



Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MARYLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ARCHEOLOGY
(MACA)

September 11, 2019

Committee Members in Attendance

Jane Cox, Marian Creveling, Don Housley, Stephen Brighton, Robert Wall.

Staff in Attendance

Matt McKnight, Susan Langley, Charlie Hall, Karen Golder, Patricia Samford, Greg Pierce, Elizabeth Hughes, Anne Raines, Beth Cole, Dixie Henry.

The meeting called to order at 1:01 p.m.

Review of the minutes June 2019 MACA meeting minutes

The June 12, 2019 minutes were reviewed and accepted in a motion made by Marian Creveling and seconded by Robert Wall; the motion was passed unanimously.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Report from the Director — Elizabeth Hughes

Ms. Elizabeth Hughes reported that the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) Capital Budget hearing with the Department of Budget and Management staff will take place on September 25th. Funding for the Capital Historic Preservation Grant and Loan Programs, the African American Heritage Preservation Grant Program, and for the Patterson Center construction project and MAC Lab expansion project will be discussed at the meeting. The MDP Operating Budget hearing is scheduled for Thursday, October 24. At this point in time, level funding is anticipated for MHT grant programs.

MACA members should review their appointment status and, if their term will expire in 2020, let Matt know if they wish to be reappointed. Elizabeth will begin preparing materials to send to the Governor's Appointments Office in late fall.

Underwater Activities Report — Susan Langley and Troy Nowak

Elizabeth and Matt have already addressed the potential for building a storage facility for archaeological equipment and the Maritime Program's three boats.

Since the last MACA meeting, Troy, Susan and Stephanie Soder completed fieldwork on Janes Island and Troy is presently working to finish the report as the NPS Sandy grant concludes with the end of the federal fiscal year on September 30. In order to address some shortcomings in a report submitted regarding an area of the Elk River where channel dredging is planned by Cecil County, Troy and a USACOE Archaeologist resurveyed a segment of the channel, assisted by Stephanie Soder. The sites of concern were located, and guidance was provided to the County. Partially as an outgrowth of this guidance, standards for underwater archaeology in Maryland were drafted. Consistency of standards for underwater archaeology across the nation has been a recurring topic at the annual Government Maritime Managers Meeting at the Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) Conference as well as at the Advisory Council for Underwater Archaeology.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement for Mallows Bay was published in the Federal Register on July 8 for a 45-day Congressional and Gubernatorial review period. As these days are not necessarily consecutive, it was anticipated the review period would end on November 22. Due to additional days being required of Congress, it appears that the review period may end in late October. Therefore, NOAA is seeking to hold a formal reception at the Woodrow Wilson House on Thursday, November 7 and an on-site half-day event for community supporters at Mallows Bay on Saturday, November 9. Mallows has been receiving a lot of media attention with coverage by National Public Radio, two articles in *The Washington Post*, Al-Jazeera, Voice of America, and *Chesapeake Bay Magazine*. Tours were provided to some of these and two events were held for the Senate and House Appropriations Committee Majority and Minority Staff members as well as other Hill staff who joined in and Sen Cardin also came for one afternoon. On Saturday, September 14, the Maritime Committee of the Maryland Historical Society will tour.

In addition, Susan made presentations at the Chesapeake City Library about the War of 1812 and to Newlin Grist Mill about boat, tidal powered and fulling mills, as well as to the Maryland Veterans Museum at Patriot Park about colonial spinning wheels. She will be one of four panelists at the Blue Beacon Series at the National Aquarium Tuesday, September 17, addressing the preservation and exploration of cultural and natural sites through community-involvement. Susan and Nichole Doub provided oversight for dendrochronology undertaken on vessel remains displayed at Martinak State Park. The date obtained was soon after 1825 which supports the interpretation of the vessel as a very early version of a pungy or even a "pre-pungy." There are no pungies left on the Chesapeake, just the replica *Lady Maryland* so this vessel is important. In order to assist with its interpretation by the park, Nichole and Susan are developing a poster-sized display panel and a brochure-style handout for public distribution.

Susan and Lara Westwood went to the Calvert Marine Museum to examine books being discarded, including additional books from the now-dispersed library from the Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship.

Susan noted that the quarterly Area Contingency Planning Meeting had been cancelled by the Coast Guard, as it had been last September, due to their having to respond to hurricane damaged areas. Also, the annual Dive Safety Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 28.

Terrestrial Activities Report — Charlie Hall

Permits for Terrestrial Archeology

We have received and processed one applications for permit to conduct terrestrial archeology on State-owned lands since our last meeting in June.

Cumberland Sewage Overflow Susanne Trussell. SHA property is crossed several times by this linear project.

