



ASM Ink

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Newsletter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.

www.marylandarcheology.org

Trust staff shifts bases in reorganization

By Maureen Kavanagh

Chief Maryland Archeologist

The Maryland Historical Trust's archeology program has just gone through a major reorganization. People have been moved around, but no positions have been lost. The hope is that the changes will increase archeology's profile in Maryland. To understand the changes, it is necessary to know how the Trust is set up. Stand by for some bureaucratic parsing.

At the Trust, archeological activities take place in a number of offices, both at Crownsville and at the MAC lab at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. With the exception of the Office of Archeology, the rest of the Trust is organized into functional offices that each address a separate aspect of the Trust's mission to inventory, evaluate, protect and interpret historic and archeological properties.

Even before the September 11 shifts, three Office of Archeology staff members had been detailed to work directly within those functional offices, some (project review and compliance archeologists) for more than a decade.

There are three involved offices. One, the Office of Research, Survey and Registration, is charged by legislation with identifying and evaluating historic and archeological properties. This office has programs in research and survey, the National Register program, the library and inventory -- including both standing structures and archeology -- and the GIS (Geographic Information Systems) project.

The Office of Preservation Services seeks to preserve historic and archeological resources through its regulatory and easement programs, offers financial assistance through its capital grant, loan and tax incentive programs, and provides general technical preservation assistance to the public. This office is responsible for the review of projects for their potential impacts to historic and archeological resources.

The Office of Heritage Planning and Outreach provides staff support to the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority, offers technical assistance to local governments and the general public, leads statewide preservation planning efforts, administers the Certified Local Government Program, leads the Non-Capital Historic Preservation Grant Program and oversees the production and sale of MHT Press publications.

After many years of study, Rodney Little, director of the Trust, announced the changes that assigned the remaining Office of Archeology staff to work directly with these three functional offices, with at least one full-time archeologist in each office.

Dennis Curry and Bruce Thompson and I have been detailed to the Office of Research, Survey and

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Annual Meeting preview. p.3; Where governor candidates stand. p.4

Upcoming events

October 11: Preservation Maryland Diamond Jubilee Annual Meeting. B&O Railroad Museum. 5:30 – 8:30.

October 14: ASM Annual Meeting. Oregon Ridge in Baltimore County. The theme will be: "The First European Settlements in Maryland – As Seen Through Archeological Research."

November 3: Maryland Indian Day. Cedarville.

November 8-12: ESAF meeting. Fitchburg, Massachusetts.

March 15-18, 2007: MAAC meeting, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Volunteer opportunities

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

Montgomery County lab, field work Wednesdays, 9:30 to 2:30. Call 301-840-5848 or contact james.sorensen@mncppc-mc.org or heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org. CAT opportunity.

ASM field session collection: Volunteers are needed to work on up-grading collections associated with previous field sessions. Currently, the collection from the Rosenstock Site, a key Late Woodland Montgomery Complex area, is being upgraded. The lab in Crownsville is open Tuesdays from 9:30 until 4. For additional information contact Louise Akerson rakerson@comcast.net or Charlie Hall hall@mdp.state.md.us.

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

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

Jefferson Patterson Park invites volunteers to take part in its various activities, including archeology, historical research and artifact conservation. This year's public archeology program runs until July 8, with digging on Fridays and Saturdays and lab work Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Contact Ed Chaney at 410-586-8554 or echaney@mdp.state.md.us

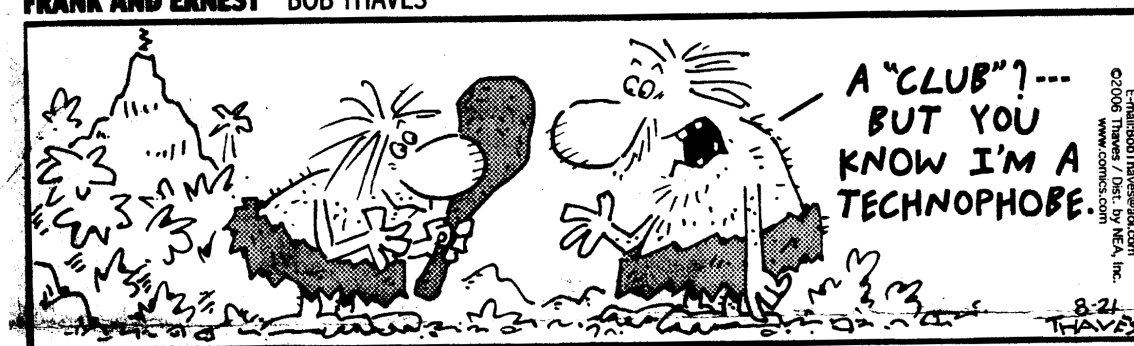
The Archaeological Institute of America provides an online listing of fieldwork opportunities worldwide, Call up www.archaeological.org/fieldwork/ to get started. Remember to add the extra A in archaeological.

