A Guide to Resources on the Local Archaeology
And Indian History of the Washington D.C. Area

This guide describes many of the organizations in the Washington D.C. area concerned with local archaeology and Indian history. State archaeological societies, anthropology departments of local colleges and universities, and local museums are additional sources of information.

For those who would like to become more involved, the Middle Atlantic Archeological Conference (www.siftings.com/maac.html) and the Eastern States Archeological Federation (esaf-archeology.org/) hold annual meetings and publish journals.

(*denotes organizations that offer volunteer opportunities in archaeology.)

I. MUSEUMS AND ORGANIZATIONS

A. National Museum of Natural History
10th & Constitution Aves., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20560

1. Naturalist Center
741 E Miller Dr., SE,
Leesburg, VA 22075
(703) 779-9712; (800) 729-7725
email: natcenter@aol.com

The Naturalist Center is a large public facility for hands-on investigation into anthropology and the natural sciences through its collection of specimens, totaling over 20,000; a large selection of reference materials; and scientific equipment. The Anthropology section includes self-guided teaching units on Paleo-Indian stone tool technology, Eastern United States archaeology materials, and North American Indian pottery, as well as a large selection of reference books.

2. Anthropology Outreach Office
National Museum of Natural History
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, DC 20560-0112
The Anthropology Outreach Office, located in the Department of Anthropology, distributes a bibliography on Indians of Virginia, the District of Columbia, and Maryland, as well as bibliographies on North American archaeology, Native Americans, and summer fieldwork opportunities.

3. National Anthropological Archives
   Smithsonian Institution
   Museum Support Center
   4210 Silver Hill Road
   Suitland, MD 20746.
   (301) 238-1310; Fax (301) 238-2883
   Email: naa@nmnh.si.edu
   Website: http://www.nmnh.si.edu/naa

   The NAA has manuscript material as well as old maps and historic photographs related to local archaeology and Indian history. The Archives is open to researchers, by appointment only, on Tuesday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. A catalog and various finding aids are available.

B. Alexandria Archaeology *
   Alexandria Archaeology Museum
   Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio #327
   105 N. Union St.
   Alexandria, VA  22314
   (703) 838-4399
   Ruth Reeder, volunteer coordinator
   email: archaeology@ci.alexandria.va.us

   The City of Alexandria, incorporated in 1749, reflects many changes in economic focus, ethnic diversities, patterns of land use, and types of social stratification. Artifacts on display at the museum come from a variety of residential, commercial, and industrial sites. Museum hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturday, 10a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

   This Center is devoted to the excavation and preservation of sites within the City of Alexandria. Year-round projects include field excavation, conservation, laboratory analysis, and historical research involving both professionals and volunteers. Minimum age is 16 for volunteer opportunities. Internships and work studies are also available. Examples of recovered archeological specimens are on display in the museum.

C. Cultural Resources*
   Fairfax County Park Authority
   2855 Annandale Rd.
   Falls Church, VA  22042
The Cultural Resources section of Fairfax County Park Authority serves the citizens of Fairfax County and Northern Virginia as a center for archaeological research and preservation in Fairfax County. Program resources include a research laboratory, artifact study and type collections, an extensive literature and map library on local and regional prehistory and history, and five full-time staff archaeologists. Office hours are Monday–Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; The lab is open Tuesday evenings, 6 to 9 p.m. Please call in advance.

An active archaeological site survey and testing program in both prehistoric and historic archaeology is available to volunteers. The program offers training and experience in fieldwork, laboratory techniques, and report writing. Opportunities exist for both paid and unpaid internships.

D. Virginia Department of Historic Resources *
   Division of Archaeology
   2801 Kensington Ave.
   Richmond, VA 23221
   (804) 367-2323
   http://state.vipnet.org/dhr/

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources conducts research projects on threatened sites around the state and is the repository for the state’s archaeological collections. The Center’s artifact collections are available to researchers by appointment. The archaeological library containing reports on Virginia history and prehistory is open to the public.

The Center offers volunteer opportunities year-round in the archaeology lab and periodically for excavation of threatened sites.

E. The Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum *
   10515 Mackall Rd.
   St. Leonard, MD 20685
   (410) 586-8500
   www.jefpat.org/

The Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum was created in 1983 as a facility for research, interpretation, and recreation located on the Patuxent River in Maryland. The park contains a high density of Native American camp and village sites from 7500 B.C. to A.D. 1630 as well as seventeenth century English Colonial sites. A visitor’s center contains exhibits and a museum shop. Park hours are 10a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday – Sunday during April 15 to October 15.

The park contains the remains of prehistoric and early historic sites from about 7500 BC to the nineteenth century. Volunteer opportunities available by contacting Ms. Kirsti Uunila at (410) 586-8555; uunila@dhcd.state.md.us
F. Archaeology in Annapolis *
   Historic Annapolis Foundation
   18 Pinkney St.
   Annapolis, MD 21401
   (410) 267-7619; (800) 603-4020
   www@annapolis.org

Archaeology in Annapolis is a year-round collaborative project between Historic Annapolis Foundation and the Department of Anthropology, University of Maryland, College Park to carry out city-wide excavations in the Historic District of Maryland’s state capitol. The project has excavated over two dozen eighteenth and nineteenth century sites. Public summer tours of excavated sites are available upon request.

