



Maryland Department of Planning  
Maryland Historical Trust

Sustainable \_\_\_\_\_ Attainable

MARYLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ARCHAEOLOGY  
(MACA)  
September 10, 2014

Committee Members in Attendance

Joy Beasley  
Jane Cox  
Marion Creveling  
Joe Dent  
Bill Dudley  
Tom Forhan  
Bob Wall

Staff in Attendance

Beth Cole  
Dennis Curry  
Charlie Hall  
Dixie Henry  
Troy Nowak  
Tricia Samford

The Meeting was called to order at 9:40 a. m... by Chairperson Cox

Review of the minutes of June 11, 2014

The minutes were reviewed and approved in a motion made by Tom Forhan and seconded by Bob Wall. The vote was carried unanimously.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Underwater Activities report – T. Nowak

The National Register nomination for Mallows Bay will be considered by the State Review Board in October. Troy is working with the folks at the National Marine Sanctuary on an NAS training

Larry Hogan, Governor  
Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor

David Craig, Secretary

program which will be used at MHT as an educational program as a framework for outreach activities in the future. They have a set basic course material in nautical archeology from which we develop our own regionally based courses, activities and events, giving us a more robust program. The agreement with NAS begins in 2015 and lasts until 2020. We are hoping to work with the Monitor sanctuary and at the Coastal Studies Institute of North Carolina who are also doing similar things. Work in the Wicomico River went on in June and July, completing a magnetometer survey between Hadden and Charleston Creeks. Julie King has been doing terrestrial surveys on 17<sup>th</sup> century sites in the area. Troy will be returning in October to continue the work. He is also planning field work related to Super Storm Sandy, Park Service Plan. That work will be in cooperation with the Dept. of Natural Resources, developing shoreline stabilization and restoration plan in the Janes Island/Crisfield area. The Maritime program is working with the Office of Research, Survey and Registration (ORSR) surveying shoreline sites. There will be two weeks of maritime work and two weeks of terrestrial work. We still haven't nailed down the project area that DNR is looking at.

#### Terrestrial Activities report – C. Hall

The last time we met we had just finished the Hampstead Hill work in Baltimore City, which we did with Baltimore Heritage and the Archeological Society of Maryland. Our Tuesday Lab volunteers just recently completed the lab work for that project. The next project for the volunteers is Heater's Island. We were asked to meet with a Japanese Delegation, who is a part of an Ainu Working group. Ainu are an indigenous people of Japan, occupying parts of northern islands, whose ancient sites were the subject of an archeological investigation by Hokkaido University, principally in the 1930s. The remains of more than 1,600 Ainu were recovered. A recent legislative move in Japan has dictated their repatriation and created the Working Group to figure out how to accomplish this. Some of the issues being considered include location and type of interment, study, individual and group rights, and authority for decision making: in short, many of the kinds of considerations our Working Group on Native American Human remains dealt with. Charlie pulled together some folks from our Working Group and a meeting with the group from Japan was held at the Central Maryland Place of Repose. All in attendance felt positive about the interaction. Joel Dunn, the Executive Director of the Chesapeake Conservancy, contacted us about an exhibit of some of the Bald Friar stones, which are in our custody. Together with representatives of the Department of Natural Resources and staff from the MAC Lab, a meeting was held at Susquehanna State Park to consider this as a potential location for the planned exhibit. A group of Haudenosaunee (Iroquois), along with members of the Chesapeake Conservancy will be taking a canoe trip down the Susquehanna River, and will be stopping at Susquehanna State Park. They will offer their thought regarding this location for an exhibit of these stones. Currently, we are working with the DNR to loan a small group of the Bald Friar stones for a temporary exhibit at either the Miller's house or the mill, until a larger and more lasting exhibit can be created in the carriage house following its planned restoration. The Mount Claire archeological collection has been housed in a Baltimore city high school, which closed for good in June. Representatives of the Baltimore Dept. of Recreation and Parks and CHAP went to look at the school facility to decide what to do with the collection shortly after the school's closing and discovered the collection already gone. It was determined that the Carroll Park Foundation had moved the collection to an EZS storage facility off of Pimlico Rd.

