



Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology NEWSLETTER

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CONTENTS

VOLUNTEER BOOKROOM COORDINATOR	1
STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION	1
IN SEARCH OF BOTTLE SEALS	3
UPDATE-- <i>Northeast Historical Archaeology</i>	3
NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT	3
<i>Father Abbey's Will</i>	4
CURRENT RESEARCH	
Maine	6
Massachusetts	6
Rhode Island	8
New York State	10
New Jersey	10
Maryland	11
Virginia	15
West Virginia	18
Quebec	20
Atlantic Canada	21
2012 CANADIAN MEMBERSHIP	23

VOLUNTEER BOOKROOM COORDINATOR

CNEHA is seeking a highly motivated individual to serve a three-year term as volunteer bookroom coordinator. This individual would work with the local bookroom coordinator (appointed by the conference committee) to create a balanced display of national and local publishers, writers, and vendors. This individual would serve as primary contact with national publishers or vendors, and maintain those contacts from year to year to build more consistent representation from these firms. This individual would also work with the local bookroom coordinator to organize book signings, readings, or other presentations, and explore the use of electronic displays by booksellers. Finally, this individual would be responsible for offering space to non-profit organizations that have publications to sell or displays to mount. If you are interested in serving, please contact Karen Metheny at kbmetheny@aol.com

CNEHA Has a Permanent Address for Its Website:

<http://www.cneha.org/>

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STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

St. John's, Newfoundland

October 7, 2012

Six students from the United States and Canada participated in the student paper competition held at the annual meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland. Entrants were judged on content, presentation and contribution to the field of historical archaeology. This year's panel selected a first place winner and an honorable mention. First Place was awarded to William Farley, University of Connecticut, for his paper comparing the subsistence strategies of two 19th century households in southeastern Connecticut through the analysis of charred wood and seed remains. Mr. Farley received a certificate, cash prize, a recent copy of the journal and a year's membership in CNEHA. He will also submit his paper for publication in the journal. Michelle Tari Davies, Memorial University, received an honorable mention for her preliminary analysis of gender and identity in 18th century Labrador.

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, Editor, Northeast Historical Archaeology, c/o Anthropology Department, Classroom Bldg B107, Buffalo State College, Buffalo, NY 14222. neha@buffalostate.edu

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CNEHA Facebook Page

CNEHA now has a Facebook page! Search for Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology and “like” the page to see announcements about conferences and other updates.

IN SEARCH OF BOTTLE SEALS: A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Paul Huey and I are preparing a conference paper on 18th-century bottle seals from the northeastern United States. Bottle seals or crests are one of the more intriguing categories of artifacts recovered from historic archaeological sites (see illustration below). Small blobs of glass, applied to the necks or shoulders of bottles, they were embossed with initials, shields, and other insignia. They bear dates, the initials and names of individuals and families, as well as taverns, vineyards, schools, merchants, and military organizations. Archaeologists seriating blown glass bottles from colonial sites in North America have employed them as index fossils. They have also been interpreted as status markers. Although we have carried out an extensive literature review, we are concerned that our data may be distorted by the fact that some areas, e.g., Virginia, are better represented in the published archaeological literature. To that end we ask for your help. If you are aware of bottle seals from archaeological sites in the Northeast please send us an e-mail. The more detailed the information the better. At a minimum it would be useful to know the site where the seal was found, any published or gray literature references to the seal, and a brief description of what is embossed upon the seal. All sources will be acknowledged. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Richard Veit, rveit@monmouth.edu
and
Paul Huey



A typical mid-18th century bottle seal excavated in Philadelphia.

UPDATE--*Northeast Historical Archaeology*

Reported by: Susan Maguire, Editor

I am happy to report that you should have received Volume 39, the thematic volume on the excavation of a 19th century cemetery located on Spring Street in New York City. Volume 40 will be a collection of articles on small finds from a variety of times and places and is scheduled for printing in March 2013. We are still seeking articles for Volume 41, so send in your manuscripts. No time like the present to convert your conference paper from St. John's into an article! Volumes 32-36 are scheduled to be uploaded to the journal website in December 2012, so be sure to check out the website and add us to your favorites list: <http://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/neha/>. Comments or questions about the journal are always welcome. You can email me at maguirse@buffalostate.edu. Best wishes for a safe and productive field season.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT

Reported by: David Starbuck, Newsletter Editor

A huge “Thank you!” goes to Suzanne Plousois for her years as provincial editor for Ontario, always providing us with great news! Suzanne is “gradually moving into retirement,” and Eva MacDonald has agreed to take over as news editor for Ontario. We should all wish a warm welcome to Eva and a fond farewell to Suzanne!

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

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Father Abbey's Will **Cambridge, Massachusetts 1730**

Ross K. Harper
AHS, Inc. Storrs, Connecticut

The following rhyming last will and testament was written in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in December 1730. Matthew Abbey, or Abdy, was described by his contemporaries as being of very advanced age and "...for a great number of years served the College in quality as bedmaker and sweeper." Having no children, his wife Ruth was his sole beneficiary. Ruth was also a "sweeper" at Harvard College for many years and died December 13, 1762, at age 93 years.

The will became very popular and was widely published, appearing in Boston's Weekly Rehearsal in January 1732 and in The Gentleman's Magazine or Monthly Intelligencer in London in May of that year. The actual author of Father Abbey's Will, as it was called, was debated until the Reverend John Seccombe, a Harvard graduate, was identified as the writer by an old classmate in the Massachusetts Magazine in 1794. Reverend Sucombe died in Essex, Nova Scotia, in 1792. In 1854 Harvard librarian John Langdon Sibley published an annotated version.

Father Abbey's Will provides a fascinating early account of the household material culture of an elderly couple living in eastern Massachusetts. A number of the words are no longer in common usage today: a "ram cat" for a male cat, a "flitch" or side of bacon, a "clyster pipe" used to administer enemas, and "samp," akin to the Narragansett word nasaump, meaning pounded and boiled corn meal. Moreover, the will also shows a rarely revealed side of the more typically austere Yankee character, one of whimsy and humor. The transcription of the will is as it appeared in its earliest printings, though there were slight differences in spellings and punctuation and the last stanza only appears in later versions.* As late as the mid-1800s, at least parts of Father Abbey's Will was still "...familiar to nearly all the good housewives of New England." It's best to read it out loud....

To my dear Wife
My Joy and Life,
I freely now do give her,
My whole Estate,
With all my Plate,
Being just about to leave her.

A Tub of Soap,
A long Cart Rope,
A Frying Pan & Kettle,
An Ashes Pail,
A threshing Flail,
An iron Wedge & Beetle.

Two painted Chairs,
Nine Warden Pears,
A large old dripping Platter,
The Bed of Hay
On which I lay
An old Sauce Pan for Butter.

A little Mugg,
A Two Quart Jugg,
A Bottle full of Brandy,
A Looking Glass
To see your Face,
You'll find it very handy.

A Musket true,
As ever flew,
A pound of Shot and Wallet,
A Leather Sash,
My Calabash,
A Powder Horn and Bullet.

An old Sword Blade,
A Garden Spade,
A Hoe, a Rake, and Ladder,
A wooden Can,
A Close Stool Pan,
A Clyster Pipe and Bladder.

A greasy Hat,
My old Ram Cat,
A yard & half of Linen,
A Pot of Grease,
A Woollen Fleece,
In order for your spinning.

A Small Tooth Comb,
An ashen Broom,
A Candlestick & Hatchet,
A Coverlid
Strip'd down with Red,
A Bag of Rags to patch it.

A ragged Mat,
A Tub of Fat
A Book put out by Bunyan,
Another book
By Robin Rook,
A Skein or two of Spun yarn.

An old black Muff,
Some Garden Stuff,
A Quantity of Borage,
Some Devil's Weed,
And Burdock Seed,
To season well your Porridge.

A Chafing Dish,
With one Salt Fish
If I am not mistaken,
A Leg of Pork,
A broken Fork,
And half a Flich of Bacon.

A spinning Wheel,
One Peck of Meal,
A Knife without a handle,
A rusty Lamp,
Two Quarts of Samp,
And half a Tallow Candle.

My Pouch and Pipes,
Two Oxen Tripes,
An oaken Dish well carved,
My little Dog,
And spotted Hog,
With two young Pigs just starv'd.

This is my Store
I have no more,
I heartily do give it,
My Years are spun,
My Days are done,
And so I think to leave it.

*Thus Father Abbey left his spouse,
As rich as church or college mouse,
Which is sufficient invitation
To serve the college in his station.



This broadside figure is believed to be associated with an advertisement for a publication of Father Abbey's Will in Boston about 1772.

CURRENT RESEARCH

Maine

Reported by: Leon Cranmer

Popham Colony

[Submitted by Jeffrey P. Brain]

The Popham Project continued its investigation of Fort St. George (1607-1608) on the Kennebec River in Maine during August and September 2012, under the direction of Jeffrey P. Brain. This time we were looking for the chapel which the John Hunt map placed on private land contiguous to state-owned land that had previously been investigated. Our excavations provided further evidence of the reliability of the Hunt map which guided us to the precise location and allowed us to confirm most of the north wall and entire east wall of the chapel so that we now know the orientation and dimensions of the building. Another feather in John Hunt's cap!

