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www.smcm.edu/Academics/soan/asm/home/htm

The Winslow 2003 report: surprises

By Joe Dent

Principal Investigator

The 2003 Field Session at the Winslow site featured more than its share of rainfall, but in spite of and in between the raindrops some 20 units were excavated and two units from last summer were reopened. The result of this hard, wet work was more discoveries, including a few surprises.

Certainly one of the major successes of the dig was the discovery of a second house pattern. That structure was defined by an outline of 30 postmolds. It, like the house exposed last year, was a somewhat elongated circular shaped structure. Additional postmolds discovered along its border suggest some repairs to the walls of the original construction.

The floor area of the new structure covers approximately 180 square feet and is roughly 15 feet in diameter. Like the first structure, this one was just outside of the circular ring of pits discovered by the site's first excavators. The rear of the structure faced the village palisade.

Discover of this second house pattern is especially important in substantiating the wigwam-shaped dwelling as the dominant style of domestic housing at the Winslow site during the Late Woodland. Four small pits were located in association with this structure.

Another series of discoveries occurred when we opened units just to the east of the structure exposed last season. If you remember, we were missing some postmolds on its eastern edge. This year we opened three new units hoping to complete the pattern. We did find those missing postmolds

and in the process made two other important discoveries, a dog burial and a human interment.

The canine burial is officially Feature 40, but its occupant became affectionately known as Seneca. It is the fifth-known circa AD 1300 dog burial encountered at the Winslow site. The previous four were interred headless and were recovered during the earlier 1959-61 excavations. Seneca was laid to rest completely intact in a shallow, excavated pit. The dog was small, what one might describe as a terrier-size creature.

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Inside

- Uncertainty over the budget situation at the Maryland Historical Trust continues, but inside we have a wrapup of the situation elsewhere in Maryland as well as at the National Park Service and around the country. Pages 3-5
- Plus a report on an effort in Congress to curb the sale of artifacts related to the looting of Iraq. Page 6-7

Upcoming events

August 1 - 3: Powwow, Charles County Fairground. Questions? Try commonground@mdindiantourism.org

August 16: American Indian Heritage Day, JPPM. 410-586-8501.

September 13: Second Potomac River Prehistoric Conference. Alexandria, Va. Jack Hranicky, 703-256-1304 or Potomac_conference@archeology.org

October 18: ASM annual meeting, JPPM MAC Lab. Any members who would like to give a talk at the meeting please contact Kate Dinnel at katesilas@chesapeake.net, 410-586-8584 (day) 410-586-3375 (evenings).

November 1 - 2: The Four Bay Winds First Annual Native American Indian gathering, The Lockhouse, Havre de Grace. Contact Rev. Amy Paul, 410-942-0542.

November 8: Special all-day seminar, cosponsored by ASM, on "The Future of Maryland's Past." At the University of Maryland, College Park. Details later.

November 13 - 16: ESAF meeting, Mt. Laurel, N.J. www.siftings.com/esafmt.html

March 12 - 14, 2004: Mid-Atlantic Archeological Conference annual meeting, Rehobeth Beach, Delaware. Maryland archeologists will have a leading role in arranging this. If you are interested in giving a paper contact Bernard K. Means, bkmeans@juno.com, or Steve Bilicki, bilicki@dhcd.state.md.us. If you would like to help out at the conference, contact Wayne Clark, clarkw@dhcd.state.md.us

March 31 - April 4, 2004: 69th annual meeting of the Society for American Archeology, Montreal, Quebec. Information at 202-789-8200

Volunteer opportunities

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

Winslow Site artifacts lab work: Sunday Aug. 24 and Saturday Sept. 13 from 10-4. Beginning in September there will be regular hours during the week. The washing has to get done before anything else, so they can't promise there will be any cataloguing, but the more people who come in to wash the faster they will get to that. The archeology lab is in the basement of Hurst Hall at American University. For directions or questions, contact Kelsey Woodman at AUArchLab@hotmail.com

Ongoing: The Northern Chesapeake Chapter is offering lab work, usually on Tuesdays, Thursdays and some Sundays between 9 am and 2 pm. Call Bill McIntyre at 410-939-0768 or williamlmac@comcast.net.

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

Mount Calvert lab work. Call 301-627-1286.

