

MARYLAND ARCHEOLOGY MONTH  
APRIL 2012

*The War of 1812  
Bicentennial*



*Josiah Barney*

**The Archeology of a American Hero**



[www.marylandarcheology.org](http://www.marylandarcheology.org)

You are cordially invited to join  
Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley  
in celebrating April 2012 as  
"Maryland Archeology Month"

# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**MARYLAND ARCHEOLOGY MONTH**

**APRIL 1 - 30, 2012**

- WHEREAS,** *Maryland's many remarkable archeological discoveries at such sites as Zekiah Fort, the U.S.S. Scorpion, St. Mary's City, Piscataway Park, Fort Frederick, Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, and the colonial capital of Annapolis are of national and international significance; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Archeological sites and artifacts provide a tangible link to at least 12,000 years of human occupation in Maryland, deepen our understanding of the state's diverse history and culture, and reveal otherwise unavailable information about the origins of our communities and traditions; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The protection, study and interpretation of these unique and irreplaceable links to the past provide educational, scientific, and economic benefits for all citizens; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The Maryland Department of Planning's Maryland Historical Trust has combined forces with the Archeological Society of Maryland, the Council for Maryland Archeology, the State Museum of Archaeology at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, the Maryland State Highway Administration, Historic St. Mary's City, and other individuals and organizations to inform and involve the public in the excitement of archeological discovery in our state.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim APRIL 1 - 30, 2012 as MARYLAND ARCHEOLOGY MONTH in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.**



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,  
this 1st day of April  
Two thousand and twelve

*Martin O'Malley*  
Governor

*Robert L. Brown*  
Lt. Governor

*John C. McQuinn*  
Secretary of State

## ***The War of 1812 Bicentennial: The Archeology of a Maryland Hero***

This year Maryland begins its bicentennial celebration of what many consider the “second war for American independence”: The War of 1812. From reenactments to license plates, Marylanders are surrounded by images meant to invoke this momentous conflict. However, these contemporary tributes, celebrating Maryland’s role in the War, are lacking in some critical aspects of realism. The crack of musket fire and the roar of the cannon may be faithfully replicated, but – thankfully – no hurling projectile destroys property, or cuts short a promising life. In remembrance, the gallant and heroic obscure the gritty and hard aspects of the past.

Archeology provides a vehicle that can bridge the gap between the two pasts, real and remembered. Through archeological investigation, the past is brought into the present as the actual objects used by participants and their contemporaries are literally lifted from the dust of the ages. A coin, a cup, a bottle; all ordinary enough objects, but when extracted from the earth where they have lain for 200 years, they become extraordinary story tellers.

In the pages of this booklet eight Maryland archeologists and one historian tell their War of 1812 stories. Some of these stories are of Joshua Barney, a true Maryland War of 1812 hero. His efforts to confront British naval might in the Patuxent River is being revealed through archeology, as is his participation in the American efforts to stem the British army’s advance on Washington. Some of these stories are of earthworks, remnants of the defensive network built to protect the towns, ports, and homes along the shores of the Chesapeake Bay. Some are of the engagements these places witnessed. All of the stories are compelling, and all are placed in historical context though the introductory essay of noted War of 1812 scholar Ralph Eshelman.

I hope you enjoy the stories in this booklet, and that they inspire you to become involved in Maryland archeology. There are many archeological programs located throughout the State that welcome volunteers. Nine such programs are described in this booklet. No experience or specialized education is required; you don’t even need a strong back! All that is required is a sense of adventure and wonder, and a desire to recover interesting stories.

Charles L. Hall, Maryland Historical Trust  
Chair, Maryland Archeology Month Committee

For more information about Maryland’s commemoration of the War of 1812, visit Star Spangled 200: Official Web Site of the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, <http://starspangled200.org/Pages/Home.aspx>

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## Maryland Archeology Month Events

Numerous special events celebrating the archeology of Maryland will be held throughout the State during the month of April. These include museum displays, talks and lectures, workshops, and archeological lab and field volunteer opportunities. Please visit the Maryland Archeology Month website often at [www.marylandarcheology.org](http://www.marylandarcheology.org) to learn of other events – the list of events there will be updated throughout the month!

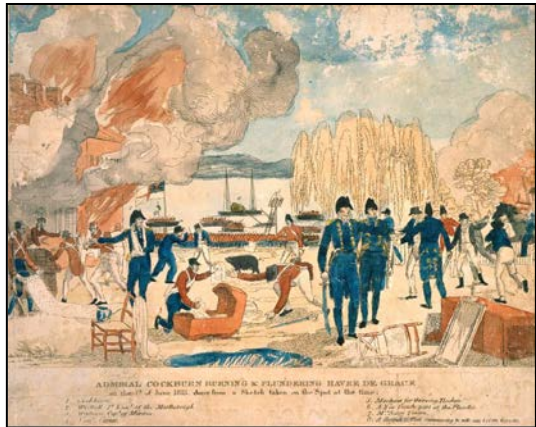
**Maryland and the War of 1812**

Ralph E. Eshelman, Eshelman and Associates

Most scholars assume the Canadian border of the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River saw the most military engagements during the War of 1812, but research over the last decade has produced some startling results. Maryland suffered more battles, skirmishes and raids than any other state in the union or province of Canada. Furthermore, the Chesapeake theater (consisting of Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia) had more actions than any other theater of war.

Admiral Sir John Borlase Warren, the Royal Navy’s commander on the American Station, suggested that the British conduct predatory raids on the

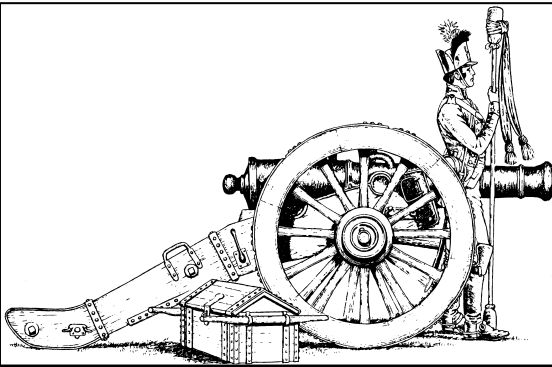
Atlantic and Gulf coasts to draw American forces away from Canada. On December 26, 1812, the Admiralty ordered the Royal Navy to blockade the Chesapeake Bay. Rear Admiral Sir George Cockburn arrived on March 3, 1813, and over the next 18 months led a series of predatory raids that had a dramatic impact on people living in Maryland. Coupled with the British blockade, these raids brought the war home to Americans living in the Chesapeake region.



This 1813 print depicts the brutal British raid on Havre de Grace, May 3, 1813; courtesy Maryland Historical Society.

British raiding parties had nearly a free hand because there were few regulars available here to resist them, and the militia was usually slow to respond and quick to flee. Cockburn’s raids seemed to be little more than robbery and arson. Exposed towns were left in ruins, the countryside was devastated, and many people were left destitute. The scars that the raids left on the landscape and its people did not soon heal.

Although much of southern Maryland and the Eastern Shore supported the anti-war Federalist Party, the state nonetheless contributed to the war effort. Maryland subscriptions to the government war loans exceeded those of the northeastern states and even those of Virginia, which had a much larger population in 1810. Baltimore merchants in 1813 subscribed for more than \$3 million in government war loans. Baltimore raised an additional \$600,000 for its own defense. Early in the war Maryland manufactured twice the amount of gunpowder than the better known du Pont mill in Delaware.



