



THE ASV

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF
VIRGINIA

ESTABLISHED 1940

JUNE 2016 • NUMBER 221

THE MISSION OF
THE
ARCHEOLOGICAL
SOCIETY OF
VIRGINIA IS TO
PROMOTE THE
ARCHEOLOGY AND
ANTHROPOLOGY
OF VIRGINIA AND
ADJACENT
REGIONS.



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PRESIDENT'S JOURNAL – CAROLE NASH

As May comes to an end, I've found myself this month at archaeological sites in Virginia Beach (Great Neck), Clarke County (Clermont Farm), Rockingham County (Linville Mound), and Shenandoah National Park (Old Rag). I've also had some lab time, helping sort tiny fish bones from the waterscreened contents of shell pits at Great Neck. I've marveled at the construction of a variety of Middle Woodland Mockley ceramics made with a sandy paste, probably from the clays of Broad Bay. With members of the Massanutten Chapter, I've been looking at English ceramics from the White House Farm in Page County, where three years of Certification field schools recovered evidence of an 18th century farmstead over a Late Woodland Page series hamlet.



After a long school year, I'm energized by time travel in the good company of Virginia archaeologists. Sometimes mundane, sometimes bewildering and astounding, the pasts that we construct are grounded and made relevant through our work. While I've been able to catch my breath and plan the field season, I'm also reminded of the need for vigilance. Virginia, as we know, has no shortage of pasts in need of constructing and protecting.

As I write this, we have just learned that Petersburg National Battlefield was looted. The National Park Service's press release reports "a large number of excavations in the Park," and the national media are covering the crime scene where the Archaeological Resource Protection Act (ARPA) was violated. It is hoped that through criminal investigation the looters will be brought to justice, but the damage has been done. Presumably, artifacts have been ripped from their contexts, destroying provenience and the accompanying meaning of these specific places. One marvels at the audacity of the individuals responsible for such damage on lands protected by Federal law. One also thinks about the security of the rest of the property, which has seen very limited archaeological survey.

Like many of you reading this, I've lost track of the number of letters I've written on behalf of various organizations – and now the ASV – denouncing activities like this and offering help. Last month, you may have caught Preservation Virginia's press release on this year's "Virginia's Most Endangered Historic Places" list, which includes the early 19th century Oak Hill Plantation near Danville. In 2015 relic hunters from the Discovery Channel's show "Rebel Gold" employed a backhoe at the site of an ice house and dug into sub-floor pits in slave quarters in search of lost treasure rumored to have been buried on the farm. What they found was a different kind of 'treasure' – objects held by the plantation slaves, such as beads, thimbles, coins, and buttons that were removed without provenience. In this instance, the owners had given permission to the show's producers and no laws were broken on private property. Again, as with Petersburg, the damage can't be undone, despite the owners' regret. However, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources' Threatened Sites Fund supported subsequent work by archaeologists from CRM firm Hurt and Proffitt, who located intact features in the slave quarters and in the process, demonstrated what can be learned when proper archaeological methods are used.

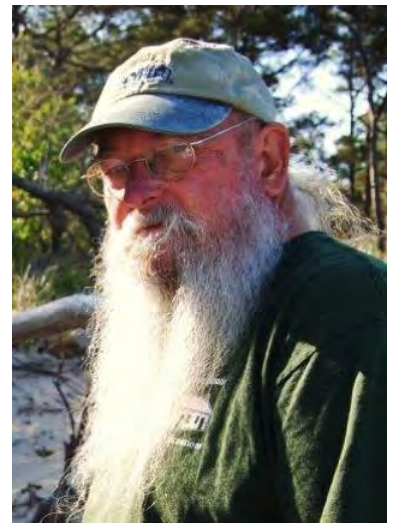
Unfortunately, these reports are not unlike others we've seen for decades. If you're like me, you still get angry – every time – because actions like these make it very difficult, if not impossible, for us to engage with these pasts and present them to our communities. We, who have accepted the responsibility to convey the stories, are stopped short. The beauty and complexity of the archaeological record are compromised, in some instances beyond repair, and the connections tangible to us as time travelers are severed.

