

February 2001

Future Events

February 5

1:30-2:30, 2664 Riva Road
Truck Farming and Picker Checks in Anne Arundel County

Lost Towns' volunteer and president of Ann Arundell Historical Society, Will Mumford, will discuss truck farming in 19th and 20th century Anne Arundel County.

March 5

1:30-2:30, 2664 Riva Road
Elk River Underwater and Near Shore Survey 2000

Underwater archaeologist for the Maryland Historical Trust, Steve Bilicki, will describe investigations near Elkton, Maryland.

April 7

1:30-2:30, 2664 Riva Road
Archeobotanical Techniques: Their Application at London Town and Hancock's Resolution

Archeobotanist, Justine McKnight, will describe methods of collecting and applying information provided by seeds and pollen.

April 9

9:00-2:00, Edgewater
Public Dig Day

The public is invited to help London Town archaeologists screen soil, take tours, and attend workshops.

April 23

1:30-2:30, 2664 Riva Road
Tobacco Pipes of Anne Arundel County's Lost Towns

Rosemarie Callage will discuss the pipe project undertaken by Lost Towns staff, discussing pipe maker's marks, styles, and media.

Letters from Lost Towns

All Hallows' Parish: London Town's Community Church

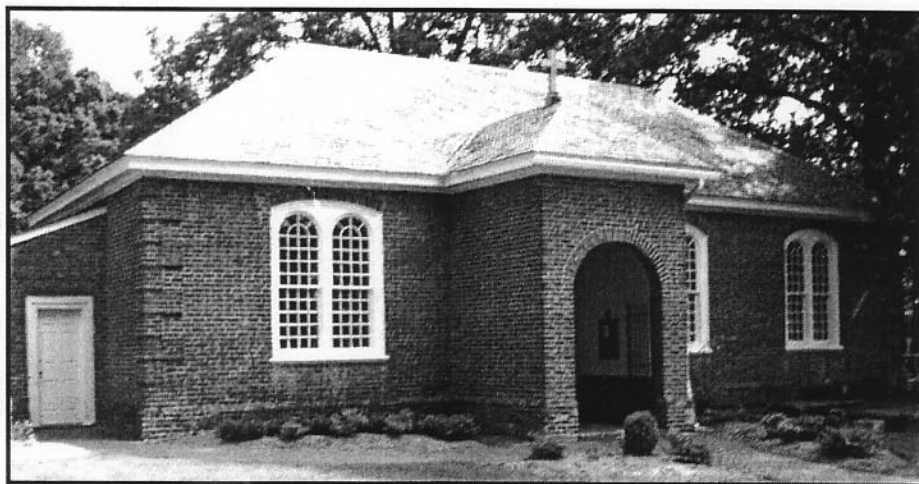
Mechelle Kerns-Nocerito

All Hallows' Parish Church is one of the oldest churches in Maryland. Located just four miles from London Town, it served the South River area since the 1680s. The Church of England was instituted in Maryland in 1692, but Anglican clergy ministered in the county before formal establishment. All Hallows' first rector, Duell Pead, served what was then called South River Parish for ten years (1682-1692). By 1696, the parish contained 460 tithables and had a new minister, Thomas Clayton. Reverend Joseph Colbatch, who followed Reverend Clayton, oversaw the building of the brick church that still stands on Solomon's Island Road (Route 2).

The original church was likely a wooden earthfast structure, a

popular early building style used in the Chesapeake region. Maryland Assembly Proceedings note that by the summer of 1729, the first structure on the site was "...so decayed and ancient, that it is dangerous being therein" (Archives of Maryland, Vol. 36, pg. 462). In July of 1729, the Assembly voted to build a new church building by a "levy of the tithable inhabitants of the parish, any quantity of tobacco, not exceeding Twenty Thousand pounds, in any one year; and to continue so doing yearly, until there be a sufficient quantity of tobacco levied to erect and complete a new church in the said parish" (Archives of Maryland, Vol. 36, pg. 462). From this, it is clear that the present structure was built sometime after 1729.

