

Letters from Lost Towns

Fall 2004



Future Events

Society for Historical
Archaeology Conference
York, England

January 5th - 10th

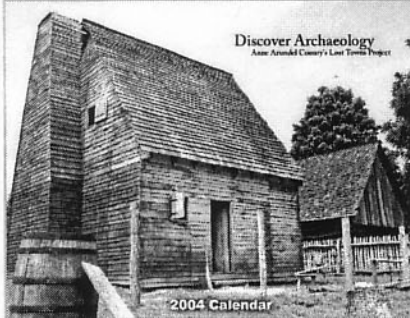
Come and hear what
Archaeologists all over the world
have been doing in 2004

May 14, July 9 and
September 10

9:00 - 2:00, London Town
Public Dig Days

Lost Towns archaeologists invite
the public to help screen soil
looking for artifacts, take tours,
and attend workshops.

2005 *Lost Towns Project*
Calendars



For a donation of \$11.95 or more
this lovely item could be yours!
Call John Kille to get your Lost
Towns Calendar today!
410-222-7441



Jane, Shawn and Lauren working at Swan Cove

Still Diggin'?

The *Lost Towns Project* spent most of 2004 excavating a series of complex, intersecting features at the Swan Cove Site. These six pits were first exposed during the Archaeological Society field school last May. They include refuse from both the Emmanuel Drue pipe kiln operation and the later 17th century Merriday occupation. Important information about Drue's activities is represented by muffles, loaves, raw clays, and new and unique pieces of kiln furniture. The Merriday features have yielded a wonderful collection of ceramics – particularly a series of near-complete North Devon gravel-tempered vessels – as well as three marked latten spoons.

Work has also recently restarted at the Leavy Neck Site, the location of our History Detectives burial. The plan is to

remove the final quarter of the trash-filled cellar before winter manages to accomplish this task for us.

And finally, as always, educational excavations continue at London Town. Feature excavation has been completed at the Carpenter's Shop in preparation for the reconstruction of this structure next year.

~Al Luckenbach

“The Loud and Dirty at Quiet Waters”

There is nothing like getting a group of friends together to celebrate all the wonderful things they have done. I'm talking about the wonderful Volunteer Party we had this year. There was such delicious food, like Tony's Asian delight, and the cracker spread made by Lois,

Changing Faces

For those who have not been to the lab lately there is an old face that is missing. The *Lost Towns Project* is sad to say that yet another one in our ranks has gone to pursue other ventures. The victim this time around is our beloved lab director David Gadsby. He has gone to further his education at American University, getting his Ph.D. in Anthropology with a focus in Archaeology. Although he is unsure of his focus subject at this point we are all sure that he will go far in whatever he chooses to do. Dave will be missed greatly and we all wish him the best of luck.

On a happier note *Lost Towns* has a new face around the lab, her name, Cara Fama. AI has hired Cara to try to fill Dave's shoes, this is no easy task, but it looks like she is up to the challenge. This is what she has to say about being a new addition to the *Lost Towns* staff.

As the new addition to the Lost Towns Project staff, I'd like to introduce myself to our readers. Currently, I am finishing my master's degree in Museum Studies at the George Washington University, where I have focused in large part on issues regarding cultural property and repatriation. Prior to that, I was at Historic St. Mary's City in Southern Maryland, right across the street from my dear alma mater, St. Mary's College of Maryland.

While I was still an undergraduate, I worked part time in the archaeology lab at HSMC. I was hired full time after graduation for several projects in the field, including work at the St John's site and the Chapel Field site. From there I moved back into the lab to work on a grant for the re-housing of a large portion of the collection as HSMC prepared to pass the accreditation review with the American Association of Museums. I also worked on the new exhibit for the St. John's site, which is slated for construction this winter after being delayed for some time because of state budget issues.

I am excited to be the new archaeology lab director for the Lost Towns Project, and I look forward to meeting more of our wonderful volunteers. I have already had the pleasure of getting to know a few of you (es-

pecially our regular volunteers in the lab). I have to say that I am very impressed by the dedication and enthusiasm that I have seen already. Currently, the lab has plenty of work to keep us all busy. I hope that you will come by the lab to say hello and to see what we are up to, or to lend a hand if you have the time.

~Lauren Franz



and the super sweet and sinful tiramisu made by Rose Marie. Oh, all this talk about food is making me hungry. Being out in the woods was something new this year, but I think it worked out pretty well. It was very secluded, so we could make all the ruckus we wanted, but we would never do that ☺. It was a beautiful day for the picnic, and I think everyone had a good time. We also did a little something dif-

ferent this year with the volunteer gifts, every year we give gag gifts to everyone that seem to fit their personality best.

