



# THE ASV

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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 – MIKE BARBER*

In July, the ASV Board approved an in-person Annual Meeting in Williamsburg. In August, I cancelled it due to the resurgence of the Covid-19 Delta strain. Trust me; it was not without great angst, included a poll of the membership on attendance plans, and involved some rather creative cursing. By the same token, the replacement zoom meeting was a complete success. We heard 25 presentations including sessions and papers on Colonial Williamsburg archaeology, underwater archaeology, techniques for recording and researching archaeological sites, the archaeology of mining, historic building excavations, and several on the archaeology of Virginia's First Peoples. The Keynote Speaker was Dr. Henry Miller, Director of St Mary's City, whose presentation was entitled, "50 Years of Excavating the Buried City of St. Mary's." This paper walked us through the half-century of archaeology at St. Mary's speaking to the first family of Maryland, lead coffins, reconstructed churches, public newspapers, wonderfully precise town design, and ending with the early 17<sup>th</sup> century fort where it all began. Our sincere thanks to Henry for his willingness to share such a story and his emphasis on public interpretation and the contributions archaeology can make to our understanding of the past. Thanks also goes to all the people who worked diligently to make the meeting a success but in particular to Dr. Stephanie Jacobs who expertly moderated the program.



In reflecting on the annual meeting and discussions at the October Board Meeting, it is obvious to me that Virginia Archaeology is alive and well even after almost two years of consternation, isolation, vaccination, and cancellation. We have survived intact with our special publications and the *Quarterly Bulletin* making much progress with new articles coming in for the QB and several special publications in the mill. In addition, our membership is up (not down, as with many other organizations) and I think we are reaching more people at both the local level and statewide. There are even indications that some chapters will be re-established after the new year.

We are also looking at moving forward on several fronts. More archaeological work and improved facilities at Kittiewan, more volunteer work across the state, more public interaction, more chapters returning to field work, more ASV volunteering at arch labs, more chapter meetings, and hopefully a well-attended 2022 annual meeting. We held our 2019 annual meeting in Williamsburg, we cancelled the next two meetings, and now we have scheduled our 2022 meeting there....in-person. I look forward to seeing all of you there, in-person, live and well, and prepared to exchange some really good stories on Virginia Archaeology. ☀

### ***FROM THE DESK OF THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST – Elizabeth Moore***

I write this column today in my office at DHR, having thought that surely by now we would have moved beyond the threats of the pandemic and would be seeing each other at holiday parties and conducting fall fieldwork. Frankly, I'm getting tired of repeating that sentiment each quarter in this column, almost as tired as everyone is of living in a time when it does not feel completely safe to visit with friends and family or enjoy public events. In contrast, I continue to be



impressed with how resilient ASV members are and how quickly the organization is able to adapt to continue its important work. The recent annual meetings are an excellent example of this success. For the second year, the conference has been hosted virtually with an interesting array of presentations viewed by a sizable group of attendees. Congratulations to all involved on a successful event.

I am continuing to use this column to highlight some of the recommendations made in the two joint DHR/CoVA/ASV publications referred to as the “state plan” volumes mentioned in previous columns in this newsletter. One advancement with these volumes since the last newsletter is that both are now available as free downloads (<https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/articles-blogs-contributions-in-newsletters/two-volumes-on-virginias-archaeology-now-available-as-pdf-downloads/>). When these two books were published on-demand through Amazon, they were priced with a small margin of profit. The intent of producing these two books was not to generate revenue, but to educate and inform as many people as possible. Providing these books as free pdf downloads removes one barrier to access, the cost of purchasing the book, even at a price nearly at cost. We recognize that while not everyone owns the technology to access these files, most people do have access to technology in public spaces such as libraries and schools where they can now read these books for free.

