

# PAC Newsletter

Fall 2022

Vol. 34, No. 2

## PENNSYLVANIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL COUNCIL

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### Save the Date – October 30th

The mission of **Pennsylvania Hallowed Grounds** (PAHG) is to:

*Honor, interpret, and preserve African American cemeteries and the burial sites of Civil War African American Sailors and United States Colored Troops in Pennsylvania. PAHG connects and builds the capacity of the stewards of these cemeteries and burial sites, and supports conservation, documentation, education, and training. Working collaboratively with other groups and organizations, PAHG provides tangible encounters with memory and enriches the public understanding of history.*

There is an intersection between Historic Cemeteries and archaeology. Archaeology can fill gaps in the historic record and give voice to those unmarked and sometimes unlocated graves.

The PAC PA Hallowed Grounds Committee consists of Ben Ford, Kira Heinrich, Casey Hanson, and Lisa Dugas. Prior to April and



August 26, 2022 meeting at Midland Cemetery with PAC, PA SHPO, PA State Museum, Shippensburg University, and Midland Cemetery.

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continuing through this last week, discussion have been ongoing regarding how best archaeology can support PAHG's mission. Beyond PAC, those at the table have included: the PA State Museum, represented by Janet Johnson and Kim Sebestyen, and until recently by Kurt Carr; the PA SHPO, represented (again) by Casey Hanson (wearing two hats) and Taylor Napoleon; and Shippensburg University, represented by Dr. Steven Burg (also a PAHG member) and Ship graduate student Sarah Hoffeditz. PAHG has been represented by Barbara Barksdale, Steven Burg, and Brenda Barrett.

Ultimately, discussions have led to the Midland Cemetery, in Swatara Township, Dauphin County, just east of Steelton. The Midland Cemetery is an:

*Independent Legacy African American Cemetery. Local tradition suggests that the site existed from the late eighteenth century as a burial ground for both slaves and free black residents of the area, and then expanded to serve the growing African-American population drawn to the area by industrial jobs in the nineteenth and twentieth century. The earliest extant, dated tombstone in the cemetery dates to 1869. Today, the cemetery consists of two non-contiguous plots—the larger, main portion of the cemetery, and a smaller separated from the main lot when Kelker Street was realigned through the cemetery grounds in the late 1930s. The surrounding neighborhood is a rural, residential neighborhood consistent with the area's historic character.*

From our August 26th meeting, four main action items are proposed:

1. PAC members and associates would come in late October to GPS the above-ground features of the Cemetery, using Trimble or other survey quality total stations. This survey would be assisted by volunteers from Midland Cemetery, the High School, and others, forming GPS teams. We would anticipate a half dozen or so stations operating with the goal of capturing the precise locations of above-ground features, primarily headstones, and images as well as text.
2. Lisa Dugas and Big Pine Consultants would come in the Spring to conduct drone mapping of the site to provide a precise base map. The drone mapping would be registered with the GPS data.
3. It is our understanding that Rettew has volunteered to conduct GPR across the entire site. The GPR data would also be registered with the base mapping. It is presumed this GPR work can be done by Spring.
4. Once GPS and base mapping is completed, the goal will be to put this into a public platform such as Billion Graves, so that anyone could locate graves and grave information on the site.

The heading for this report is **Save the Date – October 30th**. I am hoping that PAC membership will come to Midland Cemetery on that date to help map the site and GPS critical features. Those of you that have access to survey grade GPS stations, please bring them. As archaeologists know, having a solid and accurate base map is the setting of the table for any productive archaeological and historical research.

The proposed work on the 30th is the first step, but hopefully not the last in this partnership. All of us who met on August 26th were excited by the prospect that our proposed steps are realistic and have value, but we all recognized that these are the easy and low-fruit steps toward the goal of giving a name and a history to every person interred at Midland. Of the estimated 2,000 individuals buried there, only a third have clear and named plots. It is the task of archaeology and history and the descendant community to give voice to the rest. This cannot be done in a year. And we must realize this is one Cemetery of many across the Commonwealth. So, as we take these steps, may we extend it into the journey it should become.

Ira Beckerman  
President

## *Special Thanks...*

### **2022 Donors & Sustaining Members**

#### **Archaeology Month 2022**

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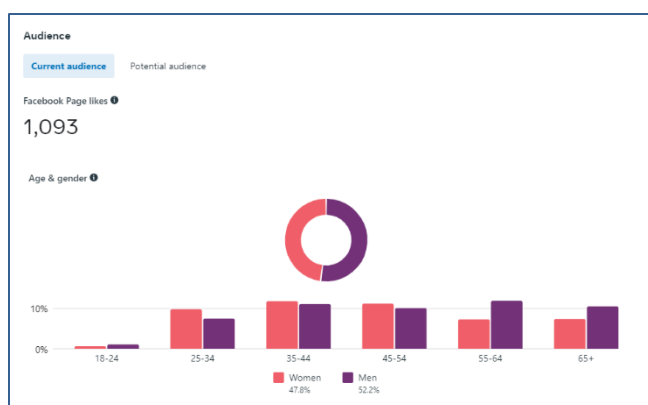
## PAC UPDATES

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### Social Media

*Jonathan Burns, Cultural Resource Institute, Juniata College*

The PAC Facebook page offers insights that breakdown our current audience with respect to age and gender (see image below). The PAC page currently has 1,093 followers—most notable is the dearth of fans in the youngest category of 18 to 24-year-olds. Perhaps this is worth noting as we look to grow our membership with this demographic. While this might mean that the younger generation has moved on to other social media platforms like TikTok, it may be worth pushing out more content aimed at professional development and hands-on opportunities on our page. The use of hashtags and cross posting might obtain a broader reach for initiatives like the mentoring program. If you would like to utilize this outlet, please feel free to send material for posting.



*The audience analysis of the 1,093 PAC Facebook page followers.*

### Election for PAC Officers

*Sarah Neusius and Angie Jaillet-Wentling*

Our election season is coming up, and the Nominating and Elections Committee is now accepting nominations for officers and board members. Nominations and/or questions can be sent to the committee members: Sarah Neusius ([sraahneusius@gmail.com](mailto:sraahneusius@gmail.com)) and Angie Jaillet-Wentling ([ajailletwe@pa.gov](mailto:ajailletwe@pa.gov)).

- Nominations and Candidate Position Statements are due no later than **September 30, 2022**.
- The Ballot and Candidate Position Statements will be distributed to the membership via email by **November 18, 2022**.
- Completed ballots must be received no later than **December 16, 2022**.

