



53rd Annual Spring Symposium on Maryland Archeology

Presented by the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.

April 28, 2017

People's Resource Center

Maryland Historical Trust

100 Community Place

Crownsville, Maryland 21032

2018 Annual Spring Symposium

8:30 AM: **Registration** - Registration will be at the door. The price of admission is \$7.00; current members of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc. are \$5.00 and students are free.

9:00 AM: **Welcome, Introduction to the Program, and Presentations**

The ASM Student Spotlight

9:20 – 9:50 AM:

A Methodological Review of Forensic Aviation Archaeology: Addressing International Multi-Organizational Collaboration in Practice

presented by Siobhan Summers

The Forensic Aviation Archaeology field school, titled "Forensic Aviation Archaeology: Recovery of a World War II Aircraft Crash Site," was developed at the request of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) to establish a strategic partnership with the University of Maryland to facilitate the mission to "provide the fullest possible accounting of missing personnel to their families and [to] the nation" (DPAA). Participation in the field school provides insight into forensic archeology methodology and on practicing anthropology within the parameters of an international multi-organizational partnership. This presentation recounts experiences in the field during the inaugural 2017 summer field school with a focus on understanding recovery archeology and present-day stakeholder collaboration upon the backdrop of historical conflict.

9:50 – 10:25 AM: **The Significance of Small Sites**

presented by Paul Raber

The role of small sites in pre-contact Native American settlement continues to be underappreciated in the face of a traditional focus on larger, more complex or more spectacular sites. Recent results from the excavation of several small sites are used to suggest the relevance of intensively studying small habitation and special-purpose sites as important components of archaeological settlement systems.

10:25 – 10:50 AM: **Coffee Break**

10:50 – 11:25 AM: **In Search of Josiah Henson's Birthplace: Archaeological Investigations at La Grange, Near Port Tobacco, Maryland**

presented by Julia King

This presentation describes the effort to locate the birthplace of Josiah Henson, who was born into slavery near Port Tobacco in the mid to late 1790s. Henson escaped slavery, became a minister, founded a settlement for refugee slaves in Canada, served as a conductor on the Underground Railroad, and later shared his life experiences in an 1849 autobiography. He gained international fame as his autobiography became known as the reputed inspiration for Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, Uncle Tom's Cabin; or, Life Among the Lowly, published in 1852. What can archeology reveal about Henson's earliest years, and how they may have shaped the man he was going to become.

11:25 – 12:00 PM: **"Truth Stranger Than Fiction" Archaeological Investigations at the Josiah Henson Site, Montgomery County, Maryland**

Presented by Cassandra Michaud

Montgomery Parks is in the final stages of designing a Museum and Visitor Center dedicated to the life of Josiah Henson. Located on the site of the Riley plantation, it is where Henson and over 20 others were enslaved in the early 19th century. The Museum highlights Henson's story, his relationship to the novel Uncle Tom's Cabin, and slavery in Montgomery County. This presentation will discuss the archaeological investigations that have taken place at the site since Parks' acquisition in 2006 and how that work has informed its public interpretation and the Museum, as well as the significance of the site's history today.

12:00 – 1:00 PM: **Lunch**

The cafeteria at 100 Community Place is closed. Nearby restaurants are limited (a listing will be available at registration). Save time...bring a bag lunch and mingle with friends.

The Iris McGillivray Memorial Lecture

Iris McGillivray was a founding member of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc., ably serving the Society for over thirty years as Secretary, President, Newsletter Editor, Field Session Registrar, and Membership Secretary. She is perhaps best known and respected for her organization of the annual Spring Symposium, first held in 1965, arranging all aspects of the day-long program. In 1991 Iris was presented with the Society's William B. Marye Award to honor her services to archeology in Maryland.