Fort Richmond Data Recovery Update

[Submitted by Leith Smith]

Excavation by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, volunteers and students continues to reveal evidence of four periods of occupation spanning 1721-ca. 1830. A barracks or garrison constructed by 1721 by the Pejepscot Proprietors is represented by a large, stone central chimney foundation with two fire boxes. Recent discovery of an associated post hole demonstrates this to have been an earth-fast or post-in-the-ground structure. A formal fort measuring 70 ft. square was constructed at the site by the Province of Massachusetts in 1724. The existing 1721 barracks was utilized as a corner blockhouse, thereby dictating the orientation of the fort as a whole. The 1724-40 fort is defined, in part, by a stone perimeter wall that likely supported a series of structures. Inside the fort have been found additional stone foundation walls, a stone-lined cellar and cistern, 9 ft. in diameter and 2.2 m deep. The cistern's interior clay walls were fired to help prevent seepage. A long drain trench used to fill the cistern from roof runoff or from the fort well is present, as is an overflow drainage trench that exits under the fort perimeter wall. At the time of the fort's expansion in 1740 most if not all of the existing structures were taken down and cellars and the cistern were filled. These were replaced by a large log structure 36 ft. wide and of unknown length. This building likely served as the model for the existing 1754 main structure at Fort Western in Augusta. One end wall of this building was constructed on a portion of the 1724-40 perimeter stone wall, while other walls were supported by sills laid on discontinuous stones and bricks. The locations of a ramp entrance and separate doorway with stoop stone have also been defined. Inside the structure was a large central chimney with two hearths back-to-back and ovens, a shallow root cellar and deep cellar, both accessed via trap doors in the floor. The ground surface inside the fort adjacent to this building was paved with cobblestones in one area and with bricks in another. Two palisades surrounded the

enlarged fort, the inner one consisting of a solid vertical log wall, and the outer, 12 ft. away, consisting of vertical logs spaced to allow visibility beyond the fort, but not access. The 1740 fort was largely taken down at the time of decommissioning in 1755. Arrival of the John Parks family ca. 1776 resulted in construction of a large house within the former fort. Since the remains of the fort were all around, the Parks family proceeded to fill the 1740-55 fort cellars and covered many of the fort features with a layer of refuse until ca. 1830. A plethora of artifacts representing all four periods as well as prehistoric material has been found. Among these are glass trade beads and a cuprous cufflink bearing the insignia of the Free Masons established in England in 1717. A fundraising campaign is underway to support excavations in the spring and summer of 2013 before the site is destroyed by construction. It is anticipated that an archaeological field school through the University of Southern Maine will help in this effort.

Massachusetts

Reported by: Linda M. Ziegenbein

Replacement of Bridge R-12-004 (Royalston Bridge), Royalston

[Submitted by Kristen Heitert and PAL]

PAL recently completed intensive (locational) survey and site examination investigations for the proposed replacement of Bridge R-12-004 (Royalston Bridge) that carries Northeast Fitzwilliam Road over Lawrence Brook in Royalston, Massachusetts. The Royalston Bridge, constructed in 1936, is located on a stone and earthen dam that impounded Lawrence Brook to provide power to a mill complex that operated from the mid-1800s to the 1920s.

Historical maps and census data indicate that Seth Holman established a sawmill and gristmill at the site sometime before 1850. The complex, operated by Holman and his son, originally included woodworking machinery used to produce complete chairs. Eventually, the operation shifted to producing sawed and turned chairs, tubs, and pails, and a large variety of wooden ware for factories in Gardner, Winchendon, and elsewhere. In 1858, the Holmans sold the mill and their Greek-Revival style residence to Maynard Partridge who ran the business for ten years, producing lumber and turned chair stock. In 1876 the mill was converted to steam power, and in 1905 the mill and mill privilege were sold to business partners Willard H. Newton and Willie Davis, who replaced the old up-and-down sawmill with a circular blade. The original, heavy-timbered mill building, however, burned down in 1905. Newton and Davis rebuilt, using in part a building from a neighboring water privilege, and soon added a number of portable sawmills to their operation. These steam boilers and engines of these portable sawmills were fed with waste material and the resulting sawn products were transported to the mill, a process that greatly lowered costs. Newton and Davis continued to operate the mill until 1925 when Newton died

intestate, leaving the property to his son Leon. It is assumed that the mill was demolished shortly after Newton's death, and in 1935 all woodlots and other lands owned by Newton and Davis were seized and sold at auction to cover delinquent taxes.

Archaeological investigations of the site included mapping all visible remains of the former mill complex including the dry-laid stone walls associated with the mill foundation, dam, mill pond, and tailrace structures, followed by systematic test pit and unit excavations across the site. A cobble floor identified in proximity to the tailrace and wheel pit yielded melted glass and lead, and may be the remains of one of two possible structures on the site. The 50-centimeter-thick accumulation of cobbles could have supported heavier machinery utilized in a sawmill, and as such may be part of the stone floor or platform of the original sawmill that burned in 1905. Alternatively, the recovery of shaping knives typically used for turning machines also suggests that the cobble platform also may have been the location of the turning mill that was added to the 1906 sawmill complex that was rebuilt at the location of the earlier mill.

An annotated postcard of the mill complex from 1906 provides important information to fill out the preliminary picture of mill operations as interpreted from the field investigations. The postcard depicts the "new" sawmill erected shortly after the original sawmill burned. Visible in the photograph at the east end of the mill is a tall stack, possibly for the steam boiler that powered the mill. The postcard clearly shows that there was an opening in the dam before the construction of the Royalston Bridge in 1936. This opening housed the gate structure that regulated the water level in the mill pond. The postcard also shows what appear to be wooden "bumpers" facing the dam on both sides of the gate structure that would have provided protection to the masonry of the gate structure and the face of the dam.



Photo 1. *Ca. 1907 postcard showing Newton-Davis Mill complex from across mill pond.*

Based on preliminary research and the results of field investigations, the mill complex, designated the Newton-Davis Mill Site, is a significant archaeological resource and is potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, at the local level, under Criteria A and C. Under Criterion A, the mill contributes to our understanding of the broad trends of the sawmilling industry in northern Worcester County and its association with the furniture making industry in nearby Gardner. Under Criterion C, the site also may be eligible as a complex "that embod(ies) the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent(s) the work of a master, or that possess(es) high artistic values, or that represent(s) a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction."



Photo 2. *Cobble floor feature, Newton-Davis Mill Site.*



Photo 3. *"Shaper knives" recovered from cobble floor, Newton-Davis Mill Site*

Rhode Island

Reported by: Kristen Heitert

Excavations at the ca. 1750 Dr. Reuben Mason House, Gloucester

[Submitted by Ross K. Harper]

Archaeological and Historical Services, Inc. (AHS) recently completed a Phase I(c) Intensive Archaeological Survey and Phase II Site Examination along a 1 ½ -mile stretch of U.S. Route 44 (Putnam Pike) in the Chepachet Village Historic District in Gloucester, Rhode Island. Putnam Pike historically was known as the “Great Country Road” and was a main connector between northwestern Rhode Island and northeastern Connecticut (as it still is today). Colonial settlement in that corner of the state began in the early eighteenth century, at which time the area was part of Providence; in 1730/31, Gloucester, Smithfield, and Scituate were established as independent towns. Farming was the main occupation of the inhabitants during that period, along with various water-powered enterprises including sawmills, gristmills, fulling mills, and a triphammer shop.

During the archaeological survey, a total of eleven historical sites was discovered and several previously identified sites were tested. Among the previously identified sites was the ca. 1750 Dr. Reuben Mason house situated at the foot of Acote’s Hill and adjacent to a large cemetery. In 1774, Dr. Mason purchased the house and established a practice to serve the medical needs of the people of Gloucester. When the Revolutionary War broke out, Dr. Mason served as an army surgeon in General William West’s Brigade of the Rhode Island militia. After the war he had a long and productive practice until his death in 1799, after which his son, James, took over as the town’s physician.

In 1842, Chepachet Village became the headquarters of Thomas W. Dorr. Dorr was a vocal champion for greater equality in voting rights, and his strident stance on the issue led to the



Photo 1. *The ca. 1750 Dr. Reuben Mason house, Chepachet Village, Gloucester, Rhode Island.*

conflict known as “Dorr’s Rebellion.” After an unsuccessful attempt to take over the state arsenal in Providence, some 700 of Dorr’s men retreated to Acote’s Hill and began building fortifications. The Reuben Mason house was designated as a field hospital. When the Dorrites heard that the Governor had dispatched 2,000 armed men, all but 150 dispersed. By the time the militia arrived, all the Dorrites were gone, and Dorr himself had fled to Connecticut. The next year Dorr was extradited to Rhode Island, tried and convicted of treason, and sentenced to life imprisonment with hard labor. In response to an outpouring of public support, however, he was released after just one year. His civil rights were restored in 1851, and his conviction formally reversed in 1854, the year he died. Despite the rebellion’s anticlimatic end, the principles behind Dorr’s Rebellion were vindicated when a new constitution for Rhode Island went into effect that gave any adult male, regardless of race, the right to vote provided he could pay a poll tax of \$1. Today, the Gloucester Heritage Society owns the Dr. Reuben Mason house, and members are currently conducting a momentous restoration of the two and a half-story and center-chimney colonial, which will be used for a variety of purposes, including a Dorr’s Rebellion Museum.

Only a remnant of the original house lot survives as much of it has been disturbed by driveway construction, utility installations, and repairs to the foundation. Other disturbances are related to past roadwork, landscaping, erosion, and an encroaching cemetery boundary. Thus, the testing offered an opportunity to explore some of the last undisturbed remnants of the yard. The archaeological testing included eight (8) 1-x-1-meter units, one (1) 1-x-1.5-meter unit, and six (6) shovel test pits.

