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Newsletter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.

www.marylandarcheology.org

No funds on tap to save threatened sites

By Wayne E. Clark

Retired State Administrator of Archeology

Maryland has unique and wonderful archeological resources whose extinction is predicted and whose recovery is critical if we are to fully understand our 16,000-year cultural heritage in the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic drainages.

Between shoreline erosion and private development, tidewater archeological sites in the critical area of 1,000 feet of our shoreline are the most threatened. We now have the predictive tools to project rate of site loss, documentation of significant sites needing rescue excavations and survey methods to find new eroding sites.

But we lack a threatened archeological sites fund to rescue eroding site data critical to understanding of Maryland's environmental and cultural past.

The state agencies are aware of this crisis of site loss but the legislature has not set up the threatened site fund to rescue a sample of important site data before it is lost forever by erosion.

- The Maryland Department of Natural Resources recognizes the lost of archeological resources as a result of gradual sea level change but have not funded recovery of eroding site data from their own tidewater lands.
- The Maryland Historical Trust recently allocated a small percent of Hurricane Sandy funds to archeological shoreline site documentation. But it lacks a threatened site funds to survey and document hundreds of eroding sites in the 16 tidewater counties of Maryland.

At the Archeological Society of Maryland's Annual Meeting in October, Stephanie Sperling reviewed the results of a five-year survey of 422 known archeological sites along 530 miles of shoreline in Anne Arundel County. Funding was available to visit only 20 percent of these sites to study current conditions. The studies revealed 215 Native American sites, 91 historical sites and 52 combined sites under threat of shoreline erosion and gradual rise in sea level.

Uplands with high banks exposed without the calming effect of sea grasses or tidal marshes are most at risk of annual loss of shoreline. The 20-foot-elevated High Island and adjacent West River Adena sites, revealed through erosion in the 1950s, are now gone. Wooded shorelines loss of trees and their root ball can destroy 20 feet of site with each eroding tree. Northeastern storms and hurricanes can remove from 5 to 20 feet of shoreline over large areas in one storm.

From 1991 to 2003 the Maryland Historical Trust funded a series of shoreline surveys by Darrin Lowery in Queen Anne's, Caroline, Dorchester, Somerset and Talbot counties along private and state-owned lands. He found a highly significant Crane Point site (18TA221A) which produced unique hearths and tool manufacture

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Upcoming events

December 5: ASM board meeting. Heritage House, Ellicott City. 10 a.m. All members welcome.

January 6-9: Society for Historical Archaeology meeting, Washington D.C.

Volunteer opportunities

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

ASM Tuesday Volunteer Lab: The lab in Crownsville will be open Tuesdays from 9:30 until 3 and is now sorting, labeling, packaging and cataloging prehistoric material from the Willin Site. There are a number of other projects waiting to be worked on. Contact Louis Akerson at lakerson1@verizon.net or Charlie Hall at charles.hall@maryland.gov

A volunteer opportunity is available at a 17 Century site in Edgewater in Anne Arundel County, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, with Jim Gibb jamesggibb@verizon.net and Laura Cripps lcripps@howardcc.edu under the auspices of the Smithsonian. Contact either one to participate. There will be magnetometer training.

The Smithsonian Environmental Research Center seeks participants in its Citizen-Scientist Program in archeology and other environmental research programs in Edgewater. Field and lab work are conducted Wednesdays and on occasional Saturdays. Contact Jim Gibb at jamesggibb@verizon.net

Montgomery County offers opportunities for lab and field work. Lab is at Needwood Mansion in Derwood on Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and the first Tuesday evening of each month (except July and August). 301 563 7531 or contact heather.bouslog@montgomeryparks.org CAT opportunity. It also is doing fieldwork at the Josiah Henson site at various times. For information contact Cassandra Michaud at 30 1 563 7531 or cassandra.michaud@montgomeryparks.org

The Anne Arundel County Archaeology Program and the Lost Towns Project welcome volunteers in both field and lab at numerous sites throughout Anne Arundel County. Weekdays only. Email Jasmine Gollup at volunteers@losttownsproject.org or call the lab at 410 222 1318.

