



Letters from Lost Towns

Winter 2007

Navigating the Open Waters of the Past...in 3D

~ John Kille

Future Events

2007 Dig Days Announced!
May 12, July 14, Sept. 15, 2007
9 am - 2 pm, London Town

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

Monday Lecture Series

Come to the Anne Arundel County Heritage Center to learn about topics in archaeology and history presented by the *Lost Towns* staff and colleagues in related fields. Lectures are held from 1-2 pm in the Chesapeake Room on the 2nd floor of Building 2664. Please call Erin Cullen for directions at (410) 222-7441.

January 29 - Kelly Cooper
"Trekking at the Gulch: Archaeology in New Mexico"

February 26 - Charlie Hall
"Bald Friar Petroglyphs"

March 26 - Mechelle Kerns-Nocerito
"An Annapolis Tea Party: The Burning of the Peggy Stewart"

April 30 - Kelly Cooper
"Researching Your Historic Home and Land: The Beginners Guide to Archival Research"

For upcoming Conferences in 2007, see page 7!

The *Lost Towns Project* will reconstruct a 300-ton transatlantic sailing vessel named the *Rumney and Long*. But that's expensive you say? You're right! This will be a virtual reconstruction. Rather than using actual wood, nails, and sailcloth, this circa 1747 ship will be built in 3D, using advanced computer software and historic research.



Lee Boynton's depiction of the London Town seaport in the 18th century, with numerous sailing vessels in the South River.

The ship, including details of its rigging, living quarters, and cargo hold are being designed by John Wing, an accomplished ship architect and maritime historian, and Tim Wang, a computer science student at the University of Maryland Baltimore County. John is the author of "Bound By God...For Merryland" about the Voyage of the *Constant Friendship* 1671-1672, the fourth installment in the popular local history series.

Built near Dorsey Creek in Annapolis, the *Rumney and Long* was one of the largest ships to ply the opens waters of the Chesapeake. Transatlantic vessels of this type ensured the commercial viability of the Maryland Colony, transporting hogsheads of tobacco and a wide array of goods between the New and Old Worlds.

London Town resident William Strachan is documented as captaining the *Rumney and Long*, and the name Rumney is well known at London Town. All of these factors make this the best vessel for interpreting transatlantic shipping in our area during the 18th century.

This innovative 3D ship reconstruction will entertain and educate audiences of all ages at London Town's new museum facility, where it will be housed within an interactive exhibit display.

Possible Metallurgy at Swan Cove

~ Shawn Sharpe

The end of fieldwork in 2006 saw the completion of two major features at Swan Cove, F.18 and 25. Feature 25, opened in 2004, is an irregular pit with sloping walls, and the base is defined by numerous small depressions. This pit is surrounded by several smaller features (26, 27, 51), with similar characteristics. Artifacts recovered, such as kiln furniture and diagnostic ceramics, indicate that Emmanuel Drue, the pipe maker who inhabited the site from 1661 until his death in 1669, originally dug all of these pits. There were also small, driven posts around these pits, suggesting a rudimentary structure or roof over this possible work area, yet the precise nature of these pits remains unknown.

Feature 18, opened in 2001, is a more conventional trash-filled cellar pit. This five-foot deep pit is square with straight sides and a flat base. The pit is adjacent to a burned area, presumably the hearth inside of a building. Though rich in artifacts, perhaps the most intriguing find was the quantity of iron slag. Historical documents show that one of the earliest industries in the Chesapeake was the making of pig iron for transport to England. However, none of our other sites have shown any evidence of this activity. This slag, a byproduct of refining iron from iron ore, could point to such an endeavor.

The post-in-ground structure over the cellar pit is most

likely the home of Henry Merriday. A document from 1707 states that Merriday “has long been seated on the property.”

Was Merriday producing pig iron or was he also a local blacksmith? Another find from 2001 - an iron hook with a base

coated in brass, suggests that Merriday was familiar with working with molten brass. Perhaps he was familiar with other metals as well. Excavations at



Jane and volunteer Pete Pedersen remove the base of a tobacco tin, the top part of which was found in the other half of feature 18 several years ago.