The units located 4–6 meters from the front of the house proved to be especially informative, with each characterized by multiple soil strata of varying thicknesses. The uppermost soil stratum comprised a dark brown loamy topsoil that yielded the majority of the 2,256 artifacts recovered from the site. The materials date from the eighteenth through twentieth centuries, and include early ceramic types such as delftware, white salt-glazed stoneware, English yellow slipware, Westerwald, and debased Rouen faience. The highly fragmentary nature of the ceramic assemblage suggests heavy trampling by people and livestock across the front of the house; consequently, little specific information regarding vessel forms and activities (dairying, tea-drinking, food storage) could be gleaned from the assemblage. The low density of household trash across the front yard also indicates that there was no midden in that area, and that refuse likely was tossed out behind the house in a trash disposal pattern typical for rural New England households during that period. Because Reuben Mason was a doctor who practiced in his own home, he also may have wanted to present a cleaner and more hygienic-looking landscape to his arriving patients (at least relative to eighteenth-century standards). Among the more intriguing artifacts recovered from the upper topsoil were a European flint strike-a-light, a fragment

of a decorated brass knee buckle frame, a pewter one-piece button, a red clay marble, five slate writing board fragments, and a 1722 British Hibernia halfpenny.

The upper topsoil stratum capped one to three layers of cellar ejecta consisting of thick bands of redeposited upper and lower subsoils. The few artifacts recovered from the cellar ejecta consisted of debris associated with the ca. 1750 house construction including broken green and blue-green window glass fragments, mortar, brick fragments, hand wrought nails, and, most surprisingly, a complete iron hoe. Because the hoe was found in the cellar ejecta stratum, it can be confidently associated with the construction date of the house and likely was used to grade the soils around the completed building before being discarded or lost. The hoe is currently undergoing conservation in AHS's laboratory, and is important in that it is among a small number these types of tools to be provenienced to a specific time and place in New England.

Below the cellar ejecta, a 3–6-centimeter thick very fine sandy black loam was identified. This compressed, buried stratum was the remains of the original ground surface dating to the construction of the house in 1750, and overlaid intact B1, B2, and C subsoil strata, indicating that the house lot had never been plowed. Moreover, the lot evidently was never occupied by an earlier house as only one artifact, a Staffordshire brown stoneware sherd, was recovered from the buried topsoil horizon. The relict yard surface did yield, however, a prodigious amount of wood charcoal. This charcoal appears to be evidence of lot clearing through fire, a technique commonly used by Yankee homesteaders before house construction. By burning, the lot was opened up and the resulting wood ash could be collected and processed into potash or used to enrich the soil for the first year's crop, typically corn (maize). A comparative example to the Reuben Mason house findings is the ca. 1745 standing Cady-Copp house in nearby Putnam, Connecticut, where an artifact-rich topsoil, followed by strata of cellar ejecta, an intact Buried A topsoil and intact subsoils (B1, B2, and C Horizons) also were found in the yard (Harper and Clouette 2010).

The excavations also explored a possible well feature that appears in early photographs of the house. A number of large, dressed stones were found, although all were displaced within a matrix of disturbed soils. Modern debris was found at 80 centimeters below surface, indicating impacts to the area by heavy machinery, probably when the well was being cut down, filled, and buried during an earlier episode of road construction. One of the larger dressed stones, measuring 32-x-12 inches (8-x-30 centimeters) had a curve to one face characteristic of well curb stones such as those that were placed at the uppermost surface of wells. Two post holes dating from the early to mid-nineteenth century also were found in the yard, and may be associated with a fence line that appears in early photographs of the property.

Although relatively small in scale, the “roadside archaeology” at the Dr. Reuben Mason house contributes to our general understanding of historic house lot use, household artifact assemblages, tools and historic house construction, and yard soil stratigraphy in New England. Artifacts from the excavations will be used in future exhibits at the Dr. Reuben Mason House Museum.

References:

Harper, Ross K. and Bruce Clouette
2010 *Cady-Copp Homestead. Site No. 116-22 Putnam, Connecticut.* Commission of Culture and Tourism, The Last Green Valley. Hartford, Connecticut



Photo 2. A 1-x-1.5 meter unit excavated in front of the Dr. Reuben Mason house. Soils include: (A) topsoil; (B) cellar ejecta; (C) buried ca. 1750 yard surface; and (D) intact B1, B2, and C subsoils. Also seen is the negative of a bisected posthole feature (E), probably from an early to mid-nineteenth-century fence.



Photo 3. Iron hoe found within a matrix of cellar ejecta soil in the front yard of the Dr. Reuben Mason house, evidently lost when the house was under construction ca. 1750. Maximum size is 8-x-5 inches (20.3-x-12.7 cm.).

New York State
Reported by: Lois Huey

Cohoes Mill Archaeology

Public Archaeology Facility (Binghamton University) conducted excavations in the city of Cohoes, north of Albany. The project involved a bridge replacement and examination of the 19th-century mill race. Using walkovers, mapping of surface features, shovel tests, and backhoe trenches, the work established the way the raceway was constructed and its route under the street and by a parking lot.

Albany Seventeenth Century Finds

Louis Berger Group conducted both mechanical and hand excavations in the middle of the city of Albany. They uncovered pitch-pine posts, a hand-wrought awl, brick, and a wood drain capped with flagstones as well as a more modern cement and brick drain. Dendrochronological analysis showed the wooden posts dated to the late 17th century. Each post was completely removed and the locations recorded. Monitoring followed.

More City Work: Binghamton

Public Archaeology Facility excavated an entire urban block that contained industrial and residential properties dating to the 19th and 20th centuries. Under the asphalt, features were found: portions of house foundations, outbuildings, cisterns, a well, a privy as well as many artifacts dating to the two centuries.

Underwater Ship Finds in Newburgh

Hartgen Archeological Associates did documentary research and monitoring work at the former Gas Plant site on the Newburgh Hudson River waterfront. Three vessels were found and recorded: possible remains of a tug dating to the late 19th century, a barge coated with coal tar, probably used by nearby coal companies, and a double-ended ferry manufactured from riveted sections of plate steel. This one probably originated in NYC. The third vessel was left in place due to its size. The Maritime Museum in Kingston, NY, accepted the marine-type artifacts found.

New Jersey
Reported by: Lynn Rakos

Trenton Makes Pottery: The Stoneware of James Rhodes, 1774-1784

[Submitted by Richard Hunter, Hunter Research, Inc., Trenton, NJ]

From mid-September 2011 through late January 2013, the Trenton Museum Society will present an exhibit at Ellarslie, the Trenton City Museum, highlighting the stoneware pottery of James Rhodes, one of the few known American stoneware potters of the colonial period.

The existence of James Rhodes and his distinctive wares has come to light over the past decade following the archaeological discovery of two kiln sites within the City of Trenton and some painstaking historical research into colonial documents. First, in the spring of 2000, a pottery kiln was discovered on the Lamberton waterfront during the construction of the Route 29 tunnel. Some 13,000 sherds and pieces of kiln furniture (items used to help in stacking pots in the kiln during firing) were retrieved from this site. The kiln is still intact, buried beneath the tunnel roadway. In 2005, a second kiln was found a mile from the first in the backyard of the Eagle Tavern property on South Broad Street during the City's restoration of this local landmark. Hundreds more sherds were recovered. Research into documents and analysis of the artifacts established a link between the two sites. It is now believed that James Rhodes operated the waterfront kiln from 1774 until 1777, working for the prominent Philadelphia merchant, William Richards. Then, from 1778 until his death in 1784, Rhodes ran his own pottery-making business on a property adjoining the Eagle Tavern site (which later became part of the tavern property). Despite our knowledge of James Rhodes's activities over the ten-year period he was in Trenton, virtually nothing is known of his earlier life.

The exhibit will explain the discovery of the kilns and the archival research, but will focus mostly on displaying the extraordinary variety of grey salt-glazed stoneware products made by James Rhodes. Many of the items on display are fragmentary, a result of their archaeological provenance. However, among the reassembled vessels, visitors can view plates, dishes, bowls, cups and saucers, tankards, jugs and pitchers, coffee pots, tea pots and ointment pots, along with numerous pieces of kiln furniture. Rhodes employed some signature decorative motifs that distinguish his products from those of other potters – floral designs and rough geometric patterns, executed in naturalistic style in painted cobalt blue – but perhaps his most engaging trait was the quirky application of molded faces onto the shoulders of some of his jugs and pitchers.

This exhibit is being curated by Richard Hunter, President of Hunter Research, Inc., a Trenton-based historical and archaeological consulting firm, and Museum Society board member; Rebecca White, Archaeological Laboratory Director, URS Corporation; and Nancy Hunter, formerly manager of Gallery 125 in downtown Trenton.

Ed Lenik's "Ramapough Mountain Indians" Takes First Prize

[Submitted by Ed Lenik, Ringwood, NJ]

The North Jersey Highlands Historical Society (NJHHS), a Ringwood Manor State Park Friends group, is pleased to announce that "Ramapough Mountain Indians: People, Places and Cultural Traditions," written by archaeologist Edward J. Lenik, was awarded First Prize in the book category of the

2011 Kevin M. Hale Annual Publications Awards from the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey. The criteria for the award are: Significance of research, Time and effort that went into work, Quality of sources, How much does this add to our knowledge of the subject?, Clarity of presentation, Quality of illustrations, Editing.

“Ramapough Mountain Indians: People, Places and Cultural Traditions,” released in October 2011, is a companion volume to “Indians in the Ramapos: Survival, Persistence and Presence,” written by Mr. Lenik and published in 1999 by NJHHS. The new book was edited and designed by Nancy L. Gibbs, NJHHS secretary. In this volume, Lenik draws on history and archaeology to discuss people, places legends, stories and objects that testify “We are Still Here.”

Edward J. Lenik is a regional archaeologist whose research interest firmly is placed on the human history of the northeastern United States and Atlantic Canada. He is a past president of the Archaeological Society of New Jersey. He is the author of many books including a series on Indian Rock Art in the northeast and the well-known IRON MINE TRAILS from the NY/NJ Trails Conference.