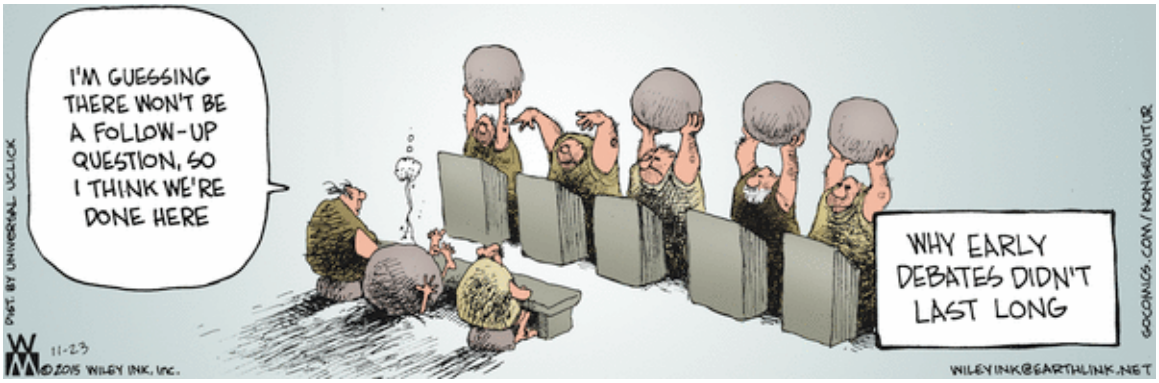
Mount Calvert. Lab work and field work. 301 627 1286.

Jefferson Patterson Park invites volunteers to take part in its activities, including archeology, historical research and conservation. Contact Ed Chaney at ed.chaney@maryland.gov or 410 586 8554.

The Archaeological Institute of America provides an online listing of fieldwork opportunities worldwide. Call up www.archaeological.org/fieldwork to get started.

CAT corner:

For information on the CAT program, visit the ASM website.



ASM library moves to a new Trust location

By Dennis C. Curry
Maryland State Archeologist

The Archeological Society of Maryland Library has been moved to a much more accessible location at the Maryland Historical Trust. Formerly crammed into a small conference room in an out-of-the-way area, the library is now outside the newly relocated archeology offices that are part of MHT's Office of Research, Survey and Registration.

The ASM Library dates to the very earliest days of the society. In recent years, the library has grown significantly, largely through the efforts of society member Dick Brock. Dick has spent at least the past two decades scouring obscure book sales and auction sites, assembling a core collection of fundamental archeology texts interspersed with the occasional rare, hard-to-find volume.

Holdings now stand at nearly 500 volumes. Another society member, Alison Pooley, has spent years organizing and shelving this collection.

And now that the library has a more hospitable home. While it is not a lending library, ASM members are welcome to browse the collection and use it for their research (we even have a small reading table and chairs).

You can also browse the ASM collection online before visiting the Trust:

- Go to http://m30014.eos-intl.net/M30014/OPAC/Search/AdvancedSearch.aspx
- Under "-Select field-" choose "Location," then choose "ASM" from the drop-down menu next to it.
- Press the "Search" button.

So stop by sometime and spend the day catching up on your archeology reading. And remember to thank Dick and Alison the next time you see them.

It's time to pitch pennies, not pinch them: renew

Did you ever stop to figure out that a basic $25 ASM membership costs only about $2 a month? Or 6.849 cents a day. (Actually, since this is a leap year, it is an even bigger bargain, only 6.831 cents a day.)

And what do you get for this? Reduced admission to several of the state's big archeological meetings, two copies of the journal Maryland Archeology, 12 issues of this newsletter, information on archeological events, opportunities to take part in both historic and prehistoric digs and labwork and, best of all, the knowledge that you are doing your part to find and preserve Maryland's history. For instance, the front-page article of this newsletter let's you know how you can act to help keep funding vital efforts.

That's an awful lot to get for a measly 6.849 cents a day. Fill out the renewal form with this newsletter or on the ASM website and join the effort. Make it your pre-New Year's Resolution.

ASM switched to distributing this newsletter electronically a while back. But not all members have email. Others may prefer to receive a paper copy. We are striving to satisfy these members, but it takes money to print and mail these copies and one of the main reasons for going online was to cut expenses. Therefore members wanting paper copies have to add $6 to their membership fees.

