

ASM Ink

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Newsletter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.



www.marylandarcheology.org



Pipes from the Pig Point Site

The Pig Point Site in Anne Arundel County has proven a treasure trove for the Lost Towns Project, including an abundance of pipe fragments. In the northern part of the site some 170 Adena-style fragments have been found.

In the southern area, director Al Luckenbach says in the Lost Towns newsletter, "An unusually high number of ceramic pipes have been found in the Middle and Late Woodland contexts (ca. 400 B.C. to A.D. 1600). These include a number of highly decorated examples for which no good analogies have been found. What is immediately apparent is the great diversity of shapes and decorative styles.

"Just like the great ceramic diversity being seen at Pig Point, these pipes are trying to tell us something. They indicate that this site was a gathering place for groups from a wide geographic area, each possessing their own idiosyncratic pipe styles. Pig Point was clearly a special place, where different groups would gather to feast, trade and conduct their mysterious rituals."

Upcoming events

October 17-19: Three-day conference focused on the Ice Age colonization of the Americas. Santa Fe. <http://www.paleoamericanodyssey.com>

October 19: Celebrate International Archeology Day with Lost Towns activities. 10 - 3. \$10. For information see www.losttownsproject.org

October 31 - November 3: Eastern States Archeological Federation meeting. South Portland, Maine.

November 9: ASM Annual Meeting, Montgomery County Agricultural History Farm Park, Derwood.

October 30 - November 2, 2014: ESAF meeting, Solomons Island, Maryland.

Volunteer opportunities

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

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 during the week and on occasional Saturdays. Contact Jim Gibb at jamesggibb@verizon.net

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

ASM field session collection: Volunteers have turned their attention to work on material from Chapel Point and to catalogue data entry of Rosenstock material. The lab in Crownsville will be open Tuesdays from 9:30 until 3. Contact Louise Akerson at lakerson1@verizon.net or Charlie Hall chall@mdp.state.md.us.

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

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

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

The Maryland Historical Society is looking for volunteers to help rehouse all its archeological material which was damaged when a steam pipe burst. The work is being done at its Baltimore office, 201 W. Monument Street, weekdays between 8:30 and 4. Volunteers will have to commit to at least 40 hours of work. Contact Kate Gallagher at kgallagher@mdhs.org anytime or midweek at 410-685-3750, extension 342.

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 information on the CAT program, and updates, visit the ASM website.



Annual Meeting coming up Nov. 9

The major ASM event of the fall, the Annual Meeting, will be held at the Agricultural History Farm Park in Derwood, Montgomery County, with the Mid-Potomac Chapter as the host.

A full day of activity is planned under the theme "The Amazing Discoveries of Central Maryland and the Potomac." Stephen Potter of the National Park Service will deliver the Frederick M. Stiner Memorial Lecture, speaking about the nine-year archeological and historical study of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. The full program will be in next month's newsletter.

A business meeting will precede the speakers. The business meeting starts at 9, the program at 10:30. At the conclusion of the business meeting this year's winner of the Society's highest honor, the William B. Marye Award, will be named.

A feature of the meeting for the last several years has been a silent auction to benefit the ASM Analysis Fund. Here is a partial list of items being offered this year:

BOOKS:

Signed Copy: In Full Glory Reflected: Discovering the War of 1812 in the Chesapeake, by Ralph E. Eshelman and Burton K Kummerow, 2012
 Historical Archaeology, by Barbara Little
 Zooarchaeology, by Reitz and Wing
 Here Lies Virginia, by Ivor Noel Hume
 Signed Copy: A Ripple in the Wind, by Lois Nutwell
 Archaeology for Everyone, by Mark Feldman
 Motel of the Mysteries, by David Macaulay
 Death by Theory, by Adrian Praetzelis
 Dug to Death, by Adrian Praetzelis

MAGAZINES AND JOURNALS

Bulletin of Primitive Technology 2011-2013 – 5 copies will be auctioned separately
 Bulletin of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society, Fall 2006
 Maryland Historical Magazine – 3 copies will be auctioned separately

CRAFTS

Hand Crafted Scarf: Handspun wool and linen blend by Heirloom Treasures Designer Fiber Arts – Rita de Maintenon
 Set of 4 snowflake mugs and coasters
 Set of 4 Christmas mugs and coasters
 Hertfordshire in Old Photographs by Dave Randle

OTHER

Archaeology Conservancy hat
 Tin Coca-Cola sign
 Pair of cast brass mallard bookends
 Vacation cottage: Three nights off-season in ocean-block cottage at Dewey Beach
 Antique stoneware gin bottle, made in Rotterdam 1850s to 1920s.

Looting grows after Egypt's revolution

By Betsy Hiel

Condensed from the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, June 17, 2013

ABU SIR AL MALAQ, Egypt — Monica Hanna's reputation as an archeologist has grown far beyond her native Egypt — but not without risk.

As she and several journalists documented looting at an ancient burial site here, several men — one with a shotgun slung over a shoulder — threatened her.

