacts to the first half of the 17th century. Digging through this layer of wood chips was like digging through a 4-inch-thick piece of Aspenite -- but it served a purpose, sealing the deposit below in a matrix of wet peat. Here we uncovered the corner of a well-preserved spruce-fir pole structure, with a pole floor, dated by association to about 1600-1625. Several North Devon gravel-tempered coarse earthenware cook pots turned up in this structure. Given these finds and the architecture of the feature, we have interpreted it as a migratory fishers' cookroom. These have rarely (if ever) survived in archaeological contexts, making this a site of great interest for further research on the transition from the migratory fishery to the permanent European occupation of Newfoundland.

Our test excavations were supported by SSHRC through the Newfoundland Archaeological Heritage Outreach Program, in cooperation with the Town of Port Kirwan and the Brothers family, owners of the property. Our special thanks are due Kathy Ledwell (Brothers), whose tranquility we disturbed, the field team of Mathilde Plante St-Arnaud, Peter Simms and Janine Williams and, in the lab, Regeena Psathas.

### **Greenwich, PEI National Park**

[Submitted by Rob Ferguson]

Scott Buchanan and Rob Ferguson completed the final phase of EM-38 survey for 18th-century French farms at Greenwich for Parks Canada. A total of 2-1/2 km. of shoreline has been covered to an average depth inland of about 70 m. To date, the survey has confirmed four farm sites, and indicated three other potential sites. This leaves two sites as yet unknown. We expect the present summer's data will clarify one of the locations. Comparison with a 1764 map showing the nine abandoned farms suggests that the final site exists at the west end of the park, in an area of dense shrub growth inaccessible to the EM-38. Maps of this area from the 18th and 19th century indicate that a radical change in shoreline, due to drifting sand, occurred during the late 19th century. Plotting this change should help to pinpoint the unknown site.

No excavations were undertaken this year. We plan to develop a strategy for testing anomalies next summer, as well as examining the western end of the park.

### **Roma at Three Rivers National Historic Site**

[Submitted by Scott Buchanan]

Work has progressed with interpretive planning and facilities development at the Roma site in eastern Prince Edward Island. Brudenell Point, at the confluence of the Montague and Brudenell Rivers, was the base of Jean Pierre Roma's 1732-1745 settlement of Trois Rivières - the first successful independent commercial enterprise on 18th century Isle St.-

Jean. Roma established a substantial fishing operation at Havre St.-Pierre, the base of the colony's inshore fleet, on the north shore of the Island. He also cleared the first roadways on the Island with direct routes from Trois Rivières to Havre St.-Pierre and the colonial administration at Port La Joye. Roma's settlement was destroyed by the New England fleet during the 1745 siege of Fortress Louisbourg. Eighty years later, the merchant Macdonald brothers carried on the entrepreneurial legacy from their house, store and shipyard at the point. A.A. Macdonald, a Father of Confederation and Senator in the new Dominion Government of Canada, was born here in 1828.

Frank Korvemaker directed extensive Parks Canada excavations at the site from 1968-70, which revealed the extent of Roma's settlement and additional structural remains from late 18th – early 19th century English colonial occupation of the point. The site has remained neglected and largely forgotten until recent years. The present initiative is coordinated by Three Rivers-Roma Inc. -- a community organization dedicated to managing the historical resources of the site and 110 acres of community forest surrounding Roma's former settlement of Trois Rivières.

The past year has seen the completion of a large multi-purpose pavilion, a boardroom, maintenance shed and public facilities with exterior façades reflecting period design. Shoreline stabilization has secured 100 metres of exposed embankment adjacent to the ruins of Roma's establishment and the Macdonald premises. Nine km of interconnected trail loops have been routed through the property with interpretive stops highlighting plant life, forest & coastal ecology and historical features. The annual Fête Roma, held each September, celebrates the history of the site with period reenactments, costumes, food and entertainment of the era.

Interpretive facilities have been placed away from the archaeological site area, amidst the inner field of a late 19th century farmstead. Impact assessment has identified traces of original 18th century land clearing beneath buried agricultural deposits. An exposed section of 19th century domestic refuse adjacent to the Macdonald store was salvaged during embankment stabilization in late December of 2004. The stabilization effort has held up to extreme tidal surges over the past winter, and plans are underway to extend the seawall further around the point.



