



# Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology NEWSLETTER

October 2014

NUMBER 89

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CNEHA Has a Permanent Address for Its Website:

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

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HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

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

### CNEHA Facebook Page

CNEHA now has a Facebook page! Log onto Facebook and then search for Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology to see announcements about conferences and other updates.

## SAVE THE DATE-CNEHA 2014

November 7-9,

Ocean Place Hotel and Resort, Long Branch, NJ



The Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology's 2014 annual meeting will be held at the Ocean Place Hotel and Resort in historic Long Branch, New Jersey. Long Branch was the resort of choice for American presidents in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Now, it is your turn to try the waters at Long Branch! The conference coincides with New Jersey's 350th anniversary celebration and our conference theme in keeping with the statewide celebration of New Jersey's rich heritage is: Innovation, Diversity, and Liberty. There are over 90 papers planned for the conference, with sessions on Slavery and Freedom in the greater Delaware Valley, local stonewares, and colonial New England, to name a few. One of our sessions celebrates the careers of two New Jersey archaeologists and CNEHA stalwarts, Budd Wilson and Ed Lenik. Tours are planned to Monmouth Battlefield State Park, Joseph Bonaparte's Point Breeze, Timbuctoo, and Raritan Landing. Workshops on early American glass, blacksmithing, and virtual reconstructions in archaeology are planned. There will also be displays of New Jersey stonewares. Space on the tours is limited so please sign up early to avoid disappointment. We will also have a reception and a banquet at Monmouth University. An extensive book room is planned.

Our conference hotel is the Ocean Place Resort ([https://reservations.ihotelier.com/crs/g\\_reservation.cfm?groupID=1194984&hotelID=13199](https://reservations.ihotelier.com/crs/g_reservation.cfm?groupID=1194984&hotelID=13199))

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We have an excellent conference rate of just \$129.00 a night. To make a reservation call 732-571-5764.

Long Branch is located in eastern Monmouth County, New Jersey. By car it is just over one hour south of New York City. There is rail service to Long Branch by the North Jersey Coast Line. Conference participants arriving by air at Newark Airport can take the train directly to Long Branch. There is a complimentary shuttle from the train station to the hotel. The hotel is located on the beach and is near Pier Village, which has numerous restaurants and shops.

The following link will take you to the conference registration form: [http://www.cneha.org/conference/2014conference\\_registration.pdf](http://www.cneha.org/conference/2014conference_registration.pdf)

For more information please contact the conference our co-chairs:

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

Reported by: Susan Maguire, Editor

Hope you all enjoyed the foodways volume. We have received some great feedback here in the journal office. The layout for Volume 43 is moving right along and should be in your mailbox for some post-holiday reading. As promised, this volume includes a sampler of research from throughout the Northeast; topics include the investigation of wooden shipwreck site in Maine, the analysis of townscapes in 17th century northeastern New Jersey, paleoethnobotany in Connecticut, an analysis of colonial Dutch gravestones, the examination of dating methods and techniques at the 17th-century John Hallowes Site in Virginia, two articles examining Native American lithic use in historic period Massachusetts and New York, respectively, and an article focusing on whaling as a Native American household strategy in 19th century Long Island. I am really pleased to have such a variety of topics as well as regional coverage. Volume 44 will commemorate the 200th anniversary of final conflicts of the War of 1812 with a thematic volume on the archaeology of the war. If your state or province is not represented here, send me your articles for publication in Volume 45, the next open issue of the journal.

Be sure to renew your membership to get the latest volume of *Northeast Historical Archaeology*. Hope you all had a great field season and be sure to think of publishing your research in the journal. Feel free to email me at [maguirse@buffalostate.edu](mailto:maguirse@buffalostate.edu) with any comments, questions or suggestions for the journal. I look forward to seeing you all at the Annual Meeting in Long Branch, New Jersey.

## **NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S REPORT**

Reported by: David Starbuck, Newsletter Editor

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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## NEW EXHIBIT

On June 6, 2014, the Waterford Historical Museum and Cultural Center in Waterford, New York, opened a new exhibit, *History Underfoot: Archeological Explorations of Waterford*. The exhibit runs until November 2, 2014. The exhibit goes underground to explore Waterford's recent and not-so-recent past. With the help of exhibit consultant Matthew Kirk from Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. and exhibit designer Paul G. Schneider, Jr., the Museum has created an exciting exhibit which features artifacts from its own collection as well as from the collections of private individuals, the New York State Museum, and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. *History Underfoot* encourages the public to learn about the Capital District's place in history by examining the archaeological record of the region, featuring artifacts, both prehistoric and historical, recovered during local archaeological excavations in and around Waterford. The Museum is located at 2 Museum Lane in Waterford. It is open Wednesday through Friday each week, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM., Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, and Sundays from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Regular admission to WHMCC is \$5 for adults; Children 17 and under are free. For more information call 518-238-0809, or check [www.waterfordmuseum.com](http://www.waterfordmuseum.com).

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### **Cultural Landscapes and Heritage Values: Embracing Change in the Management of Place MAY 13-15, 2015**

An Interdisciplinary Conference at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, co-sponsored by the Center for Heritage & Society and the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning

### THE CHALLENGE

In recognition of the importance of cultural landscape research in contemporary heritage policy and practice, the University of Massachusetts Center for Heritage & Society (CHS) and

the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning (LARP) have co-organized a two-and-a-half day conference. The goal of the conference is to bring together a broad range of interdisciplinary scholars and heritage professionals to explore key issues in cultural landscapes and heritage values.

