

ASM Ink



October 2025, Vol. 52, No. 10

Newsletter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.

www.marylandarcheology.org

Upcoming Activities

October 18, 2025 – ASM Annual Meeting in Charles County at Maryland Veterans Museum

November 1, 2025 – American Indian Heritage Day at Jefferson Patterson Park

***Clarification from September's article on the Pocomoke mural.**

The introduction to the Pocomoke mural was written by Pocomoke council woman Cheryl Doughty and given to Lynne Bulhack to submit to *ASM Ink* for publication.

President's Note

Thank you to the MHT team, the Workshop in Archeology was another marvelous event. So many incredible presentations, we were unable to attend all we wanted to. I enjoyed Cassandra Michaud's keynote address. While the topics of various Montgomery County sites were very familiar, the information on the processes behind acquisition of property and planning for future interpretation was really interesting.

I also enjoyed the afternoon panel with County (and a city) Archaeologists who have preservation ordinances that protect archeological resources. It was good to hear about the most recent successes and the difficulties encountered, even once they were established. In a state with 23 counties, only a handful have these in place. Lots of work to still be done!

Looking forward to seeing you in October at our ASM Annual Meeting hosted by Charles County Archeological Society of Maryland!

—Valerie

ASM Fall Meeting



Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc. 2025 Fall Meeting

Saturday, October 18, 2025

Maryland Veterans Museum
11000 Crain Highway
Newburg, MD

Free admittance

*Hosted by the Charles County Archaeological Society of Maryland,
Inc*

Directions- From La Plata, MD, continue south on US 301 past the Museum, which is on the east side of the divided highway. Make a U-turn at the Budds Creek Road (MD-234) red light, and continue north. Turn right onto the road to the Museum.

Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.
www.marylandarcheology.org

Charles County Archaeological Society of Maryland, Inc.
A Chapter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.
ccasm2010@gmail.com ccarchsoc.blogspot.com

Program

- 8:30** Registration/Refreshments/Book Table

9:00 Welcome and Introduction

9:05 ASM Business Meeting

10:20 Break

10:30 *2025 Frederick L. Stiner Memorial Lecture*
**The Plantation of Michael Swift on the Patuxent River:
Ground-truthing the Teague's Point Site, Charles
County, Maryland**
Dr. Matthew D. McKnight, *Chief Archaeologist for
Maryland Historical Trust*

11:15 **ASM Ethics and Conduct in Action**
Moderator: Valerie Hall, *ASM President*
Panelists: Brent Chippendale, Jim Gibb, and Julia Berg:
ACM Ethics Committee Members

12:00 Lunch Break (bring your own lunch)

1:00 **Westwood: An Ancient Native American Site on the
Banks of a Relict Creek**
Jim Gibb, *Smithsonian Environmental Research Center*

1:45 **From Slave Labor to Free Labor:
The Archaeology of Post-Emancipation Charles County**
Julia A King, St. Mary's College of Maryland

2:30 Break

2:40 **An Archaeological Retrospective: A View From 47 years in
the Trenches**
Esther Doyle Read, *Charles County Archaeologist*

3:25 Closing Remarks

The Plantation of Michael Swift on the Patuxent River: Ground-truthing the Teague's Point Site, Charles County, Maryland

In the summer of 2023, Charles County collector Kevin Brady contacted the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) about a site he had discovered decades earlier on what is now State-owned land. A quick examination of Mr. Brady's collection suggested that a previously undocumented late 17th-century domestic site remained hidden in an agricultural field at the Maxwell Hall Equestrian Park. A ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey in December of that year revealed the presence of several anomalies suggestive of intact subfloor pits and cellar features. The site then became the focus of ground-truthing excavations during the Annual Tyler Bastian Field Session in May of 2025. Excavation of 25 test units exposed at least 11 remarkably intact cultural features and thousands of well-preserved late 17th-century artifacts. Records of the period document that one Michael Swift, his wife Margaret, and their two daughters lived on this landscape around the time of Maryland's Glorious Revolution.

Dr. Matthew D. McKnight

Chief Archaeologist for the Maryland Historical Trust

ASM Ethics and Conduct in Action

The Archaeological Society of Maryland recently adopted a new Code of Ethics and Conduct to guide our shared work in the field and in the community. This panel will explore how the Code's principles—respect, stewardship, documentation, education, and safety—translate into real-world practice for avocational archaeologists. Through scenarios and discussion, panelists and audience members will consider common challenges, "gray areas," and best practices for upholding ethical standards while protecting Maryland's archaeological heritage.