"I heard one man say, 'Beat her and take her camera,'" Hanna said afterward.

When the men phoned for police, she hid her camera's memory card in her shirt. After 45 minutes of argument, she was allowed to leave.

"The locals, who are a part of the looting, don't want the photos out there because then their business stops," she explained.

Hanna, 30, is a leader in exposing the antiquity-looting that has exploded since Egypt's 2011 revolution. She appears on Egyptian television debating government officials, takes reporters to looted sites and encourages Egyptians to protect their heritage.

To Nigel Hetherington, an archeologist and co-founder of Past Preservers, which connects academia and media on archeological issues, she is "amazing ... a revolutionary in the true sense of the word."

"She is out to get the bad guys and harness the feeling the Egyptians have of their own heritage, and turn it into actual force for good," he said.

When she was 14, Hanna took a school trip to the Egyptian Museum, which holds some of the country's best antiquities, including the King Tut collection.

"I sneaked inside the mummification lab" and saw its director at work, she recalled. "I was fascinated and I asked him if I could come and help."

She volunteered twice weekly after school; a year later, she helped with mummy restorations. "I helped repair the toes of Thutmose III," a pharaoh who ruled Egypt nearly 3,500 years ago.

She graduated from American University in Cairo with a bachelor's degree in Egyptology and archeological chemistry, then earned a master's degree in teaching English, followed by a doctoral degree in archeological sciences from the University of Pisa, Italy. She is doing post-doctoral studies at Humboldt University, Berlin.

Not everyone appreciates her work; she often receives threatening phone calls: "People say that I am foreign-paid, that I have a foreign agenda or that I am doing this for personal glory."

A policeman told her uncle that she should stop because "she is bothering really big people."

Salima Ikram, Hanna's former teacher and head of American University's Egyptology unit, is not surprised by the threats: "That means she is doing her job well. She is scaring some of the syndicate people who live around and feed off of the antiquities."

Hanna concedes she may be risking her career: "I might not get future permits to work on archeological sites from the antiquities ministry. But, then, it's ethics versus career — if I cannot talk about this, then I really have no place to teach my students one day that we have done our best to protect our heritage."

She is working with three groups to monitor archeological sites; a website will allow people, including tourists, to anonymously report damaged antiquities.

Her commitment arose, she said, because foreign archeologists were afraid of losing work permits if they spoke up and antiquities inspectors who reported looting were usually ignored.

"If we Egyptians don't protect our heritage, who will?" she asks.

Hetherington said Hanna "brings a model of archeological heritage-management that is severely lacking here ... (she) can empower the younger generation to take control of this mess."

Her work "is a service not just to Egypt ... because Egypt's heritage is part of the world heritage," adds Ikram, her former teacher.

Glass factory awaits more exploration

By Lisa Kraus

Condensed from CRaB, the SHA newsletter, Fall 2013

In 1784 an ambitious German glassmaker named Johann Friedrich Amelung arrived in Baltimore, ready to make his fortune. Armed with letters of introduction from John Adams and Benjamin Franklin and accompanied by 62 professional glassworkers from Bremen, Amelung set about establishing his business with industrious zeal. He purchased 2,100 acres along Big Bennett Creek in Frederick, and within two months of establishing himself in this location was producing glass for sale.

Amelung's factory, which he named "New Bremen," is widely considered to be representative of the pinnacle of the glassmaking art in Maryland. New Bremen produced some of the finest glassware of the 18th Century. As such, items from his short-lived factory are sought after by collectors of American glass.

In 1962 the Corning Museum of Glass financed archeological excavations at New Bremen. Archeologists from Colonial Williamsburg and the Smithsonian Institution began work the summer of that same year. This effort was the first major archeological exploration of an American glassworks.

To the excavators' surprise the corner of a fritting oven, which is a substantial industrial building used in the early steps of glassmaking, was almost immediately discovered. A second season was funded the following year.

Project backers hoped that the excavation would reveal additional information about the kinds of objects Amelung routinely produced in order to help museums and collectors attribute surviving glass pieces to the New Bremen glassworks. Like many other glassmakers, Amelung produced large presentation pieces to show off his glass workers' talents.

The results of the excavation showed, however, that the majority of the glassworks' products were more practical, everyday items such as table glass, bottles and window panes and that the fancy items treasured by collectors were probably intended to illustrate the factory's potential capabilities. Unfortunately, the ordinary glass items would be almost impossible to distinguish from the work of other glassmakers of the period.

Although the main objective of the excavation was not satisfied, the dig offered a glimpse of a fascinating and rich historical archeological site. There were dozens of buildings at New Bremen, including those related to glass production, but also those related to worker's daily lives, such as dwellings, German and English schools, stables and many other types of structures.