*The 20<sup>th</sup> Century: a Coming Archaeological Challenge (1900-1964)* by Clarence Geier (2017) provides a review of the existing literature for the period, a historical and theoretical context for research, examines existing state-wide and regional histories, and identifies significant topics and themes to be addressed. Geier identifies several challenges faced when conducting research on the 20<sup>th</sup> century; it is a complex period that saw “a rapid, radical and comprehensive level of revolutionary change in virtually all aspects of its identity,” the value of examining our most recent century is often only grudgingly acknowledged by historians and archaeologists, under-funded historical archaeology programs are unable to dedicate resources to yet one more time period, and there is a perception that the 20<sup>th</sup> century is already well documented in our libraries and archives.

Geier identifies and organizes key areas of potential research into 20<sup>th</sup> century warfare; agriculture; resource extraction (timber, mining, fishing); transportation; trains, planes, and automobiles; and labor, gender, and race



relations. Within that last area, topics such as the Civilian Conservation Corps, right to work, civil and gender rights, and immigration are all important topics that need further research. The complexity of these broad sociocultural themes is matched by the explosion in material culture during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Architecture, synthetic resources (including textiles and clothing), plastics, and international markets produced a diversity of materials and forms that can be impossible to identify.



**Baldwin Building exterior, ca. 1930s**

My own research at 20<sup>th</sup> century site of Baldwin Drugs (44HR0200), also known as Baldwin Pharmacy or the Baldwin building, faced some of the same challenges that Geier identifies (Moore 2011). I conducted salvage excavations at this site when the city block was identified for development and the entire block was deemed to have no archaeological potential to contribute to research. The Baldwin Building sat on one corner of this block. The first commercial building in Martinsville built and owned by an African American, Dr. Dana O. Baldwin, this building hosted

multiple functions - a first floor drugstore and lunch counter, second story doctor and dentist offices, a basement bar and pool hall - and was critical in beginning the development of what became known as the “Baldwin Block,” important to African American commercial, civic, and social activities centered around Fayette Street in downtown Martinsville (FAHI/VFH 2006).

Built in 1922, the Baldwin building eventually fell into disrepair after the death of Dr. Baldwin and was removed by the city in the 1970s as part of an urban renewal initiative. You will note that I say the building was removed in the 1970s rather than in a specific year. This lack of specificity reflects one of the challenges of working with 20<sup>th</sup> century sites, documentation is simply not available. We could locate no newspaper



**Baldwin Building foundation, exposed using heavy equipment. The highly compacted soils of this urban setting made hand excavation nearly impossible.**

reports of this municipal action and no documentation of it could be found in the public records. When this site was excavated in 2007, the building had only been gone for 40 years. I expected that I would find substantial records about its construction (permits, plans, etc.), occupation, and destruction (meeting minutes reflecting the decision to destroy the buildings on the block, city budgets reflecting time and resources, etc.). Instead, I found little in the public record. Fortunately, Martinsville is the home of the Fayette Area Historical Initiative, an organization dedicated to preserving local history and promoting the revitalization of Fayette Street and the surrounding neighborhood. Members of FAHI provided invaluable support for the interpretation of this site with personal photographs and documents.

FAHI’s Director at the time, Linda Dillard, helped organize a key resource for researching this site and its importance to the community, oral history interviews. These interviews were alternately joyous as people Page recalled childhood memories of movies and bakery smells and painful when they reported incidents of racial

violence and discrimination. The potential contributions from recording oral histories and having first-hand accounts of the past cannot be overstated; it is an opportunity not available for any other time period studied by archaeologists and enriches interpretation in often unexpected ways.



Members of the Martinsville High School National Society of Black Engineers screening the challenging clay soils at the Baldwin building site.



Volunteer conducting oral history interview in conjunction with the excavations at the Baldwin Building.

If there is a place built and occupied in the 20<sup>th</sup> century that is important to you, I encourage you to start collecting information on it now. Clip or download and print newspaper stories, interview people from the neighborhood, help identify and preserve photographs, documents, and material objects associated with this place. The 20<sup>th</sup> century saw the invention of materials that can be dangerous to handle (radioactive paints) or unstable and highly combustible as they degrade (nitrate film). If you need advice on how to safely store these items feel free to reach out to us at DHR. And have fun exploring our recent past.

