

MARYLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ARCHEOLOGY
(MACA)

December 13, 2017

Committee Members in Attendance

Bruce Terrell, Jane Cox, Marian Creveling; **By Phone:** Joy Beasley, Joe Dent

Staff in Attendance

Beth Cole, Charles Hall, Dixie Henry, Ed Chaney, Elizabeth Hughes, Karen Kennedy, Matt McKnight, Susan Langley, Troy Nowak

The meeting was called to order at 10:14 a.m.

Review of the minutes of September 20, 2017

The minutes were reviewed and accepted in a motion made by Bruce Terrell and seconded by Marian Creveling; the motion was passed unanimously

BUSINESS ITEMS

Director/Deputy Director's report – Elizabeth Hughes

Budget and Legislation

Ms. Hughes reported that the Trust will have no information about the agency operating or capital budget until the Governor releases it at the start of the legislative session on January 17, 2018. She does not expect there to be any Administration legislation submitted that is of interest to MACA. Legislation addressing the protection of historic cemeteries, advocated by the Maryland Coalition to Protect Burial Sites may be introduced. A bill introduced last year by Delegate Stein as HB 1284 – which as originally envisioned would repeal and reenact existing Department of Natural Resources (DNR) law to prohibit DNR from approving an aquaculture lease within 300 ft. of the mean high watermark of the shoreline of a property listed on the National Register of Historic Places – may be re-introduced again this year. The issue that led to introduction of this bill was the impact of aquaculture activities on Historic Sotterley that were of a concern to the Historic Sotterley Board.

MACA Appointments

Ms. Hughes reminded MACA members whose terms expire on June 30, 2018 and who wish to be reappointed that appointment materials must be submitted electronically through the appointments portal on the Governor's Appointments Office website by early January. Members whose terms are set to expire include Tom Forhan and Bruce Terrell.

MHT Board Appointments

Ms. Hughes reported that Dr. Al Luckenbach has resigned from the MHT Board. Dr. Luckenbach filled the position of "Terrestrial Archeologist" on the MHT Board; a position which is required by statute.

Chief of Archeology

Ms. Hughes and Deputy Director Anne Raines have been meeting with archeology staff in Crownsville and at the MAC Lab to seek input on the strengths and weaknesses of the archeology program of the Trust in an effort to determine how and if the Chief Archeologist position should be reworked to improve the position's effectiveness. Ms. Hughes reported that while she hoped to be able to fill the Chief position by July 1st, 2018, she would be pursuing appointment of an individual as the Acting Chief Archeologist in early 2018.

Underwater Activities Report – Underwater Activities Report – Susan Langley

Susan and Troy participated in a live-time, 3-day full scale PREP exercise for oil and hazmat spills with the U.S. Coast Guard in September. One goal was to assess the use of Medusa for spill response; for speed, ease of use, applicability. Updates to allow data selection, extraction, and sharing should be considered in future updates.

Susan reported that the nomination of Mallows Bay and environs as a National Marine Sanctuary is moving forward with completion of consultation with tribes in VA and MD and DoD among other agencies, with the MOA between the State, county and NOAA reaching final draft status, and with information that the Governor will support the smallest footprint. While this was not the preferred alternative, the Governor has veto power over the whole project so his support is welcome at any level and the approval processes at the State and federal levels can proceed concurrently. Although ambitious, it is hoped that the Sanctuary may be established in late Spring/early Summer. On October 7, the Friends of Mallows Bay, Charles County, DNR, MHT and myriad non-profit organizations hosted Get Into Mallows Bay Day and held the trash clean-up canceled in April by inclement weather, as well as tours and other family-friendly events at Mallows Bay. Troy represented MHT. The Institute of Maritime History attended and supported the event by providing equipment and volunteers. On October 26, the National Trust for Historic Preservation declared Mallows Bay a National Treasure and hosted the opening of an exhibit about the site at the Woodrow Wilson House in Washington, DC. The exhibit will be up until May, 2018.

Troy spent great deal of time this fall revising and updating the Dive Safety Policy and Guidelines when we discovered that some volunteers were mis-reading sections and finding some too financially onerous. The revised version was presented to the Diving Safety Control Board on Nov. 30 and additional input will be forthcoming. Troy recently sent the most recent version to the Board for any additional input. The goal, of course, is to maintain safe standards while keeping volunteerism accessible and not financially prohibitive.