in north in Baltimore City. Since the City owns the collection and MHT has an easement on it, the City is now moving to seize the collection and review the contract they have with the Carroll Park Foundation. The City's plan is to house it at the Reginald Lewis Museum. Charlie feels that the collection should be placed in a repository that meets standards and access. The NAGPRA inventory update is continuing and Charlie anticipates sending it out to the Federally Recognized Tribes in Maryland that are potentially interested. Charlie sent the final report on NAGPRA Consultation grant concluding that grant. Charlie will be calling the Maryland Archeology Month committee for a kick off meeting soon. Any thoughts on the theme would be appreciated. The Board of Directors donated \$5000.00 to support the Field Session.

#### MAC Lab Activities report – P. Samford

Gloria S. King Research Fellowship - The final week of 2014 funding has been granted to Valerie Hall for study of gender and prehistoric ceramics. She is coming later this month or in early October. We will continue the fellowship next year.

Diagnostic Artifacts in Maryland Webpage – It has been a slow time for additions and updates to the DAM website over the summer. Plans are underway to expand some of the colonial ceramic pages with additional dating and identification information and photographs. Tricia is also working on a Small Finds page about bone handled toothbrushes.

Collections Database Transportation Enhancement Grant – It looks like, after a year of waiting, the Memorandum of Understanding between State Highways and MHT is about to be signed. The goal of this project is to create a database of datable and analyzable contexts within the archaeological collections curated at the lab. I will be meeting with Greg Brown later today to tweak the structure of the database that will be used in this project. Funding will be used to hire two people to populate the database and it will be a feature that will be compatible with the Archeological Synthesis project.

Public Archaeology/ RITES Trail project – Eleventh season of public archaeology at the Smith St. Leonard site. We are still locating and ground truthing the many features shown through remote sensing at the site by Tim Horsely.

Public and Professional Outreach Grant - In the late 2000s, the Museum Assistance program at the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) and the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab (MAC Lab) as the state curation facility for archaeological collections began a project to return archaeological artifacts (as temporary exhibits) back to the counties of their origin. A Preserve America grant funded a pilot project that placed exhibits in two counties--St. Mary's and Washington—at venues open to the public at no cost. In the next phase of the project, we want to continue to explore the linkages between Lab and the counties through a *Museums for America* grant with the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Proposal due December 1, 2014. We are partnering with community colleges with Anthropology and History departments and local Archeological Society of Maryland (ASM) chapters in 5 counties. Our proposed counties for this next phase of the project are St. Mary's, Charles and Calvert (College of Southern Maryland), Howard County (Howard County Community College) and

Montgomery County (Montgomery College). Each of these counties has an active amateur archaeological society chapter. Our current ideas about the proposed project include acquisition of a vehicle that would be used as a mobile "museum" to transport exhibits and educational materials to the counties. We envision three types of outreach: 1) Outreach to the general public through local events like county fairs, arts festivals, heritage days, book fairs, wine festivals, etc. At these events, displays of local artifacts from the MAC Lab collections, an "Artifact Roadshow" (identification of artifacts for the public), as well as age or topic appropriate activities for families; 2) Outreach to students/classrooms through providing training programs or assistance to college classes, for example, on topics such as artifact processing, lifting of fragile objects from archaeological sites, artifact identification, etc.; and 3) Outreach to archaeological and museum professionals through training programs or assistance to Archeological Society of Maryland chapters.

Collections – George Miller, who has done a lot of work with British ceramics of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, donated a collection (about three to four coroplast boxes) of English ceramics he collected from Staffordshire waster pits that had been disturbed by road construction in the 1980s. This collection, some of which can be traced to specific potters, was used extensively in his research and publications over the intervening years. Tricia is going through this collection now and pulling ceramics for photography for the Diagnostic Artifacts in Maryland website.