- Election results will be distributed to the membership via email by **January 13, 2023**.
- Officers and Board Members selected in this election will assume their responsibilities at the close of the **Spring 2023 Business Meeting** on April 14, 2023 in Dubois.

### Membership Update

Since the Spring 2022 Newsletter, PAC has welcomed the following new members: Kristin Scarr and Meagan Ratini. Welcome to all!

PAC serves an important role for the professional archaeology community in Pennsylvania. If you know any archaeologists who are not members or have fallen behind in their membership, please encourage them to join. If there are any questions regarding membership, feel free to reach out to Jonathan Libbon at [jlibbon@swca.com](mailto:jlibbon@swca.com).

### Pennsylvania Hallowed Grounds Committee

PAC is organizing a day of service at [Midland Cemetery](#), an Independent Legacy African American Cemetery in Swatara Township, Dauphin County, on October 30, 2022.

PAC will be working with Friends of Midland members and volunteers to complete a GPS map of this approximately 3-acre cemetery. There are a few hundred headstones and other above-ground features to be mapped, geo-referenced, photographed, and text-recorded into a single, accurate map and database. Ben Ford is working on a common database dictionary to be used.

We will meet at 10 AM at Midland Cemetery on October 30<sup>th</sup>. This is the day after the PA State Museum Archaeology Workshops and two days after our Fall PAC Meeting.





At noon, Friends of Midland members and volunteers will join us to form mapping teams and conduct the work.

If you have a survey quality GPS, please bring it. We are hoping to have at least a half dozen in operation that day. If you don't have access to a survey quality GPS, come anyway.

If you are planning on coming, please let the PAC Midland Committee know ahead of time – Ben Ford ([ben.ford@iup.edu](mailto:ben.ford@iup.edu)), Kira Heinrich ([preslerheinrich@gmail.com](mailto:preslerheinrich@gmail.com)), Lisa Dugas ([ldugas@bigpineconsultants.com](mailto:ldugas@bigpineconsultants.com)), or Casey Hanson ([chanson@pa.gov](mailto:chanson@pa.gov)).

Lunch will be provided by PAC.

In advance, thank you for your help.

## Symposia & Publications Committee Update

*Jessica Hedgepeth Balkin, Indiana University of Pennsylvania and University of Pittsburgh*

This committee was announced at the April 2022 PAC business meeting to help organize future PAC research symposia and publications as part of the Recent Research in Pennsylvania Archaeology series. Committee members are: Lara Homsey-Messer, Paul Raber, Jessica Hedgepeth Balkin, Hannah Harvey, and Arron Kotlensky. Prior to this, the symposia and publications were organized and edited by Paul Raber. Thank you to Paul for all of the outstanding work!

Previous symposia largely focused on pre-contact topics, and the committee is interested in covering topics in historical archaeology. In planning for the next few years, we are looking for additional input on our survey for the future PAC symposia. The survey gives YOU (as PAC members) a chance to rank potential symposium topics ranging from the African Diaspora to Urban Archaeology.

**Currently, we have only received responses from approximately 1/3 of the PAC membership. The**

diagram below presents the initial survey results on the topic ranking, with the rankings across the X axis and the number of responses on the Y axis. As you can see, the African Diaspora and Moving Pennsylvania Frontier topics are tied in the first rank, with Historic Cemetery Issues in CRM running close behind.

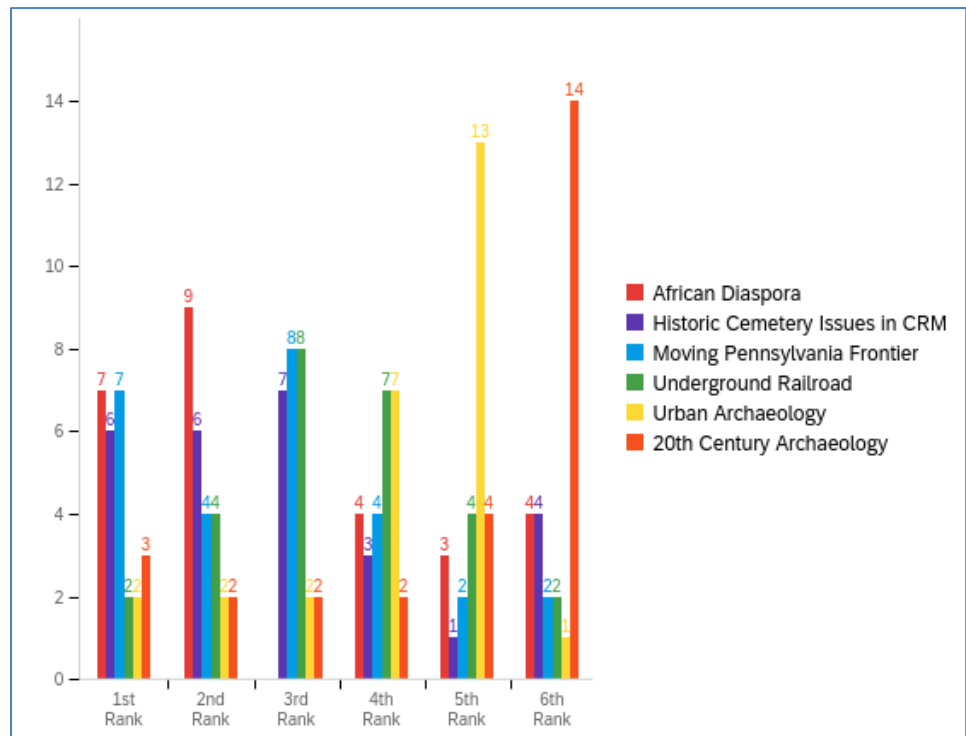
**Additional survey responses could help us to resolve this tie and would give us a more varied perspective of PAC members' preferences! We are extending the survey deadline to facilitate your input.**

Please use the following link to respond to the survey by **September 30, 2022**.

[https://qfreeaccountssjc1.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_a5IsoCgFcYUuGF0](https://qfreeaccountssjc1.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a5IsoCgFcYUuGF0)

You will be asked to rank each proposed topic according to your order of preference. We have also provided a space for you to enter your own ideas for appropriate and fruitful topics. Your input will not only help us to develop the 2023 symposium, but will also be used to create a long-term plan for future symposia topics (2024 onward). The selection of a unifying theme for each year is also a critical step in moving the papers to publication, which has occurred for many previous PAC symposia.

Thank you for your participation! We look forward to integrating a more varied cross-section of PAC members' preferences into the next symposia!