CAT corner

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

Special fieldwork opportunity: Richard Ervin of SHA is working on the Broad Creek Cemetery, a 17th through 19th Century cemetery on Kent Island. On occasion and on very short notice, it is necessary for him to conduct emergency excavations in preparation for new interments. Contact him at 410-545-2878 (days), 410-643-7128 (evenings) or by email at rervin@sha.state.md.us

FRANK AND ERNEST BOB THAVES



Fall meeting to look at early settlements

The 2006 edition of ASM's Annual Meeting takes place this month, Saturday, October 14, at the Nature Center in Oregon Ridge Park, north of Baltimore in Baltimore County. In keeping with the upcoming 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown, the theme will be "The Early English Settlements of Maryland As Seen Through Archeological Research."

Seven talks will examine the subject, detailing work in various parts of the state. In addition to the talks, there will be a business meeting, the installation of new officers, the presentation of the William B. Mayre Award for service to Maryland archeology and the graduation of another CAT program participant.

The business meeting starts the day at 9 a.m. The first talk, the Frederick M. Stiner Memorial lecture, begins at 10. Lee Preston, of the UPAG Chapter, will tell the results of digs at Longwood farm, whose history stretches back to the 18th Century. The scene then shifts southward to St. Mary's City. Archeologist Silas Hurry will look at the historical and archeological information on the 17th Century Catholic chapels built in the city. The talk also will examine the chapel or chapels that preceded it and the domestic occupation associated with the earlier structures.

The last talk before lunch will be by Travis Shaw of G. Christopher Goodwin & Associates. His presentation will explore the excavations at the Old Baltimore Site at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Harford County.

Following lunch, Don Creveling, who covers Prince George's County for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, will tell the audience about the creation of an archeological exhibit at Mount Calvert, a late 1700s brick plantation house and the scene of several ASM field schools. The talk, entitled "A Confluence of Three Cultures," describes the archeology of 8,000 years of American Indian presence, the development of colonial Charles Town -- Prince George's County's first seat of government from 1696-1721 -- and the 1700 and 1800's tobacco plantation.

The focus then returns to Southern Maryland, specifically the Smith's St. Leonard Site at the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. The site centers around a house built in 1711 but abandoned in 1754. Since 2002 JefPat has hosted a public archeology program there and this preliminary report will tell about the known history of the site and what work has been done there so far. The report will be given by Jessica L. Grow of the University of Maryland, College Park.

Vivian Eicke and Don Housley of the Mid-Potomac Chapter will move forward in history to discuss "The Camp at Muddy Branch at Blockhouse Point." "We will present a brief history of the Camp at Muddy Branch and its importance during the Civil War. Included will be some of the archival research, pictures of artifacts and the excavation done at the soldiers' camp at Blockhouse Point to date," Vivian says.

The final talk will be by meeting host Stephen Israel of the Central Chapter. "The Clarke Farm: The Search for 'Indian Town' and what we found out" will look at the historical records for an 'Indian Town' site and the chapter's field survey to verify the site.

After the talks, George Brauer, of the Center for Archaeology at Oregon Ridge, will lead a tour of the Iron Furnace town and talk about its history and the Tenant House Museum use as an educational tool.

A flier listing the complete timetable for the meeting, along with directions for getting there, is included with this newsletter.

Wayne Clark to leave the Trust in November

Wayne Clark, the chief of museum services for the Maryland Historical Trust, will be retiring at the beginning of November. His connection to Maryland archeology goes back to his high school days in Anne Arundel County in the 1960s.

He will be going to work as executive director of the Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland, a regional planning agency that works with elected and appointed officials.

"To all who have responded to my request for help in the field, lab, lectures, classroom, museums, and State House, please accept my heartfelt thanks," he said. "Keep being advocates for Maryland Archaeology. Here is the torch, run with it and don't look back, it only slows you down on the next lap of the race."

