



Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor

David R. Craig, Secretary
Wendi W. Peters, Deputy Secretary

MARYLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ARCHEOLOGY
(MACA)

June 8, 2016

Committee Members in Attendance

Joy Beasley
Jane Cox
Tom Forhan
Bruce Terrell

Staff in Attendance

Beth Cole
Dennis Curry
Charlie Hall
Dixie Henry
Elizabeth Hughes
Patricia Samford (by phone)

The meeting was called to order at 9:41 a.m.

Review of the minutes of March 2, 2016

The minutes were reviewed and accepted in a motion made by Joy Beasley and seconded by Tom Forhan; the motion was passed unanimously

BUSINESS ITEMS

Joint Chairmen's Report on Historic Preservation Grants — Elizabeth Hughes

MHT Director Elizabeth Hughes reported that *The Report on the Fiscal 2017 State Operating Budget (SB190) and the State Capital Budget (SB 191) and Related Recommendations by the Chairmen of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and House Appropriations Committee* (otherwise known as the Joint Chairmen's Report, or JCR) included language requiring the development of a report that will address Preservation, Survey, and Museum Operating Funding needs. The specific language of the report is as follows:

Preservation, Survey, and Museum Operating Funding Needs: The committees are concerned that MHT no longer provides non-capital and capital grant funding for the work done by the Historic Preservation Grant Program, and the Museum Assistance Program. Therefore, the committees request that MDP work with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and preservation advocates to identify the need and demand for preservation, survey, and museum (operating and capital) grant funding and future plans to address these statewide needs in a report to be submitted by September 1, 2016. For the report, MDP and DBM should also comment on potential innovative funding options available, the experience of nearby states, and the staff capacity necessary to administer these programs.

Trust staff have begun working on this report in partnership with Preservation Maryland and other statewide preservation and museum organizations. Staff have reached out to the Archeological Society of Maryland and the Council for Maryland Archeology for input. Comments from the Advisory Committee on need, demand and innovative funding options would be welcome.

Underwater Activities Report — Susan Langley and Troy Nowak

The Maryland Maritime Archeology Program's 2016 Board of Public Works submission was approved on March 9. It included continuation of the field work at Janes Island and diving inspections of sunken vessels identified during recent hydrographic surveys conducted by NOAA in the northern Chesapeake, and diverse activities including ongoing maintenance of the U-1105, educational programming, and work associated with the Mallows Bay National Marine Sanctuary Nomination.

Susan gave a talk at an event sponsored by NOAA/Sea Grant and the Department of Oceanography at the University of Rhode Island and at the MHT Archeology Workshop on Mallows Bay.

She has also been working with colleagues on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Management Plan and Governing Regulations for Mallows Bay which are all due in June, and coordinating with Charles County regarding Emergency Response at Mallows Bay which began as a result of a fire which destroyed portions of one of the most prominent ships at Mallows Bay. She has received some resistance from the County. The photographs (distributed at the meeting) show the damage cause by the fire, which was not extinguished by emergency responders.

Susan also taught the session on Law and Ethics for the Maritime Archaeological and Historical Society course on Underwater Archeology, presented the ASM/Cresthull Memorial Lecture, "Underwater Archeology – Monterrey: Investigation in the Gulf of Mexico" at Harford Community College, Bel Air in April, served as a judge for Maryland History Day in May, and is currently working with the USCG to assist in the development of a PREP Exercise for September 2016 and update the Area Contingency Plan.

Troy and Matt conducted a week of fieldwork on Janes Island in April to continue the terrestrial archeology on farmstead sites which was halted by the weather in September 2015. The work resulted in the location of one archeological site which is located in an area that is currently changing from fast land to salt marsh, and the successful testing of a technique to screen saturated clayey soils. Troy plans to return to Janes Island from July 10 until August 5 to work with Matt and Charlie along the western shore, surveying two areas where prehistoric archeological sites have been reported and continue survey of submerged lands along the southern shore. The MHT Board is funding an archeology internship over the summer of 2016; the intern will be supporting terrestrial and maritime archeology at Janes Island during July.

Troy also gave a guest lecture on underwater archeology and the Maryland Maritime Archeology Program at the Community College of Baltimore County in April, and completed a series of technical diving courses and took part in the Battle of the Atlantic Research and Expedition Group's 2016 field session and the MHT/ASM field session in May.

Terrestrial Activities Report — Charlie Hall

Since our last meeting in March the Terrestrial Archeology program has successfully negotiated Archeology Month and the Annual Field Session.