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## AGENCY UPDATES

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### PHAST

*Susanne Haney, PennDOT*

After a number of fits, starts and delays, the five-year Interagency Agreement (IAA) with Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) was signed, and the Pennsylvania Highway Archaeological Survey Team (PHAST) was finally back up and running. Amanda Telep (graduate student in the IUP MA Applied Anthropology program) served as field director, and crew members Jacob Ulmer (graduate student in the IUP MA Applied Anthropology program), Spencer Coy (Junior at IUP) and Erin Fitzgerald (Junior at Gettysburg College) were brought on as PennDOT ESTI interns. Despite starting a month late, PHAST completed Phase I survey for five PennDOT projects and geophysical survey at two PHMC properties. The studies for PHMC included a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey at [Graeme Park](#) in Montgomery County to search for evidence of the enslaved person's living quarters, and GPR survey at [Peace Church](#), Cumberland County to determine if unmarked burials were present in the associated St. John's Cemetery. This fall the crew will work on wrapping up the GPR data analysis and interpretation, reporting for outstanding projects, and curation.



*The 2022 PHAST Crew. From left to right: Jacob Ulmer, Spencer Coy, Erin Fitzgerald, Amanda Telep.*

### DCNR

*Angie Jaillet-Wentling, Cultural Resources Program Coordinator*

Working with the PA SHPO, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) developed and shared a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to guide cultural resources review and management at the agency. On August 1, 2022, the draft MOU went out to various consulting parties, including PAC, for input with a comment deadline of September 1, 2022. PA SHPO and DCNR will work to incorporate comments received from the various consulting parties and hope to have a signed MOU in the near future.

In partnership with the Student Conservation Association, the [PA Outdoor Corps](#) staffed its Cultural Resources Crew (CRC) this past year. The CRC provides support to the DCNR CR program by helping to preserve, interpret, and manage the shared public heritage of all people to the benefit of future generations, while also providing training and mentoring to aspiring archaeologists and preservationists helping them build successful careers in land and resource management. The CRC is led by Kate Peresolak, M.A., RPA, and consists of crew members Miriah Amend, Isaiah Cullum, and Haley Rumbel. Halfway through the year already, the crew has worked on over 15 individual projects with plans to complete another eight projects by the end of the year! Projects like Phase I archaeological surveys, metal detector surveys, research investigations, oral history collection, curation of artifacts, and curation of archival documents have kept the crew hopping as they rove across Pennsylvania to various parks and forests. Training opportunities have included learning advanced metal detecting techniques at Fort Ligonier, attendance at the South Mountain Science Summit, participating in a blacksmith forging demonstration by the Jamestown Rediscovery blacksmiths, taking chainsaw training, and taking part in a cultural resources management-related seminar series.

With so many projects and trainings to pick from, we're working hard on better understanding the public history in the parks and forests! At Penn-Roosevelt and Pymatuning State Parks, the CRC has started preliminary investigation of two segregated Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Company 361, S-62 PA Camp (ca. 1933-1935) and Company 2312-C, NP-11 PA (ca. 1935-1938). Archaeological methods like pedestrian reconnaissance and surface survey, metal detecting, and more traditional excavation techniques seek to expand on the untold stories of our citizens,

past and present. By digging into the documentary and hidden history of our parks and forests, stepping back to take a hard look with more information about lived experiences, DCNR hopes to provide a nuanced and open-eyed view of our past, for the future.

On Sunday, October 23, 2022, DCNR staff and the CRC will host a public archaeology day at Greenwood Furnace showcasing the recent archaeological finds from Penn-Roosevelt State Park, as well as, decades of archaeological insight from the archaeological excavations at Greenwood Furnace (completed by Paul Heberling and Paul Fagley). DCNR's park staff, professional archaeologists, and volunteers will be on-hand with artifacts for display and interpretation, hands-on activities like mini-excavations, historical information on the CCC, and more! See the official announcement under PA Archaeology Month activities.

As we work towards developing our cultural resources program at DCNR, we look forward to working with other partners in preservation to ensure that our actions align with our intent. Should you have any questions or



PAOC's CRC Self-Portrait at CCC Camp NP-11, Pymatuning State Park. Photo Credit: Katherine Peresolak, 2022.

concerns regarding DCNR's Cultural Resources Program, please contact Angie Jaillet-Wentling via email at [ajailletwe@pa.gov](mailto:ajailletwe@pa.gov) or by phone at 717.798.2753.

## ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH & OTHER EVENTS

### 2022 Archaeology Month Poster

Janet Johnson, *The State Museum of Pennsylvania*



This year's Archaeology Month poster was designed in house at the State Museum of Pennsylvania with input from the Education Committee of the SPA. Kurt Carr kindly wrote up [a description of the axes](#) for inclusion on the SPA website. We are using the poster on October 12th for a Homeschool Program at the museum. It was distributed to the SPA Chapters via the spring meeting and Amanda Valko mailed out to the remaining chapters. Additional posters are available for programming. Please contact Janet Johnson at [janjohnson@pa.gov](mailto:janjohnson@pa.gov) to request copies.



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## Sixth Annual Meadowcroft Workshop in Archaeology

**Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village, Avella, Pennsylvania**  
**Saturday, October 8, 11 am to 4:30 pm**

This year's theme for the sixth annual Workshop in Archaeology at Meadowcroft is Tattooing and other forms of Body Alteration: Expressions of Self & Status. Participants will discuss the practice and significance of tattooing and other forms of body modification in America among American Indians and Europeans, along with the traditional tools, pigments, and materials used. Speakers will include members of federally recognized American Indian tribes who will also demonstrate traditional tattooing techniques.

Additional Activities: Flint knapping and weaving demonstrations; learn how to record an archaeological site; artifact identification by Society of Pennsylvania Archaeology chapter members; admission to Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village including tours of the [Meadowcroft Rockshelter National Historic Landmark](#); screen soil for artifacts from a regional eighteenth-century archaeological site.

See registration form at the end of this Newsletter!

Sponsored by the Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village, the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, and the Heinz History Center.

## Public Archaeology Day at the Friends Meeting House, Bristol Borough, Bucks County, PA



**Friends Meeting House, 235 Market Street, Bristol, PA**  
**Saturday, October 15, 10 am to 4 pm**

In Bristol Borough, Bucks County, a public archaeological dig is being conducted on Saturday October 15 from 10am to 4pm. It is free and open to the public. It will be held at the Friends Meeting House at 235 Market Street, Bristol PA. For further questions please contact Jesse Walker at [walkerfamily320@verizon.net](mailto:walkerfamily320@verizon.net).