There are many London Town residents buried at All Hallows'. In 1762, parishioner James Dick lost a daughter. Shortly thereafter, he donated an acre of land to his church: Noted in the conveyance, he set aside a section of the acre for a private burying ground for his family. "...Out of the said parcel or



All Hallows' Church (The Brick Church)

How do I get involved?

Anne Arundel County's Lost Towns Project is a team of professional archaeologists and historians assisted by volunteers and interns. Field, lab, and archival opportunities are available.

Field days are usually Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Days vary depending on the weather and particular project. Call Lisa at (410) 222-7441 for more information.

The lab is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 through 4:00. Call the lab phone for more information at (410) 222-7328. The lab is located at 2666 Riva Road in the Heritage County Government Center.

Those interested in archival research opportunities should contact Mechelle at (410) 222-7441.

acre of ground the distance of about 10 feet from the Northeast Corner of the said church in a line drawn due East from the said corner and running thence, South twenty-five feet, thence, East forty-five feet, thence North twenty-five feet, thence West forty-five feet to the beginning post, one half of the said reserved piece next the church being a burying ground for the said James Dick's family forever..." (Anne Arundel County Deeds, Liber BB2, folio 788; 1763).

In this family plot lies the headstones of Margaret Dick and her mother Mrs. Margaret (nee Dundas) Dick. The marker for Mrs. Dick is very large, with a lengthy epistle in Latin. Although James Dick requested to be buried in his family plot at All Hallows', there is no headstone marking his resting place.

This past summer and fall, Lost Towns worked at All Hallows' documenting the colonial period graves. UMBC intern Toni LoSchiavo helped me map the churchyard and take rubbings of graves. A ground penetrating radar sweep of the Dick parcel showed as many as five additional unmarked graves. James Dick no doubt rests next to his wife and child.

This project helped show the role All Hallows' played in the lives of the residents of London Town. If only the "Old Brick Church" could speak, oh the stories she could tell... ♦

Look out Yankees, Here Comes Burle's Brigade!

For the first time, *The Lost Towns Project* is fielding an adult softball team for a league sponsored by the Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks. Volunteers are encouraged to join the team, and skill is not a prerequisite! Games will be played Friday nights from mid-April through the beginning of August. Contact co-captains John Kille and Jason Moser to sign up. Those on the roster will have the honor of sporting a shirt emblazoned with our own squirrel mascot, Burle, which is being designed by Mechelle Kerns-Nocerito.



What's going on in the Lost Town's lab?

If you've walked into the Lost Towns Lab in the past few months or so, someone has greeted you with a slightly glazed expression on their face. You also heard some strange conversations: "This one is more bulbous", "yeah, but this one is bigger and the heel is more round...", etc. Why this bizarre behavior? We are all writing research papers on tobacco pipes. This all-consuming process has soaked up countless hours as researchers catalog, measure, draw, and compare pipes. Each paper includes calculations of the "pipe stem date", analysis of some statistical components of the pipes, and comparative analysis of pipe bowl forms.

In addition, we have had two interns from UMBC this month. Melinda and Tracy did a great job in the lab organizing boxes and cataloging and conserving artifacts. We look forward to seeing Melinda again this summer, when she will continue her internship out in the field. Tracy spent hours mending glass bottles from Rumney's Cellar and she also plans to rejoin us in the field on Fridays this spring.

Otherwise, the lab is running smoothly, if a little cramped. We are rapidly running out of space for the ever-expanding Lost Towns collection. Nevertheless, We invite you to stop by, whether it is for a quick tour or a few hours of volunteering. Hope to see you soon!

-Dave Gadsby



**Volunteer Spotlight:
Betty Williams**

The Lost Towns Project digs Betty Williams! Betty has been an active volunteer within archaeology for many years. Back in 1992, Betty volunteered at the state lab with Maureen Cavanaugh. She then joined the Lost Towns lab's cadre of dedicated volunteers. A retired social worker that worked at Crownsville State Hospital, Betty is a "washing queen" of artifacts and can be found at the lab on most Mondays.

