



Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology NEWSLETTER

March 2011

NUMBER 78

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Northeast Historical Archaeology seeks manuscripts dealing with historical archaeology in the Northeast region, including field reports, artifact studies, and analytical presentations (e.g., physical anthropology, palynology, faunal analysis, etc.). We also welcome commentary and opinion pieces. To submit a manuscript or request preparation of manuscript guidelines, write to Susan Maguire, Northeast Historical Archaeology, c/o Anthropology Department, Classroom Bldg B107, Buffalo State College, Buffalo, NY 14222.

CNEHA ANNUAL MEETING 2011

Connecting Peoples and Places

Utica, New York
October 20-23, 2011

Submitted by Thomas Crist and Helen Blouet

New York's Mohawk Valley, the heart of the Empire State, will host the 45th Annual Meeting of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology at the historic Hotel Utica in downtown Utica. Centrally located to many of the major cities in the Northeast and eastern Canada, the Utica area is rich in historical sites, world-class museums, reasonably-priced hotels and restaurants, and wonderful Adirondack scenery. The fall foliage will be at its peak during the conference, adding to the splendor of the region.

Utica is easy to get to – just off of Exit 31 of the New York State Thruway, a five-hour drive from New York City, Boston, Philadelphia, and Montreal. The two closest major airports are at Syracuse (60 miles west) and Albany (95 miles east). Amtrak also serves Utica with four trains a day from New York City.

This year, Utica College will host the conference at the Hotel Utica, a Renaissance-Revival-style building built in 1912. Made famous by the many politicians and celebrities who stayed at the elegant hotel (Judy Garland once serenaded a crowd from the balcony that wraps around the opulent main lobby), the hotel closed in 1972 and re-opened in 2001 after a complete restoration.

A member of the National Trust's Historic Hotels of America, the hotel is located only a few blocks from Utica's historic F.X. Matt Brewery; Union Station, home of the Adirondack Scenic Railroad; the Stanley Center for the Arts, a rebuilt and expanded 1928 movie palace; and the renowned Munson Williams Proctor Museum of Art. Only 17 miles away, Fort Stanwix National Historic Landmark is a reconstructed fort, originally built by the British in 1758, that withstood a 21-day siege in August 1777, allowing for the American victory at Saratoga later that fall. Fort Stanwix is also the location of

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the Marinus Willett Collections Management and Education Center, which includes a state-of-the-art archaeological laboratory and artifact storage facility.

A visit to Fort Stanwix is just one of the pre-conference activities planned for Friday, October 21, along with a day trip to Cooperstown, location of the world-class Farmers' Museum and the Fenimore Art Museum, the traditional Belgian Brewery Ommegang and, of course, the National Baseball Hall of Fame. We will also offer a trip to the utopian Oneida Community's Mansion House, a National Historic Landmark, and the nearby Oneida Indian Nation's Shako:Wi Cultural Center. In addition, there will be a walking tour of Forest Lawn Cemetery, opened in 1850, and the former New York State Lunatic Asylum, built in 1843, both located in Utica.

Workshops are still being planned for Friday, but at least one will focus on the practical aspects of cemetery excavation and bioarchaeology. A plenary session open to the public will be held following the workshops and tours.

The Welcome Reception will be held after the plenary session on Friday evening at the F.X. Matt Brewery, home of the award-winning line of Saranac beers and soft drinks. Papers will be presented on Saturday and Sunday morning, with the Banquet scheduled for Saturday night at the Hotel Utica's Crystal Ballroom. The annual business meeting and continental breakfast will take place on Sunday morning in the Hotel Utica's Saranac Room. The Book Room will be open all day on Saturday and on Sunday morning.

The Hotel Utica is holding a block of rooms at the conference rate of \$99 per night (\$109.65 with tax) and suites at \$140/\$170 per night (\$155.05/\$188.27 with tax). Parking at the hotel is free. To make reservations, call the Hotel Utica toll-free at 1-877-906-1912 or access their web page at: www.hotelutica.com. **Please mention "Utica College CNEHA Conference" to ensure that you are booked under the conference rates.** The cut-off date for these rates is **September 20, 2011**. Check-in time is 4 PM and check-out time is 11 AM.

This year, pre-registration and abstract submission will take place through the conference web page. The address is



www.utica.edu/cneha2011. The web page offers a secure way to register using your credit card. Detailed instructions on registration and the fees for the workshops and tours are available on the web page.

You may also download the registration form and mail it and your registration payment to: Corporate and Professional Programs, Utica College, 1600 Burrstone Road, Utica, NY 13502; Attn: CNEHA 2011. Lastly, you may fax the form and your credit card payment information to Joni Pulliam at 315-792-3139. If you need any assistance completing the registration form, please contact Joni Pulliam at 315-792-3344 or jpulliam@utica.edu. **The deadline for pre-registration is August 15, 2011.**

See the call for papers below for details on preparing and submitting abstracts. **Abstracts must be submitted by July 15, 2011.** Visit the conference web page often for updates regarding the conference, tours, workshops, and the preliminary program.

If you would like to arrange a thematic session of papers or posters or offer a workshop, please contact the Conference Co-Chairs Thomas Crist (315-792-3390/tcrist@utica.edu) or Helen Blouet (315-223-2468/hblouet@utica.edu).

Students are strongly encouraged to submit papers for the annual Student Paper Award competition – contact Nancy Brighton at njbrighton@yahoo.com for further information about this exciting CNEHA tradition. Faculty members: please alert your students to this great opportunity to celebrate their research and share their results!

We look forward to seeing you in Utica this fall!

CALL FOR PAPERS

CNEHA ANNUAL MEETING 2011

Connecting Peoples and Places

Utica, New York
October 20-23, 2011

The Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology invites abstract submissions for thematic sessions and individual papers to be presented at the 45th Annual Meeting in Utica, New York, this upcoming October.

The conference theme this year is “Connecting Peoples and Places.” This theme reflects the Mohawk Valley’s many layers of history, especially Utica’s role first as a portage across the Mohawk River and later as a British fort. Subsequently, Utica became a major hub along the Erie Canal and a crossroads of the Northeast, hosting traveling celebrities and prominent politicians alike throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Home of the renowned Gerrit Smith, Utica also served as one of the major centers of the abolitionist movement and is part of the Oneida County Freedom Trail. The utopian Oneida Community also called the county home, and its Mansion House is now a National Historic Landmark. Fort Stanwix, in Rome, is also a National Historic Landmark and the site where important treaties were signed between the Six Nations of the Iroquois and the British and, after the Revolution, the newly independent United States.

We welcome papers and posters that highlight how archaeology reveals the connections between communities despite the distances, both geographical and cultural, that separate them. Topics of interest include:

- contact-period sites;
- transportation, communication, and trade networks;
- industrialization;
- women’s suffrage;
- slavery and abolition;
- cemeteries and bioarchaeology;
- foodways;
- rituals and religion;
- sites of conflict; and
- public archaeology and cultural resource management.

Papers and posters on any topic are welcome as well, and are not required to specifically address the conference theme.

Detailed instructions on abstract submission, registration, and the fees for the workshops and tours are available on the conference web page. The address is: www.utica.edu/cneha2011.

Authors should submit an abstract of no more than 150 words that clearly describes the purpose of the research, the significance of the work, and a summary of the results. Abstracts must be submitted by July 15, 2011. Please plan to register at the same time that you submit your abstract. Only CNEHA members may serve as the presenting author of papers and posters.

If you would like to arrange a symposium of papers or posters or offer a workshop, please contact the Conference Co-Chairs, Thomas Crist (315-792-3390/ tcrist@utica.edu) or Helen Blouet (315-223-2468/ hblouet@utica.edu).

CNEHA 2010 A ROLLICKING SUCCESS

Reported by: James A. Delle, 2010 Conference Chair

The 2010 annual meeting of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology was held in Lancaster, PA, from October 28-31, at the Lancaster County Convention Center and Marriott Hotel, located in the center of one of Pennsylvania's oldest and most historic cities. The conference was very well attended, with 172 registrants, of which 56 were student members of the organization.