## International Archaeology Day at IUP

**McElhaney Hall, 441 North Walk, Indiana PA**  
**Saturday, October 15, 12 to 3 pm**

This International Archaeology Day IUP's Anthropology Department will once again host its annual open house inviting members of the community to learn all about archaeology! The event will be held on October 15th from 12pm-3pm in McElhaney Hall, 441 North Walk, Indiana PA, 15705. There will be artifact displays, informational tables, children's activities, and Native American technology demonstrations throughout the ground floor of McElhaney. There will be plenty of activities for people of all ages!

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Andrea Palmiotto at [apalmiot@iup.edu](mailto:apalmiot@iup.edu) or Mikala Hardie at [fmxcc@iup.edu](mailto:fmxcc@iup.edu).



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## DCNR – Public Archaeology Day at Greenwood Furnace State Park



**15795 Greenwood Road, Huntingdon, PA 16652**  
**Sunday, October 23, 12 to 4 pm**

Check out recent archaeological finds from Penn-Roosevelt State Park's Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camp 361-C and archaeological insights from Greenwood Furnace State Park's Greenwood Furnace! DCNR's park staff, professional archaeologists, and volunteers will be on-hand with artifacts for display and interpretation, hands-on activities like mini-excavations, historical information on the CCC, the iron furnace, and more!

## PAC Business Meeting & Fall Program

**State Museum of Pennsylvania, 300 North Street, Harrisburg**  
**Friday, October 28, 9:30 am**

The next PAC business meeting will be held on Friday, October 28 from 9:30 to 12:00. This will be an in-person meeting at the State Museum of Pennsylvania. A meeting reminder and agenda will be sent to members in advance of the meeting.

At 1:30 pm, Taylor Napoleon (PA SHPO) will offer a demonstration of Surveyor, the PA SHPO's new set of survey tools. Surveyor is a set of desktop and mobile survey tools that were designed to add convenience, enable teamwork, and expedite resource information submission to PA-SHARE. There are three tools in the Surveyor suite: Surveyor Manager, Surveyor Mobile, and the PA-SHARE Surveyor app. This demonstration will include an overview of all three Surveyor tools inside the museum before moving outside to gain some on-hands experience using the Surveyor app!

Following the Fall Program, PAC will be hosting a "Dutch Treat" Happy Hour at a Harrisburg bar on Friday evening. Details TBD.

## 2022 Annual Workshops in Archaeology

**State Museum of Pennsylvania, 300 North Street, Harrisburg**  
**Saturday, October 29, 9 am to 5 pm**

The theme of this year's program centers around archaeology as a tool for discovering a pathway to the past. Archaeologists have identified physical pathways such as Indigenous foot paths, portages, and trade routes but there are also the pathways archaeology can offer in enriching, and sometimes correcting narratives of the past. Pennsylvania's landscape of rolling mountains, plateaus and ridges, and major river valleys were physical factors that influenced settlement of the Commonwealth. Foot paths created by Indigenous peoples thousands of years ago, led to trade and exchange routes that eventually developed into roadways. River valleys served as transportation corridors for commerce and trade from Precontact through the historic period defining the locations of communities. Some pathways are not as evident, as in the underground railroad network that transported formerly enslaved peoples to communities here and elsewhere. Discovering the stories of the past can be a difficult emotional journey to uncovering heritage, as is often true for the disenfranchised, but their contributions to our Commonwealth's development are important and the archaeological record is a pathway for sharing their stories.

For more information and online registration, please visit the [State Museum of Pennsylvania](https://www.penn.gov/state-museum) website.

Preliminary Speakers include:

- Trade, Migration, or Both: Delmarva Adena-Hopewell - Darrin L. Lowery, Ph.D.
- The Search for the Ephemeral Feature Type: A Look at some Potential Native American Travel Routes on the



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Allegheny Plateau - Andrew J. Myers, Marienville Ranger District, Allegheny National Forest

- The Venango Path: History, Archaeology and the Environment - Chuck Williams, Ph.D., RPA, Williams Ecological, LLC
- “Over the Hump”: Portages and Pathways into Western PA - Ken Burkett, Executive Director, Jefferson County Historical Center, Field Associate, Carnegie Museum
- The CCC Colored Camp: Archaeology at Penn Roosevelt Park - Kate Peresolak, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- The Underground Railroad through Cumberland County - Matthew March, Education Director, Cumberland County Historical Society
- Mt. Tabor AME Church: Preservation, Archaeology and GPR to Record Cemeteries - Carmen James, Mt. Tabor Preservation Project



2022 ANNUAL WORKSHOPS IN ARCHAEOLOGY

**PATHWAYS TO THE PAST**

**SAVE THE DATE**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2022 • 9:00AM - 5:00PM

Visit [statemuseumpa.org/WorkshopsInArchaeology](https://statemuseumpa.org/WorkshopsInArchaeology) for more information

300 NORTH STREET • HARRISBURG, PA 17120-0024

 The State Museum of Pennsylvania  
PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION

## Upcoming Conferences and Events

Compiled by Gary Coppock, Skelly and Loy, Inc.

Organization	Location	Date	Abstract Due Date	Web Address
<b>Pennsylvania Historical Association (PHA)</b>	Lycoming College, Williamsport, PA	October 14-15, 2022	Past	<a href="https://pa-history.org/meetings/upcoming/">https://pa-history.org/meetings/upcoming/</a>
<b>PAC Fall Business Meeting</b>	State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, PA	October 28, 2022 (morning)	NA	<a href="http://www.pennarchcouncil.org/">http://www.pennarchcouncil.org/</a>
<b>PAC Fall Program</b> PA SHPO: PA-SHARE Surveyor Demonstration	State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, PA	October 28, 2022 (afternoon)	NA	<a href="http://www.pennarchcouncil.org/">http://www.pennarchcouncil.org/</a>
<b>PHMC Workshops in Archaeology</b> Pathways to the Past	State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, PA	October 29, 2022	NA	<a href="http://statemuseumpa.org/workshopsinarchaeology/">http://statemuseumpa.org/workshopsinarchaeology/</a>
<b>34<sup>th</sup> Annual Jumonville French &amp; Indian War Seminar</b>	455 Jumonville Road, Hopwood PA	November 4-5, 2022	NA	<a href="http://braddockroadpa.org/">http://braddockroadpa.org/</a>
<b>Eastern States Archaeological Federation (ESAF)</b>	Shippensburg, PA	November 4-6, 2022	Past	<a href="http://esaf-archeology.org/">http://esaf-archeology.org/</a>
<b>Joint Meeting: Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) AND Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology (CNEHA)</b>	Plymouth, MA	November 5-7, 2022	Past	<a href="https://cneha.org/conference.html">https://cneha.org/conference.html</a>
<b>Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA)</b>	Lisbon, Portugal	January 4-7, 2023	Past	<a href="https://sha.org/">https://sha.org/</a>
<b>Middle Atlantic Archaeological Council (MAAC)</b>	Ocean City, MD	March 9-11, 2023	TBA	<a href="https://maac10.wildapricot.org/">https://maac10.wildapricot.org/</a>
<b>Society for American Archaeology (SAA)</b>	Portland, OR	March 29 - April 2, 2023	Past	<a href="http://www.saa.org/">http://www.saa.org/</a>
<b>PAC Symposium and Spring Business Meeting</b>	Dubois, PA	April 14, 2023	TBA	<a href="http://www.pennarchcouncil.org/">http://www.pennarchcouncil.org/</a>
<b>Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology (SPA)</b>	Dubois, PA	April 14-16, 2023	TBA	<a href="http://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/">http://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/</a>