A Maryland Archeology profile of Wayne appears on Page 6 of this newsletter.

ASM guide to Maryland's election

While the future of archeology shouldn't be the only concern in selecting candidates to vote for in this year's election, it can play a part in our decisions. ASM asked the leading candidates for governor and senator for their positions on several issues of interest to Maryland archeologists. Both candidates for governor answered, but neither candidate for senator did. Here are the unedited replies:

Q. How much of a role do you think the state government should take in protecting Maryland's archeological heritage?

EHRLICH: Our state's rich history and archeological heritage play a vital role in how we define ourselves as Marylanders. Therefore, we must be aggressive in preserving Maryland's archeological heritage. Since taking office, my administration has focused on compliance and enforcement in the review of projects funded by the state and federal government. I have placed a premium on the critical review of projects that have the potential to destroy archeological sites and have also explored new initiatives to protect archeological sites on private lands where public funding is not involved. In addition, I have encouraged local governments to address archeological site protection in local ordinances with regard to private sites.

O'MALLEY: Historical and archeological preservation is key to protecting the history of all Marylanders and strengthens our insight into how far we've come as a people, and how far there still is to go. The state government should take the lead in partnering with academics, civic groups and private experts to safeguard our heritage.

In the past four years, Maryland has seen increasing, and reckless, development under Bob Ehrlich. Rather than appoint competent civil servants, he has selected inexperienced, well-connected friends to lead the Department of Planning, which directly impacts the state's commitment to archeological and historical preservation. His lack of commitment to the environment, and his willingness to let developers construct new homes in critical areas, is reflective of the current governor's failure to defend protected lands from development.

I believe that Maryland needs a strong governor with the determination to stand up for Maryland's history, and our state's families, in the face of special interests. We are all paying for the state's government -- we should elect one that will work for Maryland families and protect our past.

Q. What actions would you take or endorse as governor to this end?

EHRLICH: I will continue to provide technical assistance to local governments, nonprofit organizations and private citizens that are interested in protecting archeological sites. Encouragingly, we have seen great success in Frederick City and Prince George's County where local ordinances have been amended to protect archeological sites. I will continue to focus on improvements at the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum and the Banneker-Douglas Museum to highlight archeological research and site protection throughout Maryland.

Because promoting the cause of preservation means educating the next generation of heritage professionals, I have committed \$200,000 for IMPART, an innovative program that partners museums and historical societies with Maryland's colleges and universities in preparing students for heritage disciplines.

O'MALLEY: If elected, I will work with the archeological community to stand up to developers and protect historically critical lands. I will bring Baltimore's award-winning CitiStat system of performance-based government statewide, making sure that every dollar we dedicate to historical preservation is used as efficiently as possible. As a state, Maryland has so much history that we must protect, from the bombardment of Ft. McHenry to Antietam and the other battlefields of the Civil War, and we need a strong state partner who will protect and preserve our history. By working with Maryland families, historical preservation community and environmentalists, we can guard our state's treasures for future generations to enjoy.

In Baltimore, we are proud to have the most encompassing preservation program of any jurisdiction in Maryland. With over 7,000 buildings designated as local landmarks or parts of historical jurisdictions, we have taken the lead in protecting our history. In addition, Baltimore's Property Tax Credit for Historic Restorations and Rehabilitations is a 10-year, comprehensive tax credit program that allows the owners of 54,000 different properties to complete restoration projects without being penalized for their dedication to protecting Maryland's history.

Q. Would you restore funding to the Maryland Historical Trust?

EHRlich: Over the past four years, I have worked to restore historic preservation funding cuts that occurred under the last administration. Of particular importance to the archeological community, I was able to more than double the non-capital grant program this past year, from \$266,000 to \$458,000.

The Maryland Historical Trust's budget now includes nearly \$2 million in grants to Maryland's historical and cultural museums and my 2007 budget included \$30 million for the rehabilitation tax credit program, a \$10 million increase from the year before. We have also realigned preservation program development within the Maryland Department of Planning to enhance the state's capacity to serve local preservation needs.

O'MALLEY: If elected, I look forward to working with your members to make sure that the Maryland Historical Trust not only has enough funding, but that the Trust's funding goes where it will do the most to preserve our state's rich heritage.