The North Jersey Highlands Historical Society, founded in 1954, is dedicated to collecting and communicating the history of the North Jersey Highlands region from prehistoric Native America to the present. The League of Historical Societies of New Jersey, founded in 1966, is composed of over two hundred twenty organizations. Most of the organizations in the league are local historical societies, but it also includes statewide societies and related institutions, county agencies, museums, libraries and archival groups, historic preservation agencies, and a variety of other organizations.

Maryland

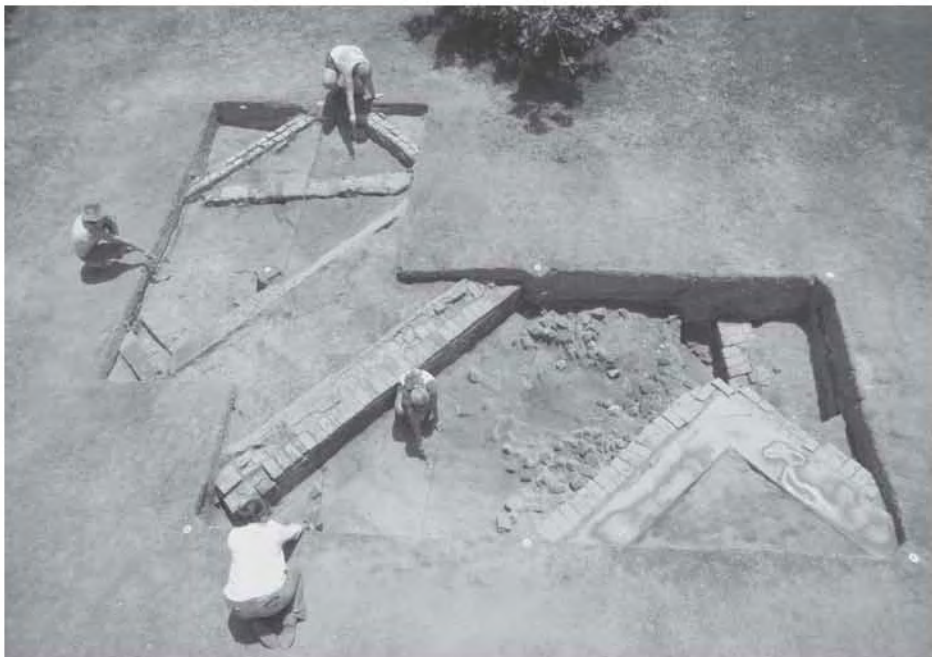
Reported by: Silas D. Hurry

St. Mary’s City

This summer, the HSMC archaeological field school was again investigating the Leonard Calvert’s House site. For the past four years, we have explored the yards around the building, tracing fences, discovering outbuildings and exploring Pope’s Fort, a 1645 fortification built around the house by rebels during the English Civil War. This summer’s work was focused on answering specific architectural questions about the building.

Excavations were conducted under and between the foundations of two 1840s era buildings, a smokehouse and a dairy, associated with the Brome Plantation, established on the site in the 19th century. After removing the brick floor of the smokehouse, we were surprised to find a portion of the Calvert House brick foundation preserved directly under the sand in which the smokehouse bricks were bedded. Exposing a 10 ft. long segment of the feature, we gained new insights into the sandstone and brick foundation. Perhaps the most important discovery was that the 17th-century ground surface was not flat but sloped towards the west. The current flat surface is a result of 19th-century landscaping.

Excavations on the site in the 1980s demonstrated the presence of two cellars in this area but did not fully define them. The earliest cellar was termed the “burned clay cellar” and was easily identified by its bright red clay walls. This feature was created by digging the hole, filling it with brush and wood, then lighting it on fire. For obvious reasons, this was one of the earliest features on the site. The burning hardened the clay walls, making them more stable and water resistant.



Photo, left: *Foundations of the Leonard Calvert House overlaid with foundations of 19th century Brome outbuildings.*

In previous work, the cellar was only known from being exposed in the walls of 1930s pipe trenches.

This summer, we were able to show that the cellar was square, 10 ft. on a side, and only about 3.5 ft. deep. It was intentionally filled-in early in the occupation of the site, perhaps in the 1650s. The cellar fills had few artifacts and almost all of those related to the Prehistoric Period. However, on top of the cellar was a layer of ash and charcoal from the chimneys of the house and included a number of artifacts which were declining in popularity during the 1650s, including the handle of a seal topped spoon and a large number of molded Dutch pipe stems and terra cotta pipe fragments.

The other cellar was brick-lined and located on the western end of the structure. Previous excavations showed there was an entrance to the cellar at the southwest corner of the foundation. This summer, we defined the cellar as being 16 ft. by 8 ft. and were surprised to find that the internal wall was laid in Flemish bond. The rest of the cellar was laid in English bond. The cellar was 5 ft. deep and had a brick floor. Most importantly, the builders' trench for the cellar cut through both the original house foundation and other related features, indicating that it was a latter addition. The use of Flemish bond suggests that this was relatively late in the occupation of the site.

Saint Leonard, Statewide, and National

The Maryland Archaeological Conservation (MAC) Laboratory is pleased to announce the Gloria S. King Research Fellowship in Archaeology. The MAC Lab is an archaeological research, conservation, and curation facility located at Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum, the State Museum of Archaeology, in southern Maryland. The MAC Lab serves as a clearinghouse for archaeological collections recovered from land-based and underwater projects conducted by State and Federal agencies and other researchers throughout Maryland and is currently home to 8 million artifacts representing over 12,000 years of human occupation in Maryland. All of these collections are available for research, education, and exhibit purposes to students, scholars, museum curators, and educators, and the purpose of the fellowship is to encourage research in the collections.

Eligibility: Students, academics, or professionals (employees of the Maryland Historical Trust and St. Mary's College of Maryland are not eligible); any subject in Maryland archaeology; must use collections at the MAC Lab; must be in residence full time in the MAC Lab; must provide a presentation of research to museum staff members at the end of the fellowship.

Application process: A 1000 word proposal (no more than 4 typed pages, double-spaced) outlining the problem and the collections in the MAC Lab to be used, plus a CV plus a letter of recommendation.

Stipend: Stipend to be \$500 a week, with a minimum two week stay and maximum 5 week stay. Stipend to be paid upon completion of fellowship for stay of two weeks; a fellowship of greater length will be paid in two installments: 50% at the midway point of the fellowship and 50% upon completion of fellowship. On-site housing may be available for fellows, dependent on scheduling of fellowship.

Gloria Shafer was born on January 6, 1931 in Baltimore, Maryland. She spent summers as a child on her family's farm near Chestertown, Maryland, and attended Washington College. In 1955, she and her husband, George M. King, started a small excavating construction business in Anne Arundel County. She had a lifelong interest in Maryland history and archaeology and contributed funds and services to individuals and organizations supporting this interest. Mrs. King died on May 31, 2004 and this fellowship in her memory recognizes her many contributions to the preservation of the past.

Applications must be received at the address below by January 15th, 2013. Projects awarded a fellowship can begin as early as March 15th.

Please direct any questions to Patricia Samford at psamford@mdp.state.md.us and send application materials to: Patricia Samford, Director, Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory, Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, 10515 Mackall Road, St. Leonard, Maryland 20685.

Diagnostic Artifacts in Maryland Website Update

The Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory (MAC Lab) at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum continues to update their online research and identification tool – the Diagnostic Artifacts in Maryland website (www.jefpat.org/diagnostic/index.htm).

MAC Lab Federal Curator Sara Rivers-Cofield continues to grow her Small Finds section, featuring “miscellaneous” artifacts typically recovered in small numbers on archaeological sites. Over the last eighteen months, she has added sections on spurs, religious artifacts, and bridle bosses. Because published information about these objects can be difficult to find, our 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, we plan to add new categories to the site.

In the Post-Colonial Ceramics section, entries on some less common ceramics available between the American Revolution and the early 20th century have been added. The various web pages provide general descriptions and dating of these ceramics and then offer reference sources that can be read for more in-depth information. White granite/ironstone, yellow ware, Rockingham, sprig molding, decal decoration, white felspathic stoneware, Japanese “geisha girl” porcelain, and

alphabet wares have been added to the previously-established categories of edged, painted, printed, dipped, and sponged wares. New post-colonial ceramic entries currently in the works include Maryland-produced stoneware and Continental European hard paste porcelain.

The MAC Lab is also expanding the scope of the entire site; currently under production are Maryland projectile points and marked white clay tobacco pipes. If you have not done so, please bookmark this site and come back to it often!

Chesapeake Bay and Delaware

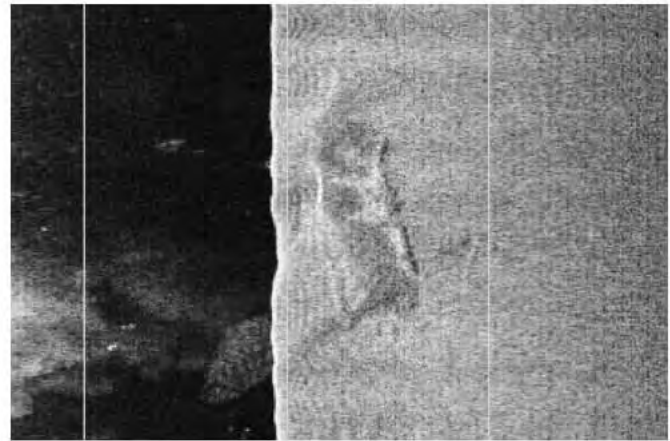
During September and October 2012, the Archaeological Society of Delaware's Maritime Chapter and the Institute of Maritime History plan to continue their underwater reconnaissance in the Delaware River for several American warships and one British warship that were sunk in 1777 near Philadelphia. The work will support the efforts of *Andrew Doria* – The First Salute, Inc., to build a replica of the brigantine *Andrew Doria*, one of the vessels lost. She was one of the first four vessels purchased by Congress for the Continental Navy in 1775. Work will be coordinated with the State of New Jersey and the U.S. Naval History and Heritage Command.

