



# ASM Ink

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[www.marylandarcheology.org](http://www.marylandarcheology.org)

## What to expect at the Swan Cove dig

By Jane Cox

*Lost Towns Project*

The evidence of pipe-making at Swan Cove challenges many assumptions about locally made pipes and undoubtedly will energize further studies of locally made pipes in the Chesapeake. The 2004 field session will continue the search for intact kiln structure and will further test the surrounding "industrial area."

Situated on the banks of a relic cove off Mill Creek in Anne Arundel County Maryland, the Swan Cove Site (18AN934) was occupied by planter and tobacco pipemaker Emanuel Drue from perhaps as early as the 1650s until his death in 1669. Drue used state-of-the-art European production techniques in the manufacture of tobacco-pipes made of native clays and he produced two main forms, a "Chesapeake" style angular elbow pipe and a European "belly bowl."

After Drue's tenure, Henry Merriday lived on the parcel from at least 1707 until 1721. Several domestic features related to this early 18th century occupation, including a substantial cellar-hole, a trash midden and postholes and molds, will be investigated in the 2004 season.

The ASM field school at Swan Cove will focus on three primary objectives. Participants will:

- Continue to search for the kiln structure and further investigate the industrial space on the lower hill. This will further our understanding of an early industrial practices in the colonial Chesapeake. As the economic emphasis in the region was clearly focused on financially lucrative tobacco production, this industrial activity presents an interesting and alternative perspective on labor practices of the Chesapeake.

- Continue plowzone testing across the site to identify features associated with Drue's pipe operation (ca. 1650-1669) and Merriday's domestic occupation (ca. 1670-1721). While portions of the site were damaged by a backhoe operation in the 1970s, numerous intact features and plowzone remains to be excavated.

- Excavate portions of the Merriday domestic features. Merriday's domestic occupation, which is best represented in sealed features, presents an interesting continuum between the early colonial settlement of Providence and its maturing planter society that influenced the nearby colonial capital of Annapolis. Planters and artisans who established homes near the capital city played a role in the agricultural, social and political development of the region.

In addition, participants will process artifacts in our field lab and all will be encouraged to participate in the lectures and hands-on programs offered throughout the field session so they will better understand the Lost Towns clay pipe research and the significance of the Providence settlement in the colonial Chesapeake.

**More field school details inside on Page 10.**

**Maureen Kavanagh returns to head Trust office. Page 3**

## Upcoming events

**May 1 – 2:** Primitive Technology Weekend. Oregon Ridge, Baltimore County. Contact Kirk Dreier, 41–887-1815 or [ornc@bcpl.net](mailto:ornc@bcpl.net) or check website, [www.oregonridge.org](http://www.oregonridge.org)

**May 7 – 17:** Annual ASM field school, at Swan Cove in Anne Arundel County.

**May 8:** Forensic Anthropology Day, sponsored by Mid-Potomac chapter. Needwood Mansion. Contact: Heather Bouslog at [heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org](mailto:heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org) or 301-840-5848.

**May 8:** The Council for West Virginia Archeology spring workshop, at the Delf Norona Museum in Moundsville, West Virginia. The subject of the workshop is Late Prehistoric ceramics. <http://cwva.org>

**May 21:** William Kelso will speak on his recent discoveries at Jamestown. JPPM MAC lab. 410-586-8515.

**May 22:** One-day symposium on "Peopling of the Americas," Port Columbus, Ohio, airport. Fee. All-star speaker cast. In conjunction with annual meeting of the Ohio Archeological Society May 23. [www.ohioarch.org/RegistrationFormSymposium.htm](http://www.ohioarch.org/RegistrationFormSymposium.htm)

**May 29 – June 6:** Barton site field school in Rawlings. [wmdasm@yahoo.com](mailto:wmdasm@yahoo.com)

**June 5:** ASM board meeting, Crownsville. 10 a.m. All welcome.

**July 24 (10-4) and 25 (1-4):** Native American Lifeways with Daniel Firehawk Abbott. Hancock's Resolution, 2795 Bayside Beach Road, Pasadena. 410-255-4048.

