



## From the Trust: State grant funding is gone

By Maureen Kavanagh

*Maryland Historical Trust*

As you are aware, this was a particularly challenging year in Annapolis for the annual state budget. The funding for many programs was reduced or eliminated, including two of the Maryland Historical Trust's grant programs.

The capital grant program, which supports repairs and rehabilitation of historic buildings, received no funding for the second year in a row. The noncapital grant program, which is MHT's primary source of support for archeological projects, also received no funding this year.

The loss of the noncapital grant funding this year will have a major impact on archeological activities. Of particular note to ASM members, noncapital grants have supported the annual field session, Archeology Month and the ASM survey and testing program.

Here are some of the projects (both ASM-sponsored and other archeological projects) that have been undertaken using noncapital grant support in the last few years:

- Claggett Retreat site excavations
- Port Tobacco site testing and excavations
- Susquehanna Canal Locks site survey
- Pig Point site excavations
- Grieb site excavations
- Remote sensing at the Barton site
- Underwater survey on the Potomac River
- Underwater survey of Bodkin Creek
- Archeological survey of Tilghman Island
- Archeological survey and predictive model for the upper Eastern Shore
- Archeology Month outreach activities

The ASM board has been keeping abreast of these developments and is trying to find way to keep vital programs running for the near future, but restoration of this grant fund during next year's legislative session should be high on the radar for the archeological community.

<p>Field school is coming up May 14 – 24. Details and a registration form are inside.</p>
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## Upcoming events

**May 14 – 24:** ASM field school, Jefferson Patterson Park.

**May 25:** Board meeting, at field school site.

**May 24 – 28:** National Park Service is sponsoring archeological workshop at the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site near Stanton, North Dakota. \$475. Application forms on the Midwest Archeological Center's web page at [www.nps.gov/history/mwac/](http://www.nps.gov/history/mwac/) For further information, contact Steven L. DeVore at 402-437-5392, ext. 141 or [steve\\_de\\_vore@nps.gov](mailto:steve_de_vore@nps.gov)

**June 12 – 20:** Barton field session.

**October 28 – 31:** ESAF meeting, Williamsburg, Va.

## Volunteer opportunities

The following volunteer opportunities are open to CAT program participants and other ASM members:

**Montgomery County** is offering opportunities for lab and field work Wednesdays, 9:30 to 2:30. Call 301-840-5848 or contact [heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org](mailto:heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org). CAT opportunity.

**ASM field session collection:** Volunteers have finished upgrading the ASM field school collection. They will soon start work on the Rosenstock (Frederick County) plow zone material. The lab in Crownsville will be open Tuesdays from 9:30 until 4. Contact Louise Akerson at [lakerson1@verizon.net](mailto:lakerson1@verizon.net) or Charlie Hall [chall@mdp.state.md.us](mailto:chall@mdp.state.md.us).

**The Lost Towns Project** of Anne Arundel County welcomes volunteers for its prolific Pig Point prehistoric site. Fridays. Call Jessie Grow at 410-222-1318.

**Mount Calvert.** Lab work and field work. 301-627-1286.

**Jefferson Patterson Park** invites volunteers to take part in its activities, including archeology, historical research and conservation. Contact Ed Chaney at [echaney@mdp.state.md.us](mailto:echaney@mdp.state.md.us) or 410-586-8554.

The Archaeological Institute of America provides an online listing of fieldwork opportunities worldwide, Call up [www.archaeological.org/fieldwork/](http://www.archaeological.org/fieldwork/) to get started. Remember to add the extra A in archaeological.

## CAT corner

For updates and information on other CAT activities check the ASM website.

A website is available to candidates and graduates: <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/MDcat/> . To join the group email [MDcat-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:MDcat-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)



# JefPat is site for the '10 field school

Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum is the focus of ASM this month with the 2010 Tyler Bastian Field Session opening there Friday, May 14 for a 10-day run. On-site excavation and lab opportunities are planned for each day plus, something new this year, a chance to spend time working in the Maryland Archeological Conservatory Laboratory and its 8 million artifacts.

