



**Newsletter  
of the  
*Archeological  
Society of Virginia***

**December 2008  
Number 191**



**The mission of the  
*Archeological Society  
of Virginia*  
is to promote the archaeology  
& anthropology of  
Virginia & adjacent regions**



*Image courtesy of Keith Egloff.*

**Howard Arthur MacCord, Sr.  
1915 to 2008**

This issue of the newsletter is dedicated to long-time ASV member and major influence in the archaeology of Virginia and beyond. Howard was born October 23, 1915 and passed away on November 3, 2008. His lifelong interest in archaeology started in the 1930s, when he helped excavate prehistoric sites around Washington, D.C. Following retirement from the military in 1962, he began a new career as an archaeologist with the Virginia State Library (now the Library of Virginia), from which he retired in 1976. He worked closely with the ASV all those years, and was concerned with the ASV's future until his death. During his career, Howard excavated, or tested, at over 160 sites all over Virginia, and published over 127 articles. Howard will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery at 3 p.m. Tuesday, December 9. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to ASV/Kittiewan, P.O. Box 70395, Richmond, Va. 23255, or to a charity of your choice. *Note: adapted from the Richmond Times-Dispatch obituary.*

*From the Desk of President Mike Wilke*



Mike Wilke considers the future of ASV.  
*Image courtesy of Elizabeth Moore.*

As 2008 rapidly comes to a close, so too does my term as President of the Archeological Society of Virginia. I would like to thank all of you for your support during the past two years and the strides that have been made in our Society.

The membership has increased markedly as has the number of Chapters, four in the last two and one-half years. A special thanks goes out to those who made my goal of organizing the Highlands Chapter a reality, Russell Darden and Jackie Wearham for their work in organizing the Middle Peninsula Chapter, Mike Clem for his efforts forming the Banshee Reeks Chapter, and Elizabeth Moore for working to establish the new Patrick Henry Chapter.

The revitalization of the Roanoke and Thomas Jefferson Chapters has not yet occurred but I am optimistic that they will once again return to their past activity level as will the Peter Francisco which is being undertaken by Bruce Baker and Brian Bates. I will be sending out letters to ASV members who live on the Eastern Shore in an attempt to establish a Chapter in that region within the next week.

I would also like to commend the Kittiewan Committee Chaired by Harry Jaeger for their efforts on behalf of the ASV to move forward with the Kittiewan Plantation. There have been great strides accomplished with the latest being a new roof installed on the Plantation House. The Cypress wood shakes have returned the structure to its former grandeur. Archaeological surveys continue under the leadership of Patrick O'Neill who begins his term as President on January 1, 2009.

There are many more people who have contributed to the progress of your Society but just not enough room in this column to list them. Thank you all.

Once again I have sad news to share. On November 3, 2008, Howard MacCord passed away.

Howard made the ASV his life focus and is one of the reasons that the Society became one of the examples that other state archaeological organizations aspire to become. About thirty-five years ago when I began my avocational archaeology odyssey while living in New Jersey, I joined several societies including the ASV.

I can recall receiving my membership card signed by Howard MacCord and was impressed. I don't recall how I knew his name but I felt awed by this small token from one of the movers at the time. Little did I know then nor even aspire to where this trek would lead.

Fast forward to 2001 when I rejoined the ASV and then attended my first field school at the Jackson River Bluff Site in Bath County. While working at the site, I met Howard personally for the first time. As time progressed over the ensuing years Howard and I would meet again at the Keyser Farm Site as well as other venues and we got to know one another a bit more each time.



Howard MacCord listens to ASV members at the Fall 2008 ASV annual meeting at the Virginia Museum of Natural History, Martinsville. *Image courtesy of Elizabeth Moore.*

Finally after beginning my term as President Elect in 2005 we began discussing the future of the ASV, a subject which was his passion. Though we disagreed on details, we agreed on the importance of establishing a goal oriented path. I can recall a conversation that we had at a conference in Virginia Beach several years ago during which I told him that my opinion was that his impact on the early advancement of the study of archaeology in the state of Virginia was second only to Thomas Jefferson. I still feel that is true.

At the recent ASV Annual Meeting held at the Virginia Museum of Natural History in Martinsville, I had a conversation with Howard about our shared passion for the future of the ASV. He asked me if he could address the Council of Virginia Archaeologists following my ASV report to which I gladly agreed. Following this conversation and his address to the group, I and several others felt that he was saying goodbye.... in retrospect, that was definitely the case. Howard will be missed.