The pre-conference events included tours of several local historical sites led by noted historical archaeologists. Pat Gibble hosted a tour of Historic Schaefferstown, (a partial restored 18th century German community), Steve Warfel directed a tour of Ephrata Cloister (an early 18th century religious/utopian settlement), and Rich Veit conducted a driving tour of several early 18th century burial grounds in the greater Lancaster County region. Gene Aleci, a local preservation architect, led an informative walking tour of downtown Lancaster. Two workshops were also conducted, one on geophysical remote sensing for historical archaeology, the other on newly developed criteria for listing archaeological sites on the National Register of Historic Places.

The academic program, coordinated by Mary Ann Levine of Franklin and Marshall College, was stimulating and diverse. Friday's Plenary Session featured five papers describing historical archaeology projects conducted in Lancaster County over the past three decades. The program also featured concurrent sessions in two rooms on Saturday, and three on Sunday; there were a total of 83 presentations given, setting a new CNEHA record for number of papers presented at an annual conference. In all there were twelve paper sessions, the plenary, and a poster session. The academic program was highlighted by a day-long session on Race in the Northeast organized by Chris Matthews and Allison Manfra McGovern, and sessions on Foodways organized by Karen Metheny, Small Finds Artifacts organized by Laura Galke, and Redware organized by Eva McDonald and Katherine Hull.

As always, the social program was a highlight of the weekend. The opening reception, held in an historic Beaux-Arts building now the home of the Lancaster Quilt and Textile Museum, featured hors d'oeuvres catered by Tim Carr, a local



Ephrata Cloister, CNEHA members listening to archaeologist Steve Warfel.

restaurant, a variety of microbrew beers donated by several local breweries, and white wine provided by Nissley Wines, a Lancaster County vintner. Saturday's academic schedule was followed by a cocktail reception held in the Lancaster County Convention Center, in a lobby space overlooking a restored cistern used in the 1850s by Thaddeus Stevens and Lydia Hamilton Smith to harbor fugitives seeking to escape southern slavery. The banquet immediately following the reception featured a delicious selection of foods enjoyed by many conference attendees.

A splendid time was had by all in Lancaster! The conference organizers would like to thank all who attended the conference for making it such a success, and would like to recognize the monetary and in-kind donations made by our many sponsors, particularly Kutztown University, Franklin and Marshall College, and Millersville University, each of which was very generous in providing monetary support to offset the costs of the conference. We also extend our thanks to Tim Trussell and his students from Millersville University for the great job they did in directing the conference registration, and to Chris Matthews for the excellent work he did in organizing the conference book room.

See you in Utica!

STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

October 31, 2010

Reported by: Nancy J. Brighton



Four students from the United States and Canada participated in the student paper competition held at the annual meeting in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Entrants were judged on content, presentation and contribution to the field of historical archaeology. This year's panel selected a first place winner as well as an honorable mention. First place was awarded to Emilie Young-Vigneault, Laval University, for her presentation on the dendroarchaeological analysis of wood associated with the Fort Lennox National Historic Site, Ile-aux-Noix, Quebec, Canada. Ms. Young-Vigneault received a certificate and a year's membership in CNEHA. She will also submit her paper for publication in the journal. Matthew Kalos, Temple University, was awarded an honorable mention for his research on the Paoli Battlefield.

UPDATE--*Northeast Historical Archaeology*

Reported by: Susan Maguire, Editor

Happy New Year! I am happy to welcome intern Ari Ress to the NEHA staff. Ari is a graduate student in the Department of Library and Information Sciences at the University at Buffalo. He will be working to digitize past issues of the journal and to implement an online journal management system. We will be working with Edikit from BePress on the Buffalo State College Digital Commons to streamline the article submission and review processes. I am excited to have Ari on board and working to make NEHA past issues available electronically through the worldwide web. I will keep you posted on Ari's progress with this important project as well and I will post information about the new submission process in this space when we have the system in place. As always, keep Northeast Historical Archaeology in mind for articles and book reviews. Feel free to consult the NEHA website (www.buffalostate.edu/NEHA) for information about submissions and back issues or you can contact me with any questions at maguirse@buffalostate.edu or 716-878-6599.

Newsletter Editor's Report

Reported by: David Starbuck, Newsletter Editor

You will notice that in this issue of the newsletter, we have an excellent array of articles from the State of West Virginia. This is thanks to the efforts of our new editor for West Virginia, David E. Rotenizer, and his many colleagues from throughout the state.

Please send news for the June issue of the CNEHA Newsletter by May 15 to the appropriate provincial or state editor.

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CNEHA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Sunday, October 31, 2010

Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square,

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

The meeting was called to order by Karen Metheny at 7:35 a.m.

Approval of the minutes of the 2009 Annual Business Meeting held at Quebec City on October 18, 2009.

Motion to accept the Minutes of the 2009 Annual Business Meeting

Moved by: Sara Mascia

Seconded by: Sue Maguire Carried

OLD BUSINESS

1. Treasurer's Report

Sara Mascia reported that as of October 25, 2010, actual income to date in the U.S. account is \$11,673, while expens-

es were \$6,377. A \$5,089 CD will be rolled over. No changes in the dues structure are anticipated.

Sara Mascia, reporting for Joe Last, noted that the October 2010 balance in the Canadian account is \$12,437. The organization is doing very well at this time.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Reports

Moved by: Silas Hurry

Seconded by: Craig Lukezic Carried

2. Membership Reports

Sara Mascia reported on behalf of Ed Morin and Joe Last. Individual U.S. membership is at 443; Canadian membership is at 86; both figures reflect an increase from last year. Institutional membership is 32; we also have 4 "Business" category members.

Motion to accept the Membership Reports

Moved by: Silas Hurry

Seconded by: Craig Lukezic Carried

PUBLICATION REPORTS

3. Newsletter Report

David Starbuck reported that two issues were sent out earlier this year. The October issue is ready to be mailed. Long-term Atlantic Canada editor, Rob Ferguson, is retiring after the current issue. His replacement will be Amanda Crompton. Rob did an extremely good job during his tenure. David will miss him as a regular contributor.

In Maine, Leon Cranmer has retired from the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, but will be continuing as editor from home. We have a new editor for West Virginia, David Rotenizer.

4. NEHA Journal Report

Sue Maguire reported that members should all have received Volume 37 by now; Volume 38 is due to be out in the first quarter of 2011. Sue is continuing to pursue ways of making the journal available electronically. She urged everyone to contribute articles.

5. CNEHA Poster Series

Sue Maguire reported that URS is continuing to work with CNEHA on the poster series; a coffin hardware poster is our latest release. There is also a whole set of posters available in the upcoming raffle.

6. CNEHA Web site

Meta Janowitz reported that we have a new web site because St. Mary's College could no longer host it. We had a professional web designer work on it; comments are appreciated. We are hoping to post a number of links to archaeology reports on line; if you have one, please send it to the web master/web designer Christy Morgenstein.

Sara Mascia thanked Silas Hurry for all his work towards the success of the web site.

7. PROGRAMS and MEETINGS

a) Lancaster, PA - Jim Delle reported that there were 140 pre-registrants plus 20 on-site registrants. This conference boasted an all time high for papers and posters (85); we broke even on most things; a total of \$14,000 was donated to the conference by several universities and CRM firms. Further updates will occur but we hope to realize a \$3,000 - \$4,000 profit. Jim thanked everyone for their generosity and support.

b) 2011 Utica, New York - Tom Crist was introduced as the conference organizer for 2011. Our meetings will occur between October 20th and 23rd at the Hotel Utica which is a National Trust hotel. Karen Metheny outlined the following potential tours and workshops: reception at the Saranac Brewery; Fort Stanwix collections; Cooperstown; lake cruise and scenic railroad; human remains workshop; tour of abolitionist sites; abolitionist plenary.

c) 2012 St. John's Newfoundland - Karen Metheny reported that co-chairs Barry Gaulton (Memorial University) and Steve Mills (consulting archaeologist) are busy planning this conference with potential tours to Ferryland, Cupids, Placentia, and Signal Hill. The Rooms Provincial Museum may serve as the opening reception venue; a George St. pub crawl and ceramic workshop are also possibilities.

d) 2013 and beyond - Karen reported that the CNEHA Board is hoping to get a proposal for the Monmouth, New Jersey area; other areas are also under consideration; Karen has also received an offer from Hampton, Virginia.

8. STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

Nancy Brighton announced that the winner will receive \$100, a CNEHA membership and will have the opportunity to submit a copy of the winning paper to the NEHA journal. The panel was thanked for their efforts in attending all of the papers and for their insightful comments. We had four entrants this year: Matthew Kalos, John Roby, Keri Sansevere, and Emilie Young-Vigneault. An honourable mention was awarded to Matthew Kalos of Temple University for his study of the Paoli Battlefield. First place was awarded to Emilie Young-Vigneault of Université Laval for her dendroarchaeological analysis of timbers from Fort Lennox. Nancy encouraged students to participate in future competitions and asked that anyone interested in being a panelist to see her. She also encouraged students to submit their papers to the journal

9. AWARDS

Sara Mascia reported that two members received their 25-year membership pins at the banquet last evening: Richard Schaeffer and Sissy Pipes (who was unable to accept it in Québec last year).

10. ELECTION RESULTS

Meta announced the election results. All incumbents were reelected: Ellen Blaubergs, Jim Delle, Ed Morin and Rich Veit. Our newest board member is Patricia Samford from Maryland. At Friday's board meeting, two incumbents were chosen to retain their present positions: Secretary: Ellen Blaubergs; Executive Vice Chair (U.S.): Ed Morin.

11. RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO OUTGOING BOARD MEMBER: read by Christa Beranek

Whereas the term of office for a certain member of the Board of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology is expiring, the Council acknowledges the long-term and unfailing contributions of David Landon. Therefore, be it resolved that the Council expresses its sincere appreciation and thanks to this individual.

Motion to approve this resolution

Moved by: Christa Beranek

Seconded by: Ed Morin Carried

12. RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS: read by Nancy Brighton

Whereas, the 2010 Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology Conference has been a resounding success;

Whereas, Lancaster has proven to be a most spectacular venue for a conference;

Whereas we have all enjoyed the stimulating and informative visits to Historic Schaefferstown, the Ephrata Cloister, and the Graveyards of Lancaster County;

Whereas we have taken great pleasure in learning about the area's architecture during the Historic Architecture of Lancaster walking tour;

Whereas we have benefitted from the workshops on geophysical remote sensing and listing archaeological sites on the National Register of Historic Places;

Whereas the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square and Lancaster County Convention Center has provided a welcoming venue for toasts, talks and tours;

Whereas the entire conference has been conducive to the dissemination of knowledge and stimulating exchange of ideas; Now therefore let it be resolved that the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology wishes to express its appreciation and gratitude for all of the hard work, long hours and excellent effort of the conference committee:

Jim Delle, Kutztown University, Conference Chair;

Mary Ann Levine, Franklin and Marshall College, Program Chair;

Patricia Gible, Elizabethtown College, Local Arrangements Chair;

Timothy Trussell, Millersville University, Registration Chair; and all of the Millersville University Students who manned the registration table and sold raffle tickets;

To Christopher Matthews, Book Room Chair;

To Javier Cevallos, President, Kutztown University;

To Ann Steiner, Provost, Franklin and Marshall College;

To Francine McNary, President, Millersville University;

To Gene Aleci, for conducting the Historic Architecture of Lancaster Tour;

To Steve Warfel for conducting the Ephrata Cloister Tour;

To Pat Gible for conducting the Historic Schaefferstown Tour;

To Richard Veit for conducting the Graveyards of Lancaster County Tour;

To Tim Bechtel, Enviroscan, and Rob Sternberg, Franklin and Marshall College for conducting the Remote Sensing workshop;

To Keith Heinrich, Pennsylvania Historical Commission, for

conducting the National Register workshop; To the sponsors for their extremely generous financial and other support:

Archaeological Services Inc.; Frank and Marshall College; Heberling Associates, Inc.; Kutztown University; Millersville University; URS, the Fiske Center for Archaeological Research; GAI Consultants; John Milner Associates, Inc.; McCormick Taylor; Pennsylvania Archaeology Research Center; R. Christopher Goodwin Associates; and Hunter Research, Inc.;

To Scott Smith, Franklin and Marshall College, for AV Assistance;

To Wendy Nagle and the Lancaster Quilt and Textile Museum for a beautiful reception site on Friday night;

To the Iron Hill Brewery, Lancaster Brewing Company and Spring Houses Brewery for providing refreshments with which to enjoy and appreciate Friday's reception;

To the students of Millersville University, Franklin and Marshall College and Kutztown University who have provided invaluable support and general go-fer services to ensure the conference ran smoothly;

To Franklin and Marshall College for providing the vehicles for the tours and especially Chad – for driving the participants of the graveyard tour;

To Franklin and Marshall College Media Services for hosting the conference website;

To all of the session chairs who have kept or will keep their sessions organized and running on time;

To all of the contributors to the raffle including, but not limited to, Left Coast Press, the University of Tennessee, the University of Florida, George Miller, Richard Veit, Karen Metheny, Ellen Blaubergs, and the Archaeological Conservancy;

To the staff of the Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square for the excellent and expeditious services and for creating a relaxing collegial atmosphere with good food that has enabled us to enjoy great conversation, make new connections and renew old ones;

Let us give another round of applause for the organizers, students and supporters of this wonderfully informative and most enjoyable conference – under the direction of Conference Chair, Jim Delle, and Program Chair, Mary Ann Levine.

Motion to approve this resolution

Moved by: Allison Bain

Seconded by: Craig Lukezic

Motion to adjourn meeting to allow the raffle to begin

Moved by: Sara Mascia

Seconded by: Ed Morin Carried

Meeting adjourned at: 8:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Ellen Blaubergs

CURRENT RESEARCH

Maine

Reported by: Leon Cranmer

Popham Colony

[Submitted by Jeffrey P. Brain]

We returned to Fort St. George when a portion of the site that we had never been able to explore was sold and the new owner invited us to excavate. Our excavations provided further evidence of the reliability of John Hunt and his map. According to Hunt, the smithy was located there, as well as residences and the bakery. We did indeed find residential features and artifacts at one location and evidence of ironworking exactly where Hunt had placed the smithy. Rather than the forge, which remains to be discovered, we found the remains of bloomeries where the colonists had smelted iron ore. This adds a whole new dimension to the colony. The motivations, planning and competence of the colonists are diversified and substantiated. A blacksmith shop was expected as it provided an essential service for the maintenance of a military garrison and the construction of a ship. But that they also came prepared to smelt iron is a revelation. In addition to the necessary craftsmen – a smelter, and charcoal burners, as well as a smith – there was the obvious intent to exploit another natural resource and demonstrate self-sufficiency in developing a complete ironworking industry. Thus we have further evidence of the firm intentions and determination of the colonists as they strove to establish a viable plantation in the north. They intended to stay and exploit all available natural resources in order to become as self-sustaining as practicable.

New Hampshire

Reported by: Ellen Marlatt

The Legro Family Burial Ground, Rochester

[Submitted by Jessica Kramer, Independent Archaeological Consulting, LLC]

In September 2009, archaeologists from Independent Archaeological Consulting (IAC) completed the disinterment of the Legro family burial ground, encountering the burials of four adults and seven children. The small family burial plot was once located in a quiet corner of the Legro family farm in Rochester, Strafford County, New Hampshire. By the time of the 2009 excavations, the landscape had been drastically altered, leaving the burial ground encapsulated within the Exit 15 off ramp alongside NH Route 16. After reports of vandalism in 2001, the remaining head and footstones were removed by a concerned citizen with the permission of the NH Department of Transportation, thus creating an unmarked burial ground. IAC of Portsmouth, NH, conducted a survey and subsequent relocation of the burial ground in the fall of 2009 under the supervision of Dr. Kathleen Wheeler. Assisting Dr. Wheeler was Field Supervisor Jacob Tumelaire and Field Technicians Jessica Kramer and Jonathan Douse.

Among those interred in the burial ground were three genera-



Headstone of Elihu Legro, exposed to east of Grave 7 beneath topsoil.

tions of the Legro Family, including the Civil War veteran Rev. Elihu H. Legro. The son of David and Joanna Legro, Legro was born on July 21, 1827 on the family farm in Rochester, New Hampshire. Elihu married Mary Corson on June 10, 1849 and the couple had two children, Mary E. Legro (Ellie) and Elihu Albert Legro Jr. (Albert), who died in 1859 and was buried in the Legro burial ground. At the age of 28 Elihu H. Legro was ordained as a Methodist minister. After the outbreak of the Civil War, Rev. Legro enlisted as a private into Company D of the 6th NH Regiment and was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant the following year. On January 1, 1863, at the age of 35, Rev. Legro died of “disease” at the Patent Office Hospital in Washington, D.C. and his remains were sent home to Rochester where he was buried with Masonic honors in the family burial ground.