CAT Corner

August 9: Lithics workshop by Carol Ebright, at JPPM. 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Bring a bag lunch. Sodas and coffee will be provided. Registration limited to 25. Space is limited and registration is required. Call or email (preferred): Kate Dinnel, Southern Chapter, katesilas@chesapeake.net or dinnel@dhcd.state.md.us Phone: 410-586-8584 (day, voice mail), 410-586-3375 (evenings, no answering machine) For directions to the park see www.jefpat.org/1directions.htm

THE MARYE AWARD: Nominations are now being accepted for the William B. Marye Award, the Society's highest honor. If there is someone who has made a significant contribution to Maryland archeology, send that person's name to the awards committee by filling out the form with this newsletter. The award will be presented at the fall meeting October 18 at JPPM.

Budget ills chop programs across U.S.

The Maryland Historical Trust still is trying to find out what the state budget problems mean to it in terms of both programs and personnel. It is not a pleasant time for the staff. The ax keeps swinging slowly above their heads month after month as they wonder on whom it finally will fall.

Over at the State Highway Administration, no job losses are anticipated, but funding is down and a hiring freeze is on. SHA's Cultural Resources Group includes three fulltime archeologists and one part-time contractual archeologist.

The transfer of several hundred million dollars from the Department of Transportation to state general operation expenses resulted in indefinitely shelving many of the SHA Neighborhood Conservation Projects, better known as streetscape projects. Quite a few historical and archeological studies in Maryland towns resulted from this program in recent years.

Delays in other specific projects will occur. But some projects, notably the Intercounty Connector, have renewed focus. State and federal laws safeguarding important archeological resources remain in effect. SHA will continue to comply with these laws while doing more with fewer resources.

The SHA is responsible for the majority of compliance-related archeological work conducted in Maryland each year. Most on-the-ground SHA archeological investigations are contracted out to private consultants. In-house SHA archeologists evaluate hundreds of proposed projects for potential impacts to archeological resources, conduct background research, write scopes of work for consultants for projects needing fieldwork, manage contracts, review and evaluate reports and coordinate with the Maryland Historical Trust and other agencies.

State support for the archives budget for 2004 is being reduced by 12 percent. The archives already has replaced in-person reader and research-room services with Internet-based services and may not be able to undertake the preparation of new finding aids.

Across the nation, from Washington to Georgia, and Arizona to Maine, state archives, historical societies, and libraries with invaluable historical resources are struggling to cope with cuts and proposed reductions that threaten to severely limit -- and in some cases, completely eliminate -- programs and services.

Those heading the different historical organizations realize that they too are subject to the fiscal discipline being required of other state agencies, but they are anxious, nevertheless, because the budget reductions will adversely affect the services they provide to the public in general and historians in particular, and have long-lasting consequences -- on heritage preservation programs or tourism, for example.

Of the 30 organizations that responded to a query by the American Historical Association, 13 indicated that they were expecting budget cutbacks of varying degrees. Only three historical agencies receiving state funds indicated that they did not expect a budget cut for fiscal 2004, but two of those already had experienced cutbacks in fiscal 2003. Historical agencies in a number of states expect to be hit by a one-two combination--they face reductions in fiscal 2004 after already having their budgets slashed in fiscal 2003.

Five privately funded organizations said that they did not receive any state funds, and although it may seem that such organizations are in a better position -- as one representative stated, "at these times I thank God that we are privately funded" -- it is important to note that many privately funded organizations are suffering as well.

One respondent noted, for instance, that cultural institutions in her state were facing "the perfect storm" -- cutbacks in state funding, falling endowment returns and a decline in corporate, individual and foundation giving.

History programs in Arizona, Connecticut, Florida, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Washington and Wisconsin indicated that they expect budget

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reductions for fiscal 2004. In Washington, both the Washington State Historical Society (Tacoma) and the Eastern Washington State Historical Society expect cuts of approximately 14 percent. The Washington State Library will receive a cut of about 60 percent, causing it to virtually cease to exist as a public agency.

At the end of the Connecticut legislative session, the state's historical commission found its budget cut by 44 percent (\$538,000), forcing it to close the doors of its four museums, including Old New-Gate Prison. But supporters rallied to help reverse the decision and in a special session the legislature voted to cut the budget by only \$188,000, allowing the museums to stay open.