**October 1 – 2:** Catocin Regional History Conference, Frederick Community College. 301-624-2803 or [bpowell@frederick.edu](mailto:bpowell@frederick.edu)

**October 16:** Annual ASM meeting, hosted by Mid-Potomac Chapter.

**November 4 – 7:** Joint ESAF – Ontario Archeological Society meeting, Midland, Ontario.

## Volunteer opportunities

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

**The Office of Archeology** is conducting a survey of approximately 100 acres of the former Springfield Hospital Center for the Town of Sykesville, Carroll County. The work will involve pedestrian survey and systematic shovel test pit excavation. Most of the work will take place on weekends. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn about archeological site identification theory and practice. Register with Charlie Hall at 410-514-7665 or by email at [hall@dhcd.state.md.us](mailto:hall@dhcd.state.md.us)

**ASM field session collection:** Volunteers are needed to work on up-grading collections associated with previous field sessions. Work has started with the Nolands Ferry collection. Nolands Ferry is a Late Woodland site excavated by ASM in 1978 under the leadership of Donald Peck. The lab in Crownsville will be open Tuesdays from 9:30 until 4. For additional information contact Louise Akerson [rakerson@comcast.net](mailto:rakerson@comcast.net) or Charlie Hall [hall@dhcd.state.md.us](mailto:hall@dhcd.state.md.us).

**Montgomery County** lab and field work. Call 301-840-5848 or contact [james.sorensen@mncppc-mc.org](mailto:james.sorensen@mncppc-mc.org) or [heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org](mailto:heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org). CAT opportunity.

**The Lost Towns Project** of Anne Arundel County. 410-222-7441.

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

# Changes at the top at the Trust

Ending a long stint as Maryland's top archeologist, Richard Hughes has moved to another position in the Maryland Historical Trust. He is being succeeded as chief of the Office of Archeology by Maureen Kavanagh.

According to the April 14 announcement by the Department of Housing and Community Development's Rodney Little, the move was designed to "broaden the Trust's preservation planning, heritage tourism and local government technical assistance programs to better address the needs of the state's archeological resources."

In becoming chief of the Trust's Office of Heritage Planning and Outreach, Richard is not giving up archeology altogether. He will continue to serve as the Trust's archeological liaison with the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs and the MHT Easement Committee.

Both Richard and Maureen will be involved with ASM activities, but the specifics of their roles was still under discussion.

"There is a lot of back-and-forth between me and Maureen -- in a very friendly way -- about who does what, so there will be some 'evolution' as things settle in," Richard said.

Richard said, "One thing Rodney specifically told me was that he wanted me still to work closely with ASM on programs under my direction -- educational activities, grants, publications -- and that is something I very much want to do as I move to make archeology more of an integral part of MHT's educational and outreach programs."

He added, "One reason they wanted me in this position is to work on better incorporating/ integrating archeology into the Trust's overall education, publication and outreach programs."

Also, as the head of the Trust's Non-Capital Grants Program, he said, "My first priority will be to work on getting the legislature to increase funding next year." [The results of this year's legislative session still are unclear but so far it looks as if no major damage was done.]

Richard Hughes came to Maryland in 1980 as a research archeologist at Salisbury State University. Since 1982 he has worked in the archeological programs of the Trust, becoming its head in October, 1983. When the Trust merged with the archeology functions of the Maryland

Geological Survey in 1990, he became chief of the combined Office of Archeology.

Maureen Kavanagh returns to archeology after branching off to work with the Trust's Geographic Information System (GIS) program. Launched in 1991, GIS is a computer-based linkage of Maryland's cultural resources inventories, including archeological and historic sites. She will continue to head the GIS unit.

Maureen -- almost a native Marylander (she moved here from Illinois when she was 11) -- started working on archeological projects in Maryland while pursuing her master's degree at the University of Wisconsin in the mid-1970s. After graduation, she returned to the state to do the Monocacy River Project, then in 1979 joined Tyler Bastian at the Geological Survey, where she was a familiar figure at ASM field sessions. She continued with archeology after the merger with the Trust but gradually got involved with the GIS project and in recent years has been devoting herself to that.

Now she will be returning to archeology.