Cultural landscapes may be urban or rural, and they include parks, gardens, historic sites, agricultural landscapes, and areas of cultural and historical associations and significance. In the broader field of Heritage Management, the study of cultural landscapes is of particular and current interest. Landscapes are at once "cultural" and "natural," calling into question traditional divisions of cultural and natural heritage resources and landscape management (e.g., "Cultural Landscapes" vs. "Natural Landscapes" in the World Heritage categories). Landscapes constitute a living heritage, reflecting the mutual influences of diverse groups of people and the equally varied places they inhabit. Like societies, landscapes are continually evolving, and their management demands that social and environmental change be understood and embraced. Landscapes define the sense of a "place," and are the embodiment of the inextricability of tangible and intangible heritage. For these reasons and others, landscapes are a critical subject in heritage studies.

### CONFERENCE THEMES

#### *Embracing Change in the Management of Place*

The themes of the conference emphasize the need to acknowledge and engage change in the successful interpretation, conservation, and management of landscapes; the often unproductive dichotomy of "natural" and "cultural" resources; the factors of social and economic inequality inherent in the designation and management of living landscapes; and other critical issues in heritage studies today that are raised and provoked by cultural landscape research and conservation.

#### *Multi-Cultural Landscapes: Issues of Social Justice and Power*

Landscapes express the diversity of the peoples who have lived and worked in them through time. The issue of which cultural landscapes, and which aspects of multi-layered cultural landscapes, are conserved and commemorated are embedded in contemporary power relationships. Heritage sites and landscapes can be tools for cultural reparations, social cohesion, for education as sites of conscience, and for places of commemoration of multi-ethnic and multi-cultural heritage. Abstracts should include case studies and research on indigenous cultural landscapes, diasporic heritage, ethnographic methodologies in cultural landscape research, legal frameworks and litigation, landscapes of disrupted heritage (involving conflict, ethnic cleansing, or other disruption), and other issues of social justice.

#### *Authenticity and Integrity vs. Change in Living Landscapes*

Landscapes are the products and precedents of natural and

cultural processes that began in the past and continue into the future. Understanding cultural landscapes as living landscapes has recast ideas of historical integrity and “authenticity.” If we acknowledge that change is inherent in living landscapes, then how do we safeguard something that by definition changes? And in the context of change, where does authenticity lie? Abstracts should address issues of integrity and authenticity in landscapes that continue to change and which reflect the changes in the lives of the people who inhabit them, including historic urban landscapes, agricultural landscapes, indigenous cultural landscapes, and other living landscapes.

#### ***Tangible and Intangible Heritage in Cultural Landscapes***

Cultural landscapes embody tangible as well as intangible heritage, and are a combined expression of both. Various forms of traditional knowledge shape landscapes and are therefore a vital topic in cultural landscape research and practice. Abstracts should address case studies and research in traditional landscape management practices; layers of meaning ascribed to landscapes that have been lost or are contested; proxemics patterns and their influence on power and social structure; ephemeral landscapes and landscapes of change; agricultural landscapes; indigenous landscapes; and other examples of intangible heritage in cultural landscapes.

#### ***Sustainability in Cultural Landscape Management***

Climate change, environmental degradation, and goals for an increasingly sustainable future affect cultural landscape research and practice in many ways. Abstracts should address heritage planning in relation to climate change, the integration of sustainable food systems in cultural landscape management, cultural landscapes as infrastructure, and sustainable technology in landscape conservation.

CALL FOR PAPERS—DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACTS:  
January 1, 2015

This conference will be open to the public and will explore the theme of “Cultural Landscapes and Heritage Values” as described above. Papers selected will be the basis of twenty-minute presentations followed by discussion. To propose a symposium, paper, or poster for one of the three sub-themes listed below, please submit a one-page abstract (maximum 200 words) to <http://www.umass.edu/chs/news/conference2015.html> by January 15, 2015. No more than one abstract will be accepted per author (you may submit a second if you are not the principal author). Proposals will be selected through a blind peer review by the conference committee. Authors will be notified of the Program Committee’s decision by February 15, 2015.

## CURRENT RESEARCH

### Massachusetts

Reported by: Linda M. Ziegenbein

#### **Archaeology at the Emily Dickinson Family Property, Amherst, MA**

[Submitted by Kerry Lynch, Archaeological Services, University of Massachusetts]

Archaeological Services at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst (UMAS) conducted two archaeological site examination surveys on the property of the Emily Dickinson Museum in Amherst, Massachusetts. The museum manages two historic properties, The Evergreens and the Dickinson Homestead. The Dickinson Homestead dates to c. 1813, and was built by Emily Dickinson’s grandfather. Emily lived and wrote poetry at the Homestead for most of her adult life. The Evergreens was the home of Emily’s brother and sister-in-law, Austin and Susan Dickinson. It was built by Emily and Austin’s father Edward Dickinson prior to his marriage in 1856. It is located on the lot adjacent to the Dickinson Homestead. Both properties are listed on the National Register as elements of the Dickinson Historic District.

Fieldwork at the Dickinson Homestead focused on the location of a conservatory constructed c. 1855. It was positioned inside an angle formed by the east wall of the original 1813 homestead and the south wall of an 1840 ell addition, and was a favorite room of Emily’s. The conservatory stood for 61 years until its removal in 1916. The museum proposes to replicate the conservatory in the same location, reusing structural elements still in its possession. UMAS excavations identified the original foundation, a footing for granite steps at the entrance facing the street, a footing for a granite stoop on the conservatory’s side wall, cobble supports for interior floor joists, and a planting feature at the structure’s exterior corner. Historic artifacts included hardware distinctive to the Homestead’s windows, and creamware and decorated pearlware. The hardware and ceramics will assist the museum in their development of property reconstruction and interpretations of the occupancy of the house.