Moderator: Valerie Hall, ASM President

Panelists: Brent Chippendale, Jim Gibb, and Julia Berg

ASM Ethics Committee Members

Westwood: An Ancient Native American Site on the Banks of a Relict Creek

Westwood North, originally identified as a multicomponent Early and Late Archaic site, is a single-component Brewerton Complex site blanketed by redeposited sands and gravels with Transitional and Late Woodland inclusions. The buried A horizon and BE horizon yielded 21 heavily reworked notched projectile points of quartz, quartzite and

rhyolite. These buried deposits also produced 150 kg of fire-cracked rock and 6500 pieces of flaked stone, but there is no clear patterning evident across ten 5 ft by 5 ft excavation units. The site is adjacent to a relict tributary of Mattawoman Creek on the Chesapeake coastal plain. Westwood North appears to have been a Late Archaic base camp at which Native Americans exploited riverine and wetland resources with the bonus of plentiful toolstone.

Jim Gibb

Smithsonian Environmental Research Center

From Slave Labor to Free Labor: The Archaeology of Post-Emancipation Charles County

Born into slavery on the old Chapman Plantation, also known as Pomonkey, Thomas Brown and his wife, Emeline, were witnesses to one of the most important transformations in American history. The couple gained their freedom in 1864, purchased land in 1877, and, in 1890, watched as the U.S. Navy opened a new powder factory down the road at Indian Head. Brown's children may have landed wage employment aboard the new naval facility. This part of Charles County—including Pomonkey, Indian Head, and Bryans Road—became a destination for the Great Migration as people arrived in the area to build and operate the base or to provide civilian services in support of the facility. Drawing on legacy archaeological collections recovered in the 1990s by R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, this presentation describes that history and advocates for a greater investment in the region's important history.

Julia A King

St. Mary's College of Maryland

An Archaeological Retrospective: A View From 47 years in the Trenches

How has archaeology changed since the 1970s? The archaeological studies Esther Read finds herself currently engaged in are very different from when she began. This talk will focus on how interpretation and public archaeology has changed.

Esther Doyle Read

County Archaeologist, Charles County Planning and Growth

2025 MHT Scout Programs

Stephanie Soder

For the third year in a row, MHT hosted the Scouting America Archaeology Merit Badge this past spring. During the first weekend, scouts participated in a lecture and rotating activity stations to complete a majority of the merit badge requirements. We've found that this method works well for both our purposes and the attention spans of the scouts; the lecture provides them with the basic understanding of archaeology, while the activities allow them to get hands-on experiences and get to know their fellow scouts, staff, and volunteers in a more relaxed manner. This year, we had only 15 scouts sign-up to take the merit badge with us - much less than normal. It made for an interesting dynamic; not only did the scouts seem more attentive and engaged, but the parents did too!





As usual, the second weekend was planned for fieldwork. This year, we held our fieldwork at the Teague's Point site. We knew from our geophysical and pedestrian surveys that there would be an abundance of artifacts for the scouts to work with, but it was still a bit of a relief to see a few charcoal- and artifact-rich features appear from under the plowzone on day one, especially given that we were only two weeks away from the annual field session that would be held here.

Despite some uncooperative weather on day two, the scouts managed to get through the plowzone in three test units. Their hard work set the stage for a successful start to the field session. As always, we had the generous help of several volunteers: Paul Bollwerk and Kim Malinowski, our two veteran scout wranglers, and Carol Cowherd, Gail Stevens, and Gerald Manly as our newcomers (who hopefully weren't too traumatized afterwards).



This would normally be the end of our outreach efforts specific to the Scouting America program, but this year was a little different. Due in large part to the great relationship that MHT and ASM have cultivated with Camp Potomac in Oldtown (with special credit to Brent Chippendale), they asked us to help with their Scouts at Work program this summer. Scouts at Work is a summer resident camp that allows scouts to explore different career opportunities, with the chance to check off merit badge requirements in the process. One of the hardest requirements to accomplish for the archaeology merit badge is to complete 8 hours of fieldwork, and so we decided that our priority would be to have the scouts get that completed. Anything else would just be icing on the cake.

Of course, what would an outreach program be without last-minute hiccups? Less than



two months before the program and right before the chaos of the field session began, the location of our survey fell through. This meant that we had to find a new location, get landowner permission, and create a new scope of work, all while also reorganizing the logistics of any program that needs to consider meals, bathrooms, and weather contingencies, within one month of the program. Thankfully, Suzie Trussell of the Western ASM Chapter caught our Hail Mary and offered her families' property up for survey – Mexico Farm.

The extant farmhouse on Mexico Farm, where Suzie's family lives, dates to about 1820 based on construction style and previously conducted archaeology. Around 2012, the Western Chapter excavated two units near the summer kitchen, just north of the main house. Excavations revealed large foundational stones and some pipes. A known prehistoric site sits to the southwest of the house as well, though mostly on the neighbor's property.

We decided on a two-pronged approach. Ground penetrating radar would be conducted on the north end of the house to see if the extent of the foundation stones could be determined, and also in the eastern field, hoping to catch features related to the blacksmith shop. Shovel test pits would be conducted on the west side of the property and



south yard of the house. This allowed testing in areas that had not been surveyed, while giving the scouts a variety of fieldwork opportunities. Along with Suzie, Zac, Caitlin, and I, we had the fortune of having Brent, Roy Brown, Gary Grant, and Krista Morris help out with the scouts. Shelly Smith, her family, and dogs kindly allowed us to use their porch and offered cool, wet cloths to help beat the heat.





