



**Meeting of the Archeological Society of Maryland**  
**OCTOBER 22, 2016, 8:00 AM-4:30 PM, with optional later events**  
Sponsored by the Monocacy Archeological Society Chapter  
In conjunction with the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society  
Harriet Chapel, 12625 Catoctin Furnace Road/Rte. 806, Thurmont, MD 21788



In addition to reporting on ASM members' findings (please visit the Monocacy Archeological Society's website at [www.digfrederick.com](http://www.digfrederick.com) for more details) it is our great pleasure to present the recent findings of a Frederick County archeological project conducted by the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society.

In 1774, four brothers built Catoctin Furnace in order to produce iron from the rich deposits of hematite found in the nearby mountains. The iron furnace at Catoctin played a pivotal role during the industrial revolution in the young United States. Cannonballs fired during the battle of Yorktown were made at the furnace. The furnace industry supported a thriving community, and company houses were established alongside the furnace stack. Throughout the nineteenth century, the furnace produced iron for household and industrial products. After more than 100 years of operation, the Catoctin Furnace ceased production in 1903.

The village of Catoctin Furnace maintains the layout and structures built between 1774 and 1820 with remarkably few modern intrusions. A visitor to Catoctin Furnace is introduced to the historical importance and heritage resources of the area and also experiences the look and feel of an early industrial complex. For the past 43 years, the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc. has worked to celebrate study, preserve, protect and interpret the historic village, located 12 miles north of Frederick on Maryland Route 806 (Catoctin Furnace Road). For more information, call 443-463-6437 or visit [www.catoctinfurnace.org](http://www.catoctinfurnace.org).

*Meeting Schedule and Abstracts*

8:00-8:30      **Registration** – \$5.00 for ASM members and \$8.00 for non-members

8.30-9:30      **Opening Remarks and Message of Thanks**

Mary Frances Mickevich

**Introduction to the Meeting**

Jeremy Lazelle, President of MAS

**Business Meeting of the Maryland Archeological Society**

Chapter Summaries

Awards and Honors

**Morning Program**

Moderator – Jeremy Lazelle

9:30-10:00      **Clear as Mud: Underwater Archaeology in Maryland**

Susan Langley, MHT Underwater Archaeology Program

This presentation provides an introduction to underwater archaeology via Maryland's submerged cultural heritage. The diversity of sites, their locations, and their significance are explored and explained.

10:00–10:30      **Soft as Clay - a Comparison of Prehistoric Pottery Resources throughout the Upper Bay**

Dan Coates- President of ASNVA

This study follows the ASNVA Guidelines for Henrico County, Virginia; and it explores the relatively rare sources of "good" clay available to the aboriginal potter

10:30-10:45      Coffee break, Harriet Chapel Parish Hall

10:45-11:00      **Where Water Once Flowed: Terminal Archaic Sites on Relict Stream Channels**

Jocelyn Lee, Citizen Scientist, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center

Terminal Archaic (Transitional) sites in the Middle Atlantic region cluster along major waterways, indicating a riverine way of life. Two terminal archaic sites – Octoraro Farm (18CE16) and Westwood North (18CH884) – with intact, buried deposits occur near, but not on, the banks of Octoraro Creek and Mattawoman Creek, respectively. Accurate mapping of the deposits relative to current topography reveals that each of these sites occupies the banks of a relict stream channel. These findings both support the existing model of Transitional settlement and offer a cautionary tale about connecting current landforms to past settlement patterns.

11:00-11:30 pm      **ASM Field Schools (2014-2015) at the Shaw's Folly, Java Farm, and Contees Wharf Slave Sites**

James G. Gibb, Research Associate, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center

The Smithsonian's Environmental Archaeology Laboratory (SEAL) has developed an ambitious research design that aims to measure the various stresses that different types of households (e.g., planter, slave, tenant) have imposed on the Rhode River ecosystem since the 1650s, further extending back over the past 3,000 years. The ASM Fall Field Schools of 2014 and 2015 contributed to this work by further exploring the 1660s-era Shaw's Folly site (2014) and testing early 19<sup>th</sup>-century midden deposits both at the Java plantation house and at a likely slave quarter. The SEAL team will share its findings, summarizing the results of several professional conference papers presented by citizen scientists.

11:30 -12:15      Catoclin Furnace Tour

Elizabeth A. Comer, Secretary, Catoclin Furnace Historical Society, Inc.

In 1774, four brothers built the Catoclin Furnace in order to produce iron from the rich deposits of hematite found in the nearby mountains. The iron furnace at Catoclin played a pivotal role during the industrial revolution in the young United States. Cannonballs fired during the battle of Yorktown were

made at the furnace. The furnace industry supported a thriving community, and company houses were established alongside the furnace stack. Throughout the nineteenth century, the furnace produced iron for household and industrial products, including firebacks and stoves such as the “Catoctin” Franklin stove. After more than one hundred years of operation, the Catoctin Furnace ceased production in 1903. The visit to Catoctin Furnace will include a short walk encompassing the slave graveyard, the restored furnace stack and casting shed, the 1810 Collier’s Log House, and the 1817 Forge Worker’s house.

12:15-1:15 Lunch for purchase (\$10.00 per person) at the historic worker’s house at 12610 Catoctin Furnace Road, Catoctin Furnace: homemade chicken corn soup, various sandwiches, homemade desserts, hot beverages. Lunch is also available at local restaurants such as the Furnace Café,

### **Afternoon Program**

Moderator – Elizabeth Comer

1:15 -2:45 Concurrent Sessions (Each participant will be able to attend both)

#### **A Reanalysis of Human Remains from a Cemetery at Catoctin Furnace**

Collier’s Log House (12607 Catoctin Furnace Road)

Kari Bruwelheide and Katie Barca, the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History

Kari Bruwelheide and Katie Barca will discuss the direction of their Chesapeake research and utilize some examples of bone from Catoctin Furnace to illustrate some of their findings. The remains of 35 individuals excavated at Catoctin Furnace have been curated and studied at the Smithsonian since 1982.