Concerns for the safety of IAC personnel were paramount. Prior to conducting subsurface testing at the Legro Burial ground, seven bore holes were drilled in various locations in order to extract soil to test for chemical hazards associated with late nineteenth century burials – specifically arsenic. Soil testing was conducted by ATC Associates Inc., an environmental and geotechnical firm from Manchester, NH, in August 2009 to determine if any heavy metals commonly used in early embalming solutions were present in the soil. Among the most hazardous substances used in early embalming fluid were arsenic, sulfuric acid, turpentine, alcohol, and mercuric chloride (Johnson et al. 1996). Soil testing results revealed that the arsenic concentrations ranged between 3.7 and 7.4 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg). The background concentration for arsenic established by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) soil remediation standard is set at 11/mg/kg. The low arsenic concentrations present at the Legro burial ground indicate that either the release of arsenic into the environment has not occurred or if arsenic were present in the soils, the well drained sandy soil present had caused the arsenic to dissipate. Due to the limited area tested by ATC, it was recommended that skin contact with the soil be minimized as a precautionary measure.



Field technicians Jessica Kramer and Jon Douse excavating Grave 3. ("Benjamin F. Leighton, July 21, 1843, EAE 26 days").

Following site preparation, IAC monitored the removal of topsoil so that underlying graveshaft outlines could be exposed. A contracted operator used a tracked backhoe (Komatsu PC27-MRX) to strip topsoil to depths designated by Dr. Wheeler. As soon as graveshafts came to light, the operator was asked to cease all mechanical excavation. At this time, archaeologists shovel skimmed loose soil to define outlines of graveshafts. When these were exposed, corners were marked with small nails and blue flagging tape. The location of the flagged corners was mapped using a TopCon® GTS-213 Total Station. Trowels were then used to excavate all soils within the graveshaft outlines recognized on the surface, passing all displaced soil through $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch hardware mesh to separate any possible artifacts for collection.

At the conclusion of two days of fieldwork, archaeologists identified eight graveshafts with possibly two others. Once the coffin lid was encountered, archaeologists mapped and photographed the dimensions of the coffin as well as any and all coffin hardware present. In most cases, the coffin wood was poorly preserved and had slumped into the interior of the coffin and rested on or in close proximity to any skeletal remains present. The interior of the coffin was excavated using fine hand tools, exposing all skeletal and personal elements present. After mapping and photographing the skeletal remains, all skeletal material was collected. The excellent preservation of Graves 8 and 9 allowed for archaeologists to bag elements separately; all elements were placed in brown paper bags and labeled according to grave number and skeletal element.

Soil samples for pH testing were collected from the exterior top, interior, and exterior base at the head, thoracic and foot



Rev. Elihu H. Legro (Left) alongside his wife Mary H. Legro (Right), buried side by side.

regions of each burial. Soil sample sizes ranged from 9.1 to 104.7 grams and were placed in sterile 2 mil plastic bags.

The burials of the children lacked the high degree of preservation noted in the adult graves, complicating the removal of the burial. To ensure that minimal disturbance to the burial occurred, archaeologists built three-sided wooden boxes from plywood and 2-x-4 lumber that were designed to slide under each of the child graves in order to preserve any skeletal remains within the sandy matrix that had filled the coffin interior upon the collapse of the lid. Once the burial was removed, the fourth side was screwed in place for transportation. This method proved to be extremely successful. After the removal of the skeletal material, the base of the coffin and all associated coffin hardware was mapped and photographed. Once all of the cultural material was removed from the burial, archaeologists dug an additional 50-100 cm below the base of the coffin to ensure no hardware or skeletal remains had been vertically displaced by root activity and to verify that no additional burials were present below the first.



This photo shows the pathologies seen on the palate: lytic lesion surrounding the unerupted upper right canine, retained upper right deciduous second molar, bony remodeling, and asymmetry.

Upon completion of the project, a total of eleven burials had been recovered in two rows, with internment dates ranging from 1832 to 1871. Notable information derived from the analysis of the funerary hardware provided insight into nineteenth century burial practices in southern New Hampshire. The viewing glass recovered from the grave of Maria Jane Legro, interred in 1832, may be one of the earliest dated uses of a viewing glass in New Hampshire. During the osteological analysis of Mary Legro, a number of unusual dental pathologies were observed, including retained deciduous teeth, an impacted canine with associated lytic lesion, and enamel hypoplasia. The pathological conditions noted in the palate of Mary Legro were undoubtedly painful, and may offer insight into the epitaph, which reads “Farewell dear mother, thy sufferings are over.”

The remains of all Legro family members were re-interred in a historic corner of Rochester's municipal cemetery, at which time the head and footstones were reunited with the appropriate set of remains. In preparation for the re-internment, IAC Field Supervisor Jacob Tumelaire constructed coffins according to the specifications set forth by the State of New Hampshire. The process began with the construction of simple pine coffins, custom made to match the original dimensions of each of the individual coffins. Measurements taken in the field of the coffin length, width, and depth were replicated, with the exception of the coffins constructed for the Rev. Elihu H. and Mary E. Legro. Both of the adult coffins were relatively narrow, the reconstructed coffins were slightly wider and somewhat “more comfortable” for the deceased. The burial boxes were constructed of 1”x 12” pine planks held in place with inset screws hidden with pine plugs. Each coffin had an aluminum plaque permanently affixed to the exterior of the coffin. The plaques were engraved with the

name, date of death and the year of the age of the person at the time of death.

A sheet of muslin lined each of the coffins followed by a bed of straw. The straw served as a cushion for the remains and helped to keep any skeletal material in anatomical position. Soil samples taken from each of the graves were placed in the appropriate coffin, and also aided in keeping small items in place. Careful attention was paid to ensure that the arrangement of the funerary hardware matched the location in which it was removed from the ground during the disinterment in the fall of 2009. Each nail, handle, hinge, screw, viewing glass and personal item was placed in the interior of the coffin to mimic the original layout.

On May 8, 2010, a rainy Saturday, the Rev. Elihu H. Legro was buried with full military honors alongside his wife and son, his parents, his sister, nieces and nephews. The procession gathered on the Rochester Common to escort the Rev. Elihu H. Legro in an 1870 horse-drawn hearse the four-tenths of a mile to the cemetery. The procession included the 6th NH Fife and Drum Corp, the 6th NH Volunteer Infantry, the NH National Guard Military Honor Guard, a riderless horse, members of the NH Governor’s Horse Guard, the 1st NH Cavalry, the 5th NH Volunteer Infantry, and several members of the public. Graveside speakers included Dan Meehan, the State Senior Vice President of the Sons of the Union Volunteers of the Civil War, the Captain of the 6th NH Volunteers, a representative of the Tamworth Masonic Lodge, and the Rochester City mayor, TJ Jean. Pastor Murray Nickerson of the South Tamworth United Methodist Church where Rev. Elihu H. Legro held his last ministerial post, was the graveside officiate and gave a moving eulogy that included excerpts from a church record kept by the Rev. Legro while at Tamworth.

The relocation of the Legro family burial ground helped to fine tune the logistics involved when a cemetery is encountered in a right-of-way. If an alternative solution cannot be found, and the burials must be relocated, the stringent and methodical archaeological process ensures that the disinterment is complete and respectful.



Horse drawn hearse with the remains of Rev. Elihu H. Legro, Rochester, NH.