"I am excited about it, and while the job is going to be a little overwhelming, I'm sure with help from others that it will turn out to be lots of fun," she said.



*Maureen Kavanagh*

# Indian ossuary found in Salisbury

*From newspaper accounts and interviews*

SALISBURY MD - What began as a possible murder investigation instead resulted in the discovery of an ancient Indian burial site, an ossuary containing the remains of 35 individuals.

Police in Salisbury responded to a call in mid-February regarding human remains discovered by a construction crew working on a house. Authorities quickly realized the bones were not recent. They were, in fact, really, really old. The Maryland medical examiner's office estimates they date back 400 years.

"This is a very exciting find," anthropologist Elizabeth Ragan told the Native American Times, of Oklahoma, soon after the bones were found.

Archeologist Dana Kollmann, who was chosen to examine the bones, said they were the remains of 35 people: 12 males, 13 females and 10 children. Ages ranged from less than one year to eight who were over 34. About half of the remains were of young adults, people 20 to 34. "As a whole," she said, "the population appeared generally healthy."

The work done by the police "caused significant damage and loss of provenience for about 80 percent of the collection," she said. "Despite this, an attempt was made to reassociate elements with individuals."

Ragan, an assistant professor of anthropology at Salisbury University, was summoned to the site when the bones were discovered. After a meeting with state officials, Chief Sewell "Winterhawk" Fitzhugh said SU officials would be able to gather information and research the remains while in their custody.

"What is going to happen now is the remains will be removed and stored at Salisbury University," Winterhawk said. "At an appropriate time they will be re-interred at an undisclosed location."

Ragan said the remains were found in what once were burial grounds, probably first established between 1400 AD and 1600 AD.

"It is on a site that used to be a field, on high ground. We had heard there was a site there for some time, but we thought it was just a village site. We tried to get funding to investigate a number of years ago, but money is tight. It is a shame. We could have found this sooner," Ragan said.

She said the ossuary likely was created by the ancestors of tribes indigenous to Maryland's Eastern Shore, the Nanticoke and Accohannock.

Winterhawk's tribe is the remnant of Monie Indians who lived on the Lower Shore but migrated south to the marshes during colonization in the early 1700s. He said the remains found in Salisbury show that the tribe moved after Europeans settled in the region.

"We started fleeing from the highlands when colonization started. We migrated to the low marsh areas. Those were areas the colonists didn't want but we could still survive there," he said.

"During that period of time, the tradition was to bury someone in a single shallow grave, then exhume all those who died during a certain period to be buried together in a pit (ossuary). For this second burial the bones of the deceased would be cleaned and wrapped and laid together."

While federal and state laws can protect sites when public construction is involved, private development is different, said Charles Clark, a Nanticoke from Sussex County, Delaware.

"When it's private it's up to the conscience of the individual," he said.

James Trader of the Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites said the Wicomico County's ordinances do not protect historical burial sites.

"There is no requirement in the zoning ordinance requiring work to stop to allow documentation and research," he said. "It's something I've been trying to get changed for over five years. The county doesn't give a damn about our history."

Trader also said the Maryland Historical Trust is alerted when such a site is discovered, as was the case this time. Officials from the Trust spent several days there as the investigation was conducted.

"If the property owner gives permission they can explore the site," he said. "Indians have some federal protection for their burial sites, and the state programs are usually patterned after that."

In accordance with Indian tradition, Ragan discouraged taking any pictures of the find. After examination the bones were returned to Indian authorities in early April for reburial.

# Hunley crew get identities, buried

*From wire reports*

CHARLESTON, S.C. -- One sailor was a deserter from the Union navy. Another was a serious smoker, whose tobacco-filled wooden pipe was found near his bones. The skipper had a bent coin in his pocket -- a good-luck charm from the battle of Shiloh -- and bullet fragments in his leg. The second in command wore the dog tag of a dead Yankee. And one of the crew had been helmsman on a rebel privateer.

The doomed men of the Confederate submarine CSS Hunley were natives of Talbot County, Md., Fredericksburg, and a half-dozen other places. A hard-bitten and varied lot, with healed fractures, arthritic joints and tobacco-stained teeth, they perished together, dreadfully, while making history on a winter night off the coast of Charleston in 1864.