Accokeek Creek Site - In the 1930s, Alice Ferguson excavated at Accokeek Creek site in Prince Georges County – village and a number of ossuaries. In the 1950s the collections were taken to University of Michigan by Robert Stephenson and have remained there ever since. Tricia visited collections in August and met with curator Robin Beck about returning the collection to Maryland. There are 18 drawers of artifacts in the Museum of Natural History at the University of Michigan – about 12 to 15 boxes. In the NAGPRA collection held at the Police station across campus, there is a small Riker mount filled with mostly metal objects (Figure 16 in Dennis Feast of Dead book), as well as one box containing the remains of three individuals. There are 4 file cabinet drawers with field notes, drawings, photographic negatives and various drafts of Ferguson's report and Stephenson's report.

Conservation – The National Park Service site, Fort Jefferson in Florida, has sent the Dr. Samuel Mudd tea set to the lab for conservation. The family tea set was gifted by Mudd to the jailer's wife after she nursed him through a lengthy illness.

Review and Compliance Activities report – B. Cole, D. Henry

We've been working on a project with Maryland Transit Administration, doing a study for a MARC maintenance facility in Cecil County on a 90 acre farm parcel. MTA completed Phase I and II investigations and identified a National Register eligible archeological site (18<sup>th</sup> century) associated with the extant historic farmstead. The project will likely go to Phase III, as there is not a lot of room for avoidance alternatives. We are hoping to get good data recovery out of it. We continue to work with SHA and the Park Service for the proposed bridge replacement that goes through the Monocacy Battlefield. SHA has completed their Phase I and there are at least two sites that will need additional testing - a prehistoric site and a newly identified historic site from the turn of the century. SHA acquired an ossuary site as part of the Maryland 328 project

over the Tuckahoe and as a result of a court order; they had to acquire the rest of the 30 acre property. SHA had discovered that the rest of the property has become the site of a lot of ATV activity, so they are really concerned about vandalism and erosion to the site. They are looking to fence two sides of the property. The Trust has announced that nominations are out for the annual preservation awards and you are encouraged nominate some good archeology projects.

The Corps of Engineers has asked the Trust to review and comment on SHA's Umbrella Mitigation Banking Instrument (UMBI), which is a document established to streamline the process for selecting the wetland mitigation sites, that SHA can use for their large projects. As a result, the Corps has required SHA to incorporate cultural resources into the site selection process as one of the criteria. The development of this document is important because it is serving as a model for other agencies that are developing their own UMBI's. Friendship Farm Park, in Charles County, wants to build a visitor's center where the three known ossuaries are located. Tim Horsley did a remote sensing survey and he did identify eight to nine additional anomalies, which are likely ossuaries. As yet, the county hasn't made any decisions as to what to do, but certainly our recommendation will be that the visitor center is not placed in that area,

#### Research and Synthesis Project report – D. Curry

Matt is busy catching up on the reports that have come in since the project has started. He has only central Maryland to complete. IT is working on our on-line Synthesis database to get it user friendly for our customers. The Pig Point grant MOU has gone to Baltimore and the project will get underway in a month or so. Anne Arundel County will be receiving a Hurricane Sandy grant to look at sites subject to erosion. On the Zekiah Fort Heritage Trail project, funded by the Legislature, the group is busy analyzing and writing up the results of the properties they looked at. There will be a meeting with Becky Moorehouse and the volunteers to figure out what has to be done to bring the collection to State standards. The Trust has been worried about the publication fund, so the Hughes Report is being readied for publication. The Eastern States Archeological Federation annual meeting, sponsored by ASM, will be held in Solomons, Maryland. Our Archeology office is participating heavily, with Dennis giving a paper on Heaters Island and also serving in a discussion group on Pig Point. Matt will be giving a poster session on the Synthesis Project, which will include a live demo and Charlie will be talking about the Bald Friar petroglyphs. Dennis announced that Greg Brown will be introduced to the Committee at the December meeting and a demonstration of the digital library and what is going to be available to the public. Charlie pushed through the access policy for archeologists and people who have been requesting access to the online digital library and it has been going pretty well.