1:00 PM – 1:45 PM: Freedom Seekers: Archaeology at the Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site, Canada

Presented by Dena Doroszenko

Josiah Henson (June 15, 1789 – May 5, 1883) was born into slavery in Charles County, Maryland. He escaped to Canada in 1830 and was one of the founders of a settlement and laborer's school for other formerly enslaved individuals at Dresden, Ontario called the Dawn Settlement in 1842. The Uncle Tom's Cabin National Historic Site at Dresden was acquired by the Ontario Heritage Trust in 2004 from the St. Clair Parkway Commission. In 2005, the Trust undertook a Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment of the property and in 2008, 2011, and 2017, geophysical surveys occurred on adjacent properties, the Henson Family cemetery and the British American Institute cemetery. This presentation will summarize Josiah Henson's life in Canada, the findings of our fieldwork on the properties to date and our plans for the future.

1:45 – 2:20 PM: Understanding Coastal Processes and the Chesapeake Archaeological Record

presented by Darrin L. Lowery

Shoreline coastal environments are extremely dynamic. Regional observations along the coast of the Delmarva Peninsula outline the processes that threaten archaeological sites on two markedly different time scales. Fetch-related wave activity and tidal scouring occur on an hourly or daily time scale. The ever present "blow out tides" and "nuisance flooding" common in the bay are nothing more than seiches within a semi-enclosed basin. With these parameters in mind, research on the Delmarva Peninsula has shown that geology is the principal underlying factor influencing the rates of erosion and subsequent archaeological site loss. Research has shown that historical tide gauge records are a poor proxy of sea level rise for the past century. In contrast, changes in the upland-tidal marsh interface offer a better proxy of relative sea level change. At these interface settings, historic and prehistoric archaeological resources, as well as local soils provide a high-resolution relative sea level history. Archaeologists largely ignore how the geologic processes associated with both sea level change and erosion impact our long-term perception of human landscape use in coastal areas. The presentation will outline examples of all of these processes.

2:20 – 2:30 PM: Brief Break

2:30 – 2:35 PM: Silent Auction Results

The Richard E. Stearns Memorial Lecture

The Richard E. Stearns Memorial Lecture is named in honor of Richard E Stearns (1902-1969), curator of the Department of Archeology at the Natural History Society of Maryland for more than 30 years. Mr. Stearns located numerous archeological sites in the Chesapeake area, and carefully documented his surface and excavated finds. He published numerous archeological articles and several monographs, and donated his collection to the Smithsonian Institution. A commercial artist by profession, he was nonetheless a pioneer in Maryland archeology, instrumental in recording much of Maryland prehistory.

2:35 – 3:20 PM: Underwater Archeology

presented by Dave Alberg

This presentation offers a look at underwater archeology with NOAA.

DIRECTIONS: Follow Maryland Route 178 (Generals Highway) towards Crownsville. At the light turn onto Crownsville Road, then make an immediate right onto Fairfield Loop Road. Take the first left, and bear right toward the People's Resource Center and the MHT parking lot.

Symposium Presenters

Siohban Summers

Siobhan Summers is a graduate student in the Master of Applied Anthropology (M.A.A.) program at the University of Maryland, College Park. She received an A.A. degree from Montgomery College in 2013 and a B.A. in Anthropology from Dickinson College in 2015. Her research interests focus on Biological Anthropology and include forensic anthropology, bioarcheology, and biocultural interactions. She is currently working on the Bowie Ancestors with the goal of facilitating the reburial of seven African-Americans associated with a former Maryland plantation cemetery. Beyond academia, she works with a local nonprofit, Smiles on Wings, which seeks to improve the health and wellness of rural Thai communities by providing dental care and educational opportunities.

Siobhan will be graduating from the University of Maryland in May 2018. Motivated by a desire to facilitate closure and emotional healing for the families and descendent communities of the deceased through information gleaned from skeletal analyses, she is planning to begin a Ph.D. program in Anthropology in the Fall.

Julia A. King

Julia A. King has 30 years experience studying, writing, and teaching about historical archeology and Chesapeake history and culture. She has held fellowships with Harvard University's Dumbarton Oaks, the Virginia Historical Society, and Winterthur Museum and, since 2000, she has received four major grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities. From 2003 until 2011, King served as an Expert Member on the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, a Federal agency that advises the president and Congress on matters of national historic preservation policy. King has published the results of her research in a number of journals and edited collections. Her book, *Archaeology, Narrative, and the Politics of the Past: The View from Southern Maryland*, received a Book Award from the American Association of State and Local History in 2013.