Fayette Area Historical Initiative (Martinsville, Va.), and Virginia Foundation for the Humanities and Public Policy (FAHI/VFH)

2006 Fayette Street, 1905-2005: A Hundred-Year History of African American Life in Martinsville, Virginia. Fayette Area Historical Initiative, Martinsville, Virginia.

Geier, Clarence R.

2017 The 20<sup>th</sup> Century: a Coming Archaeological Challenge (1900-1964). In *The Historical Archaeology of Virginia from Initial Settlement to the Present: Overview and New Directions*, edited by Clarence R. Geier. ASV Special Publication #44.

Moore, Elizabeth A.

2011 Excavations on the Baldwin Block, (44HR0200). *Quarterly Bulletin of the Archeological Society of Virginia* 66(4):169-180. ☀

## ***THE KITTIEWAN BRIEF – Martha Williams***

As 2021 winds down, members of the Kittiewan Committee have been working extra hard to make the two-bedroom apartment in the Visitors' Center appropriate for a new tenant, hopefully by the beginning of the New Year. The photos that follow this final Kittiewan brief for 2021 were taken on just two days in November. The collective title of this photo essay might be: "Was this any way to spend a Saturday?"

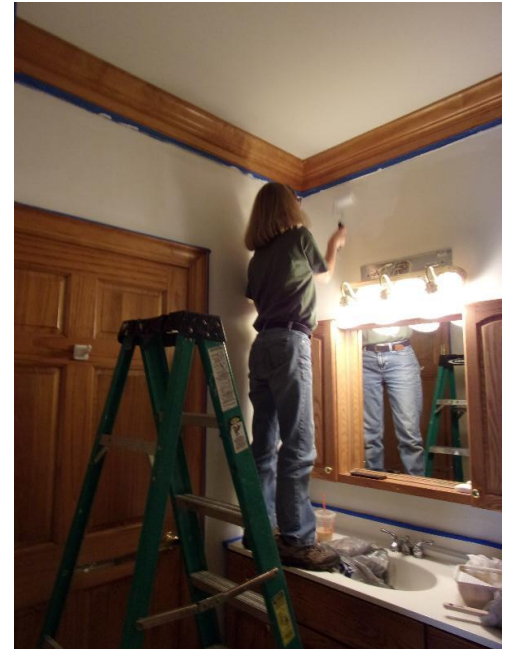


The makeover has required substantial time and effort, not to mention expending a not-inconsiderable sum of money on repairs and upgrades. The refurbishment has entailed replacement of exhaust fan systems, cabinetry, and at least one



Removing the existing flooring required an “all hands on deck” approach by Carl Fischer and Chandra McPherson.

commode (cracked and badly repaired); refinishing the tub/showers in both bathrooms; removal and replacement



Nancy Rubin repainting the apartment’s bathroom walls.



Kevin McCurley perched on ladder and repainting another wall.

of the (original--1996) vinyl flooring; repair of at least one hole in the plaster board walls; deep cleaning the stove and all of the cupboards; and the purchase and installation of a stackable washer-dryer unit and a new refrigerator (the gaskets on the old one were totally worn out). In addition, the entire apartment, including the ceilings, had to



Martha Williams does battle with the grime in the cabinets.

be repainted. Nancy Rubin, Kevin McCluskey, Bob Wharton, and Tom Dundon were in the forefront of these efforts, with somewhat less frequent appearances by Chandra McPherson, Myron Rolston, Carl Fischer, and yours truly (who is still attempting to get the overgrown landscape patches in front of the Manor House somewhat less “weed-ridden”). The old (but still serviceable) washer and dryer and one (formerly) built-in cabinet were donated to Habitat for Humanity.

Before 2021 exited, however, the Kittiewan Committee hosted two important gatherings—one serious, the other celebratory. On December 11, members of the ASV’s Strategic Planning Committee met at Kittiewan to discuss the future of the Society moving forward, and how the Kittiewan property will fit into that vision. One week later, on December 18, the Committee hosted the Kittiewan Hunt Club at a holiday celebration. The latter event was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID, but this year the tradition has been reinstated. Reports and photos of both events will appear in the March 2022 newsletter.