Overall, we were able to complete 42 STPs with 12 scouts. Survey in the west yard provided evidence that the prehistoric site extends farther into this property than originally expected. Unsurprisingly, the STPs in the front of the house recovered historic artifacts typical of a domestic site. But what proved to be the exciting find of the survey was a brick feature overlying a cobble layer in an STP in the middle of the front yard. Given more time, we would have opened an excavation unit to explore this feature



further, but as per usual, the best finds come at the end of the last day. The GPR survey yielded an anomaly consistent with a foundation north of the house, which is in line with the ghost of a structure on the outside of the house (see 1979 photo below). Perhaps we'll see some more work conducted there in the future?

In addition to the survey work, Roy treated the scouts to a tool knapping demonstration at the end of the last day - which really seemed to be a hit!



Since first starting the scout workshop in 2023, 65 scouts have completed the archaeology merit badge and 22 have received partials. This scout outreach season was a bit of a doozy, and the work that we put into making sure these programs go as smoothly as possible is astronomical. Thank you to those who gave their time to making sure the next generation of scouts was given the opportunity to experience archaeology first-hand; we truly could not do this without your continued support!

Western Chapter Meeting

Kim Malinowski



Brian Fritz and Dr. Zac Singer spoke at the Western Maryland Chapter Meeting on Friday, September 26. Brian showed his documentary “Hunt for the First Americans: Clovis at the Barton Site?” [Barton Site Video](#) We talked and ate cookies while learning about the PaleoDigger and its creation. This is the teaser before November’s issue featuring the PaleoDigger Barton Dig 2025! Send in those photos!!!

We are very thankful for Brian Fritz. And who has seen Zac so happy?



Our PaleoDigger colleague Brian Fritz just published a new video featuring Dr. Kurt Carr's work at the Shoop Site in Pennsylvania.

Kurt and his colleagues visited us during the Barton excavation last summer. Kurt's research at Shoop is producing great results and Brian does a wonderful job of sharing this information through the new video!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jw1rgNH28nE>

WJZ's Marty Bass visited St. John's Western Run Parish to discuss the Piney Grove archaeological site with Dr. Zac Singer!

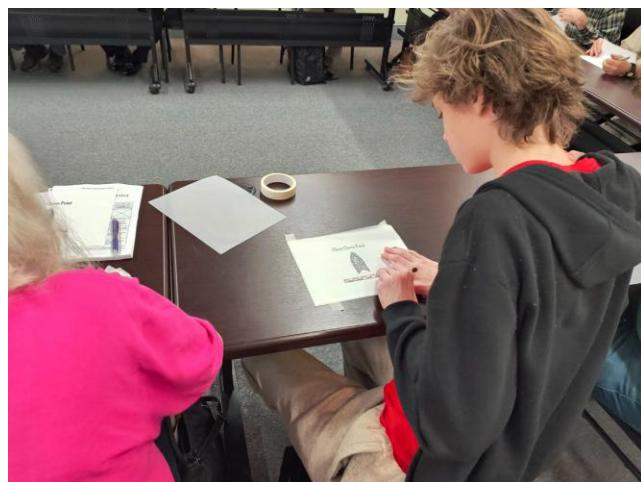
<https://www.cbsnews.com/baltimore/video/13000-year-old-quarry-excavated-at-baltimore-area-church/>

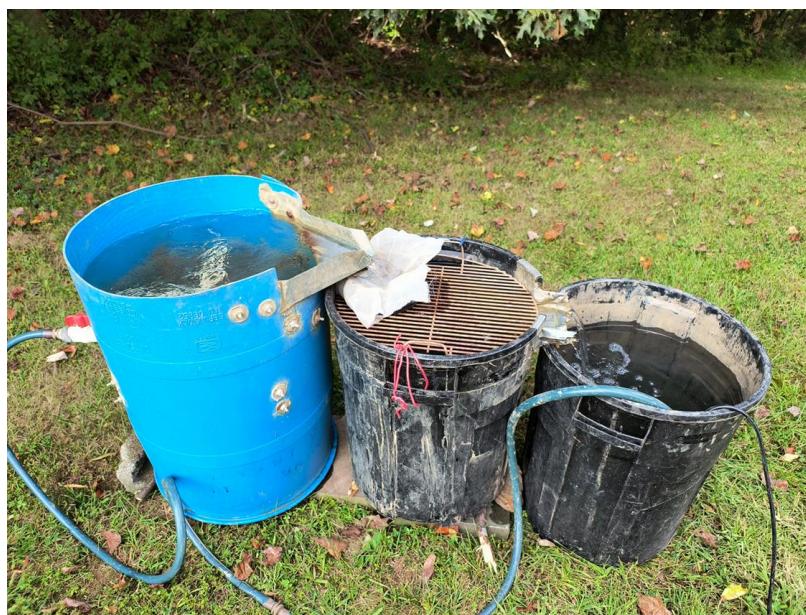
MHT Workshop in Archaeology

The Maryland Historical Trust, working in partnership with The Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc., proudly presented the 34th Annual Workshop in Archaeology on Saturday, September 20th, 2025.