Paul Raber

Paul Raber is Senior Archaeologist and Director of Archaeological Services with Heberling Associates, Inc., Alexandria, Pennsylvania. His research interests include the evolution of technology and the archeology of hunter-gatherers and early horticulturalists in eastern North America. He received an M.A. and Ph.D. in anthropology from the Pennsylvania State University. He edits the series *Recent Research in Pennsylvania Archaeology*, has contributed to individual volumes in the series, and has published in *North American Archaeologist*, *Archaeology of Eastern North America*, *Pennsylvania Archaeologist*, the *Journal of Middle Atlantic Archaeology* and the *Journal of Field Archaeology*.

Cassandra Michaud

Cassandra Michaud is Co-Lead of the Archaeology Program at Montgomery Parks, M-NCPPC, where she focuses on the stewardship and interpretation of sites on Park land, including public engagement with archaeological research. She earned an MA in Archaeological Studies from Boston University and BA in Anthropology from the University of Maryland, College Park. She has over 20 years of experience in a variety of archaeological venues that includes years working as a cultural resource management professional. Since 2009, she has regularly engaged with volunteers, students and other members of the general public as part of on-going projects across Montgomery County.

Dena Doroszenko

Since 1978, Dena Doroszenko has worked for a series of public and private agencies resulting in her involvement with a wide variety of archaeological and historic sites across the Province of Ontario. Prior experience with professional and avocational archaeological societies, teaching public archeology programs and directing excavations have provided opportunities to be directly involved in policy development, public education, promotion and advocacy. As the Senior Archaeologist for the Ontario Heritage Trust since 1987, her responsibilities include the design and implementation of historical and archaeological research programs including collections management, focusing on the wide range of provincially significant sites that fall under the purview of the Trust. Her research interests include urban archeology in Toronto, the archeology of domestic sites, public archeology, industrial archeology, African-Canadian studies and historic material culture across Ontario.

Darrin L. Lowery

Darrin Lowery was raised on Tilghman Island in Talbot County, Maryland and comes from a long-line of boat builders, waterman, and farmers. His family has lived on the Delmarva Peninsula since the mid-17th century. His interest in coastal geology and archeology began at the age of seven, while combing the eroding shorelines of the Chesapeake Bay with his father. Lowery has both undergraduate and graduate degrees in Anthropology and Archaeology and he has a doctorate in Geology. Lowery was awarded a research fellowship from the Smithsonian Institution in 2009 and was appointed a research associate position within the Smithsonian's

Department of Anthropology in 2010. Lowery also received a post-doctoral fellowship 2013 from the Smithsonian Institution. He maintains a research and adjunct faculty position in the Department of Geology at the University of Delaware. He has systematically surveyed 91,241 acres of agriculturally-tilled fields and examined 2,882 miles of coastline for archaeological sites. As a result, he has recorded 1,854 archaeological sites in the tristate Delmarva area. He has published 46 articles in peer-reviewed journals and prepared 56 monographs or CRM mitigation reports. He is acutely interested in landscape formation processes, sea level rise, coastal erosion, and testing marine transgression rate models. He enjoys educating the public about regional geologic processes and the early peoples that settled within the Chesapeake Bay region.

Dave Alberg

David Alberg joined the National Marine Sanctuary Program in the fall of 2005. As Sanctuary Superintendent for the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary, Mr. Alberg serves as the onsite manager for the sanctuary and as the primary point of contact between NOAA and The Mariners' Museum in Newport News, Virginia which is conserving the thousands of artifacts recovered from the wreck of the USS Monitor. He has an extensive background in cultural resource management, museum work and exhibit development and has been involved in a number of high-profile museum projects. In 1992, Mr. Alberg began his museum career as the first curator for the Virginia Air and Space Center in Hampton Virginia and went on to serve as the Director of Exhibits and Collections for the U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, AL. Most recently, he served as the Deputy Director for Nauticus in Norfolk, Virginia where he was instrumental in the expansion of the NOAA@Nauticus partnership.