Archaeology in Annapolis offers volunteer opportunities year-round, with archaeological field sessions during the summer months. It operates the University of Maryland Summer Program in archaeology during June and July. Contact Dr. Jessica Neuwoirth at (410) 268-7770.

G. Historic St. Mary’s City *
   P.O. Box 39
   St. Mary’s City, MD 20686
   (240) 895-4960
   www.stmaryscity.org

Archeological excavations have been conducted at colonial St. Mary’s City since 1969 and the site has one of the largest 17th century artifact collections in the United States. It also holds an extensive collection of prehistoric and 19th century artifacts. A large public exhibit consists of several reconstructed 17th century buildings, a Late Woodland longhouse, and an almost totally preserved 1840’s plantation. Most of the town of St. Mary’s, Maryland’s first settlement and 17th century capital, lies buried under the soil of this 800 acre State Museum.

St. Mary’s City offers an annual field school and welcomes volunteers (18 years or older) to assist in ongoing excavations of mostly early historic sites during mid-June and mid-August.

H. Maryland Historical Trust *
   100 Community Place
   Crownsville, MD 21032
   (410) 514-7661
   http://www.marylandhistoricaltrust.net

The Maryland Historical Trust performs a wide range of activities such as surveys to identify and record land and underwater sites; excavations of threatened sites; provision of technical assistance; purchasing of threatened properties; provision of grants and loans for emergency investigations; and public education. The Trust includes Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. Resources include an extensive library, which includes printed, pictorial, cartographic, and archival material on the archaeology of Maryland; an inventory of historic standing structures and archaeological sites; slide and historic map collections; extensive artifact collections; and the Maryland Archeological Site Survey files. The facilities are primarily for staff, student interns, and
professional researchers, but the Trust works closely with the public in other areas. The Trust holds an annual historic preservation conference and produces a quarterly publication on preservation activities throughout the state. It also publishes technical reports and popular leaflets on Maryland archaeology, and maintains a traveling exhibit on Maryland archaeology.

The Maryland Historical Trust conducts terrestrial and underwater archaeological surveys and excavations throughout the state and welcomes volunteers. It maintains a registry of volunteers who are notified as need arises for site survey, controlled surface collection, excavation, underwater archaeology, laboratory work, historical research, and other projects. The Trust also directs the Annual Field Session in Maryland Archaeology, sponsored by the Archeological Society of Maryland.

For information on volunteer opportunities in terrestrial archaeology, contact Dr. Charles Hall at (410) 514-7665; for underwater archaeology, contact Susan Langley at (410) 514-7662.

I. Annual Field Session in Maryland Archaeology *
   Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.
   c/o Maryland Historical Trust
   Contact: Dr. Charles L. Hall, (410) 514-7665 or Ms. Carol A. Ebright (410) 545-2879

Each spring, usually in May, the Archeological Society of Maryland in cooperation with the Maryland Historical Trust, and other professional organizations, sponsors a ten-day field and laboratory training session for volunteers. There are no experience or Society membership requirements; however, children from ages 7 -16 must be accompanied by an adult. A field camp is established near the site and fees are charged. The site location varies from year to year. Details are published in the Society’s newsletter.

J. National Capital Regional Archeology Program*
   1100 Ohio Dr., S.W.
   Washington, D.C. 20242
   (202) 619-7280
   http://www.nps.gov/arp

The National Capital Regional Archeology Program administers 11 major parks in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. The parks contain a variety of prehistoric and historic archaeological sites from 8,000 B.C. to the late 19th century. The major activities of the Regional Archeology Program include: conducting archeological surveys and inventories; excavating and researching of specific sites for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places; curating of archeological collections; and protecting archaeological resources through enforcement of historic preservation legislation.

The Archaeology Program accepts volunteers interested in assisting in its various projects including archeological excavation and processing artifacts. Contact: Marian Creveling, Director of Archaeology Lab, at (301) 341-0709 or Stephen Potter at (202) 619-7280.
K. Pamunkey Museum  
Box 2050 Lay Landing Rd.  
Pamunkey Indian Reservation  
King William, VA 23086  
(804) 843-4792

The Pamunkey tribe was the most powerful tribe in the Powhatan Confederacy around A.D. 1600. The museum contains exhibits on the history of the Pamunkey tribe, their native dress, foods, arts and crafts, and tools. The museum also offers pottery demonstrations, upon request, and a craft shop. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Museum hours are subject to change.