The program was a great success and ASM members have been saying that this year's was one of the best MHT Workshops that they have attended. Thank you to all of MHT!!!











A massive thank you to Dr. Matt McKnight and ASM members for their photos!

Lego League visits MHT Crownsville Lab

UNEARTHED - Topic & Season Schedule - FIRST LEGO League an educational STEM Program for everybody between 4 and 16

On September 23, 2025, a team of 5 middle school students and 3 adults visited the MHT Crownsville Lab as part of the Lego League Challenge.

We set up six washing stations and had the students wash Teague's Point artifacts. Each

student was given a drying screen, a bucket of water, a screener to keep the artifacts in as they wash them, and a tray holding artifacts from the Lot to keep the context and provenience of each artifact.



Trays and screens were labeled, and the students were able to learn why context matters so much. Yes, it can seem



They learned that the larger artifacts were most likely from the $\frac{1}{4}$ " screens like their cohorts, but that they had smaller materials that needed special attention and that their artifacts could not be mixed in with the rest

of the Lot. They helped clean two Lots, one before lunch and one after. They were able to splash and ask questions. They learned about pipe stem bore size, patinated glass, how artifacts can help approximate the age of an archeological site, and they were able to take photos with Dr. Zachary Singer, who they idolized. Zac answered their questions and helped them connect with the past.

The adults had as much fun as the kids and were able to see how the field session paperwork corresponded with the Unit versus Lot numbers as well as how the artifacts would be catalogued. Students were able to see the usual lab volunteers sorting and bagging and saw that a lab could be fun and productive.



***American Archeology* magazine, the Archeological Conservancy also has a Lego article on page 26.**

Fort Point

Kim Malinowski

Instead of going to the MHT Workshop, I was in San Francisco attending a stranger's wedding after promising my friend's dying mother that I would be my friend's support at a happy event, at a sad time. After, I cared for my friend's mother until her death—I wanted nothing to do with the flight or any type of celebration. I went to help my friend as her plus one and found a lot more grace given and received than I had expected or that I was giving anyone at the time.



My main purpose or self-distraction was seeing the Golden Gate Bridge again. I'd seen it when I was ten, and now, I wanted to find the best view of the Golden Gate Bridge that I could. I needed that connection after the trauma and grief of helping a family through the death of their loved mother and wife—my own bitterness that I wasn't aware of. I was only just acknowledging my own demons and the realization of how much of my soul I had gifted away just a few days before the trip.

I found the metal and the craftsmanship of the bridge still breathtaking and haunting, but I also found myself again as I climbed alone through brick and around cannons. I found Fort Point or it found me. I was extremely blessed to climb up (and down) all four stories and learn the history of the

fort.

I felt connected to something tangible and for the first time in months, I felt at ease and able to have fun. Fun had not been in my vocabulary for months—I just watched as others laughed and I pretended to. There is something about the past and its mysteries that made me feel less isolated. I too had gone to war and had no one to talk to about my experiences that understood how deeply I had sacrificed and the fight I was having to reconnect to the world that had changed around me. Or perhaps, it was I who had changed and needed to find my new place in the world. History has a way of giving perspective.

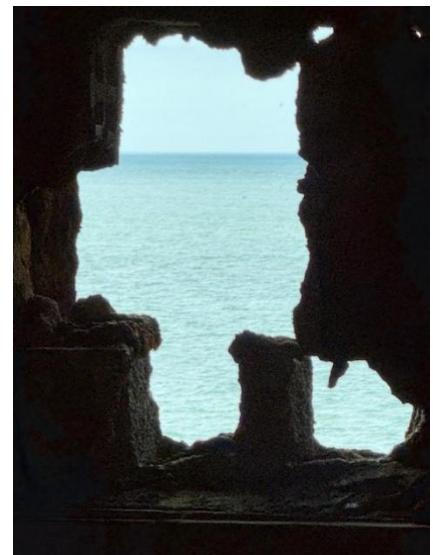
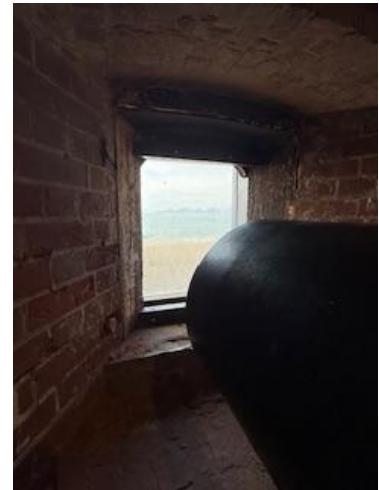
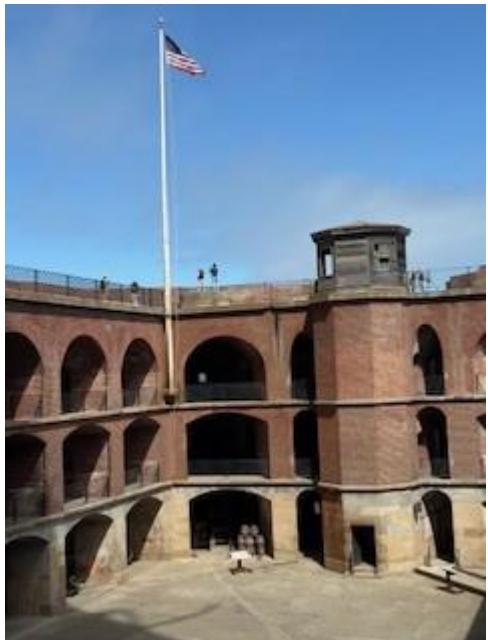