Now, after a meticulous three-year investigation that included facial reconstructions and the exhumations of one crewman's long-dead sisters, a team of scholars and scientists, aided by experts from the Smithsonian, has resurrected the eight men of the Hunley, put stories to their names and modeled facial reconstructions. And on Saturday, April 17, some 140 years after their deaths, the crew of the first submarine to make a successful attack on an enemy warship was buried amid solemn ceremony at a cemetery in Charleston.

For scientists, the project has been "an incredible opportunity to bring all these different disciplines together," said Doug Owsley, of the Smithsonian Institution, who helped direct the research.

From a military standpoint, the members of the crew "were incredibly brave men," he said. "When you get inside this little tiny vessel and realize how small it is, boy, these were gutsy guys."

The 40-foot-long, 14-ton Hunley was a crude, claustrophobic craft that was built out of a boiler, had no independent air supply and was powered by a hand crank. It's crew of eight -- four Americans, four Europeans -- on the night of Feb. 17, 1864, set out to engage the Union fleet blockading the Confederate port.

Outside Charleston Harbor, the submerged Hunley rammed a torpedo on a barbed spar into the hull of a 12-gun Union sloop, the USS Housatonic. The ensuing blast quickly sank the Union ship, killing a handful of Yankee sailors. But the Hunley disappeared, too, for reasons that remain uncertain.

Finally located in 1995, it was raised during the summer of 2000 and brought to a specially built conservation center in North Charleston, where its interior was excavated and the contents studied.

The skeletons of all eight sailors were found, along with stunning artifacts, such as Capt. George Dixon's inscribed good-luck coin and ornate pocket watch, and the pipe of an immigrant crewman named Lumpkin, still filled with unsmoked tobacco.

After the initial examination of the boat's contents in 2001, which was led by project archeologists Robert S. Neyland and Maria Jacobsen, Owsley began a detailed program to identify each set of remains. Although the names of the crewmen were known with some degree of accuracy, it was not known which skeleton went with which name.

And aside from the captain, little was known about the lives of the men. But their remains spoke to the scientists. The man believed to be Lumpkin was such an avid pipe smoker, Owsley said, that his teeth were worn and damaged where he had clenched the stem.

Another crewman, Frank Collins of Fredericksburg, a big, strong man who stood more than six feet tall, had odd notches between his front teeth. Research showed that his grandfather and an uncle had been shoemakers. Collins may have worked with them, Owsley said, and the notches were probably from holding leather-working needles in his teeth.

It fell to Linda Abrams, the Hunley project's genealogist, to track down the crew's personal histories. She has helped the U.S. military find relatives of hundred of Americans killed in wars from World War II to Vietnam. But that was nothing like this.

"It's a question of looking for a trail on these guys, trying everything in a period of time in American when very few records were kept," said Abrams, of Longmeadow, Mass.

While researching Dixon, for example, Abrams visited six cities to pore through records. She eventually tracked down relatives of three of the Americans. Details about the European crewmen have proved far more elusive. She promises to persevere, focusing on immigration lists from New York, Baltimore, New Orleans and Philadelphia. "I just have to keep digging," she said.

## Kennewick decision is upheld on appeal

*From the Tr-City (Washington) Herald, April 20, 2004*

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) - Anthropologists seeking to study the ancient Kennewick Man skeleton scored another victory when the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals rejected a request by four Northwest tribes for a rehearing in the lengthy dispute.

Tribal lawyers sought to have the case reheard by the full court after a three-judge panel ruled in February that the tribes had no right to the 9,300-year-old remains under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

A brief order issued Monday by the court denied the request from the Nez Perce, Umatilla, Yakama and Colville tribes, who want to bury the remains without a scientific study.

The collection of 380 bones and bone fragments, which were found in July 1996 on the banks of the Columbia River in Kennewick, Wash., are being stored at the Burke Museum in Seattle.

Alan L. Schneider, a Portland lawyer representing the scientists, said his clients were pleased with the court's decision.