L. Jamestown Settlement  
P.O. Box 1607, Rt. 31 South at Colonial Pkwy, I-64, exit. 242A  
Williamsburg, VA 23187  
(757) 229-1607; (888) 593-4682  
www.historyisfun.org

The Powhatan Indian Gallery describes the Native American cultures that existed in coastal Virginia when the English colonists first arrived in the early 17th century. Outdoors is a re-creation of an early 17th century Powhatan village consisting of several longhouses, which contain reproductions of projectile points, stone and bone tools and garden implements, and house furnishings. Costumed interpreters demonstrate American Indian craft work. The museum is open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

M. Archaeological Institute of America  
656 Beacon St.  
Boston, MA 02215-2010  
(617) 353-9361  
email: aia@bu.edu  
www.archaeological.org

The AIA publishes an annual Fieldwork Opportunities Bulletin, which lists U.S. and foreign excavations seeking volunteer workers, paid staff members, and students for formal training programs. The Bulletin also includes a listing of state archaeologists who may be involved in local excavations and seek volunteers. Send $19.95 to Oxbow/David Brown Books, PO Box 511, Oakville, CT 06779; (800) 791-9354; or email www.oxbowbooks.com. The AIA’s bimonthly magazine, Archaeology, features an archaeology travel guide to sites in the New World in the May/June issue.

For further opportunities, contact the Anthropology Departments at George Washington University (202) 994-6075, American University (202) 885-1830, Catholic University (202) 319-5080, University of Maryland (301) 405-1423, and George Mason University (703) 993-1440.
II. ANTHROPOLOGICAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

A. Society for American Archaeology
   900 2nd Street, Suite 12
   Washington, D.C. 20002
   (202) 789-8200
   email: headquarters@saa.org
   http://www.saa.org

   Members receive the journal *American Antiquity* and the newsletter, *The Bulletin*.

B. Archeological Society of Maryland
   Carol Ebright, President
   (410) 545-2879 (work)
   Cebright@sha.state.md.us
   http://www.smcm.edu/Academics/soan/asm/home.htm

   Members receive a monthly newsletter, *ASM INK* and a biannual bulletin, *Maryland Archeology*. The Society holds a Spring Symposium on Archeology every April, and an *Annual Meeting* in October. The Society sponsors, with the Maryland Historical Trust, an annual Workshop in Archeology in March, the annual Tyler Bastian Field Session over a 10-day period in May or June, and Maryland Archeology Month in April. Additional volunteer field and lab opportunities are available through local chapters of ASM. ASM sponsors a Certified Archeological Technician program for those seeking more in-depth training. For further information on the Society, contact Membership Secretary Phyllis Sachs at 5838 Pimlico Road, Baltimore, MD 21209-4203, (410) 664-9060, psachs4921@aol.com For information on the local mid-Potomac chapter (D.C. area), which holds monthly meetings, contact Rebecca Boone, 12309 Braxfield Ct., Apt. 5, Rockville, MD 30852; (301) 770-6607.

C. Archaeological Society of Virginia
   Northern Virginia Chapter
   Fairfax County Park Authority
   2855 Annandale Rd.
   Falls Church, VA 22042
   (703) 534-3881
   www.archsocva.org

   The Archaeological Society of Virginia offers its members a quarterly bulletin, and local chapters have newsletters.

D. American Anthropological Association
   2200 Wilson Blvd., Suite 600
   Arlington, VA 22201
   (703) 528-1902
   http://www.aaanet.org/
Those who join the AAA receive the quarterly journal, *American Anthropologist* and the monthly *Anthropology Newsletter*. To learn more about university and museum programs, consult the *AAA Guide*.

### III. PROFESSIONALS INVOLVED IN LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGY AND INDIAN HISTORY

**Dr. Charles L. Hall**  
State Terrestrial Archeologist  
Maryland Historical Trust  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032  
(410) 514-7665  
hall@dhcd.state.md.us

**Ms. Maureen Kavanagh**  
Chief, Office of Archaeology  
Maryland Historical Trust  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032  
(410) 514-7660  
kavanagh@dhcd.state.md.us

**Dr. David Clark**  
Department of Anthropology  
Catholic University of America  
Washington, DC 20064  
(202) 319-5080  
clarkd@cua.edu

**Mr. Mike Johnson**  
Prehistoric Archeologist  
Cultural Resources*  
Fairfax County Park Authority  
2855 Annandale Rd.  
Falls Church, VA 22042  
(703) 534-3881 ext. 409  
michael.johnson@fairfaxcounty.gov

**Dr. Pamela Cressey, City Archeologist**  
Alexandria Archaeology  
105 North Union St., Studio 327  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
(703) 838-4399  
pamela.cressey@ci.alexandria.va.us

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**Mr. Ed Chaney, Regional Archeologist**  
Southern Maryland Regional Preservation Center (Calvert, Charles & St. Mary’s Counties)  
Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
(202) 885-1848; potomac.american.edu

**Dr. Julia King, Director**  
Maryland Archaeology Conservation Laboratory  
Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum  
10515 Mackall Rd.  
St. Leonard, MD 20685  
(410) 586-8551  
king@dhcd.state.md.us

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