We will continue to express our indignation, as we will continue to volunteer in the recovery. Some of us will work with local governments to encourage the passage of ordinances that will offer protection to historic resources. Some of us will work to educate our communities about the importance and relevance of archaeology. We accept this as part of what we do because, as archaeologists, we know that the discovery of the site is only the beginning. Studied properly, we have the opportunity to shepherd the site to present-day audiences and protect it for the future. We have to stick with it. ☀

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST – Michael B. Barber

With regard to Virginia archaeology, we are living in interesting times. I had the opportunity to visit Kittiewan a few weeks ago and things are moving along there. Not only is the new building pretty much ready to house volunteers but the plantation house is about to be re-plastered. Along those lines, wallpaper removal has uncovered evidence of the sequence of changes in style over a 250 year span. As tastes in architecture changed so too did changes in wall covering methods and styles. And it's all documented on the walls of Kittiewan. Beyond that, the magnitude of the work done in preparation of re-plastering by the corps of Kittiewan volunteers is equally impressive.

On the archaeological front, the work continues at the Great Neck site (44VB0007) at Virginia Beach. Salvage efforts last fall, heading up by Mike Clem and with competent aid by a cadre of dedicated ASV volunteers



demonstrated that this part of the site dated to early Middle Woodland II (AD 200 – 400). The site was marked by an amazing amount of Mockley and Mockley-like ceramics with shell tempering (and some sand and sand/shell mixed tempering) with net and cord impressed surfaces. Some were well-fired and thin-walled with other sherds, thicker and more friable. Lithics were of very limited frequency and triangular points totally absent. Food remains were copious in the form of many shellfish (dominated by oyster, clam, and razor clam) and animal bone consisting of white-tailed deer and many species of fish. Many pits were large and deep and storage facilities seemed to be an important factor in site occupation. By this publication, the May Field School will have been completed with a new array of recovered data to be analyzed.

Finally, on the collection front, the Department of Historic Resources has recently acquired the cultural material excavated from the Hatch site (44PG0051), Prince George County, Virginia. The work at the site was carried out under the direction of Mr. Leverette Gregory in the 1980s and 1990s. The site records are impeccable in their quality and detail and the artifact collection in excellent condition as well – washed, labeled, and stored in plastic bags. The 450 Hollenger boxes of data will provide for decades of in depth study of the Middle Woodland, Late Woodland, Contact, and Early Colonial periods. As the Hatch site collection is one of the most significant collections in Virginia, the kind donation by Mrs. Eve Gregory, President of Virginia Foundation for Archaeological Research, to DHR is a milestone in the historic preservation of the Commonwealth.

For years, I have quoted what I thought was a Chinese proverb, “May you live in interesting times.” Imagine my surprise when I found out that it was not a proverb but a Chinese curse. If we are cursed by interesting times like these, please let it continue. ☀



Volunteers reboxing the Hatch collection before transferring it to the DHR. Photo courtesy of Bly Straube.

NEWS FROM THE ASV HQ – Submitted by Martha Williams

From the start, the purpose of this column has been to keep the Society's membership informed about the individuals and activities that collectively function to keep ASV's headquarters complex at Kittiewan—including its historic manor house and Visitors' Center and the surrounding landscape—moving forward. Lately, these tasks have revolved primarily around the Manor House restoration effort and Bill Bjork's "Hotel Kittiewan" construction project.

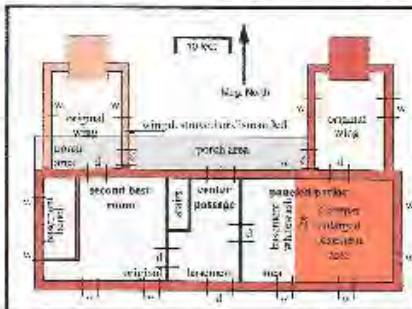
Less visible, but no less important, is the task of interpreting and presenting the many facets of the Society's historic property to the general public. A variety of means have been developed to achieve that goal, including presenting illustrated talks to organizations outside of the ASV; creating permanent and rotating exhibits within the Manor House and Visitors' Center; organizing and presenting special events like the 2014 Civil War Sesquicentennial; working to periodically update Kittiewan's Facebook page; and developing brochures for on-site distribution to visitors. The illustrations included in this newsletter represent the latest public interpretation effort. These six panels will be displayed in the Manor House as restoration moves forward; once restoration is complete, they will become the nucleus of a permanent exhibit in the Visitors' Center. ☀

Evolution of a Manor House

The Main House at *KITTIEWAN PLANTATION*

On the outside, Kittiewan's frame Manor House resembles many other modest plantation dwellings that the local gentry built in rural 18th century Virginia. Its original footprint formed a "U" shape, with the base of that U facing south toward Kittiewan Creek and the James River—an appropriate orientation in an era when most people traveled by water rather than using the miserable roads of the period. But, as you shall see, Kittiewan's presumed builder, Dr. William Rickman, added some elegant interior touches that equaled those found in some of colonial Virginia's most fashionable dwellings.