*Public buildings at the Roma site on Brudenell Point, PEI, reflecting early 18th-century French architecture.*

## Nova Scotia

Reported by: Rob Ferguson

### Delap's Cove, Brindley Town and Rear Monastery

[Submitted by Heather MacLeod-Leslie]

In the 2004 field season Heather MacLeod-Leslie and an assistant conducted surveys of three African Nova Scotian communities: Delap's Cove (Annapolis County), the former Brindley Town (now Conway, Digby County) and Rear Monastery (Antigonish County). Those surveys yielded nine new sites in Delap's Cove and three new sites in Rear Monastery. No surface indications of archaeological sites were detected in the study area defined for the former Brindley Town, the second largest Black Loyalist settlement in Nova Scotia in 1784. However, heavy development and a lack of landowner permission to access two high potential areas may explain this result.

The Rear Monastery sites, all associated with African Nova Scotian families descended from original Black Loyalist settlers, add to those identified by Powell in 1998 in his brief initial survey of the larger Tracadie/Guysborough area under the Remembering Black Loyalists, Black Communities project. Powell identified 16 sites, most of which can be directly associated with Black settlement of the area.

The 2004 survey of Delap's Cove was the first archaeological survey conducted in that area. The sites identified there, like those in the Tracadie / Guysborough area, represent what are likely the tip of the archaeological iceberg of African Nova Scotian sites in these areas. The Black settlement at Delap's Cove is located in a natural and social landscape that suggests it was a likely destination for people seeking freedom from discrimination, social control or enslavement. Several pieces of evidence support this theory, including a fictionalized story penned by an African Nova Scotian resident of the area called *Beyond the Dark Horizon*. This is the story of a young couple, sold into slavery in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley (just over the mountain from Delap's Cove). They decide to escape and go to "Shanty Town," a nearby refugee community, hidden by the landscape. Additionally, oral history collected from the sole resident of what was the Black settlement here, a descendent of these settlers, includes stories of one of his relatives "escaping" from the West Indies and coming to live in Delap's Cove.

In 2005, two of the sites identified in the previous year's survey were revisited and partially excavated. At BeDj-16, in Delap's Cove, we tested a house cellar feature and another associated with an outbuilding, likely a barn. The Delap's Cove project was run as a field school for Saint Mary's University, under my direction. The Rear Monastery project was much smaller, comprised of an assistant, four volunteers, and myself. At BjCj-29, in Rear Monastery, we tested a domestic cellar feature, and a midden.

Preliminary analysis of the artifact and contextual data

from both sites suggest that African-derived belief systems remained a part of the cultures that the residents of these communities held. Taking a cue from the works of archaeologists such as Mark P. Leone and Diana DiZerega-Wall, we placed test units over the northeast corners of the features (DiZerega-Wall 2000; Leone & Fry 2001). According to these archaeologists, this context has proven to be important for the performance of ritual behaviours on African-American sites.

In Delap's Cove, the northeastern corner of the cellar feature was the location of a brick-lined hearth feature. This feature yielded a large assemblage, which included items such as a copper alloy thimble (from below the hearth, in the flue portion of the feature), several copper alloy eyelets, likely from a shoe and several pins. If we adopt an Afrocentric interpretive approach, these items may suggest an African-derived ritual significance that might have gone otherwise unconsidered. While they were not in a cache, per se, their location in the northeastern corner, in a hearth (and associated chimney) feature one expects to see in a northwestern corner, is inviting. Chimneys were viewed, in African-derived belief systems, to be a particularly effective conduit between the living and the spirit worlds.

In Rear Monastery, the northeastern corner of the built-up area, under what I believe was a porch, yielded a piece of curved iron covered by a portion of a brown-transfer-printed round white ceramic low bowl. The presence of curved iron in a ritual context has been associated with a treatment for rheumatism in African-derived rituals. This interpretation gains support in the presence of several glass bottles retrieved from a nearby midden that once contained "Dr. Dow's pure Sturgeon Oil liniment," that purported to cure, among other ailments, arthritis.

The only other item found in the same layer as the curved iron and the ceramic was the better part of an iron knife, oriented parallel to the front face of the porch, and pointing east-west. The potential significance of this is not yet known.

Several other items of interest were retrieved in Rear Monastery, including several white buttons, a worked piece of glass from the foot of a glass vessel, a concentration of burned glass, a near complete low bowl, again of brown transfer-printed white ceramic, and a possible bone amulet, pierced as one might expect of a piece of jewelry. The latter three items were found in the northeastern corner of the interior space of the house, near the stone building footing.