The excavations will be at the Smith's St. Leonard site on the scenic 560-acre park along the eastern shore of the Patuxent River in Calvert County.

The site, on a bluff overlooking the mouth of St. Leonard's Creek, is part of a tobacco plantation that dates back to 1711. It has been the subject of archeological investigations since 2002 and traces of four pre-Revolutionary buildings have been located. The area planned for research this year contains the plantation owner's house, his storehouse and a detached kitchen, a quarter for enslaved workers, and barns.

To learn more about the site, look at the entry on the park's website, [www.jefpat.org](http://www.jefpat.org) For a look at some recent finds at Smith's St. Leonard, see <http://jeff-patt-park.livejournal.com/>

Especially for CAT candidates, Becky Morehouse, the curator of state collections at the MAC Lab, will offer workshops on laboratory methods on Monday, May 17 and Saturday, May 22.

The tentative list of special activities and lectures planned to supplement the digging/lab session is:

- Friday, May 14: Archeology at Machu Picchu, Peru, with Anita Cook, evening
- Saturday, May 15: Introduction to the Smith's St. Leonard Site with Ed Chaney, evening
- Sunday, May 16: Docent tours of the FAQ archeology exhibit and/or JPPM sites, 1 p.m.
- Monday, May 17: MAC lab tour with Kathy Concannon.
- Monday, May 17: CAT workshop on lab methods with Rebecca Morehouse
- Tuesday, May 18: Artifact lifting workshop with Nicole Doub, 1.5 hours
- Wednesday, May 19: Historic ceramic identification workshop with Patricia Samford, 2 hours
- Wednesday, May 19: The Archeology of Comparative Slavery in the Chesapeake, with Patricia Samford, the Spencer Geasey lecture, evening
- Thursday, May 20: Small finds workshop with Sara Rivers-Cofield
- Friday, May 21: Cleaning techniques for archeological materials with Nicole Doub, 1 hour
- Saturday, May 22: MAC lab tours with Kathy Concannon, 1 hour
- Saturday, May 22: CAT workshop on lab methods with Rebeca Morehouse
- Sunday May 23: Docent tours of the FAQ archeology exhibit and/or JPPM sites, 1 p.m.
- Sunday May 23: Activities at the Woodland Indian Village with Tim Thoman

Space is available for camping on JefPat grounds, complete with shower facilities. There are three motels in Prince Frederick, for people preferring indoor accommodations: Holiday Inn Express, Springhill Suites (Marriott) and Super 8. A field school registration form is inside this newsletter. The cost for ASM members is \$10 a day, with a maximum charge of \$30.

## Frederick woman is ASM Teacher of the Year

By Nancy Geasey

Ellen Georgi, a teacher of ancient and medieval history at Urbana Middle School, Frederick County, was named as ASM's Teacher of the Year at the Society's Spring Symposium April 10. The 2010 Patricia Seitz Award winner holds a master's degree in archeology from Stanford University and has taught in Saudi Arabia, California and Maryland schools.

She has served as president of the Frederick County Social Studies Council and as an advisor and founder of the Frederick County History Club for students in grades 6-12.

In addition to her teaching accomplishments, Mrs. Georgi has received grants for scholarly tours to Saudi Arabia and China and has been awarded a second educator enrichment tour to China. Taking these tours allowed her to share her many experiences with students, often through hands-on opportunity to view the items of cultural heritage she brings to the classroom. Currently, the Georgi family is hosting an exchange student from Afghanistan.

Through her efforts she has made the classroom a vibrant, culturally aware atmosphere. Her travels and perspectives on culture, history and archaeology not only interest students in things they never even thought of, but opens their minds to inquiry.

## Arizona closes parks in budget move

By Gillian Ferris Kohl

*Condensed from NPR, April 11, 2010*

As states across the country scramble to close budget gaps, many are targeting state parks. Arizona is the first to go through with it. In February, the state closed five of its 30 parks and a number of them contain fragile archeological sites. Now residents are taking steps to prevent looting.