The house at Kittiewan remained much the same as built through the 1840s, until a new owner, Dr. William A. Selden, purchased the property. Selden altered the dwelling inside and out. Most importantly, he removed one of the original 18th century wings and replaced it with the addition that today forms the north façade of the house. Architectural and archeological investigations have confirmed the existence and location of that earlier wing. Selden also added the present Greek Revival porches at the front and rear entrances; closed off the window openings on the west side of the house; and inserted new windows on the east façade.



Kittiewan's Paneled Room

Evolution of a Manor House:

The Paneled Room at *KITTIWAN PLANTATION*

The Georgian style architectural flourishes that you see in this room are the features that set Kittiewan apart from other modest plantation dwellings of this period. These features include elaborate raised pine paneling, dentiled cornices, the Roman arches and keystones above the closet doors, and the use of classical Roman pilasters to frame the closet openings and the door that leads to the central hallway. In the 18th century, this highly formal setting would have been functioned as a public space for entertaining large groups of guests. The paneling, which is held together by pegs rather than nails, reportedly has not been painted since the mid-19th century.



Paneled room in 1935

However, not every feature of this room is original to the 18th century. The Seldens likely installed the closets in the 1840s; before that time, those spaces

were filled by alcoves known as "buffets." The classical insets above the closet doors were added when the buffets were modified. Window openings were inserted to provide light; shelves were installed; and the closet interiors were plastered. The Seldens also may have added the fireplace mantel that you see today.

In the 20th century, this room was a bedroom that was heated by an oil circulator vented through the fireplace chimney.



Shelving ca. 1845 (?)



Buffet, Smith's Fort (1761)

Evolution of a Manor House

The Entrance Hall at *KITTIWAN PLANTATION*

Visitors to Kittiewan in the 18th century likely would have ascended the hill from a landing on Kittiewan Creek, and would have been received by their hosts here in this entry hall. Both the woodwork and the heavy exterior door, with its typical 18th century wrought iron "H-L" hinges, are original to the house. Because the paneling (known technically as *wainscoting*) extends only halfway up the walls and is not continued up the stairwell (although the wooden chair rail is), Kittiewan's entry hall is somewhat less formal than the paneled hallways found in some of Virginia's "grander" plantation houses.



Overlapping wallpaper



The hallway in 1935

Like the other original 18th century rooms in the Manor House, this hallway has undergone several changes over the years. For example, architectural historians theorize that the linear inserts that you see on the plaster walls once may have accommodated picture rails. After those features were removed (probably in the early 20th century), the spaces in the plaster were filled with cement and papered over. The present renovation effort has documented three separate wallpaper patterns, and also has exposed some (as-yet undeciphered) handwritten notations beneath the paper. Removing the wallpaper also has revealed the numerous attempts that were made over the years to repair the water damage that can be seen in historic photographs.

Kittiewan's Entrance Hall

Evolution of a Manor House

The Music Room/Parlor at *KITTIEWAN PLANTATION*

More intimate and less formal than the paneled room across the hall, the music room or parlor likely would have been reserved for entertaining close associates and/or family members. Of all the original rooms at Kittiewan's Manor House, this room—particularly its western façade—has undergone the most significant changes. Features exposed during the present renovation have led architectural historians to suggest that the arch-framed alcoves originally were closets with shelves, and that window openings provided light for those closed spaces. The original floor-to-ceiling paneling around the fireplace was cut through to create the arched alcoves, probably in the mid-19th century. The closet shelves were subsequently removed and the window openings were filled in with plaster. The present mantel also may have been installed at that time.

Photographs from the Cropper archives document other changes in this space. For example, the methods used to heat and illuminate the room changed during the early 20th century. Wallpaper also became the surface treatment of choice, a fact underscored by the exposure of several overlapping wallpaper patterns on the walls and ceilings of the room.