Tablet may reveal oldest hemisphere writing

By Thomas H. Maugh II

Condensed from the Baltimore Sun, September 15, 2006

Archeologists working on the Gulf coast of Mexico say a 3,000-year-old stone tablet there bears the oldest writing in the Western Hemisphere and the first text unambiguously linked to the Olmec empire -- the enigmatic civilization believed to be the progenitor of the Aztecs and Maya.

The 26-pound tablet, about the size of a legal pad, bears symbols arrayed in a manner suggesting a recording of everyday speech.

"We have long thought that the Olmec would have writing," said archeologist William A. Saturno of the University of New Hampshire, who was not involved in the discovery. "This block is finally the evidence everyone has been waiting for."

Scientists might never be able to translate the text unless they find many more examples of Olmec writing, said archeologist Stephen D. Houston of Brown University, a co-author of the report published today in the journal *Science*. But "if we can decode it, it gives us a chance of hearing their voices and finding out what they considered important and worth recording," he said.

The Olmec flourished in south-central Mexico for more than 1,000 years before they mysteriously disappeared, just before the rise of the Maya. They were the first civilization in Mesoamerica and, at their height, built large pyramids and massive stone heads. They built the first cities in the region and established a wide-ranging trading system that stretched across Central America.

The tablet dates from about 1000 BC to 900 BC and is at least 300 years older than any other purported writing discovered in the region.

Virtually all of the purported writing that has been found previously in the first millennium BC are isolated sets of one to a few glyphs, or symbols. Critics have charged that such discoveries represent merely pictures or identifiers, not true writing.

They built large pyramids surrounded by rectangular huts made from plants and adobe, with stone drainage systems under their communities. They harvested rubber -- their name means "rubber people" in the Aztec language. What the Olmec called themselves is unknown.

They also developed calendars and the concept of zero. "They had so many other things that it would seem odd if they didn't have the concept of writing," Saturno said.

In fact, he said, they started making paper about 1,500 BC, beating the bark of trees into thin sheets. "What else were they making the paper for" besides writing, he asked.

But because of the climate, none of that paper has survived.

The tablet almost didn't survive as well. It was unearthed in 1999 by road builders digging gravel from an ancient mound at Cascajal, a village on an island about a mile from San Lorenzo.

Some of the symbols are clearly derived from natural objects, such as insects, corn, awls and thrones. From the way the symbols are laid out, "it is crushingly obvious that we are in the presence of writing," Houston said.

Profiles in Maryland archeology

An interview with ... Wayne Clark

Wayne Clark will be retired in November from his post as the [Chief](#) of Maryland's Office of Museum Services, a part of the Maryland Historical Trust,

Q. How did you get started in archeology?

A. I started in Anne Arundel County. My cousin found a site on the [Samuel Clark](#) property and I learned about it in 1964 and then started [looking around](#) to see if I could learn more about the discipline. That's [when](#) I found [out that](#) the Archeological Society of Maryland existed. In 1966, 40 years ago, I came to my first Spring Symposium and became involved as an avocational archeologist, focus on Native American interest.

Q. Where did you go to school?

A. I went to the University of Maryland , College Park , where they had an [archaeology](#) program with Dr. Melburn Thurmen. At that time he was a Native American scholar. I got a degree in business administration because my father said I'd never get a job as an archeologist. And so I minored in anthropology and majored in business administration. But after graduating I decided that I really did want to turn my avocation into a



profession. I went to American University , under Dr. Charles McNett and [Dr. Gary Hume](#), and received my anthropology degree there in 1976, a master's. Jim Sorensen was in the class. Paul Inashima.

Q. Have you been involved in Maryland archeology your whole career?

A. No, I started out after graduating from the University of Maryland , I was actually Anne Arundel County chapter president for a while and then I was on the board of ASM early on, in the '60s and '70s. But I went to Virginia in 1976 and worked for Howard MacCord as his first assistant state archeologist. I worked with Howard until he resigned in 1977 and then I moved to work with Bill Kelso in Williamsburg. I left there in 1978 to assume the job of state administrative archeologist at the Maryland Historical Trust. [In 1981, I surveyed and began discussion with Mrs. Jefferson Patterson about the archeology of her property. Following her gift of the land in 1983, I took on the challenge of directing the development of the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum.](#)