Fieldwork at The Evergreens focused on interior and exterior areas scheduled to be impacted during drainage improvements. Testing on the exterior of the house identified a series of planting features on a gentle slope that may be cold beds referenced in a letter penned by Emily Dickinson. The locations of these planting beds were unknown to museum personnel, and their identification will contribute to ongoing property management and future landscape restorations.

#### **Demolition of a Twentieth-Century Building Adjacent to the Springfield Armory National Historic Site Reveals Nineteenth and Early Twentieth-Century Civic and Military Features, Springfield, MA**

Archaeological Services at the University of Massachu-

setts-Amherst (UMAS) recently completed data recovery excavations under the floor of Building 104 in Federal Square, Springfield, Massachusetts. Federal Square is immediately adjacent to the Springfield Armory National Historic Site, and was once part of that military complex. Building 104 was constructed in 1940 for the manufacture of the Garand M1 rifle during World War II. This large industrial structure has a footprint of approximately 2.2 acres. Prior to the building's demolition, UMAS cut through the concrete floor to hand excavate test pits. Eleven features were recorded and a data recovery was initiated based on an MOA between project proponents, the National Park Service, the City of Springfield, and the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

Building 104 was demolished in sections, and the floor was mechanically removed while being monitored by UMAS archaeologists. A total of 152 features were recorded under the floor during the data recovery. Documented features fall within four general use and occupation periods: 1817-1842, 1842-1887, WWI, and the Depression era. In 1817 a brick storehouse that had been located in the main arsenal square was moved to Federal Square. Multiple pier features related to the storehouse were identified, outlining its location. Debris from its demolition in 1842 was also recorded. Between 1842 and 1887 the Federal Square area was used as a civic park. Landscape and planting features related to this use were identified.

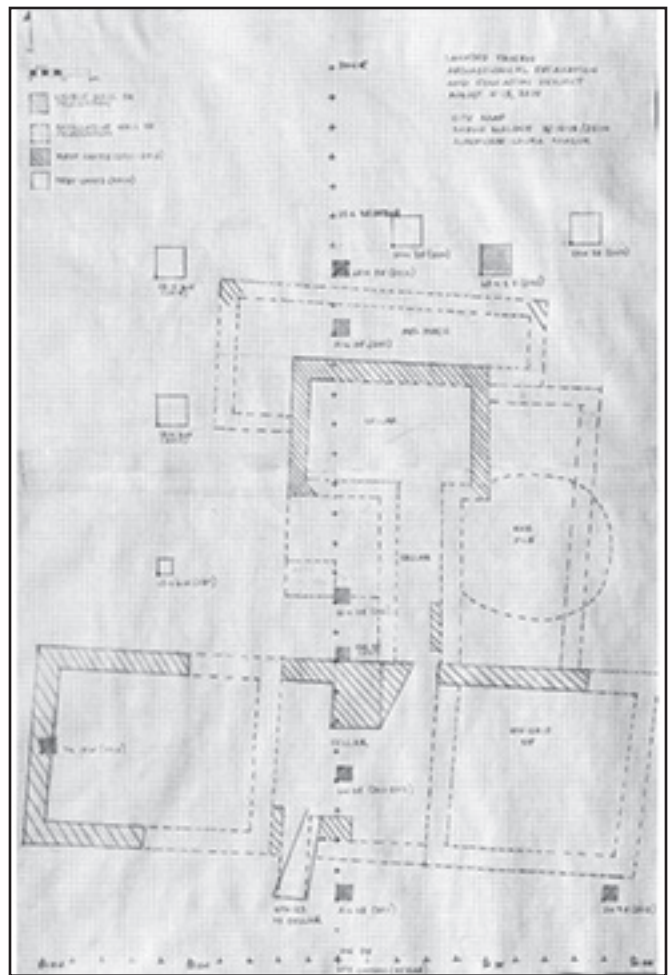
During the WWI era cantonment barracks were constructed that overlapped the northern end of the demolished storehouse. Multiple pier features were documented that outlined the location of these barracks. Interior features were also recorded, including hearth bases and related heating and cooking elements. Depression era features to the north of the storehouse and barracks locations are likely related to the adjacent Springfield Armory Hill Shops, which manufactured firearms. These features would have been located outside the complex of Hill Shop buildings and included latrines, a possible exterior forge/hearth, and a charcoal kiln. Evidence from the charcoal kiln indicates that waste stocks from the manufacture of M-1903 rifles were burned after being sawn into smaller pieces.

This report just scratches the surface, as the data recovery fieldwork has just been completed and much work remains to be done to process and interpret the artifacts and documentation of these 152 features sealed under the floor of Building 104.

**Community Archaeology at the Sanford Tavern, Franklin County**

[Submitted by Laura Masur, Boston University]

Students, community members, and a local high school teacher spent two weeks in the field this August with Laura Masur of Boston University mapping and excavating an early nineteenth century tavern. Located in the hilltown of Hawley in Franklin County, the Sanford Tavern has been the subject of



archaeological research since 2011. William Sanford and his son operated the tavern from c. 1798-1843, serving rum and other “ardent spirits” to locals and stagecoach travelers until Hawley’s 1831 religious revival and temperance pledge. Few historical records mention the tavern, leaving many unanswered questions about its economy and its role in the community. The structure was disassembled during the second half of the nineteenth century, but two connected cellar holes and traces of aboveground foundations are still visible.