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## RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

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*The 2022 military veteran program participants assembled at Fort Ligonier.*

### **The 2022 Veterans Archaeology Program: Investigating the Site of George Washington’s “Friendly Fire” Incident (November 12, 1758)**

*Jonathan Burns, Cultural Resource Institute, Juniata College*

This is a preliminary briefing on the 2022 Juniata College Veterans Archaeology Program sponsored by the Fort Ligonier Association to find evidence of a historic event associated with the Forbes Campaign of 1758 dubbed the “friendly fire incident” involving two Virginia regiments—one led by George Mercer, and the other by George Washington. The field project ran from August 8 to 14, 2022 with the research team working from the beginning of the week, then being joined on the weekend by ten military veteran participants. According to the local residents, various collectors have been using metal detectors to remove 18th century artifacts from the property for years—with such

a significant site under threat, it was definitely time for a professional investigation.

Our team included myself as project leader and anthropologist at Juniata College, specializing in colonial archaeology; Scott Shaffer, a PennDOT District Archaeologist with expertise in colonial firearms and KOCO A terrain analysis (KOCO A is an acronym used by military experts and historians to categorize terrain features identified in primary battle accounts into Key terrain, Observation and fields of fire, Cover and concealment, Obstacles, and Avenues of approach/withdrawal); Angela Jaillet-Wentling, a DCNR archaeologist and military combat veteran with expertise in GIS mapping and KOCO A terrain analysis; Chris Espenshade, a Senior Technical Reviewer with New South Associates, specializing in conflict archaeology and metal detector survey; Mark Beckler, video production assistant and combat veteran/Army Brigade Commander (retired); Andrew Tonn, professional videographer; guest metal detectorists and military combat veterans, Jeremy Severn and



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David Williams; and Juniata College students, Roland Hunter and Thomas Knezevich. We used controlled metal detector survey techniques—employing ten detectors, GPS recorder, and a laser total station to locate, map, and collect artifacts associated with the friendly fire incident, and the Forbes Road in general.

As a group of professionals studying colonial American military sites, it has been our objective to involve U.S. military veterans in the archaeology of fortifications and battlefields by providing opportunities to participate in surveys, excavation, and metal detector training. Our efforts are intended to support the education of veterans exploring the options of working in the Cultural Resource Management (CRM) industry, or historic preservation in general. Collectively, we have effectively utilized controlled metal detector survey to document several French and Indian War fortifications including Fort Ligonier (Westmoreland County), Fort Halifax (Dauphin County), and Fort Lyttelton (Fulton County). During this past session, we trained ten participants as we collaborated on this exciting project in search of George Washington's infamous "friendly fire" site.

The written record and subject historians suggest that we have targeted the most likely location to find physical evidence of the friendly fire incident of November 12, 1758 (see Cubbison 2010). The event was precipitated by the French and their Native Americans allies scouting the British position approximately two miles west of Fort Ligonier; a detachment of 500 Virginia provincials led by Lieutenant Colonel George Mercer was sent to repel them. After contact was made, Colonel George

Washington and another 500 Virginians left the fort following the sound of gunfire to assist—then, as fog set in and daylight dwindled, his unit engaged Mercer's men in a "hot fire", mistaking one another for the enemy. This incident of friendly fire resulted in 40 casualties, with Washington leading the burial detail the following day. The tragedy was downplayed by General Forbes and overshadowed by the fortune of capturing three prisoners during the action—one a British deserter, who divulged the weakness of the French garrison at Fort Duquesne. Just one day after giving the order to go into winter quarters at Fort Ligonier, Forbes reverses his order and decided to press the offensive on Fort Duquesne based on this crucial intelligence -- a major turning point in the war in western Pennsylvania. The rest is history, with the French blowing up their powder magazine and an abandoning Fort Duquesne at the Allegheny/Monongahela rivers confluence, and the construction of Fort Pitt in its place.

The physical evidence of the friendly fire incident consists mostly of metal artifacts—specifically, lead musket balls, coins, buttons, firearm parts, horseshoes, wagon parts, etc. Tantamount to the ongoing analysis, the patterning of the lead ammunition is suggestive of firing lines—various calibers, dropped and shot. There was also the remote possibility of encountering the documented graves of the fallen soldiers buried by Washington, presumably on or near the adjacent section of the Forbes Road (to be addressed in the future). The recovered artifacts are currently being processed by undergraduate laboratory technicians at Juniata College in the Cultural Resource Institute lab.



Participants from the Veterans Curation Program (VCP) collecting a find.

Delivering a rewarding experience packed full of training, discovery, networking, and comradery, the week-long field project was a success on many levels. In addition to the recovery of eighteenth-century artifacts, it resulted in a new friendship with the Veterans Curation Program (VCP), providing complimentary fieldwork opportunities and training to their lab technicians and managers. We are already planning our return to the site to conduct the next stage of the investigation, so stay tuned!

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## Looking for Turkey Foot Road, a Revolutionary War-era Military path to Fort Pitt

Gary Coppock, Skelly and Loy, Inc., A Terracon Company

In 1779 colonial troops established a new military supply route from Fort Cumberland to Fort Pitt, which is now known as Turkey Foot Road. The course of this road and its history have been detailed by Dietle and McKenzie (2014, 2015) and Histbuffer.com (2014a, 2014b). Their data suggest that the road passed through a portion of the SR 119, Section 20K project area in Upper Tyrone Township, Fayette County (Coppock and Henderson 2021; Coppock and Tucker in prep.). In the hope of finding a portion of the former path, ground penetrating radar (GPR) was employed to determine if a trace of the road exists beneath the plowed surface of a hay field located a short distance southwest of Scottdale Borough in Westmoreland County.

