

Neck

The Burial at Leavy Jane Cox

Letters from Lost Towns

August's exciting discovery of a burial at the Leavy Neck site has kept the Lost Towns Project busy! After Erin's initial discovery of the skull, it was reburied while we took stock of the situation. We realized that even with all of the Lost Towns talent, we would need a specialist to get as much insight from this unique burial as possible. We were delighted when Dr. Doug Owsley with the Smithsonian Institute took an interest in our Providence burial. We also wanted to ensure that this amazing story was well-documented and arranged with the PBS show "History Detectives" to highlight the discovery at Leavy Neck in an upcoming episode.

While plans were being made for the excavation of the burial, the team continued to excavate other parts of the cellarhole. Two additional quarter sections have been removed and as of this writing, we are happy to report that no additional burials have been uncovered. These excavations have more tightly dated the deposit that lies over the burial to the mid-1660s. Artifacts such as En-

glish Delft, North Devon Sgraffitto, and occasional wine and case bottle fragments were mixed in with dense animal bone and fireplace ash. Along with pipes and a coin dated 1664, the artifact assemblage clearly suggested that the cellar was filled soon after the body was buried.

Winter 2004

After a long week of careful excavation, the "History Detectives" and



Depiction of a ship (left) New Port Isle of Wight 1664 (right)

Dr. Owsley from the Smithsonian descended on the Leavy Neck site to document the exciting removal of the body. As we excavated, we were amazed to find a large fragment of a North Devon milk pan pressed on top of the individual's ribcage. At first we speculated that this might be a grave good, but the nature of its deposition, along with other broken and randomly deposited artifacts in the grave shaft, (including a tobacco pipe bowl under the spine) made us look to a more practical rea-

Future Events

March 12-14 Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference

www.maacmidatlanticarchaeology.org

Takes place this year in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, at the Atlantic Sands Hotel and Conference Center (right on the boardwalk).

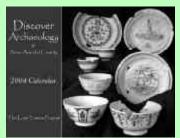
May 15 9:00 - 2:00, London Town **Public Dig Day**

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

July 10 9:00 - 2:00, London Town Public Dig Day

September 11 9:00 - 2:00, London Town Public Dig Day

Get your Lost Towns Calendar!



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Skeleton as found during excavation with a broken milk pan on the rib cage.

son for it being there.

After meticulous mapping in situ, the team removed the skeleton, bone by bone. It became even more apparent that the body had been forced into the hole, as the left knee was pressed against the subsoil walls with enough force to displace the patella. The arms were awkwardly placed and the shoulders were folded inward as if the body just didn't quite fit.

Dr. Owsley made an initial assessment of the skeleton while it was still in the ground. The slope of the cranium suggested that the body was a male. He also put forward that the individual was of European descent based on nose and facial structure. Based on the lack of fusion between the long bones and epiphises (the joint bone), he estimated the body to have been 16 to 18 years old. He also noted that there was evidence for well-developed and intensive muscle attachment on the bone. Based upon this initial review, he estimated the individual to be approximately 5 ½ feet tall. After careful removal, the skeleton was brought to the lab where it was cleaned and prepared for transfer to the Smithsonian.

Why was this body pressed into a hole that was too small... with no burial shroud or coffin? Some speculated wildly that the body was one of the prisoners from the 1655 Battle of the Severn, a Catholic.... murdered in cold blood. More likely however is the possibility that this was simply an indentured servant who worked for the Neal family. When he passed away, whether due to foul play, accident or disease, there was little pomp and circumstance involved in this expedient internment. Was the milkpan used to press the body into the graveshaft because the person burying it didn't want to touch a diseased body? Was it purely coincidence that the milk pan fell onto the body? Was the family hiding the death of their servant from authorities?

While we may never have a definitive answer, several things will become clear after the body is more carefully analyzed by the Smithsonian Team. Owsley will undertake bone core isotope analysis which will tell us whether this

young man had recently come from Europe, where his diet would have relied heavily on barley and wheat. If the individual was born in the Colony or had spent most of his formidable growth years in the New World, the isotope analysis will suggest a diet more reliant upon corn. Additional measurements of the cranium and pelvis will also confirm the sex of the individual and detailed study may also give an indication as to the individual's morphology, health issues, and possibly even his cause of dear to the individual to the indivi

Ultimately, the unfortunate demise of this person will add important information to our understanding of life and death in the 17th century Chesapeake. The Leavy Neck skeleton tells an important story not found in the archives and suggests that the individual led a short life, full of hard labor and toil in the burgeoning settlement of Providence. After the Smithsonian completes their analysis, the skeleton may be incorporated into a planned exhibit on mortuary practices in the early Chesapeake. Ultimately, the property owners



Al, Dr. Doug Owsley from the Smithsonian and History Detectives host Gwen Wright consider the Leavy Neck burial.