As a memorial to the life of Colonel Howard MacCord and his lifetime commitment to archaeology in Virginia and the Archeological Society of Virginia, the March issue of the Quarterly Bulletin will be dedicated to his life and works. I urge any who would like to submit an article about your memories for this publication to do so with accompanying photos.

As always, remember that...

**YOU ARE THE ASV!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**



Howard MacCord at the Pamunkey Reservation, Fall 1938. *Image courtesy of Keith Egloff.*



## *From the Office of State Archaeology*

by Mike Barber, State Archaeologist

As we enter a new era in Virginia archaeology, we have made much progress this fall. Although I have already commented on the ASV annual meeting in Martinsville, the presentation of the State Plan and Research Design chapters was a milestone. We will continue to move forward towards publication with the volume providing both a research and management tool.

Another break-through was the first meeting of "The Friends of Virginia Underwater Archaeology" which met at NOAA in Newport News and was organized by Dr. John Broadwater (Chief Archaeologist, NOAA) and myself. Circa 20 individuals were in attendance with a wide-range of perspectives but all with an interest in submerged sites. Formal presentations were made by Susan Langley, Maryland State Underwater Archaeologist and Richard Lawrence, North Carolina State Underwater Archaeologist. Discussion followed with a focus on the Commonwealth's underwater resources, the needs of these resources, and ways in which Virginia could develop an underwater program. Several action items were listed including changing review protocols for underwater permits, determining specific projects, developing an archaeological webpage, possible partnerships, predictive modeling, etc. While major breakthroughs were not made, the meeting laid the groundwork for future progress. The next meeting will be held in 3 months.



Ely Mound. *Image courtesy of Keith Egloff.*

Andy Stout and The Archaeological Conservancy (TAC) have also made great progress in Virginia in acquiring 2 new sites. The first was Ely Mound in Lee County, Virginia. Ely is one of only 2 Mississippian temple mounds recorded in the Commonwealth and is recognized as one of the most significant archaeological resources in the state. The site was donated to TAC. The second site was the Pamplin Pipe Factory in Appomattox County, Virginia. Pamplin Pipes, utilitarian every-man's pipes, were produced at Pamplin from 1878 to 1951. At its peak, the factory made one million

pipes per month. TAC will place an historic easement on the property and then donate it to the County for use in historic tourism.

And, as you are all aware, Ms. Melba Myers, long-time DHR Conservator, retired this summer. While she will be missed for her many talents, DHR has replaced her with Ms. Caitlin O'Grady who we pilfered from Arizona State University. Her long experience in conservation, her interest in the metal conservation research, and her demonstrated writing abilities make her a very positive addition to the DHR staff. Stop by the lab in Richmond and welcome her to the Virginia archaeological community when you can.

I will eventually comment on the successes of our work this October at Chippokes Plantation State Park in Surry County, Virginia, but will wait until we get a little further into analyses and have something a little more concrete for comment.

## Howard A. MacCord, Sr.: An Appreciation

As time takes its toll, November was marked by the passing of Col. Howard A. MacCord. Much has been and will be said by those who knew him and were privy to his council. I remember Howard most with regard to 3 things. First was his encyclopedic knowledge of Virginia's archaeology. I would bring up a site in a particular region during a particular timeframe and discuss a dozen or so related sites. Howard would then list a dozen more of interest. As it is always good to approach research in a holistic manner, Howard's comments were well received. Second was his dedication to the Archaeological Society of Virginia and its membership. He was always optimistic as to the ASV's future and capabilities of its members. His approach of getting the avocational community involved held them in good stead for many years. And finally I remember Howard for his dedication to the past, to the archaeology of the Commonwealth. He could and would easily reel off hundreds of questions about the past which could only be answered through the archaeological record. His belief in the power of the past was overwhelming. Howard will be sourly missed and, for better or for worse, Virginia will forcible enter a new era in archaeology.

—Mike Barber

Long-time Virginia Archaeologist



Howard MacCord working in the Virginia State Library. *Image courtesy of Keith Egloff.*

## Howard A. MacCord, Sr.: An Appreciation



Betsy and Howard MacCord at the 2008 ASV meeting in Martinsville.

*Image courtesy of Teresa Preston.*

I think it goes without saying that Howard's absence in Virginia archeology will be noticed. No one can deny that he really loved public involvement in our archeological research. In my opinion he probably could be considered "the Father of Virginia's Public Archeology" at least considering the number of archeological excavations he conducted and his zeal for involving anyone who had an interest in learning something about the past. I can think of no other archeologist who has searched for and inventoried more sites than he. Likewise, he continued to be a force in our profession well past normal retirement age. Thank you Howard for your outstanding dedication and extraordinary service to the Virginia archeological community!

