

May 2001

Future Events

May 12

**9:00 - 2:00, London Town
Public Dig Day**

The public is invited to help screen soil, take tours, and attend workshops and video screenings.

June 4

**1:30 - 2:30, 2664 Riva Road
Early Town Development and
Planning**

Historian Tony Lindauer will describe how Anne Arundel County developed, based on archival records and archaeology.

June 16

**9:00 - 2:00, London Town
Public Dig Day**

The public is invited to help screen soil, take tours, and attend workshops and video screenings.

July 9

**1:30 - 2:30, 2664 Riva Road
History of Anne Arundel County
Ferry Boats**

Historical archaeologist Mechelle Kerns will describe her research on local colonial ferries.

July 11

**6:30, London Town
Tobacco Pipe Kilns**

Dr. Allan Peacey from Gloucestershire, England will discuss his research regarding tobacco pipe kilns.

July 14

**9:00 - 2:00, London Town
Public Dig Day**

The public is invited to help screen soil, take tours, and attend workshops and video screenings.

Letters from Lost Towns

Seeking Herrington

Jason Moser

This spring, *The Lost Towns Project* began searching for Herrington, another of Anne Arundel County's colonial 'lost towns'. The town of Herrington, also called Herring Creek Town, was located in southern Anne Arundel County along the banks of Herring Bay and Herring Creek. *The Lost Towns Project* and ACT were awarded a grant from the Maryland Historical Trust to identify any archaeological sites and document this little known 'lost town'.

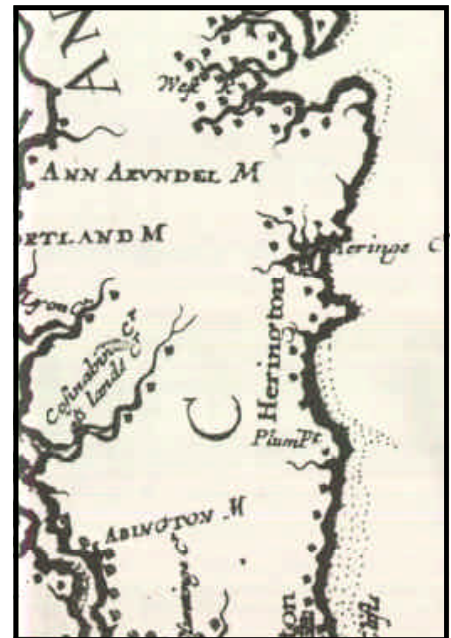
Historians Tony Lindauer and Jay Thomas examined the historical records related to the formation and eventual demise of the town. Their archival research gives some indication about the location of the town and its size but little additional information.

In 1668, a single port was created for Anne Arundel County at "Richard Actons land", which was located on the Severn River. Ten months later another ordinance indicates the presence of an additional port "afore Herrington in Herring Creek", suggesting the presence of a previously unrecorded port. Although Actons' land and Herrington were declared as ports, their enumeration as ports is not synonymous with the creation of a town. However, other sources indicate the presence of a settlement by 1668. Originally drafted in 1661 and printed in 1670, Augustine Herrman's map of Virginia and Maryland depicts Herrington. Later in 1683, in the same legislation that created London Town, the "Act for the Advancement of Trade" listed a town "att Herring Creeke on the Town Land".

The chain of title for the property indicates that the town was located on the property of William Parker, which was surveyed in 1651 and patented in 1666. We do not know how many lots were settled at Herrington, but we

do know that only five individuals owned one-acre lots in 1691. Over the next few years Christopher Vernon, owner of the surrounding plantation, purchased several of these lots, possibly incorporating them into his surrounding plantation. In 1706 and 1707, Herrington was designated once again as a town but is absent from subsequent records. Herrington had disappeared, like Providence earlier in the seventeenth century and London Town later in the eighteenth century.

Finding a needle in a haystack is the task that lies ahead of the project. Locating a very small town on what was once a 200-acre tract of land is a daunting undertaking. Although no archaeological sites have yet been found associated with the town, the historical research on Herrington provides a general location in which to search for Herrington. Project staff members are now going door-to-door in the local community and asking residents about any artifacts they may have discovered on their property. We



*Augustine Herrman map,
dated 1670*

hope that local residents may report artifacts related to archaeological sites within the town of Herrington. Local residents are also supporting the search in other ways, both by allowing the team to excavate shovel test pits (STPs) in their yards and by offering to come out and volunteer to help dig. These excavations have just begun, but expect updates in future newsletters.

Like many other Anne Arundel County towns, Herrington disappeared from the countryside before it ever became a thriving community. This fact alone makes the search for Herrington more difficult than searching for sites associated with a once-active town such as London Town. In spite of the difficulties expected with this project, we believe that continued research on Herrington will provide valuable data for comparison with other early town sites within the county and the Chesapeake Bay.