New 2004 Calendar Showcases Archaeology in Anne Arundel County

John Kille



Julv

The *Lost Towns Project* is pleased to announce the arrival of a limited edition 2004 calendar devoted to Anne Arundel County's earliest history. This professionally printed, full-color calendar features captivating images, including outstanding 17th- and 18th-century ceramics and glass, and digital reconstructions of artifacts and buildings. Each month of this unique calendar also contains important dates in Maryland history.

The 2004 calendar includes views of London Town's Rumney-West tavern; clay tobacco pipes made by the County's earliest artisan (above right); a decorated plate belonging to the first commander of the Providence Settlement; an aerial view of the Talbott family site in Galesville; an emotional reburial of a slave child discovered during the excavation of the William Brown Carpenter Shop (right); impressive prehistoric Adena spear points; and a digital reconstruction of the ca. 1649 Robert Burle house.

The archaeology calendar is sponsored by the Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation, Inc, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit. The proceeds will support the *Lost Town Project's* many activities related to discovering and preserving our shared history. The calendar is available for a donation of only \$11.95, and it makes the perfect gift for any occasion. Orders of three or more calendars will be discounted at only



September



April

\$10 each. Calendars may be purchased at the *Lost Towns Project* office at 2664 Riva Road on the 4th Floor or a check can be sent to The Lost Towns Archaeology Project

P.O. Box 1573
Annapolis, MD 21404

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And the Award Goes To. . . .

The annual Anne Arudel County Trust for Preservation, Inc. awards were held in October at Hancock's Resolution in Northern Anne Arundel County. On a blustery day, the historic preservation community gathered to honor several supporters of the *Lost Towns Project*.

This year's Special Contributions in Archaeology Award was given to the Willson Family. Jimmy and Julie Willson began the process for building their new home in Galesville Maryland in 2001, during which an 18th century archaeological site was discovered. The Willson's worked closely with Anne Arundel County and revised their building plans ensure that the 18th century homesite of the Talbott Family was preserved. The Willson's also enthusiastically supported the research and excavation of this site, which adds an important chapter to Anne Arundel County's colonial history.

The mother and son team of Sarah Sandefur and James Simpson have contributed countless hours to both Londontown and to Anne Arundel County's Lost Town's Archaeology Project. Sarah and James have been volunteering at London Town for more than 6 years—longer than many of the archaeology team has been around!

Sarah volunteers as an education docent for London Town and is one of the stalwart volunteers who tirelessly works with visiting schoolchildren, teaching them about the archaeology and history of Londontown. It's amazing that she can find the time considering she also works as a school nurse in Prince George's County, and is a Lt. Colonel in the United States Reserves.

James attends nearly every Saturday Dig Day and can always be found hard at work digging and carrying buckets. James was a reliable volunteer while he was still in middle school and he is currently pursuing a degree at Anne Arundel Community College.

This past year, in addition to Sarah's time spent with school groups and London Town, both Sarah and James assisted the *Lost Towns Project* during the deep freeze excavations at the Shah property. Their enthusiasm and commitment makes them worthy of this year's Volunteer Award.



Sarah and James (left) accepting their award for countless hours of volunteer work.

Jimmy and his son (right) accepting the award for thier special contribution to Archaeology.

Thomas Thurston: Maryland Friend

Forrest R. Flanders

The first generations of our early American society are commonly presented as people of greater work ethic, piety, and moral conviction. This romanticized vision is slightly askew, for it neglects to account for the more human qualities and reactions to the adversities of life, in seventeenth century America. Thomas Thurston, of Anne Arundel County, was greatly representative of this duality, between religious conviction and the more human responses to the complexity of life.

Thomas Thurston arrived in Maryland in 1658, under the direction of George Fox, to lead the nascent Quaker communities in Severn (Providence), Patuxent, and Kent. As one of Gloucestershire, England's first "Speakers of Truth", his arrival was highly anticipated by the Maryland Friends. Adversity Plagued Thurston's early years in America. Arriving first in New England aboard the good ship Speedwell, in 1654, the provincial government proved incredibly intolerant of his religious views and subsequently forced his return to England. In Virginia, and later Maryland, his encounters with the provincial governments faired little better; however, in Maryland the source of his plight was not his religious outlook.