On the trip from Roper's home port at Tall Timbers MD to the Delaware, ASD and IMH will also reconnoiter 88 possible shipwrecks in the Chesapeake Bay for the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT). Five of the sites are in the Potomac, and 83 are in the Bay. Some of them have been scanned by sonar in prior transits, but only a few have been dived and mapped. The sites lie along 147 miles of transit from Tall Timbers to the C&D Canal. Site data will be reported to MHT. On Roper's trip back to Maryland in October, targets selected by MHT will be dived by ASD and IMH volunteers, manually mapped, and scanned with underwater metal detectors.

In October ASD and IMH will also collaborate with the University of Delaware to map a wreck believed to be the *William R. Grace*, a three-masted ship that went ashore at Cape Henlopen in September 1889, and with the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs to search for War of 1812 wrecks near the Mispillion River.

The project will engage IMH's dive boat Roper. Scanning will employ Roper's hard-mounted sidescan sonar. When conditions and manpower allow we will also use a Marine Sonic Technologies "Splash Proof PC" sonar on loan from the National Park Service. The Marine Magnetics "Explorer" magnetometer that was used in the first part of the project in April and May 2012 is not currently operational, but we will use it if it is repaired in time.

Participation in diving requires the usual legal waivers plus the diver's agreement not to disturb sites, not to move or remove anything, and not to tell anyone outside the project where we went or what we found. "No take, no talk."



Sidescan sonar images, taken in prior transits, show a few of the Chesapeake sites on the target list. This site is low, flat, and probably very old.



Sidescan image of the William R. Grace wreck was taken by Dr. Art Trembanis and his colleagues at U. Delaware.

We will meet divers at the most convenient port. Each day of diving might involve from one to three sites, depending on location, depth, and complexity. Divers must be adequately trained for the conditions that will be encountered. Chesapeake diving involves limited visibility and moderate currents. Delaware diving involves zero visibility and strong currents. Dives will be timed for minimal current.

For more information, email david.howe@maritimehistory.org or phone 302-222-4721.

Eastern Shore

With a recently rediscovered hothouse to investigate at the Wye House plantation and a new community-driven project down the road in Easton, Maryland, the Archaeology in Annapolis project has been working to expand our knowledge of plantation gardening traditions and to start an archaeology with public responsibility in a community new to us.

In May 2012, Beth Pruitt, Amanda Tang, and John Blair—current and previous Archaeology in Annapolis graduate stu-

dents—conducted excavations at Wye House before the start of the University of Maryland summer field school season. The focus of the excavations was on the outside of the property's still-standing 18th century greenhouse. The analysis of pollen remains from the project's previous work at the greenhouse done by Heather Trigg and her team of paleoethnobotanists at the University of Massachusetts, Boston's Fiske Institute, has yielded information about the usage of the standing greenhouse and its slave quarter over time, including its cultivation of tropical, local—wild and domesticated—and comestible plants.

The 2012 excavations concentrated on the foundations of a ruined and forgotten greenhouse structure detected by Bryan Haley's ground penetrating radar analyses. Haley's report showed what looked to be the foundations of a 16x16 foot structure to the southeast of the present-day greenhouse. The 1789 federal direct tax record, which contains a description of each building on the Wye Plantation, lists two greenhouses and one hothouse. The hothouse is recorded as being "16 x16 feet, 1 Story Brick with 4 wind[ows]." A ledger entry from 1785-1787 additionally notes the employment of the workers to build a hothouse (Lloyd Papers 1785-1787).

By placing two excavation units in the area to the southeast of the present-day greenhouse, excavators found intact a small portion of the northern brick wall of the hothouse. Directly underneath this wall were two post holes, indications of another structure. The researchers also took soil samples that will be analyzed for plant remains in order to add to our understanding of plant-use at Wye House.

The plant family that includes pineapples (Bromeliaceae) did not appear in any of the previous pollen samples analyzed from the greenhouse. However, the books in Lloyd's library—including *The Hot-House Gardener*, or the General Culture of the Pine-apple by John Abercrombie—suggest an interest in pineapples and indicate that a hothouse could be used to cultivate such fruit that required particular care. This lost-and-now-found hothouse, which seems to have been used in conjunction with the still-standing greenhouse, opens up new opportunities to examine the plants ordered by Edward Lloyd IV, the owner of Wye House.

After the 2012 field school came to a successful completion, Archaeology in Annapolis graduate students Benjamin Skolnik, Beth Pruitt, and Kathryn Deeley, accompanied by several freshly graduated students of the field school, moved to a publicly-accessible neighborhood site on The Hill in Easton. The historic neighborhood, which may well be the oldest documented African-American community in the United States, brought together the Frederick Douglass Honor Society, Historic Easton Incorporated, preservationists from Morgan State University, and archaeologists from the University of Maryland, in addition to community members.

On a corner lot in this historic neighborhood stands the "Home of the Buffalo Soldier," probably built around the 1880s, with

its weathered façade. As the excavators worked, neighbors gathered on their porches and watched, asking about the history and the archaeological finds. Every day, people came and looked into the ever-deepening units. The visitors told the archaeologists about the house as they remembered it—the house where a relative lived, the yard where they shot marbles as children, the place associated with a real "black cowboy." These stories gave our work weight, including the dozen or so marbles found in the side yard.

The excavations were important in terms of beginning conversations about the history of this neighborhood, the Buffalo Soldier Sgt. William Gardner, and his family, who lived in the house. It was important for the project to generate stories and to listen to people talking, and that goal was certainly met. Neighbors told each other about the dig. Congregations talked about it at church on Sundays. Parents introduced their children to a history that is local, relevant, and unlikely to be found in their Maryland school lessons. The local Fox News station reported on it; NPR's WAMU aired a story on it; and an artist came to paint it.

Those interested in the dig were curious about the history of the site, and if the artifacts were dated to Gardner's time. It is difficult to connect specific artifacts with historical figures; however, there was a brass button recovered in one of the yard excavation units that would have belonged to the uniform of an officer in the United States army between 1850-1900. The back of the button reads "Scovill Mf'g Co. Waturbury," a manufacturing company from Connecticut, who used that particular label for their buttons between 1850-1860. While there is no way to definitively say that this button belonged to Gardner, there are not many pieces of evidence that could create a stronger tie to an individual in the past.

With these two excavations, Archaeology in Annapolis has continued to explore the rich history and heritage of Maryland's Eastern Shore. We hope to continue to uncover its diverse past and to bring our excavations into the public sphere.

For more information, contact: Kathryn Deeley, Beth Pruitt, and/or Benjamin Skolnik, Laboratory Directors, Archaeology in Annapolis, Department of Anthropology, University of Maryland, College Park, 1111 Woods Hall, College Park, MD 20742 email- kdeeley@umd.edu, epruitt@umd.edu, or bskolnik@umd.edu, phone- (301) 405-1429

References:

Haley, Bryan S.
2009 *A Geophysical Survey of Portions of the Wye House Grounds*, Talbot County, Maryland. University of Maryland Foundation.

Lloyd Papers, MS 2001, box 15, volume 7. *Lloyd Ledger (Loose) 1770-1791*. Maryland 1785-1787 Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland.

Montgomery County

Time Team America, a PBS series centered on archaeological investigation, selected the Josiah Henson Special Park (Department of Parks, Montgomery County) in Bethesda, Maryland, for one of its four shows to be released the summer of 2013. Josiah Henson Special Park is located on the old Isaac Riley Farm in North Bethesda where the Reverend Josiah Henson lived and worked as a slave from 1795 to 1830. This park is a historic resource of local, state, national and international significance because of its association with Reverend Henson, whose 1849 autobiography inspired Harriet Beecher Stowe's landmark novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

In mid-August, the Time Team America (TTA) archaeological team descended on the site in a flurry of people, cameras, and media buzz. Call times began at 7:00 am with two camera teams at the ready, rolling over sixteen scenes a day. Montgomery County Park volunteers and staff, and graduate students from the University of Maryland and American University, teamed up with the Time Team talent to investigate as much as possible in three days. Despite the carnival atmosphere (and maybe even because of it) a lot of serious data was generated during this short time.

Informed by the previous archaeological investigations, historic maps, oral histories and aerial photographs, the TTA crew expanded the archaeological data at the site exponentially. Time Team's contribution at the site was guided by the geophysical team who worked tirelessly employing four different methods of non-invasive techniques: ground penetrating radar, magnetometry, and soil resistivity and conductivity. The archaeological crew recovered over 6,000 artifacts while ground truthing the geophysical anomalies. Interesting features uncovered during the investigations included a trash midden, concentrations of artifacts and possible foundations for outbuildings. Of particular significance is the discovery of three separate earthen floors in the log kitchen. The investigation is ongoing and includes the analysis of the artifactual, stratigraphic and geophysical data. Time Team America's contribution will enhance further archaeological investigations at the Josiah Henson site.