Anti−looting effort wins $1 million prize

By Ralph Blumenthal and Tom Mashberg

Condensed from the New York Times, November 9, 2015

Her laptop brims with satellite images pitted with thousands of black dots, evidence of excavations across Egypt where looters have tunneled in search of mummies, jewelry and other valuables prized by collectors, advertised in auction catalogs and trafficked on eBay, a criminal global black market estimated in the billions of dollars.

"For the first time technology has gotten to the point where we can map looting," said Sarah H. Parcak, a pioneering "satellite archeologist," founding director of the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Laboratory for Global Observation and an associate professor there.

Satellite eyes in the sky, which have transformed the worldwide search for buried archeological treasures, are now being used to spy on the archenemies of cultural preservation: armies of looters who are increasingly pockmarking ancient sites with illicit digs and making off with priceless patrimony.

Nowhere is the tracking effort more advanced than Egypt, where a program led by Parcak and funded by the National Science Foundation and National Geographic has targeted thievery that, experts say, worsened after the chaos of the 2011 revolution.

And now, in a powerful endorsement of work that may bolster efforts to cripple looting across the Middle East and the rest of the world, TED, the nonprofit forum with the motto "ideas worth spreading," is scheduled on Monday to announce that Parcak, 36, has won its most prestigious award — a $1 million prize to develop a project of her choice.

Looting and destruction in Iraq and Syria by the Islamic State have drawn more attention in recent months. And cultural thievery remains a problem in Egypt, where last week the government seized 1,124 stolen artifacts at the port of Damietta.

"We have a major challenge so we are looking for an out-of-the box solution," said Ali Ahmed, director of the repatriation department of the Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities, "and Sarah's work is part of that."

Parcak, a Yale graduate with a doctorate from Cambridge, is already teaming up with Egypt to train authorities there to thwart looters by involving community leaders in tourism activities connected to the ancient sites.

The trade in stolen antiquities, often driven by economic desperation, has been flourishing since time immemorial, but now appears tied to other criminal activities, like drug trafficking and arms running, and may even be an income source for ISIS, Parcak said in an interview.

Equally damaging to ancient sites, she said, is a rash of illegal construction, often for cemeteries.

Barely 1 percent of the world's likely archeological sites have been identified or explored, Parcak said, so countless sites remain to be discovered by scientists or looters.

The use of satellites to thwart looting joins a growing list of ways technology is serving archeology. NASA last month made available detailed photographs by the satellite contractor DigitalGlobe, which showed colossal earthworks thousands of years old and recently spotted on the Kazakhstan steppe. Aircraft beam laser signals, called lidar, that penetrate ground cover to reveal buried cities. Poland has digitized information on the more than 63,000 objects stolen in that country and still missing since World War II. And social media platforms like Twitter are helping to quickly spread alarms of thievery.

One of the most damaged sites Parcak has documented is Lisht, Egypt's Middle Kingdom capital. She said that the number of looting pits spotted from space rose to 690 in 2012 from 515 in 2011, with the affected area spreading to more than eight square kilometers from two square kilometers.

But the problem extends far beyond Egypt. "You think looting is bad in Egypt, look at Peru," she said. "India, China. I've been told in China there are over a quarter-million archeological sites and most have been looted. This is a global problem of massive proportions and we don't know the scale."

There are signs that the bad guys may be going high-tech as well. "The looters are using Google Earth too," Parcak said. "They're coming in with metal detectors and geophysical equipment. Some ask me to confirm sites."

DNA only adds to First Americans mystery

By Carl Zimmer

Condensed from the New York Times, October 27, 2015

Researchers have long wondered how people settled the Americas. Until recently, archeologists studying these questions were limited mostly to digging up skeletons and artifacts.

But now scientists have begun extracting DNA from human bones and the findings are providing new glimpses at the history of the first Americans. On Monday, researchers at the University of Alaska and elsewhere published an important addition to the growing genetic archive.

In the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, they reported that they had recovered DNA from two skeletons of children who lived in Alaska 11,500 years ago. The genetic material is not only among the oldest ever found in the Americas, but also the first ancient DNA discovered in Beringia, the region around the Bering Strait where many researchers believe Asians first settled before spreading through the Americas.

