ASM Ink



April 2025, Vol. 52, No. 4

Newsletter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.

www.marylandarcheology.org

Upcoming Activities

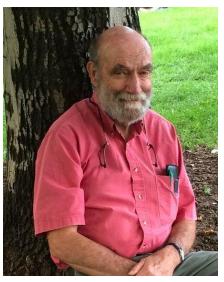
Happy Maryland Archeology Month!

There are many ways to participate and to volunteer. A Calendar is maintained on the MAM webpage (https://www.marylandarcheologymonth.org). Check out all the events.

April 5, 2025 – ASM Spring Symposium on Archeology April 12, 2025 - Discovering Archaeology Day at Jefferson Patterson Park

In Memorial

Richard Jacob Brand November 12, 1946 — March 2, 2025



This month we learned of the loss of Richard Jacob Brand. Many of you may have worked with him. Richard was a Historic Preservation Officer with the Maryland State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) before retiring in 2009. Prior to that, he worked in the Ohio SHPO.

Richard Jacob Brand Obituary March 2, 2025 - McComas Family Funeral Homes

His obituary explains that "historic preservation was a natural fit because of his expertise in American history and hands-on construction experience from work in Baltimore and San Francisco."

He will be missed, and our condolences go out to his family and friends.

President's Note

Happy Spring! The flowers are beginning to bloom, and the hawks are pairing up. This time of year, always makes me think of Maryland Archeology Month (MAM) and our spring activities. The 2025 Archeology Month Theme is Clay Temper Fire: Exploring Maryland's Indigenous Ceramics. You can view the poster and read about Maryland activities at https://www.marylandarcheologymonth.org/.

Again, this year, the MAM 2025 poster was submitted to the SAA State Archaeology Celebration Poster Contest. Voting begins on Tuesday, April 8th and will close on Tuesday, April 29th. You can vote and view other states' posters at SAA State Archaeology Poster Contest.

It is also time to begin thinking about my favorite event of the year, the Tyler Bastian Field Session in Maryland Archeology. All the information is available on the ASM website at https://marylandarcheology.org. It is time to reserve a hotel and register for the event!

And, last but not least, Saturday, April 5th, the Archeological Society of Maryland Spring Symposium will be held at the Maryland Historical Trust in Crownsville, MD. Not only is there a wonderful day of speakers we are also holding our Silent Auction to benefit the Analysis Fund. Can't wait to see everyone next weekend!

-Valerie

Announcing ASM's Fourth New Project Grant Approval

Congratulations to Tara Tetrault, MAA, RPA and Suzanne Johnson, SEHP on approval of their ASM New Project request!

In the project *Collaborating with Descendants to Uncover and Map the Dorsey Farm in Sugarland Maryland*, Tara and Suzanne will map test units in the Dorsey house addition, smokehouse, and farm work area. This work is important because the 1874 Dorsey farm is one of the founding women-owned farms in the historically African American town of Sugarland. In addition, funds will be used to collect and test soil samples from the Dorsey Garden to learn what they planted. This will enhance what we have learned about the root cellar and aid in the site interpretation and overall, Dorsey interpretation. We will look forward to hearing more about their research soon.

60th Annual Symposium

Join us Saturday, April 5, 2025, at:

The Maryland Historical Trust 100 Community Place Crownsville, MD 21032-2023

8:30-9 am Registration, Coffee 9:15-9:55

The 2025 Richard E. Stearns Memorial Lecture

"Overview of Barton Site (18AG3) Excavations and Updates on the Early Archaic and Clovis Occupations"

Presented by: Robert D. Wall

10-10:40

"PaleoDigger and Geoarchaeological Investigations of the Deeply Buried Clovis Occupation at the Barton Site (18AG3), Allegany County, MD"

Presented by: Zachary Singer

11:00-11:40

"Catholics, Converts, and Commerce: Seventeenth-Century Jesuit Missionaries at Potopaco I (18CH112)"