Swan Cove have been closed for the time being, as other projects take priority, but someday we may return to answer these questions!

Elementary my dear Watson...

~ Al Luckenbach

The recent construction of a retaining wall at the Annapolis Elementary School resulted in a great deal of archaeological excitement - and another of history's mysteries. Bones were discovered, numerous police officers descended on the “crime” scene, and the state medical examiner was called in to pronounce that the remains were human.

At this point I received a call from Anne Arundel County school officials asking me to come out and inspect the site. After inspecting the excavated ditch I determined that two human graves had been impacted by the wall's construction. Since both were built with brick linings, and since both graves were under a thick **deposit of 19th** century trash midden, I concluded that they were probably colonial in date, and were presumably related to the Ridout and Ogle occupations up the hill on Duke of Gloucester Street.

After much consultation with the States Attorney's Office, and the Medical Examiner's Office, and the Maryland Historical Trust, the remains were returned to their original location to rest in whatever peace they can still find.

The New (and old) Faces of *Lost Towns*

~ Lauren Schiszik

In these past few months, several faces of our staff and colleagues have changed. Sherri Marsh, Donna Ware and Cara Fama have moved on to other opportunities, and Jenna Solomon and Kelly Cooper have joined us in their stead.

In May, Sherri Marsh, Assistant Historic Sites Planner for ten years, left to revitalize her own cultural resources consulting firm, Retrospect, Inc. Sherri is finding much success working in the private sector and is staying as busy as ever doing National Register nominations, researching historic properties, teaching for Goucher College and consulting with local firm AArcher, Inc. While we miss her extensive knowledge of Anne Arundel County's resources, we wish her all the best!

Jenna Solomon was hired in June to try and fill Sherri's experienced shoes. Jenna, a native Philadelphian, is a graduate of the University of Virginia where she received her Bachelors in Architectural History, and has her MS in Historic Preservation from the University of Pennsylvania. Her professional interests include modernism and the preservation of the recent past, architectural photography, and international architectural preservation efforts. In her graduate work, Jenna organized a conference on Women

in Architecture at UPenn. Jenna has studied and worked on projects in architectural preservation in London, Rome, Vicenza, and Puerto Rico. Jenna has also traveled extensively in Europe and the US on architectural "pilgrimages".

Donna Ware left her position as Anne Arundel County's Historic Sites Planner in Septem-



Welcome to Kelly Cooper and Jenna Solomon!

ber to officially begin her tenure as the Executive Director of the Londontown Foundation. While she had been the acting executive director of the Foundation for nearly two years, she was also still serving the county as the Historic Sites Planner. Donna began with Anne Arundel County in 1983 and laid the foundations for the extensive cultural resources program we have in place today. The county's Office of Environmental and Cultural Resources miss her greatly (as does Jenna - who now has to do both Donna's AND Sherri's jobs!), but we at the *Lost Towns Project* still work

closely with her. Jenna is currently the Assistant Cultural Resource Planner.

Lab Director Cara Fama took a position in August with the federal government repatriating Native American collections held by the Smithsonian. She has a passionate interest in repatriation, having studied and worked with some of the creators of NAGPRA in both her undergraduate and graduate studies. This position is one that she dreamed of, and we wish her the best of luck in her new career!

Kelly Cooper joined us in October, to serve as the new lab director. She has her BA in Anthropology from Washington College, and is currently working on her MA in Public Anthropology at American University. She comes to us from Archaeological Testing and Consulting Inc, a CRM firm based in Silver Spring. Her particular interests in archaeology are: Prehistoric Native American, contact period, gender, and community archaeology, as well as archaeology education. This past summer, she ran the archaeology education program for school-age children at Cottonwood Gulch in New Mexico, and last semester she taught a class on Maryland archaeology at Harford Community College. She brings a wealth of knowledge and interest, and we are pleased to have her on board!

2006 ACT Awards

~ Lauren Schiszik

The 2006 Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation Awards were held on October 18 at Woodbourne Farm in Lothian. Over eighty people attended this

ent of the 30th Annual Orlando Ridout Prize, which recognizes outstanding efforts in the preservation of architectural heritage of Anne Arundel County.



Presenters Willard Mumford and Donna Ware with recipient Eleanor Anderson at the ceremony.

year's ceremony. This annual event is held to recognize significant contributions to architectural and historical preservation in the county. The carefully restored Woodbourne Farm was a beautiful setting for the awards, and owner Jim Meyer was the recipi-

ent of the 30th Annual Orlando Ridout Prize, which recognizes outstanding efforts in the preservation of architectural heritage of Anne Arundel County. Eleanor Anderson received the Volunteer Award in recognition of her dedication to the Education Program at Historic London Town and Gardens. She is a long-time docent and has worked closely with the Anne Arundel County school system to ensure that the London Town education program fits into the system's curriculum. The Special Contributions to Historic Preservation Award was presented to Captain Byron Lee for his preservation of Parkhurst, his research and publication of Anne Arundel County history, and his leadership role in the initiation of Anne Arundel County Trust's historic

marker program.

Garnett Y. Clark, Jr. was the recipient of the Special Contributions to Archaeology Award for his generous support of the *Lost Towns Project* Intern Program. With his support, the *Lost Towns Project* has hosted several college interns, who created and conducted research on a database of records from the South River Club - of which Garnett Clark is a proud member - London Town, and All Hallow's Parish. The database is an invaluable research tool regarding Anne Arundel County history.

The 26th Annual Marjorie Murray Bridgman Award, given annually in memory of one of the founders of the Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation, was awarded to Dr. Gregory A. Stiverson for his contribution to the scholarship of Maryland history and his significant leadership in preserving and interpreting the history of Annapolis, Anne Arundel County and the State of Maryland. Congratulations to all awardees!

Fall Interns

~Lauren Schiszik

This fall, we've had the pleasure of hosting Barb Schwegler and Carly Lauth as interns. Barb, who has just graduated University of Maryland, Baltimore County with a BA in American Studies, also interned with us last spring. Barb apparently decided that she had not had

enough of the *Lost Towns Project*, since she returned this semester to conduct a minimum vessel count for the Leavy Neck site. Her interest lies in Southwestern Native American archaeology, and Barb hopes to move to Arizona in the near future, hopefully to attend grad school there.

Carly Lauth is a history major at University of Maryland, College Park. She has been transcribing testimonies from an 18th century court case about the Homewood family. The testimonies regard the 1750 divorce between Anne Homewood (nee

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Our Archaeology Lab Still Needs Your Help!

Please consider making a contribution to help the *Lost Towns Project* furnish the newly constructed archaeology lab at Historic London Town and Gardens. This space will provide a permanent home for staff and volunteers to research, process, and care for the thousands of artifacts we find every year.

The *Project* hopes to raise funds to purchase essential items for the lab, such as work tables, artifact typology cases, and conservation equipment. All gifts great and small are greatly appreciated, and your donation

can be made in honor or memory of family or friends.

The *Lost Towns Project* deeply appreciates the generous financial support from many friends who recently contributed to ACT, including the Ned Crandell Family, Linda Boisseau, Garnett Clark, the Alan Colegrove Family, Ann Jensen, Dennis Kubicki, Jane Cooper, John Wing, Steve Bilicki, and Lanny and Betty Ridout.



The new archaeology lab, soon to be inhabited by staff and volunteers!

Your donation is tax-deductible, since ACT is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization! Please send your donation to the ACT address listed on the back of this newsletter.

A Brief Trek Through Time: *Lost Towns* Articles and Presentations from the Past Year

Cox, C. Jane

2006 Survey of Archaeological Resources in the Rhode River Region, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Vol. I & II. With contributions by Lauren Franz, Erin Cullen and Shawn Sharpe. Submitted to Maryland Department of Planning, Maryland Historical Trust in fulfillment of MHT Non Capital Grant FY 2005. On File at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.

Kille, John

2006 Mixing Religion and Drink: 19th Century Rockingham Glazed Wares. *Ceramics in America* (6).

Kiser, Taft and Al Luckenbach

2006 A Method of Making American Seventeenth-Century Decorated Clay Tobacco Pipes.

Archaeological Society of Virginia Quarterly Bulletin. 61(2).

Luckenbach, Al

2006 Painted Delftware Tiles from Tulip Hill, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. *Ceramics in America* (6).

Luckenbach, Al and Taft Kiser

2006 17th Century Tobacco Pipe Manufacturing in the Chesapeake Region: a Preliminary Delineation of Makers and their Styles. *Ceramics in America* (6).

Meredith, Stephanie

2006 Faunal Analysis at London Town, Maryland. Capstone Project, University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Roviello-Fama, Caralyn M.

2006 Lost Towns Project Archaeological Archives: Preserv-

ing the Records of a Destructive Science at a Small Institution. Paper presented at the 36th Annual Meeting of the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Schizik, Lauren and Al Luckenbach

2006 A Controlled Surface Collection and Metal Detector Survey of the Raven Site (18HO252) at Triadelphia Reservoir, Howard County, Maryland.

Sharpe, Shawn

2006 Phase III Archaeological Excavations at 18AN1005 Hancock's Resolution Park, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Submitted to The Friends of Hancock's Resolution and Preservation Maryland.

Rhode River Survey

~ Erin Cullen

For the past two years the *Lost Towns Project* has been conducting a survey of the north shore of the Rhode River in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Funded by the MHT Non-Capital Grant, the project will culminate in a comprehensive survey and planning assessment that will be used to make better informed development and planning decisions locally. Additionally, the survey will expand the data available on the region through the State Historic Preservation Office.

Forty-six sites were evaluated or discovered during the first phase of the project. The sites range from prehistoric to historic, emphasizing the incredible range of cultural resources within the



Volunteers Theresa Vandergriff and Lois Nutwell follow fearless leader Jane in search of an STP at Camp Letts.

region. Prehistoric sites include one potential Archaic site, intact cultural resources from Middle and Late Woodland, and numerous oyster middens of undetermined age. There is also a vast range of historic resources, including suggestions of 17th century sites, 18th century tobacco plantations, 19th century farmsteads, oyster processing sites and commercial wharves, and early 20th century recreational beach resorts.

The second phase of the survey allowed the *Lost Towns Project* to revisit five sites - two prehistoric and three historic - for additional testing and evaluation. One of the revisited historic sites was 18AN424, located along the banks of Sellman Creek on the south side of the Camp Letts

peninsula. This area appears to be related to the historic Wrighton Farm property, a parcel of land originally patented in 1651 by Walter Mansfield and possessed by Nicholas Gassaway. Many mid-to-late 19th century artifacts and one post hole and mold were uncovered.

Another site found within the boundaries of Camp Letts was a prehistoric campsite and oyster midden (18AN1285), located on the shoreline of Bear Neck Creek. This is one of the most promising prehistoric sites discovered during this survey, as it was virtually intact upon discovery. This site also has an ephemeral historic component, perhaps related to colonial occupation of the area. The initial survey phase of this site yielded numerous prehistoric artifacts, including shell tempered ceramics, quartz and rhyolite flakes; and historic artifacts including tin-glaze and refined earthenwares and brick/daub fragments. During the second phase of the survey, large amounts of prehistoric Potomac and Townsend ceramics from the Late Woodland period were collected. The *Lost Towns* crew will return to this site for the next phase of the survey.

Phase II excavations were also conducted further east in the Rhode River region, in an area known as Beverly-Triton Beach Park. The *Lost Towns Project* discovered a Late Woodland oyster midden (18AN1281), located on the Chesapeake Bay at Beverly-Triton. Many prehistoric artifacts were recovered at this site during the survey, including Rappahannock ceramics, quartz projectile points and quartzite flakes, oyster shell, and animal bone.

A Phase III study is slated for the Rhode River region in 2007. This phase of the project will involve investigations of Java/Sparrow's Rest, a plantation located along the southern edge of the Rhode River. This plantation was originally patented in 1652 by Thomas Sparrow. This survey project has helped archaeologists to better understand the complex social and cultural settlement patterns of this region, and we are certain to learn even more in the next phase.

Upcoming Conferences in 2007

These conferences are open to all, and we hope to see you there!

January 9-14, 2007: Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA)

Williamsburg, Virginia www.sha.org/about/conferences/mt2007.htm

“Old World / New World: Culture in Transformation”

This conference will focus on cosmopolitan concepts expressed in hinterland environments. It speaks to the impact of immigrant culture on the transformation of native peoples and, conversely, the natives on the immigrants. The conference will also encompass comparative studies exploring life in Western Europe, 15th through 19th centuries, with its provincial American counterparts.

Al Luckenbach will speak about “17th Century Architecture in Anne Arundel County, Maryland”, focusing on the architectural variety encountered at the 17th century towns of Providence, London, and Herrington.

Jane Cox will give a talk on “The Dutch Connection: ‘Providence’ within the 17th Century Chesapeake”, focusing on the significance of heavily Dutch-influenced assemblages from sites such as Burle’s Town Land, Town Neck, and Homewood’s Lot.

Donna Ware will present “Typical or Atypical: Surviving Early Buildings in Maryland”, where she will share details about several unique standing structures in Anne Arundel County from the late 17th and early 18th centuries.

February 26-28, 2007: Small Museum Association

Ocean City, Maryland www.smallmuseum.org

March 15-18, 2007: The Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference (MAAC)

Virginia Beach, Virginia www.maacmidatlanticarchaeology.org/conference.htm

“Terrestrial and Underwater Archaeology in the Mid-Atlantic Region”

Erin Cullen will talk about the 18th Century slave child burial discovered at London Town in 2002. The presentation will discuss the discovery of the burial and its connections to African traditions, as well as the steps taken to appropriately identify and honor the child after excavations.

April 19-21, 2007: Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC)

Scranton, Pennsylvania www.lib.umd.edu/MARAC/conferences/conferences.html

April 25-29, 2007: Society for American Archaeology (SAA)

Austin, Texas www.saa.org/meetings/index.html

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Hammond) and her second husband William Govane. The divorce proceedings describe in great detail the numerous abuses and infidelities that led to the divorce. Racy stuff, but also very rich fodder for research, as it sheds light on issues of 18th century marriage, gender roles, and finally, the standing architecture of the Homewood’s 18th century Georgian brick Main

House. The layout of the Homewood house can be pieced together from the testimonies describing abuse that occurred in different rooms in the house. The *Lost Towns Project* conducted salvage excavations at the Homewood’s Lot between 1999 and 2002. Carly has done a great job deciphering and transcribing 18th century script!

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 and schedule.

The lab (located at 2666 Riva Road, 2nd floor) is open Monday through Friday from 9 am - 4 pm. Call the lab phone, (410)222-7328 for more information.

Tax-deductible donations can be made to the Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation (ACT), P.O. Box 1573, Annapolis, MD 21404. Please note "*Lost Towns Project*" in any correspondence.

Letters from Lost Towns is published three 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 Planning and Zoning, 2664 Riva Road, MS 6402, 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.

Newsletter edited by
Lauren Schiszik

Who makes up the Lost Towns Project?

Al Luckenbach.....Director/County Archaeologist

Jane Cox.....Cultural Resources Planner

John KilleAssistant Director, Operations/Grant Administration

Kelly Cooper.....Lab Director

Jenna Solomon.....Assistant Cultural Resource Planner

Shawn SharpeField Director/Conservation Specialist

Carolyn Gryczkowski.....Lab Specialist

Tony Lindauer.....Historian/Equipment Manager

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

Lauren Schiszik.....Archaeologist/Intern Coordinator

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