The GPR survey, conducted under the supervision of by Dr. William Chadwick of the Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), was performed by Stephanie Zellers with the assistance of Amanda Filmyer, both of whom are MA students in IUP's Applied Archaeology program. At the present time the data is still being analyzed. If a potential road trace is identified, additional archaeological investigations may be warranted to assess the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)-eligibility of the resource.

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Stephanie Zellers conducting a GPR survey in the search for Turkey Foot Road.

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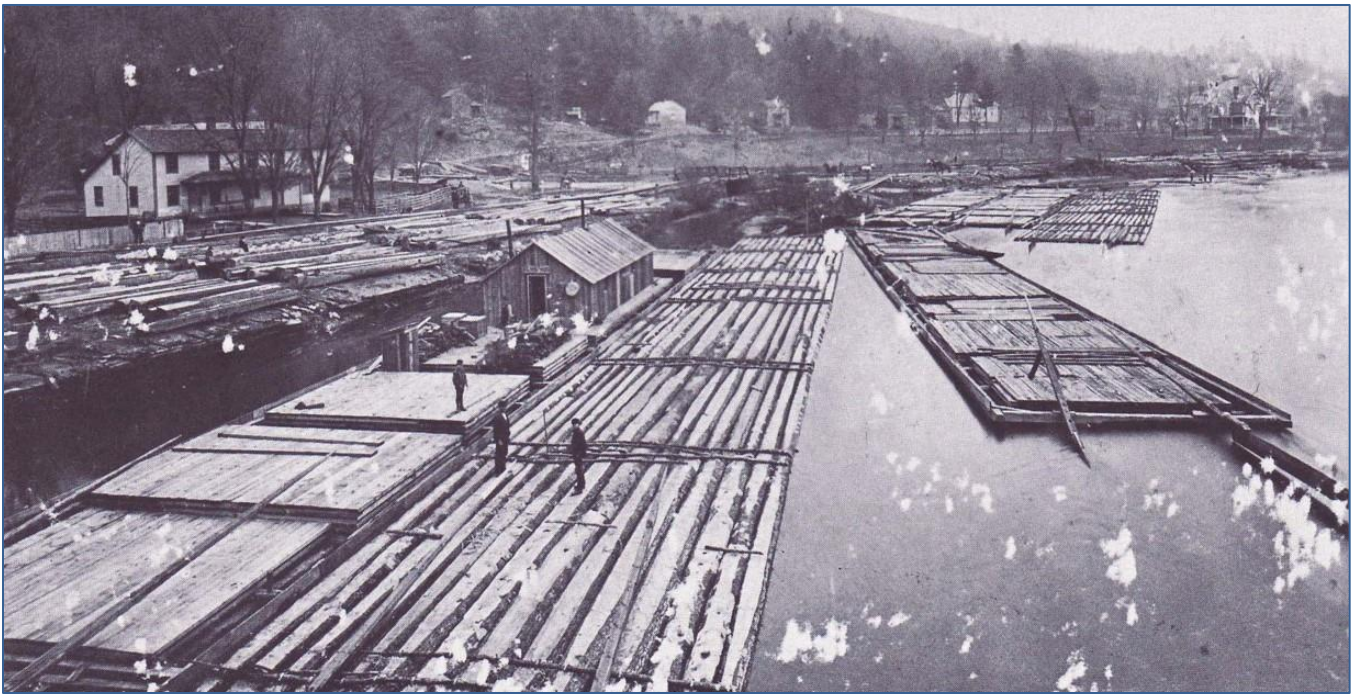
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## Phase III excavation of Feature 1, within NRHP-listed logging settlement of Irwintown

Andy Myers and Patricia Stahlman, Marienville Ranger District, Allegheny National Forest

Irwintown, a National Register-listed archaeological site (36EL183) in Elk County, Pennsylvania, represents the remains of a small rafting-era lumber settlement founded by Thomas Irwin in the 1840's (Coppock et al. 2006; Heberling et al. 2011). In its heyday the small village was centered around a sawmill and included a few houses, a stable, a barn, and an orchard. There





*A rafting-era logging operation (Kline 1975).*

was also said to be a schoolhouse and a blacksmith's shop for an ox shoeing business (Beers 1890:715). Rafts were constructed there and used to transport lumber to Pittsburgh and beyond. The community flourished for a number of years before competition from railroad-era lumbering and a shrinking resource base resulted in financial ruin for Irwin who lost the property at sheriff's sale. Irwintown was abandoned by around 1920.

The remains of several foundations associated with the village have been identified, however, the function of many of these remains uncertain aside from the sawmill. A millpond that held logs prior to sawing was located just north of the sawmill. Two splash dams



*Excavation of former house site (Feature 1) in progress with support stones visible.*

used to facilitate the transportation of logs downstream to the mill pond can still be witnessed upstream along Irwin Run. As partial mitigation for the anticipated adverse effects by a planned Forest Service project within the former village, excavation was conducted at a house site identified as Feature 1. This feature, which is the most prominent house feature identified within the village, consists of a habitation flat and three areas of stacked corner stones used to balance a frame structure.

Excavation control was contained within a grid system devised to explore an area of 192 square meters of potential excavation space. This was centered over the foundational remains of the former structure and included areas found immediately adjacent that were possibly yard areas associated with the house. When the project was complete a total of 127 square meters (1367 square feet) was excavated which resulted in the recovery of 16,178 artifacts.

The artifacts were observed to be highly fragmentary in nature. The most identifiable diagnostics recovered occurred in the form of broken dinner plates. Whiteware and Porcelain dominated the ceramics found in the sample. Decoration in the form of transfer print patterns occurred in blue, red, purple, black and brown designs. A small amount of flowery flow blue decoration was observed and hand painted floral and sprig type designs were common. Spatter ware occurred in purple, red, green and blue designs. Shell edge ware was common and there were numerous plain white plates represented in the sample.





Examples of ceramics with black transfer print pattern.