University of Arkansas officials said the campus will save \$340,542 in annual salaries and benefits by suspending operations of the university museum and cutting its staff of eight. Established in 1873, the museum has 7 million specimens for collections in anthropology, geology, history and zoology.

In Maine, the State Museum will be limiting its services for at least to two years. A small admissions charge has been imposed and the museum will be closed two days a week and on state holidays. The changes reflect the equivalent of eliminating one full-time staff position.

Other cuts drastically reduce exhibit construction materials, eliminate artifact purchases and, for a time, threatened to eliminate a vital archeology assistant position, Maine State Museum director J.R. Phillips said. "Museum services will be reduced, and several projects will slow down, but we should be able to continue as an accredited museum," he said.

It is not even clear that there is an end in sight.

As Rodger Stroup, the director of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, states in an article in the spring 2003 issue of *History News* (the newsmagazine of the [American Association of State and Local History](#)), the most alarming news is that "it does not appear [the economy] will turnaround quickly, as in the past" and that shortfalls are predicted for the next fiscal year.

Indeed, the National Governors Association estimates that it will take three to five years to overcome the current crisis.

Funding crunch hits Lost Towns Project

Al Luckenbach

Director, Lost Towns Project

As many of you already know, funding concerns are foremost on everyone's mind this year. The annual funding the Lost Towns Project receives from Anne Arundel County has been reduced by 55 percent in the fiscal year which began July 1. Unfortunately, this \$155,000 reduction will result in the elimination of six Lost Towns Project team members.

This unprecedented budget cut strikes at the heart of our mission, threatening our ability to carry out several important outreach programs that benefit our local community. Now in jeopardy are the project's ability to conduct salvage excavations at threatened historic sites in the county, school programs for hundreds of school children annually at London Town and the ever popular Saturday Dig Days at London Town.

The Lost Towns Team is pursuing every possible avenue to offset this significant shortfall. We have established a permanent Lost Towns Project endowment fund to generate additional income for our future needs. Jane Cox recently submitted a matching grant application to the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). If fully funded, NEH will match every dollar our supporters provide up to \$100,000 over the next three years and we are very excited by the potential of a funding vehicle that will double any contribution made to the Lost Towns Project.

The project is exploring alternate sources of support from granting agencies, charitable foundations and corporations that have the same appreciation for the history and culture of Anne Arundel County. We also are formulating several ideas for special events and programs that will help subsidize the work we do.

Please consider providing a donation to help us continue our important programs. Contributions to ACT's Lost Towns Project Endowment Fund can be mailed to P.O. Box 1573, Annapolis, Maryland 21404. Since ACT is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit, your contribution will be tax deductible!

Park Service archeologists face the ax

By Guy Gugliotta

Condensed from the Washington Post, July 15, 2003

The Bush administration is considering privatizing archeological oversight of hundreds of national parks and landmarks and firing the National Park Service archeologists who for decades have been charged with protecting their historic value and cultural heritage.

The administration says turning over the archeology jobs to private contractors could save money, but critics charge that contractors are ill-equipped to cope with an array of endemic challenges, including influential outsiders trying to dictate Park policy, chronic congressional underfunding and serious personnel shortages that Park Service archeologists mitigate by using thousands of volunteers -- an option not open to a private company.

And that says nothing about the institutional memory, experience and public trust that would be squandered, said Ron Tipton, senior vice president of the National Parks Conservation Association, a citizens' group that closely monitors the Park Service: "This is an agency that to some degree is respected and even loved."

Under an administration initiative first elaborated two years ago and modified several times since, the Park Service must decide by year's end whether to keep intact its Midwest Archeological Center in Lincoln, Neb., and its Southeast Archeological Center, in Tallahassee, or offer most of the jobs for bid to outside contractors.

The two centers between them employ fewer than 100 archeologists, but, with the help of volunteers, cooperative agreements with universities and their own outsourcing, they supervise the care, protection and promotion of national heritage resources at 122 national parks and 780 national historical landmarks in 22 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Besides working in their own areas, the centers also provide assistance and do outside work of their own for other government agencies on projects as varied as reevaluating the Little Big Horn site of Custer's Last Stand and conducting forensic investigations of the remains of pilots and aircraft found in Vietnam.