Presented by: Garrett Terrnant

1:00-1:40

The 2025 Iris McGillivray Memorial Lecture

"Archeological Society of Maryland Spring Symposium Talk 2025"

Presented by: Lynne Bulhack

Student Spotlight

1:45-2:25

"Insights from the Lithics Recovered from the Potopaco I (18CH112) Site"

Presented by: Daniel Fellman

Maryland Archeology Moves to a New Platform

John Fiveash

Maryland Archeology, ASM's official journal, is moving to a new platform for distribution to ASM members and the world at large. In early 2025, the Publications Committee was charged with reviewing the journal distribution process which consisted of loading each issue onto the JOOMAG digital publishing platform which had become substantially more expensive over the past year. The committee explored other options, including a review of methods used by over 25 other state archeological societies across the country. In March the committee presented a new option to the ASM Board of Trustees which was adopted.

The proposal consisted of two parts: first, *Maryland Archeology* will become an open publication, meaning that anyone will be able to access its contents without restriction, and second, the journal will now be hosted on the FLIPPINGBOOKS platform and accessed through the ASM webpage. In addition to reducing costs by approximately 50%, members will be able to easily access the journal without logging onto an outside site. In addition to being able to view the publication, downloading a copy to your personal computer is a simple process.



From the main page of the ASM website

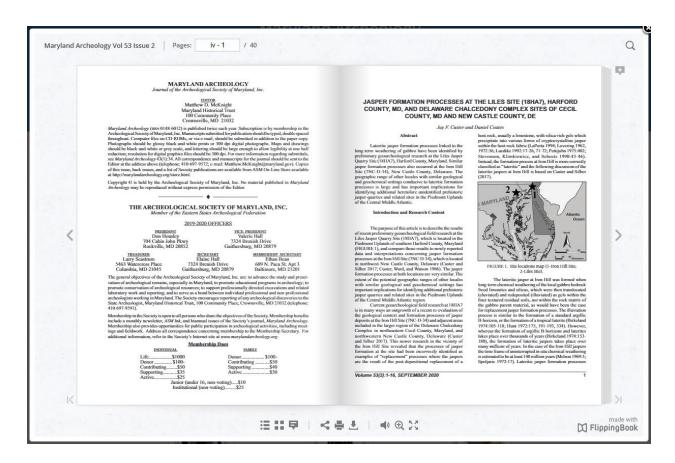
(www.marylandarcheology.org) simply scroll down to the Publications heading and click on the "Learn More" button. This will take you to the ASM Publications page where you can scroll down to "Maryland Archeology." The links in this section will take you to our new *Maryland Archeology* archive. In addition to this method, there is currently a link in the Announcement section of the main page with a direct link.



On this front page

(www.marylandarcheology.org/journal/journal.html) you will find a link to the current issue of the journal along with an archive that contains Dennis Curry's 50 Year Index to issue from 1965 – 2014 as well as all past issues of the journal, divided into decade increments. Currently all issues from 2010 to the present are posted and available for viewing. ASM plans to post all past issues as soon as they can be

processed for display. To see issues within the archive, just click on the period of your choice. Once in the decade, you will see all the issues that have been posted. Simply click on the issue of your choice and it will open on your browser for reading.



The interface has controls to turn pages, look at the Table of Contents, view thumbnail images of all pages in that issue, make annotations, share, print and download the PDF file. You also have the capability to expand the display to encompass your entire screen and zoom into sections of interest for a better look.

Publications Committee and Board of Trustees hope that this change will make it easier and more enjoyable to access our journal.

The PaleoDigger Fundraiser Update

The return of the PaleoDigger to the Barton Site in 2025 has been fully funded! Thank you to all of the donors! Planning is underway to schedule the PaleoDigger excavations for the Fall of 2025.

Additional donations are now being sought to support specialized analyses of the soils and artifacts from the Barton Site. Planned analyses include radiocarbon dating of carbonized materials, protein residue analysis on stone tools, and pollen analysis of the stratified soils.