—J. Mark Wittkofski

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Howard and Bill Manson (my uncle) were deeply involved in archaeology in DC, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New York before WWII. His close relationship with my uncle led to friendship with my grandparents and father who accompanied the "boys" and helped with surface collection. As a very young boy I was lucky enough to be allowed to go out with them on occasion. Perhaps this led to my current interest in archaeology and the outdoors. As I grew older and Howard served in Korea, my parents lost contact with him.

A chance call to DHR in 1984 while looking for somebody to explain a pile of jasper flakes, I was put in contact with Howard. He proceeded to explain to me the importance of locating and recording sites so that future generations would have a data base to work with. We formed a close relationship that lasted for 24 years. I grew to consider Howard family. On several occasions he invited me to skip a day of work and travel to sites that he had worked as a youth in Maryland and Virginia. I wish that I had taken notes about his many theories but alas I did not.

I have traveled all over the states of Virginia and West Virginia in pursuit of archaeological sites and the most common reaction I have received when seeking entry permission has been; "oh Howard MacCord looked in my fields years ago". Howard lived and breathed archaeology. Although not always shy in his opinions, his dedication, experience, and knowledge base made him a man that I loved, respected, and will miss enormously.

—Charlie Manson



## Howard A. MacCord, Sr.: An Appreciation

I spent Howard's 92nd birthday with he and Betsy on a warm October afternoon in 2007 in Pendleton County, West Virginia. We were visiting a farm overlooking the South Branch of the Potomac River, where the discovery of over 30 stone piles on a high bluff prompted the landowners, Bill and Helen Blackwell, to seek out Howard. The terrain was very rough but he enjoyed riding 'shotgun' in a 4-wheel drive on the way to the site (although at one sharp turn he muttered, 'slow and steady takes the day'). Frankly, I was concerned about my own balance, much less Howard's. I was holding my breath as we found our way among the features - but he insisted on looking at every single one. Howard remained vital because he never stopped engaging others in archaeology - whether it be colleagues, landowners, the interested public. In their travels around the region, Howard and Betsy personified archaeology as a way of life. There was never any such thing as retirement - and I'm sure that's exactly how he planned it.



Bill Blackwell and Howard MacCord ponder a rockpile to the left of a tree and Helen Blackwell and Betsy MacCord examine the pile from the vantage of their vehicle. *Image courtesy of Carole Nash.*

— *Carole Nash*

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I count my friendship with Col. Howard MacCord as a blessing. For more than a decade, he has been my coach, comrade, and some-time combatant. Whatever the dynamics of the moment, he was generous with his time and enormous talent, completely passionate in what he believed, and utterly tireless. I will always remember those many, long road trips early in my tenure to sites around Virginia, and tramping around in the woods with Howard. More recently, I have looked forward to and will cherish the quiet times with Howard during his unscheduled visits to my office whenever he was in the building on business. We would share advances and victories, do a bit of scheming, and sometimes just argue for the annoyance and pure pleasure of it, as we Scots will do. It's hard to imagine that Howard won't be knocking on my door anymore; whatever the agenda and tenor of the day, those visits were each a piece of an ongoing discussion, always focused ultimately on what lay ahead and how to get there. Then too, his last drop-by was just a few weeks ago, and it was different. When we parted at my door after a long and contemplative talk, he did something he had never done before. He gave me a hug, saying, "I am proud of you, kid. Keep it up." We all will. We must. And in that, Howard MacCord will continue to coax and pull and push us on for the future.

— *Kathleen Kilpatrick*

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# Howard A. MacCord, Sr.: An Appreciation



Howard A. MacCord, Sr. (right) with Dr. T. Dale Stewart (left) and Thomas E. Mayr (center) at the Juhle site in Charles County, Maryland, 1955

Howard A. MacCord, Sr., a stalwart practitioner of Middle Atlantic archeology since the 1930s, was raised in Washington, D.C. There, an easy access to the Smithsonian Institution and such notables as Aleš Hrdlicka, Frank Setzler, Neil Judd, Waldo Wedel, and T. Dale Stewart led to a life-long devotion to archeology. His first archeological excavations were at the Warehouse Creek ossuaries in Charles County, assisting Judge William Graham and Stewart in 1933. Later in the 1930s, he again teamed up with Graham and Stewart to excavate the protohistoric village of Patawomecke in Stafford County, Virginia (he subsequently contributed to Stewart's report on this site published by the Smithsonian in 1992). In 1939, Howard was one of the young men hired by Alice L.L. Ferguson to assist in her excavation of the Accokeek Creek site in Prince Georges County, Maryland.