The privatization plan is part of a "competitive sourcing" initiative outlined by President Bush in the summer of 2001. Under the plan, agencies must submit 15 percent of their jobs to competition with the private sector. The goal is to achieve savings for the federal government through "efficient and effective competition between public and private sources," the agenda says.

The quota for the Interior Department is about 5,000 jobs, with the biggest piece -- 1,708 jobs -- coming from the Park Service, the agency's largest employer. Donna Kalvels, the Park Service's competitive sourcing coordinator, said that more than 11,000 of the Park Service's 19,000 jobs were deemed not "inherently governmental" and therefore subject to the initiative.

The diversity of the centers' portfolios is one reason the centers may end up on the auction block, she said. Since the centers do project work funded by other federal agencies, "budget people complain that they are taking work from the private sector," she said. "This process will put that argument to rest."

"You could call it a bitter pill," said the Midwest Center's Douglas Scott, lead investigator in the Little Big Horn study and an internationally known expert on battlefield archeology. Last September, Scott received the Distinguished Service Award, the Interior Department's highest decoration, and "two weeks later our outsourcing study begins and they're asking, 'Are you really necessary?'"

Once the centers finish their plans, they will be compared to similar private-sector contracts. If the center's plan costs less, the jobs stay in-house. If the center's cost is higher, the jobs are put out for bid. Kalvels, the subject of much criticism as the Park Service official in charge of overseeing the outsourcing initiative, nevertheless said, "We are feeling we can win most of these."

Why the centers were chosen in the first place has remained a mystery to many of those most intimately involved. John E. Ehrenhard, superintendent at the Southeast Center, noted that the centers "have been so underfunded and so understaffed for so long, that we've had to learn to be efficient. This whole idea is almost laughable, and it's an insult."

Effort under way to curb Iraq looting

The postwar debacle involving antiquities in Iraq has led to a call in Congress for changes in U.S. policy.

The Iraq Cultural Resources Protection Act was introduced in the House May 7 "to provide for the recovery, restitution and protection of the cultural heritage of Iraq." A different version was introduced in the Senate June 19.

The Senate bill, which was sent to the Finance Committee, would "authorize the President to impose emergency import restrictions on archeological or ethnological materials of Iraq until normalization of relations between the United States and the Government of Iraq has been established."

The House Bill, which was sent to the Ways and Means Committee, has 64 cosponsors, including members of both parties. Marylanders signed on as cosponsors are Elijah Cummings (7th) and Chris Van Hollen (8th). Neither of Maryland's senators is listed as cosponsoring that chamber's bill.

At the recent World Archeological Congress meeting in Washington, Patty Gerstenblith of DePaul University in Chicago alerted listeners to the situation in Iraq and the efforts being made to curtail trade in looted artifacts.

She said recently that the Senate bill, S1291, has a much better chance of passing than does House bill, HR 2009. But the archeological community "has endorsed and strongly supports the House bill."

The Senate bill has the support of the main dealers' association (the National Association of Dealers in Ancient, Oriental and Primitive Art), the Association of Art Museum Directors and the American Association of Museums, all of which also oppose the House bill.

"By way of perspective, the immediate past president of the dealers' association was convicted last year for conspiring to trade in antiquities stolen from Egypt and his conviction was upheld at the end of June," she said. But some individual museums have endorsed the House bill.

Comparing the two bills, she said:

"The Senate bill imposes import restrictions on archeological and cultural heritage materials for one year after normalization of relations or until September 2004 -- which ever happens first. This is fairly meaningless, as the general trade sanctions (in effect since August 1990) are still in effect as applied to archeological and cultural materials. There is no need to pass legislation that will last for such a short time and it does nothing to decrease the incentive to looters as they or the middlemen can certainly hold the looted material for a year until this legislation expires.

"The House bill, however, imposes import restrictions for an indefinite period of time, thereby reducing the incentive to loot sites and institutions. It also amends the Cultural Property Implementation Act so that the President can in future crisis situations impose emergency import restrictions. Such restrictions could also be imposed in favor of countries that are not party to the 1970 UNESCO Convention, such as Afghanistan (which is suffering significant looting of sites).

