

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

Committee Members in Attendance

Joy Beasley
Marian Creveling
Jane Cox
Tom Forhan

Staff in Attendance

Greg Brown
Jen Chadwick Moore
Beth Cole
Dennis Curry
Jan Gowing
Charlie Hall
Dixie Henry
Susan Langley
Patricia Samford

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

Review of the minutes of September 10, 2014

The minutes were reviewed, corrected (Marian Creveling's name misspelled) and accepted in a motion made by Jane Cox and seconded by Marian Creveling. The vote was carried unanimously.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Introduction of Greg Brown and Demonstration of On-Line Databases – Dennis Curry

Dennis introduced Gregory Brown, MHT's new Cultural Resource Information Manager. The demonstration of the new On-line Databases was presented by Jen Chadwick Moore, who also aide

in creating and updating MHT's database. There will be regulations and a small fee for research in the archeology section of the database. Underwater Archaeology – Susan Langley

The big news is that we anticipate hearing from NOAA within a week that Mallows' Bay is accepted into its Inventory of sites to be considered for National Marine Sanctuary status. If it is established as a Sanctuary it will be the first new Sanctuary in more than 20 years. The process is lengthy and can take from 3-5 years. The steering committee was very keen to have it accepted this year as the rest of the world kicks off its commemoration of WWI and it may be that Mallows Bay reaches Sanctuary status in 2019 in time to be part of America's commemoration of its entry into WWI.

The Annual Dive Safety Board Meeting was held in November so we are in compliance with that requirement. There were no significant issues under consideration.

Troy undertook the training to become a Nautical Archaeology Society Instructor. This organization is based in the U.K. but is the volunteer training organization sanctioned by NPS and NOAA. As it has several levels of training we will be able to offer opportunities beyond introductory level courses to our volunteers. Regions must be licensed through NAS to maintain quality and density controls. MHT is the licensee for Maryland; there are training centers in VA (NOAA at Newport News) and North Carolina (Coastal Studies Institute). While some materials are regulated, instructors are permitted to development regionally relevant materials. Troy is working on developing materials now and hopes to offer the first course in 2015.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has taken over an idea Susan was trying to implement at Assateague national Seashore, to tag pieces of wreck found on the beaches to try to track their movements over time. North Carolina has had such a program for about 30 years and has been successful. USFWS at Chincoteague has been paying an ungraduated intern to undertake this for that Refuge and he is tying it into NC and also a similar but smaller scale program in VA and working to development a consistent and comprehensive program for the coast. He is doing a great job; facilitated by the advent of smartphones that permit scanning QR codes on the tags and being able to complete forms, including longitude and latitude from free programs like Google Earth, take photographs and submit the information online from the beach, volunteers, Scout groups, classes and the general public have been involved so far in this crowdsourced program. Susan is encouraging him to present his findings at the Washington DC SHA conference in 2016.

MMAAP staff members continue to be involved with DHS/U.S. Coast Guard in contingency planning for oil spills and hazmats as they affect submerged cultural resources, in the Maryland and Potomac Area Planning Committee (formerly the Upper Chesapeake Bay Estuary Area Committee). In addition to contingency planning for oil spills and hazmats, training, and exercises, staff members are involved in planning for natural disasters too through Sandy funds from NPS for coastal resiliency studies and State planning for flooding, hurricanes and other natural disasters. New MHT staff member Jennifer Sparenberg has been hired to administer Sandy recovery grants and also has disaster response training.

The fall recovery of the mooring buoy from the U-1105 Historic Shipwreck Preserve has been successfully completed by volunteers from the Institute for Maritime History. In addition to anticipated annual repairs, it is again time to replace the chain on the buoy.

Troy and Susan with the new Officer in charge at St. Inigoes, USCG to acquaint us with the submerged cultural resources within his jurisdiction. His predecessor aided in updating the safety protocol for diving the U0-1105 and as the Coast Guard would likely be the first emergency responders on site for a diving accident he needed to be aware of the site and the protocols and given the opportunity to participate in future planning, and he concurred.

Otherwise MMAP staff are completing analysis and reporting for the Wicomico fieldwork, 106 compliance duties, education and outreach via lectures, workshops and general meetings and conference call.

Terrestrial Archeology Report – Charlie Hall

The Maryland Archeology Month Committee has selected “Out of the Ordinary: Tavern Archeology in Maryland” as the theme for 2015. The Committee hopes to convey the pervasive influence taverns had on many aspects of colonial and early American society, from domestic to political, and how all segments of society were present in taverns. The sub-committee will meet again on Tuesday at St. Mary’s City to discuss the theme statement and graphic concepts for the poster, and begin to compile a list of potential authors for the booklet essays.