Howard believed in leading by example, and his involvement in numerous archeological organizations document this belief. In 1954, Howard was a founding member of the Archeological Society of Maryland (then a section of the Maryland Academy of Sciences, which merged with the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc. in 1970) and served a term as its President; he was awarded the Society's William B. Marye award in 2004. With the Archeological Society of Virginia, Howard served as President and Treasurer from 1962-1963, continued as Treasurer until 1980, and held the position of Executive Director from 1981-1983. In 1981, the ASV bestowed Howard with its Professional Archeologist of the Year award. He served as President of the Eastern States Archeological Federation (1969-1971) and was an early and continuous supporter of the Middle Atlantic Archeological Conference.

Howard's commitment to publication was reinforced when he developed and spearheaded ASV's Memorial Publications Fund—an effort to raise money to support the analysis, writing, and printing of backlogged reports on ASV-sponsored archeological excavations.

Howard MacCord was an incredible individual, with an encyclopedic knowledge and understanding of things archeological—knowledge that he was always willing and eager to share. Howard was indefatigable, and so it is difficult for those who knew him to absorb the notion of his death. Middle Atlantic archeology has lost a crusader, and he will be sorely missed.

—Dennis C. Curry (with assistance from Carole Nash)

Note: This piece was excerpted from a longer tribute to be published in the Archeological Society of Maryland's December ASM INK Newsletter, reprinted with permission. The longer version is available online at: <http://www.marylandarcheology.org/Newsletters/12-2008.pdf>.

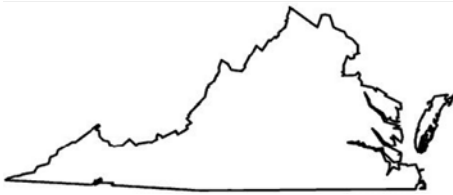




## HOWARD MACCORD RESOLUTION

Read by Cliff Boyd, Radford University,  
at the Southeastern Archaeological Conference  
Business meeting on November 14, 2008

- ◆ Whereas Howard A. MacCord, Sr. worked as a professional archaeologist for the Virginia State Library from 1962 until 1976 and continued to consult and offer advice on issues relating to Virginia archaeology from his "retirement" until his recent passing; and
- ◆ Whereas before his archaeological career, Howard served over 30 years in the U. S. Army, rising from private to the rank of Colonel and serving in the European Theater in World War II and in the Korean Conflict; and
- ◆ Whereas Howard was a charter member of the Council of Virginia Archaeologists (COVA) and a life member of the Archeological Society of Virginia (ASV) and published many of his over 120 site reports and papers in the ASV Quarterly Bulletin; and
- ◆ Whereas less than one month before his death on November 3 at the age of 93, Howard was instructing slightly younger archaeologists at a COVA meeting on ways to improve Virginia archaeology;
- ◆ Be It Resolved that the Southeastern Archaeological Conference recognizes Howard MacCord's archaeological contributions and mourns the passing of this towering figure in Virginia prehistoric archaeology.



# ASV Archaeology Around Virginia

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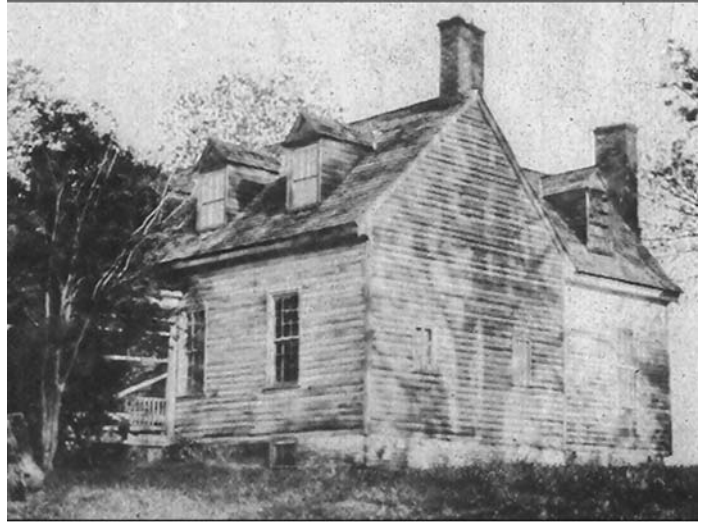


*From Patrick O'Neil, October 20, 2008:*

Here is a selection of historic photographs from Kittiewan and some I took this past weekend to show the new rounded old growth cyprus shingle roof. The old place has never looked so good in over 200 years I would wager!!!!!!