Building on the work of Alex Keim, Aaron Miller, and their students in 2011-2012, the project goal was to better understand the character and extent of a midden north of the tavern structure and identify additional landscape features. Students excavated one 50x50 cm shovel test and four 1x1 m test units to the north and west of the cellar holes. Recovered artifacts include locally-produced redware, creamware, pearlware, and small quantities of other domestic and architectural debris. The predominance of these ceramic types and the absence of whiteware or porcelain suggest that Sanford’s Tavern was certainly rustic by contemporary standards.

Much to their chagrin, the students learned about stratigraphy, mapping, manual flotation, and artifact processing in addition to digging. Several of the students created an excellent map of the tavern’s cellar and foundations (see below). Some im-

pressive rainstorms also served as a teaching tool about site formation processes. Thus far we have identified intact midden deposits and midden slope wash, which cover redeposited subsoil from cellar construction. Thin concentrations of charcoal were present between these layers in all units, suggesting a process of landscape clearing through controlled burns. Unfortunately, the hoped-for well is more likely a depression from an old tree. Analysis continues in the BU archaeology lab.



**Resistivity at a Chinese Cemetery Plot, North Adams, MA**  
 [Submitted by Linda M. Ziegenbein]

On October 3, 2014, Linda Ziegenbein (Ph.D., University of Massachusetts) and Christopher Douyard (doctoral student, University of Massachusetts) conducted a resistivity survey at Hillside Cemetery in North Adams, Massachusetts. The cemetery plot was purchased by Charles Sing, foreman of the Chinese North Adams shoemakers, in 1871 to hold the remains of Chinese laborers who worked in a local factory. Extant cemetery records record the presence of one grave, belonging to Thomas Chung, despite the presence of two gravestones. Death records indicate that six Chinese men died during the ten years the Chinese worked in North Adams and oral history argues for the presence of a third, unmarked grave between the two gravestones. The goal of the resistivity survey is to determine whether there is evidence to indicate that unmarked grave, and possibly others in this plot. This is part of Dr. Ziegenbein's ongoing research into the historical Chinese experience in western Massachusetts. Analysis of the resistivity data is on-going.



**New Jersey**

Reported by: Lynn Rakos

**Archaeology at Cedar Bridge Tavern, Barnegat, New Jersey (28-Oct-162)**

[Submitted by Richard Veit and Sean McHugh]  
 Monmouth University's 2014 summer field school in archaeology was held at Cedar Bridge Tavern in Barnegat, New Jersey. It was directed by Richard Veit and Sean McHugh, with the assistance of Jamie Ancheta, Adam Heinrich, Tabitha Hilliard, Eric Lauenstein, and Erin Lewising. Twenty students participated in the project as well as volunteers from the Archaeological Society of New Jersey, Boy Scouts of America, Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission staff, and alumni from past Monmouth University field schools. The project was sponsored by the Ocean County Cultural and Heritage Commission. The project's pragmatic focus was on identifying archaeological deposits that might be impacted by proposed improvements to the property. More broadly, we plan to explore the distinctive regional culture of New Jersey's Pine Barrens by comparing the artifact assemblage from this site with other taverns from more urbanized portions of the state.

The Cedar Bridge Tavern is located on property that was initially purchased on December 4, 1712 by Thomas and William Fox, residents of New Hanover Township, Burlington County, from John Fox of Great. It lies close to the division line between the Provinces of East and West Jersey. On October 8, 1743, a 233.33-acre portion of the original parcel, now in West Jersey, was sold to John Monrow of New Hanover Township (Colonial Conveyances 1743). Monrow would eventually sell the property to John Middleton, Jr.

It is not clear when the first structures were erected on the property, but it seems likely this occurred in the mid-18th century as Cedar Bridge is depicted as a settlement on mid-18th maps of New Jersey. Historic newspaper records indicate that on September 11, 1746, Reverend George Whitefield preached at Cedar Bridge, among other locales in southern New Jersey. The location is also purported to have been the site of a Revolutionary War skirmish. However, the history of the site is complicated by the fact that cedar is ubiquitous in the Pine Barrens and several locales were known as Cedar Bridge.

Documentary and tree-ring evidence indicates that the current structure on the property was erected, in part, in the 1790s, and expanded in the early 19th century. It is not clear if it was built as a house or purpose-built as a tavern. It seems likely that at times it was a private dwelling and at other times a tavern. Its location on a main road from Philadelphia to Tuckerton and Little Egg Harbor in an area with few large settlements made it ideal as a rest stop for travelers. In the late 19th century a hotel was erected on an adjacent tract, a testimony to its important role as a stopping point for travelers crossing the state.



*Cedar Bridge Tavern as it appeared c. 1938 when documented by Historic American Building Survey photographers. Note that the portion of the tavern on the right is the original late 18th-century structure, and the 1830s' addition is visible on the left.*



*The Monmouth University field crew at work on the block excavation.*



*Cedar Bridge Tavern as it appears today, poised for a major restoration project.*



*Students Kiersten Fuchs and Chelsea Cordle excavating a builder's trench associated with the 1790s' portion of the building beneath the floor of the 1830s' section of the tavern.*



*The box privy located at the Cedar Bridge Tavern.*

In the 1920s the property was acquired by the Penn Producing Company, which used a portion of the property as a cranberry bog. The former tavern apparently served as a bunkhouse for agricultural workers. In 1969, Rudolph Koenig acquired the property. The final private owner, he lived there until 2007. Koenig was an advocate for the preservation of the former tavern. He was also a well-known local character, famous for his gardens, folk stories, and hedonistic lifestyle.