Betty also enjoys volunteering in the field and has worked at such sites as Chaney's Hills, London Town, Burle, and Swan Cove. She has been the Archeological Society of Maryland's Anne Arundel County chapter treasurer for the last five years and has volunteered at ASM's field school for three seasons.

The Lost Towns Project commends this dedicated volunteer for her invaluable assistance and enthusiasm for local archaeology.

-Rosemarie Callage

Join Us For Lunch!

Social directors Norrine DeDeyn and Rosemarie Callage have planned lunch dates for the following Mondays at 11:30. Please join us to discuss local archaeology and gossip! Please RSVP by the morning of the lunch to the lab, (410) 222-7328.

February 26th - Pizza Party at the Lab

March 19th - Lunch Outing

April 30th - Pot Luck at the Lab

May 21st - Lunch Outing at Mike's

Another Lost Town?

Paul F. Mintz

When studying early towns in Anne Arundel County and Maryland, close attention is paid to the Acts for Advancement of Trade, several of which were enacted after 1683. These acts erected or nominated towns—Arundelton (later Annapolis), London Town, and Herrington in Anne Arundel County alone—to facilitate the tobacco trade.

Other tobacco-related acts of assembly would also affect town development. The tobacco inspection acts passed after 1747 have long been attributed as one cause for London Town's decline. These acts nominated seven sites in Anne Arundel County where tobacco could be inspected before being shipped to sea. Since London Town was not nominated, one of its original purposes for existence was withdrawn—the proverbial carpet was yanked from underneath its earthfast structures.

However, the tobacco inspection acts had more of an impact on Anne Arundel County than their role in London Town's demise. The point at the end of Indian Landing Road near the head of

the Severn was one of the seven locations for tobacco inspection stations. After 1747, the land, then called Brookesby's Point, underwent numerous divisions and changes of ownership. Several of the lots were only half of an acre. Ralph Forster owned one such lot where he advertised his store in the Maryland Gazette. While the small number of these lots comes nowhere close to the magnitude of Annapolis of London Town, their small size does not fit well into a rural context.

These lots clustered around the public road leading to the tobacco warehouse—aptly located on the one-acre "Indian Landing Tobacco Warehouse Lot"—and wharf, said to lie on the shore 100-150 yards from an island in the Severn, which still exists. County commissioners sold the warehouse lot into private hands in 1845. Since 1906, it has remained the property of the Indian Landing Boat Club.

On a much smaller scale, Indian Landing parallels London Town as urbanization born from legislation that declined after that legislative impetus was withdrawn. To what extent these commercial centers promoted town growth is of great importance in understanding Anne Arundel's late-colonial/early-federal urbanization. ♦

**Saturday Dig Day Dates
2001**

April 7

May 12

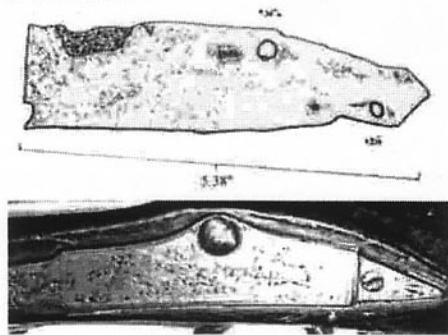
June 16

July 14

August 18

September 22

*All activities will be held
from 9:00 - 2:00 at
Historic London Town,
Edgewater.*



Mystery Artifact Revealed!

Shawn Sharpe

It all started when David Blackmoor of the British Royal Armory visited the Lost Towns Lab. After a visit to Colonial Williamsburg where he was installing a collection of colonial era arms and armor, Blackmoor stopped by to try to identify weaponry in our collection.

We hoped we might have plate armor, as well as a few other gun-related artifacts. Unfortunately, when Blackmoor inspected each artifact, he concluded that none were armaments. Needless to say, our hopes were shot down. Considering the multitude of lead shot and gunflints we have uncovered over the years, it would be nice to have evidence of a delivery system for these artifacts. Perhaps the early colonists threw the lead balls at their targets, as Michael Bellesiles of Emory University suggests.