Massachusetts

Reported by: Linda Ziegenbein

2011 UMass Amherst Field School

[Submitted by Siobhan M. Hart]

The 2011 UMass Amherst Field School in Archaeology will be investigating a 17th century Native American site in Deerfield, Massachusetts. The site we will be investigating is believed to be a fortified place of the Pocumtuck people, referred to as the "Pocumtuck Fort." The field school is part of an on-going community-based archaeology project known as the Pocumtuck Fort Archaeology and Stewardship Project, co-directed by Elizabeth Chilton (UMass Amherst) and Siobhan Hart (Binghamton University). The project engages community stakeholders, including avocational archaeologists, local residents, representatives of descendant communities through the Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs (MCIA), the landowner, and local heritage institutions such as Historic Deerfield, Inc., to work towards two shared goals: (1) protecting and stewarding the Pocumtuck Fort site for the long-term; and (2) using what we learn from the archaeology and collaboration to combat the erasure of New England Native peoples, past and present.

Through testing in 2006, 2007, and 2008, we have documented 47 features (though only a small number have been sampled), many of which are consistent with large storage/trash pit features. Over 31,000 individual objects have been recovered through excavation and soil flotation. A wide range of material from the 17th century is represented, including metals (e.g., cut and rolled brass), lithics, pottery, and glass beads. The vast majority of the assemblage--around 80%--consists of ecofacts such as faunal elements and charred floral remains (e.g., animal and fish bones, freshwater and marine shell, charred flora including maize).

The 2011 field school will build on previous research to address a series of research questions focused on: (1) determining site boundaries and artifact distribution; (2) determining whether there is evidence of fortification; (3) investigating the purpose of large circular features; and (4) investigating the cultural features disturbed by illegal digging. The field school will be directed by Siobhan M. Hart, assisted by UMass Amherst graduate students. The field school runs from June 28, 2010-July 30, 2010 (Tuesday-Saturday), and we will host an open field lab in the Moors House in Historic Deerfield Thursdays-Saturdays, 9:30-12:00 and 1:00-3:30. For further information, updates or application information, go to the following website and click on "field school": <http://www.umass.edu/anthro> or contact Siobhan Hart at shart@binghamton.edu.

Connecticut

Reported by: Cece Saunders

2011 UMass Boston Field School

The Department of Anthropology at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, is offering a five-week, six-credit archaeological field course on the Eastern Pequot reservation, located in southeastern Connecticut. In close collaboration with the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation, the university field school will undertake its eighth field season of intensive study of tribal lands to identify and document archaeological sites, particularly those dating to the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries in an effort to study indigenous responses to colonialism. The Eastern Pequot community has occupied this historic reservation since 1683. Field school students will receive training in techniques such as map-making, subsurface surveying, excavation, artifact processing, and material culture identification and will be exposed to considerations of ethics, heritage, cultural representation, community work, and politics in contemporary archaeology. Students will have the unique opportunity to participate in a collaborative and engaged archaeology alongside Native American leaders, elders, adults, and youth in a joint effort to recover aspects of Pequot history in southern New England. The course fee for the undergraduate and graduate sections covers six credit hours, instruction, field activities, visits to museums and nearby projects, housing, food, and travel between the field house and reservation. The fee does NOT cover basic student supplies, health insurance, or transportation to/from the field school.

Obtain the application from the project website (http://www.faculty.umb.edu/stephen_silliman/html/northeast.html) or Project Director (Stephen Silliman stephen.silliman@umb.edu) in early January 2011. Application deadline is April 1, 2011, but early application is recommended since spaces are competitive and tend to fill quickly. Application review will begin before the deadline and will continue weekly until slots are filled. You may contact the Project Director after the deadline to see if any spaces remain.

Maryland

Reported by: Silas D. Hurry

St. Mary's City

Historic St. Mary's City (HSMC), in association with St. Mary's College of Maryland, announces its 2011 field school in historical archaeology. HSMC is a state supported, outdoor museum located at the site of Maryland's first capital (1634-1694). The goal of this summer's excavations is to better understand the yards and structures around the Calvert House. Built in the first decade of Maryland's settlement by Leonard Calvert, the first Governor, it served as the statehouse of the Province until 1676. Previous testing in the back yard revealed the presence of numerous fences, borrow pits, several outbuildings and the moat of a 1645 fort. Excavations will seek to better define the fences, identify outbuildings, and

explore selected features to aid in dating the development of this landscape.

For the student, the program is an intensive, 10 week experience in Colonial archaeology (June 1-August 7). The first week includes lectures on history, archaeological methods and material culture studies. Students learn artifact identification by working with one of the best archaeological collections of Colonial material in the country. During the following weeks, students participate in excavation, recording and analysis. Guest scholars speak on the history and architecture of the Chesapeake region. Field trips to nearby archaeological sites in Maryland and Virginia are planned. Students will also have the rare opportunity to learn about and help sail the MARYLAND DOVE, a replica of a 17th century, square rigged tobacco ship.

The HSMC field school is designed for students in American Studies, Anthropology, Archaeology, History, and Museum Studies. Students may register for either Anthropology or History credits. Prior experience or course work is not required. The ability to engage in active physical labor is essential. A total of eight (8) credit hours are offered through St. Mary's College of Maryland, a state honors college dedicated to the Liberal Arts. The program costs \$1480 which covers tuition. There is a \$60 fee to cover the cost of the major field trips. Housing is available at a reduced cost through the college. Transportation, food and entertainment are the responsibility of the student. HSMC is located two hours south of Washington, D.C. in Southern Maryland.

To apply, send an email or a letter stating your interest in the course and listing any relevant classes, experience, or special skills. Include the email addresses of two academic references. Please list a phone number and address both at school and at home where you can be reached after the semester is over. Housing is limited so apply early. For specific questions about the course, email: tbriordan@smcm.edu or Send letters to: Archaeology Program, Department of Research & Collections, HSMC, P. O. Box 39, St. Mary's City, Maryland 20686. Application Deadline: April 29, 2011

St. Mary's City - The archaeologists from Historic St. Mary's City participated in a special outreach as part of the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History's "Written in Bone" exhibit on December 10th, 2010. This program was part of the museum's ongoing "Forensic Friday" events which brings the scientists behind the archaeology that supports to the exhibit to the Smithsonian to interact with the public. Presentations on the archaeology of burials, the construction on colonial coffins, faunal analysis, and

artifact study were shared with over two hundred visitors. HSMC plans to reprise the presentations in April 2011 as part of Maryland Archaeology Month.

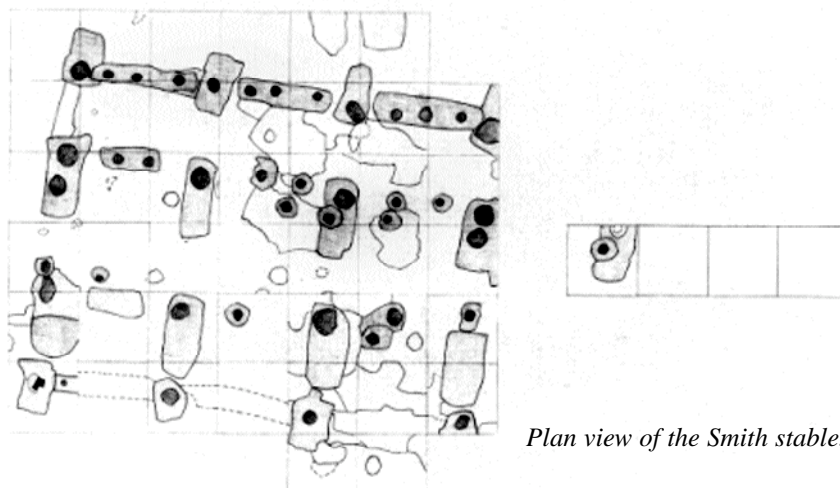
Prince George's County

The Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum and the Maryland Historical Trust are pleased to announce the release of a new publication entitled *Oxon Hill Manor: The Archaeology and History of "A World They Made Together"* by John McCarthy. The 24 page popular publication highlights the history and archaeology of this large agricultural plantation occupied from the early 18th through the early 20th centuries along Maryland's Potomac shores. Archaeological excavations revealed a domestic compound, consisting of numerous foundations, cobble walkways, brick walls, wells, fence lines, and cellars, dating from c.1711 through the early 20th century.

This full-color publication is available free as a pdf on the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum website at <http://www.jefpat.org/Documents/AddisonReport-Final.pdf> or to obtain a free printed copy, please email Patricia Samford at psamford@mdp.state.md.us.