This year we really wanted everyone to know just how much we appreciated them, so we bought trowel pendants, making necklaces for the ladies and key chains for the men...I hope no one has poked himself or herself yet, and I hope you all enjoyed your gifts and are

still enjoying them today. I want to thank all of our volunteers for making the *Lost Towns Project* what it is today, without your help most of what we do would not be possible. I hope everyone had a great time at the volunteer party, I know I did!

~Erin Cullen

Lab Update

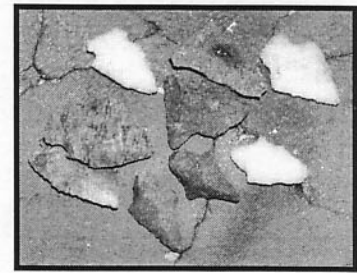
With a 'change in command' in the lab for the *Lost Towns Project*, there have also been a few changes to the lab that visitors may be quick to notice. On the surface, we have been trying to keep the lab cleaner and neater to provide more space for research and artifact processing and treatment. To do this, we have organized our book shelves and Shawn Sharpe has updated our book list so that we can better keep track of our resources. In addition to this, Carolyn Gryczkowski has updated our check-in sheet to include more information about the status of our artifacts as they go through processing so that we can identify the washing, labeling and cataloging priorities for the lab.

A few of our smaller projects have included the organization and storage of computer media such as CDs and diskettes and the clearing off of lab surfaces. We have also decided to keep the storage rooms locked when not in use as a safety precaution due to the fact that those rooms are out of our sight when we are in the main lab office and there are often children who visit the offices on the second floor who may be curious enough to try to move something that could possibly injure them.

For the future of the lab, there are a few projects on the 'list of things to do' that includes the organization of our files to help provide better access to our resources as well as to record our conservation procedures in a conservation manual that we will be able to con-

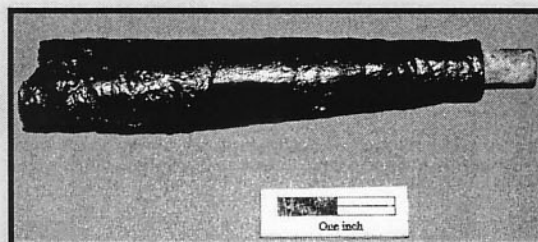
sult and update on a regular basis. In addition to the updating of our conservation procedures, we will also develop a means of keeping track of our conservation priorities to better care for our more fragile and reactive artifacts. The lab is always a busy place here at the *Lost Towns Project*, which gives us lots of projects and lots of things to keep track of – a challenge that is always interesting and full of discovery.

~ Cara Fama



Mystery Artifact

A truly odd object is the subject of the Fall edition of the mystery artifact. During the excavation of a pit at the Swan Cove site, a very degraded, mildly cone shaped piece of iron was uncovered. What makes this artifact of especial interest is that the narrow end is crimped around a Drue pipe stem. Unfortunately, the pit it came from contained debris from both the Emmanuel Drue occupation and the slightly later Henry Merriday occupation so it is uncertain what period the item dates to. Theories of the objects function range from a slip trailing device to a bellows tip but as yet we have not positively ascertained its use. If you have any thoughts or ideas please call the Archaeology lab at (410) 222-7328.



What is it???

2004 ACT Awards

More than ninety people gathered at the 18th century Rosehill in Gambrills to celebrate the Historic Preservation and Archaeology Awards for The Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation, Inc. ACT held its annual awards ceremony on a cold, misty day, October 20th, to celebrate the commitment of Anne Arundel County's residents to historic preservation. President Will Mumford and broad member Al Luckenbach presented five awards for 2004.

The **ACT Volunteer Award** was shared by three of the most dedicated volunteers who tirelessly work in the Anne Arundel County Lab week in and week out. The new lab director Cara Roviello quickly found that washing buddies Betty Williams and Caroline Wugofski set a strong pace for everyone else in the lab, as they man their toothbrushes with authority and skill. While Betty and Caroline are washing, Joan Klick maintains a steady hand while labeling countless bits of ceramic, bone, glass and heaven only knows what else! These ladies are an invaluable team that keeps the Anne Arundel County Archaeology Lab going. Thanks again for your support and dedication!

The 2004 **Special Contribution to Archaeology Award** was an easy decision for all. Even before the "Hollywood style" filming of the History Detectives show

on PBS, the Seznec's have been a mainstay supporter of the *Lost Towns Project* research on Providence. Any coincidence that their farm is called 'Hollywood Farm'? The discovery of a burial of an indentured servant at the Leavy Neck Site raised excitement and public interest, but the Seznec's were there well before the fame! Cory Seznec first came to the *Lost Towns Project* as an intern in 1999 while attending school at Johns Hopkins. Soon after his internship, his mother Thackray Seznec suggested and encouraged the *Lost Towns Project* to come investigate the 17th century domestic site on their farm. Little did we know what excitement lay below the surface. Thackray's enthusiasm and hospitality is only exceeded by that of their charming dog Mo. The Seznec's once again came to our aid when the 2004 Field School was held on the Swan Cove site. She graciously offered up her cottage in the woods for several archaeologist campers! Husband Jean offered up the farm truck and a generator when we need to move heavy stuff, run lights or pump out a water filled cellar hole! Their ongoing support and assistance has made excavations at Leavy Neck an enjoyable and productive endeavor!