Typical cannon and traveling carriage during the War of 1812: courtesy *Round Shot and Rammers*, by Harold L. Peterson, 1969, Stackpole Books.

Maryland militia units were frequently called out and by and large did not distinguish themselves, although they successfully defeated British attacks at Elkton (twice), St. Michaels (twice), and Caulks Field. They also fought well at North Point and played a crucial role in preparing the defenses of Baltimore. The U.S. Chesapeake Flotilla was manned by Marylanders,

including African-American freemen. This unit fought bravely in all the battles that it engaged in, including the Battle of Bladensburg. The British lost two of their most popular officers on Maryland soil, Major General Robert Ross and Captain Peter Parker.

The legacy of the War of 1812 in Maryland is significant. Many people here experienced first-hand the horrors of war. The British blockade disrupted trade, and British raids sometimes resulted in looting and arson. Many buildings in towns such as Havre de Grace, Huntingtown and Fredericktown, had been burned, and other communities had experienced the indignity of enemy occupation and minor abuses of looting. Some people who lost their businesses were unable to rebound. After the British burned the Principio Iron Furnace in Cecil County, the owner was forced to mortgage his wood, coal, and iron resources to reopen but ultimately had to sell off his mansion to pay his debts.

There were at least 135 military actions in Maryland. While other areas, most notably the Niagara region, had been the scene of significant campaigning and extensive property losses, no region in the United States suffered such immense losses as did Maryland. These losses ran in the millions of dollars, and at a time when there was virtually no property insurance or government assistance programs (although the state of Maryland did give funds to the needy in Fredericktown and Havre de Grace). People in Maryland did not soon forget these depredations. Rear Admiral Cockburn and his men were long remembered as bandits, or barbarians.

But if the war caused heart-rending losses in Maryland, it also left a legacy of pride. The success of the privateers was long remembered, and today a replica of the original Chasseur has been built to keep that memory alive. Known as The Pride of Baltimore II, it was launched in 1988 and serves an educational purpose and sails the seas as a goodwill ambassador on behalf of Baltimore and Maryland.

On September 12, 1816, the second anniversary of the Battle for Baltimore, the city council passed a resolution calling for the annual commemoration of the engagement, a commemoration that is now known as Defender's Day. By state legislation, this date in 1907 became a Maryland holiday. Although the paid holiday was dropped in 1996, Defender's Day is still commemorated with re-enactments at North Point and a wreath laying at the Battle Monument in Baltimore.

People in Maryland may have suffered, but they also consider the war a success, an important step in forging a nation. The war in Maryland produced two great national symbols. The bombardment of Fort McHenry

gave special meaning to the garrison flag, which is now on display at the Smithsonian Institution. In addition, the bombardment produced Francis Scott Key's lyrics, which eventually became our national anthem in 1931. The flag and the song have been irrevocably bound together in the public memory ever since that fateful day that Fort McHenry survived the British attack.

#### Additional Reading:

For works devoted exclusively to the War of 1812 in the Chesapeake see Walter Lord, *The Dawn's Early Light* (New York: W.W. Norton, 1972), a popular account focusing on the war in Maryland and Washington that is both engaging and generally reliable. Christopher T. George, *Terror on the Chesapeake: The War of 1812 on the Bay* (Shippensburg, PA: White Mane Publishing Company, 2000), is a more recent account. Donald G. Shomette covers the Battle of St. Leonard Creek in *Flotilla: The Patuxent Naval Campaign in the War of 1812* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009). For reference and travel information about the war in the Chesapeake see Ralph Eshelman, Scott Sheads and Don Hickey, *The War of 1812 in the Chesapeake: A Reference Guide to Historic Sites in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press 2010), from which much of this essay is extracted, and Ralph Eshelman, *A Travel Guide to the War of 1812 in the Chesapeake: Eighteen Tours in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press 2011).



1948 commemorative stamp depicts Francis Scott Key, centered, with a 1813 fifteen-star flag to his left, and on the right a 1948 forty-eight-star flag to his right.

**Bladensburg Archeology**

Michael P. Roller, University of Maryland – College Park

The bustling urban landscape of Bladensburg belies the rich and complex history within this small suburb at the edge of the Washington DC border. The history of the community began almost sixty years before the founding of the Capital. Established in 1742 by an act of the Maryland Legislature, the settlement was intended to serve as a major port accessible to Atlantic trade ships. By the 1840s, the siltation of the Anacostia rendered it unnavigable. The



Map of Bladensburg with the locations of four 18th century houses

town's original plan sold space on 60 plots for pioneering property owners, or "Takers-Up", on the condition that, "...within Eighteen Months after taking up ... [to] build and finish... one good, substantial, and tenantable House with one Brick or Stone

Chimney thereto, that shall cover 400 square Ft of Ground". If the owners failed to satisfy these requirements the land was returned to the town and resold. As a result of its strategic position as a major crossing of the Anacostia offering access to the Capitol, it was the setting for a major episode of the War of 1812, the Battle of Bladensburg.

Archaeological excavation and archival research by the Maryland State Highway Administration, the University of Maryland, and community partners between 2008 and 2010 revealed a portrait of the 270 year history of this town. They examined archaeological resources associated with four extant 18<sup>th</sup> century buildings dating from the first few decades of the town.

Bostwick, a 2 ½-story brick Georgian-style mansion with a small complex of outbuildings, occupies the highest ground in Bladensburg. It was constructed in about 1745 by Christopher Lowndes, one of the town's founders. Lowndes operated several businesses including the manufacturing of hemp rope and the importation of an assortment of items. He also dealt in human cargo including enslaved people from Africa and indentured servants from Europe. On the 7-acre lot surrounding the house archaeologists revealed traces of buildings and activities associated with the everyday life of the Lowndes household as well as its businesses operations, possibly including the demolished remains of quarters for enslaved people that worked on the estate.



At Lowndes's time the Market Master's House would have been visible from Bostwick. This diminutive stone house was constructed in the 1760s by Lowndes. Archaeology revealed artifacts that suggest it probably served as a store for his family's import business. A rich assortment of expensive ceramics and metal goods were found across the site. Archaeologists also found the traces of wheel ruts across what is now considered the back of the house, suggesting that a driveway or road once led to the store.



Archaeology being conducted at the Market Master's House, Public Day, June 2009.

The Magruder House, a two-story sandstone dwelling, is the oldest standing structure in Bladensburg, having been built in 1742 by William Hilleary. Archaeology conducted in the yards around the house revealed much about the diet and material lives of those who occupied the house throughout its history, reflecting the rise and fall of the fortunes of the town after the port closed. Animal bones, expensive ceramics and other remains revealed evidence of a wealthy household in the 18<sup>th</sup> century when George Washington paid a visit to owner of the house, a wealthy Scottish merchant by the name of Richard Henderson. The 19<sup>th</sup> century artifacts included a collection of porcelain figurine fragments, buttons and medicine bottles.