On a clear, calm day, Homolovi Ruins State Park has one of the best views in northern Arizona. Susan Secakuku, a former archeologist at Homolovi and a member of the Hopi tribe, says it's hard to believe visitors are no longer allowed to see this stunning view or the archeological treasures there.

"There's a lot of beautiful pottery, there are burial plots," Secakuku said. "We as the Hopi tribe are very concerned about the protection of the place first and foremost, and that's kind of the scary part right now."

Arizona closed Homolovi earlier this year. In the past three years, the legislature has cut state-park funding by roughly 80 percent. About half of all the state's park employees have been laid off.

That has led volunteers and nonprofit groups to step in. Even individuals are getting ready to pitch in with money at some of the state's shuttered parks.

"The state of Arizona has very active volunteers," said Karen Berggren, who has managed Homolovi since it opened 23 years ago. "You know, when your money is swept and you have nothing to pay people with, that makes it a little difficult to keep things open."

This week, when she's laid off from her job, Berggren will become an on-site volunteer, continuing to keep watch over the park — just without a paycheck.

"What we find is that the historic parks, the educational parks, the rural parks, they just don't produce enough revenues, they don't have something that attracts people every weekend, like the fishing areas do," she said. "But, they're treasures. You know, we don't want to lose those treasures."

Homolovi stands to lose a lot if it remains closed. Home to more than 500 ancestral Hopi sites, the area has been ravaged for centuries by looters, searching for relics to sell on the black market. The worst of it was during the 1970s, about a decade before Homolovi became a state park.

"It was essentially being mined — like, looted on a daily basis. They were hitting it with backhoes," said Robert Bruenig, director of the Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff.

The state has agreed to pay one law-enforcement ranger to patrol Homolovi. And a slew of volunteer

groups will visit the site regularly. But there's only so much volunteers can do.

In June, lawmakers are expected to list more parks for closure. As many as 13 may be shut down.

# Shipwreck may be N.C.'s oldest

By Jeff Hampton

*Condensed from the Virginian-Pilot, April 7, 2010*

COROLLA, N.C. -- As Tuesday's sun edged over the Atlantic horizon, 25 volunteers frantically dug sand from what may be the oldest known shipwreck on the Outer Banks.

This was a race against the tide to excavate the 12-ton remains of a shipwreck more than 300 years old. The ship is one of dozens along the coast visible in the surf or just offshore. It's among some 5,000 recorded wrecks along what is known as the Graveyard of the Atlantic.

But this wreck of hand-hewn beams fastened entirely with wooden pegs could be the oldest of them all. "We just don't find ships of this age in this good shape," said Richard Lawrence, director of the North Carolina Underwater Archaeology Branch. "This is unique."

A November storm fully exposed the timbers, attracting archeologists to document and research it. In the following weeks, strong currents lifted the wreck and carried it south two miles. As it moved, planks were lost and a large piece of the keel disappeared. In the past two weeks, the wreck moved back north about a mile.

Typically, shipwrecks stay where they lie, getting exposed occasionally, then disappearing again under the sand. The old ship had probably remained in the same spot since the late 1600s until the winter storms, Lawrence said.

But this one was mobile, and it could fall apart and be lost.

Dare County residents Ray Midgett and Roger Harris, avid beachcombers, explored the wreck when it was on the beach near the lighthouse. Harris first spotted part of the beams jutting from the sand in the mid-1990s.

They found coins from the early 1600s marked with King Louis XIII and King Charles I, Harris said.

Midgett wrote letters in March in an effort to save the ship, and state Sen. Marc Basnight, D-Dare, asked the state Wildlife Resources Commission to help.

Tuesday, after 45 minutes of digging, the tops of the beams were exposed. A fire truck from Corolla washed more sand from between and under the timbers.

The plan was to use air bags and the hydraulic tool used to extricate victims from wrecks to lift the timbers. A backhoe and a front-end loader with a telescoping hydraulic arm would lift and pull the wreck out of its hole and down the beach.