As this difficult year bows out, we here at Kittiewan wish everyone in the Society a bright holiday season—and we hope to see you in 2022. Come visit! ☀

## ***IN REMEMBRANCE***

### ***John Rutherford – Submitted by Martha Williams***

The Fairfax County Park Authority was deeply saddened to report the news of the death of their long time, highly respected Heritage Resource Specialist/Staff Archaeologist, John Rutherford who died earlier this week.

John was an archaeologist in the eastern and southwestern United States for over 30 years, working with the Fairfax County Park Authority for over 20 of those years. His research specialties included Native American stone tool replication and refitting of lithic artifact assemblages. His responsibilities included the direction, design and implementation of large- and small-scale archaeological projects in addition to field and laboratory supervision, research, artifact analysis, photography, cartography, report writing and public outreach. At the Park Authority, he was involved in building and maintaining Geographic Information Systems (GIS) databases and maps of all cultural resources in the county, including the Fairfax County Civil War Sites Inventory.



**John Rutherford.**

John was well-known for his skill in using computer-based GIS to supplement on-the-ground archaeological studies. John used to say, “GIS, when combined with historic aerial photography, is mind-boggling, literally a time machine at your desktop.” John also won two OPAs, including one for the work he did digitizing and orthorectifying the 1937 and 1954 historic aerial photographs.

Senior Park Authority Archaeologist Aimee Wells said of John, “He has been the absolute linchpin of our work for decades. His knowledge of American Indian lithic technology was second to none, his cutting-edge work on archaeological site location through aerial photography saved so many important cultural resources over the years.” Wells continued, “John was well-loved by staff. He always had a kind word, loved to teach, and had one of the best laughs ever. We will miss him in ways we don’t even know yet.” ☀

### ***William A. Halstead – Based on an obituary provided by Sturtevant Funeral Home with additional information from Teresa Preston***

William A. Halstead, 86, died this year in August. He was born in Portsmouth in 1935 to the late Gaston and Louise Halstead and was a proud retired U. S. Coast Guard Chief with over 40 years of service who also enjoyed being a bee keeper. He was a long-time member of the ASV and served as President of the Nansemond Chapter from ca. 1965 to 1970. ☀

## ***CHAPTER UPDATES***

### ***Northern Roanoke Chapter – Joey Moldenhauer***

Elections for the 2022 NRV Chapter were just completed as follows:

President: J.T. Moldenhauer  
Vice President: Lyle Browning  
Secretary/ Treasurer: John Ford

Lyle Browning has extensive experience working in southwest Virginia as he went to Va. Tech and worked for VDOT for years. Lyle worked closely with Howard MacCord and Charlie Bartlett on projects and will serve as the Chapter president's proxy when he is unable to attend ASV board meetings etc.

This past year found past NRV member, David Given, being named senior archeologist at the Jamestowne Rediscovery project. David started with our chapter as a 16 year old high school student.

The library and research papers of former NRV member, Jim Glanville, have been donated by his wife, Deena Flinchum, to go to the Museums of the Middle Appalachians (MOMA) in Saltville. They are being processed by past ASV president, Dan Kegley. Jim's extensive research under Holstonia.com will be available on the web with funding from his wife and will be linked to MOMA. Dan has also obtained the library, research papers and site collections from past ASV president, Charlie Bartlett, which will also go to MOMA where Dan is president of the board.

Chapter activity for year has been extremely limited to mainly those of the president, but some survey was done on mountain stone structures in Franklin County with researcher Dan Pezzoni. Also, Chapter members attended one meeting given by Wallace Gusler on long rifles.

Expenditures for the chapter involved a grant to the Smith Mountain Lake paleo researchers for cost of a stone tool blood residue analysis. Also, the chapter used Xmas tree sales funds to purchase, deliver, and install a gun rifle safety cabinet for the ASV headquarters at Kittiewan.