"The House bill also makes some other changes to the CPIA, such as allowing archeological materials that are 100 years old (rather than 250, as now required) to be protected. This would make the CPIA consistent with U.S. domestic treatment of archeological materials."

Marylanders who are troubled by the looting of archeological sites and museums in Iraq are encouraged to contact their senators and representative to urge their support of the effort. Senators can be urged to offer changes to that body's bill to bring it in line with the House version.

Amendment proposed to ASM bylaws

At the March 1, 2003, meeting of the ASM Board of Trustees, an amendment to the ASM Bylaws was approved. This amendment must be published in the ASM Ink and then ratified by a majority of the membership attending the ASM Annual Meeting October 18 at JPPM. The amendment reads:

"Article VII, Meetings, Section 2. Add new paragraph as follows: "Another lecture at the Spring Symposium shall be designated the 'Iris McGillivray Memorial Lecture' in honor of the founder and long-standing organizer of the Spring Symposium. The importance of Mrs. McGillivray to Maryland Archeology shall be noted in the printed program for the meeting."

WAC condemns call to shoot Iraqi looters

The World Archaeological Congress (WAC) has called on American and other forces in Iraq to better protect archeological sites there and has condemned recent calls for the shooting of looters.

"We were all shocked to find out that looting is still occurring in the countryside and that the coalition forces have failed to secure sites that had previously been secured by archeological teams," stated Dr. Claire Smith, president of WAC.

"We are very concerned about the looting going on at archeological sites that are thousands of years old in the southern part of Iraq," she said. "Regrettably, the damage to artifacts in Iraqi museums was both predicted by archeologists and preventable. Once again, an avoidable destruction of irreplaceable artifacts that are significant for world history is taking place. The coalition forces have a moral responsibility to provide adequate protection for these archeological sites. We call on them to secure these sites so that control of the sites can be returned to the traditional owners who have historically cared for them."

Some 13,000 artifacts were taken from the Baghdad Museum, according to the latest ever-changing estimate, after American forces entered the city but failed to secure the museum, despite warnings beforehand. Other museums and archeological sites also were ransacked after the regime fell.

On looting, she said, "While recent calls to use force to stop looting reflect the concerns of many archeologists, the view that looters should be shot at is intolerable. Human life is of greater value than material objects. It should be recognized that it is loss of livelihood and economic necessity which has forced many people to turn to looting. Furthermore, the international art market is complicit by providing the incentive for looting by buying illegal antiquities."

The call to shoot looters was made by a top Iraqi archeologist, Donny George, head of research at Iraq's Board of Antiquities and Heritage.

"These people are stealing material from the whole of mankind. If they steal from mankind I would say it is fair they should be shot," he said in an interview in early July.

The way the Baghdad Museum was systematically ransacked showed that many of the robbers had been heavily armed and well organized, George said: "They had guards with heavy machine guns and mortars patrolling outside while the looters were at work inside the museum. It would have been no good walking up and asking them to stop. They would have killed you."

George said some of the looters had evidently been using inside information about the locations in the vaults of invaluable cylinder seals, of which some 5,000 had been stolen. Others had ignored lower value items and zeroed in on some of the most important pieces -- 32 of which were still missing.

"They left the replicas. They had glass cutters and keys and were well prepared with very good knowledge," George said.

About 1,500 pieces had been returned -- some by people who had taken them into safekeeping and others which had been seized from people trying to cross into Jordan and Syria.

Indicating the international scope of the trade in illicit antiquities, pieces had also been found in New York and Rome.

"The major buyers are the Americans and Japanese -- who have the money -- and Israelis who have the history," he said.

George said the looting of the museum was a warning to beef up museum security.

"Our tragedy has been a wake-up call for the rest of the world. Museums should be rearranged in a way that the buildings can defend themselves automatically," he said on the fringes of an international archeology meeting at the British Museum.

WAC, at its June congress in Washington, called upon the United States as the caretaker government in Iraq to lead the securing of the sites by providing satellite surveillance and site inspections, and to assist international organizations and law enforcement agencies to curtail illegal trafficking in stolen artifacts.

WAC is the only worldwide representative organization in archeology. The meeting at Catholic University was attended by more than 1,200 archeologists, native peoples and international scholars from some 70 nations.