The archeological site, near Upward Sun River, was discovered in 2010. Excavations there have revealed that between 13,200 and 8,000 years ago people visited during the summer. In 2011, archeologists discovered cremated bones on a hearth at the site. Research revealed that the bones belonged to a 3-year-old child. Below the hearth, the team discovered a burial pit containing the skeletons of two other children.

One was an infant who died a few months after birth; the other was likely a late-term fetus. Their bodies were carefully laid atop a bed of red ocher, surrounded by antlers fashioned into hunting darts.

Clearly the children had been ceremonially buried. But why the two bodies ended up in the same grave is impossible to know. With the consent of Native American tribes that live around the site, Ben A. Potter, an archeologist at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and his colleagues drilled small pieces of bone from the two skeletons and sent them to geneticists at the University of Utah, who succeeded in recovering mitochondrial DNA. But to their surprise, the genes were markedly different. The infant and the fetus did not share the same mother or even maternal grandmother.

The researchers can only speculate how an infant and a fetus from different mothers ended up in the same grave. But the significance of the DNA found at Upward Sun River extends far beyond the story of two children. It sheds light on how people first moved into the Americas.

In 2007, Ripan Malhi of the University of Illinois and his colleagues proposed a model for this migration, known as the Beringian Standstill. Early Siberians expanded east into Beringia about 25,000 years ago, they proposed, and stayed there for about 10,000 years.

Humans were able to thrive in Beringia because even at the height of the last ice age, the region was not covered by glaciers. It was mainly tundra and shrub land, with scattered stands of trees. Humans could not expand eastward into the rest of the Americas because they were blocked by glaciers. About 15,000 years ago, as the glaciers retreated, the standstill came to an end.

According to the standstill hypothesis, the ancestors of Native Americans would have built up a large degree of genetic diversity in the thousands of years they were confined to Beringia — more so than if these populations had migrated directly from Siberia to the Americas.

The fact that two children who died at roughly the same time in the same community shared so few genes is consistent with the idea that the population was prevented from moving into the Americas for thousands of years, said Dennis O'Rourke of the University of Utah, a co-author of the new study.

But the two children died after the glaciers melted, he noted, and their settlement "may well be a remnant of that original Beringian group. It may give us a snapshot of that earlier time."

Malhi, who was not involved in the new study, thought the new DNA was too recent to provide proof of the idea that humans were trapped in Beringia for thousands of years. "It's valuable information, but it's a little bit late to be extremely informative to let us know if the Beringian Standstill hypothesis holds," he said.

More conclusive findings would be possible if scientists found older DNA from people who lived during the Beringian Standstill. Archeologists are now looking for skeletons from that age, but Malhi is not holding his breath. Many of the sites where people lived may now be impossible to reach, because sea levels rose at the end of the ice age.

Farming changed more than food supply

By Joel Achenbach

Condensed from the Washington Post, November 24, 2015

Prehistoric people who adopted farming as a way of life underwent evolutionary changes to adapt to their new lifestyle, a dramatic example of natural selection operating on the human species in the relatively recent past.

That's one of the conclusions of a new study of the genomes of 230 individuals who lived thousands of years ago and whose bones have been recovered from Western Eurasia — a broad area that includes what is now Turkey, the Russian Steppe and Europe.

The research, published Monday in the journal Nature, identified 12 specific genetic mutations that corresponded to the rise of agriculture and the migration of people into new regions. They include the ability to digest milk and metabolize fats. The mutations also favored greater height at maturity, lighter skin and lighter eye color in northern populations. There are also genetic markers that appear to be connected to resistance against such diseases as leprosy and tuberculosis.

The new genetic analysis also provides an answer to the question of how agriculture arrived in Europe. There have been two competing scenarios. One is that agricultural people — farmers — arrived as migrants, replacing indigenous populations. The other is the practices of farming were transmitted culturally, a contagion of innovation known to anthropologists as "cultural diffusion."

The new research strongly supports the first scenario, showing that the people who began farming in Europe, starting about 8,500 years ago, were closely connected to a population of farmers in Anatolia, a region that largely overlaps with modern-day Turkey.