ACT presented Peg Wallace the **Lifetime Achievement Award** for her ongoing drive to make the Annapolis Maritime Museum a success. Begun by a small group of Eastporters' in the

mid-1980s as the Barge House Museum of the Eastport Historical Committee, Peg was instrumental in seeing that there was a much bigger and exciting story to be told for visitors and residents alike. The museum has recently undergone a massive period of growth and is now known as the Annapolis Maritime Museum. Not only is Peg an enthusiastic cheerleader for the Museum, her interest in the personal stories of Annapolitians has ensured that the maritime characters that have made Annapolis what it is won't be forgotten.

The **24th Annual Marjorie Murray Bridgman Award** is presented in memory of one of the Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation, Inc's founders. This year, the spirited Mr. Jack Smith was honored for his many years of dedication to historical research and preservation in Galesville. Those who have meet Mr. Smith know his wry sense of humor! We here at Lost Towns got to know Jack a few years back when we excavated the Willson site, just outside of Galesville. We look forward to working with him in the near future to identify additional archaeology sites in Galesville.

The 28th Orlando Ridout Prize honors the name of Anne Arundel County native who was the first director of the Maryland Historical Trust and continues to lead preservation efforts in the County and State. This year, the award

Wedding Corner

The Ladies of Lost Towns are Getting Married

Erin Piechowiak married Ryan Cullen on a beautiful fall day in the woods at Historic London Town and Gardens. Erin's fairy themed wedding was as unique as it was enchanting. Guests lined the open grove to watch as Erin and her bridesmaids (clad in wings and face paint) walked down the aisle. And the one who married them was none other than our own David Gadsby.



Ryan and Erin Cullen
October 1, 2004

On a more traditional note our new lab director Cara Roviello married her long time beau Brennan Fama on the 30th of October in Buck's County, Pennsylvania. They met and fell in love while attending St Mary's College and three and a half years later they were walking down the aisle towards thier happily ever after.



Brennan and Cara Fama
October, 30 2004

was presented to Catherine and Michael Cherry for their extensive restoration and preservation work on Rosehill, site of this years' awards ceremony. Rosehill is a significant 18th century structure, which displays a complex construction evolution originating from a mid-18th century frame, 1 ½ story double pile plan house with an unusual short side passage. It is the first documented example of this form in the Chesapeake Bay region. Several ancillary structures contribute to this properties significance.


~ Jane Cox

Key Support from the Cultural Arts Foundation

The Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation and *the Lost Towns Project* are extremely honored and grateful to receive a FY 05 General Operating Grant of \$1,000 from the Cultural Arts Foundation of Anne Arundel County (CAF). This important educational programs, including hands-on activities, workshops, public lectures, museum exhibits, and volunteer work. The CAF is dedicated to supporting, strengthening, and promoting artists and cultural attractions in Anne Arundel County. Please visit www.artsfoundation.com to find out more about the many worthwhile programs and events that take place in our local community. The Foundation offers a full calendar of outstanding exhibitions, historic preservation activities, festivals, symphonic performances and concert series at county sites.

~John Kille

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Who makes up the Lost Towns Project?

Al Luckenbach.....Director/County Archaeologist

Jane Cox.....Assistant County Archaeologist

Cara Fama.....Lab Director

John Kille.....Assistant Director,

Operations/Grant Administration

Donna Ware.....Architectural Historian

Carolyn Gryczkowski.....Lab Specialist

Tony Lindauer.....Historian/Equipment

Manager

Sherri Marsh.....Assistant Architectural

Historian

Erin Cullen.....Archaeologist/Volunteer

and Education Coordinator

Lauren Franz.....Archaeologist/Intern

Coordinator/Newsletter Editor

Shawn Sharpe.....Field Director/Conservation

Specialist

Letters from *Lost Towns* is published three to four times a year 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 Erin Cullen, Office of Environmental and Cultural Programs, 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.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Digging, Screening, Cleaning

or Whatever

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 always available.
- Field days vary depending on the weather and particular projects. Call Erin at (410)222-7441 for information. The lab is open Monday through Friday from 9:00-4:00. Call the lab phone, (410)222-7328, for information. The lab is located on the 2nd floor of 2666 Riva Road in the Heritage Government Center.
- Tax-deductable donations can be made to the Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation (ACT), P.O. Box 1573, Annapolis, MD 21401. Please note "*Lost Towns Project*" in any correspondence.

Lost Towns Project



of Anne Arundel County

Office of Environmental and Cultural Programs
2664 Riva Road, MS 6402
Annapolis MD, 21401
(410)222-7441