The George Washington House, built in 1755 by William Wirt, served as a store and tavern for much of its history as part of a complex of buildings stretching across two lots that included, at different moments, a blacksmith shop, a kitchen, a stable and a counting house. In an adjacent, though once connected, parcel sat the Indian Queen tavern, favored by George Washington. Archaeologists excavating this lot found evidence of this tavern below the gravel parking lot, discovering artifacts and features connected to the owners and patrons of the tavern, as well as subsequent occupants of the lot. Archaeology revealed densely layered strata of foundation walls, building posts and other features. Artifacts including tavern-associated tableware and food items, personal items and even an 18<sup>th</sup> century cask tap were found throughout the site.

These buildings stood witness to the battle that raged through the town in August of 1814. Many may have served as make-shift hospitals or boarded soldiers at the time. Archaeology was able to unveil a bit about the landscape, and the lives lived in and around it, at this moment in history. Site history, interactive maps and paintings, artifact photos and other information about the excavations can be seen at this website: (<http://www.bladensburgarchaeology.com>).

**The Archaeology of the War of 1812 on the Patuxent River**

Susan Langley, Maryland Historical Trust

The legacy of submerged vessels from Joshua Barney's Chesapeake Flotilla began in June, 1814. Before successfully escaping St. Leonard's Creek on June 26, 1814 after establishing a battery to fire on the British from the heights above the creek, he divested himself of two vessels. Gunboats 137 and 138 were not only wet and uncomfortable; more dangerously, they were slow and therefore a liability. These were promptly scavenged by local residents. Less than a month later on August 22, he scuttled the remainder of the flotilla in the upper Patuxent to prevent its capture by the pursuing British when he and his men marched to the Washington Navy Yard and ultimately to Bladensburg. Formal salvage efforts were initiated as early as November on the main body of the flotilla, and more unofficially thereafter.



Dr. Julie Schablitsky (left) and Dr. Susan Langley (right) examine iron ballast found on the deck in the bow; likely a vestige of contemporary salvage efforts.

Old-timers told stories of swimming from and fishing off of the hulls in the 1930s, and early scuba divers pulled out pieces of vessels, although it's unclear whether they represented flotilla vessels, merchant vessels sheltering with the flotilla, or later wrecks altogether. The first serious investigations took place between 1977-1980, when the Maryland Historical Trust provided a small grant to Calvert Marine Museum, under Dr. Ralph Eshelman, and Nautical Archaeological Associates, a private non-profit headed by author Donald Shomette. They investigated a number of possibilities, one of which is likely Barney's flagship *Scorpion*; one of the few vessels documented as not salvaged. Artifacts recovered from the site lend credence to this identification.

Between 1997-99, efforts to relocate the two gunboats in St. Leonard's Creek and to seek other vessels possibly from the flotilla were initiated by Shomette with the Maryland Historical Trust and East Carolina University's Graduate Maritime Studies Program. The two gunboats were located and studied, as well as another historic vessel down the creek, resulting in two Master's theses. The survey met with less success in the upper Patuxent, although magnetic and bottom penetrating equipment hinted at possible remains. These tools cannot, however differentiate between natural and manmade objects.

With the passage of the Sunken Military Craft Act in 2005, the Navy took a renewed interest in claiming and managing its cultural resources. The approach of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 generated numerous commemorative activities. The Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC) determined it was interested in relocating the *Scorpion* and recovering, conserving and exhibiting additional artifacts from this site. A three-way partnership was



A pair of scissors may be part of the medical kit recovered in the 1970s by Donald Shomette and Dr. Ralph Eshelman

developed between the Navy, the Maryland Historical Trust and the State Highway Administration and plans were drawn up to survey, locate and investigate the site. The project was initiated in 2010 and the vessel was relocated and hydro-probing was employed to define its perimeter. The following year, limited testing was initiated to determine the condition of the vessel and to identify the configuration of the hull at the bow, stern and amidships. New information included discovering that the bow pointed upstream, not down as previously believed, that there was extensive decking remaining

on the vessel and that it was all in extremely good condition; much better than anticipated. The area explored 30 years previously was located in the stern where the vessel exhibited the most damage; largely the result of the scuttling. NHHC recovered additional artifacts from this area which are presently being conserved.

The project is presently at a crossroads and is considering the next steps. The exceptional condition of the vessel plays a role in these considerations. If it is decided to move forward with the current proposal to construct a cofferdam around the site and excavate it in dry conditions, there will be greater public access and visibility, and the conditions to record the vessel and its contents will be easier and safer for the archaeologists. The solid condition and the extent of the decking adds complexity to the project. The condition of the decking will require additional time to record in place, mark, remove and record the individual planks and timbers and store them in a wet environment until they are replaced in the hull and reburied. The



A stoneware bottle that still contained air when recovered by Dr. Neyland.

NHHC does not wish to raise the entire hull, only its contents. All of this has a cost both in money and in the permanent damage to the site. When all the factors have been considered and evaluated, a final decision will be made about moving forward.

**Archeological Investigations on the Trail of Joshua Barney**

Richard Ervin, Maryland State Highway Administration

The Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) Cultural Resources Section is conducting archeological investigations and historic research related to the War of 1812. The investigations are being done in cooperation with archeologists from the US Navy Heritage and History Command (NHHC), the National Park Service, Smithsonian Institute, the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT), University of Maryland, and preservation groups such as the Aman Memorial Trust, the Friends of the Battle of Bladensburg, the Anacostia Watershed Society, and the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area.

In 2010, NHHC, MHT and SHA began the search for the USS Scorpion, flagship of the Chesapeake Flotilla. In 1813, Commodore Joshua Barney proposed to construct a fleet of small but heavily armed barges to combat the might of the Royal Navy. In 1813, British warships roamed the Chesapeake, burning towns and plantations. Barney hoped that a fleet of maneuverable, shallow-draft barges could turn back the world's most powerful Navy. The Flotilla fought several naval battles against powerful British warships, but Barney was eventually forced to scuttle his fleet. He marched his Flotillamen overland from Upper Marlboro to Washington, and fought at the Battle of Bladensburg.



Shipwreck artifact, possibly a "cathead," used to haul in the anchor.

A wreck in the Patuxent River discovered by Don Shomette in 1979 may represent the Scorpion, or another vessel of the flotilla. Probing, limited excavation, and diving in 2010 re-located the shipwreck. More extensive excavations in 2011 recovered a number of artifacts. In 2013, plans call for construction of a cofferdam that will allow the entire wreck to be exposed and documented.



Archeologists examine a possible artifact from the 1814 battlefield.

SHA is also conducting archeology at the Bladensburg Battlefield, funded partially by a grant from the National Park Service (NPS) American Battlefield Protection Program. SHA's investigations sought to determine if archeological deposits have survived twentieth century development and to identify undisturbed parts of the battlefield. Mapping using a

Geographic Information System (GIS) provided important data on troop positions mentioned in battle accounts, and changes to the terrain from development.



Musket balls recovered from the battlefield appear to be British rounds fired into the American Lines..

Metal detecting survey was carried out in parts of the battlefield thought to be undisturbed. On the first day of survey, two musket balls were recovered near the position of Captain Miller’s US Marines, and three more were recovered later. All are distorted by impact, but appear to be British musket balls fired into the American line. A

piece of sheet lead may be a flint wrap, which was used to secure the gunflint within a musket lock.