Maryland Archeology Month 2016 (April) was celebrated with a poster, a booklet, a website, and numerous statewide events. The Committee this year partnered with Historic Saint Mary's City, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Silas Hurry served as the principal point of contact for HSMC. The poster featured four of St. Mary's City's iconic archeological sites, including the Brick Chapel, the Print House, Garrett Van Sweringen's Inn, and St. Johns, for each of which a photograph of excavation in-progress, artifact photographs, and an illustration of the site as reconstructed were presented on a watercolor perspective map of the City used as a background. The booklet included eight illustrated essays authored by Silas and Henry Miller. Two thousand of both of these products were printed, of which 797 were direct-mailed (folded posters). The largest share of the mailed product went to Historic District Commissioners (357), followed by members of the Archeological Society of Maryland (289), with the balance (151) going to archeological consultants (57), MHT Board of Directors members (18), internet requests (14), university archeologists (13), state-employed archeologists (11), Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs commissioners (7), federal- and county-employed archeologists (6 each), and assorted others (19). The lion's share of the non-mail distribution (approximately 400 of the 1200 available) went to HSMC, with remainder divided between ASM Chapters (275), the MAC Lab at JPPM (150), universities (155), county programs (110), and the annual Workshop (80). The expectation is that these organizations distributed the posters and booklets to the public during various statewide events, 30 of which were advertised on the website (where pdf versions of both the poster and booklet were also available for download). This year's website also featured downloadable 3-D digital models of the "Keys to the City" – two 17th century small keys found during excavations at the St. John's site – that were printable on any 3-D printer. Archeology Month was supported by funds donated by consulting firms (\$2,450). Those firms that donated were offered space in the booklet for their custom content. This resulted in information regarding the capabilities of 16 archeological consulting firms being presented in the booklet. It is hoped that this information, presented in the context of such an archeological

success story at HSMC, will have made a significant impact on the readers, particularly Historic District commissioners, who previously might have had little information regarding either. Costs for Archeology Month exceeded donations by \$512. The overage was taken from prior years' surplus (\$2,921).

This year's Annual Field Session in Maryland Archeology was held at the River Farm site at Jug Bay, owned by Anne Arundel County. In addition to our perennial partner, the Archeological Society of Maryland, this year we also partnered with the Anne Arundel County's Cultural Resources Division. The work was funded in large part by a Hurricane Sandy Relief Grant, administered by the National Park Service. The proposal for this grant was submitted by the ASM, and includes other field projects, all of which are focused on sites – in Anne Arundel, Calvert, and St. Mary's counties – that were damaged by Hurricane Sandy, and which are under continued threat from coastal storms and other flood and erosive processes. A competitive bid process for consultants resulted in the selection of the Lost Towns Project, with Stephanie Sperling as Field Director and Mandy Melton as Lab Director. A total of 98 volunteers contributed 231 days of labor to the effort, while staff from MHT (5), AA County (2), and Lost Towns (16), contributed 142 days to the project. Nine lunch-time lectures, an evening presentation, an afternoon discussion, and a canoe trip were offered to participants, greatly enhancing the educational opportunities available to them. While it will take some time to assess the results of the work, the goals of the project were certainly realized. Sufficient information was gathered to assist county officials as they plan for future storm events. In addition to an extensive area of Late Woodland midden, a portion of what may represent an Early Woodland trench-wall structure, similar to those identified among the traits of the Adena in Ohio, Kentucky, and West Virginia, was revealed. While all of the staff that participated are currently recovering from exhaustion, we are of unanimous opinion that this year's Field Session was a resounding success.

MAC Lab Activities Report — Patricia Samford

Ed Chaney and the field crew are in the middle of the 2016 Public Archeology season. As you can imagine, the vast amounts of rain that we have had over the last month and a half have cut participation numbers so far this season.

In terms of our Transportation Enhancement grant and our MAC Lab collections database, data entry has been completed. Work on creating the searchable website will begin later in the summer. We submitted a follow-up grant to State Highways for additional funding to create an enhanced website containing artifact photographs and links to other MAC Lab research databases.

The MAC Lab will be holding the second of its two-day workshops tomorrow and Friday. The workshops, which will be focused on artifact identification and field conservation strategies for archeologists, are open to any practicing professionals and graduate students in the field of archeology. Like the first workshop, registration reached capacity of 20 participants.

The Outlander exhibit has won an award of merit from the American Association of State and Local History.