"It's kind of cool," said Jeff Foster, assistant chief of Corolla Fire and Rescue. "This is a blend of an ancient shipwreck and modern technology. Whether it will work or not, the jury is out."

After a strong pull and with the engine revving, even the large, ribbed tires of the machine began to sink. The crew members tried another tactic: They attached the sled to the extended telescoping arm and retracted it. The back tires lifted off the ground a little, then alighted again. Gradually, the dark, waterlogged timbers, 20 feet by about 16 feet, moved over the sand, as the crowd cheered.

Soon the wreckage would be crossing N.C. 12 to a spot near the lighthouse.

"We'll document every fastener and hole on this thing and try to extrapolate what this ship looked like," Lawrence said.

Archeologists believe this could be the HMS Swift, a British ship about 70 feet long and 16 feet wide that ran aground off Point Comfort in the Chesapeake Bay in 1698.

The current carried the Swift southward, where it beached on the Currituck County Outer Banks. Residents, known as "bankers," scuttled the ship, cutting a hole in the bottom to make sure it didn't float away.

A rough hole of about 6 inches by 3 inches is visible today in the hull planks. That hole, scientists believe, is the one cut by the bankers to scuttle the Swift, said Nathan Henry, an underwater archeologist.

# State plan will promote archeology

By Elizabeth Hughes

*Maryland Historical Trust*

The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority's new Strategic Plan for 2010-2020 hopes to encourage archeological tourism within the state.

The plan, which received extensive public input over the past two years, is designed to assist the Maryland Heritage Areas Program in meeting the challenge of managing a mature system of state Heritage Areas and sustaining that system over time.

The Maryland Heritage Areas Program was created in 1996 to help communities use heritage tourism to strengthen their economies through the development, protection and promotion of cultural, historic and natural resources. The Maryland program was recognized with a Preserve America Presidential Award in 2007 and has served as a national model for heritage tourism development.

Since the program's inception, the MHAA has awarded over \$18 million in financial assistance and leveraged approximately \$70 million in nonstate funds for heritage tourism projects and activities. Today, 23 counties and Baltimore City have Heritage Areas.

Development of the strategic plan was led by the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Heritage Tourism Program. Funding was provided in part by a National Park Service Preserve America grant. A full version of the plan is available at [http://mht.maryland.gov/heritageareas\\_plan.html](http://mht.maryland.gov/heritageareas_plan.html).

Chief elements of the plan include:

- **Statement of Three Focus Areas.** The three categories of activity that will become the principal basis on which the success of the program will be evaluated over the next 10 years are Developing Heritage Tourism Product, Building Partnerships and Sustaining Regional Identity.
- **Identification of Strategies.** The plan identifies strategies in the areas of management, stewardship, heritage tourism marketing and product development, and communication and a proposed schedule for gradual implementation over a 10-year period.
- **Program Performance Measures.** The plan outlines how the program will evaluate management effectiveness and program outcomes.

Of particular interest to Maryland's archeology community are those strategies outlined in the stewardship section which call for revisions to the MHAA grant application that will place greater emphasis on archeological resource conservation projects that impact the visitor experience.

In addition, Heritage Area management entities are directed to incorporate plans for addressing archeological resource conservation in their plans. Both MHAA and Heritage Area management entities are directed by the plan to actively promote best practices in archeological conservation.

Development of stronger partnerships between MHAA, Heritage Areas and the archeology community is expected to be one of the outcomes of the Heritage Area strategic planning process.

To learn more about the Heritage Areas Program or implementation of the strategic plan, visit the Maryland Historical Trust website at [http://mht.maryland.gov/heritageareas\\_program.html](http://mht.maryland.gov/heritageareas_program.html) or contact Richard Hughes at 410-514-7685 or [rhughes@mdp.state.md.us](mailto:rhughes@mdp.state.md.us)

## Chapter notes

### Anne Arundel

Meeting five times a year in February, April, June, September and November, the chapter meets at the Severna Park Branch of the Anne Arundel County Public Library, 45 McKinsey Road. 7:30 p.m. Contact Mechelle Kerns-Nocerito at [AACHapASM@hotmail.com](mailto:AACHapASM@hotmail.com) or visit the chapter website [www.marylandarcheology.org/aacashome.php](http://www.marylandarcheology.org/aacashome.php)



**September 10:** London Town's Rod Cofield will talk on ways by which women, as patrons and laborers, participated in Colonial-era public houses.