Other recovered artifacts include a lamp burner (which held the wick of an oil lamp), a horseshoe, a metallic spout to a kettle, and several .60-calibre Minié balls. Some of these artifacts relate to the Civil War fortifications in the area, and others may reflect agricultural use of the property before and after the battle. Dr. Noel Broadbent of the Smithsonian Institution is also conducting archeological work at the battlefield, and has identified the foundation of an agricultural building on the Rives property, marking the position of Commodore Joshua Barney’s two 18-pounder cannon.



Several .60-calibre Minié balls relate to the Civil War fortifications in the area of the 1814 battlefield lines.

Although several artifacts from the battle were recovered, disturbance proved to be more widespread than expected. However, dense concentrations of undisturbed, eighteenth and nineteenth century deposits were found at several sites within the town of Bladensburg, including areas under a gravel parking lot. SHA has received a second grant from NPS and will continue explorations of the battlefield.

The results of SHA’s work will be included in an interactive website that will allow the public to virtually explore the 1812 landscape. A Battlefield Visitor’s Center and interpretive signage along the Star Spangled Banner National Historic Trail are planned to open in time for the Bicentennial Celebration of this important piece of Maryland and American history.

**Recent Archaeological Studies of British Raiding in the Northern Chesapeake: Frenchtown, Georgetown and Fredericktown**

Troy Nowak, Maryland Historical Trust

On December 26, 1812 the British Admiralty ordered a blockade of the Chesapeake Bay. The order brought war to Maryland. The blockade was intended to ruin American commerce and trap Baltimore's privateer fleet. The raids that accompanied the blockade often resulted in the capture or destruction of government property, military and commercial stores, and watercraft. Such actions caused damage to local and regional economies, hindered transportation and communication, and injured American morale. The British hoped that their blockade and the attacks they carried out would cause the US government to divert military resources from Canada to the Chesapeake and severely damage the American people's support for the war.

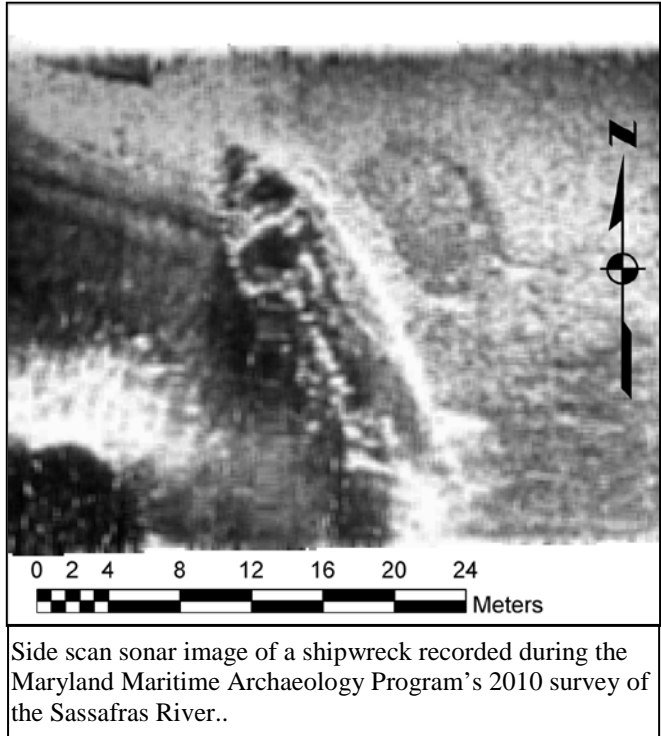
In the northern Chesapeake, Rear Admiral George Cockburn, "the notorious incendiary and infamous scoundrel" raided many poorly defended towns including industrial and transportation centers. During April and May 1813 Cockburn raided Frenchtown, a small transportation hub on the Elk River that linked Baltimore and Philadelphia by packet and stage, and Georgetown and Fredericktown, two small villages on the Sassafras River. All three towns were defended by small earthworks and batteries of light artillery manned by local militia. The British pillaged and burned Georgetown and Fredericktown destroying up to four vessels in the process. At Frenchtown, the British destroyed a wharf, warehouses containing government and commercial stores, and up to five vessels.

Cockburn's raids on the Elk and Sassafras Rivers have been the subjects of several studies conducted under the auspices of the Maryland Historical Trust over the past 15 years. Those studies include collaborative efforts between the Trust and universities, independent scholars, and cultural resource management firms. The most recent examination of the raids was conducted during 2010 and 2011 as part of a larger study of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 naval engagements in Maryland that was funded by the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program. The foundation of that study was a synthesis of previous work, contemporary accounts, and battlefield landscape analyses conducted by New South Associates. Their work guided subsequent field investigations undertaken by the Maryland Historical Trust's Maryland Maritime Archaeology Program with the assistance of volunteers from the Maritime Archaeological and Historical Society (MAHS) and the Institute of Maritime History (IMH).

The Maryland Maritime Archaeology Program conducted electronic remote-sensing investigations in the Sassafras River during 2010 including side scan sonar and magnetometer surveys of the Georgetown and Fredericktown battlefield. The project team hoped to locate one or more of the ships that were destroyed during the 1813 raid. One shipwreck was located during the survey;

however, it is likely unassociated with the raid based on its location - more than one mile from the towns (see illustration). Recommendations for future work include inspection of that shipwreck and a number of amorphous side scan sonar contacts and complex magnetic anomalies which could potentially, albeit unlikely, result in the discovery of one or more destroyed vessels or other evidence of Cockburn's raid.

Proposed work on the Elk River for 2011 included electronic remote-sensing survey and inspection of two sites that were located by the Maryland Historical Trust and East Carolina University during the late 1990s: a shipwreck tentatively dating from the early 19th century by



finds including a British naval officer's button and blue shell-edged pearlware; and a ballast pile. Background information related to the War of 1812-era raids on the Elk River, the shipwreck, and the ballast pile were presented in two master's theses: *The Exploration of a Burned American Vessel from the War of 1812 in the Upper Chesapeake Bay*, by Michael J. Plakos; and *An Investigation of a British Raid on the Upper Elk River During the War of 1812* by Michael D. Hughes. It is possible that both the shipwreck and the ballast pile are remnants of vessels that were destroyed during the 1813 Frenchtown raid. Unfortunately, siltation of the waterway prevented inspection of both sites during 2011. Recommendations for future work include development of a research design with the special provisions necessary to conduct thorough inspections of those possible War of 1812-era shipwrecks and a comprehensive survey of the Elk River adjacent to Frenchtown.

**Fort Hollingsworth, 1813-1815**

James G. Gibb, Gibb Archaeological Consulting

At any hour the alarm—baseless or well-founded—might ring out: “The British are coming!” Prudent householders hid their valuables and themselves. In no place on the Chesapeake Bay was the danger from British marines and armed barges more real than at Elkton at the top of the bay, an ideal landing for an overland strike at Philadelphia. Fort Hollingsworth at Elkton—an important monument to Maryland’s war effort—long ago disappeared. Finding it requires that we analyze surviving documents and employ the best methods of archaeology.

In the spring of 1813, the British fleet returned to the Chesapeake from their winter quarters in Bermuda. Depredations began immediately and Americans, still reeling from surprise raids of the previous summer, took action. The Baltimore newspaper Patriot reported that in April 1813 at least 200 people met at the Cecil County courthouse, raised \$1,000, appointed an organizing committee, and began work on three breast works, including Fort Hollingsworth at Elk Landing. By April 17, Fort Hollingsworth, Captain Henry Bennett, commander, was nearly completed: 300 ft of a semicircular earthwork supporting five six-pounder cannons, with a trench sufficient to shelter 500 men from the enemy’s small arms and artillery fire. Later that year the militia fended off a detachment of British marines. On July 14, 1814, defended by eleven cannon and reinforced by 250 men from the Delaware Flotilla, Fort Hollingsworth repulsed five British barges, the second and last attempt on Elkton and its defenders. News of the war’s end reached the district in February 1815.

Where is this small bastion, this sling used to fight the Goliath of British imperialism? What did it look like? Firsthand accounts are few. At age 80, relating his reminiscences of the war when he was 14 or 15 years of age, Thomas J. Sample described the fort: “There was a mud or earth battery built just below the old stone house which stood on the lower wharf.” A letter from Brigadier General Thomas Marsh Forman to his wife, Martha, briefly relates the second battle within hours of its occurrence. The newspaper Patriot offers a second-hand account of the fort’s creation and two details of its construction: it was a semicircular earthwork of 300 linear feet, and it had a ditch that could accommodate 500 men. An exterior ditch, the spoil from which formed the earthwork, was a common feature of defensive works, impeding infantry and cavalry assaults. Describing such a moat in terms of the number of men it could harbor suggests a lack of understanding of how these features were used. How high was the earthwork and how deep the ditch, and how were they placed and oriented relative to the Big Elk and Little Elk rivers? How wide were they and how was the artillery mounted? Were they field pieces or naval guns? Were there additional outworks to defend the main fort from ground assault? Precisely where was the fort? Elk Landing today is flat (see picture), two centuries of plowing having leveled any surface features that might betray the fort’s location.



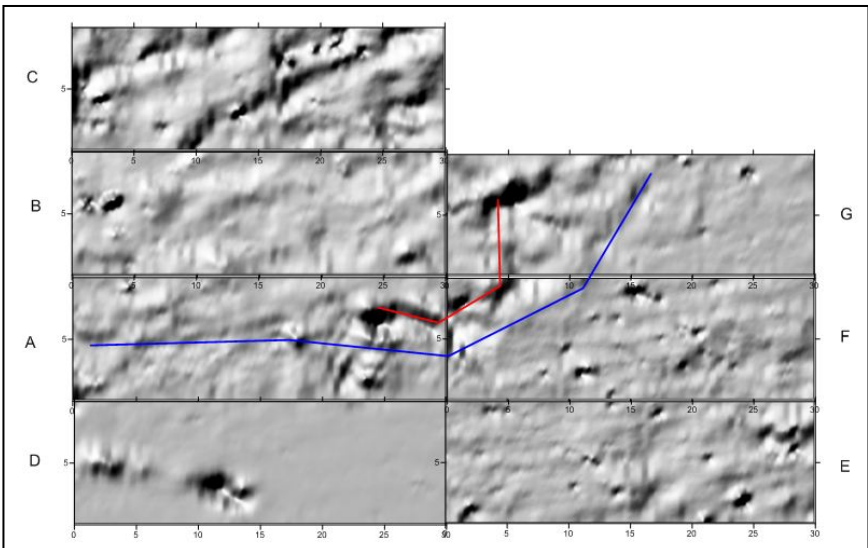
(Plowing has similarly destroyed all surface traces of many Civil War earthworks, leaving only archaeological evidence of the ditches.)

To begin to answer these questions we turn to archaeology. On July 7, 2012, Peter Quantock of the University of Denver and the Archeological Society of the Northern Chesapeake surveyed one acre of the open field east of the Old Stone House and south of the



Peter Quantock conducting magnetometer survey.

Hollingsworth House with a magnetometer (see picture). This machine measures magnetic fields that surround everything, recording anomalies that may be caused by old ground disturbances. A computer application uses the numeric values (measured in nano-teslas) to produce a simulation image of significantly high and low values that is analogous to a topographic map (see image below). The image that Pete produced suggests a ditch with a projecting bastion or artillery emplacement, indicated by the lines, and a number of other pit features. How can we know for sure? We look with less sophisticated tools: shovels and trowels.



Magnetometer simulation image, with possible bastion indicated.

**Military Terrain Analysis, Four Maritime Battles of the War of 1812**

Chris Espenshade, New South Associates, Inc.

In 2011, New South Associates conducted military terrain analysis for War of 1812 actions including the Battle of Baltimore, the Battles of Saint Leonards Creek, the Raids on Frenchtown and Elkton, and the Raid on Georgetown and Fredericktown. The work was conducted in support of the Maryland Historical Trust, under a grant from the American Battlefield Preservation Program. A major goal of the study was to identify specific underwater locations that could contain significant information related to those battles.

Archaeologists have learned the hard way that it is important that a military mindset be applied when studying a former battlefield. We have borrowed the concept of KOCO A from military historians and instructors at the military academies. KOCO A is a way to make sure that the key aspects of a battlefield landscape are considered. The acronym represents:

**K**ey Terrain/Decisive Terrain  
**O**bservation and Fields of Fire  
**C**oncealment and Cover  
**O**bstacles  
**A**venues of Approach/Withdrawal

KOCO A has been widely used in the study of land battles of the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War. However, the 2011 study was among the first to apply this approach to maritime battles, where at least one of the forces is in boats on the ocean, river, or creek. Beyond the obvious facts that boats cannot travel over dry land and troops cannot ride or march across water, the maritime nature of these battles brought in additional variables including tide (at what times are specific areas of channel and marsh accessible with various types of crafts?), prevailing winds (will attack and withdrawal be under sail or under oar?), and ability to achieve desired firing orientation.

Using battle accounts, period maps (Figure 1 presents an example), and historic and modern navigational charts, the process began by identifying key elements of the military terrain. For example, at the First Raid on Elk River, the



Period battle map showing North Point area of the Battle of Baltimore. The river, creek, marshes, high ground, American entrenchments, and British line can be seen in this highly accurate rendering.

channel depths defined a tight corridor through which the British ship's boats had to travel if they were to move up river. For most of the conflicts, we were able to identify the key vessels and their weapons, as well as the land defenses. Once the location of a battery (gun emplacement) had been determined, it was possible to draw the area into which it could have effectively fired.

All these various clues were fodder for a computer-based geographic analysis, and we were able to plot the core and secondary areas of the battlefields, as well as zones with high archaeological potential. These high potential zones included trench systems/earthworks, land batteries, landings, wharves, booms, beaten zones (areas of fired cannon shot), and lost vessels. An example of a high potential area is the river center between the two land batteries in play during the Raid on Georgetown and Fredericktown. As illustrated in Figure 2, the fields of fire from both banks tightly defined the path of the British vessels. There was a narrow corridor in which neither battery could effectively reach the vessels.