For more information about the Josiah Henson site and other sites in the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning, Department of Parks, Montgomery County: www.HistoryintheParks.org

Find out more about *Time Team America*: www.pbs.org/opb/timeteam/ and on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/timeteamamerica>

Virginia

Reported by: David A. Brown

Jamestown People to 1800: Landowners, Public Officials, Minorities, and Native Leaders

[Submitted by Martha McCartney]

Historian Martha McCartney's new book of historical biographies was recently released. Entitled *Jamestown People to 1800: Landowners, Public Officials, Minorities, and Native Leaders*, the book is available through www.genealogical.com and www.amazon.com. The text w/index consists of 514 pages and includes three maps by Gregory J. Brown. This book represents an expansion of the Jamestown Island research I did for the NPS and my book on early immigrants (through 1635). But it also includes another 1,000 people who came to the capital city to conduct business or participate (voluntarily or involuntarily) in meetings of the governor's council or the assembly. Just for fun, I've included biographies of some of the known participants in Bacon's Rebellion and of course I've included Native leaders, Africans, and African Americans. I have a chapter that provides an overview of Jamestown Island's history and one that addresses the evolution of Virginia's counties through 1699.

James Anderson's Armoury Site Excavation

[Submitted by Meredith Poole]

Colonial Williamsburg archaeologists are excavating the west property boundary at James Anderson's Blacksmith Shop and Public Armoury, a 1778-1780 military repair and supply facility--and Colonial Williamsburg's current reconstruction project. Much of the summer has been spent establishing the location, and sorting out the sequence, of a persistent fence-line. Though carefully marked, excavation has proved that this boundary was rather loosely observed. On the opposite side (on property beyond the Armoury's legal limits) archaeologists have uncovered a privy (confirmed through the overwhelming presence of rubus seeds), and a large pit feature, both of which contain Armoury debris... clinker, gunflints, and a wide variety iron objects in various stages of completion.

The pit feature is the first of two unusual discoveries. Slopesided, flat-bottomed, about 4' deep, and measuring 12' east-west, it was initially interpreted as a sawpit, dug for the preparation of materials during the Armoury's 1778 construction. Efforts to discover its north-south dimension, however, have cast some doubt on this interpretation. Though the excavation season will end before this pit feature is completely excavated, probing suggests that it may measure 20' in length. It may still prove to be a sawpit designed to accommodate a crew of sawyers. The robust dimensions, however, leave open the possibility that it served another, as yet undiscovered, purpose.

Six 18th-century dog burials have also been discovered in this small excavation at the south end of the Armoury lot. Some of these dogs were buried in pits; others were placed in rectangular graves. The dogs are mature, but young individuals. They are currently being analyzed in the Zooarchaeology lab. The Armoury excavation will close for the season in late Octo-

ber and will resume in 2013. Additional information about the Armoury reconstruction project (including ongoing archaeology), can be found at <http://research.history.org/armoury>.

Archaeological Discovery at Madison Farm Complex

[Submitted by Matthew B. Reeves, mreeves@montpelier.org]
During the 2012 season, the Montpelier Archaeology Department has been excavating a set of quarters for field slaves within a larger late 18th/early 19th century farm complex site. These excavations are part of a larger research project funded by NEH to examine three different sets of slave quarters at James Madison's plantation dating to the early 19th century. In 2010 we excavated the Stable Quarter (a site of a log home occupied by enslaved artisans)(or more information, see the following blog: <http://montpelier.org/blog/?p=3148>) and in 2011 excavated the South Yard (a set of frame duplexes that housed the enslaved domestics at Montpelier)(For more information on the South Yard excavations, see blog: <http://montpelier.org/blog/?p=4575>). During the 2012 and 2013 seasons we are focusing on a set of slave quarters related to the Madison-era farm complex. The site covers over 15 acres at Montpelier and was abandoned in the 1840s following the Madison family sale of the property. Up until the present day, the former farm complex has remained in pasture and has never been plowed. With the exceptional preservation in this area, archaeological excavations have revealed shallow, well-defined features.

The site we worked on earlier in the 2012 season was first discovered during surveys in 2004 and 2005. These initial excavations revealed a borrow pit filled with domestic trash. This borrow pit suggested a log structure (as the clay would be needed for daub) with domestic artifacts indicating use as a slave quarter. Excavations carried out between April through July of this year (with the help of the James Madison University and the State University of New York at Plattsburgh field schools) have uncovered a set of structures that have a very complex history beyond that of a domestic site. This history

has three phases: initially the buildings were constructed as a tobacco barn complex, then being reused as a residence for field slaves, and finally being repurposed as a threshing machine complex. This detailed site history was preserved in the undisturbed layers present in the site just below the topsoil.

Two structures within the farm complex were excavated and are each 16x16 feet and separated by only five feet. These structures were outlined by a foot-wide trench containing a burnt clay bottom with ash. Evidence suggests the burnt trench was designed to receive the bottom-most sill for a log structure. In pondering the reason for a burnt trench for the bottom log, there is potential the brick-like surface drew water away from the log to prevent rot. The ash would have also helped in this process by deterring insect infestations. The fact that there was such care taken to install the bottom-most log in a specially prepared trench suggests a structure with more intensive construction techniques than a log home inhabited by an enslaved family. Usually laborer's homes were regarded as expendable, and even the slightly better-built log home we excavated at the Stable Quarter in 2011 did not have evidence for such a trench (see <http://montpelier.org/blog/?p=3148>). While the range of ceramics found across the site and in the borrow pit (which provided evidence that the structures were log) suggested the site was used as a residence, the structure evidence pointed to the buildings beginning life as agricultural buildings. In addition, setting the log into the surface of the surrounding yard is typical of buildings used for smoke curing. This hypothesis was further supported by features we found within the buildings.

Within both of these structures, one of the first features we located during the early part of the season was dense stone rubble within the first structure. While it first appeared to be a floor for the structure, upon excavating this stone concentration, we discovered that it lay atop a clay fill that in turn rested atop a shallow pit that had evidence for burning. This depression within the structure likely served as a fire pit and

Figure 1. *Photograph looking to the south (away from the Montpelier visitor center) with three structures and borrow pit outlined. The tents in the far background mark the main quarter for field slaves that we will be excavating for the rest of this season and into 2013.*



suggested these structures could have been used for curing tobacco. The central fire pit located in the middle structure contained bone and domestic materials that suggested the pit was used for cooking prior to being filled. Such a fire pit located in the center of a home was not out of the question for the time period, but seemed to represent a re-use of these structures following their use as tobacco barns. The final phase of use for the structure and its ultimate demise came from an intensive analysis of artifacts found at the beginning of the season.

Throughout the season we had been locating iron machinery parts across the site that we assumed might be of mid-to-late-19th century origin (post-Madison occupation). This was in part due to the earlier assumption that these were domestic sites, but also in part to where they were found—resting on occupation surface at the transition to the topsoil that had formed since the site was abandoned in the 1840s. Upon examination, these iron implements appeared similar to teeth that are used in threshing machines. In addition, these teeth all appear to be hand-made and date before the 1850s when such parts would be made of cast iron. Examination of Montpelier’s records revealed that Madison owned a horse-driven threshing machine. (In 1798, Madison writes imploring Jefferson to visit to see his new machine designed on plans devised by Thomas C. Martin.) Found in association with these teeth are iron bearings for a turning mechanism and bushings for a circular wheel—all in character for a spinning mechanism that would bear a large amount of force (such as a threshing machine—see Figure 4). It was not until we began finding these parts in post holes within the structure that we began to realize the critical link between the machine parts of the structure we had located.

The link to the structure came when we began locating these same machine parts in two post molds within the structure. The post holes in question are a pair set close against the western wall of the central structure. (See Figures 1 and 3.) Connecting these posts was a trench, and these posts appeared tied into the wall of the building by a cross brace. As the trench for this cross-brace cut through the 1-foot-wide scorched trench outlining the 16x16 foot structure, we knew that the brace-work post-dated the initial construction of the structure and was some sort of modification to the original building. A different clay fill found along this wall in question matched the clay fill found in the brace work and post hole trenches and suggested this wall was rebuilt at a later date to accept the framework for the bracing.

What gave the association between bracing and the potential threshing teeth more strength was a court case we came across relating to the activities of John Payne Todd (stepson of President Madison). John Payne Todd was renowned for his gambling habits and drinking problems. During the final years of the Madison ownership of Montpelier (following Madison’s death in 1836), he was constantly selling items from the plantation and increasing the debts to the farm. This courtroom document cited a legal case initiated by Henry Moncure, who purchased Montpelier in 1844, against John Payne Todd for his activities following the sale of the property: *As against the defendant John P. Todd, this defendant has other just causes of complaint, not before [admitted] to in this answer. He [re-*

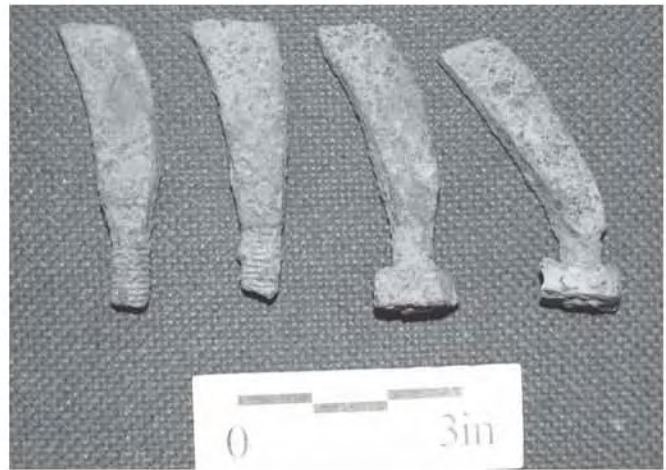


Figure 2. Iron machinery teeth located at the site. Close examination of these teeth have revealed these to be wrought iron (as opposed to cast iron) and date them to the early 19th century. These teeth were sheared from the machine and are missing the second nut and bolt head.