#### **Bone Identification Workshop**

Stone House (12525 Catoctin Furnace Road)

Dr. Douglas Owsley, the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History

Dr. Owsley, Division Head of Physical Anthropology at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History, will lead a bone identification workshop for avocational and professional archaeologists.

2:45-3:00 **Coffee break, Harriet Chapel Parish Hall**

3:00-3:15 **Academic Research Informing Heritage Tourism**

Elizabeth A. Comer, EAC/Archaeology, Inc.

For more than 42 years, the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc. has maintained heritage programs in the village of Catoctin Furnace. Updating traditional seasonal events while adding leisure amenities involves constantly balancing funding sources with heritage narratives. However, the tourism experience must be rooted in solid academic research. Current research at Catoctin Furnace aims to reconstruct the history of the furnace’s laborers, including African Americans, and to recognize their contributions to the success of the ironworking community. A further goal is to reach out to contemporary African American communities in order to involve them in the interpretation and presentation of history at Catoctin Furnace, in the surrounding region and at other early industrial complexes in America.

3:15-3:30 **A Forest for the Trees: Remote Sensing Applications and Historic Production at Cunningham Falls State Park**

Robert Wanner, EAC/Archaeology, Inc.

This paper presents the results of surface analyses conducted at Cunningham Falls State Park, Frederick County, Maryland, using Lidar-derived bare-earth models. Recent Lidar acquisitions for this area have allowed us to identify historic collier's pits in the hills and mountains that surround modern Catoctin Furnace within Cunningham Falls State Park, opening direct investigation into patterns of resource acquisition and forest management during incipient industrialization. This investigation of fuel production has the potential to enhance the existing interpretation of Cunningham Falls State Park, particularly with regard to transportation corridors and forest dynamics.

3:30-3:45      **The African American Cemetery at Catoctin Furnace: Bridging the Past and the Future**

Jane I. Seiter, EAC/Archaeology, Inc. and Oxford Tree-Ring Laboratory

The Catoctin African American Cemetery is the resting place of at least 50 individuals who labored at Catoctin Furnace and in its surrounding community between the 1770s and the 1840s. In 2014, an ambitious project to preserve, protect and interpret the cemetery was launched. Documentary research, forensic analysis and geophysical investigations using ground-penetrating radar have begun to shed light on the lives of the workers and their burial practices. Public outreach efforts include new museum exhibits, a heritage trail linking the cemetery with the furnace ruins and living history presentations given by local high school students.

3:45-4:00      **Technological Toolkit: Using XRF Analysis to Better Understand 19<sup>th</sup> Century Iron Making and Its Implications for the Labor Force**

Joseph E. Clemens, EAC/Archaeology, Inc.

Various types of iron ore and iron products produced at furnaces in Maryland and Pennsylvania in the 19th century have been analyzed using X-Ray Fluorescence. Research on the types of iron produced at each site led to a further understanding of the labor involved in the iron making process and the changes in elemental composition that different production techniques create. Trace elements observed in the iron samples provide insight into possible health issues that afflicted the labor force and surrounding populace.

4:00-4:15      **Questions and wrap up**

4:15-4:30      **Announcement of the Field School for 2017**

4:30-6:00      **Springfield Manor Winery**

In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, the Johnson brothers, owners of Catoctin Furnace, built large manor houses in the vicinity of the industrial complex. Springfield, built by James Johnson circa 1790, included a large vineyard. Today, Springfield Manor Winery produces seven award-winning wines, such as a Chardonnay with a meticulously applied French Oak accent; the Ironmaster, a dignified blend of Merlot & Cabernet Franc; and a full bodied Cab Franc. Crafted in the traditional French method, the "Frizzante" sparkling wine is the essence of both luxury and celebration. The semi-sweet Farmhouse Wines are fruit forward, delicious and easy to enjoy.

The owners have offered a 10% deduction on your tab with proof of paid meeting attendance!

In addition to the wines, Springfield offers a lovely menu, viewable at [www.springfieldmanor.com](http://www.springfieldmanor.com).

***The following event requires prior reservation and payment via [www.catoctinfurnace.org](http://www.catoctinfurnace.org)***

7:00-9:30 **“Spirits of the Furnace”** (recommend ASM members reserve spaces for 7 pm)

The Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc., Cunningham Falls State Park, Silver Oak Academy and Harriet Chapel present “Spirits of the Furnace” on Saturday, October 22, 2016, from 7-9:30 p.m. “Spirits of the Furnace” is a guided night tour through the historic Catoctin Iron Furnace and Village, with stops in historic structures and throughout the landscape. The scenes encountered during “Spirits of the Furnace” are based on actual events in the village. For example, the enslaved butler at the ironmaster’s mansion discusses preparations for a dinner party and describes his job in the big house, including wine pairings and proper table settings and service. In another scene, a grave is being dug for a worker killed in an industrial accident. In addition to volunteer actors from Cunningham Falls State Park and the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, students from Keymar’s Silver Oak Academy portray young workers and servants. Refreshments will be available at the ca. 1810 Collier’s Log House. Kids can also make historically-inspired crafts. Bring a flashlight and wear shoes appropriate for walking on uneven terrain. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. All proceeds will benefit the preservation and interpretation of the historic village. Admission is limited to 75 (15 per group) and must be purchased in advance. To purchase tickets, visit [www.catoctinfurnace.org](http://www.catoctinfurnace.org) or call 443-463-6437.