Pipe Decorating at Swan Cove

Al Luckenbach

As the excavations at Emmanuel Drue's Swan Cove continue – no, we haven't found the kiln foundation yet – we have been overwhelmed by the unique and enigmatic tobacco pipe kiln debris encountered. Numerous fragments of recognizable muffles, sagers, and props occur along with unidentified objects we are calling patties, troughs, and loafs. These are found with numerous pipe wasters and even lumps of multi-colored clays obviously selected by Drue himself (gourmet clay?). Shawn also recently discovered in the lab that Dutch roof pantile fragments were also being used in some fashion as kiln furniture.

Drue obviously devoted a lot of time and energy in the decoration of his distinctive tobacco pipes. So far, a total of six different decorating tools have been noted, including two rouletting tools, three stamps and a small circular punch. One of the most exciting tools is what we are calling Stamp Type 1 because, for this decoration, we have found the actual stamp itself (see figure). Actually, Noreen DeDeyne discovered it in the lab.



Two pipes found at the Burle site (left and right), stamp found at Swan Cove (top), and results from using stamp on clay found at Swan Cove (bottom)

This is a very rare find! At over 140 investigated kiln sites in England, only two such stamps have been recorded, and (obviously) no others have been recovered in the New World. So far, we have only five pipe fragments that show this decoration. Four are from Burle's Town Land, and one is from Swan Cove.

Even if modern grading and trenching at Swan Cove means we never find the foundation of the 1660s kiln, the evidence so far amassed will rewrite current theories on the Chesapeake tobacco pipe and its significance.

The Naming of Warehouse Creek

Mechelle Kerns-Nocerito

Recently, a plan for a storm water management project has caused much interest in Warehouse Creek, just a little north of London Town in Edgewater. In the 18th century, many of London Town's merchants and sea captains owned parcels of property on this small tributary of the South River, perhaps comprising a complex of warehouses or a shipyard. Further explorations by *Lost Towns* staff and volunteers have traced its past names.

The search for the origins of the name "Warehouse Creek" was tricky. It is commonly cited as *Warehouse Creek* on

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

As always, the *Lost Towns* Lab is a busy place. We are currently coping with the influx of exciting artifacts from the Swan Cove site. We continue to hone our knowledge of tobacco pipes and tobacco pipe making as we wash, label, and catalog the kiln furniture and products of Emmanuel Drue's pipe kiln. In addition, we are preparing for the artifacts generated by the Herrington survey, trying to keep up with the inventory of Londontown, and putting the finishing touches on the pipe papers.

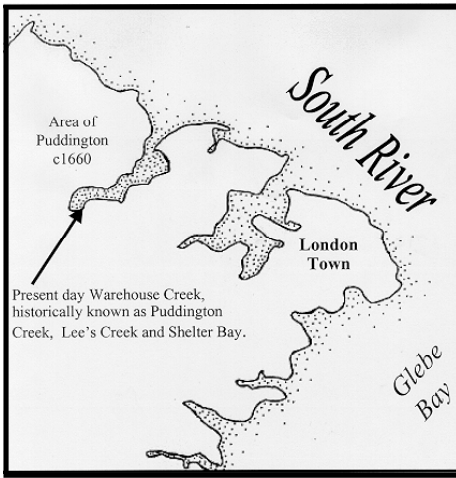
Shawn, who spends many of these spring days in the field, devotes his lab time to the conservation of various metal and glass artifacts. He is catching up on a number of sites in the collection that need attention, including Burle's Town Land, Homewoods and Rumney's Cellar.

Carolyn is working on Swan Cove processing and cataloging and is spending as much time out in the field as possible while the weather is so nice!

Rosemarie has just finished giving a talk on tobacco pipes to *Lost Towns* volunteers, and is busy with her education duties at London Town. She also has occupied herself by rebagging and cataloging Swan Cove artifacts.

Dave also has been spending much of the spring in the field, working on his pipe paper, the *Lost Towns* Pipe Typology, and working with Swan Cove artifacts as well.

Lab staff is always eager to welcome any new (as well as those who've been around, of course) volunteers. If you are interested in getting intimate with some of the artifacts from our 17th and 18th century sites, please call Dave at (410) 222-7328.



local ADC maps. The USGS National Mapping Information Database and USGS maps from 1982 did not name the creek at all. On many other maps, the creek is not named; it is simply left blank. Warehouse Creek does not appear in the USGS database, meaning it is not a federally recognized name for that body of water, although it does appear on the updated 1993 USGS “South River” quadrangle. It is usually considered part of South River.