"It is a migration. It's a movement of people. The farmers in Europe from Germany and Spain are genetically almost identical to the farmers from Turkey," said Iain Mathieson, a geneticist at Harvard Medical School and the lead author of the new report.

Modern human beings spent many tens of thousands of years as hunters and gatherers. But at the end of the last Ice Age, as temperatures stabilized, people in Mesopotamia and the Levant began planting crops and domesticating animals as livestock. The farmers and their new way of life spread to other parts of Eurasia. Farming allowed greater population density, but it was a difficult way of life that at first led to poor nutrition and zoonotic diseases associated with living in close quarters with domesticated animals.

"It's a change in the food people are eating. It's a change in social organization. People are living in much bigger communities. People are living in much closer proximity to animals," Mathieson said.

That was a technological revolution that had genetic repercussions. Natural selection functions as a filter, favoring people with certain genetic mutations that allow them to more easily reach maturity and have children who are themselves advantaged. Thus, around 4,000 years ago, according to the new study, Europeans begun showing a genetic change associated with lactase persistence — the ability to digest milk into adulthood.

That such evolutionary changes have been taking place in the relatively recent past is not a surprise. Indeed, scientists have modeled many of these genetic adaptions simply by looking at people alive today and comparing their genomes. But this new work is more of a direct look at the prehistoric evolutionary processes as they were happening.

"It's taking ancient DNA to actually go back in the past," said Rasmus Nielsen, an evolutionary biologist at the University of California at Berkeley. He was not part of the team that published the new findings. "The paper is able to verify many of the predictions that have been done in the past 20 years from looking at modern populations. In some sense we have this scientific time machine," he said.

One possible implication of this research is that the popular "Paleo Diet," which embraces foods available to Stone Age people and avoids the dairy products and grains that came along only in the last 10,000 years, ignores the recent evolutionary changes in the human species. But Mathieson did not take a stance on this latest food fad.

"I don't think we can really speak to this," he said. "We show that people were able to adapt genetically to an agricultural diet, but it's rather an open question how well they adapted."

18th–Century warehouse found in Virginia

By Patricia Sullivan

Condensed from the Washington Post, November 10, 2015

Construction crews preparing Alexandria's waterfront for its 21st-Century future have discovered a major remnant of its 18th-Century past: the timbered foundation of a warehouse believed to be the city's first public building.

The huge beams, intact floor planks and what might be a repurposed ship's mast emerged from damp clay and sand eight feet below ground at 220 S. Union St., a site that is slated to become the 250-room Hotel Indigo.

Francine Bromberg, the city's archeologist, called the remnants "one of the most significant finds" uncovered along the Potomac riverfront. "It gives us a sense of what the city was like in the 18th Century."

John Carlyle, a Scottish immigrant, town trustee and major landowner, was tasked with building a warehouse on the Port Lumley sand flats, one of two spots where the deep-water channels of the Potomac River approached the city's shoreline, and to extend Duke Street to the site. The 100-by-24-foot warehouse was constructed in 1755.

As the city grew, Alexandria became a major port, including for the slave trade. Exports, according to a city history, included flour, hemp and tobacco. By the end of the 18th Century, the town was one of the 10 busiest ports in the new nation.

The last known tenant at the warehouse — a brewer — was recorded as holding a 10-year lease in the 1770s and 1780s. Bromberg speculated that the building may have been destroyed not too long after that. The foundation lay underground for years — not quite forgotten because it was on old plat maps, but not quite remembered, either, because no one expected that the wood beams would have survived in such good condition.

Later warehouses eventually were built on the site. One set was demolished earlier this year in preparation for construction of the hotel.

The timbers may not be the last important archeological discovery made during the transition of the riverfront from warehouses to parks, hotels and homes.

Across Duke Street is Robinson Terminal South, a huge warehouse that sits atop an 18th-Century shipbuilding site and is scheduled to be replaced by a mixed-use condo and retail project.

Six blocks north, the Robinson Terminal North warehouse will also be demolished. That warehouse is on a site known as West's Point, where a tobacco inspection warehouse was built in 1732 and where British General Edward Braddock came ashore during the French and Indian War.