I fell in love with the beauty of the area and the fortification—how the cannons were placed and who had been behind them

or who had been sighting in guns at the perimeters. As I climbed, it wasn't that I felt ghosts or spirits, but I did feel the presence of time. I felt that I climbed much slower than soldiers would have sprinted up and down and around the spiral cases. I could taste the bay water on the air—almost droplets but still mist. The caging and the bridge so close above me allowed me to climb away from my trauma—not just forget about it, but with each step up and each hobble down, I became a new person. Someone different if not better.

The construction of Fort Point was completed around late 1859. Huntchings' California Magazine in June 1859, described the fort as “four tiers in height, the topmost of which is 64 feet above low tide; and is capable of mounting 150 guns [sic], including the battery at the back, of 42, 64, and 128 pounders; and during an engagement [could] accommodate 2,400 men,” (Martini, 24). Fort Point is considered an American Third System fort,

because it was “part of the third generation of permanent forts built by the United States to protect its harbors and coastlines,” (Martini, 23).



The lighthouse was constructed in 1852 as an “aid to ships entering the harbor during the Gold Rush, and ordered a combination light tower and keeper’s quarters built at the tip of Punta del Cantil Blanco, with the ruins of Castillo de San Joaquin” but the army’s Corps of Engineers built a replacement light tower in early 1855, and then a third lighthouse was constructed inside the fort’s walls in 1864 (Martini, 81). However, the Fort Point Light Station that I saw, however it came to be, was magnificent. Its history

and the history of the lighthouses before it that illuminated the bay must have all been marvels.



I also used Fort Point for my homework. I needed to look at properties on the National Registrar. My professor corrected me and said that Fort Point was protected even before the registrar. You can find it listed though. [Asset Detail](#)