Figure 3. Overhead shot of two excavated structures with one on left containing evidence for the in-ground threshing machine. Note, in this image the shovel test pits (small pits used in 2004 to discover the site) have been photoshopped out of the picture to prevent confusion (see Figure 1).



Figure 4. Late 19th century threshing machine with cast iron mechanism and teeth. Note similar shape of teeth to those found at Montpelier. (<http://dennisforney.files.wordpress.com>)

tained] possession of the land conveyed by the deed of the 1st of August 1844 long after it should have been surrendered; [removed] between the time of the sale and of giving up possession a [handsome enclosure], whereby not only the value thereof was lost but the property greatly injured by exposure; [removed] from the premises in the same interval a neat newly framed building; and [pulled] to [pieces], for the purpose of carrying the same away a wheat machine which was a [fixture] to the barn, and was only [prevented] from [removing] the same by the arrival of this defendant on the premises [sic] just at the moment when the [removal] was about to be [effected]. It was then left but so injured as to have been of no use since.

Putting all of this evidence together made us realize the feature and its associated machine parts could be the remains of a threshing machine that was mounted inside the structure.

With all of this evidence at hand, we have a rich history for the site we have just finished excavating. Its early history potentially related to the curing of tobacco with the complex of three buildings measuring 60x16 feet (with the three buildings being more of a single complex). Their life as a set of agricultural buildings was modified sometime in the late 1790s—as determined from the ceramics recovered during the excavation—by their use as a residence for at least one enslaved household. Given the low quantities of artifacts found at the site, this occupation was potentially short lived. In addition, the individuals living in this structure had a rudimentary existence with no hearth and chimney and apparently building their fire in the middle of the room. The final phase of occupation appears associated with the scatter of machinery parts that coincides with the possible threshing machine. The use of the machine in the middle building appears to have been intense based on the number of broken teeth we have recovered from the site. The other two buildings could have served as winnowing or storage sheds for the threshing process.

Perhaps the final phase for this machine was when John Payne Todd arrives on the newly-sold property to retrieve the threshing machine. Whoever was responsible for the demise of the machine, in the process of its removal, the poles were removed from the ground and several teeth were deposited in the post molds. Given that these posts did not contain any traces of wood, the posts were pulled and were filled with a darker topsoil. Whether John Payne Todd is the one responsible for the removal of these posts, we may never know, but the connection is quite intriguing!

West Virginia

Reported by: David E. Rotenizer

Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex

[Submitted by David E. Rotenizer, site manager]

The Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex (GCMAC) in Moundsville is operated by the West Virginia Division of Culture and History. This facility consists of three components: historic site, museum, and research facility. Located on seven acres, the property features the Grave Creek Mound - one of the largest Adena culture burial mounds and a National Historic Landmark.

The Delf Norona Museum is a 25,646-square-foot contemporary building which focuses on the Adena Culture and other aspects of West Virginia archaeology. The museum includes exhibits, gallery, special activity areas, gift shop, and a 136-seat auditorium. Various temporary cultural exhibits are also presented within the museum. Public programs and activities are held throughout the year including the annual Archaeology Weekend held the first weekend in October and a monthly Lecture & Film Series. A new permanent exhibit is an interpretative garden located on the grounds.

In 2008, a 9,600-square-foot wing was added to the museum which is home to the West Virginia Archaeological Research and Collections Management Facility. This serves as the state's official archaeological collections management repository. The research wing features an archaeology laboratory with observation room to allow public viewing, research library, document viewing room, and large storage areas with automated mobile shelving units.

Promoting West Virginia Archaeology Month

Like many states, West Virginia commemorates Archaeology Month each October with various events throughout the state. In recent years, Archaeology Month has become a strong focal point for increasing public awareness of archaeology through outreach efforts by GCMAC.

In support of Archaeology Month, GCMAC currently has a new table exhibit and youth activity relating to historical archaeology with an emphasis on maker's marks. Through the observation window of the West Virginia Archaeological Research and Collections Management Facility, visitors can view a new table exhibit titled "*What's In A Name?: Ceramic Maker's Marks from Blennerhassett Island.*" Using materials from on-site collections, GCMAC curators Heather N. Cline and Amanda L. Brooks developed the exhibit with ceramics from the Blennerhassett island site (46Wd1) using maker's marks. The site represents multiple occupations dating from the late 18th century through the mid-20th century. The display helps to explain to the public why and how maker's marks are important for archaeological research. Twenty marks are included which represent both printed and impressed forms on various ware types.

The Delf Norona Museum houses The Discovery Table, a family-oriented area where a series of craft activities is available throughout the year. Currently, GCMAC cultural program coordinator, Andrea K. Keller, has developed a paper plate puzzle that illustrates how archaeologists use cross mending. A circular corrugated cardboard pad (pizza tray) is colored with markers and/or colored pencils to simulate a plate design which can be an imagined design or one based on examples of plates on display at the museum. The "plate" is then taken home where it can be cut into pieces and treated as a puzzle for reassembly.

The Discovery Table is often accompanied by a thematically related bulletin board. For the current activity, the display is titled "*Awesome Artifacts: Ceramics.*" This includes four components: How to make a broken plate guide; a South Carolina Archaeology Month poster featuring ceramics; a color

copied front and back of a plate to allow students to review a virtual plate that is hung from a string for handling; and a guide to dating Homer Laughlin ceramics with explanations of different marks used. The Homer Laughlin China Company is based in West Virginia and the Delf Norona Museum has a large collection of these wares on display in an exhibit titled “*Homer Laughlin China Company: West Virginia’s Gift to the World.*”



Figure 1. “What’s In A Name” exhibit table (foreground) as seen through the observation window to the archaeology laboratory.

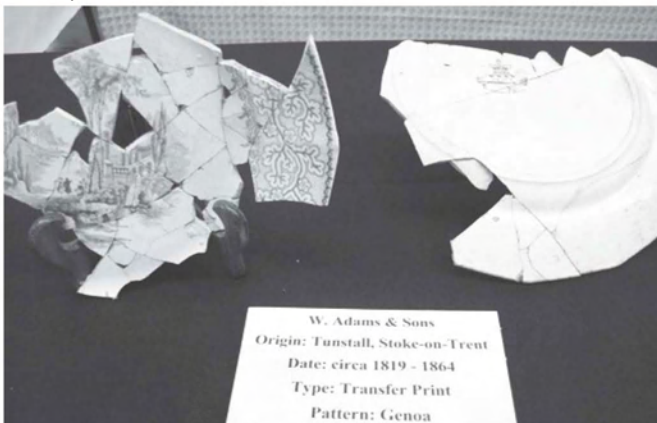


Figure 3. Transfer print W. Adams & Sons maker’s mark in “What’s In A Name?” table exhibit.

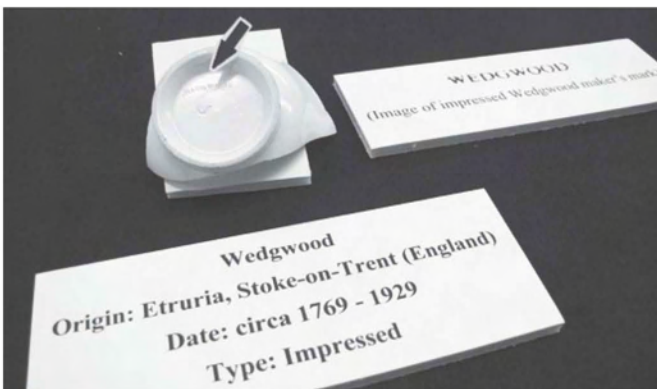


Figure 2. Impressed Wedgwood mark in “What’s In A Name?” table exhibit.



Figure 4. Andrea K. Keller, cultural program coordinator, with plate puzzle at The Discovery Table. In background is thematically related bulletin board.

Lecture & Film Series

Now into its third year, GCMAC presents a monthly Lecture & Film Series that includes topics relating to both prehistoric and historical archaeology. Those relating to historical archaeology include Sarah L. Posin, in January, presenting a program titled “*Osteology and Archaeology: Documenting the Skeletal Evidence of Human Lives*” which incorporated skeletal populations from England that were used in her graduate research. In February, GCMAC lead curator Heather N. Cline presented original research with a presentation titled “*African-American Archaeology in West Virginia and the Ohio Valley.*” This was an important program in that it extracted information largely confined to the gray literature.

During the summer months two popular films were shown that highlighted historical archaeology. In July, the PBS series *Time Team America* aired an episode titled “*Fort Raleigh, NC,*” which explores the archaeology associated with the late 16th century settlement at Roanoke Island. Finally, August included a PBS documentary titled “*Secrets of the Dead: Black Beard’s Lost Ship.*” The program presented historical research and underwater archaeology regarding Blackbeard’s flagship “*Queen Anne’s Revenge.*”

30th Annual Symposium on Ohio Valley Urban and Historical Archaeology

On April 14, GCMAC was the host for the 30th Annual Symposium on Ohio Valley Urban and Historical Archaeology. The program featured topics focused on various aspects of archaeological research within the greater Ohio River Valley drainage.

Quebec

Reported by: Olivier Roy

Thirty Years of Archaeological Field Schools Celebrated at Université Laval

[Submitted by Olivier Roy]

On Sunday, August 26th, a reunion was organised to celebrate 30 years of the Université Laval field school in archaeology. This event, as part of the Month of Archaeology, took place on the site of the Intendant's Palace (Îlot des Palais). The site was ideal for this event because it has hosted no less than 22 cohorts of students over the past 30 years.

An ambitious project

The idea of establishing a practical training site in archaeology was born of a need to provide a quality education for students in archaeology, especially in their own cultural area. Indeed, it was previously possible to receive practical training in archaeology at Université Laval; however, this was mainly in classical archaeology and was taking place abroad.