Dr. Bob Wall and Dr. Zac Singer were featured speaking about their findings at the Barton Site by the Archaeological Conservancy. The recording is now live on the Conservancy's YouTube channel. It can be accessed directly through this link: https://youtu.be/H7dnBWNK6xQ

Piney Grove Excavation Update

The Baltimore Banner published a follow up article relaying the preliminary results from our October 2024 excavations at Piney Grove.

https://www.thebaltimorebanner.com/baltimore-county/reisterstown-quarry-archeology-ancient-tool-JWZ4KX3HIJGSBG3RTUANCA6H5Y/

Dr. Zac Singer noted that the article does a nice job highlighting the public collaborations that allow Maryland's past to be studied and preserved.

CAT Corner

The updated CAT Program Guide has been emailed to current CAT Candidates and is available for download from the <u>CAT webpage</u>. Please delete the old one. For more information the CAT Committee Chair can be reached at <u>CAT@marylandarcheology.org</u>



The Maryland Historical Trust is hosting a Scouting America Archaeology Merit Badge Workshop this Spring and is looking for help

On April 26, MHT is looking for approximately three (3) **volunteers** to assist with running afternoon activity stations from 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM at the MHT Headquarters

in Crownsville.

On May 2, MHT is looking for approximately two (2) **volunteers** to assist on Friday to help set up equipment for the weekend at Maxwell Hall Park (pending DNR approval).

On May 3 & 4, MHT is looking for approximately five (5) **CATs and CAT Candidates with excavation experience** each day to assist with monitoring the scouts during fieldwork at Maxwell Hall Park (pending DNR approval).



If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Steph Soder at stephanie.soder@maryland.gov.

A Quick Summary of the Late Woodland Sites in Lewis, DE

Matthew Oliver

On March 9, I myself and my associate visited Chesapeake College's Higher Education Center to attend a lecture on Late Woodland archaeological work in Lewis, Delaware by archaeologist Dr. Ed Otter. Otter's work on the Lewis site recovered important ethnographical data about peoples living in the eastern regions of the Delmarva Peninsula including food resources and trade goods. Different ceramic fragments such as those from pots and bowls potentially served as food containment and storage. Oyster shells littered most of the trash middens suggesting an annual amount of harvesting during the spring and summer months. Excavation results even uncovered a crushed (and fragile) skull belonging to a dog (*Canis lupus familiaris/Canis familiaris*) which the individuals indigenous to the site probably buried out of ceremony.

CRM at the Handsell House

Kim Malinowski

On Saturday, March 15, I drove two and a half hours to the Handsell House in Vienna, Maryland. Despite the fine mist that slowed my progress over the Bay Bridge, I found that Dr. Ed Otter was there to greet me. He was unconcerned by the weather and despite my being half an hour early, it was clear that I was still late tying on my boots. I am not often given a glimpse into Cultural Resource Management (CRM), but I have spoken to many archeologists that work or have worked in CRM. I never grasped the concept that there were clients that would need to be given updates and an explanation of the process and that one might need to be updated by clients. I always picture CRM test pits being dug alongside the road or perhaps in the woods where a structure is scheduled to be placed, I never thought about the logistics. A new community building is being planned at the Handsell House and there is a lot of excitement. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act calls for a review process and we were there to see if the new building would affect or disturb any notable heritage feature.

We were joined by a few others, volunteers and professionals, and we set up a grid with a total station. I was able to hold the stadia rod and after enough refreshers after the winter, I was able to keep the bubble level. We worked in engineer's scale, and I have never been so grateful that I had been practicing that craft lately! Dr. Otter worked on-on-one with

me, and I learned new skills or at least a version of them that might have a better outcome. I admit that I've never dug loam sand before, so I was surprised when I could crash through a level without feeling a shift and without attempting to break a shovel to do so.