The 2014 field school was the second held by Monmouth University at Cedar Bridge Tavern. The first took place in the summer of 2012 and was directed by Michael Gall and Brock Giordano. That project revealed intact nineteenth-century historic deposits in the south (rear) yard of the tavern, remains of a 19th-century earthfast outkitchen, and a small number of prehistoric artifacts, including pottery reflecting an ephemeral prehistoric occupation, possibly representing a hunting campsite, that took place during the Woodland Period (1000 BC- AD 1500).

During the 2012 field school much of the property was inaccessible due to the last homeowner's extensive vegetable gardens and eclectic landscaping. These areas have now been cleared and shovel testing was used to investigate previously inaccessible areas. The shovel testing program was followed by block excavations in the area of the 19th century outkitchen, and within the 1830s section of the tavern. A block of four five-foot-square excavation units was placed to explore an area adjacent to the outkitchen. The block excavation revealed stratified 19th and 20th century deposits, several post-molds, likely related to the outkitchen, and a wood-lined box privy. The privy contained a rich assemblage of artifacts and faunal material. It appears to have been filled after World War II, during either the Penn Produce era or the Koenig occupation. The assemblage is noteworthy for its curious faunal assemblage including large quantities of fish bones, snake bones, and bones from other wild fauna.

Additional excavations within the 1830s' wing of the tavern revealed a builder's trench associated with the construction of the tavern, as well as an intact 19th-century dog burial, and rich mid-late 19th century subfloor deposits. Analysis of the collection is ongoing. However, even at a preliminary level it is clear that the site has considerable potential to provide new information about the regional culture of New Jersey's Pine Barrens.

## Maryland

Reported by: Silas D. Hurry

### Historic St. Mary's City

The annual HSMC field school worked at the Calvert House site this summer. The structure was built by Governor Leonard Calvert in 1642 and served as both the State House and an Ordinary in its early days. In 1645, the site was the center of a rebellion against Lord Baltimore's government and the rebels built a fort around the building, known as Pope's Fort, named for Nathaniel Pope. He was leasing the building and became one of the main rebels. Throughout the rest of the 17th century, the structure was the largest Ordinary in town and served as a major social center. Over the past few years, HSMC has been excavating in the yards around the building and exploring the brick foundation to provide information for a future reconstruction and interpretation.

This summer's excavations were focused on three goals, all of them based on previous discoveries. Initially, the field school began excavating on the north end of the site looking for evidence of a farming structure. In the 1980s, testing in this area had demonstrated a large concentration of North Devon gravel tempered earthenware often associated with milking activities. It was thought there might be a barn or other outbuilding in this area. In the excavation, two large post holes were located which were 16.5 ft. apart and on a line oriented with other outbuildings on the site. This may be part of the structure but further excavation will be necessary.

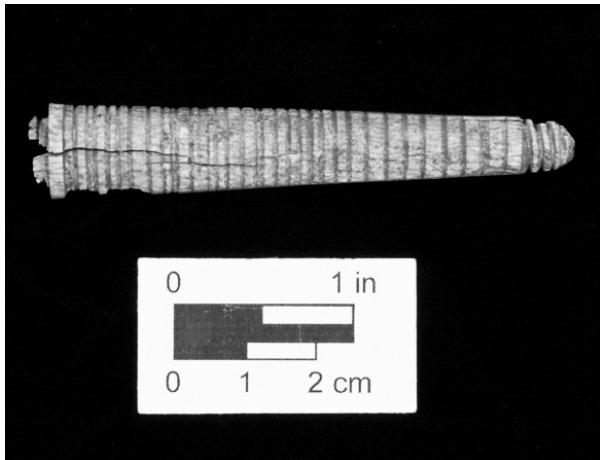
The second area of research was along the north wall of Pope's Fort, the 1645 fortification. Throughout much of the fort, the defenses consist of a ditch and, 4 - 6 feet from the interior edge of the ditch, a palisade of split logs. Such a palisade was found in the northwest bastion but excavation along the north wall revealed no such palisade. In its place were a series of post holes. This summer, the goal was to determine what happened to the bastion palisade and to relate it to either the post holes or fences that were further away from the ditch. This was made more difficult by the intrusion of a 20th-century oil tank in the area. Fortunately, excavating on the southern edge of the oil tank, a portion of the palisade was found to turn and join an east-west fence. This fence was 12 ft. from the interior edge of the ditch. Thus, along the north wall, the defenses consisted of both the palisade and the post holes. The exact nature of these defenses is still being analyzed.

Finally, the field school began excavating near the southwest corner of the foundation and discovered a large, deep, rectangular pit which was filled with prehistoric pottery and lithics. The only historic artifact in the fill was a single glass trade bead. At the very bottom of the pit was a thin layer of very burned and broken oyster shell, charcoal and ash. This was at first thought to be a prehistoric pit; however, the artifacts ranged from the Late Archaic to the Late Woodland periods. The pit was capped over most of its surface with a four inch thick layer of clay loam. It is likely that the pit was created to burn oyster shells for mortar during the construction of the Calvert House. The great mixture of prehistoric materials probably resulted from the digging of the builders' trenches and the clay cap came from the creation of the house's cellars.

This summer's excavations recovered a number of remarkable artifacts ranging from the finial of an "Apostle Spoon," through an elaborately decorated turned bone needle case, and an unusually complete molded Dutch pipe.