Rob Roy Smith, a Seattle lawyer for the tribes, told The Oregonian that his clients "are clearly disappointed. This case has dealt a staggering blow to the tribes' ability to protect their cultural properties."

Smith added that no decision has been made whether to appeal to the Supreme Court. The tribes and the U.S. Justice Department have 90 days to appeal.

The February ruling, written by Judge Ronald M. Gould, upheld a 2002 decision by Magistrate John Jelderks of the U.S. District Court in Portland that the scientists can study the remains.

## Book review: Amelia Peabody's Egypt

*Amelia Peabody's Egypt: A Compendium, edited by Elizabeth Peters and Kristen Whitbread, William Morrow, 335 pages, \$30.*

It is hard to tell who is more spirited and irrepressible, Amelia Peabody, the famed but fictional 19<sup>th</sup> century archeologist, or Elizabeth Peters, her creator. From the 1884-5 season to after the Great War, Amelia and her husband, Radcliffe Emerson, have battled the sands, the villains and misguided fellow archeologists to bring the secrets of ancient Egypt to light. She has done it with aplomb, a parasol and a passion.

Through 15 volumes, Elizabeth Peters has recounted her adventures and the colorful story of Egyptology. Now she has gone one step further and written a scholarly treatise that playfully melds her fictional characters into the true story of the country and of the period.

A resident of Frederick, Ms. Peters has the background to do this: Before turning to fiction, she had obtained a degree in Egyptology from the University of Chicago and had written a few books on the subject.

In sections devoted to, say, the historical or cultural background of the era, there are the real players and then seamlessly mixed into the quite-serious narrative are the contributions of the Emerson clan. This makes the book entertaining; the factual presentations make it educational.

A brief history of ancient Egypt ("the civilization of the ancient Egyptians lasted longer than any other in the world") and a look at the beginnings of Egyptology are only two of the sections. There also are discussions of such things as the women's movement, the role of Victorian servants, Victorian attitudes towards Other People & Cultures, fashion, childrearing, etc. etc.

Finally, there are brief biographies of prominent people of the era (laced with characters from the Peabody saga), of famous Egyptian places and of Egyptian terms.

As fascinating as the text are the hundreds of pictures, drawings and lithographs that illustrate the story. Hundreds of illustrations of the ruins as seen 100 years ago, of life 100 years ago and of the people mentioned, including, of course, photographs of many of the fictional characters readers have come to know as Amelia made her mark in the sands.

Incidentally, the latest volume in Amelia's adventures has just come out, "Guardian of the Horizon." This volume steps back to re-examine the missing saga year 1907.

-- Reviewed by Myron Beckenstein



## Annual Workshop



*At left, Charlie Hall tells avid listeners about lab procedures. At right, kids try making pots.*

## Spring Symposium



*Left: Among the speakers on "The Way It Was," (from left) Spencer Geasey, Hugh Stabler and Howard MacCord. Right, Richard Hughes chats with speaker George Reynolds.*

## CAT Corner



*The CAT program honors its second and third graduates. At the Workshop, George Evans gets his certificate from ASM President Carol Ebright and CAT director Chris Davenport. At the Spring Symposium, Roy Brown celebrates his completion with the first CAT graduate, Annetta Schott.*

## Profiles in Maryland archeology

# An interview with ... Charlie Hall

*Charlie Hall took over as Maryland's chief terrestrial archeologist in 2001, replacing Tyler Bastian. Before that, Charlie worked in the archeology section of the State Highway Administration.*

**Q. How did you get started in archeology?**

A. I took a class my freshman year at college, at the Washington and Lee University. It was called The Dig and we were working on the former campus of Washington and Lee University, which is called Liberty Hall Academy. The property is still owned by Washington and Lee, a mile and a half west of the town of Lexington (Virginia). That was a beautiful site. It was a lot of fun. I worked there for four years.

**Q. Why did you take the class? Were you already interested in archeology?**

A. I had taken an introductory anthropology class in the winter semester - spring semester, it's called winter semester - and it covered cultural anthropology, physical anthropology and archeology in one semester and the same professor offered The Dig - it was a mini-semester, it was a six-week-long spring semester at the end of the school year at Washington and Lee and I was just interested in taking it. And I'm really glad I did.