Dr. Otter was patient, and I was eventually able to understand the subtly of this soil. I didn't have to be delicate, but I needed to be observant and methodical. Each level was characterized by color change and perhaps a slight transition in composition. I was fortunate enough that I could tour every level of the Handsell House. I saw that there was a beehive oven. I had never seen one before and the brickwork is being left without major restoration (as of now) for visitors to see the architecture in context and how it was built.





The upper story rooms had newspapers attached to the walls. This looked as if paint and been placed over it, but dates were found as well as the news that was being printed.

Members of board and community came to watch and to participate. We were greeted with lunch and many stories about the site the community ties.

The sun was at that perfect 6pm spring slant to greet me going back over the bridge. After about ten STPs that water looked extraordinary against the clouds that had begun to creep back in. I am very thankful that Dr. Otter was willing to work with me and I learned a lot through story and observation.

For more information on the Handsell House checkout www.Restorehandsell.org

Digging Deeper, the Baltimore Community Archaeology Lab, and Towson University

Digging Deeper, the Baltimore Community Archaeology Lab, and Towson University are thrilled to collaborate and host a unique professional development workshop this summer! This experience is made possible by a generous grant from the Maryland Historical Trust as well as a grant from the Institute for Heritage Education. Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to infuse archaeology into your teaching!

"From Trowels to Teaching" is a FREE, five-day, hands-on workshop designed for K-12 classroom teachers. During this immersive experience, you'll have the chance to collaborate with archaeologists and fellow educators.

Dates: June 23-27, 2025

Location: North Point State Park, Baltimore

Audience: K-12 classroom teachers (preference for Maryland teachers, but all are

welcome to apply)

Credits: Eligible for 3 MSDE continuing professional development (CPD) credits.

Registration link: https://lnkd.in/eysH8Hvg

Registration Deadline: May 1, 2025

FROM TROWELS TO **TEACHING: INFUSING ARCHAEOLOGY IN EDUCATION THROUGH AUTHENTIC INQUIRY**

Join archaeologists and educators in a hands-on workshop to bring archaeology into your classroom and inspire stewardship of our past.

WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS:

CREDITS

Earn 3 CPD credits, pending MSDE course approv

SUPPORT

Lodging at the Country Inn & Suites.

AUDIENCE

K-12 classroom teachers (preference for Maryland teachers, but all are welcome to apply)

DATE

JUNE 23-27, 2025

ALL DAY



REGISTERATION DEADLINE

May 1, 2025

North Point State Park.





Kim's Note

Happy Archeology Month! In a world where we need hope and inspiration, I believe we need stories. Story is the heart of every good archeological investigation, and I am blessed to meet so many volunteers and professionals that share my passions. This month I challenge everyone to write in and tell us why you enjoy archeology or share a fun story. Send pictures. I will be speaking to anthropology students mid-April at Towson University, and I want to share hope not just resistance. I share my enthusiasm and obsessiveness with everyone that I encounter but we need to boost spirits right now. Please, you read my yarns, but please, also tell me yours.

April is National Poetry Month too! What better than archeology and poetry? I am very, very sorry for using the word "sifted" in my sestina. "Screening" fell flat—accurate but flat.

Archeological Sestina - The Nature of Our Times

Archeological Sestina

Handful by handful, we played in the loam dusting off the dirt we were constantly moving our fingers. Sweat pouring off of us, we sifted. We were hunting for artifacts for meaning in rocks and bone.

By clumpfuls we cleaned off bone, we caressed the loam.
Flicked away soil on the artifacts everything was covered with dirt.
And still we sifted with pianist-like fingers.

We played with our fingers we caressed the loam flicked away soil on the artifacts everything was covered in dirt. And still we sifted with pianist like fingers.

Shards of color and disguised artifacts held greedily by our fingers.
Blowing dirt from the bone we touch the loam, each handful we sifted.
Buckets we sifted we held onto the artifacts shadowed by the loam.
Tapping fingers as we waited, touching bone.
We barely notice the dirt.