Q. What interesting projects have you worked on?

A. So many I can't talk about them. Helping Don Shomette establish the maritime archeology program in Maryland. Serving on [Governor Schaefer's](#) task force to establish the maritime archeology program. [Managing MHT funding for the Chesapeake Flotilla ship project from the War of 1812 and the first maritime river basin survey on the Patuxent. And from the interest generated from that work, securing state funds for and proceeding to construction of the Maryland Archaeology Conservation Laboratory to provide a permanent home for the Maryland's archeological collections.](#)

Q. So you found underwater interesting too.

A. I got [P.A.D.I.](#) certification in underwater [diving](#) because of the Yorktown shipwreck project that [Virginia archeologists](#) were doing [in 1977](#). I developed in interest in underwater archeology with the Revolutionary War shipwrecks at Yorktown . And I brought that to Maryland and it was one of the reasons we built the MAC lab, because in order to do underwater archeology we had to have a [modern](#) lab to [conserve](#) the collections. Native American sites: Anywhere from the Shawnee Minisink site in Pennsylvania , that was eight feet below the surface of the ground, going back to 12,000 years ago, that [American University](#) did as a field school in Pennsylvania . [I loved that site, fantastic to work there with Paul Inashima, Joe Dent, Charles Leedecker and](#)

many others. Including in Maryland, my first excavation that I supervised was the Elkridge site, 1967. My father, John C. Clark, and I found the site during our survey of the Stony Run valley. I did the excavations under the supervision of Willard Morgan, Patapsco State Park Ranger, before Maryland had a state archeology program. I later nominated that and 23 other sites to the National Register of Historic Places in 1974.

Q. That's where we had the field school a couple of years ago.

A. That's right. I have enjoyed working with amateur archeologists around the state to study their collections. Thomas Mayr, Spencer Geasey, Robert Ogle, folks like that. A number of 17th Century sites. So, I've had a blessed career. I mean I've gotten to do things I never dreamed I would ever do. Excavating Sioux Indian sites in the Piedmont of Virginia, a whole different culture area for me.

Q. How has archeology changed during your years in it?

A. When I started out in archeology there was no state archeology program. Tyler [Bastian] wasn't here yet and the only people you had to look to were the Smithsonian Institution, which the Archeological Society of Maryland turned to a lot, American University and Catholic University and a new program at the University of Maryland, but they were focused on Southwest archeology. So that's changed a lot. With Tyler coming in, he had a horrific job, he had to organize the whole state and get that going. We got behind Tyler and began to help him with his field school and get organized filling out site forms. So the first 10 years there was a lot of focus on finding and recording sites so that we could document them before they were destroyed. With the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act in 1966 - archeology came later, where it was actually mandated. But at the beginning it was hard to get that law enforced. So for the first 10 years after that it was always a fight to get the [Army] Corps of Engineers and other federal and state agencies to do archeology. That's not so much the fight today, but the pace of development is such that 90 percent of the development going on is not being looked at by archeologists. Development approval is done at the local level, we're never seeing it at the state level. So even though we've made significant progress in compliance, most of the sites are still being lost because we are not aware of the destruction. So that hasn't changed.

Q. Is it going to change, do you think?

A. Yes. The bright star in that is the Anne Arundel County program, which now is requiring any development over five lots in size to do archeology if significant sites are predicted to be present. Calvert County is hoping to implement a similar program. Prince George's County has now implemented that program. For example, in Prince George's County there were 700 sites until this program was implemented last year. In the past year alone they've found 100 sites on 82 locally permitted developments that they called for archeology to get done. So in the past 50 years we've had 700 sites recorded for Prince George's County; with this local program there are now 800 sites. That's great news for the future, but just think of how many sites were not recorded and lost because there was no county archeology compliance program. I think local programs are the way to go to really get the archeology done before it's gone. The challenge remains, 1.2 million new citizens in Maryland predicted in the next 20 years, the rapid pace of development continues statewide.

Q. Something that is related to archeology is your interest in John Smith. How long have you been trying to retrace his steps in the Chesapeake?

A. I started out when Tom Mayr told me to read about Smith in 1966, so it's been 40 years now, and my level of understanding has grown significantly over those years. I've been blessed that my career has taken me both to Virginia and Maryland and so I understand the archeology of the entire Algonquian-speaking native cultures of both states and to understand John Smith you have to have worked in both areas. Working with interdisciplinary teams has been helpful too. I think we've come up with a really good understanding of where the villages are, potentially, and the route that he actually took and what days they were there. So I think it's going to be a very useful publication. I am very proud that they used that publication to try to promote and create the Captain John Smith National Water Trail that will be around for generations to come for people that follow in his footsteps. We have the tools now to recognize these contact period sites, we just need the vision, passion and dollars to systematically search for them while they are still in farm fields, not suburban or waterfront lawns.