A number of plates could be identified, including age, via the makers mark. Generally, these marks were attributed to companies located overseas in the Staffordshire, England region and closer to home in East Liverpool, Ohio and Trenton, New Jersey. One of the earliest makers marks was attributed to Coxon & Company located in Trenton, New Jersey. The particular mark mimics the United Kingdom's Royal Coat of Arms mark and was used between 1863 and 1870 (Debolt 1994:172). The Staffordshire ceramic industry was evidenced by a number of marks. One ironstone china plate exhibited a stamp with the letters JWEDGWOOD found on the base. This mark is attributed to John Wedge Wood who manufactured in Burslem (1841-1844) and later Tunstal (1845-1860), Staffordshire, England (Godden 1964:687).

Excavation was concluded earlier this year. The final Phase III report is under development. When complete it is hoped that the report will serve to fill a void as little attention has been given to early lumber era rafting settlements in this portion of the state. The artifacts recovered will subsequently be curated at the State Museum in Harrisburg for future research endeavors.

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### Phase III excavations at 36AR0535 and 36AR0536

Paul Raber, Heberling Associates, Inc.

Heberling Associates recently completed data recovery field studies for two small sites, 36AR0535 and 0536, along the Allegheny River in Armstrong County. The sites had been discovered by the PennDOT PHAST team in 2010 during a survey for a proposed realignment of a South Buffalo Township road (Jaillet 2011; Vento and Stahlman 2010). Subsequent Phase II studies evaluated the sites and determined that they met the criteria for National Register listing, containing abundant well-preserved remains—stone tools and debitage, pottery, and cultural features containing carbonized plant and animal specimens—that represented repeated occupations of small temporary camps dating primarily to the Early and Middle Woodland periods (roughly 1000 BC to 1000 AD), with minor Late Woodland/Late Prehistoric and Middle Archaic components (Davis et al. 2011; Raber, Spertzel Black and Stiteler 2013).

The sites lie on alluvial terraces to either side of an unnamed first-order tributary to the Allegheny River, some 180 m to the south. The alluvial terraces reflect a complex history of deposition and erosion from both the ancestral stream and the river. Cultural deposits were contained within a 50-70 cm thick package of alluvial sediments at both sites. The Phase II study revealed features containing Half-Moon Cordmarked and Mahoning wares, various hafted biface types (Early and Middle Woodland types like Forest Notched and



View of block excavation at 36AR0536

Raccoon Notched, and a MacCorkle bifurcate) and radiocarbon dates, most of which documented small camps dating from the eighth century BC to the tenth century AD. Most of this evidence came from fairly clearly demarcated core areas at both sites that contained the bulk of the artifacts and all of the cultural features.

Phase III data recovery excavations focused on expanding the samples from the core areas at both sites, eventually exposing 69% of the core area at 36AR0535 and 49% of the core area at 36AR0536. We found additional features and supplemented the artifact and ecofact inventory. The vast majority of the recovered materials document the same Early and Middle Woodland period camps that we had defined in the previous studies. Abundant nutshell, charcoal, stone tools and pottery should provide detailed information on activities at the sites during those periods. The specialize analyses are still in the preliminary stages but we expect that studies of paleobotanical remains, stone tool microwear, pottery and stone tool residues, lithic raw material use, and radiocarbon samples will offer important data on the timing and nature of activities at these small campsites. The results will supplement the growing database on small procurement or special-purpose sites of the Early and Middle Woodland periods, providing information comparable to that obtained from contemporary sites in the region like Meadowcroft Rockshelter (Adovasio et al. 2003:75-78), Dunsfort site (George 2004),

36WH1729 (Raber 2018), and the Mayview Depot and Mayview Bend sites (Kellogg, Kingsley, and Varisco 1998). We plan to present more complete results and interpretations at future conferences.

Sites like 36AR0535 and 0536—and others just referenced—promise to change our view of the Early and Middle Woodland periods, emphasizing the significance of local adaptations in the Upper Ohio River drainage, the continued importance of wild plant and animal foods, and the influence of changing climate and the biotic environment. Studies like those at 36AR535 and 536 exemplify the benefits provided by the continuing financial and administrative support for archaeology by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and other agencies under federal and state preservation laws.

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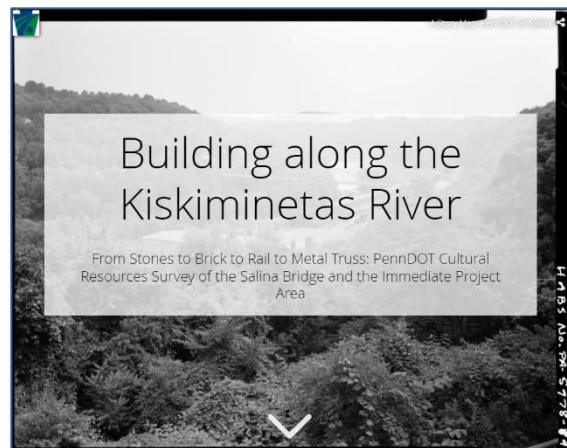
## “Building along the Kiskiminetas River”

Kristin Scarr, PennDOT

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) District 12-0's most recent Section 106 mitigation efforts involved the National Register Eligible Salina Bridge (Key No. 097496/ 2007RE00007) in Westmoreland County. PennDOT has produced an online ArcGIS based Storymap called “Building along the Kiskiminetas River” which provides a wealth of historical information about the community of Salina and its place in the industrial development of southwest Pennsylvania in the nineteenth century.

The Salina Bridge carries State Route 1060 over the Kiskiminetas River and Norfolk Southern Railway from Bell Township, Westmoreland County to Kiskiminetas Township, in Armstrong County. As part of the Section 106 mitigation for the bridge replacement project, PennDOT produced an ArcGIS storymap which features the bridge itself as well as the Kier Fire Brick Factory site (36WM1110) located below the bridge, and the Pennsylvania Canal towpath (Key # 206316/2017RE00318), a slackwater towpath that occurs along northern bank of the Kiskiminetas River in this area. Portions of the towpath revetment wall can still be seen in leaf-off conditions from the south shore and is best viewed on a canoe or kayak trip.

Recognizing that the consideration of historic properties is a public benefit, PennDOT strives to educate the public about the historic resources as part of these mitigation efforts. This story map is part of those efforts. To access the Salina Bridge Storymap, please visit [www.PennDOT.gov/District12](http://www.PennDOT.gov/District12) and click on the “Construction Projects and Roadwork” link, then select the “[Salina Bridge Project](#)” tile- or at this direct link [Salina Bridge Story Map- PennDOT](#) . Additional information about the project can be found on PennDOT's [PATH](#).





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## THE BACK PAGE

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As if you needed another reason to love fieldwork...