Copper alloy "Apostle Spoon" depicting St. Andrew



*Calvert House: Bone needle case*



*Calvert House: Elaborately molded Dutch Pipe.*

For a week-by-week discussion of this year's field school, visit Tim Riordan's Blog "Dispatches from Field School" at <https://www.hsmcdigshistory.org/research/blogs-and-podcasts/field-school-blog/>

### **Mechanicsville**

Beginning in the spring of 2012 and continuing intermittently into the summer of 2013, archaeology students from St. Mary's College of Maryland focused their attention on Cremona Estate in Mechanicsville, Maryland, at the invitation of Norton and Nancy Dodge. The property held vast potential as a means of expanding the foundation of knowledge regarding the lifestyles of colonial Marylanders on the threshold of the 18th century.

Cremona Estate, originally named "West Ashcom," is bounded by the Patuxent River and Route 6, a highway of St. Mary's County. Prior to archaeological investigation, historical documents revealed that the land was first granted to John Ashcomb in 1651 and remained within the Ashcomb family until the neighboring Thomases of Delabrooke purchased the property in 1818 (Thomas Deed, 1818).

Initial investigations were developed by students in the Anthropology Methods course at the college under the direction of Dr. Liza Gijanto. These students implemented several Phase I, II, and III survey methods to determine four primary research questions: Who occupied West Ashcomb? Over which periods of time was the site occupied? Does the archaeological record indicate a domestic or utilitarian site? And, what can be determined from the spatial distribution of different artifact types?

### **St. Leonard**

The Maryland Archaeological Conservation (MAC) Laboratory is pleased to accept applications for its second year of 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. Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact the lab during proposal preparation to ensure that the lab has collections appropriate for contributing to the proposed research.

**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, 2015. Projects awarded a fellowship can begin as early as March 15th.

Please direct any questions to Patricia Samford at [patricia.samford@maryland.gov](mailto:patricia.samford@maryland.gov) and send application materials to:

Patricia Samford, Director  
Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory  
Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum  
10515 Mackall Road  
St. Leonard, Maryland 20685

### **Frederick County**

URS's office in Germantown, Maryland, has been supporting the Maryland State Highway Administration (MD SHA) and the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) with Section 106 compliance projects across the state. The final report of the Phase I/II archaeological investigations for the proposed MD 144 New Market Streetscapes project in New Market, Frederick County, has just been submitted to the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT). The archaeological work was conducted for and designed by MD SHA in consultation with MHT as alternative mitigation in lieu of archaeological monitoring to increase the robustness of the data typically returned as a result of monitoring on other MD SHA streetscape projects. This project included investigations at the locations of two late eighteenth- to early nineteenth-century taverns along the National Road, the Smith Tavern at 17 East Main Street and the Schell Tavern at 32 West Main Street. Although the investigation revealed that the remains of the Schell Tavern had been adversely impacted by later construction and grading, work at this property did reveal the potentially intact remains of a mid-nineteenth to early twentieth-century wheelwright/blacksmith shop along the site's eastern boundary. Excavations at the Smith Tavern yielded over 41,000 artifacts and 33 features, including the remains of an exterior bake oven behind the original tavern building dating to the tavern period from ca. 1793 to the early nineteenth century. The project included a comparative analysis of the artifact assemblages from a variety of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century taverns in Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, and North Carolina from urban, semi-urban, and rural contexts, which noted that while there are difficulties in distinguishing between tavern and domestic assemblages in late eighteenth- and nineteenth-century taverns, there do appear to be common patterns that can be elucidated among regionally-related taverns and that social processes likely played a more important role in determining how a given tavern functioned. When comparing several taverns in Maryland and Delaware, the ordinaries in Delaware had higher percentages of table glass and coarse earthenwares while the Maryland taverns had a higher percentage of coarse

earthenwares, irrespective of their locational context.

### **Cecil County**

As part of their efforts to support the Maryland State Highway Administration (MD SHA) and the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA), URS's office in Germantown, Maryland, has investigated a site in Cecil County. The final report for Phase I/II archaeological investigations for a proposed Maryland Area Regional Commuter (MARC) maintenance facility in Perryville, Cecil County, was recently submitted to MHT. The project resulted in the documentation of the remains of an eighteenth- to early nineteenth-century occupation that pre-dates the acquisition of the property by the Coudon Family and the extant mid-nineteenth century to present-day house and agricultural complex at the Coudon Farm Site (18CE383). The site is part of the recently expanded Woodlands Farm Historic District, which includes the ca. 1810-1820 National Register of Historic Places-listed Woodlands mansion. The Coudon's are a significant family in the history of Cecil County, having been local large-scale farmers and industrialists. Members of the family include Reverend Joseph Coudon, who practiced in the county during the late 1700s and early 1800s, and Joseph Coudon III, who married Caroline Whitaker, daughter of Principio Furnace Company's George Whitaker. Late eighteenth- to early nineteenth-century archaeological remains documented during the investigation include what appears to be the stone foundation of a house and a privy containing ceramics such as white salt-glazed stoneware, creamware, and pearlware as well as numerous remains of oysters and domestic animals; numerous nineteenth- and early twentieth-century features were also documented.

### **Prince George's County**

For the last several years archaeologists from The Ottery Group, Inc. of Kensington, Maryland, have conducted several investigations at the historic residence at Melwood Park (18PR225), a ca. 1714 plantation house located near the Town of Upper Marlboro, Prince George's County, Maryland. Melwood Park, also known as the Ignatius Digges house, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1976 due to its architectural significance and for its association with the early Colonial-era development of the plantation economy in Prince George's County. The house is also significant for its association with the Digges family, as well as the Carroll and Lee families, each of which rose to financial and political prominence in Virginia and Maryland during the seventeenth and early-eighteenth centuries. The property is currently the focus of a long-term rehabilitation and restoration effort by the owner, Melwood Parke Foundation, which ultimately seeks to open the property as a facility for public events or other uses. The property is a registered Prince George's County historic site and the main house and surrounding acreage is also held under a preservation easement by the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC). The MHT and MNCPPC are both intimately involved with the rehabilitation of the structure.