Q. What's the title of the book?

A. It's called "John Smith's Chesapeake Voyages, 1607-1609." It will be published this coming spring by the University of Virginia Press.

Looting is still a problem in Iraq

By Ellen Knickmeyer

Condensed from the Washington Post, August 27, 2006

BAGHDAD-- Before he quit as head of Iraq's antiquities board, Donny George made a final desperate attempt this summer to safeguard the relics of 5,000 years of history: He ordered the doors of the National Museum plugged with concrete against the near-unbridled looting of ancient artifacts.

The longtime guardian of Iraqi antiquities under Saddam Hussein and later under a government led by Shiite Muslim religious parties then left the country and sent notice of his resignation in early August, Culture Ministry officials confirmed Saturday.

George, who alerted the world to the looting of Iraq's irreplaceable ancient works of art and writings in the days after U.S. troops moved into Baghdad in 2003, told the Art Newspaper that he found "intolerable" the ongoing failure of Iraqi leaders and U.S. military forces to protect the sites. The London-based monthly reported George's departure on Saturday.

George, an Iraqi Christian, cited what he said was growing pressure by officials of Iraq's ruling Shiite parties to emphasize Iraq's Islamic heritage and ignore the earlier civilizations that stretched back to Babylon and beyond. "A lot of people have been sent to our institutions," the Art Newspaper quoted him as saying. "They are only interested in Islamic sites and not Iraq's earlier heritage."

He also complained of a lack of funding to protect archeological sites around Iraq. Funding runs out in September for 1,400 specially trained patrolmen who guard the sites, he told the art publication, and no more money has been budgeted to protect places that date to the Sumerian civilization in 3000 B.C.

"I can tell you the situation regarding antiquities is horrible," McGuire Gibson, an authority on Mesopotamian archeology at the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago, said by telephone from Chicago.

"There was a lot of attention paid to the looting of the museum the very same days the war started," Gibson said. "It hasn't stopped. There has been looting of sites on an industrial scale. Some of the greatest Sumerian sites have gone."

"The destruction that's already gone on in looting since 2003 is irrevocable," he said. "We've lost whole sites. We've lost whole cities."

In the weeks before the U.S.-led invasion, Gibson worked to alert the U.S. military to the thousands of ancient sites across Iraq. The work helped save Iraq's heritage from U.S. bombs, but not from the looting -- unforeseen by U.S. military and civilian war planners -- that broke out after the collapse of Hussein's government.

Mobs ransacked government buildings down to the light switch plates and set fire to many of them during the ensuing days of anarchy in Baghdad and other cities. U.S. troops, with no orders to stop the looters, watched for several days before moving against the thieves.

At the time of the invasion, the National Museum contained at least 170,000 items, some of which were moved elsewhere for safekeeping before the outbreak of hostilities. At least 13,000 pieces from the museum were believed to be stolen in the days after U.S. troops entered Baghdad on April 9.

"It was the leading collection . . . of a continuous history of mankind," a desolate George said April 13, 2003, as he crunched through glass from shattered display cases and ransacked museum offices. "And it's gone, and it's lost."

The Culture Ministry ordered the museum closed and has not announced plans to reopen it. Surrounded by weeds, it now sits behind metal gates, piled sandbags and concertina wire.

Culture Ministry officials confirmed that Haider Farhan, a member of a Shiite religious party, has become the acting head of the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage since George's departure. George told the Art Newspaper that Farhan had no relevant experience for the job. A Culture Ministry official questioned that judgment, saying Farhan was a young official in the department with a master's degree in Islamic manuscripts.

Trust staff shifts bases in reorganization

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Registration. As Chief Archeologist, I will continue to oversee and coordinate archeological programs and activities conducted by MHT. I also will continue to manage the GIS project.

Dennis Curry was assigned to this office last December. He is charged primarily with crafting terrestrial archeology research and survey priorities. The primary goal of this placement is to ensure that the Trust undertakes archeological research in a comprehensive and coordinated way. An important part of this task will be grappling with our long-standing problem of how to synthesize the enormous volume of archeological field data into information that can be used for daily and long-range management purposes.