It is with the help of archaeologist Michel Gaumont that Marcel Moussette and Michel Fortin, professors at Université Laval, began to develop a new archaeology field school at the site of the Intendant's Palace. Excavations began in 1982 and 30 years later, the site has not yet revealed all of its richness. Nine years after its inauguration, the field school took a hiatus from the site of the Intendant's Palace and was instead held at other major sites in Quebec City: Îlot Hunt, from 1991 to 1995, and Domaine Maizerets, from 1996 to 1999.

The 2000s marked the return of the field school to the site of the Intendant's Palace, and at the same time, a diversification of the archaeological sites used for practical courses occurred. This was done to give students the opportunity to discover different archaeological contexts, and to respond to an increasing demand to offer practical training in prehistoric archaeology. Thus, prehistoric excavations took place at Lac St-Charles between 2007 and 2009, and at Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures in 2010 and 2011. In addition, excavations in historical archae-

ology were conducted at La Prairie from 2000 to 2003, at the Manoir Mauvide-Genest, Île d'Orléans in 2003, and at Fort Saint-Jean, Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, from 2009 until now.

A festive day

The hot and sunny weather meant that many people responded to the invitation and were given appointments to reunite with their former classmates. By 1 pm, there were a hundred people, including students, professors, archaeologists and members of their families, gathered to participate in the celebrations.

For the day, the ancient vaults of the Second Palace of the Intendant were adorned to welcome former students. A gallery of photographs encapsulating all 45 fields held in 30 years was on display, delighting students who were able to reminisce while at the same time having fun identifying old friends and colleagues in the pictures. Meanwhile, an exhibition featuring various artefacts recovered from the different field school sites was showcased to archaeologists and the public, who also joined the party. In the morning, visitors were invited to take part in two guided tours of the Intendant's Palace site and its surroundings. In order to entertain the crowd, three characters portraying colonial soldiers were on hand to tell their story and conduct a demonstration of shooting using reproductions of historic weapons.

Special guests

In front of an attentive crowd, special guests were invited to speak about the success of Université Laval's archaeological field school. Among these were Marcel Moussette, professor and co-founder of the field school; Michel Fortin, director of the Department of History at Université Laval and co-founder of the field school; Bernard Garnier, Vice-Rector of Academic and International Activities at Université Laval; William Moss, senior archaeologist with the City of Quebec; Jean-Jacques Adjizian, from the Ministry of Culture; Claude Dubé, Dean of the Faculty of Planning, Architecture and Visual Arts at Université Laval and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Society for Quebec's Urban Heritage; and lastly, Allison



Photo, Left: William Moss, Marcel Moussette, Michel Fortin, Allison Bain, Claude Dubé, Jean-Jacques Adjizian, Bernard Garnier, Réginald Auger. Photo by Celia Forget.



*The Îlot des Palais
2012 field-school
team. Photo by Jean-
Simon Dion.*

Bain, current director of the field school and organizer of the event.

It was an opportunity for Mr. Dubé, in collaboration with the Society for Quebec's Urban Heritage, to announce that the plans to revitalise the museum of the Intendant's Palace site had been approved. The opening of the museum is planned for 2014. Meanwhile, the building, which dates back to 1714, will require much restoration and rehabilitation before it can welcome the public.

The archaeological research program is still ongoing at the site and further excavations, led by Université Laval's field school, will take place in 2013.

Îlot des Palais field school

By Julie April and Olivier Roy

Celebrating 30 years of existence this year, Université Laval's archaeological field school returned for a 22nd season at the historic site of the Intendant's Palace, in Quebec City. For five years now, excavations have occurred in what was mainly the courtyard of the Second Palace of the Intendant (1714-1759).

The 2012 excavations at the site were divided into two separate areas, each with their own research goals. The first of these areas, on the east side of the courtyard, aimed to document the occupation of the site at the time of the First Palace of the Intendant (1685-1713). On historical maps, some small buildings are depicted near the St. Charles River, and an excavation in the same area in 2009 uncovered wooden planks; these were hypothesized to be the remains of those structures represented on the maps. Unfortunately, the excavation of this sector did not reveal as much new information as was expected, and no more traces of these buildings were discovered. However, the excavation gave us the opportunity to learn more about the courtyard of the Second Palace of the Intendant, and the fire that destroyed the palace in 1725.

The second excavation area, opened on the west side of the

site, aimed to document the construction of the west wing of the Second Palace of the Intendant and the presence of the pavement found in previous excavations of the courtyard. There was also the potential, according to previous excavations led by Quebec City's Archaeology Service, to uncover a vaulted pipe that would have brought water to the palace latrines, but no such remains were found. This excavation re-confirmed that the pavement of the courtyard was much more substantial than just a small lane in front of the main entrance of the palace, as was depicted in an engraving from the 18th century. By exposing what is considered to be natural layers that were cut by the southern wall of the west wing of the palace, without evidence of a foundation trench, it was demonstrated that the foundation walls were built directly on the natural sediments of the site. These are rich in clay, so it probably would have been possible to dig vertical walls and build the foundations directly upon them.

With a new project approved that will revitalize the vaults of the Second Palace and the opening of a museum by 2014, excavations led by Université Laval's field school will continue on each side of the west wing before the major repairs necessary to the current structure and foundation damage the site.

Atlantic Canada

Reported by: Amanda Crompton

Pigeon Cove on Newfoundland Island

[Submitted by Andrew Collins, Michelle Davies and Lisa Rankin]

In July and August of 2012, Dr. Lisa Rankin, Memorial University, oversaw the excavation of an Inuit semi-subterranean communal winter home dating to the 18th century at Pigeon Cove on Newfoundland Island in Sandwich Bay, Southern Labrador. A crew of eight, including CURA field director Robyn Fleming and a group of seven Memorial University students, conducted the excavation of this unexpectedly large and archaeologically rich winter home. This was the fourth year of excavation associated with the SSHRC-funded re-

search project “Understanding the Past to Build the Future” which brings together academics and local communities in the discovery and interpretation of Inuit life along the southern shores of Labrador.

In 2012 excavation focused on a single winter dwelling which measured approximately 8x9 meters. The house was situated atop an uneven outcrop of bedrock that was incorporated into the architecture of the structure, providing the basis for a sleeping platform as well as impacting the construction of the unusually shallow entrance passage. The house consisted of typical Inuit sod house features, including a flagstone floor, sleeping platforms, workbenches and lampstands. Rich in material culture, this site yielded two complete soapstone lamps, a wooden female figurine clothed in baleen, multiple iron-bone composite harpoon tips, several iron ulu knives, French ceramics, and many trade beads, to name only a few of the more than 1,000 artifacts recovered.

On the basis of these artifacts as well as the architectural makeup of the home, the site has been tentatively dated to the early eighteenth century. All artifacts are housed at Memorial University and are presently being cleaned and catalogued before an in-depth analysis is conducted. Despite this early stage of analysis it is clear that this excavation has the potential to significantly contribute to our understanding of 18th-century Inuit occupation of Southern Labrador.

Digby Pines Resort

[Submitted by Laura DeBoer, Davis MacIntyre & Associates, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia]

In February 2012, Davis MacIntyre & Associates Limited was contracted to conduct an archaeological resource impact assessment of the Digby Pines Golf Resort and Spa. The assessment identified two archaeological sites on the Pines golf course, which itself retains its historic Stanley Thompson design. Both sites are the remains of historic farmsteads. A third farmstead site on the course is suspected but not confirmed. The golf course project was likely one of the first times an archaeological survey was conducted via golf cart!

A shell midden was also tested on the shoreline of the main resort property, where late nineteenth and early twentieth cen-



A mound disguises a probable house foundation on the Pines golf course. Note our field vehicles in the background!

ture Mi'kmaq encampments are known through oral and documentary history. Unfortunately, the testing was inconclusive in regards to determining an age and cultural affiliation for the shell midden site, which is situated near a great deal of twentieth century material that has been dumped along the shore.

Indian Sluice Bridge

[Submitted by Laura DeBoer, Davis MacIntyre & Associates, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia]

In January 2012, Davis MacIntyre & Associates Limited completed an archaeological resource impact assessment of the Indian Sluice Bridge at Surette's Island, Yarmouth County. The bridge is notable not because of any below-ground finds, but because of its value to the field or industrial archaeological and heritage. Built in 1909, the bridge consists of three separate spans, the central span being 300 feet in length and the two ends each being 150 feet long. At the time, this alone was longer than any bridge to have been built in the province. In October of 1909 the 300-foot central span, which had been built “up river” in the gap between the mainland and Surette's Island, was floated into place at high tide on two pontoons. The tides are extremely fast and dangerous, and at the time this feat of engineering was met with congratulations from the provincial engineer.



The central section of the Indian Sluice Bridge being floated into place, 1909.



The Indian Sluice Bridge in 2012.

Liscombe Lodge

[Submitted by Laura DeBoer, Davis MacIntyre & Associates, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia]

In February 2012, Davis MacIntyre & Associates Limited was contracted to conduct an archaeological resource impact assessment of the Liscombe Lodge Resort and Conference Centre. Archaeological survey and testing resulted in the identification of a substantial cellar, two wells, and an unidentified stone feature, as well as the remains of the Liscomb Section

No. 17 Schoolhouse. Most of these features are related to the Esson & Co. sawmill, also known as the Donald Sinclair & Bros. mill and later the S. Creighton & Co. mill, in operation throughout the second half of the nineteenth century. The mill complex included a hotel and boarding house and two blacksmiths. The stone-lined cellar identified during the survey appears to be the eleven-room mill manager's house, which was also the community post office and boardinghouse. Several historic photos of the house exist, as found in Ruth Legge's history of Liscomb Mills, "Sawdust and Sea Breezes."