The general time line for the creek and surrounding properties are as follows: Puddington Harbor (17th-18th centuries), Lee’s Creek (19th century), Shelter Bay and Barn Creek (early 20th century) and then Warehouse Creek (c. 1960s to present).

In the 17th century, George Puddington patented the property on the creek. His properties were called Puddington’s Gift and Puddington’s Harbor (700a, 1663). They were noted as being located on *Puddington’s Creek*. The creek was referred to as Puddington’s as late as 1922.

Lee’s Creek appears on the May 1847 US Coastal Survey (Examined and Corrected May, 1855). The property was originally owned by Puddington, changed hands many times, and was extensively subdivided. Nevertheless, in 1817, Stephen Lee purchased the property, thus *Lee’s Creek* and *Lee’s Wharf*. The property was then conveyed to Lee’s son, Stephen Lewis Lee. The 1940 USGS Survey map of Anne Arundel County shows *Lee’s Wharf* at the edge of the Lee property and its border with the South River. The creek is not labeled.

Beginning in 1921, the property on the south side of Warehouse Creek was subdivided

and developed into the communities of *South River Park* and *New South River Park*. The waterfront plats from this development label the body of water as *Shelter Bay*. One plat from the 1929 New South River Park subdivision is located on *Barn Creek*.

The modern name of the creek, *Warehouse Creek* came into common use in the 1960s. The 1967 Maryland Department of Assessment & Taxation maps (number 56) cites the creek as *Shelter Bay* at the mouth, and *Warehouse Creek* inland. *Warehouse Creek* has been most commonly used in the 20th-century. The USGS National Mapping Information Database provides the current names of populated places and bodies of water (among other geography features) as well as historic names that are no longer in use, but *Warehouse Creek* still does not appear among the records of the USGS databases. Nonetheless, today the creek is known as Warehouse Creek. Just a little local history from the *Lost Towns Project*...



The Swan Cove “Swan”

Al Luckenbach

Award-winning volunteer Bernie Rosenberg is not a shy individual, nor is he one to suffer in silence. As Al was recently excavating Feature 7 at Swan Cove, he listened to a litany of complaints from Bernie about the soil he was screening from a nearby square. Obviously spoiled from his long experience with the *Lost Towns Project*, Bernie was repeatedly heard to say “There’s nothing in this...it’s boring.” That is, until he pulled the Swan Cove “Swan” from his screen.

This latten object, about six inches in length, served an unknown decorative purpose. At one end a curved neck and head suggest nothing so much as a Swan – a rather ironic object from Swan Cove. Further down the piece a human face peers out. Lisa, since she is still in graduate school, can be forgiven for seeing obvious African connections. Al sees this as evidence for Vikings on the Chesapeake. Isn’t archaeological interpretation fun?



The Lost Towns Project’s sweatshirts, polo shirts, and baseball caps are now available!

Decorated with the Lost Town’s logo, sweatshirts are navy, polo shirts are cornflower blue, and 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 go to the Lost Town’s Internship Program.

Thank you!





Volunteer Spotlight: Marj Hegge

Marj Hegge has been involved with *Lost Towns* excavations since its beginnings. She joined the team composed of county archaeologist Al Luckenbach and volunteers in 1990, working both in the field and lab. She has volunteered at every major site on which the project has worked, and has the know-how to prove it!

Marj is an excellent artist, and illustrated not only some of the pipes in the *Lost Towns* pipe volume, but also Cathy Pringle's *Colonial Lighting: A Brief History*, which can be perused and purchased at London Town. She is extremely creative and has a keen eye for detail, both of which are excellent characteristics to have around the site and lab.

It is hard to believe, but archaeology is not Marj's only interest. She also is active with the Annapolis Chorale, as well as a host of other performance groups. When she's not digging with us, she's fighting with bamboo and working in her own amazing gardens and yard.

Marj's good humor, archaeological experience, and, let's face it, patience, have been indispensable assets to our team. She has also donated scores of books, office supplies, and software to the project. We appreciate her hard work, sincere laughter, and devilish grins, and look forward to working with her many more years in the future!

The Search for Governor Benjamin Ogle

Jane Cox

The possible location of the gravesite of Governor Benjamin Ogle (d. 1809) has been a topic of conversation in Eastport ever since Annapolis City Alderman Ellen Moyer posed the question, "Where's Ben?" to the residents. Her interest in the roots of horse racing in Annapolis and Anne Arundel County led to the revelation that the quaint village of Eastport was once a large horse-racing and breeding farm owned by Governor Benjamin Ogle. Somewhere on Ogle's 809-acre farm, known as "The President", is the final resting place of Ben. Ogle requested that he be buried on his farm near Annapolis, and a Maryland Gazette article indicates that his wishes were honored in early July of 1809.