The Oath of Fidelity was a most important pledge within the provinces, from which the government would, amongst other things, procure militias. Thurston's refusal to take the oath, accompanied by his tireless work to convince others to refuse, on the grounds that they "would not be a servant to any man", created great tensions between the Maryland Friends and the Court Magistrates. The conflict eventually led Thurston to return to England in order to gain financial support from Fox. In

1663, he returned to Maryland accompanied by his wife, two daughters, and several servants and in doing so had secured land rights in Anne Arundel, including the property named the Tanyard (18AN825). Thurston's return was marked with turmoil; although, the source of his tribulation was not the Provincial Courts.

A schism had grown in the Ouaker community over controversial teachings of John Parrot, to which Thurston adhered. The Maryland Friends were deeply dissatisfied with his new beliefs "not only for his wickedness, but also his opposition...and the disturbance that he brought upon us in our meetings". The rift between Thurston and the group he had labored to establish had risen to such heights by 1672 that George Fox traveled to America to speak with Thurston about his "vagabond ways". In the presence of Fox, Thurston did renounce his practices; yet, by 1676 Thurston had become so disenfranchised with the community that he signed his property over to his daughters and departed from Maryland.

In 1683, a letter from the Maryland Friends to George Fox reveals "Another evil instrument is Thomas Thurston, who is come again into this province, a very wrong spirited man, who has made it some of his work to abuse and belye Friends". Upon Thurston's return and until his death in 1692, the rift would continue to grow. The divergence was not only his with the Maryland Friends, but also from his religious conviction. In 1688, Thurston was elected to the Lower House of the Colonial Assembly, and in 1692, just before his death, became a Colonel in the militia.

Thomas Thurston's participation in the groups and positions he once so vehemently condemned as "Woolsey fellows" having led them "to nothing but papist rules" exemplifies the duality between religious conviction and the more human responses to the complexities of life, in 17th century America.

Recent Grant Awards:

John Kille

Crucial Support from Preservation Maryland for London Town 3D **Project**

The Lost Towns Project is extremely grateful to Preservation Maryland for a generous grant award of \$5,000 to complete a digital reconstruction of the interior of Rumney's Tavern. The work will be the centerpiece of a touch screen activated computer kiosk exhibit within the new museum facility to be built at Historic London Town and Gardens. Animator Carl Gehrman is carrying out the reconstruction of the tavern's 18thcentury furnishings and architectural elements in the tavern's. This project is being directed by John Kille, who is also providing archaeological data and historical interpretation for the multimedia educational presentation.

Maryland Humanities Council Funding Brings Dr. Allan Peacey to London Town

Many thanks to the Maryland Humanities Council for a mini-grant award of \$1,200 that enabled English clay tobacco pipe scholar, Dr. Allan Peacey, to spend two weeks at Historic London Town and Gardens assisting Tony Lindauer with the reconstruction of a pipe kiln. Dr. Peacey, the author of "The Development of the Clay Tobacco Pipe Kiln in the British Isles," also presented a very well received evening lecture at the London Town visitor's center on the excavation of 17th-century English pipe kilns he has supervised over the last decade.

It's a Boy!

All of us at the Lost Towns Project are delighted to announce that after nine long months Mechelle Kerns gave birth to a bouncing baby boy on December 7th at 10:00 p.m. His name, Benjamin Francesco Nocerito, is a mouthful for anyone, let alone a baby who is only a few weeks old, but knowing his mom and dad I think I'm safe in saying that he is up to the task. His weighs in at eight pounds thirteen ounces and is 21 ¾ inches long. With his dark hair and blue eyes, he is already a little heartbreaker. See for yourself! Mechelle and little Benjamin are both happy and healthy after their stay in the hospital and are both currently at home resting. We are sad to say, however, that Mechelle will no longer be with us at the Lost Towns Project. She has decided to be a full time mom for a while. The Project will miss her dearly but can't wait to see the little guy in person.



Everyone this is Benjamin, isn't he adorable!

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Lost Towns Project to Nominate Providence Sites to National Register.

David Gadsby

Recent excavations in Providence have been a part of our effort to nominated several sites in the lower Broadneck to the National Register of Historic Places . These sites, all of which have undergone some archaeological investigation by Lost Towns, are being included in a Multiple Property Submission(MPS). MPS is a way to nominate several sites under one blanket document, called a historic context. The document serves as a way to situate the Providence sites into a historic framework that explains the importance of Providence in Maryland history. It includes sections on early Maryland politics, agriculture, religion, transportation, architecture and community planning. The MPS document also establishes a typology of archaeological sites that could be found as a part of the Providence settlement, and establishes criteria for their eligibility for the National Register.

Appended to the MPS document are the individual site forms. These forms give specific information about the sites to be nominated. They describe the sites environmental setting, immediate historical context, and include archaeological results from the site. A statement of significance, establishing the eligibility of the site for the National Register is also included. Most archaeological sites are considered eligible if they have the potential to yield new information about the past.