St. Leonard Site

Since 2002, JPPM has been conducting annual public archaeology excavations at the Smith's St. Leonard site. This site was the home of the Smith family, owners of the St. Leonard plantation, between c. 1711-1754. Remains of their house, a kitchen, and possible quarters for enslaved Africans have been uncovered, but much of the recent investigations have focused on a horse stable. The stable was an earthfast structure measuring 24' by 40'. It consisted of a 10'-wide central section separated into four 10' bays, with 7'-wide rooms running along either side of the center passage. Trench-set studs marked the exterior walls along the building's long axis, and numerous small postholes demarcated the stable's interior spaces. Several lines of evidence point to this being a stable. One, numerous pieces of horse furniture, including stirrups,



Plan view of the Smith stable.

spurs, and bridle bits, were recovered here. Second, a shallow layer of unplowed midden, underlain by a thin gravel layer, was uncovered below plowzone in the center section of the stable. The midden appears to post-date the demolition of the building. It probably survived 20th c. plowing because the stable had a sunken floor in its central aisle. The midden deposits in the area of the exterior rooms and outside the building would have been too shallow to survive plowing. Colonial-era stables are known to have often had horse stalls with floors that sloped down toward the center of the building, reducing liquid waste in the stalls. The gravel layer in the lowest portions of the Smith stable probably facilitated the drainage. The layout of the building itself also helped identify it as a stable. Colonial-era stables commonly had a 10' central section for storage of equipment, with smaller stalls on one or both sides for the horses and additional storage.

Excavation of the postholes in the central section show that they were uncommonly large, approximately 6' long and over 4' deep. The posts themselves were more than a foot in diameter. The postholes along the exterior walls were about half as large. This would suggest that the posts in the center section carried more weight; perhaps a hayloft was present there.

Few excavated examples of colonial stables, particularly rural ones, are known in the Chesapeake region, and the Smith stable appears to be one of the earliest. The nature of these structures is poorly-understood by architectural historians. If anyone knows of other examples, please contact Ed Chaney at echaney@mdp.state.md.us.

Statewide

If you have not checked out the Diagnostic Artifacts in Maryland website (www.jefpat.org/diagnostic/index.htm) lately, please take another look. In the last couple of years, several new sections have been added to the site.

MAC Lab Federal Curator Sara Rivers-Cofield has initiated a Small Finds section that features the "miscellaneous" artifacts typically recovered in small numbers on archaeological sites, like leather ornaments (the decorative metal pieces commonly used on leather accessories or horse tack), bodkins, smoker's companions, and sleeve buttons (cufflinks). Because published information about these objects can be difficult to find, the goal is to provide details about their chronology, function, manufacture, etc., so that these artifacts can be more fully used in site interpretation. As time permits, there are plans to add new categories to the site.

The MAC Lab has also added a Post-Colonial Ceramics section with entries on some common diagnostic ceramics available between the American Revolution and the late 19th century. The various web pages provide general descriptions and dating of common decoration types found on these ceramics, and then offer reference sources that can be read for more in-

depth information. To date, the website includes entries on shell edged, painted, printed, dipped, sponged, and luster decorated wares, as well as relief molded stoneware. New entries currently in the works are white ironstone/granite and yellow ware.

The MAC Lab also recently began partnering with the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs to include artifacts from Delaware on the website. Looks like a name change for the website might be in order!!

St. Leonard - It's unusual, to say the least. The waterlogged remnants from half of a 200-year-old ship that sliced through the waters around Lower Manhattan have made their way to the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory in St. Leonard. "One of the really great things about this is that [the ship] is amazingly well preserved. That was unexpected," said Nicole Doub, the head conservator at the archaeology lab. "What happened was the ship was sunk; it settled into a layer of clay, this wonderful mix of organic material. But just the bottom of the boat, there was no oxygen so there was no degradation. This level of preservation on a terrestrial site ... it's very rare and unusual."

The uncovering of the ship in mid-July took many by surprise, perhaps no one more than the construction workers hauling away dirt in the footprint of the World Trade Center in preparation for an underground parking lot. AKRF, a Manhattan-based environmental engineering and consulting firm, began the careful but quick retrieval of the organic artifacts, and as the pieces continued to come up to ground level, a tentative history began to immerge.

According to Director of the MAC Lab Patricia Samford, the ship was intentionally sunk to help build up the wetland real estate in downtown Manhattan. "What they were trying to do ... was help fill in the land. People used whatever they could. We do the same thing today," Samford said. "We don't know the specifics of its age, but it's probably late 18th or early 19th century."

Based on the pieces pulled from the ground, the ship is estimated to be about 60 feet long and it was cut roughly in half by a retaining wall. There is another portion of the boat still to be found. Three of the lab's archaeologists were on site in New York to help retrieve the remnants and send them via two tremendous bins to Calvert County. They arrived Aug. 2.

The iron nails used in its construction rusted so much that on some pieces all that was left was a smear of burnt orange. "It's important to keep it all wet, because when wood dries out it will shrink or warp. Right now the cell walls are filled with water," Samford said. Getting the mud off the wood will allow archaeologists to inspect it for any markings or lettering — at least one piece was found with the letters "s" and "y" etched



into it. It will also make it easier for the dendrologist — someone who studies trees — to identify what kind of wood was used to build the boat.

"Identifying the wood will help us figure out the construction and location," Samford said. "We'll do tree ring dating to find out the age of the ship and an analysis of marine life . . ." The marine or ship worms might conjure up an image of a corny science fiction movie, but these invertebrates will help the lab determine what waters the ship sailed through because there are different varieties of worms unique to different bodies of water. "This is a really big project," Samford said.

Though the staff can only speculate at this point, the theory is that the ship was a coastal trader. Betty Seifert, curator for Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, said she'd seen some pieces of wood with tool marks, "which is nice," and other traits like the boat's shape and the solid bow timber point to a ship that was well made, with a good structure. "That's one solid piece of wood," Seifert said of the impressive bow timber that stretched across several feet of the lab's floor. "We don't have trees like that." Knowing the type of wood that is used will help the archaeologists better preserve the ship at a later date. "We use that information for the longer term," Doub said. "Each tree is different."

The hope, Doub said, is to get financial backing to reconstruct the ship for display.

St. Mary's County - Long before construction began on widening MD 237 in St. Mary's County, a 1990 archeological survey indicated that the adjoining Ebenezer Cemetery probably contained unmarked graves that extended into SHA's

right-of-way. In 2003, detailed historical research on the cemetery was conducted, and ground penetrating radar (GPR) was used to try to locate unmarked graves near the highway. The cemetery was associated with Ebenezer Methodist Episcopal Church, established in 1820 on land donated by Joshua Cullumber. Originally surveyed in 1790 and patented in 1796, it is possible that this tract already contained a family graveyard before it was donated to the church.

Level terrain and uniform soils made the Ebenezer Cemetery an ideal candidate for GPR. The GPR signatures of marked graves were compared with anomalies found during survey, lending further credibility to the results. By the conclusion of the study, it was evident that more than 100 graves, most unmarked, were located within 20 feet of MD 237. Some were as close as 16 inches from the paved surface. This led to the decision to widen the opposite side of MD 237 and to require archeological monitoring during construction.

In early January 2010, after careful removal of the MD 237 roadway surface, a largely intact burial was encountered during deep excavations for a waterline. The burial was aligned with marked graves elsewhere in the cemetery. Originally enclosed in a hexagonal coffin, now marked by a dark soil stain with scraps of decayed wood (see photo), the extremely deteriorated human remains were carefully recorded, removed with the soil matrix, and analyzed. Subsequent studies showed that the coffin was likely made of live oak, constructed with cut nails, and had two decorative screws. Several Prosser porcelain undergarment buttons were also recovered. The remains were determined to be those of a male, 35 years or older, 5'6" to 5'11" tall. The bone also revealed a healed bacterial infection in his lower leg. No skull was located, possibly due to a prior partial grave relocation or destruction by early road construction. Although multiple attempts were made to extract DNA, no viable samples could be obtained. The data suggests that the initial burial most likely occurred in the late 19th century.