And for the restoration of the Wade-Colburne house at Kittiewan, the chapter is establishing a thousand dollar fund to help restore the house. This is contingent on the ASV board's approval of a motion to restore the structure and taking such action. Any ASV member is welcome to donate to this fund. Failure of the ASV to take such action will result in funds being returned to the donor. ☀

### ***ASV BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION RESULTS – Patrick O'Neill, Chair of Nominating Committee***

Thank you to the ASV members that participated in the e-voting for the second year in a row for the ASV Board of Directors vacancies. Links to the ballots were sent to 513 members in good standing, and 121 voters responded with 237 votes cast (instructions were to select two, a few only picked one).

Candidates were in the following order by percentages, with the two highest numbers the winners, Biller and Frye: J. Biller 30 %; R. Frye 27%; T. Karow 24%; L. Browning 19%.

There were no write-in candidates.

## ***ASV-COVA-VDHR CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE REPORT Carole Nash and Bruce Baker***

Currently, the Certification Program has 108 students enrolled, an increase of 7 since July.

In August, Colleen Betti, doctoral student at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, with the assistance of Fairfield Foundation archaeologists including Thane Harpole and Dave Brown, led a month-long excavation for the Bethel, Glenns, and Woodville Schools Archaeology Project in Gloucester County. The three Black school sites are the basis of Colleen's doctoral dissertation, and the August 2021 work focused on the Woodville Rosenwald School site, which was scheduled for ground-disturbing improvements to facilitate public programming. Several Certification students and graduates participated in the excavation of 5' x 5' units in the yard areas. Thank you to Colleen and Fairfield for their efforts and for inviting Cert students to join in.

In November, VDHR Eastern Regional Archaeologist, Michael Clem, provided a 3-day survey opportunity near Hopewell at the Shiloh Lodge Site. Investigations focused on a possible 18th century tavern site. The project is part of a larger collaboration between VDHR and the City of Hopewell for the City Point Historic District.

As with much anticipated programming, the COVID Delta variant reduced in-person opportunities. We look forward to more offerings in the coming year. ☀

## ***UPDATE FROM AD HOC COMMITTEE ON INTERACTIONS WITH ARTIFACT COLLECTORS – Forrest Morgan***

Earlier this year the Board of Directors of the ASV formed an ad hoc committee to investigate what could be done to record the findings made by nonprofessional and non-ASV members who do metal detecting, field walking, and other such activities. I was named chair of the committee because I proposed that we look into developing for Virginia, a system such as the Portable Activities Scheme (PAS) used by the English government. This involves setting up a database and inviting people to submit those to the database items which they find they believe would qualify. The individual would submit photographs of the item, the general location, and what they know about the item plus other information that would be useful to the community.

My first question was, would Virginians participate in an arrangement such as this? I found a book "Discovering Virginia's Colonial Artifacts, A Comprehensive Guide To The Recovery Identification And Preservation by Bill Dancy. It is a 400-page hardcover book, which is a roadmap to researching and metal detecting among other things. I contacted Bill and explained what we were thinking about and he was very much in favor. He thought the opportunity to do that was well overdue. In fact, he was so enthusiastic he offered to propose the idea on several social media sites that his colleagues could discuss the proposition. I received the first response from Bill Dancy to his request for comment today, he received thirty-seven responses. He said they were not all positive, but there was enough that there would be interest in proceeding to the next step, particularly if we get the details sorted out and convince people that the Commonwealth of Virginia is not going to take their artifacts.

Thanks to Ed Otter, we now know that the state of Maryland started a similar program to the PAS back in April. The administrator of the program is Zach Singer and I spoke with him to see how the program is going.



Maryland has an online app that people can submit artifacts. They can send pictures, provide, location and other relevant information. Thus far they have had fifty-six submissions, basically casual finds along the seashore along and along trails. They do not seem to be hard-core collectors.