Early Monday morning, at the muddy Union Street location, backhoes beeped warnings and workers stepped carefully over the 260-year-old pieces of wood, each of which had been tagged, mapped and photographed for posterity.

The timbers, which measure 12 inches high and 12 inches across, were cut into 12-foot lengths so they can fit into the largest treatment chamber at the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory in St. Leonard, Md. They will be soaked in water and polyethylene glycol to stabilize the cell structure of the wood, then freeze-dried to remove the moisture, enabling the timbers to retain their shape, lab director Patricia Samford said. The process could take two to three years.

Bromberg said she does not yet know whether, how or where the foundation will be displayed afterward.

"It couldn't be left in place," she said. "We know it's so important and significant to the city that it should be conserved. We'll figure out where and how after we get this out."

Stonehenge: The latest theories. For a roundup of what is known/thought about the famous monoliths and neighboring sites, visit the New York Times website and search for Stonehenge.

Book review: An invaluable look at area prehistory

First Pennsylvanians: The Archaeology of Native Americans in Pennsylvania, *by Kurt W. Carr and Roger W. Moeller, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (Penn State University Press), 256 pages, $30*

Although this book focuses on Pennsylvania, students of the archeology and early history of Native Americans in Maryland will find it an invaluable resource. The volume is, first and foremost, a solid summary and synthesis of generations of archeological work in Pennsylvania, making full use of the benefits of academic research, archeological compliance projects, museum collections, geographic information systems (GIS) and a wide variety of multidisciplinary studies.

The result is a readable, well-illustrated, work that provides students with a comprehensive entry to regional prehistory and that serves as a handy source book for professionals and avocation archeologists.

The volume is profusely illustrated, with site distribution maps, color photographs and black/white drawings of artifact types, and useful sets of line drawings depicting seasonal resource exploitation, land uses and habitation layouts for each major period.

Particularly appealing is the recurring illustration of the same section of the Susquehanna River that is modified in each chapter and that documents long-term climatic change affecting the river and its evolving islands, shifting vegetation patterns and human adaptations to the changing ecosystem.

Numerous sidebars provide information ranging from how to make a pot or build a wikiwah, to a discussion of geoarcheology, to what makes a site eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. A matter-of-fact inclusion of pre-Clovis occupations is in the discussion of the Pennsylvania Paleo-Indian period (though one winces at the translation of Paleo-Indian as "Early Man").

Likewise important is the frequent acknowledgement that multiple interpretations of data coexist and are an expected part of cumulative archeological research. Discussions are regularly framed in the context of the three major drainages in Pennsylvania (the Delaware, Susquehanna and Ohio rivers), particularly in later time periods when differences become most pronounced.

The authors have made a considerable effort to go beyond discussions of the typical diagnostic artifact types and non-perishable assemblages of materials generally found on archeological sites, to recreate full prehistoric lifestyles and environmental settings based on information gleaned from analyses of the broadest range of data types and multidisciplinary studies.

A series of short fictional narratives of aspects of the life of a Native American individual in each time period helps the reader visualize the data presented on changing climate, settlement and subsistence patterns, and social organization.

Maryland readers, particularly those who are interested in central and western Maryland, will find much relevant archeological data and interpretations, since the two states share the same range of physiographic and ecological zones, similar lithic materials, generally the same diagnostic artifact types and similar paleoenvironmental reconstructions.

Those in the Maryland coastal plain will find less applicability, since the Atlantic seaboard and the Chesapeake Bay with its numerous estuaries have a different environmental history and expanded set of resources and ecological zones.

One inexplicable overgeneralization relates to the 1675 movement of Susquehannock Indians from Pennsylvania to Piscataway Fort on Accokeek Creek in the Potomac drainage in southern Maryland: The authors assert that the Susquehannock moved to Baltimore.

I hope future editions of this book will have a significantly expanded index. I also suggest additional fictional Native American narratives recreating female roles and perspectives to achieve a better balance. Additional sidebars could cover tribal consultation on modern archeological projects in Pennsylvania, especially drawing on PennDot's experiences. A more detailed discussion of the impacts and events surrounding the 1960s construction of Kinzua Dam on Seneca lands in northwestern Pennsylvania also would be interesting.