The purpose of the archaeological investigation is to mitigate disturbances to archaeological deposits adjacent to the house foundations, both interior and exterior, which will be impacted by efforts to stabilize the structure, as well as to collect and analyze archaeological and architectural data pertaining to the history of construction and modification to the house. One of the on-going research questions posed by architectural historians focuses on the construction chronology of the house. As such, archaeology became an essential tool to understanding architectural changes over time and ascribing such changes to particular periods of ownership. The original date of construction of the house by William Digges is estimated at 1714 based on dendrochronological analysis by Michael Worthington of Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory, which yielded felling dates for timbers used in principle construction between 1711 and 1714. Prior excavations by The Ottery Group and others focused on exterior yard areas immediately surrounding the main house, but also included excavations along the building's exterior foundation.

More recently, in 2013-2014, archaeology focused on the interior sub-floor areas within the house in order to mitigate impacts from the proposed construction of concrete footers as part of the stabilization effort; nearly the entirety of the interior flooring was removed to allow archaeologists to access subfloor areas on the interior of the structure. These investigations uncovered several intact architectural features and associated cultural soil strata which are associated with the construction and modification of the house from ca. 1714 through the early 1900s. These in situ finds included brick footers, hearths, and other structural evidence that confirm a sequence of three distinct phases of architectural development, a sequence that was previously inferred from examination of the framing and other architectural evidence. Identified architectural phases include: the ca. 1714 construction of an approximately 20-x-40-foot English framed building on solid masonry foundations; the ca. 1740 expansion of the structure to approximately 20-x-50 feet, and the construction of an ell to the northern façade of the building; and, lastly, the ca. 1767 expansion of the structure to approximately 20-x-64 feet, and the encasement of the frame structure within a brick façade. This final construction episode transformed the building into a Georgian-style plantation house.

In addition to the confirmation of a multi-phased eighteenth-century structural development, the current archaeological investigation also documented more recent alterations to Melwood Park over the past 100 years. These include the demolition and replacement of the original ell in the late 1800s; the addition of a porch to the northern façade of the structure during the late 1800s or early 1900s; and, the installation of modern utility lines including septic and electric in the early 2000s.

The endeavor to stabilize and restore the historic dwelling at Melwood Park is an exemplary collaboration between private owners and stewards of the property, historic preservation



*The Dwelling at Melwood Park, Photographed in 1936 for the Historic American Building Record  
(Source: Library of Congress)*

architects, structural engineers, archaeologists, and state and local governments. Archaeology has made a significant contribution to our understanding of this important historic site by providing accurate details on the construction chronology that would otherwise not be available in the documentary record of the building.

## Quebec

Reported by: Olivier Roy

### **The Archaeology of God's Wrath – A Major Earthquake on the East Coast in 1663**

By Mélanie Rousseau, Université Laval

During a few seasons at the Intendant's Palace site in Québec City, both Université Laval's field school and the Ville de Québec archaeologists encountered a layer of sand alternating between absent to the south of the site to more than a meter (3'28") thick in the north section. Being devoid of artifacts but for one Lower Normandy earthenware shard, it was either interpreted as a natural soil or as a fill level depending on the season. Various samples were collected under this layer, for both archaeoentomological and archaeobotanical research. In both cases, bugs and seeds of European origin were encountered in the samples. The presence of adventive insect species and of weeds involuntarily brought from Europe, implied that Europeans were in the area at the time the beetles and the seeds found their way into the sediment in the contexts sampled. Europeans settled in Québec City in 1608 and on the site in 1668, so the thick layer of sand above this European beetle had to have accumulated in the 60 years between these two dates. This layer contained no direct traces of anthropic presence except for one ceramic fragment. It was thus doubtful that it was the result of intentional human actions. I thus sought an alternative explanation.



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## Ontario

Reported by: Eva MacDonald Robertson

### Schreiber Wood Project 2014 Season, University of Toronto Mississauga

[Submitted by Michael Brand]

The second season of the Schreiber Wood Project, conducted by the University of Toronto Mississauga's archaeological field school, took place this summer during the last two weeks of August. The project is located in the northwest end of campus on the former Schreiber Estate. In the early 1880s the Schreiber's built three houses on the property. One house is still in use (Lislehurst) and we know the location of the second house (Iverholme, AjGw-535). Information on the location of the third home, Mount Woodham, is vague. Last season we began recording features of the cultural landscape, and made limited test excavations at a partial stone foundation (AjGw-534) on the property.

This season work continued at AjGw-534 to try and determine if this was the location of Mount Woodham. Last season, excavation units on either side of the foundation showed the wall to be dry-laid, with five courses of stone remaining. The majority of artifacts recovered from these units were nails (cut and wire drawn) and window glass. This year we excavated an additional unit outside the structure, and two more units inside the structure, all adjacent to the earlier excavation units. The students are currently working on cleaning and cataloguing the material recovered from this year's excavation, but the collection is again dominated by window glass and nails (primarily cut nails). A section of chicken wire fencing, the bottom of which appears to have been set in a shallow trench, cut through one of the units inside the structure.