On April 5th and 6th, the *Lost Towns Project* lent a hand to the Maritime Republic of Eastport to answer "the question" that has been emblazoned on bumper stickers in the City of Annapolis for more than a year. Initial environmental and archival research guided the investigations to a knoll overlooking Spa Creek on the Annapolis Yacht Club annex property. In cooperation with the Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation, *Lost Towns* archaeologists used geophysical survey equipment to search for the lost gravesite of Benjamin Ogle.

The search, which occurred at the beginning of Maryland Archaeology Month, provided a great opportunity for a somewhat non-conventional archaeological demonstration, utilizing sophisticated "remote-sensing" techniques. The ground penetrating radar was used to search for irregular soil strata and disturbances, with the hope that a pattern attributable to a cemetery might be found.

Nearly 80-4th and 5th graders from Eastport Elementary School visited the site and learned about Governor Benjamin Ogle and his colonial era horse farm, the history of Eastport, and about how archaeology can teach us about the past. We also had the opportunity to talk with citizens of the Maritime Republic and to meet several of Ogle's descendants, who were all quite interested in the search.

So... Where is Ben? Results at this point are inconclusive. Evaluation of the radar data indicates that the area surveyed was quite disturbed by previous construction, utility activity, and according to one visitor, a large fish pond! While the survey strongly suggests that Ben is not on this parcel of land, there are several other locations across the former 809-acre parcel of "the President" that may still hold the answer. Until then, the search will continue...



Jane talking with Eastport students

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.

Building a New Colonial Landscape

John Kille

As you may have heard through the grapevine, 17th-century property owner David Mackelfish will one again establish a foothold on the landscape of Colonial London Town. Drs. Greg Stiverson and Al Luckenbach are carefully planning the reconstruction of “Lord Mayor’s Tenement”, one of the earliest buildings that once stood on Mackelfish’s two lots close to the town’s urban center.

Detailed architectural drawings for the first building in the planned reconstructed village have been executed by Willie Graham, an accomplished and respected architectural historian with the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. Graham designed the two-story, two room tenement structure with the assistance of an archaeological grid map and a wealth of data provided by the Lost Town Project team of archaeologists and may volunteers, supervised by site director Lisa Plumley. The project’s excavations revealed a 20’ x20’-footprint based on exterior posts that supported the building.

Graham’s architectural plans for the building feature a clapboard roof, siding, and covering around the chimney. The new tenement building will be constructed using post-in-ground architecture, traditional wood framing members, and handcrafted finishing work. While the exact function of the original tenement structure cannot be determined, the central focus of the reconstructed building will be a working kitchen and fireplace.

This new kitchen area will make it possible to demonstrate many different aspects related to colonial cooking. For instance, the area can be used as a springboard for discussing the exchange of plants between the New and Old Worlds, the diet of early settlers, the changing environment of the Chesapeake, and many other topics. The new building will make it possible to make these important historical connections by incorporating vegetables and fruit grown in

the nearby garden and plants found in the formal gardens.

While the completed structure will undoubtedly be an important educational and interpretive tool, the actual building process will be just as informative. The construction will enable visitors and the local community to witness an earthfast building gradually being raised from the ground up. They will be able to watch skilled craftsmen work with early technology and basic materials, providing fascinating insights into

colonial architecture and life in the early Chesapeake.

The Lord Mayor’s Tenement project is important because it represents the great promise of resurrecting a colonial village on the South River as well as the enormous potential for exploring new avenues of historical interpretation. For more information or you would like to volunteer to help build the earthfast structure, please contact Vicki Lerch at London Town, (410) 222-1919.



New Chaney Hills Exhibit

The next time you are in the neighborhood of the Anne Arundel County Planning and Zoning Office at 2664 Riva Road, take a moment and visit the new *Chaney’s Hills Homestead* exhibit recently installed in the fourth floor lobby. This small permanent display is devoted to the project’s research and excavations at the late 17th-century homestead of Richard and Charity Chaney, ancestors of one of the county’s most prominent families.

The new Chaney’s Hills exhibit features a storyboard layout designed to better engage, as well as inform, visitors about various aspects of historical archaeology associated with the site. It incorporates a mix of photos, grid and plat maps, architectural drawings, as well as reconstructed scenes of the homestead in 3D animation. A brief narrative text and captions help interpret these images, and period artifacts provide further context for the visitor. Many thanks to the Chaney family volunteers who helped us gather information, as well as excavate this site.

-John Kille

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-Nocerito.....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. To be added or deleted from the mailing list, please contact Lisa Plumley, Planning and Zoning, 2664 Riva Road, MS 6401, Annapolis, MD, 21401 or call (410) 222-7441. 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.**



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