We are bathed in dirt proudly sifting to somehow recognize our bones. Ageless artifacts dipping fingers into the loam.

Artifacts and bone are leftover memories.

Hands-on archaeology a Washington College

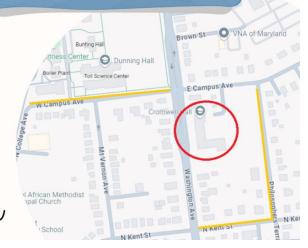
Work with artifacts from the Eastern Shore.
No prior experience needed!



- Wednesdays, 10:00-1:00
- February 5 April 30
 *except 3/12 & 3/19
- Semans-Griswold Hall
 parking noted in blue

Contact Dr. Julie Markin at jmarkin2ewashcoll.edu

- Tuesdays, 1:00-4:00
- February 11 April 22 *except 3/11 & 3/18
- Cromwell Hall
 parking noted in yellow



Lost Towns Project

<u>EAC/Archaeology Inc.</u> is looking for adult volunteers to assist in their current excavation at Historic London Town & Gardens! This project aims to document the historic

Fieldwork at London Town with EAC/A



landscape along the bank of the South River in the shadow of the William Brown House.

The focus of this volunteer crew will be on artifact recovery at our standing mesh screens.

EAC/Archaeology can accommodate up to three volunteers in each session.

Please sign up for a single time slot (morning or afternoon) on a

single day so that we may accommodate as many interested volunteers as possible over the course of this program.

For more information or to sign up, <u>click here</u>.

Volunteer at the Lab!

The Anne Arundel County Archaeology Lab is currently open to volunteers on:

- Most Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.
- Saturday lab hours are currently on hiatus.

You can <u>check the lab schedule or sign up here</u>. The lab is located at 839 Londontown Road in Edgewater, MD, just behind the <u>London Town</u> visitor's center.

Volunteers help process artifacts by washing, labeling, sorting, and cataloging them. No experience is needed. Volunteers must register in advance. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

For further information, contact our volunteer coordinator at <u>volunteers@losttownsproject.org</u>.

Volunteer Opportunities

ASM Volunteers Needed:

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

MHT Volunteer Lab, most Tuesdays and Thursdays. (Thursday is temporary and is the Cresap's site only): The lab in Crownsville. Contact Zachary Singer at Zachary.Singer@maryland.gov

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 on Wednesdays and on occasional Saturdays. Contact Jim Gibb at jamesggibb@verizon.net

Charles County for Lab and Field Work welcomes volunteers. Contact Esther Read at ReadE@charlescountymd.gov For more information, contact Carol Cowherd at ccasm2010@gmail.com

The Anne Arundel County Archeology Lab in Edgewater, in conjunction with The Lost Towns Project, accepts volunteers for lab work. No experience needed. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. The lab is generally open 2-3 weekdays each week from 9:00-3:00. Volunteers must sign up in advance. There are occasional opportunities for fieldwork as well. For more information, the current lab or field schedule, or to sign up, email Drew Webster at volunteers@losttownsproject.org

Howard County Recs and Parks invites volunteers interested in processing collections and conducting historical research to contact Kelly Palich at Kpalich@howardcountymd.gov or 410-313-0423.

Montgomery County for Lab and Field Work welcomes volunteers. Contact link: https://montgomeryparks.org/activities/history-in-the-parks/archaeology/

Mount Calvert for Lab and Field Work: call 301-627-1286.

Jefferson Park invites volunteers to take part in its activities, including archeology, historical research, and conservation. Contact 410-586-8554.

The Archaeological Institute of America provides an online listing of fieldwork opportunities worldwide. Click on https://www.archaeological.org/fieldwork to get started.