In 1790 the factory town was the home of 400-500 workers and their families. By 1794 the fledgling industry suffered from the effects of a major fire and repeated financial woes and the factory was forced into bankruptcy. The site has remained relatively undisturbed since that time. The only building that remains at the site is the Amelung mansion; this and the associated archeological remains of New Bremen have both been listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Modern suburban development has not yet reached the site of New Bremen and since the brief excavations of the 1960s no further archeological work has been pursued. So here is a little treasure for the modern archeologist: the intact remains of a village of disappointed glass workers and the site of a briefly flourishing American glassmaking industry, all awaiting further archeological attention.

Mummies the word at Baltimore exhibit

By Chris Kaltenbach

Condensed from the Baltimore Sun, September 25, 2013

The dead are coming to Baltimore. Not, unfortunately, the Grateful Kind, or the living kind that seem to be all the rage these days. Instead, the dead arriving in Baltimore are genuinely dead — 45 human and animal mummies that will be taking up residence at the Maryland Science Center through Jan. 20.

"Mummies of the World" is an unprecedented traveling exhibition of mummies and mummy-related artifacts that has been setting up at museums and science centers throughout North America since July 2010; never before have so many mummies from so many parts of the world been brought together in one place. Baltimore is the ninth and final stop in its tour.

Continued on next page

"This is a really unusual collection of mummies," says Heather Gill-Frerking, director of science and education for the exhibition, who has been studying mummies for some 20 years. "This exhibit tells the whole story of mummies and mummification; even museums that have attempted to do something like this have never had this sort of range. As a mummy person, I've never had a chance to work with such a variety of mummies, certainly not in one grouping."

One of the first things visitors will realize is that only about a third come from Egypt. Others are from Asia, South America and Europe — everything from a 6,500-year-old Peruvian child to a 100-year-old naturally preserved rat found in a German attic. The only requirement for a mummy is that some soft tissue, such as hair, skin or muscle, must remain on the body. Intent doesn't always enter into the equation.

"The Egyptians weren't even the first ones to do it. We're talking about cultures in South America that were actively mummifying the dead some 6,000 years ago," Gill-Frerking said. The Egyptians, however, left behind written records, unlike their even-more-ancient South American counterparts.

Most of the bodies going on exhibit were mummified by accident, preserved through a coincidental mix of climate and the conditions under which they were buried. Accidental mummies can be found in bogs, caves, deserts, even salt deposits; one of the exhibit's oddest specimens is a mummified boxfish, preserved in salt.

"More mummies are made by nature than are actually made by humans," she says. "It's a really big thing for most people to grasp. The environment, in some cases, plays a bigger role in mummification than people do."

The exhibit runs through Jan. 20 at the center, 601 Light St. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$10-\$14 for science center members, \$18-\$24 for the general public; children 2 and younger enter free. Information: 410-685-5225 or www.mdsci.org.

Chapter notes

Anne Arundel

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

November 12: Julie Schablitsky will speak on the War of 1812 Caulk's Battlefield.

Central Maryland

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

Charles County

Meetings are held 7 on the second Thursday (September-May) in the community room of the LaPlata Police Department. Contact President Carol Cowherd at cowherdcl@gmail.com or 301-375-9489. Chapter website is charlescoasm.org and its blog is ccarchsoc.blogspot.com

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 5:45 p.m. Contact heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org or 301-840-5848 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>

October 17: The DVD "Jane: Starvation, Cannibalism, and Endurance at Jamestown," which details the archeological and forensics techniques used to uncover an incident of cannibalism during Jamestown colony.

November 21: A workshop devoted to prehistory.

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>

October 9: Bill McIntyre; Neanderthal and Cro-Magnon Sites in the Dordogne and Vezier River Valleys of France. At the Council Chamber, Havre de Grace City Hall.

November 13: Dan Coates and Bill McIntyre: Introducing the New Maryland Point Guide. At Harford Community College, Havre de Grace Hall, Room H-208.

December: Annual Dinner Meeting. I.O.O.F. Hall, Aberdeen. Date and other details TBA.

January 8, 2014: TBA. Havre de Grace City Hall.

February 12: TBA. Historical Society of Harford County, Bel Air.

March 12: Details TBA.

April: Date TBA. Annual Cresthull Memorial Lecture for Maryland Archeology Month. Edgewood Hall, HCC, Bel Air.

May: Date and site TBA. Annual ASNC picnic.

Upper Patuxent

Programs are the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Ellicott City Colored School. Dinner is available at the Diamondback in Ellicott City at 5:30 p.m. Labs are held the second and fourth Saturdays of the month. For location and other chapter information contact Dave Cavey at 410 747-0093 or hoplite1@comcast.net On Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Upper-Patuxent-Archaeology-Group/464236446964358> or try UPArchaeologygroup@yahoo.com or <http://uparchaeologygroup.weebly.com/>

October 7: Barbara Israel presents "Maya: with a Peppering of Olmec."

Western Maryland

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

October 25: Suzanne Trussell will report on the 2012 excavations held at a 19th Century homestead in Mexico Farms, Allegeny County.

November 2: Field Trip to historic Mount Savage, Maryland.

December: No meeting, due to holidays.

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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 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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