**KITTEIWAN COMMITTEE:**

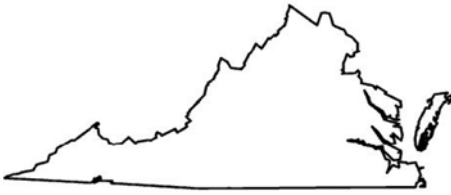
**STAND UP AND TAKE A BOW!!!! YOU HAVE DONE A TREMENDOUS JOB!!!!!!!!!!**



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Howard MacCord's concern with Kittiewan Plantation and the future of ASV is known to all. He would surely be pleased with ASV's continuing excellent work at Kittiewan.

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# ASV Archaeology Around Virginia

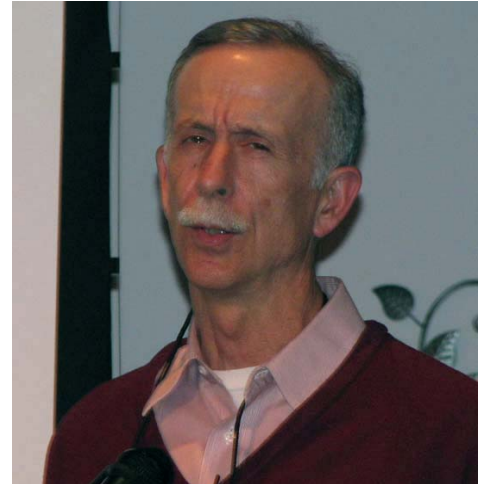
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## **FAIRFAX COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGY CELEBRATES 30 YEARS!!!!**

*adapted from THE DATUM POINT Newsletter of the  
Northern Virginia Chapter of ASV*

Dr. Elizabeth Crowell, director of the Archaeology Division of the Fairfax County Park Authority, organized a wonderful event in late October to celebrate their 30th year of existence! The event was not only very informative, but nostalgic as well, and everyone enjoyed the day!

Michael Johnson discussed the early years of the Fairfax County archaeology program, which has gone from 78 recorded sites 30 years ago, to over 3,800 to date!

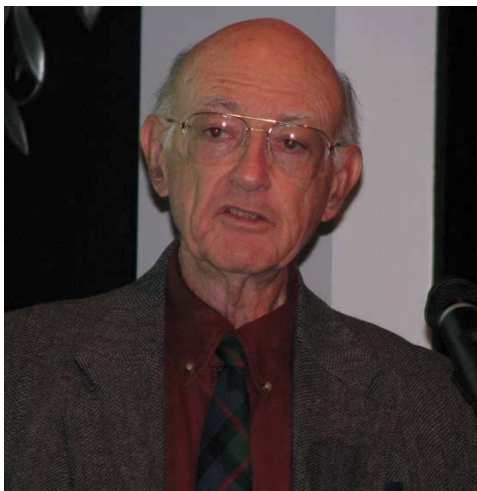


Mike Johnson



Mike Johnson's cake

Jack Hiller and Martha Williams gave a great talk about how their High School program paved the way for Fairfax County to develop their own program.



Jack Hiller

Martha  
Williams





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## Current ASV Officers

**President:** C. Mike Wilke  
**President-elect:** Patrick O'Neill  
**Vice President:** C. Neil Manson  
**Secretary:** Stephanie Jacobe  
**Treasurer:** Bill Thompson

legyp@htcnet.org  
patrickoneill@erols.com  
nielmans@comcast.net  
aureus@usa.net  
twarchitects@livenet.net

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**For more information on ASV go to:**  
**<http://www.asv-archeology.org>**



Howard MacCord, fourth from the left, on a trip to Higgenbotham Cave, Tazewell County, in October 1947

*Image courtesy of Keith Egloff.*



### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

The newsletter editor moved recently. His new physical address is: 1902 Woodlyn Drive, Apt. 3, Fredericksburg, VA 22401. Electronic submissions are acceptable and preferred: [bkmeans@juno.com](mailto:bkmeans@juno.com)

**Send newsletter submissions to:**  
Bernard K. Means, Ph.D., RPA

**Deadline for Submission to March 2009 Newsletter is February 1!!**