Chapter News

Central Chapter

Central Chapter meetings are by Zoom only. Katharine Fernstrom sends the link to the email group. Stay tuned for more details. For more information and to be added to the Zoom list contact Katharine Fernstrom at katharine.fernstrom@marylandarcheology.org

Charles County

Meets in person September through April at the Community Room of the LaPlata Police Department in LaPlata, MD on the third Thursday of the month. Email ccasm2010@gmail.com for more information.

Eastern Shore

Dates and events are on chapter's website <u>ASM Eastern Shore (google.com)</u> Facebook page Eastern Shore Maryland Archaeology and Instagram (@esmdarch). For more information, email esarcheology@gmail.com or jamrkin2@washcooll.edu

Calendar is here: <u>bit.ly/ASM-ES</u> and events are open to members and nonmembers. To be added to our social media updates, email <u>esarcheology@gmail.com</u>.

All events are open to anyone who wants to attend!

Saturday, April 27th, 2025 – Chicone Village Day at Handsell House in Vienna, MD (our chapter will have a table) – 10am-4pm

Sunday, May 4th, 2025 - Tour of Pemberton Hall and grounds in Salisbury, MD with Bill Wilson (time TBD)

Open lab at Washington College:

Tuesdays from noon – 3pm: December 3 and 10

Wednesdays from 10am - 1pm: December 4 and 11

Contact Julie Markin at <u>jmarkin2@washcoll.edu</u>.

Mid-Potomac

The chapter meets the third Thursday of the month from September through June. Inperson meetings begin at 7pm. for the business meeting followed by a presentation at around 7:30. For the beginning of 2025, the location of the chapter meetings has changed. The new location is at the ADU Showroom, 8501 Grovemont Cir, Gaithersburg, MD 20877. Please contact Don Housley for directions, if necessary.

Pizza will be available before the in-person meeting starting at 6:30pm for \$5 per person. If virtual meetings are necessary, they will be via Zoom with the business meeting also starting at 7 p.m. and the presentation around 7:30.

Thursday, April 17, 2025: MHT Terrestrial Archaeologist, Zac Singer, will give a presentation on the Barton site in western Maryland.

Thursday, May 15, 2025: Ralph Buglass, chapter member and local historian, will give a talk on the Montgomery County railroad town of Derwood.

For up-to-date information concerning meetings, please contact Don Housley at donhou704@earthlink.net or 301-424-8526 or check the chapter website: www.asmmidpotomac.org, or send an email to: asmmidpotomac@gmail.com

Monocacy

For information contact: monocacyarcheology@gmail.com (mailbox monitored intermittently) or call Jeremy Lazelle at 301-471-8433.

Northern Chesapeake

A business meeting at 7pm and is followed by the presentation at 7:30. Locations vary. Contact Dan Coates at 410-808-2398 or dancoates@comcast.net

Western Maryland

Programs are held the fourth Friday of the month, at 7:30 pm at the **History Discovery Center at Blue Spring at 400 N. Mechanic Street, Cumberland, MD.** Unless noted. Chapter email: wmdasm@yahoo.com

Meeting announcements are sent also to CTN; WFWM, and the Oakland Republican.

April 25th- Dr. Kelley Fanto Deetz is a historian and archeologist, recently appointed as Director of Independence Hall Foundation (ushistory.org). Deetz authored "Bound to the Fire: How Virginia's Enslaved Cooks Helped Invent American Cuisine." She has family connections to Cumberland and we are thrilled to invite her back for a presentation.

Lab workdays! Excavations at the Jane Gates Heritage House uncovered several boxes of artifacts dating from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. There will be hands-on cataloging sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2pm to 5pm for the month of April until the artifacts are analyzed and cataloged. These lab days will be at the new History Discovery Center at 400 N. Mechanic Street, Cumberland, MD. It's free, open to the public, and no experience is necessary to participate. More information email: info@oxbowculturalresearch.com.

Contact Us:

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-percent discount on items sold by the Society.



Contact Membership Secretary Ethan Bean, ethan.bean@marylandarcheology.org, for membership rates.

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