The Maryland Maritime Archaeology Program celebrates 30 years of service and partnerships in 2018 and was chosen as the theme of the upcoming Archaeology Month poster/Booklet. MMAP is working with the Maryland Archaeology Month Committee on a design for the poster etc. Susan commented that the hope is to host some event each month of the year and the kick-off will be the lecture by Dr. Emad Khalil from Alexandria University about A Century of Maritime Archaeology in Egypt on January 30. While this is a highlight, other activities may be along the lines of CPR and First Aid training, a Ship Architecture Tour of the Constellation in Baltimore (Feb. 10), participation in the Annual Workshop (Mar. 10), a CAT course in Maritime Law & Ethics (TBD) etc. Suggestions are welcome.

In addition, Troy reviewed 157 applications for compliance, and Susan gave 2 public lectures, one at the University of Calgary, Canada. The next Board of Public Works submission will be lighter on fieldwork than usual; to provide time to catch up on reports and other documentary obligations.

Terrestrial Activities Report – Charlie Hall

Maryland Archeology Month 2018.

- The Maryland Archeology Month 2018 Kick-Off Meeting was held on October 30, 2017.
- The Maryland Archeology Month Committee includes six Institutional Sponsors, among them the Archeological Society of Maryland (Don Housley), Historic St. Mary's City (Silas Hurry), the Maryland Department of Transportation/State Highway Administration (Aaron Levinthal), Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission – Prince George's County Parks (Kristin Montaperto), the Maryland Historical Trust (Matt McKnight), and the Council for Maryland Archeology (Emily Swain). Charlie Hall (MHT) serves as Committee Chair and Coordinator.
- A SurveyMonkey online survey of the membership of the Archeological Society of Maryland was conducted between October 13 and 27th, 2017. The survey was designed to solicit impressions of Maryland Archeology Month (MAM) in general, and the products included in the mailing in particular. Two hundred fifty three invitations to participate were sent and 110 responses were received (43%). In general the membership likes MAM (71% of respondents ranked MAM among their favorite annual Society activities). They liked the magnet (57% loved it), preferred the mini-poster to the folded one of past years (62%), and were enthusiastic about the booklet (61%). Fifty-five percent of respondents attended at least one MAM event, and the

same percentage used the online calendar of events.

- An open solicitation for theme concepts was widely circulated by direct email to previous event sponsors, ASM Chapter presidents, university archeologists, and representatives of the institutional sponsors, and by email to the mailing list of the Council for Maryland Archeology. One proposal was received.
- Susan Langley, State Underwater Archeologist with the Maryland Historical Trust, presented her proposed theme *MMAP Celebrating 30 Years of Projects & Partnerships*. (MMAP is the Maryland Maritime Archeology Program.) Susan pledged to solicit funding, and to make up any shortfall in funding.
- Planning is ongoing, and includes:
 - Theme statement revision.
 - Poster concept.
 - Product consideration (magnet, or other?).
 - Mailing list formulation (legislators? HPCs? Special maritime audiences?)

Terrestrial Archeological Permits. No new permits have been issued in since the last meeting on September 20th, 2017. One permit project was amended.

- St. Mary's College of Maryland's Phase III archeological investigations associated with the Jamie Roberts Stadium Project, was amended for selected area stripping.
- Total permits for 2017 to date is eight.

Outreach to Native American tribes.

- A third attempt to contact Delaware Tribe of Indians (this is the only tribe that responded to our initial mailing in February 2016) went unanswered. A second letter will be sent to all 18 tribes previously contacted requesting any comments prior to sending our inventory update to the National NAGPRA office for publication in the Federal register early in the new year.

National Park Service Sandy Recovery Grant. Update.

- All activities are completed:
 - The geological threat assessments of the three sites included in the ASM study (Lower Brambley, Calverton, and River Farm sites) was delivered in October.
 - The consultant hired to write business-style case studies of the investigations and threats to the three sites submitted all deliverables in November.
 - Dr. Tim Horsley's geophysical survey of the Lower Brambley site was submitted in late September.
 - Calvert County is in contract negotiations with a selected consultant to analyze and report on the Field Session investigations of the Calverton Site.

Archeological Collections Policy. Update.

- Becky Morehouse has completed her portions of the draft policy.
- Awaiting Charlie's portions.
- Anticipate circulating draft to Chief Archeologist and Director of MAC Lab (responsible positions) in February, 2018.
- Present to MHT Collections Committee to ensure conformance with MHT Collections Policy.