As Blackmoor prepared to leave, we hurried to find anything that might be arms related. I recalled an oddly shaped piece of iron from Homewoods Lot, and for lack of anything more interesting, showed it to him. After a brief inspection, he decided that it looked familiar, but he didn't want to divulge any further information until he was certain. So, he took a few pictures of the mystery artifact and departed.

A few months later, Blackmoor contacted us and positively identified our artifact as a side plate to a gunlock. I guess the colonists weren't throwing lead shot at each other after all. ♦

Hancock's Resolution

Jason Moser

It's been about six months since Lost Towns staff and volunteers completed the last Shovel Test Pit (STP) at Hancock's Resolution. For the most part, these properties were heavily wooded, but especially abundant was *Toxicodendron radicans* (poison ivy)! I won't go into detail about the difficulties involved with establishing the grid over the project area, but I do wish to voice my appreciation to the volunteers who participated in this thankless job.

Both newly acquired parcels, approximately 5% of the Hancock property, were surveyed and several archaeological sites were located. A seventeenth-century site was discovered southeast of the Hancock residence. The most notable artifacts were four fragments of terra cotta tobacco pipes, Manganese Mottled Earthenware, and Rhenish Brown Stoneware. The artifact sample was insufficient to generate a reliable chronology for the range of site occupation, but suggests an occupation beginning in the third

quarter of the seventeenth century and continuing into the first decades of the eighteenth century. Interestingly enough, documentary records indicate that the land in question was "vacant" or never officially surveyed and patented. However, nearby "Dividing Points", the plantation of Davy Johnson, was probably construed as containing this tract.

Other portions of the survey were equally rewarding. A large prehistoric shell midden covered much of the western project area. Within the shell midden, a number of prehistoric ceramics were identified including: Accokeek, Popes Creek, Potomac Creek, and Mockley wares. These ceramics indicate a more or less continuous human presence in the area between 3,200 years ago and the time of contact with the first Europeans.

Within the prehistoric shell midden were also the remains of an eighteenth and nineteenth century archaeological site. Ceramics recovered from this area include English Brown Stoneware, Rhenish Gray Stoneware, White Salt-glazed Stoneware, Domestic Slipware, Creamware, and Pearlware. The dates of these artifacts place this site squarely within the same time period as the



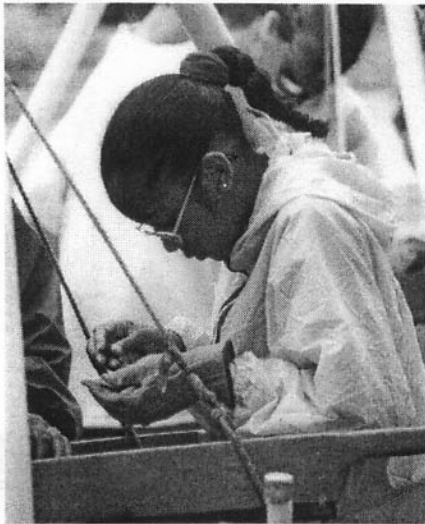
Hancock's Resolution's main house

construction of the main Hancock residence. Most likely, this was an outbuilding related to the early operation of the Hancock farm or a nearby historic wharf that was identified in 1998. While this survey was instrumental in identifying sites near Hancock's Resolution, it is but the first step in understanding the overall development of Hancock's Resolution Farm. ♦

New Education Funds Forthcoming

John Kille

The Lost Towns Project beat out a competitive field of local organizations to win a generous grant of \$5000 from the International Paper Foundation. This welcome support will assist its innovative educational archaeology program for organized school groups. The award will enable the project to provide interpretive archaeology materials for teachers and school children, including a new public education brochure, a classroom archaeology guidebook, digitally reconstructed illustrations of excavated colonial objects and buildings, and internships for high school and college students. ♦