Striped alcove wall showing repairs



Wallpaper patterns



The room before 1935

Kittiewan's Music Room

Sleuthing Kittiewan's Archives

Evolution of a Manor House

Sleuthing the Archives at *KITTIEWAN PLANTATION*

Collecting and analyzing historic documents has been one of the most critical tasks for understanding the evolution of Kittiewan's Manor House. The Clarks and Croppers, who owned the property throughout the 20th century, left behind a large body of primary correspondence, maps, and historic photographs. These have provided important clues about changes that were made to the house. For example, when Nellie Clark came to Kittiewan in 1910, her letters to her family back in Michigan described the repairs that were needed to make the Manor House livable.

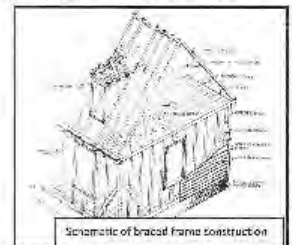
(Feb. 4, 1910) Paper was so high in Richmond that we sent to Chicago for it. The man has not fixed the plaster yet but will next week, I guess. It is not bad, only a few places. Loren patched it in the closet and we papered it and got ready to put our clothes in. I have enough paper to paper one room upstairs. . . . (Feb. 15, 1910) The man got the parlor, sitting room all patched and is now plastering the dining room. . . .



Secondary sources found in various libraries and historical archives also have contributed significant pieces of information about 18th and 19th century buildings, building techniques, and materials. Frances B. Johnston, a photojournalist, included Kittiewan in her 1935 Carnegie Survey of the Architecture of the South; her photos now reside at the Library of Congress. And studies by specialists like Paul Buchanan, formerly the chief architectural historian for Colonial Williamsburg, provide basic information on the techniques that 18th century builders used to construct frame houses like Kittiewan.



The paneled room in 1935



Schematic of braced frame construction

Evolution of a Manor House

"Reading" the Clues at *KITTIEWAN PLANTATION*

In the final analysis, the most fundamental task at Kittiewan has been the on-site inspection, deconstruction, and documentation of the physical changes that have been made to the fabric of the historic Manor House. This effort was undertaken over a period of several months to prepare for renovations that are planned for the original rooms of the dwelling. The process involved manually removing numerous wall coverings to expose bare plaster, and documenting the underlying features that were exposed during the process. Samples of plaster and wallpaper will be curated in Kittiewan's collections.

Reading Kittiewan's Clues



Visiting architectural historians from Colonial Williamsburg and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources also applied their expertise to interpret and explain architectural features that were exposed for the first time in many years.



CHARLES BARTLETT COLLECTION INVENTORY CONTINUES

(Editor's Note: The below article on ASV member Charles Bartlett is reprinted from the Arkansas Archeological Survey; it is authored by Jerry Hilliard, UAF Research Station and appeared on February 16, 2016.)

In 2011 Charles Bartlett, life-long member of the Arkansas Archeological Society, donated a large collection of artifacts he found on Arkansas sites in the early 1960s. Mr. Bartlett is an oil geologist who became intimately familiar with many Ozark and Arkansas River Valley Arkansas locales. He is an astute amateur archeological surveyor and meticulously recorded the sites he discovered, faithfully cataloging each and every find. The sites were recorded on state site forms; many of which are the first such site records that exist for several Arkansas counties. During those years before the existence of the Arkansas Archeological Survey, Mr. Bartlett submitted his site records to Dr. Charles R. McGimsey and Hester Davis of the University of Arkansas Museum.



One of several clay covered artifact boards received with the collection. We have removed each artifact and numbered with a unique Survey Catalog Number. Note Charles Bartlett's catalog numbers that he labelled for each artifact denoting its site origin.

Pat Corbin documenting the Charles Bartlett Collection.



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FAREWELL TO AN ARCHAEOLOGIST - EUGENE BRUCE BARFIELD

Submitted by Michael B. Barber

Eugene Bruce Barfield joined the archaeological database on April 3, 2016, at age 81. Gene spent 23 years in the Navy as a photographer. During that time, he traveled the world with many tales of his time in far-off places, particularly at McMurdo Station in Antarctica. Upon retirement, Gene and his family moved to Newport, Virginia, where they built their own house on the sideslope of Sinking Creek. Reached by a swinging bridge and lacking electricity, the abode marked a new lifestyle, something Gene embraced throughout his life.

During this time, Gene attended Radford University and earned a BA from the Sociology and Anthropology Department, focusing on archaeology. His career in archaeology lasted many years working for the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests. He and I had many adventures together including being lost along the sandstone cliff lines of Wise County, walking quickly away from active stills in Scott County, stepping on rattlesnakes in Wythe County, navigating the 106 process in Richmond, and hypothesizing the prehistoric relationship of Saltville to the Southeast. He made many contributions to the field of archaeology with publications in ASV's Quarterly Bulletin, Journal of Middle Atlantic Archaeology, and Upland Symposium.