Maryland Archeology Month 2020

Preparation for the upcoming 2020 Archeology Month is beginning. Activities include:

- launching several surveys (Survey Monkey) – one for ASM members, one for chapter presidents and other institutional partners regarding products distributed
- soliciting theme concepts (Sponsoring institutions, MAM committee members, CfMA, MACA)
- calling kick-off meeting

Costs for 2019 MAM totaled \$3,641. Contributions totaled \$2,980. The deficit of \$661 was covered by the surplus donations fund (\$4,737 brought forward from past years). While this can continue for several years, it is ultimately unsustainable. Either more revenue or less outflow of cash (elimination of some products, reduction of distribution) needs to occur.

Cemetery Issues

Since the last MACA meeting we've provided advice to the Timothy Baptist Church in Baltimore City. Reportedly a Hebrew Cemetery was removed from an adjacent and now empty lot at some point in the past. The church, which owns the lot, is in the early stage of planning for development. We advised them that removals were rarely complete, and that they should treat the lot as an existing, albeit unmarked, cemetery, and provided them with advice that would place the cemetery at the center of their development planning.

Development of protocols is still underway for the implementation of the 2018 legislation that requires owners of burial sites that are 50 or more years old to consult with MHT regarding the proper treatment of markers, human remains, and the environment surrounding the site. Current work is focused on best practices for collecting and reporting ground penetrating radar investigations.

Volunteer Lab

Our Tuesday Volunteer Lab is entering its 16th year. Since its inception, this very successful and productive effort has been under the direction of Louise Akerson, retired Director of the Baltimore Center for Urban Archeology.

Grants

One FY2018 non-capital grant is still open: reporting the Biggs Ford (18FR14)

investigations, beginning with Tyler Bastian's 1969-1970 rescue work through the three field sessions in 2013, 2014, and 2015. Most of the contributors have submitted drafts. Two FY2019 grants are still open: the 2018 field session reporting, and remote sensing at the John Wesley Church in Oxford. The final report of the 2018 field session has recently been submitted.

Two CLG grant funded archeological projects have recently been reported. The Mill Pond House in Frederick, and remote sensing at Port Tobacco.

Biggs Ford site

Cataloging of the 1969-1970 Tyler Bastian collection continues.

MAC Lab Activities Report — Patricia Samford

Public Archaeology – The 2019 Public Archaeology Program concluded on June 29 and during the 2019 season, we had 67 participants spend 512.5 hours with us.

Tricia and Becky participated in the transfer of two sets of human remains from the Smith Price family cemetery. These 19th-century remains are from the family cemetery of the founder of the Asbury United Methodist Church in Annapolis and the remains were transferred to the church for study and reburial. Tricia and Becky attended the service held in Annapolis to welcome the two individuals home.

Becky Morehouse, Alice Merkel and Patricia Samford held a CAT training workshop at the MAC Lab in late August for nine participants. Sessions were held on basic lab procedures and on post-colonial ceramics.

The annual MAC Lab workshop is being held on October 3-4 and it is filled with 20 participants. Sessions will be held on colonial tobacco pipes, conservation, artifact illustration and 19th-century ceramics.

Sara and Tricia are continuing to work on a project that will completely reformat the Diagnostic Artifacts website to make it mobile-accessible and easier to search.

Rebecca Webster was awarded the 2019 King Research Fellowship and plans to study artifacts from Chicone I, in particular pottery, to look for evidence of cultural disruptions as a result of British colonization.

BCUA still on hold.

The MAC Lab received a 30-box collection from the Phase I-III at the Brumbaugh-Kendle-Grove farmstead site, which is owned from the Hagerstown Regional Airport. Data recovery was required when attempts to find an adaptive reuse for the property failed. This project identified structural foundations, cisterns, a privy, pathways, postholes, and landscape features dating from the mid-18th century to the modern day. A few of the interesting finds include a George Washington inauguration medal button, a cufflink with a masonic motif, as well as several local slipware vessels that can be traced to potters who worked in and around Hagerstown.

The conservation lab is currently treating a Revolutionary War musket owned by the NPS and found in the privy of a Quaker in Philadelphia. They are also treating an axle from an early 20th-century automobile from Deadwood, SD.

The conservation lab staff completed its Skiffe's Creek conservation assessment in Virginia in August and is now preparing the final report on their findings. This assessment involved collections from 50 17th- and 18th-century sites in the Williamsburg, Jamestown, Yorktown area. The funding for this project came from Dominion Power as part of the mitigation for a gas line being constructed across this area.

Francis Lukezic was awarded Professional Associate Member status within the American Institute for Conservation.

Patricia Samford and Julie King co-authored an article entitled "Making Archaeological Collections Available for Research: Recommendations for Repositories" In Society for American Archaeology's *Advances in Archaeological Practice*.

Our hiring of a contractual employee to provide archaeological monitoring of ground disturbance during the Patterson House renovation is proceeding and we hope to have someone in place by February.

