

The Maryland Historical Trust  
and  
The Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.  
present

# A WORKSHOP IN ARCHEOLOGY

Saturday, March 25, 2017

**"The Only Unavoidable Subject of Regret:" Slavery at George Washington's Mount Vernon, Luke Pecoraro.** Prior to George Washington's death in 1799, 316 enslaved men, women, and children lived on the plantation. While we know the locations of where slaves were living during Washington's ownership of the property, the activities of their day-to-day lives outside of specific plantation-related tasks recorded by Washington and his overseers are largely unknown. The stories of the enslaved individuals at Mount Vernon, though obscured in the documentary record, are revealed through archeological remains excavated around the historic core of the plantation, and on the land that once composed Washington's outlying farms. This presentation will focus on what is known about plantation slavery through the archeological collection, as well as provide an update on our on-going excavation of Mount Vernon's Slave Cemetery.

**Waders and Snake Chaps: Exploring Resistance Landscapes in the Great Dismal Swamp, Becca Peixotto.** The Great Dismal Swamp of Virginia and North Carolina was home to disenfranchised Native Americans, enslaved canal company laborers, and maroons who lived in the wetlands temporarily and long term ca. 1660-1860. In the past decade, the Great Dismal Swamp Landscape Study (GDSLS) has intensively investigated only a few maroon and enslaved labor sites, leaving vast swaths of inhospitable and challenging swampland archeologically unexplored. Current research employs lidar data, historic land documents, on-the-ground exploration, and archeological excavation to identify new, remote sites in the Virginia portion of the swamp. This paper discusses methodology, findings, and why we put up with the bugs and snakes to study the Dismal.

**Mother Nature Bats Last, Jen Sparenberg.** Archeological sites are as vulnerable as standing structures to the effects of natural hazards and climate change, but because they are not usually visible, archeological sites are not considered when planners seek to protect cultural resources from the effects of those hazards. Information on what those hazards are and how they affect archeological sites will be presented and followed by an interactive discussion of ideas on how to protect hazard-prone sites.

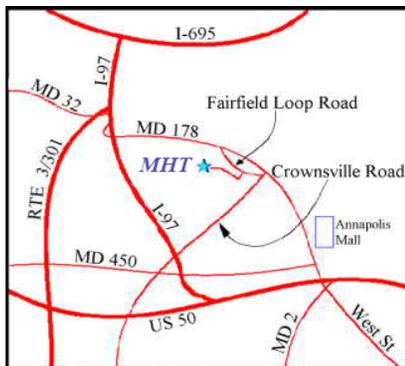
**Forts and Fortifications, Craig Lukezic.** The presentation will be a broad-brush general overview of the types of forts and fortifications that were constructed in the Middle Atlantic region, starting with the first colonial settlers and finishing in the 20th century. Most of the material will focus on seacoast defenses.

**Coins to Cathedrals: A Demonstration of the Whole Range of Laser Scanners Available Today, Joe Nicoli.** Laser scanning is becoming ubiquitous today in architecture, engineering, construction, and is moving quickly into historic preservation and archeology. What does "we've had it scanned" mean? Laser scanning can capture everything from brush marks on a painting to entire city blocks, but no one scanner does it all. This talk will demonstrate some of the many different systems on the market today, and discuss when each one is appropriate for conservation work.

**The Power of Water: Devastation in Ellicott City, Marcia Miller.** On the evening of Saturday, July 30, 2016, Ellicott City received over 6 inches of rain in a two-hour period creating a devastating flash flood that inundated the downtown historic area. The Maryland Historical Trust mobilized quickly to assist Ellicott City and was on site within 48 hours to view the damage first hand. This presentation provides an overview of damages to the historic district and the coordinated response by Howard County, MHT, and Preservation Maryland to ultimately save the historic buildings.

**CAT SESSION— Basic Lab Procedures, Becky Morehouse.** This workshop will provide participants with the knowledge necessary to process artifacts in the lab, including proper handling, washing, labeling, and packaging, through lecture and hands-on activities. Participants will also learn about the variety of archival materials used in archeological collections curation.

**Revisiting the Higgins Site (18AN489): Reanalysis of the First Excavated Paleoindian Site in Maryland, Zack Singer & Carol Ebright.** The Gloria S. King Research Fellowship granted by the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory facilitated a reanalysis of the Higgins site in Anne Arundel County. This presentation provides an overview of the original excavation and interpretation of the Paleoindian component at Higgins. We also present an updated discussion of the Paleoindian occupation based on the reanalysis of the toolkit composition, raw material profile, and intra-site patterning.



## Directions

Follow Maryland Route 178 (Generals Highway) towards Crownsville. At the light at Crownsville Road, turn onto Crownsville Road, then make an immediate right onto Fairfield Loop Road. Take the first left, and bear right around the Children's Center toward 100 Community Place and the MHT parking lot.



*A Plantation Burial*, by John Antrobus, 1860

100 Community Place  
Crownsville, Maryland

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING  
STATE OF MARYLAND  
[mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov)

THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
and  
THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MARYLAND, INC.

*26th Annual*  
**WORKSHOP IN ARCHEOLOGY**  
**Saturday, March 25, 2017**  
100 Community Place, Crownsville, Maryland

9:00 <b>Registration and Refreshments</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>1st Floor Lobby &amp; Main Conference Room</i></span>		
9:30 <b>Welcoming Remarks, Elizabeth Hughes (MHT) and Valerie Hall (ASM)</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>1st Floor Main Conference Room</i></span>		
1st FLOOR MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM	BASEMENT CAFETERIA	3rd FLOOR MHT BOARDROOM
9:45 KEYNOTE ADDRESS: <b>Slavery at George Washington's Mount Vernon</b> <i>Luke Pecoraro</i>	<b>Book Sales &amp; Exhibits</b> 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM  * Archeological Society of Maryland * Institute for Maritime History * Wimsey Cove	X
10:45 <b>Coffee Break</b>		10:45 <b>Coffee Break</b>
11:00 <b>Waders and Snake Chaps: Exploring Resistance Landscapes in the Great Dismal Swamp</b> <i>Becca Peixotto</i>		11:00 <b>Mother Nature Bats Last</b> <i>Jen Sparenberg</i>
12:15 <b>Lunch</b> — The cafeteria at 100 Community Place <i>is closed</i> . Nearby restaurants are limited, so we suggest bringing a bag lunch and mingling with friends in the basement dining area.		
1:30 <b>Forts and Fortifications</b> <i>Craig Lukezic</i>	<b>BASEMENT ARCHEOLOGY LAB</b>	1:30 <b>Coins to Cathedrals: A Demonstration of the Whole Range of Laser Scanners Available Today</b> <i>Joe Nicoli</i>
	1:30 <b>CAT Session: Basic Lab Procedures, Part I †</b> <i>Becky Morehouse</i>	
2:30 <b>The Power of Water: Devastation in Ellicott City</b> <i>Marcia Miller</i>	2:30 <b>CAT Session: Basic Lab Procedures, Part II †</b> <i>Becky Morehouse</i>	2:30 GLORIA KING FELLOWSHIP: <b>Revisiting the Higgins Site: Reanalysis of the First Excavated Paleoindian Site in Maryland</b> <i>Zach Singer &amp; Carol Ebright</i>

ADMISSION FEE (*payable at the door*): **\$7.00** General admission; **\$5.00** for ASM members and students.

† Certified Archeological Technician (CAT) candidates seeking credit for their certification program must attend both sessions; *limit 8*.