**Q. When did you come into Maryland for archeology?**

A. In '93. In 1993 I took a job at the State Highway Administration and I had previously been working in South Carolina at the state historic preservation office.

**Q. What interesting projects have you worked on?**

A. Lots. But the work for the Tennessee Valley Authority in the '80s in Tennessee. One of the things we did - we were working on a reservoir project. Tennessee Valley was proposing to impound a large stretch of the Duck River south of Nashville. About a 50-mile stretch of the river was going to be impounded. Part of the reason was because the Saturn car plant was coming to Spring Hill and things like that and they thought they would need the water. But TVA's mandate - they do other things besides just provide water for industry; it's also recreational, etc - but they were going to impound this great big old area. So they hired my major professor, Walter Klippel, to do an assessment of the archeological resources that might be affected by this reservoir. And I got hired to do the rock shelters and it was just a terrific opportunity. I was extremely fortunate to be tapped for that and as part of it I did a survey of the rock shelters along this 50-mile stretch of the Duck River and we found hundreds of rock shelters and tested them all. It was a blast and we also did, I did, a major excavation of one rock shelter that had material from early archaic through contact in it. And it was two and a half meters of deposit, stratified deposits. The rock shelter was just a fabulous archeological site and it was extremely exciting and as a result of doing it I did several years of work there on the Duck River in the early '80s.

As a result of that work I got to excavate another rock shelter up on the Kentucky border with Tennessee, in Bug Tussle, Tennessee - don't ask me how to spell that one. Actually there's two spellings because it's right on the Tennessee-Kentucky line and the folks didn't know what state they were in, so there's Bug Tussle, which is L E, and then there's Bug Tussel, which is E L, and one is Kentucky and one is Tennessee, because they have two post offices. But it turns out they are actually in Macon County, Tennessee (Tussel) - and a rock shelter there that was large and perfectly preserved. It's what folks, professional archeologists in Kentucky, refer to as an ash cave -- that the deposit is mostly ash from fires and everything that's in there that is organic is preserved because no moisture ever comes into the rock shelter. There was a burial, for example, of a woman who was about 25 years old when she died and she still had a full head of hair and she was middle woodland in age.





Feathers, bark, cordage, just a tremendous amount of cordage. It was just a wonderful experience too. Those were really a fun experience for me.

**Q. How has archeology changed over your years in it?**

A. I think one of the most important and excellent changes that I have seen in archeology since I've been involved in it, since the '70s, is the care and attention to collections, the results of archeology. When I first got involved in archeology folks would be interested in the field work and in getting a report written but very little thought or care or concern seemed to be given to what was going to happen to the artifacts that had come out of that. In Tennessee pig barns were used to store artifacts, in South Carolina there was a barn that was used to store artifacts and here we have the MAC Lab and I think that's just wonderful. I think that's been a really tremendous change, a really positive change in archeology is the care and concern about collections. Folks now really think about what's going to happen to what comes out of the ground.

**Q. What do you think about the future for archeology in Maryland?**

A. I am very optimistic about the future of Maryland's archeology, both in terms of academic archeology in the state with IMPART (a new program in which universities, museums and state agencies work together "in assessing the problems and potential for heritage and cultural resource studies in the state's higher education system") and with the very real possibility that we're going to have a PhD program at College Park. The presence of archeology and other academic programs at Towson, Salisbury State, Washington College and at Montgomery Community College and others and I think that will continue and that will grow. Also the avocational society, I see some real positives on the future for this group. In terms of being active in inventory work and active in preservation work and also for the cultural resources management archeologists in Maryland I also see a bright future. And especially for all of these various groups working together. I think that communication is getting better and will continue to get better between the various archeologies in Maryland that we will all benefit from that growing communication and that the future of archeology is going to be very bright, we're going to learn a lot about the past.

**Q. You've worked in several states -- is Maryland archeology different from other states?**

A. In some ways yes and in other ways no.... Archeology has seemed different in other states to me, but I think probably it's not, it's probably just that I have a different seat now, a different perspective on it now.