Bruce Thompson will continue to work on projects that draw on his expertise and knowledge of maritime history, historic archeology and conservation.

Charlie Hall, the State Terrestrial Archeologist, has been assigned to the Office of Heritage and Outreach. He will continue to organize and implement archeological outreach and educational events and programs, including jointly sponsored MHT/ASM activities, provide technical assistance to professionals, administer the terrestrial permit program, conduct field testing and lab programs engaging the volunteer community and continue to present results of that research through professional and public venues. He also will take the lead on assisting local governments in developing ordinances for archeological site protection.

Susan Langley, State Underwater Archeologist, is now part of the Office of Preservation Services. The program will continue to conduct all aspects of underwater archeological activities. She is in the process of hiring an assistant to fill the vacancy left by Steve Bilicki. In addition to other duties, the assistant must review projects for their potential impacts on underwater archeological resources and will work closely with Beth Cole and Dixie Henry, archeologists who already were working within Preservation Services.

Over the last 14 years, the archeological presence within the Trust has grown considerably with the opening of the MAC lab and the establishment of the underwater program. The goal of these new assignments is to ensure that archeological research, survey, inventory, preservation and education activities are fully integrated and coordinated with the preservation activities and programs throughout the Trust.

Archeologists and Conservators at the Maryland Historical Trust, as of September 12, 2006

Maureen Kavanagh, Chief Archeologist, 410-514-7660, mkavanagh@mdp.state.md.us

Susan Langley, State Underwater Archeologist, 410-514-7662, slangley@mdp.state.md.us

Vacant, Assistant State Underwater Archeologist

Charlie Hall, State Terrestrial Archeologist, 410-514-7665, chall@mdp.state.md.us

Dennis Curry, Senior Archeologist, 410-514-7664, dcurry@mdp.state.md.us

Bruce Thompson, Archeologist, 410-514-7674, bthompson@mdp.state.md.us

Beth Cole, Administrator, Project Review and Compliance, 410-514-7631, bcole@mdp.state.md.us

Dixie Henry, Review and Compliance Archeologist, 410-514-7638, dhenry@mdp.state.md.us

Vacant, Director of the MAC Lab

Ed Chaney, Director of Research and Collections, MAC Lab, 410-586-8554, echaney@mdp.state.md.us

Archeological Collections Managers and Conservators

Betty Seifert, Deputy Director of the MAC lab, Acting Director, 410-586-8578, bseifert@mdp.state.md.us

Howard Wellman, Lead Conservator, 410-586-8577, hwellman@mdp.state.md.us

Becky Morehouse, Collections Manager, 410-586-8583, bmorehouse@mdp.state.md.us

Sara Rivers-Cofield, Federal Collections Manager, 410-586-8589, srivers-cofield@mdp.state.md.us

Part-time Archeological Assignments

Richard Hughes, Chief of Heritage and Outreach, Archeologist on Easement Committee, Liaison to Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs, 410-514-7685, rhughes@mdp.state.md.us

Jennifer Cosham, Archeological Site Inventory Registrar/GIS, 410-514-7619, jcosham@mdp.state.md.us

Kate Dinnel, Education and Archeology Specialist, JPPM, 410-586-8538, kdinnel@mdp.state.md.us

Neanderthals put on Gibraltar at 26,000BC

By John Noble Wilford

Condensed from the New York Times, September 14, 2006

An international team of scientists thinks it has solved the ultimate mystery of the Neanderthals: where and when they made their last stand before extinction. It was at Gibraltar 28,000 years ago, the scientists say, about 2,000 years more recently than previously thought.

The archeologists and paleontologists reported yesterday finding several hundred stone tools in Gorham's Cave, on the rugged Mediterranean coast near the Rock of Gibraltar. They were made in the Mousterian stoneworking style, usually associated with Neanderthals. So far, no fossil bones of the cave occupants have been uncovered.

The researchers said, however, that the tools established the survival of a population of Neanderthals, a people closely related to human ancestors, in the southernmost point of Western Europe long after they disappeared elsewhere.

These were, they concluded, the last Neanderthals "currently recorded anywhere."

The scientists, led by Clive Finlayson of the Gibraltar Museum, announced the discovery at a news conference at the museum. Their report was simultaneously published on the Web site of the journal *Nature*, www.nature.com. It will appear in the journal at a later date.