Two special powwows coming this month

Among the various Indian celebrations being held this month are two of special interest to archeologists. Both involve the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs.

First up is a three-day Commonground powwow at the Charles County Fairground August 1 through 3, starting at noon each day. Commonground means that it is an effort to bring together Native Americans from more than one tribe, "where one's tribal affiliation gives way to the ethnic relationship all American Indians share," according to the website.

In addition to dancing and Indian food, the festival will have archeological exhibits. Likely to be on hand at exhibits are Bob Wall, ceramics; Carol Ebright, lithic raw materials; Roy Brown, bone tools/cattails; Virginia Busby, the Chicone site; Richard Hughes/Charlie Hall, design elements; Tara Tertrault/Jeanne Ward, kids posters, and Richard Ervin, archeological tool kits.

For information and directions, contact commonground@mdindiantourism.org or 301-343-8283.

Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum is holding an American Indian Heritage Day August 16, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., featuring a variety of hands-on demonstrations and activities including basketry, fingerweaving, pottery, flintknapping, cooking, plant identification, storytelling and archery. Laurie Steponaitis, who directed excavations on two Woodland Period sites at JPPM in the late 1980s, will give an informal afternoon slide presentation at the MAC Lab offering interpretations of Woodland Period subsistence strategies in the Chesapeake region.

Admission for the day is \$2 per person or \$5 per car. For information, call 410-586-8501. Directions are posted at www.jefpat.org

The Winslow 2003 report: surprises

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It was interred on its side in a curled up position with its four paws gathered together. Place of burial was about three feet northeast of the structure. Seneca was expertly exposed by the AU field school and ASM members Kathy Steuer and Bryan Willard.

The human burial is officially Feature 43, but out of respect was called Willow Sage by her excavators. We asked and received permission from the Maryland Indian Commission to expose the interment. Some commission members visited Winslow to see the burial site and pay their respects before excavation began.

Soon after Willow Sage was very gently and with great reverence exposed by ASM members Kathy Steuer and Martha Wallace. Willow Sage, a mature but young female, was lying in a tightly flexed position just within the eastern edge of the house discovered last year. She has now been reburied as we found her.

All of these discoveries were made in extremely difficult conditions. The precipitation that so characterized the ASM session continued to haunt us in the days after as the excavation proceeded with volunteers and the American University field school. In fact, more than 21 inches of rain fell between setting up for ASM and the last features being excavated at the site July 10.

Looking back, it is remarkable to me what the ASM and others were able to accomplish given the weather. But we were unfortunately not able to locate another section of the palisade.

Time and conditions did not allow the excavation of many units we had in mind. We also hoped to locate a large storage pit to learn more about site subsistence practices. That turned out not to be possible without crossing the C&O Canal boundary. Still, 2003 was a remarkably successful, if very wet, field season.

In upcoming newsletters I hope to report in more detail on some of the discoveries described above.

The excavation portion of this year's field school is over, but much work remains to be done. Check the Volunteer Opportunities box on Page 2 to see when you can help in the lab.

Pocahontas' links to site strengthen

By Frank D. Roylance, *Condensed from the Baltimore Sun, June 27, 2003*

Virginia archeologists digging on a York River farm say they have found tantalizing clues to buttress their belief that they've found the 17th-century stronghold of Powhatan, paramount chief of the Virginia Tidewater Indians, and home to his daughter Pocahontas.

Hundreds of pottery shards, stone arrowheads and bits of copper found since the dig, which ends today, can be dated to the period around the arrival of English settlers at Jamestown in 1607, archeologists said.

More importantly, the dig has uncovered a 25-foot segment of a long, curving pair of parallel ditches - perhaps part of a defensive structure and a hint that this was Werowocomoco, Powhatan's headquarters, and not an ordinary Indian village.

"They're very large and highly unusual for native settlements in this region," said Martin D. Gallivan, assistant professor of anthropology at the College of William and Mary. "We feel they may have something to do with the special identity of this site as the capital of the Powhatan paramountcy. They're at the top of our research questions for the next field season."

According to legend, Werowocomoco was the spot where Pocahontas intervened with her father to spare the life of Capt. John Smith, military leader of the Jamestown colony.