- Submit to MHT Director for review and comments.
- Present to MACA (March 2018?) for review and comments.
- Seek approval from MHT Board of Trustees and Secretary of Planning.

Basement Lab. Ongoing.

- Completed:
 - Second mold remediation.
 - Deaccessioning and disposal of dilapidated furniture.
 - Curation of orphan collections.
- Ongoing:
 - Reorganization and space planning
 - Purchase needed equipment/furniture.
- Anticipated:
 - Disburse orphan collections to appropriate locations.
 - River House
 - Slag Collection
 - Eastern Shore Collector's Collection
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Field Session 2018 Planning. With the award of a non-capital grant for \$13,500 to support the Field Session), the following three PI/site combinations were approached regarding the 2018 Field Session:

1. Ed Chaney/The Smith's St. Leonard site (JPPM). This site is spectacular archeologically, aesthetically, and logistically. Ed has a robust research program that is in part guided by excellent remote sensing data collected by Tim Horsley. He declined
2. Kristin Montaperto/Mount Calvert. Kristin's research interest is in nineteenth century African American archeology both ante- and post-bellum, and she has located such a site on the Mount Calvert property. Kristin is busy staffing up her program and has concerns about conducting a Field Session this coming Spring. She is, however, still talking with me about the possibility.
3. Kirsti Uunila/Calverton. While we answered our research questions last year, we didn't investigate any of the features we identified. We also didn't open that much territory last year. Kirsti is talking with the land owners about the possibility of a repeat. They have yet to commit.

MAC Lab Activities Report – P. Samford and E. Chaney

Lab and park staff members are working with Ann Raines to prepare the Part II Capitol plan for the MAC Lab expansion. The current schedule for this work has design work in 2020 and construction in 2021/22.

The MAC Lab received a new chiller in November and it is anticipated that this larger unit will alleviate a number of the climate control issues that have plagued the lab over the years. Contractors will spend the month of December and part of January upgrading the lab's exhaust

system and integrating it with the new chiller.

Curation staff has made considerable inroads into rehousing the collections picked up this spring from Catholic University. These collections, primarily prehistoric sites, had been excavated by Bill Gardiner over the years he taught there.

A draft of revisions to *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Investigations in Maryland: Collections and Conservation Standards (Technical Update #1)* has been completed by Becky Morehouse and Sara Rivers Cofield, and sent to Tricia and Ed for review. We will be soliciting comments from outside lab managers as well. As part of this process, we are also developing plans to increase the box fee. MACA and CfMA will be notified about the new fee structure, and there will be a grandfathering period of probably 18 months before the fee goes into effect.

For many years there have been discussions between MHT and people in Baltimore over bringing the collections from the Baltimore Center for Urban Archaeology (BCUA) to the MAC Lab. It appears that the City and the Maryland Historical Society, which currently holds the collection, have come to an agreement on its dispensation and payment to the Lab. Assuming no new roadblocks develop, the BCUA collections could start coming down early in the new year.

New sections for the *Diagnostic Artifacts in Maryland* webpage include North American stoneware and toys.

In October, Francis Lukezic organized and co-moderated a webinar on conservation that was sponsored by the American Institute for Conservation, in conjunction with the Archaeological Institute of America's Archaeology Day. Nichole served as a panelist for this webinar.

Monica Martinez is wrapping up her six month conservation internship at the end of this week. Monica is a graduate student in the conservation master's degree program at the University College of London and an internship is required for her degree. A new conservation intern, Mari Hagemeyer, will start in January. She is in the UCLA master's degree program in conservation.

Over the last several years, the Lab has conserved a number of cannon that are now at the new Revolutionary War museum in Philadelphia. A number went on outdoor display there. After installation, they became a favorite toy for local skateboarders. The museum stopped that activity and we repaired the damage they had incurred, but a few weeks ago a car ran into them.

The two most heavily-damaged guns are arriving at the Lab on Wednesday for repairs, while the others will be treated on site.

Ed gave a lab tour to 5 members of the British rock group Wishbone Ash.

Personnel –Heather Rardin, who had previously worked as an intern in the lab back in 2013, was hired to fill the contractual conservator position formerly held by Francis Lukezic. Nichole Doub is currently out on maternity leave and will be returning in January.

Erin Wingfield, Collections Assistant working with Becky Morehouse, left the employ of the lab in early December. We are anxious to refill the position as quickly as possible because of the work that needs to be done to prepare the collections for the Lab expansion in a couple of years, because the BCUA collections may be arriving soon and they will need work, and because that position helps with our Public Archaeology program, which starts in May.

Review and Compliance Activities Report – Beth Cole, 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. They participated in numerous project specific meetings/site visits as well as targeted outreach efforts to improve agency/program coordination. Dixie continues to expedite review of Ellicott City flood recovery and stormwater management projects receiving federal and state assistance/permits.
- Beth attended a progress site visit to view data recovery efforts at the 18WA496, the Brumbaugh-Kendall-Grove farmstead site, at Washington County airport. The investigations underway by AECOM have discovered numerous features, foundations and cultural deposits related to the farmstead's 18th – 20th c. occupations. Beth will attend an end of field work meeting on site on Dec. 18, 2017. Completion of the data recovery research, reporting, and public interpretation will fulfill one of the key mitigation measures of the project's Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), prior to demolition of the farmstead.
- Beth attended an end of fieldwork site visit with SHA to discuss results of data recovery work at the Little Meadows Archeological District, being completed as part of mitigation

for the US 219 project in Garrett County. The combined Phase I/II.III archeological research has generated valuable insights regarding the early settlement, military, and transportation activities in the region during the 18th – early 20th c. and is a key mitigation strategy, combined with public interpretation, under the project's MOA.

- Beth and Charlie continued to work with staff from St. Mary's College of Maryland regarding Compliance review of the mitigation strategy to resolve adverse effects on construction of the new athletic fields complex on archeological resources and issuance of a terrestrial permit for the work. Julie King is currently completing the fieldwork component of the data recovery on two 18th c. domestic sites with likely slave occupations.
- Beth attended two Consulting Parties meetings with the City of Frederick, DHCD, and multiple interested organizations regarding the resolution of adverse effects of the proposed Downtown Frederick Hotel and Conference Center on historic properties. The project will impact remaining sections of the Birely Tannery Archeological Site (18FR575), and the mitigation strategy will include further data recovery and public interpretation of this significant industrial site. MHT awaits submittal of the draft data recovery plan for review and comment.
- Beth attended the kick off meeting with NPS National Capital Region and National Capital East staff and Louis Berger for the upcoming Archeological Overview and Phase I/II archeological investigations of the NPS owned and National Register listed sections of the Baltimore Washington Parkway. This Section 110 study will help generate needed information regarding the archeological resources within the BW Parkway and will help inform further management and project planning decisions.
- Beth continued working with Greg Brown on development of an online search interface for the Project Review and Compliance Log database. The online search will enable program customers to readily check on the status of their submittals and access PDF copies of completed responses where available. The online search interface is one of MHT's current Customer Service initiatives and slated for completion in early 2018.
- Dixie and Beth continued consultation with the NRCS in the development of the ACHP's Prototype Programmatic Agreement (PPA) for its Maryland Conservation Assistance Program through meetings and review and comment on multiple versions of the

document. NRCS and MHT reached consensus on placing conservation activities into three categories: 1) activities exempted from further review because the actions are unlikely to affect cultural resources; 2) activities that NRCS will review using MHT's online Medusa and if the project area is within an inventoried resource, NRCS will submit it to MHT for review; and 3) actions that have the potential to affect historic and archeological resources and require further review by MHT. NRCS and MHT will be holding a PA signing ceremony on January 12, 2018.

- Dixie participated in the bi-annual Power Plant Research Advisory Commission meeting to discuss current and upcoming Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) projects, including the Casper Solar facility, Skipjack Wind, BGE's Key Crossing Transmission Line, and the Keys Energy natural gas line (DLH)
- Dixie, along with Amanda Apple and Natalie Loukianoff, participated in the annual Bond bill seminar with the BPW and Comptrollers staff. We gave a presentation to about 120 grant recipients and answered questions on the role of MHT's Compliance unit in the Bond Bill review process.
- Dixie provided substantive review and comments on the proposed Data Recovery Research Plan for a portion of site 18ST61 as part of the Point Lookout Lighthouse Restoration project. Many of the proposed renovations, ADA improvements, and utility installation work that are being planned by DNR and DGS will be taking place within the boundaries of site 18ST61 - a site that contains significant deposits associated with the 19th century lighthouse and the Civil War-era Hammond Hospital and was determined to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. Given the presence of this archeologically sensitive area, Dixie had recommended limited archeological investigations prior to construction to determine if any intact and significant deposits associated with site 18ST61 would be impacted by the proposed undertaking. The subsequent investigations revealed four historic features that contribute to the significance and National Register eligibility of site 18ST61. Installation of the proposed utilities will destroy these features and will constitute an adverse effect. Data recovery investigations within the project's impact area will mitigate the adverse effect and will recover a sufficient representative sample of the site's significant archeological data that will be destroyed during construction.
- In January, Beth and Dixie will be meeting with other State agencies (MDE, DNR, SHA, MDOT) to continue discussion on streamlining the broadband permitting process in