The KOCO analysis of four maritime battlefields from the War of 1812 was successful in three regards. First, our results assisted in the planning of field investigations that were conducted by the Trust and will assist in the planning of future work. Second, our results identified key areas for



Period sketch of the action during the raid upon Georgetown and Fredericktown. In this view up the Sassafraz River, it is clear that the shots from the two banks (A) do not cover the full width of the channel, and the British vessels were able to travel upriver along the corridor marked by the vessel (2). This image is reused from the 2010 book, *The War of 1812 in the Chesapeake* by Eshelman, Sheads, and Hickey.

possible preservation in each of the battlefields, such that key features may be saved and interpreted for future Marylanders. Lastly, our analyses suggested that there might be the need for revision of existing battle reconstructions; new insights were gained.

**“We Found this Place Completely Deserted”: An Archaeological Perspective on the War of 1812 at Nottingham**

Michael Lucas, M-NCPPC- Natural and Historical Resources Division,  
Prince George’s County

Nottingham. Nottingham Maryland was one of many small villages located along the Patuxent River during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The location was already a prominent landing site for mercantile trade when the Maryland legislature formally designated the site a town in 1706. Ocean-going ships received hogsheads of tobacco at Nottingham in exchange for a variety of European goods throughout much of the eighteenth century. Merchant James Russell also used Nottingham as a base of operations for transporting enslaved Africans to Maryland during the 1740s. The town thrived during the nineteenth century due in large part to regular commercial steamboat traffic from Baltimore. Nottingham survived as a small rural community into the twentieth century. A few scattered buildings are all that is left of this town that served as a social and commercial anchor for southern Prince George’s County, Maryland for over 250 years. Roughly 63 acres of land in and around the historic village is owned and managed as public park land by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC).

The War of 1812 at Nottingham.

The quiet river port of Nottingham became entangled in the British march on Washington during the summer of 1814. U.S. troops, including Commodore Joshua Barney’s Chesapeake flotilla, used Nottingham as a strategic base of operations from June through August in anticipation of an invasion by British forces moving

up the Patuxent River from Benedict, a dozen miles to the south. The American troops made use of the resources within the town as necessary, including a store that served as an armory and tobacco from a warehouse used as a breastwork for cannon. Decades later one resident recalled this turbulent summer, “It must be recollected by all who are conversant with the events of the late war, that during the year of 1814 Nottingham was little else than a garrison village.” The arrival of British troops on August 21, 1814 marked the height of Nottingham’s role in the War of 1812. Barney retreated



Musket ball recovered at encampment.

with his flotilla upstream as British troops established an encampment on the outskirts of the town. British land forces encountered little resistance save for a brief clash with troops led by then Secretary of State James Monroe. Lieutenant George Robert Gleig's narrative of the British assault includes a brief description of Nottingham as "completely deserted" and filled with framed houses "little superior to cottages". Most of the troops continued on toward Washington the following day and returned to the encampment a week later following their attack on the capital.

The Nottingham Archaeology Project. The M-NCPPC, Archaeology Program began a multi-year archaeological project in the fall of 2011 to determine the impact of the War of 1812 on the town of Nottingham and provide evidence of the British encampment west of the town. The first goal of the project is to gather information related to the British encampment and the second is to document the buildings existing in the town of Nottingham during the early nineteenth century. The archaeological survey at Nottingham is confined to M-NCPPC park land. Public outreach in the form of special events, lectures, and collaborative participation is incorporated into every phase of the project to involve and update county citizens



Shovel test pit at Nottingham.

and surrounding property owners in the research at Nottingham.

British Encampment: August 21 – August 29, 1814. Several questions guided the initial survey of the possible encampment site. Where is the exact location of the British encampment? How extensive was the British encampment? Are there earthworks or other alterations of the landscape? Musket balls, patch pullers, military buttons, and other artifacts found in the fall of 2011 allowed M-NCPPC archaeologists to pinpoint the location of the British encampment. Survey of the area in 2012 will focus on determining the size of the encampment.

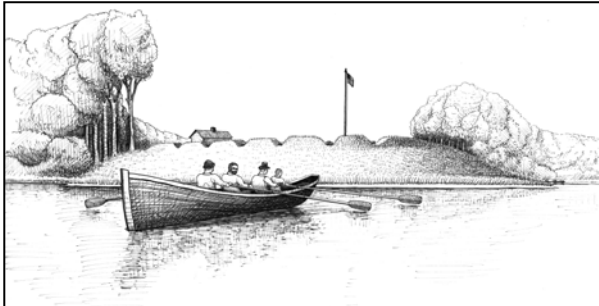
Nottingham Town: June – August, 1814. Our initial research questions relate to the overall makeup of the town. What was the population of Nottingham during the War of 1812? Also is Gleig's description of the buildings consistent with what actually existed? Is there any archaeological evidence of the American occupation of the town? So far we have found evidence of several buildings in the town including the possible remnants of a store that operated during the war of 1812. Archaeologists will continue to search for evidence of additional town buildings during 2012.

**Old Fort Stokes May Be the Only Earthen War of 1812 Fort on Maryland's Eastern Shore**

Andy Stout, The Archaeological Conservancy

While the War of 1812 was a very important in shaping America as an independent nation, the sites associated with this war often appear to have been forgotten. Old Fort Stokes, located in Easton, MD, is one such site. Consisting of a series of earthworks with placements for large cannons, the site has been noted in a few newspaper articles and in one local history book, but otherwise the site has been largely forgotten. The fort was originally constructed to defend the Town of Easton, MD; and while no professional excavations have taken place at the site, in the past, locals have discovered cannonballs at the location of the fort, one of which resides with the Talbot County Historical Society. At present the site may be the only known earthen fort still remaining on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

The catalyst for the construction of the fort appears to have been a rumor that spread on March 28, 1813, that vessels from the British fleet were approaching Easton, MD by way of the Tred Avon River. The residents of Easton were thrown into a panic with this news and a large number of private citizens, in conjunction with the Eaton Light Infantry Blues under the command of Capt.



An artist's depiction of Old Ft. Stokes.

George Wishart Smith, gathered to defend the town. It turned out however, that the rumors of a pending British attack were false. Unsettled by the possibility that such an attack could occur, a local Methodist minister and owner of a ship building firm near Easton, named James Stokes, called together his employees and friends and erected breastworks for defense of Easton along the Tred Avon River. These fortifications became known as Ft. Stokes. The Ft. was reportedly armed with six cannons under the command of a Capt. Clement Vickers of the Talbot Volunteer Artillery Company and was kept in a state of readiness for the remainder of the war. When the British attacked St. Michaels Maryland in 1813, troops from Fort Stokes were sent to participate in the town's defense.

Historical accounts claim that Old Fort Stokes contained one building, which was used as a garrison house and that the fort was sparsely manned, except for periods of alarm when rumors of British attack were circulating, only then was it was fully garrisoned. The site of Old Fort Stokes was also reportedly used as a communications outpost during the war and small boats were launched from the fort to report on the movement of the British fleet. When the British held nearby

Sharp, Tilghman, and Kent Islands, local residents were told to send women, children, valuables and livestock to the fort for protection.

While the site of Old Fort Stokes had been on The Archaeological Conservancy's radar for some time, it was not until it was purchased by Elm Street Development, a privately owned real estate development firm with communities throughout the Washington, Baltimore and Eastern Shore regions, that the Conservancy was able to acquire the site as a donation.

### About The Archaeological Conservancy



**The Archaeological Conservancy**, established in 1980, is the only national non-profit organization dedicated to acquiring and preserving the best of our nation's remaining archaeological sites. Based in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the Conservancy also operates regional offices in Mississippi, Maryland, Ohio, and California

To date, The Archaeological Conservancy has acquired 4 sites in Maryland, including:

The Barton Site, Allegany County  
The Maddox Island Site, Somerset County  
The Rosenstock Site, Frederick County  
Old Ft. Stokes, Talbot County

More than 23,000 people from across the country demonstrate their concern for America's heritage through their membership with The Archaeological Conservancy. Please consider adding your name to this growing list with your membership gift of \$25 or more.

As a member of the Conservancy, you'll receive the quarterly magazine *American Archaeology*, the only popular magazine devoted to the excitement and mystery of archaeology in the United States. In *American Archaeology*, you can read about projects funded through the support of Conservancy members. Members also receive brochures describing the Conservancy's archaeological tours.

Read more about The Archaeological Conservancy at their website: <http://www.americanarchaeology.com/aawelcome.html>.

**Archeology Volunteer Programs**

Following are examples of programs in Maryland that offer opportunities to get involved in archeology. For more information about these and other similar programs visit [www.marylandarcheology.org](http://www.marylandarcheology.org).

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***Archaeology in Annapolis***

Department of Anthropology, University of Maryland College Park

Archaeology in Annapolis is a research project that has explored the heritage of Maryland's capital since 1981. Opportunities to participate are available throughout the year, and fieldwork will be conducted from May 29 to July 6 during a field school offered by the Department. The field school is offered as a class for undergraduate or graduate credit, or a workshop for non-students. For more information about the field school or Archaeology in Annapolis, contact Kate Deeley ([kdeeley@umd.edu](mailto:kdeeley@umd.edu)), Ben Skolnik ([bskolnik@umd.edu](mailto:bskolnik@umd.edu)), Beth Pruitt ([epruitt@umd.edu](mailto:epruitt@umd.edu)), or call (301) 405-1429..

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***The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission***

Prince George's County, Natural and Historical Resources Division

Public Archaeology programs are offered at the Mount Calvert Historical and Archaeological Park, located on the Patuxent River east of Upper Marlboro, Maryland. Volunteers are welcome from April through October. For more information call the archaeology program office at 301- 627-1286 or email Don Creveling at [Donald.Creveling@pgparks.com](mailto:Donald.Creveling@pgparks.com), or Mike Lucas at [Michael.Lucas@pgparks.com](mailto:Michael.Lucas@pgparks.com)

Prince George's County  
Historical Resources Division, Archaeology Program  
8204 McClure Road  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

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***Anne Arundel County's Lost Towns Project***

The Lost Towns Project is an archeological research and public education program sponsored by Anne Arundel County and the Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation, Inc. (ACT). We welcome the public to join us in excavations; no previous experience is required! We excavate year-round at various sites Monday - Friday, and offer two Saturday Public Dig Days at Historic London Town April 21 and August 4, 2012 from 9am - 2pm. Historic London Town is also open for tours Wednesday - Sunday. In order to volunteer or learn more, contact Jessie Grow at 410-222-1318 or [volunteers@losttownsproject.org](mailto:volunteers@losttownsproject.org); or visit [www.losttownsproject.org](http://www.losttownsproject.org).

Anne Arundel County's Lost Towns Project  
Historic London Town & Gardens  
839 Londontown Road  
Edgewater, Maryland 21037



***Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum: Public Archaeology Program***

Smith's St. Leonard Site; May 8 - June 30, 2012

Join Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum archeologists this summer in the excavation of various early 18th century buildings at the Smith's St. Leonard Site. The program will run Tuesday through Saturday, May 8 through June 30. Tuesdays and Thursdays are "Lab Days," while Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays will be "Field Days," weather permitting. To volunteer, contact Ed Chaney at (410) 586-8554 or by email to [echaney@mdp.state.md.us](mailto:echaney@mdp.state.md.us).

Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum  
10515 Mackall Road  
St. Leonard, Maryland 20685  
Ph: 410.586.8501 Fax: 410.586.8503 [www.jefpat.org](http://www.jefpat.org)

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***The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission***

Montgomery County Parks Department, Park Planning and Stewardship

Join the Montgomery County Park Planning and Stewardship archaeology program in uncovering the county's past through the investigation of prehistoric Indian sites, Civil War encampments, slave dwellings and post-reconstruction sites. Volunteers are welcome on Mondays and Wednesdays. Contact Heather Bouslog, 301-840-5848 or [heather.bouslog@montgomeryparks.org](mailto:heather.bouslog@montgomeryparks.org), or visit [www.ParksArchaeology.org](http://www.ParksArchaeology.org)

6700 Needwood Mansion  
Derwood, Maryland 20855

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***Historic St. Mary's City: A Museum of History and Archaeology***

Historic St. Mary's City is the site of the fourth permanent English settlement in North America, Maryland's first capital, and the birthplace of religious toleration in America. The archaeology program at HSMC, co-sponsored by St. Mary's College of Maryland, offers an annual Field School, which will take place from May 30th through August 5th in 2012. While in the field, staff and students offer tours of the excavations. At Tidewater Archaeology Weekend (July 28th – 29th), the public can discover what it's like to be an archeologist and take a special tour of the archeological laboratory. Contact HSMC Educational Programs Coordinator [education@stmaryscity.org](mailto:education@stmaryscity.org) or the Visitor Center at 240-895-4990 for more information. For a list of events visit <http://www.stmaryscity.org/events.html>.

Historic St. Mary's City ,  
Museum of History and Archaeology  
P.O. Box 39  
St. Mary's City, MD 20686

***Washington College*****Public Archaeology Laboratory Volunteer Opportunities**

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Washington College in Chestertown maintains a public archeology laboratory in the Custom House, where students and volunteers process artifact collections from the region. Displays and interpretive signs are found throughout the laboratory. To make arrangements for volunteering or for a tour contact Elizabeth Seidel, Lab Director, at 410-810-7164 or [eseidel2@washcoll.edu](mailto:eseidel2@washcoll.edu).

Washington College Public Archaeology Laboratory

101 S. Water Street

Chestertown, MD 21620

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***Maryland Historical Trust*****Archeology Programs**

The Maryland Historical Trust is committed to involving the public in archeology. The Maryland Maritime Archeology Program provides opportunities for volunteers in field activities on a seasonal basis. Participants need not be divers. Terrestrial archeological programs include an annual Field Session co-hosted with the Archeological Society of Maryland. This eleven-day field investigation combines education with research, and provides unparalleled professional-avocational interaction. Additional field projects occur throughout the year. An Open Lab is held on most Tuesdays during the year teaching proper archeological lab techniques. Presentations, displays, publications, and internships are also offered. To learn more contact State Terrestrial Archeologist Charlie Hall at [chall@mdp.state.md.us](mailto:chall@mdp.state.md.us), or State Underwater Archeologist Susan Langley at [slangley@mdp.state.md.us](mailto:slangley@mdp.state.md.us).

Maryland Historical Trust

100 Community Place

Crownsville, MD 21032

[www.MarylandHistoricalTrust.net](http://www.MarylandHistoricalTrust.net)

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***Certificate and Training Program for Archeological Technicians***

The Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc. (ASM), the Maryland Historical Trust, and the Council for Maryland Archeology offer a Certificate and Training Program for Archeological Technicians (CAT Program), providing an opportunity to be recognized for formal and extended training in archeology without participation in a degree program. Certificate candidates must be members of the ASM, and work under the supervision of a mentor. A series of required readings and workshops is coupled with practical experience in archeological research. For information about the CAT Program, and application forms, visit the ASM web site at [www.marylandarcheology.org](http://www.marylandarcheology.org).