## Central

Central Chapter has no formal meetings planned, but it does engage in field work and related activities. Contact chapter President Stephen Israel, 410-945-5514 or [ssisrael@verizon.net](mailto:ssisrael@verizon.net)

## Charles County

Meetings are held 7:30 on the second Tuesday (September-May). Contact President Paula Martino at [paulamartino@hotmail.com](mailto:paulamartino@hotmail.com) or 301-752-2852.

**May 11:** Jim Gibb will conduct a stone toolmaking workshop. At the La Plata train station.

## Mid-Potomac

The chapter meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Agricultural History Farm Park Activity Center in Derwood. Dinner at a local restaurant is at 6. Contact [heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org](mailto:heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org), or call 301-840-5848 or Don Housley at [donhou704@earthlink.net](mailto:donhou704@earthlink.net) or 301-424-8526. Chapter website: [www.asmmidpotomac.wordpress.com](http://www.asmmidpotomac.wordpress.com) and [www.facebook.com/pages/Mid-Potomac-Archaeology/182856471768](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mid-Potomac-Archaeology/182856471768)

**May 20:** Nichole Sorensen-Mutchie, from the State Highway Administration, on the archeology at a War of 1812 battlefield site in Bladensburg. (Postponed from February.)

## Monocacy

The chapter meets in the C. Burr Artz Library in Frederick on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. Contact Jeremy Lazelle at 301-845-9855 or [jlazelle@msn.com](mailto:jlazelle@msn.com) or Nancy Geasey at 301-378-0212.

**May 12:** Joy Beasley, cultural resource manager at Monocacy Battlefield, will discuss the plans for excavating the slave quarters at L'Hermitage, scheduled to begin in late May and continue through the summer.

**June 8:** Justin Bedard of the URS Corporation will present "The Adoption of Native American Ceramic Technology in the Chesapeake Bay Region."

## Northern Chesapeake

Meetings are the second Wednesday of the month. Members and guests assemble at 6:30 p.m. for light refreshments. A business meeting at 7 is followed by the presentation at 7:30. Contact Ann Persson at 410-272-3425 or [aspst20@yahoo.com](mailto:aspst20@yahoo.com) Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/northernchesapeake>

## Upper Patuxent

Programs are the second Monday of every other month at 7:30 p.m. at Mt. Ida, near the courthouse in Ellicott City. Potluck suppers are held at 6:15 in September and March. Otherwise, dinner is available at an Ellicott City restaurant. Contact Lee Preston at 443-745-1202 or [leeprestonjr@comcast.net](mailto:leeprestonjr@comcast.net)

**May 17:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual J. Alfred Prufrock History/Archeology Team Competition Game."

## Western Maryland

Programs are the fourth Friday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. in the LaVale Library, unless noted. Contact Roy Brown, 301-724-7769. Chapter email: [wmdasm@yahoo.com](mailto:wmdasm@yahoo.com) Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/wmdasm>

**June 4:** Robert Wall on "The Barton Site 2009 and 2010."

**June 12 - 20:** The Barton Site.

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ASM. Inc members receive the monthly newsletter ASM Ink, the biannual journal MARYLAND ARCHEOLOGY, reduced admission to ASM events and a 10% discount on items sold by the Society. Contact Membership Secretary Belinda Urquiza for membership rates. For publication sales, contact Dan Coates at ASM Publications, 716 Country Club Rd., Havre de Grace, MD 21078-2104 or 410-273-9619 or [dancoates@comcast.net](mailto:dancoates@comcast.net).

**Submissions welcome.** Please send to Myron Beckenstein, 6817 Pineway, University Park, MD 20782, 301-864-5289 or [myronbeck@verizon.net](mailto:myronbeck@verizon.net)

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