support of the Governor's effort to improve rural access to high speed internet. The discussion will focus on developing a more effective interagency approach that will assist applicants navigate through multiple permits and authorizations.

Research and Synthesis Project – Matt McKnight

In October and November Matt McKnight took a break from data entry related to synthesis project, focusing instead on the synthesis data mining project mentioned at the last MACA meeting. Again, this is an effort to provide baseline statistics on what types of sites, contexts, locations, etc. have been looked at throughout the state at the Phase II or III level. Matt has provided a couple of samples of the types of reports the project will generate: one being an overview of the PII/III Late Archaic sites throughout the state, and another the Late Archaic sites just within the Western Shore Physiographic Province. Essentially the data analysis and reports for all prehistoric time periods throughout the state, in each county, by major watershed, by physiographic province, and by MARU can now be generated. Something similar will be put together for historic and contact period sites. And each of these reports will be coupled with supporting maps and some brief overview sections that talk about trends in the data. Work on this project will continue for the next few months, but this is significant progress.

In December, Matt shifted gears back towards some data entry, adding 3 sites in Annapolis to the synthesis database so far this month. He will be focusing on Annapolis and Baltimore City. In addition, work continues on the “Archeology of Colonial Maryland” edited volume that is a product of building the synthesis database.

Much of Matt’s time was also devoted to the FY2018 Non-Capital Grants program. ORSR received 37 applications, 9 of which were for archeology or were archeology-related. That represented \$1.1 million in funding requests for the \$200,000 made available through the budget. Nine projects, including 4 of the archeology projects, received either full or partial funding. So, with the awarding of the grants, energy has shifted towards getting the grant agreements together and a (hopefully) near-final version is currently being reviewed by legal. Matt continues to learn the grant-management software and perform data-entry tasks related to the archeology projects. Matt will be managing a \$20,000 grant to the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Archeological Foundation for a survey of the Honga River and a \$16,000 grant to Historic St. Mary’s City for a geophysical survey by Tim Horsley in two promising locations for the 1634 fort established by the Maryland colonists. Charlie Hall will be managing two grants awarded to the ASM: \$13,000 for the 2018 Field Session, and \$13,500 for a Final Report by Becca Peixotto on all work ever conducted at the Biggs Ford Site.

Mold remediation in the library ended and the library opened back up for business on October

5th. The next steps involve painting, re-carpeting, and physical reorganization of the library, which will hopefully be getting underway in January. The reorganization aspect will include moving all of the archeological site files from their current file cabinets to file boxes to be stored on shelving units in the library.

Matt (with help from Troy Novak) assisted the MHT architectural historians with creation of a plan map of His Lordship's Kindness, a late 18th century plantation house with several standing outbuildings in Prince George's County. The plan map was needed for the Vernacular Architecture Forum which will be held in the spring in Maryland. The site will be one of the locations visited by researchers from around the country and our ORSR architectural historians are playing a major role in hosting that event. The work involved a day in the field collecting total station data and a couple more days of GIS work.

Matt also attended the first Archeology Month Planning meeting held on October 30th.

Other tasks performed by Matt since the September Meetings include responding to several public inquiries and working to organize a proper send-off for our very low-key, "doesn't want a big fuss", and now retired Chief Archeologist, Dennis Curry.

New Business

Future Directions for the Archaeology Program at MHT - Discussion

As permitted by the Open Meetings Act, Annotated Code of Maryland, General Provisions Article, Section § 3-305(b)(1), Marian Creveling made a motion, seconded by Bruce Terrell that the Committee adjourn to closed session to discuss personnel issues related to filling the vacant Chief Archeologist position at MHT. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Committee returned to open session.

Selection of next meeting date - March 14, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. was selected as the next meeting date.