**Q. What advice do you have for amateur archeologists?**

A. Join the Society, get active in a chapter, go to the field sessions, learn as much as you can, get as involved as professionally directed field work as you can and enjoy it.

## Looting still going on in Iraq

*Condensed from the Fairfax (New Zealand) Limited, April 12, 2004*

DHAHIR, Iraq -- Across southern Iraq, often in the dead of night, tomb raiders and temple thieves are systematically looting ancient treasures that have lain undiscovered for thousands of years.

Before archeologists can properly identify and excavate the sites, scattered across the river valley south of Babylon, the looters have already torn apart ancient temples, palaces and tombs that hold clues to the foundations of civilization.

And since archeologists don't know precisely what was there, no one will likely ever know what's missing, meaning robbers are stealing history even before it's been discovered.

"It is a crime, it is a crime against humanity," said Abdul Amir Hamdani, director of antiquities for Iraq's Dhi Qar province, as he inspected fresh looting at Dubrum, a Sumerian settlement near the village of Dhahir.

The looting, which began more than a decade ago, has picked up sharply in the past year amid the chaos that has sprung up since the war to overthrow Saddam Hussein. And as it has grown more pervasive, so it has become more organized and ingenious.

Hamdani says looters - generally penniless villagers familiar with the locations of the sites - get as little as \$13 for a whole cuneiform tablet. "It will be sold on for tens of thousands of dollars, but really it is priceless," he said, shaking his head at the damage inflicted on Dubrum.

"There are more than 700 sites and there are a million potential looters," Hamdani said. "Whatever we do is not enough."

# Field school odds and ends

Each day's fieldwork will run from 8:30 am until 4 pm. Shuttles to the site will begin running at 8:15 am. An adjacent property owner has offered to allow the field school participants to park at Hollywood Farm, which is less than one-half mile from the Swan Cove site. Parking at Swan Cove is EXTREMELY limited so vans will be used to carpool to the site from the parking area. Only approved vehicles will be able to drive directly to the Swan Cove Site.

Lunch is from 11:30 until 12:30. Several fast food, convenience mart and sit-downs are nearby.

Sleeping quarters will be available. There are also several hotels and motels within five minutes along Route 50, including a Super 8 and a Days Inn. Contact the hotels directly to make arrangements.

A full plate of lectures and workshops is on tap.

Friday Evening Lecture - May 7 at 7 pm (at the London Town Pavilion): The Lost Towns Project Director Al Luckenbach will talk on **Tobacco Pipes and Pipe-making at Swan Cove**. This is a chance to get the overview of the findings from this site and to gain perspective on the field school plans.

Lunchtime lecture topics include:

**The Colonial Settlement of Providence** - Saturday May 8 (and again on Thursday May 13). Dave Gadsby will give an overview of the Providence settlement. His lecture will offer participant's insight into the social, political and cultural context of this early colonial community. If there is interest, the Thursday session may include a "windshield" tour of other Providence sites.

**Geophysical Survey** - Sunday, May 9. Jane Cox will be demonstrating the geophysical tools used by the Lost Towns Team, including ground penetrating radar and magnetometer. After an introductory lecture, everyone will have the chance to experiment with the equipment.

**Colonial Material Culture** - Tuesday, May 11. The Lost Towns Lab team will offer a hands-on workshop on the identification of colonial period material culture. There will be an artifact identification contest on closing day!

**The Seaport of London Town** - Friday, May 14. Lost Towns Staff will give an overview of the last decade of archeological investigations at London Town to prepare participants for the May 15 field day at Historic London Town and Gardens.

In addition, this year's field school will offer a chance to experience archeology at London Town. On May 15, the entire field school will move to the colonial seaport of London Town on the South River.

*IMPORTANT: There will not be excavations at Swan Cove on Saturday, May 15. All field school participants should meet at London Town, 839 London Town Road, Edgewater, at 8:30 am.*

Several activities are planned for that day including:

- \* A pipe-making workshop on the reconstructed tobacco pipe kiln. Make your own pipe (pre-registration and a \$5 fee for supplies is requested if you would like to make your own pipe)
- \* Participate in excavations of the colonial town site, including site tours.
- \* A behind-the-scenes tour of the reconstructed colonial village and in-depth discussion of earthfast architecture with one of the Lost Towns Staff.