## HISTORIC ST. MARY'S CITY

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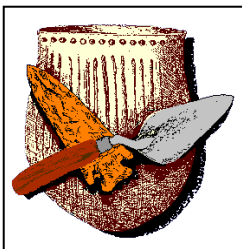
240-896-4990 [www.stmaryscity.org](http://www.stmaryscity.org) 800-SMC-1634

The **Council for Maryland Archeology** represents professional archeologists with an interest in the archeology of Maryland. It is our mission to:

- Foster public awareness and concern for the preservation and management of archeological resources;
- Contribute to the professional management of archeological resources;
- Encourage scholarly research and serve as a forum for the exchange of information;
- Establish ethical and research standards for the conduct of archeology.



The Council holds symposia and speakers events that are open to the public. Follow the Council on Facebook for notification of upcoming events or on the web at <http://cfma-md.com>.



The **Archeological Society of Maryland**, Inc. (ASM) is a not-for-profit organization that is dedicated to the scientific study of the human past in the State of Maryland. The Society consists of professional, academic, and avocational archeologists. In addition to the state-wide organization, the Society consists of eight chapters representing most geographic regions in the State of Maryland; each with its own local meetings

and activities. ASM sponsors publication, research, and site surveys throughout the State as well as the annual Workshop in Maryland Archeology (with the Maryland Historical Trust) and the annual Spring Symposium, both of which are public educational events. Each late spring or early summer, ASM sponsors a field school/excavation which is open to public participation where members and the interested public can participate in an excavation under the direction of professional archeologists. Visit us at [www.marylandarcheology.org](http://www.marylandarcheology.org).



The Maryland State Highway Administration's goal is not only to fulfill our legal responsibilities by promoting environmentally sensitive transportation planning, but also champion historic preservation through the stewardship of Maryland's cultural resources. Our cultural resources team evaluates proposed highway construction impacts on buildings, historic districts, roadway structures and archaeological sites while managing community based programs in public archaeology, historic bridges, and Native American consultation. For information, contact Dr. Julie M. Schablitsky, Chief Archaeologist/Assistant Division Chief, Cultural Resources Section at [jschablitsky@sha.state.md.us](mailto:jschablitsky@sha.state.md.us).

The **Maryland Historical Trust** (Trust) is a state agency dedicated to preserving and interpreting the legacy of Maryland's past. Through research, conservation and education, the Trust assists the people of Maryland in understanding their historical and cultural heritage. The Trust is an agency of the Maryland Department of Planning and serves as Maryland's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Our website can be accessed at [www.mht.maryland.gov](http://www.mht.maryland.gov).



Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission  
Natural and Historical Resources  
Division (NHRD), Prince George's  
County

Since 1988, the NHRD **Archaeology Program of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission** (M-NCPPC) has been exploring the diversity of Prince George's County's archaeological resources. Through excavations, exhibits, and public outreach and cultural resource management, the archaeology program supports the M-NCPPC's numerous museums and historic sites. Hands-on volunteer programs and student internships provide opportunities for citizens and students to become involved in the process of discovering the past by participating in excavations and artifact processing and analysis. For information call the archaeology program office at 301-627-1286 or email Don Creveling at [Donald.Creveling@pgparks.com](mailto:Donald.Creveling@pgparks.com) or Mike Lucas at [Michael.Lucas@pgparks.com](mailto:Michael.Lucas@pgparks.com).



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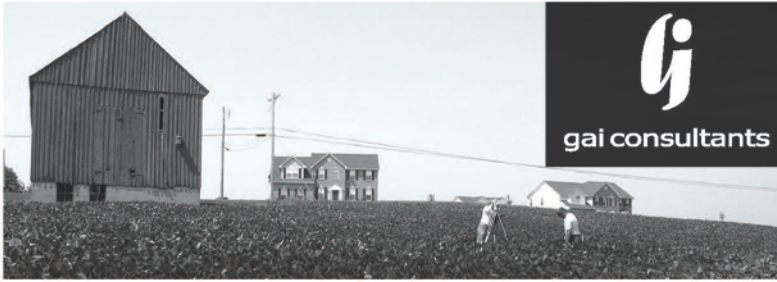
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## GAI Helps to Celebrate Maryland's War of 1812 Bicentennial

### *Data Recovery at Historic Site 18CV151*

By 1812, Robert Fulton's Clermont on the Hudson demonstrated the first practical use in America of steam power for water transportation. A year later, Weems & Plath steamboats appeared on the Chesapeake, boosting the value of tobacco farming in the region and at Site 18CV151, where GAI Consultants, Inc. (GAI) conducted Phase III archeological data recovery investigations. Phase III investigations were sponsored by Dominion Cove Point LNG, LP.

Between Woodman Stoakley's land patent (700-acre tract) in 1658 and Somervell family ownership from ca. 1773-1818, the property changed hands many times. The plantation was economically successful until sometime between 1810 and 1818. Uncertainty in overseas tobacco markets during the War of 1812 and five successive years of major storms forced the Somervell family to sell the property.

GAI identified three successive slave quarters, an outbuilding, fence lines, and activity areas. Interpretation of slave quarters was largely supported by interior root cellars, consumption of meats in soups and stews, minimal evidence of butchery marks, unsuitable location for agriculture, a paucity of ceramic and glass artifacts (few material possessions), and historical documentation. Excavations produced 4,389 historic artifacts, including a silver Spanish "One" Reale coin produced in Potosi, Bolivia (ca. 1732).



GAI's data recovery at Site 18CV151 documented important insights central to mid-eighteenth to mid-nineteenth-century slave occupations in the Chesapeake region, and successfully mitigated adverse effects to this National Register site.

Work with a trusted partner.  
[gaiconsultants.com/archeology](http://gaiconsultants.com/archeology)

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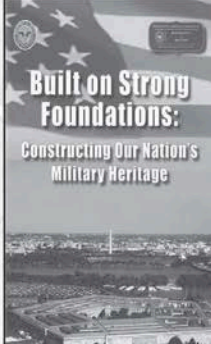
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## Commemorating the War of 1812 in Maryland

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The Ottery Group

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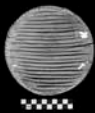
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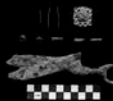


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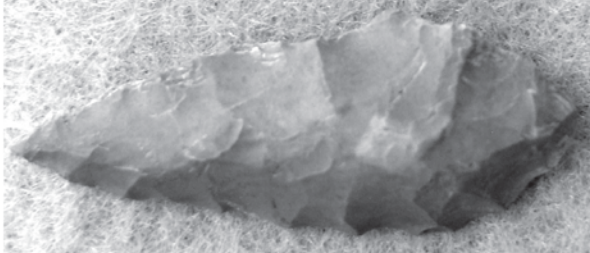
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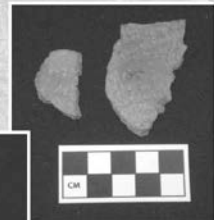
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