Chris McDade went to school in the UK and is acquainted with the principals at the PAS and is going to contact them shortly to see if they are willing to provide some help to us on going forward with this program If we elect to do so. If we elect to go forward it is going to require building a level of trust which we have not had in the recent past. . ☀

### ***ASV NEWSLETTERS, 2009-2020, NOW AVAILABLE ON WEB SITE – Carole Nash, Chair, Outreach Committee***

Thanks to the hard work of ASV webmaster Terri Aigner and support from Patrick O'Neill, issues of the *ASV Newsletter* are now available for download from the ASV website. The archive currently includes issues from 2009, when we first produced a digital newsletter, through 2020. We hope that ASV members interested in scanning earlier hard copy issues will volunteer their time so we can increase the archive. Check out the archive! [https://www.virginiaarcheology.org/asv\\_newsletters/](https://www.virginiaarcheology.org/asv_newsletters/) . ☀

### ***WHAT'S IN A NAME – “ARCHAEOLOGICAL” VS. “ARCHEOLOGICAL” SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA – Randolph Turner***

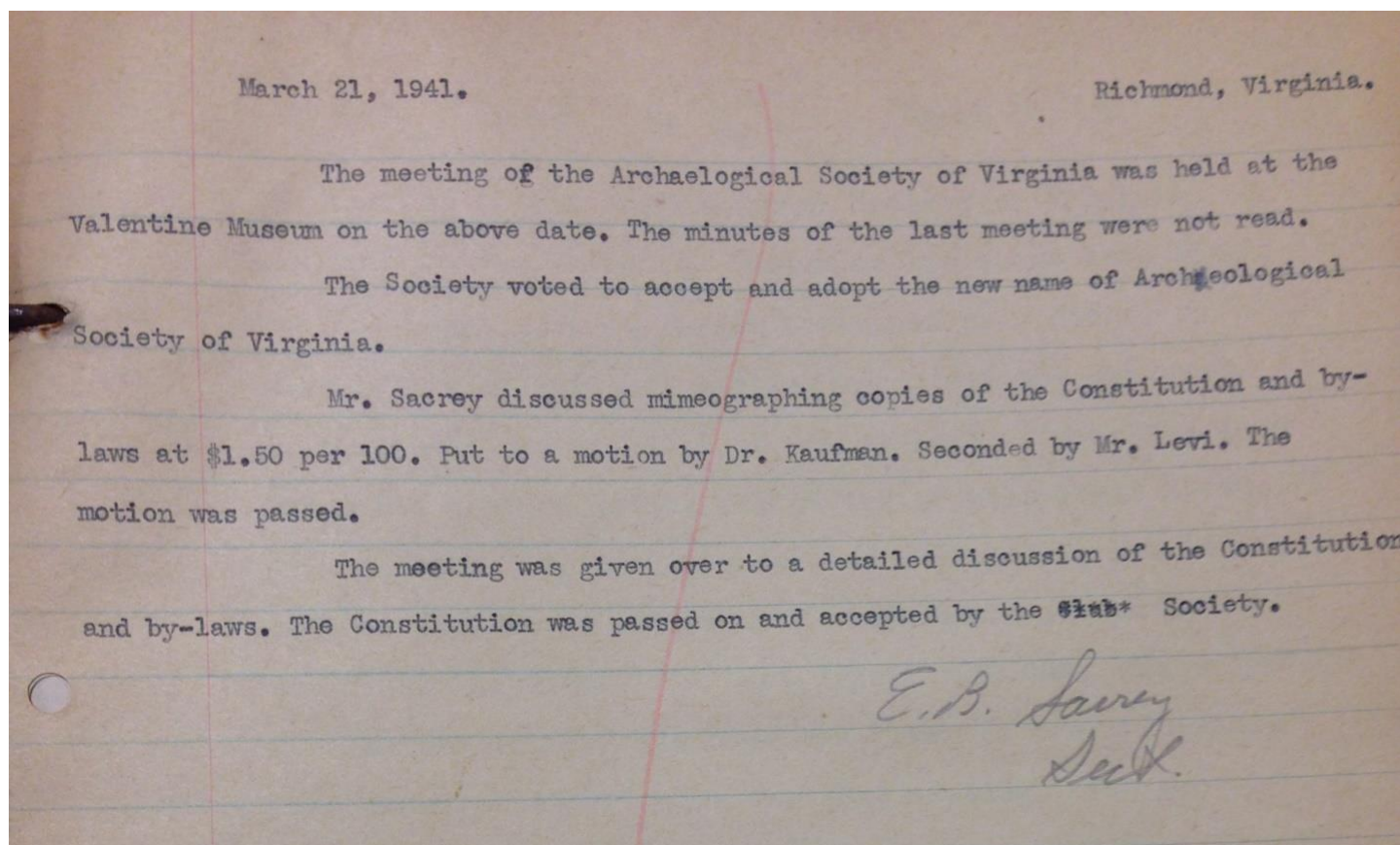
It's long been recognized that that are two spelling for what is our primary focus in the ASV - “archaeology” vs. “archeology” i.e., whether or not in the middle of the word one uses an “ae” or merely an “e”. The most popular spelling of the word world-wide uses the “ae” and is generally accepted in the United States in academic settings and by such organizations as the American Anthropological Association, Society for American Archaeology, and Society for Historical Archaeology. However, since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the United States federal government has used the “e” spelling as seen in publications by the Smithsonian Institution and National Park Service. The ASV follows the federal government in using the “e” spelling, though it recognizes both spelling as seen in individual submissions in its various publications.