The question was asked if there was any update on the Brooklyn project (the Maryland 400). The owner of the property has said no to the State's request.

The question was asked of Dennis about the move of DHCD and what is to become of the building. ASM is concerned about things that are stored here. We have no answers at this time.

VDHR (Virginia Dept. of Historic Resources) is going to be requiring licensing to access their inventory and Joy wanted an opinion from the Committee. The National Park Service funds the

research and documentation that populates their databases. Dennis and Charlie informed her that the Trust is beginning to charge for remote access to the archeology information on file.

Marian announced that there is a CMA meeting on Friday, October 3, 2014, held at Johns Hopkins University. They will be taking a tour of their archeology collection.

#### SELECTION OF NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 10, 2014, at 9:30 a.m.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m., in a motion made by Joe Dent and seconded by Jane Cox. The motion was carried unanimously.

MAC Lab Activities Report  
Patricia Samford – December 2014

Gloria S. King Research Fellowship - Funding for 2014 has been fully expended and announcements have gone out for the 2015 fellowship.

Diagnostic Artifacts in Maryland Webpage - Sara Rivers Cofield completed a new Small Finds section on stirrups, which was added last month.

Collections Database Transportation Enhancement Grant - The goal of this project is to create a database of datable and analyzable contexts within the archaeological collections curated at the lab. The Memorandum of Understanding between State Highways and MHT was signed in late November and we are now seeking permission to hire two people to populate the database. The database structure has been set up and we are in a pilot testing phase.

Public Archaeology/ RITES Trail project - We are winding down this year's field season at Smith's St. Leonard. Our work this fall focused on exposing the remains of a couple of buildings first detected by Tim Horsley's GPR, excavating a few postholes (including a couple where the post had been dug up and removed in the 18th c.), and testing a portion of a cellar that had been filled with destruction debris and capped with a thick layer of clay. The debris included a large quantity of plaster, so we have a mystery outbuilding that had plastered walls.

Public and Professional Outreach Grant - A *Museums for America* grant with the Institute of Museum and Library Services was submitted in late November. If funded, this project will create a mobile "museum" to transport exhibits and educational materials throughout the state for outreach to the general public through local events like county fairs, arts festivals, heritage days, book fairs, wine festivals, etc. The van will also perform outreach to students/classrooms by providing training programs or assistance to community college classes, and outreach to archaeological and museum professionals through training programs or assistance to Archeological Society of Maryland chapters. We are partnering with community colleges with Anthropology and History departments and local Archeological Society of Maryland (ASM) chapters in St. Mary's, Charles, Calvert, Howard and Montgomery Counties.

TDAR Grant - The Department of Defense (DoD) needs efficient access to data from past archaeological investigations at its installations and it needs proper preservation, migration, and corruption checks for archaeological records that exist in digital form. MAC Lab Federal curator, Sara Rivers Cofield worked with Ft. Lee's Regional Archaeological Curation Facility (RACF) to partner on a Defense Legacy project to address this need by evaluating tDAR (the Digital Archaeological Record) as a potential

DoD partner. With funding from Defense Legacy, digital files from archaeological projects at 23 DoD installations in Maryland and Virginia have been uploaded to tDAR, which is accessible through the tDAR website via the internet. The study found that tDAR is able to ensure long-term preservation and accessibility of digital archaeological records while maintaining security by enabling DoD CRM officials to control and limit access to sensitive files. TDAR is therefore recommended as a digital repository for the DoD, and protocols and recommendations for implementation are included in the project report. These policies may be modified to update State guidelines for generating and submitting digital archives for long-term curation.