These are preliminary observations. Analysis of comparative collections and oral historical information is forthcoming. The data were collected for a PhD

dissertation through Memorial University of Newfoundland and will receive greater analysis in the upcoming months. Finally, my assistants, students and volunteers worked very hard through news-making rainstorms, the usual bug problems and the occasional bear to explore these sites, and I wish to extend them my deepest gratitude for their diligence and genuine interest.

## Halifax

[Submitted by April MacIntyre]

Downtown Halifax has revealed more of its intriguing history this past summer. For the past four-and-a-half months (May through September) Davis Archaeological Consultants Limited has been working alongside the backhoe digging beneath parking lots and loading bay facilities at the north end of the block adjacent to the famous Alexander Keith's Brewery.

The site is slated for a four-star Marriott hotel, to be completed in 2006. The developer, Salter's Gate Limited, has taken an active role in researching and protecting the city's history, working alongside archaeologists to unearth, preserve, and promote the tangible remains of a 250-year-old story. Beneath several thousand tons of asphalt, concrete, gravel fill, and building rubble, a total of 34 archaeological features have been discovered. Intact stone foundations from eighteenth and nineteenth century row houses on Hollis and Salter Streets, backyard privies, stone-lined wells, stables, and middens contained a wide range of artifacts spanning the past 250 years.

The site's story began in July 1749 when the city of Halifax was founded and the block in question was laid out for house lots. The first allotment of land on that block was made on July 17, 1749 to John Shippey. Shippey was granted the first licence in Halifax to brew and serve liquor, and he



*View from rooftop at south end of development area showing the stone foundations of row houses on Hollis Street (left) and an unidentified brick feature to the right.*

soon opened the doors to “The Double Eagle” which earned the nickname “The Split Crow” for its sign depicting the German coat of arms. While archaeologists did not have the opportunity to excavate the tavern, they were able to confirm its location on the city block when the back wall of the building was discovered. It has since been reburied and preserved intact.

Near the site of the tavern, archaeologists discovered a large cistern-like feature which a deed from 1755 suggested was a “Holland Pump” or windmill which had been excavated approximately one metre into the bedrock and incorporated interior wooden braces to stabilize the stone-built structure. Presumably, the windmill was used to raise water for use in the brewing process.

Archaeologists were able to locate the original cobble surfaces of two of the city’s earliest streets (Hollis and Salter’s Streets) beneath the present-day sidewalks.

By a conservative estimate, 40,000 artifacts were recovered from the site. A well-preserved felt hat from a late eighteenth- to early nineteenth-century privy, a child’s toy china set, leather shoes and shoe buckles, clay pipes, buttons, and German seltzer bottles are just a few of the artifacts archaeologists will spend the fall and winter cataloguing and analyzing. A plan is in the works to display some of the most interesting artifacts in a permanent exhibit inside the hotel when it opens next year.

### **St. Peters Canal National Historic Site**

[Submitted by Rob Ferguson]

In a collaborative federal/provincial project, David Christianson, Curator of Archaeology, Nova Scotia Museum, and Rob Ferguson, Parks Canada, surveyed the north and south ends of St. Peters Canal for evidence of Mi’kmaw campsites. They were assisted by Michelle Lelievre, University of Chicago, and Brandon Tracey, Potlotek (Chapel Island) First Nation. A map of Port Toulouse (St. Peters), ca. 1714, indicates Mi’kmaw camps at either end of the portage connecting Bras d’Or Lake in Cape Breton Island to St. Peters Bay on the Atlantic coast. The portage follows a depression along which a small stream flows into St. Peters Bay. In all likelihood, this portage and its camps were the rationale for the establishment of Fort Saint-Pierre by French traders in the 1630s. The post was later taken over by the famous chronicler of Acadia, Nicolas Denys, until destroyed by fire in 1666.

Construction of St. Peters Canal, 1854-1869, radically changed the approaches to the portage. While considerable excavation took place to create the canal, both ends were apparently covered with fill rather than removed. However, extensive test excavations at either end of the canal revealed only heavy clay deposits left by the canal construction. Traces of earlier campsites have either been destroyed or are inaccessible under construction fill and/or recent buildings. Further research would more profitably focus on sites within the Bras d’Or Lake.

## **NEW CANADIAN MEMBERS**

(since June 2005 Newsletter)

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Rachel Brooks, 3305 Carmen Road, South Mountain, Ontario K0E1W0

Katie Cottreau-Robins, 2529 Elm Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3L2Y5

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Christine Dodd, DR Poulton & Associates Inc., 69 Langarth Street West, London, Ontario N6J1P5

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