His greatest contribution, however, was his photography. His cameras were part of his personae and they were always at his side to bring the world into focus at a moment's notice. Gene had a fabulous way of making the most mundane record shot fit for museum display. His candid shots of people working on a site often demonstrated the humanness of the endeavor and the science involved but most of all the sense of mystery and discovery encapsulated in a tilted head or emergent smile. His artifact shots were equally flawless with never an out-of-place dust particle or wayward scale. Not surprisingly, he spent his life after retirement from the Forest Service in selling his art in a unpretentious public venue.

Gene made many contributions to Virginia archaeology and archaeology in general. His insight and expertise will be sorely missed. And I will miss him as a friend and colleague. ☀



NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER – Text and Photos Submitted by Diane Shug-O'Neill

Instead of a regular meeting in April, the Northern Virginia Chapter toured Menokin, in Warsaw, VA. this was a recommendation from one of our Chapter members - the small group of us that made the tour were very happy we did. I highly recommend a visit! This is the home of Francis Lightfoot Lee, a Signer of the Declaration of Independence. Their display options and plans are very innovative and interesting. In May, we heard from Patrick O'Neill about the Restorations at Kittiewan. The Kittiewan Committee has been very busy and Patrick presented an in-depth view of what's being discovered. Our meetings are open to non-members and Patrick is willing to travel to speak to other chapters. All ASV Presidents have his contact information; let your Chapter know if you're interested in hearing about what's going on (a date can be arranged). ☀

Shown below, left to right are Dick Ehike, Alice French (Menokin Foundation), Mary Green, Nancy Ehike, Brian Smith, Jackie Cuyler, Sharon Butler, Diane Shug-O'Neill, and Patrick O'Neill.



NANSEMOND RIVER CHAPTER UPDATE – Text and Photo Submitted by Bert Wendell, Jr.

Tracy Neikirk, curator of the Isle of Wight County Museum in Smithfield, gave a presentation to the ASV Nansemond Chapter on April 19, 2016. Her topic was "How Ongoing Archaeological Excavations Are Changing the View of Isle of Wight History on Old Historical Topics". Since the reopening of the museum in 2008, she has been working on updating existing exhibits and the museum's collection. The Isle of Wight County Museum will be celebrating its 40th year with a new special exhibit and booklet. ☀



2016 VDHR/ASV FIELD SCHOOL AT THE GREAT NECK SITE (44VB0007) – Article and Photos by Bert Wendell, Jr.

Continuing the archaeological work that was conducted in late 2015, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) and the Archeological Society of Virginia (ASV) officially commenced their 2016 field school at the Great Neck Site (44VB0007) in Virginia Beach on May 10, 2016, with it lasting for about two weeks.

Supervising the field school were VDHR Archaeologists Mike Barber and Mike Clem. Due to heavy rains, digging and sifting the soil was made more arduous; however, the eager field school participants pressed forward at their assigned archaeological duties. Also complicating getting started was the locating of 2015 features which were backfilled with soil and smoothed out in the off season. The property owner is selling the three lots, which makes up the site, for the purpose of constructing new homes in the Meadowridge housing development along the southern shore of Broad Bay.

Once the digging started, it was not long before three outstanding artifacts were recovered, in a large square at coordinates N550E200, by Chris Egghart, an archaeologist with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. The middle Woodland artifacts consisted of a 2 3/8 inch long Yadkin (triangle) projectile point, a 2 3/4 inch wide scraper or multi-purpose tool, and a shaft smoother/awl sharpening tool that is grooved on both sides and measured 3 3/8 inches long. All three artifacts were made from quartzite. According to Dr. Barber, the finding of this Yadkin point solidifies the previous dating of the Great Neck Site to the Middle to Late Woodland period.



Participants in the field school were from the following ASV Chapters: Nansemond, COL. Howard Mac Cord, Middle Peninsula, Northern Virginia, and Patrick Henry. There were two ASV Certification Students from Minnesota and also archaeologists from VDHR, DEQ, James Madison University, and the Virginia Museum of Natural History. ☀



Discussing the day's archaeological activities at the Great Neck Site are archaeologists (left to right) Dr. Elizabeth Moore, Virginia Museum of Natural History; Dr. Mike Barber, Virginia State Archaeologist; and Mike Clem, VDHR Eastern Region.