For one important early ASV member, the distinction was an important one. I can remember having several discussions with Howard A. MacCord, Sr. a few decades ago, and he was most emphatic time and again that we should follow the example of the Smithsonian Institution. This was probably based on his early interaction with archaeologists at the Smithsonian. Equally important, the Smithsonian through not only its staff but also its publications was perhaps the primary source of archaeological information for early ASV members.

But was it really always that way in the ASV? Were there members that preferred the “ae” spelling, and were there discussions among ASV member on just what spelling to accept? A look at some of the earliest archival material for the ASV indicates that these are reasonable questions to ask.

We have at the ASV headquarters at Kittiewan the original minutes for the first meetings of the ASV dating to the 1940s. The ASV origins can be traced back to a meeting in Richmond on January 12, 1940, and at the next meeting on February 11, 1940 the organization's name was formally approved as “The Virginia Indian Relic Collectors' Club.” Within the next year, however, there was discussion on a name change, and at the March 21, 1941 meeting the organization voted and approved to change the name to “Archeological Society of Virginia.” However, curiously here and in some later meetings what actually appears in the minutes is the typed spelling “Archaeological” with the “a” in the middle of the word crossed off in pencil!

Was the original spelling intentional and later changed? Or, was it merely a mistake and later corrected? Or did early members use both spelling interchangeably with someone later deciding on the current spelling? To answer these questions would require interviews with founding members of the ASV, all of whom passed away years ago. Barring the unexpected discovery of other pertinent documents from our first years, this small puzzle will always remain just that – a puzzle. ☀



March 31, 1941 minutes for the ASV. Note the spelling “Archaeological” in the first and third lines of text with the “a” in the second occurrence crossed off in pencil.



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### ASV WEBSITE

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

October 21-23

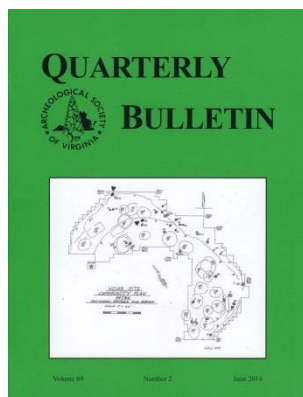
ASV Annual Meeting, Williamsburg.

Cancelled Indefinitely

Kittiewan Open Houses.

Check out the ASV website at:

<https://www.virginiaarcheology.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](mailto:patrickloneill@verizon.net). This follows the ASV's newsletter which has been offered digitally for several years now.



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*Check our website when renewing your dues if you would like to go digital.*

**The ASV recently established an account with AmazonSmile through which Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases. The purchases must be made through [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) with Archeological Society of Virginia chosen as the applicable charity.**





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