The precise location of Powhatan's capital has been a mystery since the Indians abandoned it in 1609. But Bob and Lynn Ripley's 300-acre farm near Gloucester, 16 miles north of Jamestown, has long been regarded as a likely spot.

Virginia archeologists dug their first test pits there last year after Lynn Ripley showed them a large collection of Indian artifacts she had been picking out of the dirt for years. After forming the Werowocomoco Research Group in concert with the Virginia Department of Historical Resources and the Virginia Council on Indians, archeologists and students from William and Mary began work at four promising locations May 27.

One, about 300 feet from the river, yielded a rich lode of stone tools, pipe fragments and ceramics. They were dated to the Late Woodland

period, from A.D. 900 to 1607, and the subsequent period of early European contact. The work also uncovered postmolds - soil stains suggesting the location of a long-vanished Indian structure.

Lynn Ripley, who has been helping on the dig, said she turned up a broken Indian pipe bowl. "It was a beautiful color, a reddish bronzy color that darkens where it was burned," she said.

She also found an arrowhead made of jasper, a precious stone not native to the area, a sign of long-distance Indian trading.

In a nearby cornfield, diggers uncovered artifacts that apparently survived undisturbed beneath a foot or more of soil stirred by centuries of plowing.

"That result in the cornfield is exciting because archeologists can learn quite a good deal from an intact, unplowed cultural horizon," Gallivan said.

But the most exciting finds for archeologists were the parallel ditches uncovered in a pasture about 800 feet from the river. Three feet wide and at least a foot deep, the filled ditches were dated to the same period by the stone and ceramic artifacts they contained. They extended for at least 25 feet and appeared to continue beyond the limits of the excavation. They seemed to curve slightly, as if they once enclosed something.

"Typically, we don't find village settlements that extend that far back from the river," Gallivan said. The ditches' unusual location and the huge amount of labor they represent may signal that this was a town of special status.

Gallivan said the ditches may have served as the base of a wooden palisade.

There was no mention of a palisade in Smith's descriptions of Werowocomoco, but a 1608 map by a Spanish ambassador, Don Pedro de Zuniga, seems to show a large, D-shaped structure around the town.

"We're a little surprised by it," Gallivan said. "It's possible that we have a site in which archeology can contribute something remarkably new that the written record is silent about."

Full-scale excavations are expected to resume next spring.

Eastport residents welcome student dig

By Kara Eide

Condensed from the Baltimore Sun, July 12, 2003

In the dense heat of an Annapolis summer, University of Maryland students in Eastport dug for treasure - and came up with a booty of poultry bones and old medicine bottles.

Led by field supervisor Matthew Palus, a doctoral candidate at Columbia University, 15 students wrapped up a hands-on course in archeological history that had them digging in the back yards of four Eastport residents.

The goal, said Palus, was to give the University of Maryland, College Park students experience in excavation and in community interaction, to make the project a public and collaborative effort.

"They are not just digging - they're learning to talk to the neighborhood residents," Palus said.

The class was part of the 22nd annual Archeology in Annapolis program, a joint project of the Historic Annapolis Foundation, the city of Annapolis and the University of Maryland, College Park.

Students and residents each bring something to the dig, Palus said. Students teach residents about their archeological endeavor and residents talk about their experiences in Eastport.

Palus said that he and the class were not just interested in what's coming out of the ground. "The people who live here now are just as important, just as relevant to what we're doing," he said.

Most of the group's findings and studies pertain to the past 100 years, so longtime residents can offer much to supplement the study. One student working at the backyard site of 201 Chesapeake Ave. said a woman talked about her experience there when the home was a nursery school in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

The residents more than just tolerate the digging. "There's a lot of local interest," said Peg Wallace, an Eastport resident for more than 50 years.

She encourages the excavations, which have taken place for the past three summers. "It's nice to know what people did who lived here before we did," she said. "The more we know about it, the fuller our lives are. What we are today is really what our history made us."

Book review: Spreading archeology through art

Ancient Muses, Archeology and the Arts, edited by John H. Jameson Jr., John E. Ehrenhard and Christine A. Finn, University of Alabama Press, 247 pages, \$30.