NATIONAL REGISTER DIGITAL ASSETS

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 1. STATE California | | 2. NAME FORT POINT, OR "OLD FORT SCOTT" | | 3. ADDRESS 1000 Point Street San Francisco CA 94133 | |
| 4. COUNTY San Francisco | | 5. PRESENT USE Fort Point, the precurser is the northernmost point of the San Francisco Peninsula, overlooking | | 6. OWNER U.S. Army | |
| 7. HABITATIONAL NO. None | | 8. DATE BUILT 1853 | | 9. ARCHITECT U.S. Engineers | |
| 10. MATERIAL Brick | | 11. STYLE Federal | | 12. BUILDERS U.S. Engineers | |
| 13. ROOFING Metal | | 14. ORIGINAL USE Protection of San Francisco Harbor | | 15. PRESENT USE None | |
| 16. CONSTRUCTION NOTABLE FEATURES Fort Point, the precurser is the northernmost point of the San Francisco Peninsula, overlooking | | 17. CONSTRUCTION NOTABLE FEATURES Built of brick, trimmed and finished with granite, designed after Fort Sumter, some of its walls are 30 feet thick. It encloses a paved | | 18. HEIGHT No. of stories: 4 feet: 100 | |
| 19. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Fair | | 20. MATERIAL Brick | | 21. HEIGHT No. of stories: 4 feet: 100 | |
| 22. EXTERIOR A | | 23. ROOF Flat | | 24. ROOF Flat | |
| 25. INTERIOR X | | 26. REPAIRS None | | 27. REPAIRS None | |
| 28. POSSIBLE USE Museum, and Point of Interest. | | 29. RECONSTRUCTION None | | 30. RECONSTRUCTION None | |
| 31. AVAILABLE PUBLISHERS CHARLES E. COOK, INC. | | 32. FIELD REPORTS RESEARCH REPORTS | | 33. NATION X STATE HIGH CITY NOTABLE MENTION | |
| 34. REFERENCES: AUTHOR, TITLE AND PAGES "San Francisco American Guide Series, Page 312 "San Francisco, California Chapter, Part AII "Almanac of U.S. Army, President of San Francisco DATE JANUARY 15, 1953 | | 35. NEIGHBORHOOD CONDITIONS ZONE U.S. Government CLASS ARMY Post | | 36. ZONE U.S. Government CLASS ARMY Post | |
| CONTINUE ADDITIONAL DATA, PHOTOGRAPHIC COMMENTS, SKETCH OR MAP IN SPACE BELOW | | 37. USE TO PUBLIC None | | 38. USE TO PUBLIC None | |
| Golden Gate Bridge above. Fort Point | | 39. FEES None | | 40. CONTROL BY Fort Headquarters | |
| | | 41. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDS Charles S. Poppe, Executive Officer Commandant, California Chapter, Part AII 47 Kearny St., San Francisco, California | | 42. DATE OF RECORD January 15, 1953 | |
| | | 43. COMMENTS Kodak motion picture camera is suspended on the sides with pulleys and tiered bridge blocks. The spiral granite staircase in three towers show fine masonry work. An octagonal metal lighthouse surrounds the northwest tower. Fluted iron columns support a gallery of the second tier, an elegant land portico. The original fort quarters were located on the land side of the fort. The iron gates enclosed magnificent surroundings. A shot tower, oil blocks and ammunition stores surround the court. 119 guns of various calibres were seen in four tiers. Rain water caught on the sloping roofs and ran down through iron pipes to a double overhead tank. The fort's iron gates and arched doors with its tremendous lock and keys demonstrate strength and security. Architecturally noteworthy are the paneled ceilings, the ornate doorways, the iron gates, the iron balustrades, the iron railings, the flintlock musketry work, the iron fireplaces, the iron stoves, the iron door knobs, the iron gate. In 1770, the Spanish completed the adobe Castillo de San Joaquin to guard the bay. July 1, 1846, Fremont relates his men used that 12 of his men spied the large handwrought iron gate. The fort was built by the U.S. Engineers in 1853. In 1905, its batteries abandoned in 1914, made insignificant by the soaring Golden Gate Bridge since 1937; Old Fort Point or Fort Winfield Scott as it was called after 1852, still stands as a silent witness to the past, a symbol of the past, and its recall of the past. 4/7/53. San Francisco Board of Supervisors to request Congress to declare Fort Point a Monument. | | 44. COMMENTS Kodak motion picture camera is suspended on the sides with pulleys and tiered bridge blocks. The spiral granite staircase in three towers show fine masonry work. An octagonal metal lighthouse surrounds the northwest tower. Fluted iron columns support a gallery of the second tier, an elegant land portico. The original fort quarters were located on the land side of the fort. The iron gates enclosed magnificent surroundings. A shot tower, oil blocks and ammunition stores surround the court. 119 guns of various calibres were seen in four tiers. Rain water caught on the sloping roofs and ran down through iron pipes to a double overhead tank. The fort's iron gates and arched doors with its tremendous lock and keys demonstrate strength and security. Architecturally noteworthy are the paneled ceilings, the ornate doorways, the iron gates, the iron balustrades, the iron railings, the flintlock musketry work, the iron fireplaces, the iron stoves, the iron door knobs, the iron gate. In 1770, the Spanish completed the adobe Castillo de San Joaquin to guard the bay. July 1, 1846, Fremont relates his men used that 12 of his men spied the large handwrought iron gate. The fort was built by the U.S. Engineers in 1853. In 1905, its batteries abandoned in 1914, made insignificant by the soaring Golden Gate Bridge since 1937; Old Fort Point or Fort Winfield Scott as it was called after 1852, still stands as a silent witness to the past, a symbol of the past, and its recall of the past. 4/7/53. San Francisco Board of Supervisors to request Congress to declare Fort Point a Monument. | |