Mia Carey, a doctoral student at the University of Florida, will be giving a lecture on the Yarrow Mamout site in Georgetown on June 23rd at 7 pm.

RITES Trail construction has been completed, with no archeological impacts.

The MAC Lab has undergone a building condition assessment over the last several months, instigated partially on the basis of the siding issues, the failing and under built HVAC system, and some mold problems from last year. The purpose of the assessment is to make short- and long-term recommendations for how to correct temperature and humidity fluctuations in the building. We received the 50% report yesterday.

Review and Compliance Activities Report — Beth Cole and Dixie Henry

The Review and Compliance Unit continues to be particularly busy. We are still down a position due to a vacancy in early December in one of the architectural historian positions. Beth and Dixie are handling extra workload and customer service to help keep up with the flow of project reviews, meetings and customer inquiries until the position is refilled. The position has been advertised and we await completion of the applicant screening by the Department of Budget and Management in order to proceed with interviews. We hope to have the new staff on board by the fall.

MHT hosted and participated in a coordination meeting with cultural resources staff from SHA, including archeologists and architectural historians. Agenda topics included: MHT Updates on GIS/Medusa, architectural survey, Inventory numbers and accessioning, and the Archeological Synthesis project. SHA provided updates on its Public Outreach, ROW Program, SHA/FHWA Native American consultation, Historic Bridge Program, and its Archival Bridge Photography application. The meeting fostered good opportunities for staff engagement between MHT and SHA.

Dixie attended the annual meeting of Power Plant Research Program Advisory Committee to represent MHT interests. The meeting included discussion of multiple undertakings, including the relicensing of hydroelectric facilities on the Susquehanna River.

Dixie coordinated and supervised Department of the Army intern, Eva Falls, for her one-month rotation in the SHPO office. Eva's duties included conducting preliminary project reviews, tracking 2005-2015 agreement documents executed with the Corps, identifying outstanding mitigation responsibilities, and shadowing other MHT staff to participate in a wide variety of SHPO-related programs, meetings, and events.

Research and Synthesis Project — Dennis Curry

Matt McKnight added 20 reports from Prince Georges County to the Archeological Synthesis project. After Prince Georges County is finished, only Anne Arundel County and Baltimore City remain to be done on the second pass-through for the project, after which *every* Phase II and III project done in Maryland will have been synthesized.

In March, Charlie Hall and Dennis Curry attended the Middle Atlantic Archeological Conference. Of prime importance was a session outlining the Chesapeake Bay Archeological Consortium's plans for dealing with sea level rise. Ultimately, it was resolved that MAAC would establish a committee to coordinate individual state's responses to sea level rise and erosion throughout the Middle Atlantic region.

The Annual Workshop in Archeology was held on March 26. Some 90 people attended to hear presentations by Henry Miller (50 years of archeology at St. Mary's City), John Bedel (the search for King Opeassa's Town), Sara Rivers-Cofield (making of the *Outlander* exhibit), Rob Wanner (current analysis of the Catoctin Furnace cemetery), Susan Langley (Mallows Bay), Charlie Hall and Bob Wall (Maryland prehistory), and Kirsti Uunila and Scott Strickland (new techniques in site recordation).

The Maryland Historical Trust Board of Trustees funded an archeological internship for the summer of 2016. Justin Warrenfeltz (BA, St. Mary's College of Maryland; MA, University of Massachusetts) was selected, and started his internship by assisting with the Annual Field Session in Maryland Archeology.

Staff continued to monitor two grant projects: Pig Point and related sites (funded by the Maryland Legislature) and Anne Arundel County sites affected by erosion (funded by NPS Hurricane Sandy money).

MHT assisted with the ASM's Spring Symposium on Archeology on April 9. ASM President Claude Bowen and Vice President Valerie Hall assembled a stellar slate of speakers—including Cheryl Claassen, Rebecca Webster, Jay Custer, Stephanie Sperling, Becca Peixotto, Julie King, and Michael Stewart—for a very memorable day.

On May 19, Dennis Curry presented a talk entitled "[Not] The Last of the Piscataways: The 17th Century Indian Fort on Heater's Island" at Historic St. Mary's City as part of their summer education series.

Other Business

None.

Selection of next meeting date — Wednesday, September 21, 2016, 10:00 a.m. (note the time change)

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 a.m., in a motion made by Joy Beasley and seconded by Tom Forhan; the motion was carried unanimously.