Lost Town's Internship Program

Mechelle Kerns-Nocerito

The Lost Towns Project encourages and promotes education and community participation in archaeology through volunteer work. We also try to engage students through internships. During the summer, we invite students from the County's Gifted and Talented Program. During the year, we work with neighboring universities such as University of Maryland Baltimore County and College Park, Johns Hopkins, and St. Mary's College to help their students earn credit and hands-on experience in archaeology and historic research. The students earn academic credit and work in a professional community. We encourage our students to choose a research topic and work with a staff member to produce a paper or project. In some cases, students have attended national and international conferences to present their findings or have submitted their work for publication in scholarly journals. In all cases, everybody wins: the students earn credit, and *Lost Towns* gains people with new enthusiasm (and knees!) that helps our research stay fresh and interesting. Our internship program has earned accolades from the academic community. Last fall, UMBC's *Lost Towns* interns were featured in a Maryland Public Television program as well as an alumni publication. We hope to keep up the good work. The Moss, Ridout, and Richard Allen Reed Internship Funds support these efforts.

This winter we have three new interns from University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC): Melinda Clavell, Carl Gehrman, and Tracy Smith. Melinda Clavell will work in the lab during her winter break and will return to assist in the field this summer. She is a double major, pursuing degrees in both Ancient Studies and History. Melinda also works at home as a mom. Carl Gehrman comes to us from the

computer sciences department at UMBC. He is pursuing a degree in Computer Imaging and Digital Arts. Carl's project involves digital animation of the 17th-century Burle House. He has been working with Jason, John, and Al to get all the particulars of this Providence-period building as accurate as we can. Tracy Smith will work in the lab. She is also a double major, pursuing degrees in American Studies and Ancient Studies. Tracy wants to pursue a career in Historic Preservation and will work in the lab with Dave and Shawn preserving and vesselizing glass from our Homewood's site. Please welcome these new faces to our staff! ♦

The Lost Towns Project's sweatshirts, polo shirts, and baseball caps are now available!
Decorated with the Lost Towns' logo, the sweatshirts are navy, the polo shirts are cornflower blue, and the hats are tan with blue bills. They are available for a donation of \$25 for the shirts and \$15 for the hats. Checks should be made out to ACT, Inc, and all proceeds will go to the Lost Towns' Internship Program.
 Thank you!



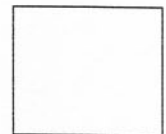
Who makes up the Lost Towns Project?

Al Luckenbach.....Director/County Archaeologist
Jane Cox.....Assistant County Archaeologist/Assistant Director, Technology
David Gadsby.....Lab Director
John Kille.....Assistant Director, Operations/Grant Administration
Jason Moser.....Assistant Director, Field/3-D Coordinator

Rosemarie Callage.....Lab Technician/Education Assistant
Carolyn Gryczkowski.....Lab Specialist/Curator
Mechelle Kerns.....Historian/Archaeologist
Bette Lawhon.....3-D Specialist
Tony Lindauer.....Historian/Equipment Coordinator
Sherri Marsh.....Architectural Historian
Paul Mintz.....Archaeology Technician/Research Historian
Lisa Plumley.....Archaeologist/Volunteer-Education Coordinator
Mike Rinker.....3-D Specialist
Shawn Sharpe.....Archaeologist/Lab Assistant

Letters from Lost Towns is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November by Anne Arundel County's *Lost Towns Project*. Contributors consist of *Lost Towns* staff and volunteers. Lisa Plumley is editor. To be added to or deleted from the mailing list, please contact Lisa Plumley, PACE, P.O. Box 6675, Annapolis, MD, 21401. Anne Arundel County's *Lost Towns Project* is supported by the Anne Arundel County government, in cooperation with the Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation, Inc. and the London Town Foundation, Inc. **Tax deductible donations can be made to the Anne Arundel County Trust For Preservation (ACT), P.O. Box 1573, Annapolis, MD, 21404.**

Anne Arundel County's Lost Towns Project
Planning and Zoning
2664 Riva Road, MS 6402
Annapolis, MD 21401



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED