



# Letters from Lost Towns

Spring 2012

## “Man’s Best Friend” found at Pig Point

~ Al Luckenbach

### News & Future Events

#### Archeology Society of Maryland’s 2012 Tyler Bastian Field Session in Maryland Archeology

May 25 - June 4, 2012

This year’s field session will be in Cecil County at Elk Landing and Hollingsworth Farm. Check out the program and register at [www.marylandarcheology.org/2012\\_FS.php](http://www.marylandarcheology.org/2012_FS.php)

#### Can You Dig It?

June 13, 2012

10 am - 12:30 pm, London Town

Hands-on program exploring the fundamentals of archaeology. Cost is \$10 for one adult and child, \$5 for each additional child. Call London Town at 410-222-1919 to register.

#### Mark your calendars for the next 2012 Public Dig Day on August 4th!

9 am - 2 pm, London Town

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

The fourth field season at Pig Point (Lothian, Maryland) began this year with a quick start. In addition to the normal ceramics and tools, the first day in the new upper block of excavations produced two projectile points, a fossil shark’s tooth, and no less than nine fragments of highly decorated ceramic pipes. Some of the ceramics found in the first few weeks were incised and punctated in some of the most complex designs yet recovered from the site, and a classic Adena point made of Flint Ridge flint kept up the Ohio connection.



*Adena Projectile Point.*

Perhaps the most novel recovery so far this year came from the excavation of a dark pit feature roughly three feet in diameter. The pit revealed Late Woodland Townsend pottery, flakes, and charcoal along with the articulated skeleton of a dog. Although the charcoal has not been submitted for C-14 analysis, from its stratigraphic context we can guess that the burial dates to between A.D. 1000 and A.D. 1300.

The dog was the only domesticated animal possessed by the Native Americans. It held a special place in their lives as a hunting companion and watch dog for their settlements. They often were buried near the edges of villages or wigwams so they could continue to guard from the afterlife. They were also often sacrificed to accompany their deceased owners and buried with them. As a consequence, dog burials are not uncommon, but only seven other sites in Maryland have reported them to this point.



*Mended Dog Skull.*

Despite poor bone preservation, Shawn Sharpe managed to reconstruct the skull which showed that the Pig Point dog had very worn teeth, so presumably died of old age. He (or she) was buried near the wigwam area. Clearly a special place for a special dog...

### The Lost Towns Project Thanks our Partners and Supporters



## A Warm Thank You to all of our Members

At the *Lost Towns Project*, we are very lucky to have supporters that value the discovery and preservation of the past. Our sustaining membership program helps us continue many worthwhile educational activities within the local community. Please renew your Sustaining Membership today! You can conveniently make your contribution in the enclosed envelope or online via Pay pal, a secure payment portal, at our website at [www.losttownsproject.org/support.html](http://www.losttownsproject.org/support.html). We greatly appreciate the support of the following individuals who have joined or renewed their memberships:

### Benefactor

Edward Burgee  
Christine Cataldo  
Ronald and Melissa Chew  
The Colegrove Family  
Raye Anne Fife  
Marjorie Hegge  
Cathy Hess  
R. Christopher Goodwin  
James Lighthizer  
Phyllis Liley  
Patrick and Vicki McCorkle  
Pat Melville  
James and Susan Morrison  
William Murray  
James Parker  
Charlotte Powers  
Molly Ridout  
Carole Sanner  
Herbert and Marjorie Sappington  
Thackray Seznec  
Gordon and Susanne Smith  
Mary Donnell Tilghman  
Laird Towle  
David Turner  
John and Barbara Wing  
Caroline Wugofski

### Special Contributor

Myron Beckenstein  
Skip Booth  
William and Lisa Brown  
Bette Browning  
Wayne Clark  
Don and Keren Dement  
Harry and Liliane Foster  
Mary Kay Ganning  
Penny Goldstein  
Richard and Marjorie Johnson  
Gladys and Marty Martinez  
David McKenna  
Bradley and Mary McKittrick  
Diana Edwards Murnaghan  
Jared Pomfrey  
Jean Russo  
Lauren Schiszik  
Dale and Janet Schwab  
William Storey  
Susan Swayze  
Dale and Janet Schwab  
Judith Van Lunen  
Wayne and Michelle Walker  
Harrison Wetherill Jr.

### Family

Mark and Maureen Bennett  
Cindy Bennoit  
Michael Calabrese  
James and Susan Cook  
William and Betty Doty  
John and Barbara Filigenzi  
Elizabeth Gay  
Mike and JoAnn Gidos  
Phillip and Ruth Hazen  
Alex Lavish  
Gwen Marshman  
The McElfish Family  
Herb Moreland  
Michael and Carolyn Quinlan  
The Rey Family  
David and Mary Sedlak  
Scott Smith  
Kathy Gramp

### Individual

Louise Akerson  
David Brown  
Rosemarie Callage  
Jeannette Christman  
Maryl Harshey  
Joanne Helms  
James Hooper  
Ann Jensen  
Jane Miller  
Julie McCullough  
Dale Rains  
Ken Riggelman  
Bernard Rosenberg  
Ethel Stephan

Please renew your  
Membership today using the  
enclosed envelope, or online  
via Paypal. Thank you!!

---

## London Town's New Museum Exhibit Showcases Archaeology

~ John E. Kille

In case you haven't heard, an exciting new museum exhibit is up and running in the Historic London Town and Gardens Visitor Center. Named **Discover London Town!**, this expansive, permanent display encompasses 3,500 square feet of space within the facility's lower level.

The exhibit tells the story of Native American people who first settled Anne Arundel County, the county's first European settlement, Providence (circa 1649),

and the Birth, Life, Death, and Resurrection of London Town (circa 1683). Several themes and topics are discussed, including the Chesapeake Bay and its relationship to transatlantic trade, overland travel and water ferries, the exchange of plants between the new and old worlds, and the experiences of Native Americans, women, indentured servants, enslaved Africans, and free blacks who resided at the Anne Arundel County Almshouse.

*continued on page 5*

# Area Collectors Add to Our Knowledge of Local History

~ Stephanie Sperling



*Trott Cache Blade.*



*Trott Tool and Ear Spool.*

The *Lost Towns Project* has recently studied artifact collections belonging to two local South County residents, Chris Trott and Suzanne Demas. Chris is a Galesville native who has been picking up artifacts in the area since he was a boy in the 1970s. He has amassed a large collection of historic and prehistoric artifacts gathered from local fields and refuse piles and remembers where nearly all of them came from. Chris was kind enough to bring his artifacts to the lab and allow us to examine them. Thanks to him, we were able to add two new archaeological sites to the Maryland state site files and add to the knowledge of several existing sites in the area.

Suzanne Demas, a Fairhaven resident, and her children have been collecting artifacts eroding from a shell midden along Herring Bay for years. This site was previously unknown to archaeologists, but it contains artifacts dating to nearly the entire Archaic and Woodland time periods. The Demas family has picked up hundreds of Native American pot sherds, including very unusual mica-tempered sherds, dozens of projectile points, and several tools. Most notably, they collected a few tools and triangle points made from fossilized shells, which is almost unheard of in the region. Their site, which they named “Aldridge” after Suzanne’s family, now has the distinction of being called 18AN1500 in the Maryland state site files.

**Thank you to both these local residents for bringing their fascinating collections to our attention!**



*Demas Point Collection.*



*Demas Shell Tools.*





# RESEARCHING ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY : TAKING A NEW LOOK AT OLD MAPS

~ Anastasia Poulos

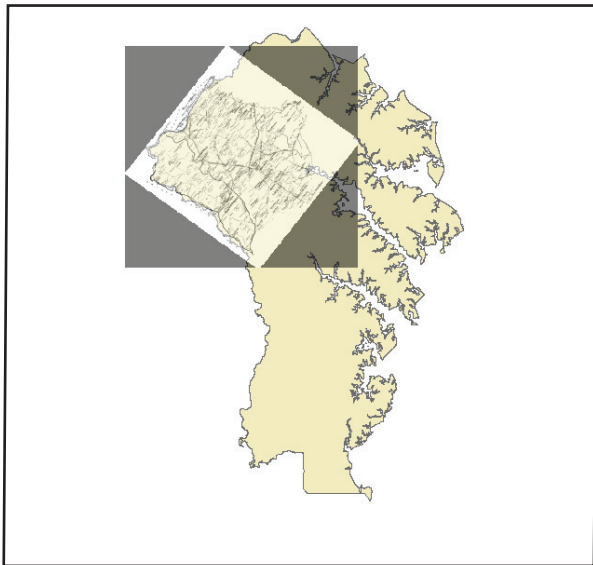
In an exciting use of modern mapping technology, the *Lost Towns Project* and the GIS Department of the Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning are combining their efforts to make digital copies of certain valuable historic maps searchable and easily comparable to the modern landscape.

Historic maps can tell the story of a building's history in a way that written sources cannot. These maps act as windows into the past, giving a sense of place for historic buildings. They create an impression of past towns and villages and preserve buildings that no longer exist. Often, these maps yield more information than just location. For example, Anne Arundel County is lucky to have the historic G. M. Hopkins Atlas of 1878, a collection of electoral district maps for the county that teems with cultural information. This atlas marks the location of hundreds of late 19th century buildings, labeled with each owner's name and the accompanying acreage of land. It also marks various buildings by occupation, such as "School House" or "Blacksmith Shop."



*Cultural Information in the Hopkins Map.*

Often, these maps yield more information than just location. For example, Anne Arundel County is lucky to have the historic G. M. Hopkins Atlas of 1878, a collection of electoral district maps for the county that teems with cultural information. This atlas marks the location of hundreds of late 19th century buildings, labeled with each owner's name and the accompanying acreage of land. It also marks various buildings by occupation, such as "School House" or "Blacksmith Shop."



*The Fourth District Map of the Hopkins Atlas overlays part of Anne Arundel County.*

While a paper copy or even a digital image of such a valuable historic reference can shed a tremendous amount of light on a building's past, it does not necessarily lend itself to easy analysis. By applying computer mapping technology to the Hopkins Atlas and creating a Geospatial Information System (GIS) database of this 19th century Atlas, the *Lost Towns Project* sees great potential for new kinds of research and analysis into this area's history! We used GIS software to align the Hopkins maps with features that still exist today and we created a transparent overlay of these maps.

When these overlays are put over a contemporary map, they can reveal what buildings are still in existence and how the terrain has changed. We can also use the

*continued on page 6*

continued from page 2



*North Devon Jar (ca. 1710) from London Town.*

**Discover London Town!** is the perfect vehicle for sharing many important discoveries made by Dr. Al and his team of *Lost Towns Project* archaeologists and volunteers over the last two decades. Visitors will now have the opportunity to interact with carefully designed displays that feature a wide array of archaeological artifacts, informative maps, photos, artistic paintings, illustrations, and 3D reconstructions. The use of different types of media will hopefully provide an interpretive context that is both dynamic and educational.

Those of you who are fond of material culture will appreciate many showcases containing artfully arranged archaeological artifacts. For instance, the prehistoric area offers rare Clovis projectile points and banner stones from the Paleo period (13,000 to 9,500 years ago), as well as an outstanding collection of spearpoints, axes, celts, grinding stones, tobacco pipes, decorative gorgets, and a large soapstone bowl tied to the Archaic period (9,500 to 3,000 years) and Woodland period (3,000 to 300 years ago).

The Providence gallery has several showcases that display household items and personal effects such as bone handled utensils, scissors, locks, colored beads, lead bale seals, and decorated delft vessels. Architectural items include green and yellow Dutch floor tiles, decorated delft fireplace tiles, diamond shaped window glass and lead came, and a Dutch pantile or roofing tile. This area also contains remnants of Emanuel Drue's clay tobacco pipe kiln and the colorful pipes he manufactured at the Swan Cove site.

While in the London Town section, you will see some of the most impressive vessels recovered from the cellar of the Rumney/West Ordinary which are displayed on a period gate leg table within a reconstructed interior scene. This arrangement includes decorated delft plates and punch bowls, crystal wine glass, and stoneware mugs. Two large showcases also contain many more exceptional examples of glass ware and delft vessels.

Other items from colonial London Town that are on display include a collection of exotic artifacts from Dr. Richard Hill's home site, including coconut shell, coral, and cowry shells. A fascinating collection of items excavated from London Town's segregated African American dormitory site can be seen as well. Bone buttons, mismatched ceramic sherds, an inkwell and piece slate, as well as a ceramic teapot and coffee pot help to convey the experience of these inhabitants.

Many thanks to several organizations that provided key financial support for this exhibit, including Maryland's State Highway Administration, Anne Arundel County, Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network, the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County, Four Rivers Heritage Area, and Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation. Also, the Anne Arundel County Public Library System has established an impressive special collection of books in the Archaeology Lab at London Town. Please stop by to use this collection and learn more about any of the themes or topics discussed in the new exhibit.



*Drue Pipe Kiln Furniture (ca. 1660s) from Swan Cove.*



continued from page 4



*A point overlay of today's existing historic properties.*

GIS to overlay points of known historic buildings for another comparison.

But we will take it a step farther and digitize each building and all the other features in the Hopkins maps! Known cultural information, such as the name of the owner in 1878, will be attached to each digitized element and all this information can be searched and analyzed. Simply by clicking on a point of the map, we will be able to tell if this building exists, where it is today, how old it is, and more. A simple query, such as “Where are all the late 19th century school houses?” can be answered in seconds. By making these maps interactive, we will find out even more about our local history.

## Tailors and Seamstresses: Historical Vignettes

~ Pat Melville

Supporting every exhibit is a research component to document the information on display. The process includes an accumulation of data that does not become part of the exhibit. This article will highlight some of this unseen research for the “**Sewing Through Time**” exhibit.

Not making the cut were some compelling and interesting stories about several individuals.

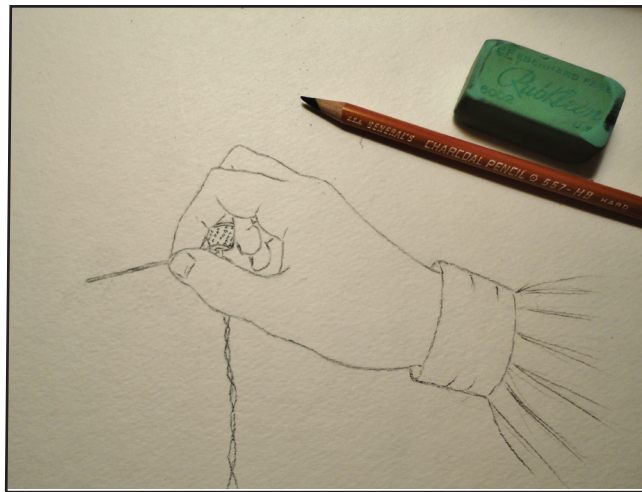
John Ducker moved from Prince George’s County to Anne Arundel County in the mid 1750s. He operated a tailor shop in Annapolis and built a fulling mill, where wool was cleaned and thickened as part of the clothmaking process, at the head of South River in 1757.

After his death in ca. 1774, his widow, Cassandra Ducker, ran the mill for at least a few more years.

Newspaper ads showed John Campbell operating a tailor shop at various locations in Annapolis between 1747 and his death in October 1777. Some-

times he was living in town, and sometimes at his plantation on the north side of the Severn River. In 1765 he was elected as a city councilman. In May 1776 he leased his house in Annapolis for use as a hospital for soldiers. The following February he filed

a claim for compensation for the loss of the house, kitchen, and stable due to a fire.



*Original Drawing by: Barry Gay (volunteer).*

Tailoring could be a family business. James Callahan was a tailor in Annapolis by March 1752 when Major Bickerdick, age 14, was bound to him as an apprentice. After his death in 1759, his widow, Sarah Callahan, took over the shop and advertised that several tailors worked for her. One of them, Solomon Jacobs, immigrated as a servant, became the

foreman in her shop, and established his own tailor business in 1761. Thomas Callahan, son of James and Sarah, became the proprietor of the family tailor shop in 1763, and remained in business until at least 1770 and maybe until his death in 1816.

continued on page 7

# “Sewing Through Time” Exhibit Now Open!

~ Jessie Grow



*Historic Annapolis Museum.*

**Mon-Sat 10am - 5pm**  
**Sunday 11am - 5pm**

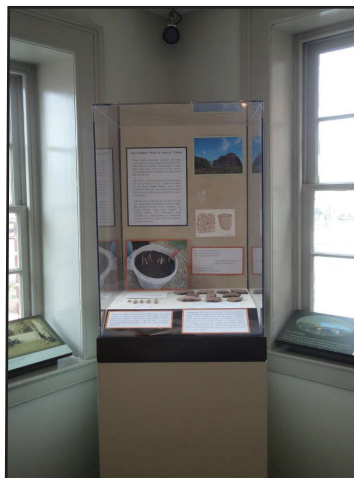
Please visit [www.annapolis.org](http://www.annapolis.org) for more information.

Or call #410-267-6656!

*There is no entrance fee, but donations are greatly appreciated.*

A sneak peak into our new exhibit in downtown Annapolis!

**Open until December 2012!**



*Prehistoric Sewing Tools and Textiles.*



*Historic Buttons and Buckles.*

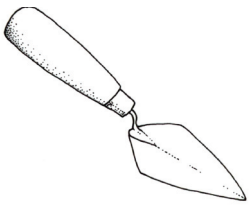
*continued from page 6*

Tailors obtained formal training, mostly through apprenticeships. Seamstresses could offer their lower level services without such requirements. There were exceptions, one being Penelope House who posted an ad for making and mending hoop petticoats in Annapolis in June 1754, mentioning therein an apprenticeship in London. The following December she was indicted for stealing a hood, cambric, and lace from two merchants. A jury found her guilty in March 1755, and the court imposed a sentence of fifteen lashes on her back and fifteen minutes in the pillory. The judge also ordered her to pay 1240 lbs. of tobacco to the merchants. Unable to post security for the payments, she was sent to jail. What happened after that is unknown. It seems unlikely that House or her husband, John House, a barber, could have afforded the court imposed damages.

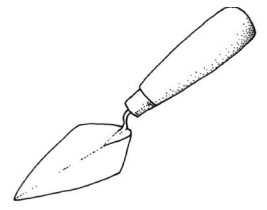
These vignettes comprise just a few examples of the facts ascertained about tailors, staymakers, and seamstresses in London Town and Annapolis in the 18th century.

## *Lost Towns Project Team*

- Al Luckenbach** - Director/  
County Archaeologist
- John Kille** - Assistant Director
- C. Jane Cox** - Assistant Director/  
Cultural Resources Planner
- Darian Schwab** - Historic Preservation  
Planner
- Shawn Sharpe** - Field Director/  
Conservation Specialist
- Jessie Grow** - Lab Director/ Education  
& Volunteer Coordinator/ Archaeologist
- Stephanie Sperling** - Research  
Archaeologist
- Erin Cullen** - Archaeologist  
Newsletter Editor/Webmaster
- Carolyn Gryczkowski** - Lab Specialist
- Tony Lindauer** - Researcher
- Anastacia Polous** - Historic Preservation  
Planner



## Protecting the Past



There are many ways you can help to preserve archaeological sites and artifacts and the knowledge that comes from them.

- *Do not dig for artifacts* unless you are working under the direction of a trained archaeologist who has an approved excavation permit.
- If you see others digging for artifacts, report what you have witnessed to a local law enforcement agency or the agency that manages the land, or tell the site manager, a park ranger, or other responsible official.
- If you think you have discovered artifacts, leave them alone. If you are in a national or state park or forest, report the find to a ranger. Otherwise, contact your state historic preservation officer. Experts can evaluate the artifacts where they were found, then determine whether further study should be done.
- Volunteer to help historical and archaeological societies monitor sites against vandalism and repair any damage that has been done.
- Learn all that you can about the archaeology of your area so that you can better inform others about the importance of protecting sites and artifacts.

*~Information provided by the Boy Scouts of America "Merit Badge Series: Archaeology" (p. 23).*

---

Lost Towns Project



of Anne Arundel County

Office of Planning and Zoning  
2664 Riva Road, MS 6402  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
(410)222-7440  
[www.losttownsproject.org](http://www.losttownsproject.org)