"The practice of archeology, as well as archeologically derived information and objects, can inspire a wide variety of artistic expressions, ranging from straightforward computer-generated reconstructions and traditional artists' conceptions to other art forms such as poetry and opera," writes John H. Jameson Jr. in his contribution to the collection of essays that make up "Ancient Muses, Archeology and the Arts."

One by one, the writers explore different art forms and say how they think that form can be used to spread the word about archeology and its findings. Archeology and fiction, archeology and reconstruction, archeology and music, etc. Some like archeology and reconstruction may seem a stretch on what exactly is considered art. In other cases, the question is what is considered archeology as opposed to, say, history. An essay on archeology and playwriting is written by Marylander Jim Gibb, who describes two plays he wrote to try to interpret the London Town findings for the general public.

"Play writing will never become the principal means for developing and testing hypotheses, but it can allow us to examine complex interactions where the data are too sparse or require imaginative organization," Gibb writes.

"... Artistic expressions and reactions are important enhancements to archeology's traditional role of analyzing and interpreting evidence from material culture and the natural environment," Jameson concludes. "Perhaps most importantly, they enable the general public to gain new and unique perspectives as well as a greater understanding of and appreciation for the contributions of archeology."

The book, which grew out of a symposium the three editors chaired at the 2001 conference of the Society for American Archeology, comes with a CD-ROM to supplement the text.

- Reviewed by Myron Beckenstein

Central preparing for two exhibits

It may be summer, but Central Chapter is keeping busy with two projects.

First, it is leading a team of archeologists in planning an exhibit at the UMBC Library about the UMBC site 18BA71. This prehistoric site was first excavated by Dr. Kati D. Vitalli and the UMBC Archeology Club in 1971 and 1972.

The display will tell the story of a rare stratified site located on the Piedmont and Coastal Plain Fall Line and which covers 8,000 years of prehistory, from the Early Archaic period through Late Woodland. The exhibit is part of a celebration of 30 years of the Ancient Studies Program at UMBC and will run from October 8 through mid-December. Call 410-445-2232 for directions and hours.

Also, the chapter has set up an exhibit on the Morris Meadows Rockshelter excavations it conducted in 2001 and 2002. The exhibit displays stone, ceramic, and bone artifacts used by the Indians during the Late Woodland period. It is believed that traces of earlier occupations were scoured out by slope erosion and large storms and floods.

For directions and hours to the Morris Meadows Recreational Farm office, located at 1523 Freeland Road, Freeland, Maryland, call 410-329-6636 or (410) 357-0603.

Persons interested in getting involved with the Central Chapter should call Steve Israel at 410- 945-5514 evenings, 410-962-0685 day, or ssisrael@abs.net.

Chapter notes

Most chapters are in their summer hibernation. Here is information on meetings during the school year.

Anne Arundel

The chapter meets on the third Wednesday of the month.. Contact Karen Ackermann at karenlta@juno.com

Central

Phone Stephen Israel at 410- 945-5514 evenings, 410-962-0685 day, or ssisrael@abs.net, for information.

Mid-Potomac

Contact james.sorensen@mncppc-mc.org or heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org or call them, 301-948-5053.

Monocacy

Meets the Wednesday closest to the 15th of each month at the Walkersville Middle School. Contact Joy Hurst at 301-663-6706 or email hurst_joy@hotmail.com. Website: www.digfrederick.org

Northern Chesapeake

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

Southern

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

Upper Patuxent

Programs are the second Monday of each month at Mt. Ida, near the court house in Ellicott City. Contact Lee Preston at 443-745-1202 or lpreston@mail.howard.k12.md.us

Western Maryland

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

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

ASM, Inc. members receive the monthly newsletter ASM, INC, the biannual MARYLAND ARCHEOLOGY, reduced admission to ASM, Inc., events and a 10% discount on items sold by the Society. Standard active annual membership rates are \$20.00 for Individuals and \$30.00 for families. Please contact Dan Coates for publication sales at ASM Publications, 716 Country Club Rd., Havre de Grace, MD 21078-2104, or (410) 273-9619, e-mail: dancoates@comcast.net. For additional information, and membership categories, please contact Phyllis Sachs at P.O. Box 65001, Baltimore, MD 21209, (410) 664-9060, e-mail: psachs4921@aol.com.

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