On November 10, 2010, a brass urn containing the human remains, buttons, and associated coffin hardware were reinterred in a new grave in Ebenezer Cemetery. The grave marker states: "Resting here are the remains of an unknown male discovered in 2010 during Maryland State Highway Administration construction adjacent to the Ebenezer Methodist Church Cemetery. He was determined to be over 35 years of age, and to have died in the late 19th century." Pastor Lori Hays of the Lexington Park United Methodist Church, the descendant congregation of the earlier Ebenezer Church, officiated at the reburial. Also attending were Mr. Don Strickland of the Ebenezer Cemetery Committee, SHA Archeologist Carol Ebright, Mr. Mike Philip, SHA Project Engineer for MD 237, and Mr. Brian Horr of Lane Construction, contractor for the MD 237 project.

West Virginia

Reported by: David E. Rotenizer

Frontier Forts Project Update

[Submitted by Kim A. McBride, Kentucky Archaeological Survey]

W. Stephen McBride and Kim A. McBride continued work on their Frontier Forts project recently, in eastern West Virginia. With support from the WV Humanities Council, the Kentucky Archaeological Survey, and the Summers County Historic Landmarks Commission, and others, research was continued at two Revolutionary War fort sites that have proven to be very interesting and perhaps unorthodox in their structure: Jarrett's Fort in Monroe County and Warwick's Fort in Pocahontas County.

Previous excavations at other fort sites in the region have suggested that a layout of two opposing bastions was very common. However, both of these forts have so far revealed only one bastion. In the case of Jarrett's Fort, stockading extending out from the bastion intersects a chimney from David Jarrett's House, also part of the fort. Large pits in what might have been two other corners of the fort suggest the possible presence of blockhouse-like structures. Only two units were excavated this year at Jarrett's Fort, but one revealed additional stockade trenching and the other revealed two isolated post-molds that line up with several others found in previous seasons – all suggesting some form of stockading between the two possible blockhouse pits, but not in a continuous trench. In the case of Warwick's Fort, the stockade trench found (and reported on it this newsletter in the past) was found to end shortly after the bastion, with the only other definite large fort feature being a large cellar opposite the mouth of the bastion. Work this year focused on an area located several hundred yards from the bastion, where a concentration of cast iron ket-

tle fragments had been found during a metal detector survey. Excavation units in this area revealed a moderate concentration of domestic wares and typical late eighteenth century artifacts -- could this be an area where settlers coming to the fort for protection were housed? It is hoped that more work will be possible on both of these fort sites.

Historical Archaeological Survey: New River Gorge National River and Gauley River National Recreation Area

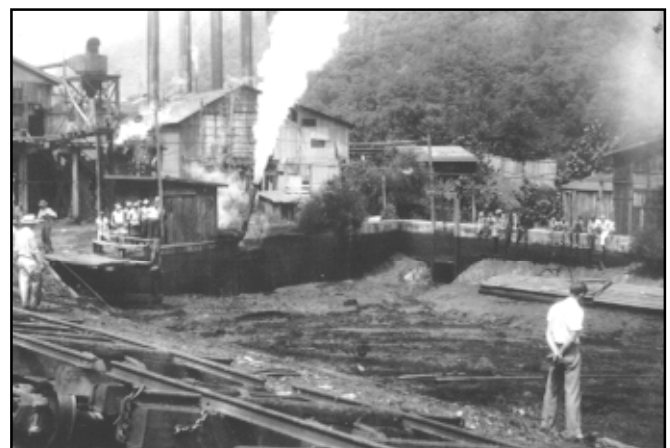
[Submitted by David N. Fuerst, National Park Service, New River Gorge National River]

Abstract: This study was undertaken to assess the nature of historical archaeological resources within New River Gorge National River (NERI) and Gauley River National Recreation Area (GARI). Specifically the goals of this study were to (1) document the location, condition, and research potential of a sample of historical archaeological sites within NERI and GARI; (2) conduct limited exploratory archeological investigations of representative historic sites; (3) create sites descriptions, maps and summarize other data (historic maps and photographs, archival records, and secondary resources) relating to these sites; and (4) identify research questions that these historic and other historic resources located in NERI and GARI have the potential to address.

Based on an examination of 20 archaeological sites in the NERI and 15 archaeological sites in the GARI, it is clear that both parks contain a wealth of historic archaeological resources. These sites include, coal towns, lumber towns, farmsteads, houses, cemeteries, schools, transportation related properties, and one possible logging operation and one hospital. Many of the sites in NERI contained multiple property types. Of particular importance are those sites that are the remains of late nineteenth-early twentieth century coal,



Excavation units in the possible domestic occupation area of Warwick's Fort, Pocahontas County, West Virginia



Hamlet logging camp located on terrace along the New River in Raleigh County, West Virginia upstream from confluence with Glade Creek. The band saw mill, with pond in front of conveyor, burned in 1930
(Photo Courtesy National Park Service).

lumber mining towns and farmsteads. All of these resources represent a slice of the history of not only the New River Gorge and Gauley River, but the growth of the nation. The late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries saw some of the most sweeping changes in the nation's history through the rise of transportation systems, technology, and industrialization which is preserved in the archaeological record in both the NERI and GARI.

A number of recommendations were developed as a result of the study. The majority of the sites are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and should be protected with all available means. In order to better define the nature and extent of the archaeological resources, and to collect sufficient information in order to determine eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places, it is recommended that a more intensive archaeological survey of the sites be undertaken in conjunction with an historical assessment and cultural landscape inventories. Depending on the results of those surveys, more intense archaeological investigations may be necessary. It is also recommended that public programming be developed for both parks. A multitude of activities can be incorporated into a comprehensive educational program, including site specific interpretative signage, brochures, booklets, public activities including, cultural heritage days, archaeology weekends, curriculum for local teachers.

All of this can help preserve the important and dynamic history of the parks.

Report submitted by Kentucky Archaeological Survey and jointly administered by University of Kentucky and Kentucky Heritage Council. David Pollack, Principal Investigator. Report submitted to David Fuerst, New River Gorge National River.

Citation: Historical Archaeological Survey: New River Gorge National River and Gauley River National Recreation Area (2007) by Lori Stahlgren, Meagan Jones, Rick Burdin, and Brian Mabelitini. Kentucky Archaeological Survey Report 143. Kentucky Archaeological Survey, Lexington, Kentucky.

Searching for the James Blockhouse, Blennerhassett Island

[Submitted by Jarrod Burks, PhD, Ohio Valley Archaeology, Inc.]

In 1798 Harman Blennerhassett brought his family out to an island in the middle of the Ohio River, about 180 miles downstream from Pittsburgh. This was to become their paradise in the forest. While building their grand mansion, a Palladian palace on the western frontier (Figure 1), the family lived in a blockhouse built on the island in 1792 about half a mile down the island from the mansion. Several years after moving into the mansion in 1800, the blockhouse reputedly was used to house the materiel for the small army being raised by Aaron Burr to capture and build his own little nation. After Burr was essentially caught in the act, and the Blennerhassetts were forced to leave their island estate, the blockhouse went on to be used by the Neale family in the early 1830s while they erected a large brick house nearby. For the next thirty years the blockhouse was likely a residence for the Neales' slaves, until the end of the Civil War when it was taken down. Though several historical accounts suggest the blockhouse once stood near the Neale House, the Blennerhassetts' temporary residence has never been relocated.

In 2006 the Blennerhassett Historical Foundation initiated the most recent, on-going search for the blockhouse. A shovel test survey in the 1980s did locate an area near the Neale House containing artifacts dating to the early 1800s, but those investigations never went any further. As part of the recent effort we began our search with a large scale magnetic gradient survey near the Neale House in 2006 on the higher part of the island. Several clusters of magnetic anomalies seemed promising. We also re-shovel tested the area in 2008 and located the same cluster of early nineteenth century artifacts found during the 1980s. Thanks to good old fashioned luck, one of our shovel tests intersected a buried hearth about 65 cm below surface (Figure 2). This hearth contained hand-made nails and a ceramic assemblage consistent with the early 1800s.