You never know what you'll find dangling from a tree root in a backhoe trench...

Whatz it?!?!



### A Cast Iron Weathervane Rooster!

*We are looking for photos and other "Back Page" suggestions! These can be nostalgic, funny, or puzzling.*

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## PAC Newsletter, Fall 2022, Vol. 34, No. 2

**Compiled by:** Gary Coppock, Skelly and Loy, Inc., A Terracon Company ([gcoppock@skellyloy.com](mailto:gcoppock@skellyloy.com))

**Design/Formatting by:** Hannah Harvey, PennDOT

*The PAC Newsletter is published twice a year to update members on PAC happenings, agency updates, announcements from firms and universities, and current research from around Pennsylvania.*

### PAC Officers and Board Members, 2021-2023

President: Ira Beckerman

Vice-President: Jonathan Libbon

Treasurer/Secretary: Hannah Harvey

Executive Board:

Amy Covell-Murthy

Casey Hanson



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# Meadowcroft Workshop in Archaeology - Registration Form

Make check payable to the Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village. Please, no cash.

Registrant Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information: Please clearly print your Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (Home) (Work) Email\* (required for email registration confirmation)

**Registration must be received by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Includes admission and a boxed lunch (options below). If no lunch is desired, only admission fee is required and may be paid upon arrival at Meadowcroft.**

Meadowcroft admission: Adults: \$15, Seniors: \$14, Youth/Student: \$7, History Center Members and Children (5 and under): Free

Registration Type	Amount	Number	Amount
Adult	\$27.00	_____	_____
Senior (62+)	\$26.00	_____	_____
Student (w/ valid ID)	\$19.00	_____	_____
Youth (6-17)	\$19.00	_____	_____
SPA Members	\$24.00	_____	_____
Children (5 & under) Free Admission			
Cost of Lunch	\$12.00	_____	_____
Heinz History Center Members Free			
Cost of Lunch	\$12.00	_____	_____

**Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Checks should be mailed to:** Sixth Annual Archaeology Workshop  
Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village  
401 Meadowcroft Rd.,  
Avella, PA 15312

**Please Select Boxed Lunch Option**

Deli sandwich options include a Kaiser roll with American cheese, fresh homemade deli salad and chips. All options include a Spring House Drink and an Old-fashioned cookie.

**Deli Sandwich**

Turkey Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Baked Ham Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Roast Beef Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Vegetarian/Gluten-free Option**

Number \_\_\_\_\_



YOU'RE INVITED TO IUP'S

# ARCHAEOLOGY OPEN HOUSE

Come celebrate International Archaeology Day with  
Indiana University of Pennsylvania's Anthropology  
Department!

**October 15, 2022 from 12pm-3pm**  
**McElhaney Hall, Ground Floor**  
**441 North Walk, Indiana PA, 15705**



IUP's Anthropology Department will be opening its doors to anyone interested in learning more about archaeology. There will be artifact displays, informational tables, children's activities, and Native American technology demonstrations throughout the ground floor of McElhaney hall. There will be plenty of activities for people of all ages!





# Public Archaeology Day at Greenwood Furnace State Park



*Save the date!*

**Sunday,  
October 23,  
2022**

**12-4pm**

**GREENWOOD FURNACE  
STATE PARK**

15795 Greenwood Rd,  
Huntingdon, PA 16652

Phone: 814-667-1800

Email:

[greenwoodfumacesp@pa.gov](mailto:greenwoodfumacesp@pa.gov)



Check out recent archaeological finds from Penn-Roosevelt State Park's Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camp 361-C and years worth of archaeological insight from Greenwood Furnace State Park's Greenwood Furnace!

DCNR's park staff, professional archaeologists, and volunteers will be on-hand with artifacts for display and interpretation, hands-on activities like mini-excavations, historical information on the CCC, and more!

## PAC Membership Requirements

Any person shall be considered for membership to the Council who satisfies the following requirements. Member categories and annual dues are described below:

### Professional —

- A graduate degree in anthropology, archaeology, or a closely related field; or a Bachelor's degree in anthropology, archaeology, or a closely-related field, and two years of professional experience in a research, supervisory, educational, or administrative capacity.
- A professional interest in Pennsylvania archaeology. Interest must be documented by the applicant and should clearly demonstrate how the applicant's professional activity has contributed, or may contribute, to the advancement of Pennsylvania's prehistoric or historical archaeology. This documentation may include:
  - a. Authorship of professional or archaeological publications.
  - b. Authorship of archaeological papers presented at professional or professional/avocational meetings.
  - c. Authorship of archaeological contract or grant reports.
  - d. Development or implementation of archaeological educational or interpretive programs.
  - e. Administration or supervision of archaeological programs or projects.

### Student —

- Enrollment in a graduate or undergraduate degree program in anthropology, archaeology or closely-related field.
- The applicant should have an interest in Pennsylvania archaeology. The applicant will submit a curriculum vita and proof of enrollment in a degree program. Student members will be voting members.
- Student dues are \$15/year.

**Sustaining** — Any active member may opt to become a sustaining member by paying \$50/year in dues.

**Please Note:** All members of the Pennsylvania Archaeological Council must also be members of the [Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology](#).

## How to Apply

To apply for membership, please send a completed membership form and a CV or resume documenting that you meet PAC's membership requirements, as outlined in the constitution, to the Vice President:

Jonathan Libbon  
SWCA Environmental Consultants  
80 Emerson Lane, Suite 1306  
Bridgeville, Pennsylvania 15017  
email: [jlibbon@swca.com](mailto:jlibbon@swca.com)

The Membership and Ethics Committee will review new applications as they are received. Once your application has been approved by the Board, you will be contacted by the Secretary/Treasurer with a welcome message, including an invoice for dues—which must be paid in order to finalize your membership. New members will be announced at the PAC business meetings.

Payments received by July 1 will be applied to that calendar year. Payments received after July 1 will be applied to the next calendar year.



# PENNSYLVANIA ARCHAEOLOGICAL COUNCIL

## Member Information Form

- New Member  
 Updating Information

**Member Type:**

- Professional (\$35)  
 Student (\$15)  
 Sustaining (\$50)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Company:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zipcode:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Phone:** (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zipcode:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone:** (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I am currently a member of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology**

- Yes  
 No

Please send dues via PayPal or send a check made out to the **Pennsylvania Archaeological Council** to:

Pennsylvania Archaeological Council  
c/o Hannah Harvey  
1031 Belleview Avenue  
Pottstown, PA 19464

Reach out to **PACSecretaryTreasurer@gmail.com** with any questions.