In any case, this affordable book provides considerable bang for your buck and is unlikely to gather much dust on your shelf.

-- Carol A. Ebright

MAC Lab offering short−term research fellowships

The Maryland Archaeological Conservancy is offering fellowships for people who want to spend a few weeks at the MAC Lab researching a project.

The fellowship competition is open to students, academics or professionals. Any subject in Maryland archeology is eligible, as long as the MAC Lab has artifacts from it in its collection. The winners must become full-time residents of the lab, possibly using on-site housing, during the research and, when finished, provide a presentation on their research to the museum staff.

The application consists of a 1,000-word proposal (up to four typed double-spaced pages) outlining the problem and the MAC Lab collections to be used, 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 to the research.

Applications must be received January 15, 2016. Please send any questions to Patricia Samford at patricia.samford@maryland.gov and send application materials to her at Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory, Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, 10515 Mackall Road, St. Leonard, MD 20685.

No funds on tap to save threatened sites

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clusters dating to 9,000 to 7,000 years before present. This important site has washed away without the benefit of follow-up emergency data recovery after its initial discovery two decades ago.

Evidence of Ice Age period Pre-Paleo and Paleo Indian occupations, plant and animal remains have been documented and published to advance international understanding of our changing world. In the past 25 years, a number of important Native American sites dating from 2,000 to 500 years ago as well as Colonial house and cemetery sites have been completely lost to shoreline erosion.

One such site, 18DO220, received limited testing by a graduate student, Jesse Walker, but the site has since been lost to shoreline erosion. Unique sites critical to the science of archeology and paleo-ecology are being lost on an annual basis and new sites exposed as the shorelines recede.

The Chesapeake Bay and its many tidal tributaries has been the focus of human settlement and the source of destruction of the archeological remains of those settlements over the past 16,000 years.

It is hoped that Governor Hogan's administration will create a threatened site fund for consideration by the legislators when they meet in Annapolis next month. Our rural and urban legislators share a common purpose by supporting grant funding for the effort before the sites disappear forever.

You might want to share this article with your legislative representatives and encourage Governor Hogan to include such a budget item in his FY 2017 budget.

Public asked to report flood−revealed sites

By Colby Gallagher

Condensed from WLTX broadcast, November 6, 2015

Columbia, SC - Archeologists are asking for the public's help after massive flooding that may have uncovered potential sites.

"It is a massive undertaking to actually deal with all of this," said state archeologist Jonathan Leader. "Everybody's history is equally important to the state because they're all intertwined. It's not a question of some histories versus other histories. History is history."

"When you have the wall of water basically that went through South Carolina from one corner of the state right through to Beaufort at the other corner of the state, what you're talking about is a massive amount of damage and uncovering," said Leader. "So it's a combination good, bad and hopefully okay."

Leader and State Underwater Archeologist James Spirek are teaming up with other agencies like the state

museum to collect reports of potential sites where history may be a dig away.

"We also want to go look at sites that we know of and see what has perhaps happened to those sites as well," said Spirek. "So a combination of going out, answering and responding to to calls from citizens as well as going out to sites that we know to see what's happened."

"This is a type of 1,000-year event, which hopefully won't take us quite that long to set straight," said Leader. "But it's going to take us a while and it's going to take a lot of effort from a lot of different people working very closely together."

Chapter notes

In addition to the listed chapters, ASM's efforts to reach out to younger audiences has resulted, so far, in a chapter at the Community College of Baltimore County, led by Nina Brown, and a club at Huntingtown High School in Calvert County, run by Jeff Cunningham. This year the 3-year-old Huntingtown club is focusing on working with the MAC Lab to curate artifacts found in Baltimore's Otterbein area.

Anne Arundel

Meets the second Tuesday of the month at the Severna Park Branch Library, 45 West McKinsey Road. 7:30 p.m. Contact AAChapASM@hotmail.com or the chapter website http://www.aachapasm.org/calendar.html

Central Maryland

For information contact centralchapterasm@yahoo.com or Stephen Israel, 410-945-5514 or stephenisrael2701@comcast.net Or on Facebook, https://www.facebook.com/asmcentralchapter

January 15: Janet Stephens, a hair archeologist, will speak.