## Directions:

### To Hollywood Farm parking area:

-- From Route 50 eastbound, Exit 29 (Busch's Frontage Rd). Turn right at the stop sign onto St. Margaret's Rd. OR from Route 50 westbound, Exit 29 (St. Margaret's Road). Turn left at the end of the ramp onto St. Margaret's Rd. Then left again onto Pleasant Plains Road (immediately after St. Margaret's Episcopal Church). Hollywood Farm is at 1701 Pleasant Plains Road. Follow signs for the parking area. \*\*This is an operating sod farm so do not park in unmarked areas.\*\*

### To London Town House and Gardens: (839 Londontown Road, Edgewater, Md)

-- Take US 50/MD 301 to Route 665 (Exit 22 Aris T. Allen Blvd.), exit onto Route 2 South (Solomon's Island Road), go over South River Bridge. Continue about 0.6 miles (3 traffic lights); turn left at the 3rd traffic light onto Mayo Road. Go about 0.8 miles (2 traffic lights) and turn left at the second traffic light onto Londontown Road. Go about 1 mile to end of road stay to the left side and enter site through gates.

# Chapter notes

## Anne Arundel

The chapter meets on the third Wednesday of the month from 7:30-9 in the Chesapeake Room, Heritage Center, 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis. Contact Karen Ackermann at [karenlta@juno.com](mailto:karenlta@juno.com)

**May 19:** Jim Gibb on "Cellaring Wine."

**Sept 15:** Carol Ebright on lithics.

**Nov 17:** Richard Hughes on Benjamin Banneker.

## Central

Phone Stephen Israel at 410- 945-5514 or [ssisrael@abs.net](mailto:ssisrael@abs.net), for information.

## Mid-Potomac

Contact [james.sorensen@mncppc-mc.org](mailto:james.sorensen@mncppc-mc.org) or [heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org](mailto:heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org), or 301-840-5848.

## Mid Shore

The Mid Shore Group meets at 7:30 on the fourth Friday of the month at the SunTrust Bank on Goldsboro Street in Easton, from January through September. However, the April meeting is held at the Talbot County Historical Society Auditorium. Contact Bill Cep at 410-822-5027 or email [ccep@crosslink.net](mailto:ccep@crosslink.net)

## Monocacy

The Monocacy chapter meets the Wednesday closest to the 15th of each month at the Walkersville Middle School. Contact Joy Hurst at 301-663-6706 or email [hurst\\_joy@hotmail.com](mailto:hurst_joy@hotmail.com). Website: [www.digfrederick.org](http://www.digfrederick.org)

## Northern Chesapeake

Meetings are the second Thursday of the month. Contact Dan Coates at [dancoates@comcast.net](mailto:dancoates@comcast.net)

**May 23:** Annual picnic. Broad Creek.

## Southern

Meetings the second Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the MAC Lab meeting room. Call 410-586-8584 or [katesilas@chesapeake.net](mailto:katesilas@chesapeake.net) for information.

## Upper Patuxent

Programs are the second Monday of each month at 7:30 at Mt. Ida, near the court house in Ellicott City. Most are preceded by dinner at 6 at the Tiber River Café in Ellicott City. Contact Lee Preston at 443-745-1202 or [maurice\\_preston@hcpss.org](mailto:maurice_preston@hcpss.org)

**May 10:** Erin Piechowiak on skeletons found in Annapolis.

## Western Maryland

Programs are the fourth Friday of the month, at 7:30 pm in the LaVale Library, unless noted. Contact Ed Hanna, 301-777-1380. Chapter email: [wmdasm@yahoo.com](mailto:wmdasm@yahoo.com) Website: [www.geocities.com/wmdasm](http://www.geocities.com/wmdasm)

**May 28:** Barton Site briefing, by Bob Wall.

*The Archeological Society of Maryland Inc. is a statewide non-profit organization devoted to the study and conservation of Maryland archeology.*

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Submissions welcome, please send to Myron Beckenstein, 9256 Feathered Head, Columbia, MD 21045, myronbeck@aol.com, (410) 381-9115.

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