Preparing for move – capital expansion plan

Sara Rivers Cofield was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Conservation Fund (in connection with the previously-mentioned Skiffe's Creek project) to study equestrian artifacts from collections in Virginia and Maryland. The results of this research will be used to create new sections of the Diagnostic Artifacts in Maryland page, as well as a book publication.

Sara worked with Kerry Gonzalez on Society for Historical Archaeology Collections and Curation Committee business, getting a survey of fees charged by repositories nationwide ready for posting to the SHA website. The project includes an interactive GIS map of archaeological repositories.

Sara and Kerry Gonzalez will be teaching a workshop on x-radiography at Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology meetings in Lake George, New York.

Review and Compliance Activities Report — Beth Cole and Dixie Henry

- The Review and Compliance Unit continues to handle a large volume of reviews, including review of individual projects and Phase I and II archeological reports – particularly for proposed new solar energy and transportation projects. They participated in numerous project specific meetings/site visits as well as targeted outreach efforts to improve agency/program coordination. Beth and Dixie regularly participate in monthly interagency meetings with MDE, COE, MDOT SHA to address cultural resources issues for a wide range of projects.

- Beth participated via Webinex in 2 days of FHWA's 2019 Northeast Regional Tribal Nation Summit, on August 27 and 28, which included participation from federally recognized tribes, state transportation agencies, FHWA regional and HQ offices, FHWA's Eastern federal lands, and SHPOs from PA, MD, NY, NJ, DE. Agenda topics included: conversations on consultation; Section 106 tribal consultation refresher – roles, responsibilities, and processes; review of current practices in the regional offices; FHWA's Tribal Transportation program; consultation today – what is working and what can be improved; and panel discussion on case studies of treatment options.
- Beth and Troy prepared a draft Request for Proposals for Phase I Terrestrial and Underwater Archeological Survey of the Pirates Wharf development for Wicomico County Recreation and Parks and they have had follow up conference calls with the County regarding the needed archeological investigations. The County is receiving federal Land and Water Conservation Funds through DNR for their master planning and park development actions and the Phase I survey is a necessary step to fulfill compliance with Section 106. MHT's technical assistance will help the County procure the archeological services they need for this project.
- Beth attended NPS's 2-day *Section 106 Training* on July 17-18, 2019 at the National Training Center in Shepherdstown, WV. On day one, she gave a presentation on *Working with MHT/MD SHPO*. The training was attended by approximately 40+ individuals from NPS parks and regional offices in the Northeast and National Capital Regions, including participation from six Maryland parks: Catoctin Mountain Park, Monocacy National Battlefield, Harpers Ferry/Maryland Heights, Appalachian Trail, and the George Washington Parkway. The training provided useful opportunities for shared learning and networking among park, region office, and SHPO staff.
- Beth participated in kick-off discussions with Greg Brown and MDP IT staff regarding development of an E106 electronic submittal and response process for MHT's Compliance program. This is a long- term program goal for improved efficiencies and customer service.
- Dixie gave a presentation on *Working with MHT/MD SHPO* at DNR's Power Plant Research Advisory Committee meeting on June 12, 2019 – attended by approximately 65 individuals representing state agencies, the energy industry, consultants, and interested organizations; and attended the day-long meeting of presentations and networking. The presentation highlighted MHT's role in reviewing energy projects licensed by the Maryland Public Service Commission for their effects on historic and archeological resources.
- A Memorandum of Agreement has been signed with the Corps for the Mill Branch Crossing project in Prince George's County. Data recovery work should begin soon at site 18PR857 – an 18th century plantation site that will be destroyed by future commercial development.

- Dixie is in the process of working with Corps of Engineers regulatory staff to schedule the next Corps/MHT Review and Compliance unit coordination meeting. These coordination meetings are valuable opportunities for the Corps and MHT to discuss our coordination processes, projects that are currently under review that have the potential to impact historic properties, and ongoing mitigation work across the state.

Research and Synthesis Project — Matthew McKnight

Chief Archeologist's Report and ORSR Report

A significant amount of work went into the *Archaeology of Colonial Maryland* book. We completed the design work with TodayMedia around mid-August and then everything went to the printers (Jostens, Inc.), who sent back proofs and paper/fabric/foil samples. We made our selections and sent the final print order on August 29th. Delivery of 500 hard-bound and 1500 paperback copies is expected around mid-October.

Another product from the Synthesis Database is an overview report that I have been working with Greg Brown, Jen Chadwick-Moore, and Mary Kate Mansius on. It is an analysis of what is in the database (what types of sites have been examined at the Phase II/III level) by county, physiographic province, MARU unit, and watershed.