Planning for Field Session 2015 is ongoing. Sites considered include the Smith St. Leonard Site (JPPM, Calvert County, Ed Chaney), the Dorr site (Anne Arundel County, Al Luckenbach), and Nottingham (Prince George’s County, Don Creveling). Potential partners have been approached, and Al Luckenbach and Don Creveling expressed interest. The ASM Board has informed us that their first choice would be to return to the Biggs Ford site. Joe Dent has expressed an interest in returning as well; he would like to define a domestic structure. Bob Wall has been approached about returning with his Towson Field School. Earlier this month Mrs. Crum, the property owner, agreed to welcome the Field Session back to her field (her husband died earlier this Fall). Assuming that all logistical issues can be surmounted, we anticipate a three-peat at Biggs Ford this Spring.

The updated NAGPRA inventory is nearly completed, and will be sent to a list of tribes who might have an interest in Maryland (note that we have determined that there are no culturally affiliated tribes, there are no Indian Lands in Maryland, and no recognized tribe has aboriginal territory here).

The City of Baltimore has invoked the termination clause of their contract with the Carroll Park Foundation. This contract, executed in 1991, gave the Carroll Park Foundation exclusive rights to the archeology of the area surrounding Mount Clare, and possession and control over the entire archeological collection. Due to the City’s perception that access to the collection had been badly managed, and due to the current unsatisfactory conditions under which the collection is being curated (at an EZStorage facility on Old Pimlico Rd in Baltimore County), the contract will terminate on December 29th. On that date the City will take possession of the collection.

MHT staff will be present to ensure that the integrity of the collection is intact at the time of the transfer, that the move does not affect its integrity, and that the new location meets minimum standards.

MAC Lab Report – Patricia Samford

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.

Review and Compliance Activities report – Beth Cole and Dixie Henry

Beth reported that the Navy has turned in reports on their Section 110 (Phase II work) in Southern Maryland, which is filling in a large data gap. There were five Phase IIs done around Pierson's Creek and of the five, three of them are eligible for the National Register.

Dixie reported that the Annual Section 106 presentation was given to the Comptrollers Annual Workshop for Bond Bill recipients. There were over 100 attendees. They were invited to present it at the Maryland/DC Utilities Association Environmental Conference who needs to know what archeological surveys entail. Near the end of October they met with the Corps of Engineers to improve on coordination. There was a meeting with two regulatory chiefs and their 106 staff on how to encourage people requesting pre-app reviews. They discussed how to do the reviews appropriately, what recommendations should be made before a permit area has been established by the Corps, how to better track the stipulations in the MOA agreement and the proper response to the process. MHT and the Corps have agreed to have quarterly meetings to discuss 106 projects.

Synthesis Project report – Dennis Curry

Matt has been working to catch up with the reports that have come in since the project started. He is also working closely with Greg Brown to get the database ready to move into Oracle. Dennis submitted a lengthy review of Mid Atlantic ossuaries to *Archaeology of Eastern North America* and it was accepted for publication. The Eastern States Archeological Federation annual meeting was held in Maryland and Charlie gave a paper on the Bald Friar Petroglyphs and Matt did a poster session about the Synthesis and had live demonstrations. Art Spiess, the archeologist from the Maine SHPO was so impressed that he contacted Matt for information on setting one up for their office. Dennis gave a paper on Heaters Island and served in the discussion group on Pig Point. With money provided to the Trust by the legislature. St. Mary's College of Maryland was able to investigate, test and prepare reports along the Zekiah Heritage Trail, focusing on Zekiah Fort, St. Mary's Church in Piscataway and Choptico. It appears that they have identified the location of the Choptico Indian town, which dates 1660 to 1690. The MOU has finally been executed for the Pig Point and related sights project. Dennis reported on our presence in the building, still not knowing if we stay or go. Dennis announced Rodney Little's retirement and the fact that he will be irreplaceable as far as interest and support to archeology.

New Business

Joy brought up the energy efficiency improvement service offered by the National Park Service for parks in Maryland and asked compliance if they had any dealings with it.

Jane asked about the Archeological Access Policy and whether it will allow for students on the Masters level of study to gain access without a Master's degree, or with a sponsor from another country, while studying abroad. She also asked about professionals who haven't had the

opportunity to get a Master's degree. A student's sponsor/advisor needs to apply for permission to use the database. Proxy access is only on site. The professionals are reviewed on a case by case basis.

Date of the next meeting

Wednesday, March 4, 2015

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned in a motion made by Marian Creveling and seconded by Tom Forhan. The vote was carried unanimously.