Figure 1 (Below). Historically-based reconstruction of Blennerhassett Mansion





Figure 2. *Hearth, ca. 60 cmbs, within a 2x2 m uni.t.*

Figure 3 (Below). *Magnetic gradient data with large features of interest in lower left corner of data.*

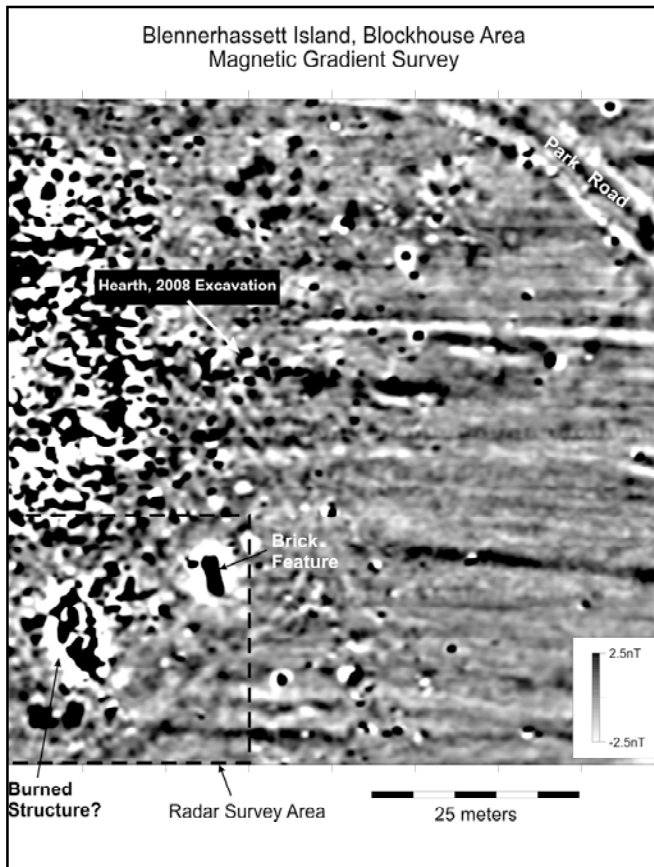
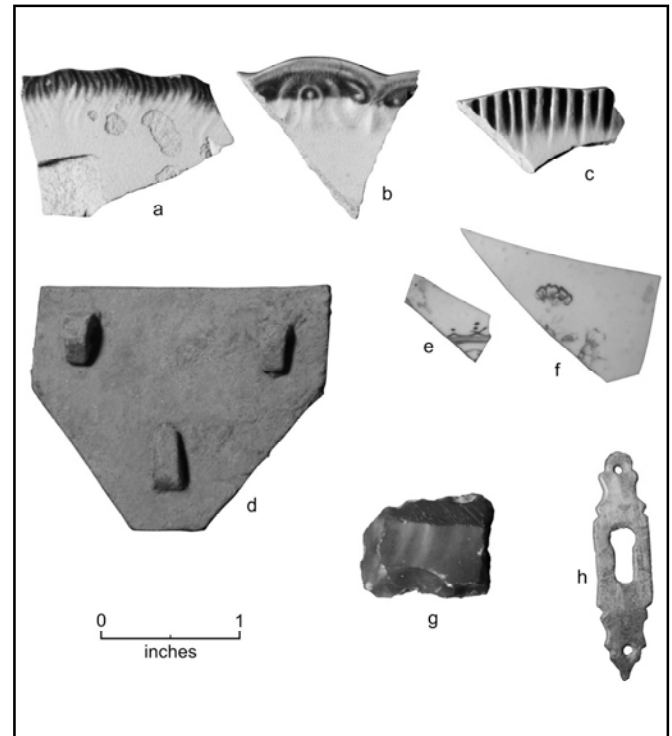


Figure 4 (Right). *A selection of artifacts from excavation, (a-b) blue edge-decorated sherds, (c) green edge-decorated sherd, (d) brass buckle or equestrian gear, (e-f) porcelain, over-glaze enamel, (g) gun flint, (h) escutcheon.*

Encouraged by the hearth find, we extended the magnetic survey down into a lower part of the island and located numerous additional anomalies perhaps associated with the remains of a structure and a nearby facility. Figure 3 shows the magnetic data from this area of the site. The mass of magnetic anomalies near the upper left are related to the Neale House, which is just off the map to the left in that area. Soil coring of the large anomalies in the lower left part of the image showed the presence of deeply buried (50-60 cm) brick at one and burned earth and charcoal at another. While these features may be associated with the nearby Neale House, it is also possible that they predate the Neale House and belong to the blockhouse complex—Blennerhassett brought an unknown number of servants to the island who likely lived near the blockhouse where the Blennerhassetts initially resided. We also expanded our excavations around the hearth, hoping to uncover walls, foundation piers, or some other indication of a larger structure around the hearth. While these structural remains never did materialize in our relatively small excavation trenches, the considerable effort put into screening all of the excavated sediments in the hearth area and in several other excavation units produced dozens of artifacts dating to the early 1800s, including gold and silver plated brass buttons, pewter buttons, blue and green shell edge pearlware sherds, a gun flint and a fragment of a brass trigger guard, and a hand-made escutcheon for a piece of furniture or a clock, among numerous other objects (Figure 4).

Based on the positive results of a radar survey in 2010, we hope to return to the island in the next year or two and continue work on the hearth area and the other buried geophysical anomalies nearby.



Recent Archaeological Monitoring at West Virginia Independence Hall, Wheeling (46OH220)

[Submitted by: David E. Rotenizer, Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex, West Virginia Division of Culture and History]

In June and July 2010, a pipeline for installation of a fire suppression system was excavated with heavy equipment adjacent to West Virginia Independence Hall, a historic site operated by the West Virginia Division of Culture and History in downtown Wheeling. Construction of the trench was monitored by staff from the Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex, West Virginia Division of Culture and History.

Excavation for the pipeline took place on the north side of Independence Hall in a vacant lot that formerly hosted a succession of various structures and uses from at least the nineteenth through mid-twentieth century. The trench, consisting of two segments, extended 24 linear meters with a width of one meter and nearly two meter depth. Despite a history of long term use of the lot, various fill episodes had remarkably capped and preserved a buried historic occupation level. Staff and volunteers from the Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex, West Virginia Independence Hall, and Archaeological Consultants of the Midwest, Inc., worked to recover artifacts and document the discovery.

Artifacts from the site are being processed by staff and volunteers in the archaeological lab at the research facility of the Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex. A very preliminary analysis suggests the deposit dates to the early nineteenth century. A total of 2,548 artifacts were recovered. The majority of the materials are flat glass (39%), followed by ceramics (20%), faunal remains (14%) and container glass (10%). Nails, which are by and large unidentifiable, only made up 7% of the artifact assemblage. The majority of the ceramics include whiteware (49%), followed by pearlware (22%), redware (16%), creamware (4%), yellowware (2%), and stoneware (2%). Additional objects include nine kaolin pipe fragments, two brass plated buttons, and two handles from pewter eating utensils.



Facing south of crew dry-screening within the shadow of West Virginia Independence Hall.

In order to understand and interpret the site's historical development and broader context, an archival study has been launched. This research is being aided by classes in the Public History Program at West Virginia University under the direction of Dr. Melissa Bingeman, who are examining deeds and other public records. The Archives and History Section of the West Virginia Division of History and Culture is also assisting.

West Virginia Independence Hall is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is a National Historic Landmark, and is recorded with the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) of the National Archives. The structure was constructed in 1859 as the U.S. Custom House for the Western District of Virginia to service the payment of duties for commerce along the Ohio River. The structure was designed by Ammi Burnham Young, an important architect of the nineteenth century who gained fame with his design of the Second Vermont State House. Young became a federal architect and served as the first Supervising Architect for the U.S. Treasury Department. His commissions included various custom houses, post offices and courthouses. Young has been regarded the pioneer with the use of iron construction. The design of the U.S. Customs House in Wheeling utilized an iron beam skeleton technique that helped lead to the development of skyscrapers – an engineering marvel at the time.

However, the U.S. Customs House in Wheeling would gain its most noteworthy acclaim when it hosted Pro-Union State Conventions of Virginia in 1861 and served as the capital of the Restored (Unionist) Government of Virginia between 1861 and 1863. The first constitutional convention for the new state of West Virginia was held here, earning the structure its name of Independence Hall. Over the past few years, the West Virginia Division of Culture and History has undertaken substantial renovation work at Independence Hall in light of the upcoming Sesquicentennial of West Virginia Statehood and the Civil War.



Looking at east wall profile of Trench A. Soils to south (right) were disturbed. Intact deposit located to the north (left). Trench B, majority of trench work, passed through intact deposit.

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