Excavating a square at the Great Neck Site is (left to right) Libby Cook, ASV Middle Peninsula Chapter and Claudia Macdonald, COL. Howard MacCord Chapter.



Pouring soil into the sifter, which is operated by Bev Barker, is Len Blasiol, president of the COL. Howard MacCord Chapter. Barker is also a member of the COL. Howard MacCord Chapter.





***ANNOUNCING THE
2016 ASV ANNUAL MEETING
IN WILLIAMSBURG
OCTOBER 13th TO 16th***

Organized by the Middle Peninsula Chapter

The 2016 ASV Annual Meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Patriot at 3032 Richmond Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185. To contact the hotel call 757-565-2600 or visit <http://www.hipatriot.com/> There is no code to book rooms, but please mention the ASV Conference in order to get the conference rate of \$79 per night (\$89.69 with taxes). Breakfast is not included.

The conference will include an optional tour of the Jamestown archaeological site on Thursday afternoon, October 13th. There is no charge for this tour, but transportation is not provided.

There also will be a Saturday bus trip to Gloucester to visit the sites of Werowocomoco, Rosewell, and Fairfield. There will be a charge for this trip (limited to 55 participants), and lunches will be available by pre-order. More information about this trip will be forthcoming.

For advance registration, please complete the below.

Conference Attendee (standard) \$40.00/ea. Enter Number: _____

Student Attendee (must present valid ID) \$25.00/ea. Enter Number: _____

Banquet Attendee \$35.00/ea. Enter Number: _____

Total Amount (enclose with form): \$ _____

Name(s) (as will appear on badge) _____

Chapter Affiliation _____

School Name _____

Mail to the ASV Treasurer:

Carl Fisher
1685 Sweet Hall Road
West Point, VA 23181

Make Check Payable To:

Archeological Society of Virginia

Contact: flyfischn@aol.com

As the summer progresses, you'll hear from us about the on-line PayPal option for both registration and banquet. Don't forget to make your hotel reservations!

CALL FOR PAPERS



ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

76TH ANNUAL MEETING

The Archeological Society of Virginia is calling for archaeological papers for their 2016 Annual Meeting. Members of the ASV, COVA, colleges and universities, and others are encouraged to participate. Chapters are encouraged to present updates of their activities.

Formal presentations - 20 minutes.

Student papers - 20 minutes.

Chapter presentations - 10 minutes.

Presenters must be members of ASV and registered for the meeting.

Poster sessions welcome.

Book Room.

Handouts are encouraged.

Deadline for abstract submission is August 1, 2016. Please complete the form below and submit abstract as Word document.

NAME _____

COMPANY/AFFILIATION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PAPER TITLE _____

E-mail _____ ASV Member _____ COVA member _____

Audio-Visual needs: slide projector ____ computer projector ____ overhead projector ____

Please email abstracts in word to: David Brown, Program Co-Chairman, dabro@wm.edu

Michael B. Barber, Program Co-Chairman

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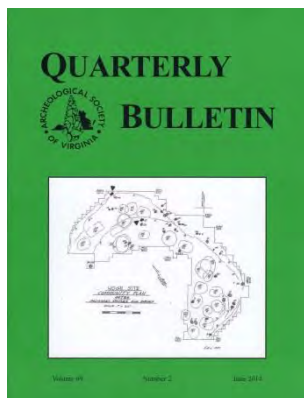
<http://archeologyva.org>

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 9	ASV Board Meeting, Martinsville.
July 9	Kittiewan Open House, Charles City County.
August 13	Kittiewan Open House, Charles City County.
September 10	Kittiewan Open House, Charles City County.
October 14-16	ASV's 46 th Annual Meeting, Williamsburg.

If you would like your ASV chapter meetings publicized in the newsletter, please forward to the newsletter editor the chapter meeting dates along with the names of guest speakers and topics they will be discussing.

For ASV chapter meetings and presentations noted above, check the ASV website for additional information on location, time, and local contacts – <http://archeologyva.org>.



ASV QUARTERLY BULLETIN AVAILABLE DIGITALLY – The ASV's Quarterly Bulletin is now available digitally. If you would prefer to receive it as a PDF instead of a paper copy, contact Patrick O'Neill at patrickloneill@verizon.net. This follows the ASV's newsletter which has been offered digitally for several years now.



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