We also began work this year at Iverholme (AjGw-535). Iverholme enjoyed an envious location, situated on a prominent landform located across a ravine from Lislehurst. To access the house one would have followed a now abandoned road running along the east slope of the ravine. Approximately two-thirds of the way down the ravine a bridge once crossed to the west side of the creek, connecting to a road bed with a dry laid stone retaining wall above the creek. This section of road runs up a moderately steep slope reaching the crest just a few meters east of what remains of the house foundation. It would have been an impressive and imposing sight to travel up the slope and see the large stone house above you. The house foundation sits on a small extent of relatively level ground. Less than 10 m from the house on the side opposite the driveway the ground slopes steeply down into another creek valley.

Our main work on the site this season consisted of surface collection on the level ground behind the house foundation, and on the steep slope leading down to the creek on the west side of the house. A wide variety of domestic artifact types were present, and students are now in the process of cleaning and cataloguing the collection. We were fortunate to have Eugene Liscio help us create a 3-D scan of the entire site at the end of the field season using a Faro 3-D laser scanner.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

### BOOK REVIEW

By Victor R. Rolando  
Research Consultant - Industrial Archaeology  
Bennington, Vt.

*From Copperas to Cleanup: The History of Vermont's Elizabeth Copper Mine*, by Matthew A. Kierstead. Milestone Heritage Consulting, Beacon, NY, 2014, ii+61pp, 109 photos, 3 maps, biblio, 8½ H x 11 W. \$15.00 (soft cover).

When two observant men noticed rusty stains in the snow while tapping sugar maples in the spring of 1793, it triggered a series of events that lasted into the middle of the 20th century, and to some degree, is still continuing as this review is being written. The place was a nondescript hill – soon to be called Copperas Hill – in southeastern Strafford, Vermont. The Revolutionary War had ended with the Treaty of Paris a scant 10 years before, and while the loser, Great Britain, was in the opening throes of another revolution, the Industrial Revolution, industrial technology in South Strafford was still a generation away.

South Strafford lies near the southeast corner of the town of Strafford, Orange County, Vermont, about 9 straight-line miles northwest of downtown White River Junction (twice that via best road). The copperas and copper mining areas are about 2 miles south-easterly up Mine Road from South

# FROM COPPERAS TO CLEANUP

## THE HISTORY OF VERMONT'S ELIZABETH COPPER MINE



Milestone Heritage Consulting

Strafford. Some of the early mining property extended eastward into Thetford and southward into Sharon and Norwich in Windsor County. No railroad ever connected to the mining area, but a good road (today's Route 132) provided easy access to a railroad depot at nearby Pompanoosuc Station along the Connecticut River. Thus it was that a viable sulfide ore deposit was discovered and exploited, giving birth to a major copperas and copper industry in this quiet, remote corner of Vermont.

Industrial Historian Matt Kierstead has done a magnificent job in writing this well organized and understandable short book. In the first of the book's three major sections, he introduces contextual geology and historical information needed by readers to appreciate the complex individual technologies that resulted in the production of copperas and copper in the world, the Western Hemisphere, the US in general, and specifically at Strafford.

The middle section, comprising half of the book, describes where the ores were found at Strafford, the various technologies employed to extract and refine them, and how the end products of these processes at Strafford were used in an increasingly technology-driven 19th century America. It also describes who the investors with deep pockets were, their motivations for being in the copper business, the ups and downs of international trading and national economic challenges, and the series of various chemical and mining company responses and local mining technological improvements. When Strafford's copperas era ended in 1882, mainly due to its obsolete technology and new copperas sources, it was the largest and

longest-operating copperas manufacturer of its kind in the U.S.

Copper mining and smelting at Strafford, which began in 1829 at Furnace Flat, went through its own roller-coaster challenges, successes, and disappointments. Although having two World Wars plus the Korean War to benefit its bottom line, copper production also succumbed, in 1958. Vastly overshadowing its smaller sister's copperas business, employment reached a high of 220 workers with an annual payroll of over \$1 million. It was the country's 19th-largest copper producer in 1953 (final year of the Korean War), mined from about 5 miles of tunnels that are estimated

to have provided enough ore to have made over 100 million pounds of copper (50,000 tons).

All that mining and extraction processes produced another end product: industrial waste. How that aspect of the industry was attended to and resolved is the subject of the last section of (and the main reason for) the book. In 2001 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency designated the mining sites one of the largest Superfund sites in New England. Cleanup was completed in 2013. As the land was being reclaimed, the archaeological survey of the site documented the remaining surface and accessible subsurface features, as described and illustrated in the book.

Over 100 photographs, maps, and sketches grace the book's pages, from Daguerreotypes to halftones to modern color prints (all captioned) that accompany the text – the next best thing to having been there. Four full-page Historic American Engineering Record drawings of the Elizabeth Mine area produced in 2003 depict the mining areas from various viewpoints, including an oblique translucent view of the subsurface mining workings, and an ore processing flow chart.

The author's writing style is crisp and concise: no excessive or repetitive discussions; every word counts. Two pages list sources consulted (no footnotes or in-text references). Slick, shiny no-expense-spared heavy gauge paper and a printed spine all for \$15.00 postage paid in the continental U.S. Make checks payable to Milestone Heritage Consulting at 156 Western Ave., Marlboro NY 12542. See [www.milestoneheritage.com](http://www.milestoneheritage.com) for further information about the book and author.

NEW BOOK

***The New England Glassworks  
in Temple, New Hampshire***

(Revised Second Edition)

By David R. Starbuck

128 Pages, all in color

Published by the New Hampshire Archeological Society

Paper, \$24.95 + \$3.95 shipping

Orders may be placed through David Starbuck,

P.O. Box 492,

Chestertown, NY 12817

and [dstarbuck@Frontiernet.net](mailto:dstarbuck@Frontiernet.net)