On the NonCap front, we still have one FY18 NonCap outstanding. The 1634 Fort Project that HSMC has been working on is largely complete. I've reviewed the final draft of Tim Horsley's geophysical report and provided comments to HSMC and they have been working as part of their summer field school to ground truth some of the anomalies identified by Tim. Travis Parno will be providing an executive summary incorporating Tim's overall findings with the ground-truthing from this summer and submitting that as the final product soon. FY19 NonCaps that I manage include the expanded survey at Sotterley, Jug Bay survey, and Fishing Bay Survey, all of which are on schedule. And we just recently passed the deadline for the FY2020 Noncap applications. We received a total of 29 applications (\$968,887.64), nine of which are for archeological projects (\$350,148). We have \$300,000 to award so this looks to be a pretty competitive year.

Just before the end of the fiscal year we got word of some excess funds that were available, and we put in a successful request for a GPR system. I worked with Betty Hobgood to get multiple bids and obtain comparative information from three manufacturers, and we ultimately put together a purchase order to obtain a GSSI UtilityScan GPR with an added rugged-terrain field cart. The system comes with two years of free training and so Charlie Troy and I will be headed to Nashua, NH in November to take their basic training course.

The week of July 8th-12th, myself, Charlie, Dixie, and our summer intern Steph Soder carried out both MagSusc survey and Gradiometer work at what we believe may be the location of Barwick's Ordinary near Denton. This was a mid-late 18th century ordinary, wharf, and

warehouse complex that served as the first county seat for Caroline. We identified a roughly 30 X 64 ft cluster of anomalies extending to the northeast from an area where the property owner had disturbed a brick foundation and encountered 18th century artifacts while digging with a backhoe. There is a second cluster of anomalies even further northeast.

Last week I carried out gradiometer survey at Calverton within 30 m of the shoreline at Battle Creek. The goal being to help identify the features and resources that are most at threat from future weather events and erosion. I haven't completed interpretation of that data yet.

Other site visits that I was involved in with our intern Steph before she left us in mid-August were a trip to Pindell Bluffs in Anne Arundel County, a trip to a mill site on the Bush River in Harford County, a trip to an eroded away shell midden site in Dorchester County, and a trip to Ellicott City where the remains of a likely mill dam have been exposed in the Tiber Branch.

I also coordinated MHT archeology's efforts towards completing a supplement to our flood guidance document.

We have a job posting out there right now to fill my former position. Applications for our Research Archaeologist position are due by Friday, September 13th. We have an interview panel ready and I need to send interview questions up this week to DBM, but that is moving along.

I continued to coordinate with Charlie, Becky, and Tricia on several human remains issues (most notably the Smith-Price burials and also the Deep Creek Cemetery remains which came to MACA). We are still in the process of drafting some changes to our regs that will make them less specific to the Native American situation.

And finally, Troy, Susan, and I have been collaborating on a project to try and find a permanent (and dry) home for the research vessels and field equipment. Our current facility is dangerous and inadequate, and we need a permanent solution, so we have been working with Elizabeth to check into the possibility of acquiring a small part of the Crownsville Medical Center campus on which we could erect a steel building for storage.

Easement Terminations Report — Matt McKnight

At the last MACA meeting the issue of the easement terminations came up and it was clear that MACA had some concerns about that process. Jane sent a letter on the Council's behalf to Elizabeth and the MHT Board noting these concerns back in June. Based on that, as well as the criteria that the board set forth for consideration of termination, we've come up with a way to perform a "desk audit" on a subset of the easement properties. The properties under consideration fall into three categories of easement: 1) Those acquired through Federal Grant programs, 2) Those taken when capital loans were awarded, and 3) Those acquired through bond bills. Those acquired through Federal grants will only be terminated or converted to term easements if they are not individually listed or individually eligible. However, none of this particular class of easement have archeological protections in place currently. So, those 9 easements will not be a part of the desk audit. Those acquired through capital loans are all being converted to term easements regardless of their NR eligibility according to the criteria set forth

by the board. Those 36 properties will not be a part of the desk audit. The final group of some 42 bond bill properties will be audited. Our plan is to assess prehistoric potential based primarily on GIS data including factors such as proximity to water and confluences, slope, soils data, and proximity to other known resources. On the historic side we will be looking primarily at the contexts present (whether a site type is underrepresented, likelihood that it has research value, and the likelihood of integrity based on development surrounding the location). Site types we are considering to be underrepresented contexts include: sites associated with slavery, colonial sites, pre-19th century industrial or unique industrial, battle-related, sites with unique ethnic or gender associations, contact sites, WPA/CCC sites, sites associated with prominent individuals in Maryland History, internment camps, itinerate labor camps, and prohibition-related sites. A list will be prepared of recommendations for MACA to consider, which we hope can provide some guidance to Elizabeth and the Board before they have to consider terminations of these easements.

Other Business

Selection of next meeting date — *Wednesday, December 4, 2019* at 1:00 PM in the MHT Executive conference room.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m., in a motion made by Don Housley and second by Jane Cox; the motion was unanimously approved.