In an accompanying commentary in *Nature*, two paleontologists not involved in the research, Eric Delson and Katerina Harvati, agreed that the date of 28,000 years ago was "later than any other well-documented supposed Neanderthal occurrence."

Recently revised dating shows that anatomically modern *Homo sapiens* migrated to Europe from Africa by 35,000 years ago and over time they displaced Neanderthals, who had lived on the continent for about 200,000 years.

Erik Trinkaus, a Neanderthal specialist at Washington University in St. Louis who was not a member of the discovery team, expressed reservations about the accuracy of the date of 28,000 years ago, noting that it was based on analysis of tiny pieces of charcoal, which often move from one layer to another in sediments.

Dr. Delson and Dr. Harvati also pointed out that "evidence of Mousterian tools does not in itself indicate that their makers were Neanderthals: this is merely a reasonable assumption."

Chapter notes

Anne Arundel

The Chapter meets five times a year in February, April, June, September, and November at the All Hallows Parish Brick Church at the Parish Hall near London Town, at 7 p.m. Contact Mechelle Kerns-Nocerito at AACHapASM@hotmail.com or visit the chapter website www.marylandarcheology.org/aacashome.php

November 14: Wayne Clark of the Maryland Historical Trust will talk on the importance of Selby Bay Complex for understanding Eastern U.S. cultural history, trade, exchange, migration, language and the Algonquian cultures of the Chesapeake Bay as first documented by Captain John Smith in 1608.

Central

Central Chapter has no formal meetings planned. But if someone has a site he wants investigated, contact the Maryland Historical Trust or Central Chapter President Stephen Israel at 410-945-5514 or ssisrael@abs.net

Mid-Potomac

The chapter meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Needwood Mansion. Dinner at a local restaurant is at 6. Monthly lab nights are the first Thursday of the month, from 7 to 9 at Needwood Mansion.

Contact james.sorensen@mncppc-mc.org or heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org, or call 301-840-5848. Chapter website: www.mid-potomacarchaeology.org

Monocacy

The chapter meets in the Community Room of the C. Burr Artz Library, 110 East Patrick Street, Frederick on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. Contact Jeremy Lazelle at 301-845-9855 or jlazelle@msn.com. Chapter website: www.digfrederick.bravehost.com.

October 11: John Bedell of The Louis Berger Group will speak about the C & O Canal Survey being conducted for the National Park Service.

November 8: Joy Beasley of the National Park Service will talk about the historic mill discovered on the Monocacy Battlefield.

December 13: Mike Johnson, Fairfax County Archeologist, will speak about the archeology program in Fairfax County, Virginia, and about the Cactus Hill site.

Northern Chesapeake

Meetings are the second Wednesday of the month. Contact Dan Coates at dancoates@comcast.net

Southern

Contact Kate Dinnel for information at katesilas@chesapeake.net or 410-586-8538.

Upper Patuxent

Programs are the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Mt. Ida, near the court house in Ellicott City. Some months, potluck suppers are held at 6:30. Otherwise, dinner is available at the Tiber River Tavern in Ellicott City. Either car pool from Mt. Ida at 5:55 or meet at the tavern. For information on the chapter, contact Lee Preston at 443-745-1202 or roseannlee@earthlink.com

October 9: Lee Preston, "The Patapsco Female Institute: The School, the Staff, the Students and the 19th Century Values Found Therein."

November 13: Bob Wall, "The Barton Site." (Pot Luck Supper)

December (No Meeting)

January 8, 2007: "Archeology Lab: Mt. Pleasant" (there are many artifacts from Mt. Pleasant that need to be cleaned and articulated. There will be plenty of bottles, plates etc. to piece together.

February 12: Matt Croson on "Archeology and CSI: Time is the Only Difference."

March 12: Michael Olmert, University of Maryland, "Outbuildings: Architecture and Culture in the 18th Century Anglo-Tidewater Backyard." (Pot Luck Supper)

April 9: Bob O'Brien, "A Travelogue of Hawaii".

May 14: Program to be announced. (Pot Luck Supper)

Western Maryland

Programs are the fourth Friday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. in the LaVale Library, unless noted. Contact Ed

Hanna, 301-777-1380. Chapter email: wmdasm@yahoo.com Website: www.geocities.com/wmdasm

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

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

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

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