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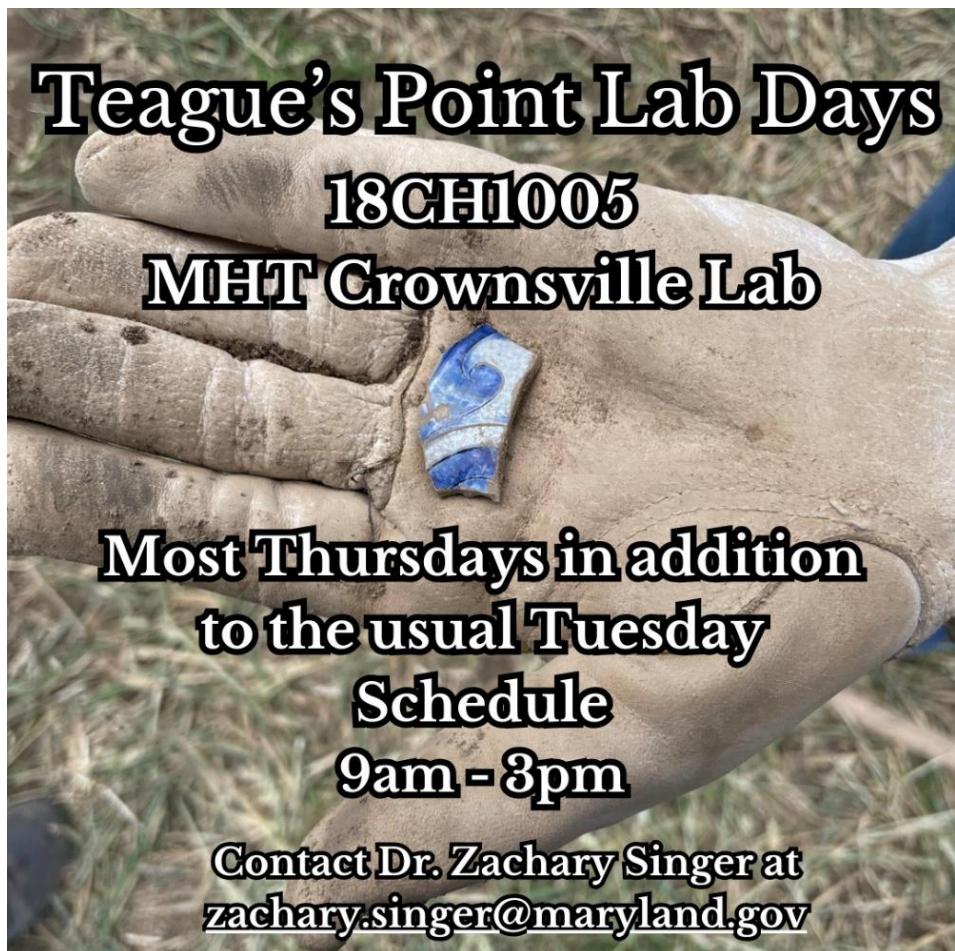
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C.A.T. Corner

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

Laboratory Techniques Workshop was held at the MHT Workshop!!!





Teague's Point Lab Days

18CH1005

MHT Crownsville Lab

Most Thursdays in addition
to the usual Tuesday
Schedule
9am - 3pm

Contact Dr. Zachary Singer at
zachary.singer@maryland.gov

MoCo 250

Join Montgomery History on **November 8, 2025**, for the 20th edition of the ever-popular Montgomery County History Conference. This year the theme will be "MoCo 250" and every session will present new research that will be published as a compendium entitled *Unfinished Revolution* in 2026. <https://montgomeryhistory.org/event/2025-montgomery-county-history-conference/>

Lost Towns Project

EAC/Archaeology Inc. 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, [click here](#).

Fieldwork Opportunity: South River Farm Park STP Survey



October 3, 16-17, 23-24

8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Note: We may add or subtract days as needed to complete the project.

South River Farm Park

3553 Loch Haven Drive

Edgewater, MD

Recently, a new archaeological site was discovered when a citizen reported a fluted projectile point dating to the middle Paleoindian period--around 11,000 years ago! A subsequent walkover survey produced more artifacts from a wide variety of time periods. We are conducting a shovel test pit (STP) survey to better delineate the site and determine its research potential.

Volunteers will help excavate STPs and/or screen for artifacts. This will require some off-trail walking in the woods, although the terrain is generally flat and clear. Children under 16 years old must be accompanied by an adult. [For more information or to sign up, click here.](#)

Note: If all spots for a day are currently full, check back again closer to the date--even the night before--to see if there have been cancellations.

Four Decades of Archaeology at Jug Bay: A Native American Heritage Month Lecture & Hike



**40+ Years of
Archaeology
at Jug Bay**

Highlights of People & Place



1963-1964:
Archaeological Society of
Maryland Excavations
Dorr (18AN19)
Now Glendening Nature
Preserve



Saturday, November 8th

10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary

1361 Wrighton Road

Lothian, MD

\$10 - [Register here](#)

Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary and the surrounding area is home to 75 known archaeological sites representing 13,000 years of human history. This Native American Heritage Month, join Anne Arundel County Archaeologist Drew Webster for an engaging lecture highlighting four decades of archaeological research at the Sanctuary and what they have revealed about the area's deep Native American history. Following the lecture, embark on a two-mile round trip hike to River Farm for an archaeological site tour. Ages 12 and up. Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

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 [check the lab schedule or sign up here](#). The lab is located at 839 Londontown Road in Edgewater, MD, just behind the [London Town](#) 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 volunteers@losttownsproject.org.

Member Suggestions

['Ghost ship' discovered at bottom of Lake Michigan 139 years after sinking | CNN](#)

[Descendants of enslaved man, plantation owner unearth past at Maryland cabin - The Washington Post](#)

Kim's Note:

I attended the entire dig at Barton's because there is something about the PaleoDigger that is phenomenal! I was able to show my friend and her father the machine and for the first time—one of my friends from the outside got dirty with me!