The sites to be nominated include Homewood's Lot, Swan Cove, Burle's Town Land, the Tanyard, Leavy Neck, Town Neck and Broad Neck.



Replica of Emanuel Drue's 17th Century Pipe Kiln

Experimental Archaeology Resurrents Emanuel Drue's Pipe Kiln

Tony Lindauer

In 1661 two brothers moved from South County to their new home on the Severn River. Hugh and Emanuel Drue bought and lived upon what is known to us today as the Swan Cove site. Emanuel was a pipe maker and the archaeological discoveries related to his trade supplied the data for some 'experimental archaeology' (For more info, see our November 2000 newsletter.) By recreating the kiln and attempting pipemaking with the old techniques, archae-

ologists are able to better understand the industrial activity of pipe-making. Therefore, we set out to reconstruct Drue's pipe kiln and reproduce his pipes using the artifacts of his trade found at the Swan Cove site as a guide.

We began by looking at all the artifacts found in connection with the pipe kiln and the pipe-making process. So what does a 17th-century pipe kiln look like? Unfortunately, the kiln at Swan Cove has yet to

be discovered, though the artifacts clearly indicate there was one there. We began by researching 17th and 18th century pipe kilns and tried to find correlations between their materials and those artifacts found at Swan Cove. While brick kilns were ubiquitous, the only building material found at Swan Cove were heavily-glazed cobblestones—and no bricks!. So we began searching for evidence of a 17th-century kiln made from cobblestones. The only example we could find was a late-Roman pottery kiln style which is still in use in Crete today. Lacking of other historic antecedents, this style became the model for the reconstruction of Drue's kiln.

The next part of this puzzle was to

determine how the internal structure of the kiln worked. Referring to Allan Peacey's research in England, we began making sense of the Swan Cove artifacts relating to the internal working of the kiln, (such as the flue, the firing chamber, and the internal support system for the pipes). Items required for firing a pipe kiln, such as muffles, cross-props, and loaves entered our vocabulary. The final step in this experiment was to research and make the tools needed to recreate Drue's unique pipes. From pipe molds and wires, to decorative stamps, recreating Drue's pipes has brought us a better understanding of Drue's trade. But where to build the kiln and who will pay for it? London Town Foundation came to the rescue and has incorporated this unique colonial industry into the Park's reconstructed village. In the next newsletter, I'll report on the construction process and the results of the first firing of Drue's pipes in 330 years!



Al, Tony and Allan Peacey after first

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Volunteer Party 2003



Nancy Briani is so cute, so we decided to name her this years Queen of the Lab, personally I think she is cut out for the job!



Sarah Sandefur & the time out clock!



Laird loved his Leavy Neck rubber duck!



Bernie said he loved to mend, so we got him a fun puzzle!

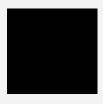


As you know, Lois Nutwell has two wonderful dogs, but on occasion they don't like to listen or they're just having too much fun to care. We decided to give Lois a dog that would always listen to her and be extremely obedient!



We thought Joan Beck could use her own utensils when going out to eat... she and Carolyn go out to eat all the time, and you never know when you might need a fork and spoon!





Where can you meet wonderful friends and fun loving people? At our volunteer parties of course! This year was a big hit. I really want to thank everyone for bearing with me in all the madness that occurred after Isabel swept through Annapolis.

The best part of the volunteer parties for us is getting to choose a gift for each individual that best seems to suite their personality or talent. Sometimes it can be extremely difficult and other times you know before you walk into the store exactly what you want to get for each person. I hope everyone had a wonderful time at the volunteer party this year. I know I did. Maybe next year wont be so chaotic. I'm including some fun pictures of the party! ~Erin

Who makes up the Lost Towns Project?

Al Luckenbach.....Director/County Archaeologist

Jane Cox....Assistant County Archaeologist

David Gadsby....Lab Director

John Kille....Assistant Director,

Operations/Grant Administration

Donna Ware.....Architectural Historian

Carl Gehrman.....3-D Specialist Carolyn Gryczkowski....Lab Specialist/

Curator

Tony Lindauer.....Historian/Archaeologist Sherri Marsh.....Assistant Architectural

Historian

Erin Piechowiak.....Archaeologist/Volunteer
and Education Coordinator

Lauren Franz....Archaeologist/Intern
Coordinator

Shawn Sharpe.....Archaeologist/ Conservation Specialist Letters from Lost Towns is published in May, September, and January 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 Piechowiak, 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.

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 avaiable.

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" any correspondence.

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

Lost Towns Project

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