Charles County

Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday (September–May) in the community room of the LaPlata Police Department. Contact President Sarah Grady at sarahgrady11@gmail.com or 410-533-1390. Chapter website is charlescoasm.org and its blog is ccarchsoc.blogspot.com

December 10: Troy Nowak and Matt McKnight on "Underwater Archeology and a Survey of the Wicomico River."

January 14: Sara Rivers-Cofield on 18th Century Maryland artifacts and the Outlander TV series.

February 11: Julie King, topic TBD.

March 10: TBD

April 14: Stephen Potter and Katherine Birmingham on the Accokeek Creek Site.

May 12: TBD

Mid–Potomac

The chapter meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Needwood Mansion, 6700 Needwood Road, Derwood. Dinner at a local restaurant at 5:30 p.m. Contact heather.bouslog@mncppc- mc.org or 301-563-7530 or Don Housley at donhou704@earthlink.net or 301-424-8526. Chapter website: http://www.asmmidpotomac.org Email: asmmidpotomac@gmail.com Facebook page: http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mid-Potomac-Archaeology/182856471768

Friday, December 18: (Note day change). Chapter Holiday Party at the Agricultural History Farm Park Activity Center from 6 to 10 p.m. Activities include the latest PowerPoint edition of "Archaeologists Gone Wild" and Archaeology Jeopardy.

January 21: Carole Fontenrose, chapter secretary, will speak on the Archeology of the City of London, part I.

February 18: Bob Hines, chapter member, will speak on the archeology at the Riggs House in Brookeville.

March 17: Member Vivian Eicke will speak on her experience at Montpelier, the home of James Madison.

Monocacy

The chapter meets in the C. Burr Artz Library in Frederick the second Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. For more information, visit the chapter's web page at digfrederick.com or call 301-378-0212.

Northern Chesapeake

Meetings are the second Wednesday of the month. Members and guests assemble at 6:30 for light refreshments. A business meeting at 7 is followed by the presentation at 7:30. Contact Dan Coates at 410-273-9619 or dancoates@comcast.net Website: http://sites.google.com/site/northernchesapeake

December 11: "Pluckemin, N.J.: Site of the Continental Army Depot, 1778-1779," by John Seidel. I.O.O.F. Hall, Aberdeen.

January 13: "A Journey Through Ohio Indian Earthworks," by Barbara and Stephen Israel. City Hall, Havre de Grace.

February 10: TBA. Harford Community College, Bel Air.

March 9: "Recent Lenape Archeology," by Jay Custer. Cecil County Historical Society, Elkton.

April ??: – Cresthull Memorial Lecture. Speaker TBA. Harford Community College, Bel Air.

June ??: Annual ASNC Picnic Meeting. TBA

St. Mary's County

Meetings are the third Monday of the month at St. Francis Xavier Church in Newtown or at St. Mary's College. For information contact Chris Coogan at Clcoogan@smcm.edu

December 21: Ed Chaney of Jefferson Patterson will speak.

Upper Patuxent

Meets the second Monday at 7 p.m. at 9944 Route 108 in Ellicott City. Labs are the second and fourth Saturdays. On Facebook, https://www.facebook.com/pages/Upper-Patuxent-Archaeology-Group/464236446964358 or try UPArchaeologygroup@yahoo.com or http://uparchaeologygroup.weebly.com/

December 14: Annual holiday party, at the Bare Bones restaurant, Ellicott City.

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. Email: wmdasm@yahoo.com Website: http://sites.google.com/site/wmdasm

December: No meeting.

January 23: Show and tell, plus silent auction.

The Archeological Society of Maryland Inc. is a statewide nonprofit organization devoted to the study and conservation of Maryland archeology.

ASM 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 Jo Boodon, PO Box 1584, Ellicott City, MD 21043 for membership rates. For publication sales, not including newsletter or Journal, contact Dan Coates at ASM Publications, 716 Country Club Rd., Havre de Grace, MD 21078-2104 or 410-273-9619 or dancoates@comcast.net

Submissions. Please send to Myron Beckenstein, 6817 Pineway, University Park, MD. 20782, 301-864-5289 or myronbeck@verizon.net