I'm not going to lie that graduate school is a struggle. I'm sure half of everyone saw me leave defeated in tears after pulling 48 hours off with 5 hours of sleep peppered in trying to learn GIS. A huge thank you for the support and suggestions. It looks like with more clarity (actually emailed my professor as was suggested), I might understand and pass yet. This weekend after Barton's is dedicated to GIS and the understanding of the importance of both learning to save without broken links (oops!) and the importance of the archeological community.

Zac got and kept me started with the lab and the C.A.T. program and my entire, dirt loving, extended family keeps me going both with my writing, my love of lithics and science, and with any struggle in my life.

My deepest gratitude,

Kim

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. 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 Patterson 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 [ASM Eastern Shore \(google.com\)](#) Facebook page Eastern Shore Maryland Archaeology and Instagram (@esmdarch). For more information, email esarcheology@gmail.com or jamrkin2@washcoll.edu

Calendar is here: bit.ly/ASM-ES and events are open to members and nonmembers. To be added to our social media updates, email esarcheology@gmail.com.
All events are open to anyone who wants to attend!

Open lab at Washington College:
Contact Julie Markin at jmarkin2@washcoll.edu.

Sunday, October 12th - Colonial Harvest Festival

Hosted by Rackliffe House
11:00am - 4:00pm, 11800 Marsh View Lane (Behind the Assateague Island Visitor Center), Berlin, MD 21811

Sunday, October 26th - Eastern Shore Archaeological Society Chapter Meeting

Featuring guest speaker Pat Dunn on her recent excavations at Copper Age sites in Cyprus

Chesapeake College (Eastern Shore Higher Education Center)

3:00pm - 4:00pm, Queenstown, MD 21658

As always, check out our

website: <https://sites.google.com/view/asmeasternshore/home> and social media

(Facebook: Eastern Shore Maryland Archaeology; Instagram: @esmdarch) to stay up to date on all our events!

We hope to see you this fall!



Eastern Shore Archaeological Society

a chapter of The Archaeological Society of Maryland

✉ esarcheology@gmail.com

🌐 Eastern Shore Maryland Archaeology

👤 @esmdarch

🌐 bit.ly/ASM-ES

Mid-Potomac

The chapter meets the third Thursday of the month from September through June. In-person meetings begin at 7p.m. for the business meeting followed by a presentation at around 7:30. Since the beginning of 2025, the location of the chapter meetings has changed. The new location is at the ADU Showroom, 8501 Grovemont Circle, 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, October 9, 2025: Don Housley, chapter president, will give a talk on "ASM's 2025 Field Session at Teague's Point in Charles County."

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

Thursday, November 20, 2025: Erin Cagney, Montgomery Parks archaeologist, will speak on her journey from the University of Tennessee to Needwood Mansion, the headquarters for Montgomery Parks archaeology.

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.

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.



The Appalachian Festival!

The Appalachian Festival last Saturday was a great opportunity to speak with students and community members. Thank you to those who helped and stopped by to say hello.

October Meeting

Speaker: Dr. Phillip Allen, Geologist, Frostburg State University

Dr. Allen is a vibrant and enthusiastic professor of geology and has lots of experience with geo-archeology. His specific topic is TBD and I'll send out an announcement as soon as I can.

Date: Friday, October 24, 2025

November Field Trip

We're planning our annual field trip instead of a regular meeting. Last year's visit to Ridgedale Historic Farm was a hit — this year, we're looking at the Johns Hopkins Archaeological Museum in Baltimore, home to Egyptian and Greek collections.

The museum is open Monday, Tuesday and Friday, 10am-4pm,
Tentative dates include either November 10th, 11th or the 14th

Transportation: Van rental or carpooling options

Interested? Email us at wmdasm@yahoo.com with your interest, questions or suggestions for other locations!

December

No meetings—enjoy the holiday season. Merry Christmas!

January–April

Regular meetings resume. Topics to be announced.

A Heartfelt Thank You to Ralph Sheaffer

Ralph Sheaffer, our dedicated club Secretary since 2023, is stepping down — and I want to extend a sincere thank you for everything he's done. From writing and presenting minutes to helping find speakers, setting up events, mailing the newsletter, making email announcements, and contacting radio stations, Ralph has been a great collaborator. Ralph lives in beautiful Garret

County, traveling the distance to attend the meetings. We'll miss his leadership in this role — and we're deeply grateful. Interested in stepping in as Secretary? Let us know!

The club meeting space has a new sign! Regular meetings are held on the 4th Friday of the month at 400 N. Mechanic Street, Cumberland, and begin at 7:30 pm. Limited parking is available adjacent to the building, and a large, free, city parking lot is just before the Viaduct, less than a block down Mechanic St. on the right.

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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